

Clear Dope

April 2024



Chichester and District Model Aero Club: Committee 2024

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"Dates for your diaries:

12th April: Club Night - flying on the Fishbourne Playing Fields.

20th April: Chris Foss, Flair & DB Fly-in at Thorney Island.

27th April: EDF & Prop-jet Competition at Thorney Island."

CADMAC Auction 2024

A good time was had by all at the recent CADMAC annual auction, with some real bargains on offer and some competitive bidding overseen by our dapper auctioneer, Andrew Gibbs.

Ian Carby did the hard work, organising and coordinating the event; ensuring that sellers and buyers went home with smiles on their faces, much to the delight of their wives and partners (not!).



Ian and Derek book in the lots.



Derek gets the show on the road.



Andrew and Ray get the bidding going.



Some very interesting models - and a lot of real bargains!



Star of the show was this one-sixth scale Focke Wolf, which went to (a very happy) Rob Lawes for the princely sum of £70.

Time to start thinking about all those unwanted planes and parts for next year's auction.

Finally, a vote of thanks to Ian, Andrew and Derek for their efforts in making the auction a resounding success.

A novice or not? An open letter to the Editor.

I live locally and joined the club over a year ago, but haven't got one plane off the ground yet!

I do have one good model working and functioning very well, one passable, and one wreck.

So why don't I fly them? Surprisingly, not solely due to lousy weather; I flew model planes many years ago at another flying club but family, kids, mortgage, cars etc. got in the way and I drifted into model stock car racing.

Umpteen years and a few house moves later I found the Chichester and District Model Aero club, which I thought was fantastic, so I went along to Thorney Island and thought "what a fantastic location", then went to the flying field at Portshole, again what a fantastic location, went to a couple of evening club meetings and found CADMAC to be a fantastic well-run club, joined the WhatsApp group, which again was fantastically supported; so well in fact, that I had to turn it off because the phone never stopped! So, all-in-all, everything about the club was fantastic!

So what stops me flying my plane??

Well, it's like this: Many years ago, when I started flying at my previous club, all you had to do was pay to join, and turn up. You crashed your plane as many times as you liked, or could afford; of course it wasn't planned that way, but that's what happened. Basically nobody trained you, you just learnt the hard way, and as for rules and tests etc. - they just didn't exist. I guess it's called progress, but to the relative novice it's kind of overwhelming today!

Now don't get me wrong, I am by trade an aircraft engineer, licensed by the CAA. I fly a drone, legally I might add, so I am very used to rules, and know enough about how planes fly, BUT flying a model plane legally nowadays is something else, note the word **legally**.

WHY?

I guess that from my point of view it's the potential embarrassment, shyness etc. I really don't want to fail in front of those that can fly; the older I get, learning all the rules and remembering them gets harder and harder, and I don't want to be a burden on other members having to teach me how not to crash my plane!

I guess that to some of you it's like riding a bike; you fall off, get back on and get on with it, but when I last fell off a bike there were no people around watching you fall off, if you get my drift. By the way, I don't own a bike nowadays.

I borrowed a flight simulator from a club member (yes I do still have it, if you want back, please shout). Did it help? Well, yes a bit, but it doesn't fight the lack of confidence I experience in turning up at a flying field and trying to get somebody to help me get the plane off the ground, at least once before I need to rebuild it (bad joke really!).

However, all is not lost. I am going to pluck the courage up this year and have a go! When? Well, maybe next month, or the month after that, or

Ken Smith responds: Firstly, my thanks to the individual above for taking the time to write in. We've now had a chat over the phone and with a bit of good weather we should see him flying soon.....

In CADMAC we pride ourselves on being a friendly and welcoming club. This note is perhaps a gentle reminder that it can be a bit intimidating for new members joining a new group of people and at the same time taking on the nerve-racking experience of flying a model - perhaps for the first time. We are all very good at welcoming new members but we probably need to give them the time to get fully up to speed with the way it all works and how we all fly together safely.



Well done Mark Vroobel, who was flying several years before making the breakthrough. Mark gained his Basic Proficiency Certificate (BPC), which is the "A" test for models fitted with AS3X or similar stabilisation

Mark is seen here with Jeff Cosford our membership secretary and club examiner for the BMFA



Date for your diary:

Fishbourne flying - Thursday 12th April

A reminder that in April CADMAC comes out of hibernation, and our first flying session of the year on the Fishbourne Playing Fields takes place on Thursday 12th April, starting at 6.30pm.

So, come along for a club catch-up, and bring a model along to take to the air.

The rules for flying at the site are laid out in the Pilots' Handbook; always worth a re-read before the first annual outing.

Hope to see you there!

Elevator trimming – *by Jeff*

An experienced competition and display pilot visited my old club and was asked to maiden a low wing sport model. He did not just trim it, he impressed us by opening the menus whilst flying and reducing elevator throws, saying it was way too much. We were impressed!

This is how: at mid to 3/4 throttle, he reduced throw until he could apply FULL up elevator without any risk of stalling or flicking out. But still enough to give a tight loop. He then repeated this, inverted.

He explained most models have way too much movement, so I checked mine and sure enough, several could be reduced by a lot.

On a low wing model, especially a warbird, it can avoid a fatal stall. Even on a trainer type, it will reduce sensitivity and make landing easier.

Carry out the elevator check next time YOU fly. And once home, reduce the throws mechanically.

Stuck in the Mud

The ground is very soft in the parking area, so please be aware and try not to get stuck in the mud.



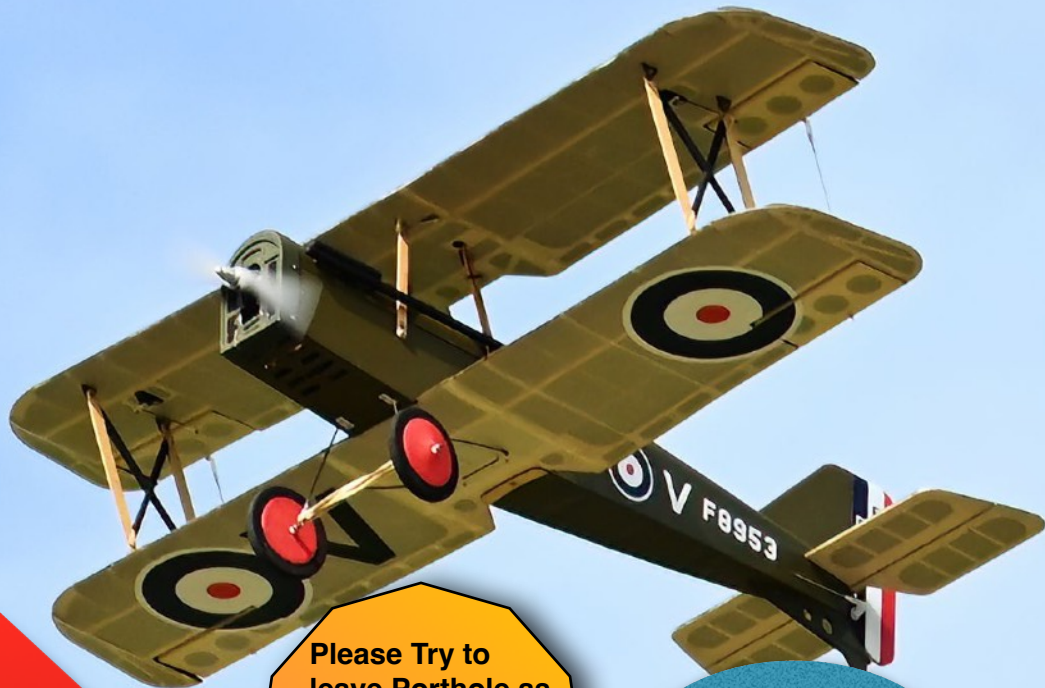
Planned Event dates for 2024

20th April	Saturday	Chris Foss, Flair & DB Fly-in	Thorney
27th April	Saturday	EDF & Prop Jet Competition	Thorney
2nd May	Thursday	FunFly Competition	Portshole
18th May	Saturday	Four Task Novelty competition	Thorney
15th June	Saturday	Warbirds Fly-in	Thorney
13th July	Saturday	Aerobatics Competition	Thorney
27th July	Saturday	Electric glider comp & Barbecue	Portshole
3rd August	Saturday	Bungee/Electric glider competition	Thorney
17th August	Saturday	Bungee/Electric glider competition	Thorney
31st August	Saturday	Bungee/Electric glider competition	Thorney
21st September	Saturday	Reserve day for Bungee/Electric glider	Thorney
2nd October	Saturday	Speed Competition	Portshole
10th November	Sunday	Remembrance Sunday Glider Comp	Thorney

Please see below for the flying days at Thorney Island over the two week Easter Holiday period.

- Friday 29th March** (Good Friday)
- Saturday 30th March** (Easter Saturday)
- Sunday 31st March** (Easter Sunday)
- Monday 1st April** (Bank Holiday Monday)
- Saturday 6th April** (Normal weekend)
- Sunday 7th April** (Normal Weekend)
- Wednesday 10th April** (Extra flying day)
- Saturday 13th April** (Normal weekend)
- Sunday 14 April** (Normal Weekend)

Usual flying times apply and please remember to park sensibly due to wet ground and please book if you intend to fly at Thorney Island.



Flying alone on Thorney is now not allowed on the grounds of safety

Please Try to leave Porthole as tidy as possible, making sure no fuel is left on site & lock the gate.

30 metres from "uninvolved" persons"

15 metres when taking off & landing, subject to mitigations

From 1 Jan 21 BMFA Article 16 is law: know the separation minima!

When driving around Thorney be aware of young children on bikes and 20mph speed limit

The Commander at Baker Barracks Thorney and the MOD have decreed that there shall be NO drone flying whatsoever

When flying at Thorney please keep an eye out for traffic(all kinds walkers, horses, bikes, runners, and low flying aircraft) coming from behind the flyers and inform them accordingly

The club Facebook page is now in its fifth year. It has over one hundred members. It contains many contemporary site reports, and has a wealth of photos in its archives. Administered by Nick Gates. David Hayward & Ken Knox

Here is the link:-

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Chichesteraeromodellers/>