

HALE HALL MODEL CLUB NEWSLETTER



JULY 2022



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

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

Welcome to the July newsletter. This month we have a report on a summer road trip, site news, some items for sale and a drone story. Finally a few dates for your diary. We are planning to hold our Fun day on Saturday 6th August as the weather forecast for the 31st July is poor. Watch your e-mails for updates!

North / South runway

The new North/South runway is now ready for use. The surface is not perfect but usable, we are hoping to organise a roller in the near future to remove some of the bumps.


The club rules have been updated to include how to operate on the new runway. Please familiarise yourself with the new procedures. We are all responsible for safety; it is not just for the safety officer!

The main changes concern the use of, and etiquette associated with, the secondary North/South runway, which can now be used. Please pay particular attention to the changes and avoid flying close to, or inside, the 'Sensitive' area to the North East.


A copy of the updated rules have been attached to the notice board in the Club Hut, and supplementary notices have been attached to the inside of the hut door.

For Sale

Dave (Dagenham) Edwards has some items for sale:

Item	Description	Price
	Buzz 400. Hand launch. Motor on rear. 31" Delta wingspan	£10

	<p>1100mm Hawker Typhoon made by F.M.S. Servos fitted. Never taken out of the box.</p>	<p>£80 o.n.o.</p>
	<p>Ripmax Dagger. Never taken out of the box.</p>	<p>£70 o.n.o.</p>
	<p>Horizon Rare Bear. Servos fitted. Estimated top speed of 100mph. Never taken out of the box.</p>	<p>£80 o.n.o.</p>
	<p>Never been used.</p>	<p>£40 o.n.o.</p>
	<p>Mig 29 Twin 68mm EDF. Fibreglass fuselage Wingspan 960mm. Never taken out of the box,</p>	<p>£100 o.n.o.</p>
	<p>Collection by Keil Kraft, West Wings and Veron. All five are unused. Rubber powered and Jet X.</p>	<p>£20 for all five.</p>

	<p>FMS Sbach 342 Thunderbolt stunt plane. Wingspan 51.2". Uses 14.8V battery. Complete with motor, servos, speed controller. Flown about 15 times.</p>	<p>£50</p>

Please contact Dave Edwards. Tel: 01772 497925

Hale Hall on the road

With Covid restrictions (physical and mental!) slowly becoming a thing of the past a few of our members made a decision to get back on the road this summer and visit some aviation meccas.

Our first trip took place on the weekend of the 2nd / 3rd of July, Cosford LMA model show followed by the full size Fly Navy Day at the Shuttleworth Collection.

LMA Cosford 2022.

Early on Saturday morning Neil Skinner, Andrew O'Neill, Dave Sewell and I loaded the back of my car with overnight bags, chairs and cameras and set off down the M6 to Cosford. The journey was uneventful, despite the frustration of the usual 50 and 60 mph speed limits. The weather forecast was mixed for the day but as we approached Cosford patches of blue sky were appearing. First activity on arrival, after the obligatory toilet stop required as we get older, was a walk down the flight line. There were a healthy number of models on display, nothing new, but there were a few models not seen for a year or two.

After a coffee and a brownie stop we perused the trade stands safe in the knowledge that no impulse model buys were allowed as my car boot was full! Part way along we bumped into Bob Welton who was camping for the weekend. We retrieved our chairs and spent the rest of the day watching the flying display interspersed with some lunch and more shopping. Highlights of the flying were:

- The full size BBMF Lancaster flypast.
- Dave Johnson's huge Vulcan flying in formation with the Red Arrows hawks of Steve Bishop and son. Apparently Dave is planning to retire the Vulcan this year.
- Keith Mitchel's huge Constellation.
- The DH88 Grosvenor House flown by Steve Holland.



Coffee and brownie stop!



Keith Mitchell's Constellation



The Reds Duo with Dave Johnson's Vulcan



Steve Holland flying the DH88





The Reds Duo

At about 16:30 we said farewell to Bob and started the second part of our journey to the Shuttleworth collection near Bedford.

We had booked into a Premier Inn near the A1, a few miles away from Shuttleworth. After we checked in food and drink were our next priority. As with all Premier Inns there was a pub next door so we wandered over to find a table. The place was busy and as it was Saturday evening they had no tables available, no problem there was another pub a few minutes walk away. This time there was better news they had a table free and Doombar beer at the bar, things were looking up! We ordered some drinks, a pint of Doombar for me, and began to peruse the menu. After a while the waitress arrived to take our food order. Dave and Andrew ordered, next it was my turn. Fish & Chips please, 'sold out', steak and ale pie? 'sold out', Neil ordered while I looked for something else. Chicken curry, 'we have that', well at least I wasn't going to go hungry. A minute or two later a rather sheepish waitress returned, no beer! Well I thought I dealt with the disappointment with grace and dignity, Neil, Andrew and Dave may have a different story. I was polite but if looks could kill! I ordered a glass of red wine; at least they had some wine! It wasn't only me; Andrew ordered crumble for his pudding, 'sold out'!

In the end I enjoyed my curry and wine and the legend of the pub with no food or beer was born!

On our way back to our hotel we went into the pub next door, luckily they had beer!

Fly Navy Day at the Shuttleworth Collection

Next morning we were up early, full English breakfast in the pub next door. My nightmare of no sausages luckily didn't come true! The car was packed and we were off to the Fly Navy Day at the Shuttleworth collection.

For those of you who haven't visited the collection it was started in the 1930s by Richard Shuttleworth. Pilot, racing driver, self-taught mechanic and heir to the estate, he rescued old aircraft and vehicles, bringing them back to Old Warden Park to restore. After his death in 1940 while flying a Fairey Battle at night, his mother Dorothy continued adding to the collection. The Shuttleworth Collection puts an emphasis on maintaining all the aircraft in flying condition, in line with the founder's original intention. The collection includes aircraft from the Edwardian era up to the 1950s. The 1909 Blériot XI is the world's oldest flying aeroplane and regularly takes to the sky at air shows. The collection also includes cars, motorbikes and buses.

Three of the aircraft were owned by BAE Systems, the Blackburn B2, Cirrus Moth and the Avro Anson. They were donated to the museum earlier this year along with a £75,000 donation to help with their maintenance.



The Blackburn B2

This was the first Fly Navy Day at Shuttleworth for a few years, Neil Skinner and I last attended one in 2016. The theme of the display is all things related to Navy aviation although some of the links were a little tenuous! As you may know Neil is very interested (obsessed?!) in all things Navy so the event was right up his street.

The gates were planned to open at 09:30, we arrived at 09:40 to find a large queue with cars being parked in rows with little sign of movement. Luckily we had some entertainment with a Hurricane doing circuits and the man in front becoming more and more frustrated. He spent the next 45 minutes jumping in and out of his car, calling the organisers and shouting when the other rows started to move! Eventually we reached the car park, ending up in a good location close to the hangers. We found out later that the queue was caused by people arriving early, being parked up in a holding area and it taking a long time to untangle the mess!

The weather was beautiful, blue sky and fluffy white clouds. We started our day with a tour of the aircraft hangers, some really interesting aircraft; they even had the local model aircraft club displaying a few models. Most of the aircraft had oil in their drip trays and there was a faint smell of oil in the air, testament that all of the aircraft are flown regularly. The last hanger contains some beautiful racing aircraft from the 1930s, including the famous DE Havilland DH88 comet - Grosvenor House.



The DE Havilland DH88



The 1909 Bleriot

The flying display was planned to feature around 30 aircraft, a mixture of Shuttleworth exhibits and visiting aircraft from the Fighter Collection, Navy Wings, Kennet Aviation and Historic Helicopters.

Next up was a walk along the flight line, an impressive and varied display including an Avro Anson, Spitfire, Sea Hurricane, Lysander, Chipmunk, Avro Tutor, Tiger Moth, Sopworth Pup, Gloster Gladiator, Hawker Nimrod, Stearman, Seafire, Wildcat, Corsair, Texan and a Harvard. Also on display were the Gazelle helicopter display team and four Westland Wasps.

Around lunchtime the entertainment started with a parade of some of the collection's cars and military vehicles. We returned to the car to collect our chairs, bagged a good spot on the lawn next to the VIP tent and visited the catering area for some lunch.

The flying display started spot on time at 14:00, unfortunately grey and slightly threatening skies had replaced the earlier beautiful weather. It was still pleasantly warm and with some excitement we settled down to enjoy the display.

Neil had taken his VHF radio which he eventually managed to tune into the air traffic frequency so we had a running commentary on what was happening next.

The display started with a banner flyby and continued until about 17:30 when the Bristol boxkite took to the air to finish the day. There were too many aircraft to mention them all, my highlights of the day included:

- The Sea Hurricane, Spitfire and Seafire in formation, the intoxicating sound of two Merlins and a Gryphon sent a shiver down my spine!
- The Bearcat and Corsair performed a spirited display, unfortunately the Wildcat didn't take part due to a problem with the canopy (info thanks to Neil's radio!).

- The Gazelle Squadron Display Team who performed some beautifully choreographed helicopter flying.
- The trainer slot with a Chipmunk, Miles Magister, Avro Tutor and a Tiger Moth in tight formation.
- The Catalina flying boat performed an amazing low and graceful display.
- The weird Eon Primary SG.38 Glider, the pilot bravely sitting on a collection of sticks and fabric.
- The imposing and surprisingly manoeuvrable Lysander.
- The stunning Stearman biplane.
- The classic lines of the Avro Anson









The Eon Primary SG.38 Glider





The whole display ran like clockwork, with aircraft constantly in the air. The only pause was caused by the BBMF Spitfire which required a 3 min window before and after its display!

The feel of the museum and the flying display is very different to most other full size events. You can almost touch the aircraft on the flight line. The close proximity means you can be engulfed by the start-up smoke of a Merlin or a Pratt and Whitney radial. It makes for a very immersive experience! Pilots wonder about in the crowd, many volunteers are in period dress. The crowd set out their chairs and picnic rugs to watch the flying display, it has the feel of a garden party. I thoroughly enjoyed my weekend despite the pub with no food or beer! If you haven't visited the Shuttleworth Collection I can highly recommend it.

Over the two days I managed to take over 900 photos! A lot even for me, there were just so many interesting subjects to try and capture. I have managed to work out how to create a photo gallery on our website. So if you are interested, follow the links below. Click on a photo to get an enlarged slide show.

[Cosford 2022](#)

[Fly Navy Day - Shuttleworth](#)

Drone to the rescue

A momentary loss in concentration recently resulted in Eddie Barker's foamy Acrowot coming down in the crop surrounding our field. At this time of year the crop is waist height and extremely hard work to wade through. Wandering about in the field to locate the plane was definitely not an option!

To locate the model Mick Jackman had the innovative idea to strap his mobile phone to the bottom of his plane and video a flight over the crop. After a few attempts Eddie's plane was spotted and a rough idea of its location calculated. At this point Terry Worden remembered that I had recently acquired a drone so I was asked to help out.

The next day Eddie, Mick, Mike Theobald and I turned up at the field to try and rescue the Acrowot. I naively thought it would be simple! Just fly up high locate the plane and hover over it. Things are never that simple. It was a comical scene, Mike looking over my shoulder at the screen trying to spot the model with me trying to fly to Mike's instructions – fly forward, backwards, slower! On the second battery we eventually located the Acrowot about 100 metres into the crop. I reduced height and hovered directly above the plane so that Mike and Mick could gallantly fight through the thick vegetation. Eddie bravely watched on! After a lot of effort and a few rest breaks the model was safely returned to its owner.

Drones are a bit of a Marmite addition to model flying, I have had a bit of stick for buying one! But now I can reply that they have their uses! Maybe it could turn into a lucrative business, a percentage of the value of each model found? Eddie did kindly give me a liquid reward which was much appreciated.

I found flying the drone almost out of sight quite stressful, even though I can hit a button and it will return to land at my feet! I have obviously been flying fixed wing too long and need to be able to see which way it is going. If you lose your plane in the crop, you are on your own!



The Acrowot located!

What's on

Summer is here 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!

Following some discussions we have decided to combine the Warbirds event with our fun day this year.

Fun day – 6th 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 – 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