

*Newsletters are sent to current permit holders for information only.*

**To all permit Holders:**

**You will no doubt know that the BMFC AGM** took place as scheduled and was well attended. Reports on the year's activity and our financial state were presented and accepted. You can read the chairman's report from here <http://beaulieumodelflying.org.uk/aboutus.html>

**Most of you will also know that the BMFC permit application system for 2019** is now in action, and indeed about 40 flyers have already renewed with some new applications too. We have tried to simplify the renewal process, so our thanks to those who have already used it and tested the system which seems to be working well. New applicants still have to give full details. If you want to renew then please get your BMFA insurance first and then go to <http://beaulieumodelflying.org.uk/permits.html>

**You will also know that the BMFA has introduced a new online membership system** which seems to be working fine for individuals to renew their insurance. However, it is giving a few headaches for club secretaries as not all the facilities we need and used to have are available. So please bear a thought for our hard working secretary, Mark, who is sorting out some of the issues. If you haven't renewed yet, then please go to <https://bmfa.org/Join-Renew/Join-the-BMFA>

**All the previous newsletters** are now loaded on the website in the members area, in case you want to remind yourself of what happened and some of the information on drones, and other subjects. Please go to <http://beaulieumodelflying.org.uk/newsletterspage.html>

**On the subject of legal changes to model flying**, you should know by now that the situation for "conventional model flying" of planes and helis less than 7kg and in uncontrolled airspace (i.e. where we are) is basically the same as it has always been, but drones are restricted to fly below 400ft. However, Beaulieu now appears to be a busy way station or reporting point for full size light aircraft which may be at 1000ft. I strongly recommend that no one flies above that height at least for now. This will impact glider and some aerobatic flying but the last thing we want is an Airprox incident, so I appeal to you all to be aware.

**The state of the access track** is not good, as is typically the case during the winter, especially given the wet weather we have had recently. We are aware of it, and I have been talking to the Forestry about it. It is planned to renovate it in the new year but as yet we do not know when. If I have any information I will post it on the website and put it in the next newsletter.

**As far as we know the restrictions on access caused by the attempts to protect ground nesting birds from dogs** were successful. Thank you for your cooperation during that difficult period. We do not know if there will be any restrictions in 2019 and again you will be the first to hear if that is the case.

**The ability of permit holders to obtain BMFA certificates of achievement** was well used this year. It tells a good story on our appreciation of the fact that we fly in a public area and are aware of our responsibility to fly safely. I would encourage all those who haven't yet obtained a certificate to consider doing it in 2019 ! Contact me when you are ready and we can set it up.

So, best wishes for a happy Christmas of 2018 and let's all look forward to a successful flying season in 2019 !

**Best wishes, Richard (BMFC chairman, and BMFA Southern Area Chief Examiner)**

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