

Newsletters are sent to current permit holders. Permit renewal is underway. Only permit holders can fly.

To all permit holders: Summer at last ! We've had a good spell of weather in May with some warm, sunny weather, and of course some rain. So, the usual mix of weather for this time of year. But it has enabled many of us to get some flying in. And a nice range of models on show from small foamies to big I.C craft. Well done to all.

The state of play. The access track hasn't deteriorated as much as we feared, and though there are some potholes (note the bad one at the gate entrance). If you take the track slowly it isn't too bad.

BMFA achievement scheme. Don't put this off - the opportunities have a habit of slipping away before you know it. Do look at . <http://www.beaulieumodelflying.org.uk/bmfachievementsscheme.html> and make your plans accordingly.

Some Free Flight modelers at an event last year – locating the model !



In Memoriam: I am sad to report that our Free Flight committee member, **John D Thompson** passed away on the 12th May. Apparently, John had gone into his workshop that morning to look at some aspect of his models and simply collapsed.

He was a great source of knowledge and opinion on all aspects of model flying, and has been a tremendous help to all of us at Beaulieu over many years with advice and help. He will be sorely missed. His activities had been mainly directed to the Free Flight community, and there is a short note on the BMFA website at <https://www.bmfa.org/News/News-Page> Roger Newman has kindly agreed to stand in for John temporarily.

This month's featured model: The undoubted sensation this month has been the debut of Ian Timms' 8ft wingspan Lancaster, equipped with four (yes, 4 working) four-stroke engines. This has now had a number of flights, some recorded on video and has proved a great attraction to modellers and public alike. It was built from a plan, and fully complies with our restrictions to be under 7kg dry weight.

Ian with the Lancaster



So, congratulations to Ian for a very impressive exercise in building. The model is a reasonably accurate model of the version which carried the "grand slam" bomb in 1945 and devastated the Ruhr at the end of WW2. Ian's model carries a model bomb which can be released in flight, and very authentic it looks too !

Getting ready to start



If you have an interesting model, or an interesting story associated with a model, you can always send it in and it might feature in a newsletter here !

A final note: FOD: Quite often when I go out on the runway, to collect a model or whatever, I pick up bits broken props, wheels, metal bits and so on. Apart from the incidents which must have happened (more about that another time), this is what the military call FOD (*foreign object detritus*) which can cause problems (*foreign object damage*) if other craft encounter it. So if you do have an incident be sure to make extra effort to clear up. And you can always drop me a line via email or the website to let me know what happened. It will help us to spot trends.

And while we thinking of this, remember the secrets to successful model flying are *safety in the pits* (tether those models), *take turns* if the flight line is busy, *keep flights short* (try not to make your flight overlong: 10-15 minutes is an ideal model flight time) and keep a good lookout for others (especially dog walkers, ponies etc).

Best wishes, and good flying! Richard.

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