

Dear Beaulieu Permit holder,

The weather has finally been kind to us in August and September with some splendid sunny periods and light winds. A lot of really good flying has been taking place, and I hope everyone who has ventured out has enjoyed it. The model flying season is traditionally April to September so we are obviously getting to the end now, but there is often good weather late into the year. As we have one of the few all-weather sites in the south of England we can continue flying all year round of course, although naturally in the winter rain, winds, and latterly flooding, have all been inhibitions. Still, that's all to look forward to, for the moment at least we can enjoy some very good conditions.

The BMFA certificate day in August was unfortunately one of the few casualties as the weather contrived to organise a precision raid on our organisation. The two days set aside being the windiest and rainiest we have experienced for a long time. I am very sorry about having to postpone this event and hope those involved were not inconvenienced too much. We left it until the Friday before, hoping for a break in the weather, with the committee in daily contact with the BMFA examiners. When it became obvious that the conditions would not be suitable we reluctantly had to postpone. It was the judgement that no type of model flying was sensible, and any attempt to do a certificate test was doomed to failure. We are considering when to re-run this event.

The BMFC AGM will be held in the usual place: the Garden Room of the St Andrews Centre, Dibden, on the 10th November 2016. There will be a reception at 7:30pm with complimentary drinks and the full meeting will start at 8pm, hopefully finished by 9:30pm. As we have had a very successful year this time, with very few problems or issues, there is not a lot to talk about, so I hope we will be able to get through the business fairly smartly. The format will be as usual with reports from chairman, secretary, and treasurer, discussion of any motions, and election of officers. If you have issues related to the running of model flying at Beaulieu, please send me a note proposing a motion (hopefully with some justification !) and we will add it to the agenda. If you want to nominate someone to be elected to one of the posts on the committee, then please send me a nomination and seconder. If there are several nominations for a post there will be an election for the post. Remember, the committee works hard behind the scenes to enable model flying at Beaulieu to continue for the future, and it is there to represent you and your interests, so please support it and come to the AGM if you can.

Beaulieu Heath is a public area, as I mentioned last time, and we are always concerned about matters such as litter and anti-social behaviour. I think we are on top of the litter problem with various individuals actively doing litter removal, for which everyone is very grateful. Anti-social activity, such as off-road vehicle use, has reduced this year as we have had an active campaign of reporting abusers to the police and the forestry. We have had good support from the authorities and they are appreciative of our efforts. We need to keep this up, so if you see activities which are not acceptable, please report it to me as soon as possible, including vehicle number plates and any other information which might help law enforcement.

Finally, Ponies ! Ponies are a feature of the New Forest and have been semi-wild there since at least the Middle Ages, if not before. We have to live with them. However, numbers have risen dramatically from about 2000 a couple of decades ago, to about five and half thousand now. This seems to be due to changes in the way they are regulated under Forestry laws. It means that ponies are more common on the airfield and in the car park, as also are the greater numbers of cattle now free in the forest. Please help us, if asked, to ensure that they do not impede with our activities, but be careful to avoid any danger or injury. Again, please report any issues or problems.

Some Dates for your Diary:

- **25th September** New Forest Pony Drift - East Boldre. Beaulieu Heath may be closed overnight, but will be expected to be open again from about 11am
- **16th October** New Forest Pony Drift - Furzey Lodge. Beaulieu Heath may be closed overnight, but should be open by midday.
- **10th November** Beaulieu Model Flying Committee Annual General Meeting (AGM) 7:30pm reception, meeting starts 8pm, in The Garden Room, St Andrews Centre, Dibden.

Best wishes, and good flying! Richard.

email: bmfcchairman@aol.com phone or text: 07713 437082 website: <http://www.beaulieumodelflying.org.uk>
This newsletter is being sent to all current 2016 permit holders.