

Newsletters are sent to current permit holders for information only.

To all permit Holders: After an early glimpse of spring the weather turned wet and windy so that little flying has been done until recently when we finally have a real taste of spring. The gorse is in full flower.

To our new permit holders: thank you for your interest in Model Flying at Beaulieu. Please read the Regulations and other relevant material on our website. If you are not sure of the meaning or intent of some of the points listed then please email us and we will be happy to explain. We have several categories of flying now: Radio Control, Free Flight, Multi-rotors, Control Line and Research. Each of these is allocated separate area to operate in and conflicts should not arise if everyone takes care to pursue their interest in the right way. And **stand in the Pilot Box** when flying !

For everyone, do remember to carry both your BMFA membership card, and your BMFC permit with you when you fly at the airfield as you may be asked to show them, either to a committee member, or to the Forestry Keeper. You should all have a yellow tag which shows you are a current permit holder. Please attach this to your transmitter, neck strap, flight box or whatever is most convenient to show it.

The state of the access track is now good. The delayed work was finally carried out on the 20th March. The track was finally opened to the general public on 29th March (see picture). We are grateful to the Forestry for allowing us to use the Hawhill entrance during the closure - this seems to be standard practice now as we have demonstrated that we are sensible users.

The newly laid access track has been extensively rolled by heavy machinery but is still liable to degrade with use. We can all help by keeping vehicle speeds down to 15mph or less.

On the legal changes to model flying: The UK Government brought its promised Drone legislation forward to the 13th March. This applies to **both drones and model aircraft**. It **limits all flying to below 400ft**. The BMFA is in the process of re-establishing the exemption for conventional models (not drones) to fly higher than this, and expects to get it, see <https://bmfa.org/News/News-Page/ArticleID/2576/CAA-Permission-to-operate-above-400ft-and-CAA-FPV-Exemption> However, we are still waiting for official notification of this.

The BMFC committee has contacted both Southampton ATC and Bournemouth ATC to ensure that our activity is recognised. We have succeeded in establishing their recognition and approval. This is complicated by the fact that while we are outside their FRZs (flight restriction zones) we are under part of the Solent CTA-2 air corridor which has a lower limit of 2000ft. Additionally, Beaulieu Airfield is designated as an official VRP (visual reporting point) for full size light aircraft which may legally be as low as 500ft, though normally in the range 1000ft to 2000ft.

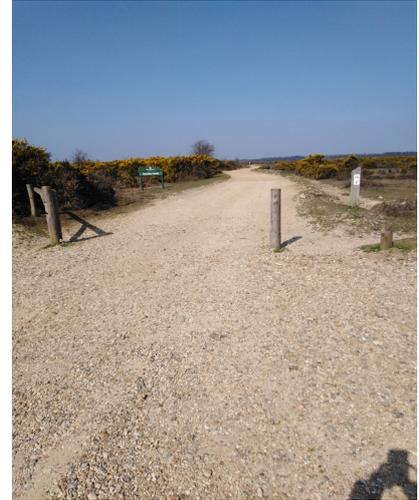
Consequently, even with the BMFA exemption, we have been advised to keep our flying as low as practicable. The 400ft limit is fine for most sport flying (you want to see the model fly, after all!). For those who want / need to fly higher, such as F3A aerobatics and thermal soaring, please do NOT exceed 1000ft, and turn away if full size aircraft appear.

I have installed an altimeter on several of my planes and I am checking the actual flight level I go to via telemetry - you may choose to do the same as it is sometime hard to tell exactly what height a model is. The BMFC is investigating the use of flight level detection equipment to help us understand how high our models fly, and how low the full size planes really are. We will report on this in a later newsletter.

About the airfield. Thank you to all the helpers who turned up for the Forestry organised *Spring Clean* - I got a nice thank you from them for our efforts. You can help by collecting any litter you see in the car park or on the airfield remember: **if it shouldn't be there- it shouldn't be there !**

All newsletters are on the website in the members area. There is also information there on drones, Achievement Scheme and other subjects. Otherwise, now the good weather has come, enjoy some flying !

The new access track and gate



My Mythos 50 with altimeter

