

Dear Beaulieu Permit holder,

You are receiving this newsletter because you were on the 2015 email list. This is the last newsletter that will be sent to 2015 permit holders. Subsequent newsletters will only be sent to 2016 permit holders. While many, perhaps most, of our flyers are regular model aircraft enthusiasts who continue to fly at Beaulieu every year, others are only occasional visitors, and we don't want to "spam" them forever with newsletters that are of no interest.

The 2016 permit application process is well underway now, and I'm pleased to report that around a third of last year's permit holders have already renewed. At this time of year there is always a bit of a delay as everyone first gets their BMFA membership renewed, with the all-important insurance cover. It is absolutely essential that Beaulieu flyers have full insurance because we are a public site, and because accidents can happen, although we have a very good record of safety at Beaulieu.

If you have already renewed, thank you very much for being prompt and you will be receiving your 2016 permit in the post if you haven't already. You are automatically on the list to receive future newsletters (unless you tell us to stop).

If you haven't renewed yet, but wish to do so, then please visit <http://beaulieumodel flying.org.uk> and check it out. The 2016 flying regulations are there and some other material which could be useful. Lots of others have successfully negotiated it and there have even been some polite comments about our new website (thank you!). Also, do remember that while it only takes you a few clicks to renew, our dedicated team (secretary, treasurer and me) are working hard to check, print and dispatch the permits - so spare a thought for us !

If you intend to fly at Beaulieu next year, and I hope you do, please get your BMFA membership up to date before applying for a permit. We check every permit application with the BMFA (using their new club portal system) and can only issue permits for people with valid BMFA membership (and therefore, insurance). So, if you get your membership via a club don't forget to pester your club secretary, whose job it is to get you officially recorded on the BMFA membership system. If you are a "country member" you can renew via the BMFA website, phone, or by post. When that's done your Beaulieu permit can be issued immediately. We can also issue permits in person.

At the field: You don't need me to tell you that it has been the windiest autumn on record, and now it is the wettest winter on record. At present we have wind and rain, and my sympathies go out to anyone who has suffered any flooding. One place that is flooded is Beaulieu Heath. The water table is such that the Forestry has closed dozens of car parks and access roads in the Forest. There is now a news page on our the website at <http://beaulieumodel flying.org.uk/news.html> with the latest information. We can still fly, but only with difficulty. If you really want to get out there please follow the advice given and we will help wherever we can. The moment I get better news I will be in contact.

Actually, the weather means that we can't do much flying at this time of year. The wind and rain makes life on the barren heath a bit inhospitable, and the short days mean that it's only around midday that conditions are suitable anyway. A few of us have been out a couple of times since christmas, but I found by 1:30pm the light was poor, the sun (yes) in my eyes as I tried to land from the south west, and the temperature wasn't too good either. And now we hear there is a forecast of really cold weather - who'd be a model flyer ! The builders and indoor flyers have it !

Best wishes, Richard.

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