

## HALE HALL MODEL CLUB NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2022



Club website link - <https://hhmac.bmfa.org/>

Hale Hall YouTube channel - [HH YouTube](#)

Welcome to the April newsletter. This month an update on the BMFA world record attempt, a report on the Show and Tell Evening, our training day and some dates for your diary.

## Training Day

With a good weather forecast, Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April promised to be an ideal day for training and, for the brave, a chance to undertake one of the BMFA Certificates. Initially the wind was decidedly southerly but, in accordance with the predictions of the Blackpool Airport forecaster, it veered to a westerly direction around midday. Almost straight down the strip but, at 10+ Knots, it was quite blustery at times as well.

Nevertheless five intrepid souls stepped forward to undertake some training.



This consisted of a mix of familiarisation with the flying schedule for the A Certificate and some general manoeuvring, primarily about how to fly a Figure-of- Eight pattern, which is required in the BPC, A and B Certificate flights. On hand to provide the training were our two examiners, John Murdy and Dave Ringland, and a further few Club instructors.



Training flights took place throughout the afternoon and, as the conditions were the best they have been for a while, quite a few other club members also turned up. At one stage there were 17 cars in the extended car park, and still some room for a few others.



Paul Hartley manfully put himself forward for an A Certificate test and, despite the trying conditions, I am delighted to report that he was successful. Many Congratulations, Paul. Hopefully you will be an example to the others in the Club who are still without any BMFA achievement.





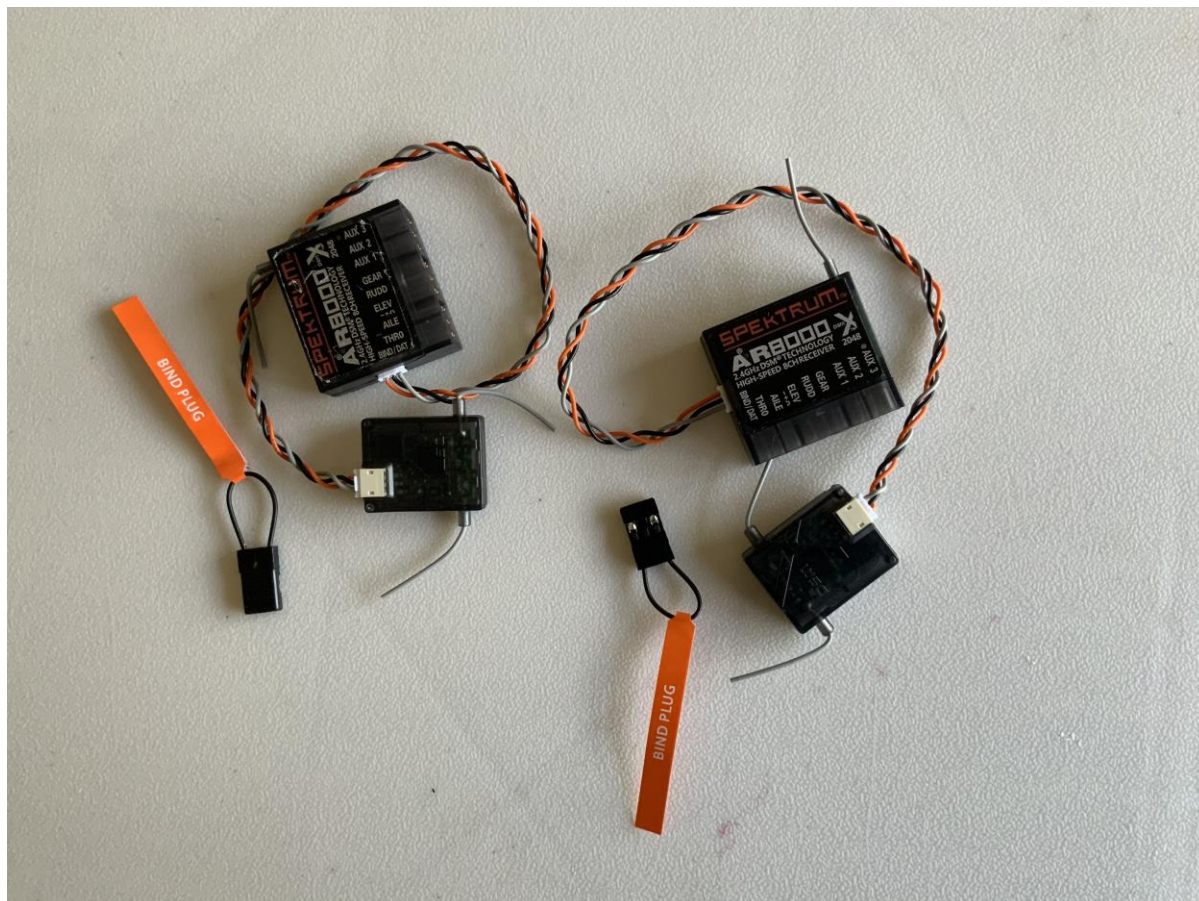
## BMFA world record attempt

An update on the BMFA World record attempt on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 12.00 noon. The BMFA organised a Webinar to launch the event which I took part in. Here are a few of the key points:

- Only BMFA members can take part.
- Individuals don't need to register with the BMFA, the club has been registered.
- Any type of model is allowed, RC, free flight, paper darts, drones etc.
- The number of models in the air at 12:00 noon is what counts; individuals can have more than one model. (Be creative, one person can launch two chuck gliders!)
- I, as coordinator, will need to fill in a form detailing who took part and send it to BMFA. They are also keen to get stories of the day, photos etc. These will be posted on the BMFA centenary website.
- The record will be registered with the FIA and a diploma issued, this will then be used to try to get the record approved as a Guinness world record. Copies of the diploma will be available for participants.
- If the weather forecast is terrible it may be postponed.

To help us co-ordinate the event please inform me if you are intending to take part. E-mail me (at [andy.holden56@btinternet.com](mailto:andy.holden56@btinternet.com)) or use the Flyers WhatsApp group to register your intention to fly, your model type and typical flight duration.

## For Sale



For sale: 2 spektrum AR 8000 dms2 8 ch. receivers complete with satellite receiver and bind plug, brand new, never used, £20 each or the 2 for £38.

Contact John Butcher, Tel. 01772 634175.

## Show and Tell

On the 5<sup>th</sup> April we held the first Show and Tell evening for 3 years, doesn't time fly when you have a pandemic to endure!

The evening started with a fascinating presentation from Billy Beggs, ex BAE Future capability and UCLAN describing his involvement in the development of a UK lateral flow test production capability. The story had the feel of wartime. From the initial clandestine contact from the government to the conversion of an existing razor blade packing machine to assemble the lateral flow tests. This little publicised project has resulted in the UK now having the ability to produce millions of lateral flow tests.



After a short comfort / beer break the evening continued with 8 presentations from club members on their projects.

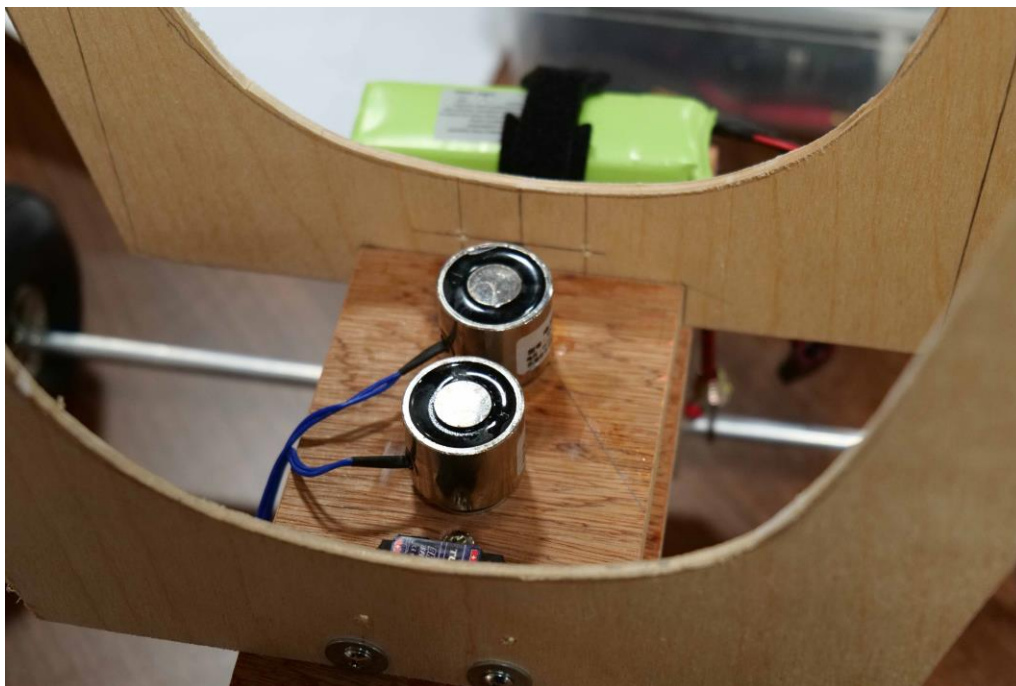
Dave Ringland had brought along his part built Smith Minplane built from a Sig kit. Obviously the kit is old as it came with die cut ribs (remember those!) and two stroke only for the recommended engine size. Dave plans to fit a Saito 62 four stroke to his model.



Barry Marshall was next up with his enormous 3D printed eagle. Barry has taken the Planeprint design and enlarged it by 150%. He has also designed and built his own 3D printer which is approximately 1 meter tall to cope with the massive size of the model. It still takes 3 days to print about 2/3 of one wing. The model can be built as a pure glider (with a very realistic head) or an electric powered version. The parts are secured using superglue reinforced by a 3D printer pen.



Barry has made an ingenious launch dolly with radio controlled electromagnets which release the model when sufficient airspeed has been attained. First flight was not a complete success despite being set as per the instructions, the big bird pitched up and damaged the nose and outer wing.



Rob Gee brought along his engine which had suffered some damage as a result of a crash which destroyed his Kantana. Spare parts for the Chinese Zenoah clone are difficult to source, Rob has managed to get a replacement venturi for the carb printed in carbon reinforced plastic. This should resist high temperatures better than conventional plastics ( PLA, etc ) The exhaust stub was also broken, he has repaired it with lumiweld, making a very neat job using a map torch.



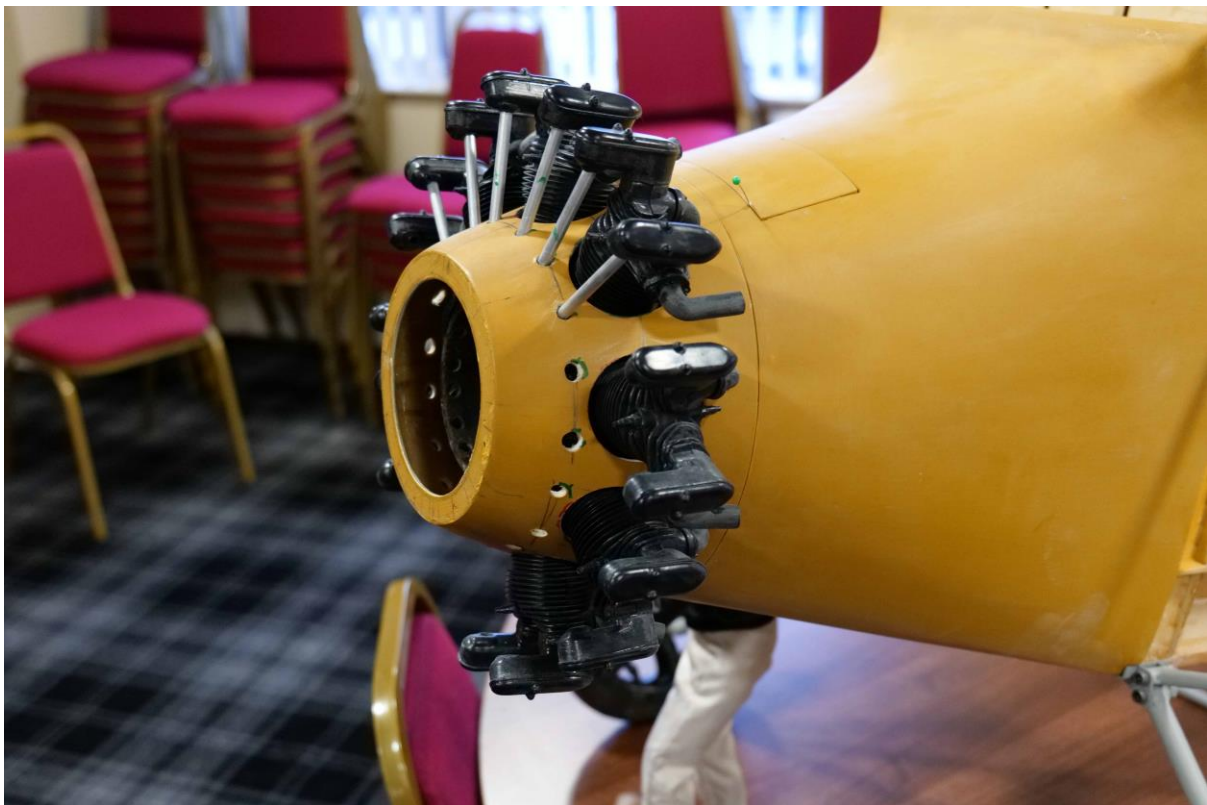


Neil Skinner brought along the wing of his Hanger 9 Corsair. He has decided to replace the original retracts with electric versions. These things are never simple and Neil needs to modify the length of the legs to fit. As ever Neil doesn't fully understand the concept of ARTF kits and has removed the original covering and plans to finish the model in the scheme of the Fleet Air Arm aircraft.



Next up was Ron Ingram with 3 gigantic Nick Zirolì designs. Now we all know why there is a global balsa wood shortage! The first items on display were the fuselage and wings of his 1/4 scale, 138 inch span, Spirit of St Louis built from a Belair laser cut kit. Ron plans to fit a 60cc equivalent electric motor, as the original plan is designed for an I/C petrol motor he has spent a lot of time creating ducting to keep the motor / speed controller cool. Power will be supplied by a 5000 mah 12S lipo.

The dummy engine is most impressive; each cylinder is made from individual kits produced in the USA by Williams. Covid shortages gave Ron a headache, eventually sourcing the required number from the UK, USA and Australia! Ron plans to replicate the iconic cowl using aluminium speed tape, creating the knurled pattern using a scotch brite pad mounted in a drill. The fin and tailplane outlines are laminated using 1/16<sup>th</sup> strips of spruce. Covering will be aircraft quality heat shrink fabric, these are offcuts from a full size build that Ron managed to obtain at a reasonable price. The undercarriage is a bespoke item from Robart, beautifully engineered, very expensive but you get what you pay for!



Next up was the Beech 18, again from the Nick Zirola plan. Ron brought along the wing and tailplane which seemed massive to me! Power will be again be supplied by electric motors with contra rotating props to help the handling (unlike the real thing).





Ron's final exhibit was the centre wing section of his Dakota DC3 plus the huge Robart retracts.



Just when you think the models couldn't get any larger we moved on to the massive 2.7 metre span L39 Albatros belonging to Mike Altham. The aircraft is from the Tomahawk kit and has been flying on the show circuit in the south of England for a while. After a long time Mike eventually managed to persuade the previous owner to part with this impressive model. The model is resplendent in the livery of the full size Baltic Bees display team from Latvia. Weighing in at 33kg and powered by a 22kg thrust B220 turbine the model has a six litre fuel capacity which lasts for 8-10 minutes. It also has a 2 litres tank for the on-board smoke system. The radio system comprises 12 servos with two servo valves for the smoke system all controlled by a Jeti transmitter. Mike needs to complete some maintenance before the aircraft takes to the air again; he has already repaired some dodgy wiring which could have resulted in a fire. Before Mike can display the model at LMA events this year it will need to be re certified. This will include an airframe inspection and a 6 flight pilot competency assessment. I look forward to seeing it at Cosford.



Mike has been told that the model, like the real thing, is tricky to land in a crosswind as shown by the scrape under the wing tip tanks!!

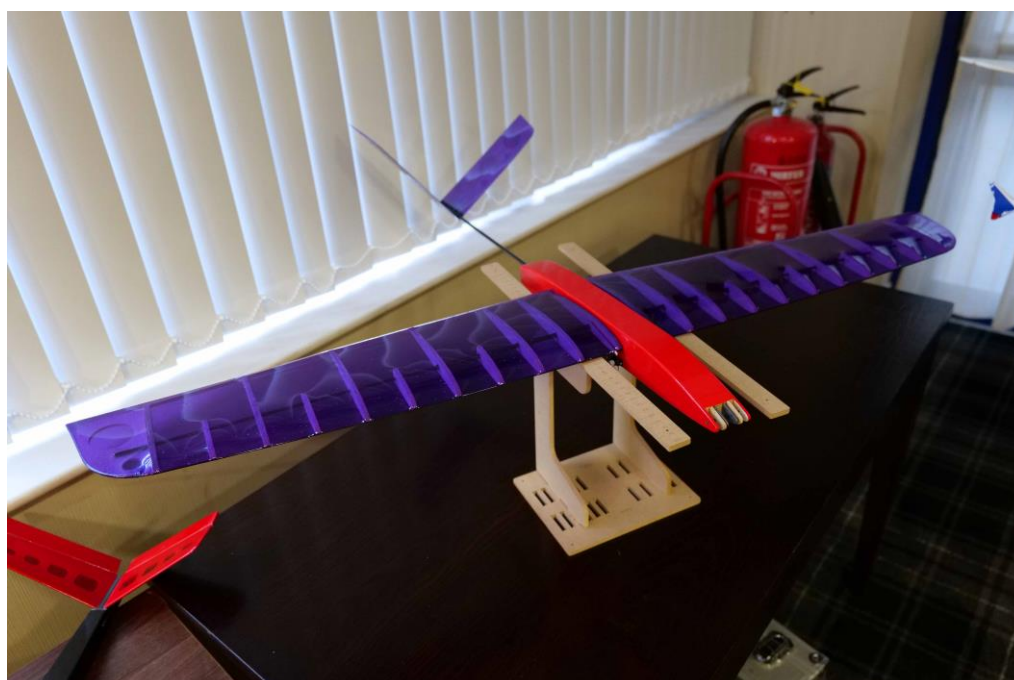




Someone had to follow that amazing model and unfortunately that honour fell to me! I presented some of my 3D printed models; a 1.5 M aerobatic slope soarer ,a flying wing and a small simple model with 3D printed parts ( nose, tailplane mount etc) They all fly well but the larger model has suffered several structural failures ( hence the carbon reinforcement on the rear fuselage!) This highlights the big drawback of 3D printing aircraft, the difficult balance between strength and weight.



Esteemed chairman Jack presented his lightweight slope soarer, inspired by Steve Wheatland's Pug Twisty by Angelwing designs. The unconventional design twists the wings to achieve both pitch and roll control. The original design had Depron foam wing ribs, this proved to be a bad idea as the heat of the Solarfilm gun completely distorted the wing! It now sports more conventional balsa ribs.



Dagenham Dave showed his A380 from HobbyKing. Powered by 4 56mm ducted fans it should sound good in the air. The original undercarriage was a multi wheel scale affair with tiny wheels which were not suitable for grass runways. Dave has replaced them with larger single units. Power is provided by a 3000 mah 3 cell lipo which should be good for around a 6 minute flight.



The final item of the evening was brought along by Roy Tasker, a Super 60 from a Ben Buckle kit. Roy has made several modifications to bring the kit more up to date. He has fitted an electric power train and added a battery hatch for the 3 cell lipo. Snakes replace the original control rods and the rubber bands on the tailplane have been replaced by a permanent fixture.





## What's on

Summer is on the way (well almost!) so it is time to plan some days out.

### Hale Hall Events

The club have the following events planned this year, exact dates may be weather dependent!

**BMFA World Record Attempt – 15th May**

**Warbirds Meet – June date TBD.**

**Summer Solstice – June – around the 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**Fun day – Late July/Early August**

**Mince pie meet – Late December**

### BMFA - In the air tonight

The BMFA continue to host webinars that cover a wide range of modelling activities.

<https://itat.bmfa.uk/>

### Full size and model shows

Full Size - Shuttleworth – Old Warden - Season Premiere, Sunday 1st May

Full Size – Duxford – Flying day – VE day Saturday 7th May

Full Size – Duxford – Flying day – model aircraft Sunday 8th May

Full Size – Duxford – Flying day – D Day Sunday 5th June

Full Size – Cosford Air Show – Sunday 12th June

Full Size – Duxford – Summer Air show – 18th, 19th June

Model show - Weston Park. 17, 18, 19th June.

Model show – LMA - Cosford 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

Full Size - Shuttleworth – Old Warden, Fly Navy, Sunday 3rd July

Full Size – Duxford – Flying Legends 11, 12th July

Full Size – RIAT – Fairford 17, 18, 19th July

Model show – Beer & Warbirds – Buckminster 15, 16, 17th July.

Full Size – Southport Air Show – 9, 10th July

Full Size - Royal International Air Tattoo - 15-17th July

Full Size – Farnborough International – 18th – 22nd July

Full Size – Duxford – Flying day – The Americans Saturday 23rd July

Full Size – Duxford – Flying day – Young Aviators Monday 1st August

Full Size - Shuttleworth – Old Warden - Family Airshow, Sunday 7th August

Full Size – Blackpool air show – 13,14th August

Model show – LMA - Elvington 13,14th August.

Model Show - LMA – Much Marcle - 3rd , 4th September.

Full Size – Duxford – Battle of Britain Air Show - 10, 11th September

Full Size – Duxford – Flying Finale Saturday 8th October

Full Size – Duxford – Flying day – BMFA model aircraft centenary Sunday 9th October

## Parting shot

So that is the end of another newsletter, I hope you found it interesting. For future newsletters I would like to include as many of your projects and especially first flights as possible. So please document the occasion with a few photos or contact me and I will try to come down with my camera. I do have some ideas for future articles, but the success of the newsletter will only continue if you, the members, provide me with some copy. Anything aircraft related will be more than welcome, days out, trips, build logs, full size or something for the Curiosity Corner.

Don't be shy; if you don't fancy writing a full article, just send me a few notes and I will do the rest.

If you have any suggestions on subjects to be included in the Newsletter, drop me a line.

In these days of data protection we need to ask members if they have any objection to be included, either by name or photograph, in the Newsletter. If you do not wish to be in the Newsletter please let me know.

Cheers,

Andy Holden.

You can contact me at [andy.holden56@btinternet.com](mailto:andy.holden56@btinternet.com)