

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

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Website <https://ivcmac.bmfa.uk>

## BMFA and Club renewals

If you haven't already done it, now is the time to renew!! Thanks to the 40+ who have in the hope of a better year in 2021.

Hopefully you have received a 'Renewal Information Sheet' which gives all the information about paying your subscription for the club and the BMFA. If you have not received this please contact John Clarke by email [clarke.john.x@gmail.com](mailto:clarke.john.x@gmail.com) or phone 01223 862759. John will have a few copies of this sheet with him at club sessions as well.

Adult club subscriptions remain at £28 and BMFA subs at £38. Full details on the [club website here](#)

## Amateur Alchemy

Mark Saunders has been finding time to experiment with nasty chemicals – all in a good cause to complete his Waco glider. He reports.....

I've always found it difficult to solder piano wire undercarriage. High carbon steel is very resistant to 'wicking' by the solder.

A bit of Google research indicated that wimpy modern fluxes might be the problem, so I set about making a nice, dangerous, old-school, un-woke flux, known as 'Killed Acid'.



Basically, you take some brick cleaning acid (dilute hydrochloric) and dissolve a handful of galvanised nails in it, until saturated.

When you drop in the nails you get a nice foamy reaction (the gas being given off is hydrogen, so no naked flames). The resulting brew is a mixture of zinc-chloride and hydrochloric acid, which is a really good flux.



Be careful when you apply the heat because the fumes are toxic (a gaseous form of hydrochloric acid) but the solder flows and sticks very nicely to the metal. When you are done, clean the piece thoroughly, because the residue is corrosive.



The completed undercarriage assembly – no one was harmed in this process. Well done Mark!!



## Standing under a tree.....



Pictured from Marks Mavic, what are these 2 chaps doing standing under the lone tree at Cottenham and looking to the heavens? Clue below.....



The long pole is in use again



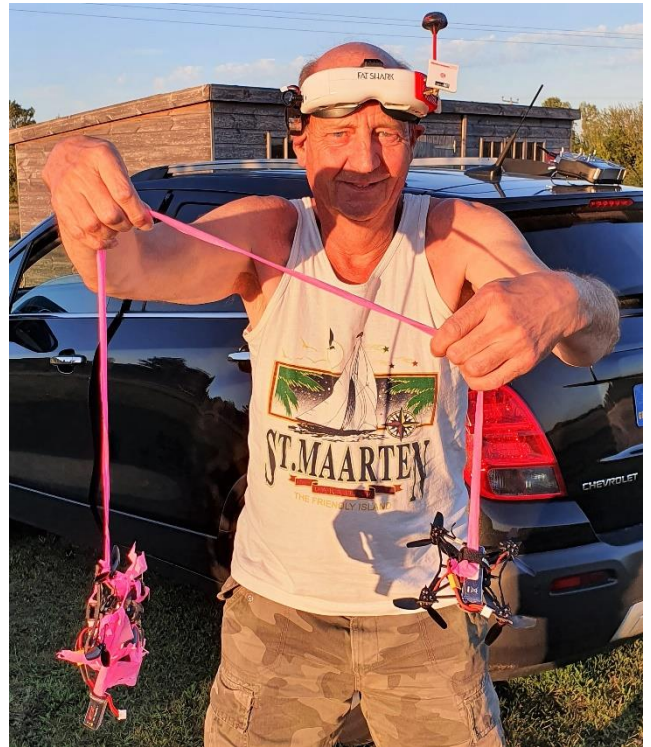
Down she comes – perfect landing!! [Vid here](#)

## Double Decker storage



We know that Clive loves building, but he has so many models now that he had to build a double decker transport box to get his planes to Impington safely!

## Caption Competition



A tangle of quadcopters, but can you come up with a caption?

Oooh – that was the summer then!

## Club Website – indoor events

Please keep an eye on the [website](#) for the latest info on the ever changing situation for indoor flying. Saturday FF and RC sessions in the big Sports Hall have been added.



## Indoor goings on



Now how does the wing fit on?



Clives Peanut Tipsy Nipper



Chris pokes the rubber up his Piper Colt

## Peter Iliffe

Peter was well known to many club members who will have been sad to hear that he passed away in early December.

A fantastic scale modeller, his ME262 appeared in our club newsletter back in July 2016



This ducted fan RC model even featured a bespoke scale pilot figure of German ace Adolf Galland

## New Model flying rules

You should have seen the recent e-mail from the BMFA which outlined the new model flying rules.

The good news is that very little has changed and we have put the quick guide and also the more detailed explanation on the club website documents page.

One thing that will affect control line flyers is that all control line models over 1kg will be subject to the drone registration rules. The pilot will need to pay to register as an Operator and put the Operator ID on the model. However CL pilots don't need to do the competency test!!

We have also had to do a Risk Assessment for flying on Recreation Grounds / Sports pitches. This covers flying at Girton, Impington and in fact any public space. [Read it here!!](#)

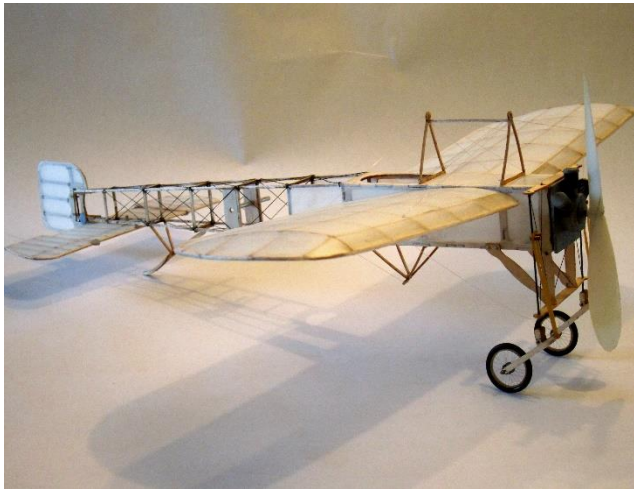


## Gordons Bleriot challenge

Gordon Hannah sent in a report on his expanding Bleriot fleet.....

I short while ago I was sent the kit of a Bleriot Mk XII by Steve Webb after my attempts to get their Humming Bird to fly free flight. My efforts with the Humming Bird, despite it being a very nice kit to put together, proved a disaster.

Steve must have taken pity on me as he sent me another of Tony Ray's miniature R/C kits to try.



The 19" Bleriot

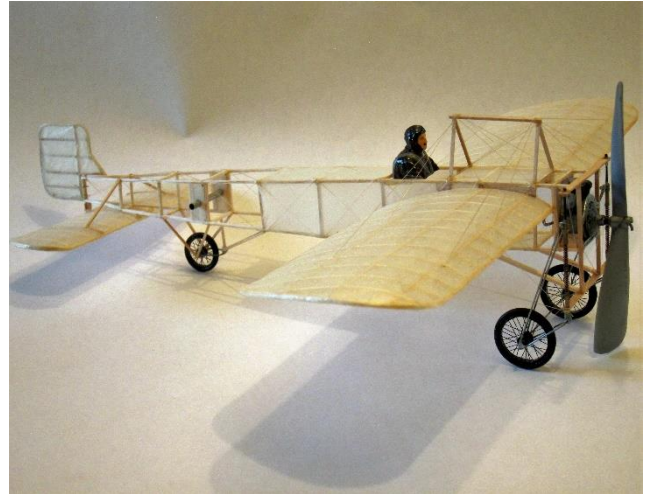
This time it was the Bleriot, again only 19 ins span and designed for R/C with electric power.

Undeterred by my experience with the Humming Bird, I decided to have another go at making an R/C design to go free flight with rubber power. The result was a complete success with some great flights outside on a calm evening on Newmarket Heath.

The kit is very cleverly designed by Tony Ray, but way off accuracy, particularly around the undercarriage, so I wondered if I could do something better - and also have a more accurate dummy engine.

I came across a plan for a peanut version bought years ago from SAMS.

On checking various books and photos, this plan seemed a pretty accurate version of the cross channel flight of Bleriot's. In particular I had some springs which suited the undercarriage and also could make suitable wheels and a dummy Anzani engine in the right place.



The Peanut Bleriot



The photo above shows the two models which make an interesting comparison. The larger 19 ins span model weighs in at 34g without rubber whereas the peanut version is 13g without rubber. Quite a difference, but still not exactly light for a peanut model. I am waiting for calm (and warm!) conditions to give it a go at Newmarket before trying it indoors.

## Lockdown Builds

New member Chris was very busy building FF models during lockdown. Here's his Mustang





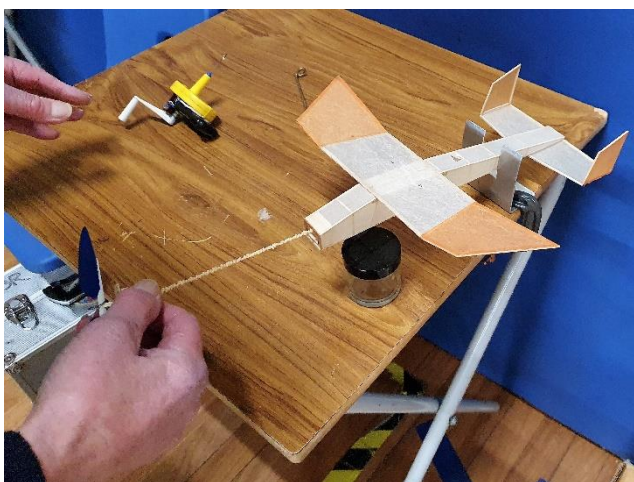
And a Trio of Lysander, Spitfire and SE5a



And a Curtiss P-6E

As well as indoor rubber FF, Chris has also been building outdoor FF and RC models.

## Who's winding?



Who is this illustrious modeller molesting a Pussycat? It flew well as do all his models!

## Dauids RC Mustang build

Dauids P51 Mustang cracks on apace. The fuselage is transformed from his last report



The Fuz last time we saw it



The current status – almost complete and looking the part.

David has had problems getting the CG right. At the first look he needed 200g of lead in the nose. He has managed to reduce this by modifying the bulkheads and moving the flight battery forward to within 2mm of the motor shaft. Yes, it's electric.

## Junior giveaway

If any junior would like an Inductrix Pro mini quad please contact Alan Paul as it is surplus to requirements.



## Answer to who's winding?

It's Bruce Lindsay with one of a pair of Pussycats that were flying in the gym.



A few club photos from different eras – how many people can you name?

