

**Impington  
Model Aeroplane Club**  
Founded in 1946 by Ray Malmström

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## Ivan Foster 9<sup>th</sup> July 1933 - 25<sup>th</sup> February 2018



Ivan Foster, one of our founder members, passed away at Papworth hospital on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February. John Wynn writes -

I guess I first met Ivan when we moved to Saffron Road Histon in mid 1944. He lived farther up the road and was much the same age as my eldest brother Matt. They and my two other brothers and a chap called Cliff Allen all became friends and all had a similar interest in aircraft so were all very pleased when a certain Ray Malmstrom became the art teacher at Impington Village College, and as you all know started the IVC Squadron as it was first called.

The boys had to call Ray "Mr Malmstrom" but after a while he allowed them to call him Ray, but only at Club meetings. Ivan said that woe betide anyone who called him Ray at School or in the classroom!!

Ivan, Matt, Cliff and brother Ernest were among the founder members of the club and I recall many happy hours watching them build and fly various models, sometimes flying round the pole (or broomstick with a nail punched in the top as it was in our small dining room cleared for the day), or standing on the mound that was the air raid shelter at the Histon Junior School playing field, just to get extra height to launch the chuck gliders for more seconds of flight.

Ivan and I recalled these times often in our evenings at the club. He had an amazing memory of lots of stories about the Histon folk that I grew up with, and the war time tales of blackouts, listening to the sound of the aircraft taking off from all the surrounding airfields and gaining height before going on their 1,000 bomber raids. He was great company.

We lost touch for a few years because of his National Service and getting married, but we renewed our friendship thanks to IVCMAC, flying in the halcyon days at Oakington with gliders and powered gliders in the seventies.

Ivan and his wife, together with Bob Piggott and his wife mainly and many other club stalwarts used to do the food for our open days. The clubs finances would not be so healthy if he had not done most of the arranging of the food and means of cooking. We all owe him a lot for that.

We are going to miss him terribly and our condolences go out to Lynn. Without her support for the last few years I don't think Ivan would have been so amazingly upbeat about his circumstances, and I feel we would have lost him far sooner without that support and encouragement.

Rest in peace Ivan, we miss you already.

## Boxes for models

Do you remember Alan Hunters box with 3 lightweight models in it? It was such an art to pack it that he had to have a detailed photo showing what went where!

However, it only held 3 models. Hugh Stevenson manages to squeeze at least 4 into his box, but can you do better?



Hugh's box with his latest creations including the Eastbourne monoplane and a Zlin

## New RC Flying in Sports Hall

We have arranged a test session for RC models only in the big Sports Hall on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April from 2pm to 5pm. Please come to support this new initiative.

The entry fee will be £5 and we will use this as a gauge of whether this should be a regular event next winter. The cost to the club of hiring the hall for 3 hours is £60, so we need 12 flyers to break even.

The RC flyers are wary of damaging FF models during the combined meetings so this will be a good chance for them to buzz around the whole hall without fear of carnage!!

## Club Auction

This very entertaining evening was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Chris Strachan wielded his gavel and displayed an encyclopaedic knowledge of all the items up for sale. Clearly signs of a misspent youth, but very useful on the night!!



Chris wields the gavel. Michael keeps the score and John looks busy



An attentive audience.

I even succumbed and bought 2 of Mick Staples very excellently built outdoor rubber models – Cloud Tramps. I hope Bruce has his outdoor pole ready for April.....

## Just off the Building Board



Clive Anderson's recent efforts. All 3 were built within a week at the end of January and were flying in the big hall on the following Saturday!

They are 2 of Bruce's Tailless plus a Bostonian Pup. The 2 Bruce's were built together and circled Clive's living room 2 days later. The Pup plan came from Hugh and was started immediately afterwards and finished by the end of the week. In addition Clive had a few others on the go simultaneously!! Ray would have been proud of Clive's endeavours and there's no chance of him having to be summonsed in front of the committee for not producing a model within 2 months.

Bruce's Tailless seem very popular!!





Clive Holgate with his Elf.

Clive has just built this from the Flying Aces kit. Originally a KK design, the Flying Aces version has some better quality components in the kit such as an upgraded prop and better tissue.

## The foam master at work

Here are some pictures of Garry Flacks latest masterpiece which he was flying in the big hall in February



What a lovely little model. It flew very well too, although Garry said it flew a little straight till he coaxed it into a decent turning circle



Impressive cockpit detail of the Mascaret is visible through the Perspex canopy



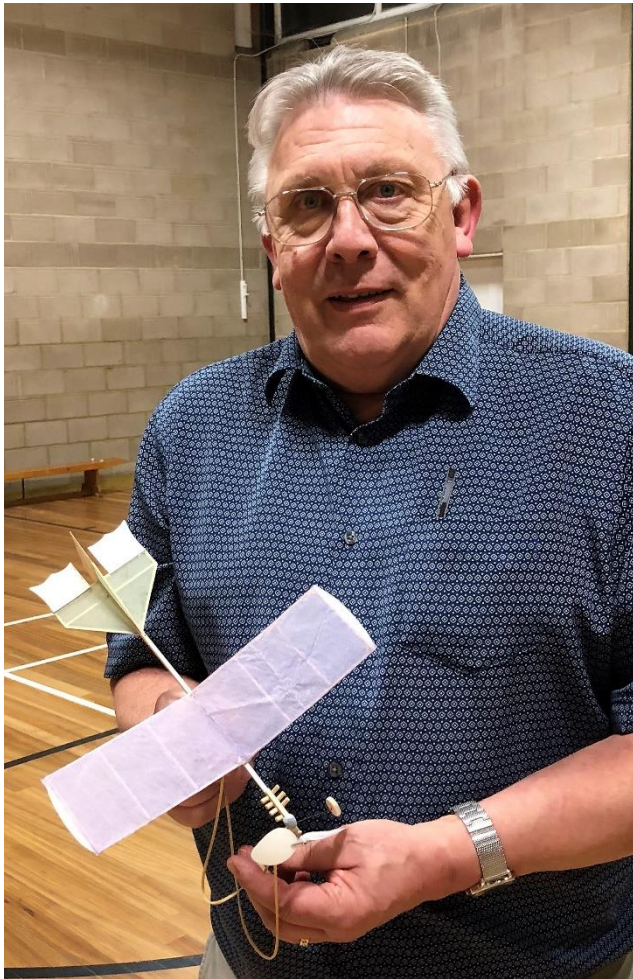
Garry poses with his Peanut scale Jodel Mascaret scratch built from foam.

Garry downloads the plan views from the internet and makes templates before carving the model entirely from foam.

The Jodel family are all very distinctive with their cranked dihedral with upturned wingtips and the full size were all wooden construction just like rather large models.



## Indoor flyers



Stuarts Hanriot

There must be something about these little models as Stuarts only has 7 cylinders like Bruces that won the precision competition

Interestingly this is a very old model – built 20 years ago or so for a club anniversary celebration meeting and has sat in a box in Stuarts loft ever since!! Yet another good flyer from the Malmstrom stable.

## Open Day Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March

A good day was had by all who came, but the attendance was a bit on the low side due to the mini "Beast from the East" spell of bad weather.

Nevertheless we had a good couple of competitions, excellent flying and the talk by Roger Simmonds on "Who needs Stringers?"

There are 5 videos from the day on Youtube – search for IVCMAC Open Day.

The competition results and some photos from the day are in the next column.

### Peanut Scale

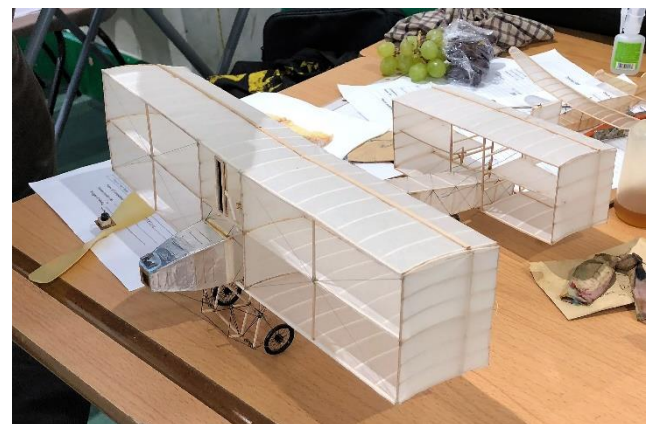
1	Simon Rogers	161
	Santos Dumont 14 bis	
2	Hugh Stevenson	143
	Zlin Z50M	
3	Gordon Hannah	143
	Goupy	
4	Michael Marshall	135
	Model not specified	
5	Chris Strachan	135
	Monnet Sonari	
6	John Wynn	125
	Stinson 125	

### Bostonian

1	Hugh Stevenson	206
2	Bruce Lindsay	192
3	Clive Anderson	182
4	Chris Strachan	177
5	Gordon Hannah	168
6	Michael Marshall	106



Simons winning Santos Dumont 14 bis. The first aircraft flown in Europe in France in 1906



Gordons Goupy



The heating tried but failed to heat the hall up!!





John Valiants new Rogozarski IL-3 was being trimmed ready for the Nationals. A Hungarian design captured and in German WW2 colours.



Gordon contemplates his Eastbourne monoplaner for CO2 power



Clives Bostonian



Johns new KK Piper Family Cruiser. Flew nicely but John wasn't happy with the covering and plans to recover it



Gordons Bostonian





Hughs Avro Baby – another new creation that had only flown at one previous Saturday event



Gordons Etrich Taube – the Dove. Good flyer!



Alan Hunters fantastic Denny Plane – Ask him about the interesting history of the original. This model for RC and electric power.



Models in the static display



## Dates for your Diary

**Sat 31<sup>st</sup> March** – Last winter general flying session in the big hall 2pm to 5pm. Entry £3

**Thur 5<sup>th</sup> April** – Last indoor flying session

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup> April** – First outdoor flying session on the field and CLG / HLG Competition

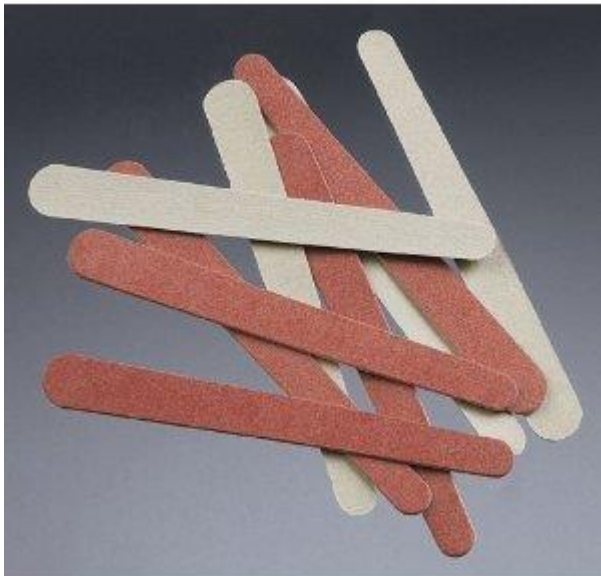
**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> April** – **New!!** RC flying in the large sports hall 2pm to 5pm £5 entry fee

## Free Sandpaper anyone?

Richard Staines sent in this useful tip for sanding tools.

We all have favourite tools and methods that we use having probably developed them over the years. Many will know of the following but for those that don't I hope it will be of use.

Sanding is always a labour of love involving making sanding blocks or, at worst, just wrapping a piece of sand paper around a block, a recipe for disaster. The answer, for small jobs, can be found on the manicure section of any super market or store. Carborundum stick nail files/ emery boards...



Ask your wives .... The ones I have are nominally 18x180 mm and coated on both sides. They come in a variety of grades but all are flat, smooth edged and ideal for working on a lightweight model. And a tip .... when sanding a lightweight structure, I find it easier if the piece is resting on an elevated abrasive surface like a large sanding block as the structure is less likely to move when say fettling rib to leading/trailing edge joints. I asked Richard and he denied stealing Anns emery boards and says he buys his own!! I believe him of course.....

## What's this then?



Spotted at IWM Duxford, but what is it?

Answer at the end of the newsletter.....

## Safety Corner

With the first outdoor session at the College on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April, all RC pilots should familiarise themselves with the very special arrangements for the co-existence of Radio, Free flight and Control Line on the same field.

The guidelines are on the club website under "Our Club – Where we fly" or at this [link](#)

If you are unsure, please ask.

## Answer to What's this then?

It's a pair of engines on a B52 bomber

# Old Warden Dates 2018

Reproduced from Aeromodeller Feb 2018

## MODELAIR OLD WARDEN DATES FOR 2018

Get your new 2018 diary out and make a note of the following Old Warden dates. As well as the weekend themes listed below, all events will have SAM35 involvement including FF, RC assist and various Control Line events throughout the weekend ([www.sam35.org](http://www.sam35.org)). Often there will be CL Carrier Deck competition ([www.carrier-deck.com](http://www.carrier-deck.com)) on both days, and a Vintage or Oliver CL Combat event on the Sunday [www.combatflyers.co.uk](http://www.combatflyers.co.uk) for the Combat Flyers Association (not [www.cfa.org](http://www.cfa.org) which is the cat fanciers!)

### **12th – 13th May 2018 MayFly**

Ron Moulton Memorial Day (Saturday) and Ebenezer fun-fly for the Bert Striegler Trophy and an Ebenezer Mass Launch (Sunday).

### **21st – 22nd July 2018 Scale Weekend**

All disciplines of scale models are encouraged, and non-scale can also fly.

Informal competition trophies are awarded on the Sunday, including:

- Flight Director's Trophy
- Shuttleworth Trophy
- Masefield FF scale for the Britannia Trophy

### **22nd – 23rd September 2018 Festival of Flight**

Vic Smeed Memorial Day - bring and fly one of Vic's designs.

Vintage RC and Sports models welcome.

More information from the ModelAir site [www.modelair.info](http://www.modelair.info)

Stop press..... from Aprils Aeromodeller.....

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## OLD WARDEN PRICE REDUCTION

Good news, there will be a lower gate price for model club members when they attend the ModelAir flying days at the Shuttleworth Collection, Old Warden.

Entry price is reduced to £8 per day with proof of membership of a model flying club. So, bring your membership cards with you otherwise it will cost £13 a day! Camping costs £10 per night per unit as usual.

Full details at [www.modelair.info](http://www.modelair.info)

May 12/13 - Mayfly, July 21/22 - Scale Weekend with emphasis on WW1 aircraft, Sept 22/23 - Festival of Flight

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# Aeromodelling in the 1930s – US Army Blimp model

Roger Rook sent in this interesting review of a 1930s build -

I was thumbing through my copy of E.T. Hamilton's Complete Model Aircraft Manual dating from 1933 and I was intrigued by an item describing how to build 'The Flying Army Blimp'.

In the USA, Blimps, in fact, appear to have been very much the preserve of the US Navy, who used them primarily for escort and anti submarine duties.

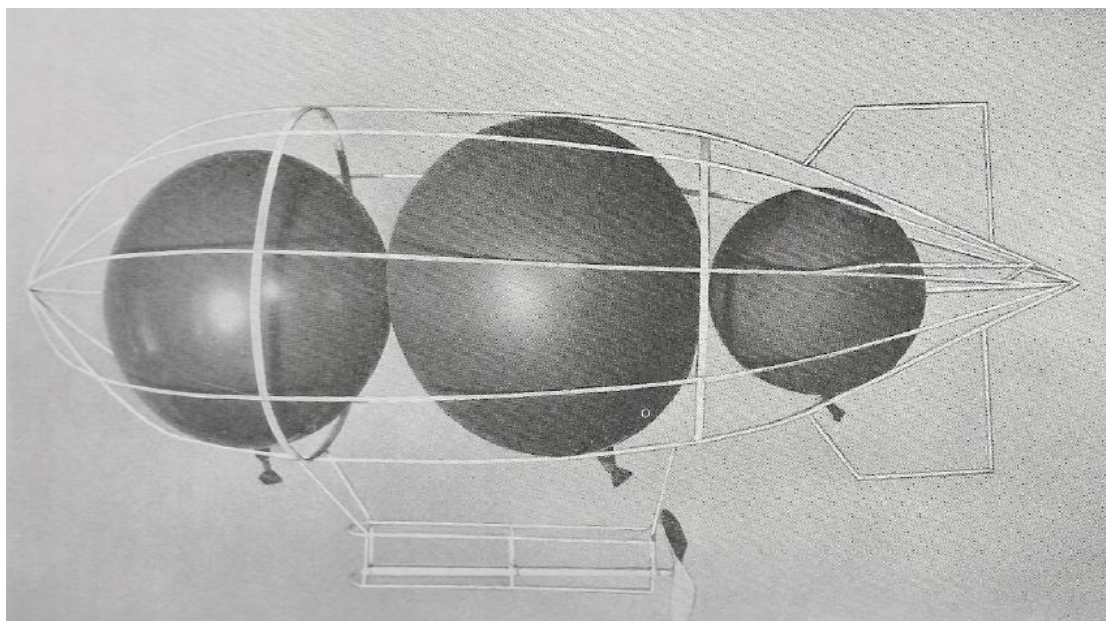


Blimps in formation at Moffat Field - early 1940s

With the current interest in the Airlander Project, this plan seemed to offer a pathway into modelling this field of aviation. The finished model would certainly qualify as a radical addition to the range of lightweight flying machines we see on Thursdays. However, there are a few issues you may wish to examine before starting one of these.

When you read through Hamilton's build instructions, it all seems reasonably familiar, but quickly moves into build techniques which were possibly better understood by modellers working 80 years ago. Warnings are given early on for the need for careful construction and a light build, with a target all up weight of no more than 0.5 ounces - just over 14 grams for a 35 inch long model. A 15 gram model will probably be too heavy to fly.

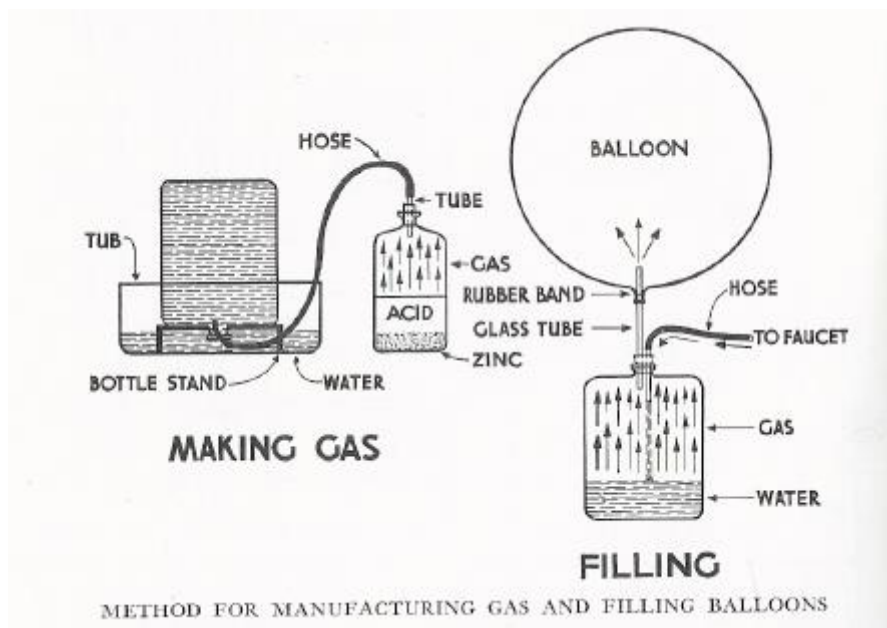
This is a build of two halves - the relatively straightforward and the fun part. Hamilton's plan offers no clear process for producing the components for the Blimp and then assembling them in three dimensions, but building the frail framework successfully looks within the capability of a reasonably experienced modeller.





Then there is the fun part, which is likely to provide an interesting new modelling experience for many of us. To make the Blimp work, the space inside needs to be filled with a 'lighter than air' gas. The gas is contained in balloons inside the structure. Calculations show the structure can just about lift its target weight if filled with hydrogen, or possibly helium, if a couple of grams can be shed in the build. Thinking back to the 1930's, we would assume that the enthusiastic modeller would not have had access to suitable size cylinders of either hydrogen or helium and was limited to producing a static model.

Not a bit of it. Despite history telling us the application of hydrogen to the elevation of airships is not without its problems, the instructions positively encourage you to use this gas. Hamilton provides plans for making a small hydrogen generation plant. Safety advice is limited to advising the use of rubber gloves and suggesting the activity is 50 feet away from naked lights - so just remember not to stop work for a quick ciggy while you're building one of these. Also there is no mention about eye protection or wearing suitable protective clothing etc, despite the fact that large quantities of strong acid are being handled!



I guess today's modeller, wishing to emulate his or her forebear, might turn to Google to find out what to do next and where to get this kit. In the 1930's USA they had the answer. It seems you could just wander (mosey?) down to your local shopping parade and pick up all the necessary lab quality gear to make the hydrogen generator, together with supplies of essential chemicals like hydrochloric acid and zinc.

Filling the lift balloons with gas, located as they are inside the very frail framework of the Blimp, appears to offer an interesting challenge in charging the Blimp with sufficient gas to lift itself, but not enough to burst the framework apart. There is also no mention of the relative ease of migration of hydrogen through the balloon walls, so I suspect the motor had to be wound and ready to go before the balloons were filled.

However, these are all trifling details to be overcome on the pathway to Aeromodelling greatness. So if anyone fancies a bit of retro Aeromodelling, I can provide the full (?) instructions (?).

By Roger Rooke