

WESSEX AEROMODELLERS LEAGUE NEWSLETTER

(Updated 31 May 2010)

The Aeromodelling Link for Dorset into Wiltshire, Somerset and Devon

From James Parry and Chris Hague

The season is well under way now with all events having had a round or two. We have of course been plagued by our usual spring weather - what happened to global warming? Bright skies, no rain and wind under 10mph are still just a dream!

Both the Tomboy class and the Low-Cost 600RES class continue to grow in numbers with 20+ modellers who have built models, but of course not all turn up to each meeting as competitors in the league need to count only their best four scores. It seems that competitors are willing to travel long distances to join in, coming from as far afield as South Devon and Fulham!

The 600 RES round at Cashmoor Saturday 29 May, hosted by Wimborne MAC, was abandoned. Arriving on site things were gloomy, with lowish cloud, damp air and a breeze. By 09.30 this developed into more cloud, more breeze and heavy drizzle/rain. With everything thoroughly wet and mobile phones ringing for information it was decided to abandon that day's flying. Things improved in the afternoon but as usual if the comp is not underway by 10.30 ish things become rushed and, really, the earliest the weather relented to allow flying would not have been until mid afternoon.

Mini Speed

The Mini Speed league is also gradually growing but with times being recorded at the pilots own clubs as well as organised venues. Competitors are wide spread, ranging from Crawley to the Isle of Wight, as well as our local flyers. Numbers competing have grown since the first month and we hope they will continue to grow throughout the season. Speeds achieved so far range from 49 MPH up 76 MPH. The slower-speed pilots are gradually improving, let's hope the faster ones don't have as much room for faster times!



Three mini speed models recently at Wimborne MAC, Cashmoor control line meeting, 11 April 2010.

A stylish (?) launch of the Adrian Sharp designed Wessex Weasel.



2010 WESSEX LEAGUE C/L SPEED results for April

	Name	Model	Line length (feet)	Best 5 lap time	Speed in MPH	Points
1	Dick James	Hallam Speed	42	11.8	76.3	10
2	Chris Hague	Wessex Weasel	42	16.1	55.9	9
3	James Parry	Wessex Wombat	42	18.0	50.0	8
4	Adrian Sharp	Wessex Weasel	42	18.2	49.5	7

The first month of our new speed competition, run to a very simple 5 lap formula, produced four entrants who were able to submit their times. All used the 42 feet lines, and times were recorded at three different venues. Three pilots used a PAW 1.5cc diesel engine, whilst the winner by a country mile, used a well-developed Frog 150R. Congratulations to Dick James on a flying start to the competition. The Caulkheads from the Isle of Wight flew during April, but owing to a slight misunderstanding over the rules, quite correctly did not submit their times. So watch this space for the month of May, when it is confidently predicted that both speeds and the number of entrants will increase. Full details of this event and other Wessex League competitions are available on our very own website: www.wessexaml.co.uk

Tomboys

Two rounds have been flown to date both at Cashmoor. Other rounds will be at Wincanton, Salisbury and Carter Barracks, Nr Amesbury - see below.

WESSEX TOMBOY LEAGUE 2010

Scores after Round 2 held at Cashmoor on Sunday 25 April 2010

The second round of the 2010 Wessex Tomboy League was held by kind invitation of the Wimborne MAC. After a week of glorious weather the forecast was most encouraging but the flying conditions turned out to be very windy. However, these 36" span Tomboys cope well

with the wind, probably better than their pilots! Nine pilots turned up and arrived from as far afield as Newton Abbott, Bristol, and London. Seven flew in the Tomboy 36 fly-off, but only three managed to land back on the patch. James Parry who struggled to qualify was third with a time of 3 minutes 30 seconds. John Taylor wisely returned early from a downwind position to claim second place with a time of 5 minutes 30 seconds. Congratulations go to Richard Farrer with an excellent time of 7 minutes to win in fine style in only his second event. With a second place finish in his first event Richard now leads the league table with 19 points. Tom Airey climbed up high as usual under power and lost sight of his model in cloud and hasn't seen it since! Paul Netton and Chris Hague, both of whom should have known better, landed way down wind after flying up near the cloud base for some time - it's so easy to be wise after the event! Barrie Collis, flew well in his first event and was unlucky not to make it back onto the patch.

Wessex Tomboy 36" span league table

		R1	R2	Total
1	Richard Farrer	9	10	19
2	John Taylor	7	9	16
3	James Parry	6	8	14
4	Paul Netton	10	2	12
5	Tom Airey	8	2	10
6	Chris Hague	2	2	4
7	Barrie Collis	-	2	2
8	Derek Collin	-	1	1

1st Richard Farrer 7 min 00 sec; 2nd John Taylor 5 min 30 sec;
 3rd James Parry 3 min 30 sec. Landed out: Barrie Collis, Chris Hague,
 Paul Netton, Tom Airey. DNS: Derek Collin

Wessex Tomboy Senior 48" span league table

		R1	R2	Total
1	Tom Airey	10	10	20
2	Peter Rose	9	8	17
3	Chris Hague	8	9	17
4	Clive Carpenter	-	1	1

1st Tom Airey 5 min 48 sec; 2nd Chris Hague 5 min 31 sec; 3rd Peter Rose 4 min 39 sec. DNS:
 Clive Carpenter

Four entrants started the day but there were only three entrants in the Tomboy Senior fly-off. Free flight exponent and newcomer to the series, Clive Carpenter, actually flew a qualifying flight without radio. Although the Tomboy was recovered from a mile-and-a-half away with no major damage it was too late in the day to join in. The event was won by Tom Airey, his 48" span Tomboy achieving the best launch, while Chris Hague just managed to stay aloft long enough to beat Peter Rose, all three planes and pilots coping well in the strong winds. Our thanks go to our starters for the day, Bill Longley and Derek Collin. Also to the host club the Wimborne MAC for allowing the use of their flying field. And finally, of course, to James Parry for all the hard work he put into organising the site on the day.

Remember, it is the best four scores, shown in bold type, to count. The next round will be on Sunday 4 July, hosted by the Wincanton Falcons at their Templecombe flying site.

Tomboy mass launch 16 May 2010 at Wimborne MAC vintage event



Richard Farrer winner round 2 of the Tomboy Competition and current league leader.

WESSEX Low-Cost 600RES LEAGUE 2010

Scores after the first round at CASHMOOR on Sunday 18 April 2010

The first round of the 2010 season was held in glorious weather conditions at the excellent Cashmoor site of Wimborne MAC. An excellent entry of 10 competitors enjoyed a close competition with the final positions in doubt right up to the final flights. Despite the superb weather none of the rounds went to the full 15 minutes. However, the fly-off for first place between Chris and Peter was another story altogether. More of that later.

Once again, for yet another year, the rules remained unchanged and this stability has meant that models do not become outdated. The most popular models were the Peter Kessell designed 2.3m Apollo and the Swift in either 1.8m or 2m wing spans. Almost everyone is now using the 4/5 sub C NiMH 2200 pack which is proving to be very robust as it is working at around a very leisurely 1C. We have equality of launch height at an average height of around 150 metres and then the search for a thermal starts.

There were some good individual performances produced by everyone at one time or another. However, consistency is important and although Denis and James managed 5 wins each, Chris and Peter won 7 times each, each only being defeated on one occasion. All assembled to watch the fly-off between Chris and Peter each having a spotter to help during the flight. Little did they know what a commitment this would be. After an equal launch Chris managed

to gain height and looked comfortable, however after 15 minutes Peter was still flying at a low altitude and by now Chris had lost height and come down to the same height and in the same patch of sky. The contest was really hotting up now and the chirpy banter from earlier died down as the search for lift became paramount. Peter kept working the low level lift, but failed to gain much height and landed after 19 minutes and 50 seconds. You would have thought that that was a winning time, but Chris had found some lift and gradually gained height, in fact a lot of height, to win comfortably. With no need to fly any longer and after a tricky decent Chris landed back on the patch with a flight of over 23 minutes. The first four places in the competition were filled by pilots from three different clubs.

Our thanks go to the Wimborne MAC for the use of their excellent flying field. The competition was run along side club members who were sport flying their own models, with consideration being shown all around this worked well with the non competitors enjoying the competition especially the fly-off and introducing some of them to another side of aeromodelling. Thanks to the timekeepers, to Nancy for keeping all those scores on such a busy competition. Also to James who worked tirelessly setting up the field and the very tasty BBQ as well as winning 5 rounds of the competition. (We could do with volunteer to organise the BBQ at future WMAC Cashmoor events.) After a successful first round we look forward to Round 2 on Saturday 29 May at Cashmoor. www.wessexaml.co.uk

The Cashmoor results are as follows:

1st Chris Hague 7 points 2nd Peter Kessell 7 points 3rd Denis Grocott 5 points
 4th James Parry 5 points 5th Malcolm McKendrick 4 points. 6th Dick Hanley 3 points
 7th Geoff Collins 3 points 8th Rick Churchill 2 points 9th Roly Nix 0 points
 DNF Bill Longley

600RES Class		Round	1	Total
1	Chris Hague		10	10
2	Peter Kessell		9	9
3	Denis Grocott		8	8
4	James Parry		7	7
5	Malcolm McKendrick		6	6
6	Dick Hanley		5	5
7	Geoff Collins		4	4
8	Rick Churchill		3	3
9	Roly Nix		2	2
10	Bill Longley		1	1

Remember it is the best 4 scores to count.



The first four in round 1, from left to right, Peter Kessell (2nd) James Parry (4th) Chris Hague (1st) Denis Grocott (3rd) Both models are Apollo variants.

The events are for anyone who wants to join in, the only stipulation is that you must have BMFA insurance and for the Wessex League event at Wincanton a minimum of a BMFA “A” certificate or a minimum “A” certificate modeller beside you.

More information from the website www.wessexaml.co.uk

The next league event will be the Low-Cost 600RES to be held at Cashmoor on Saturday 29 May, but do please check in case venue changes.

The next “big” event will be the Scale Day including scale Aerotow to be run by Wimborne MAC at Cashmoor on Sunday 13 June 2010. There will be the usual BBQ and WC for ladies use only. New facilities (gas ring) means tea, coffee and hot chocolate throughout the day.

Forthcoming events

Tomboy events

4 July Sunday	Tomboy (3)	Wincanton
18 July Sunday	Tomboy (4)	Salisbury MFC
12 September Sunday	Tomboy (5)	Carter Barracks (Amesbury)

600RES events

26 June Saturday	600RES (3)	Salisbury MFC
25 July Sunday	600RES (4)	Wincanton
25 September Saturday	600RES (5)	TBA

Control line mini speed (and sport CL)

29 August Sunday	mini speed and sport	Middle Wallop
17 October Sunday	mini speed and sport	Cashmoor

Please note with Middle Wallop these are on a MoD site, the whole day include also RC and FF organised by SAM1066 and therefore an admission charge applies of about £6

Power Duration RC assist

29 August Sunday	Middle Wallop
12 September Sunday	Carter Barracks (Amesbury)

Please note with Middle Wallop these are on a MoD site, the whole day include also RC and FF organised by SAM1066 and therefore an admission charge applies of about £6

Wimborne MAC open events <http://www.wimbornemac.org/>

13 June Sunday	Scale day inc aerotow	Cashmoor
10 July Saturday	Slope soaring	Gourds Hill??
19 September Sunday	Federation scale fly in	Cashmoor (Hosted)
17 October Sunday	Control line day	Cashmoor

Chesil Club <http://chesilmfc.com/>

14th August	Chesil MFC Fun Fly
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Wincanton <http://www.wincantonfalcons.com/>

21st, 22nd August.	Wincanton Falcons fly in
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Salisbury <http://www.salisburymodelflyingclub.co.uk/>

Vintage fly in every first Wednesday of the month BST only, 17.00 onwards for non club members. 21 June will be the vintage dawn to dusk fly in.

Contact:

James Parry Tel: 01202 625 825 JamesIParry@talktalk.net (Mainly Tomboy and control line events)

Chris Hague christopher.hague@ntlworld.com (Low-Cost 600RES electric thermal glider and Tomboy)

Bill Longley (Tasuma Power duration) tasuma@btconnect.com