



Annual Report to members 2021

Secretarys Report for the Year

It has been an interesting year in many ways. Indoor flying was curtailed by the dreaded virus just before Christmas, but we had managed some indoor flying in the Gropius Hall, Sports Hall and Gym before this.

Flying resumed outdoors on the field in April and we generally had some good evening sessions with the usual eclectic mixture of free flight, control line and radio all coexisting in harmony. Ray Malmstrom would have been pleased.

The indoor season started in September in the gym on Thursday evenings but attendance has been low. The free Saturday FF and RC sessions have been very popular though and will now continue till the end of the indoor season in April 2022. The funding for this is part of a strategic objective to use up some of the club funds that have been accumulated by the subscriptions of many long serving club members – see the financial report for more details.

A very successful F2b Control Line aerobatics competition was held at Girton in June for the Ray Malmstrom Cup. This was won in open competition by our own club member Gary Church. Control Line remains a strong discipline at the club.

We also had a large display of Radio and Control Line flying at the Girton fete in June. This required an official BMFA display permit and risk assessments etc, but really highlighted the club to the local public at Girton and repays the local parish council for letting us use the field for a very low annual rent of £280.

It has been quite noticeable that apart from the Control Line competition, there have been no other club competitions over the last year and various trophies sit in the cupboard waiting to be awarded. There is no problem with this and it may be a general trend, however if anyone wants to organise some competitions, they would be more than welcome. See the section about club officers later in this report.

Last year we received a Council grant to spend on junior members and have been giving all Juniors a Tradfly rubber powered model which is an excellent introduction to indoor and outdoor free flight. We also bought a simple RC trainer and have funding left to buy more Tradflys when needed.

We are not having the Christmas party again this year due to Covid and non-availability of volunteers to prepare the food, but as our finances look promising we intend to have one next year with external catering and partially subsidise this from club funds.

After a gap of 2 years, we intend to have a public open day next year on Sunday 3rd April. This will be a slightly scaled down free flight event in the big Sports Hall only without the hire of the gym (for RTP) and changing room area (for static display) as in the past. Thanks go to Michael Marshall, Tony Harper and Gordon Hannah for organising this event.

The website continues to be kept up to date and should be the first port of call for all information as it contains all the information members need to know about upcoming events etc. The website is now free as it's hosted by the BMFA and saves the club £150 per year.

The question of a new private flying site for the club was raised under AOB motion 1 and is covered later in this report.

Club Officers

John Copsey had to stand down as club secretary in August and as there were no volunteers, Alan Paul has been the temporary secretary since then. He will continue in post unless anyone else puts their name forward. The whole committee wishes to thank John for all his hard work over many years.

We haven't had any Free Flight or Radio competitions for a while and are still looking for FF and Radio competition secretaries. The rest of the club officers listed below will continue in post for another year as no volunteers have come forward.

Chris Strachan –	Club President
John Wynn –	Club Chairman
Alan Paul –	Club Secretary
Ann Parker –	Treasurer
Stuart Marsden –	Safety and Welfare Officer
John Clarke –	Membership Secretary
Steve Mynott –	Control Line Rep
Tony Neal –	Radio Rep
Position Vacant –	Indoor Free Flight Competition Sec
Position Vacant –	Outdoor Free Flight Competition Sec
Position Vacant –	Radio Control Competition Sec
Steve Mynott –	Radio Examiner
Alan Paul –	Newsletter and Website editor. Data Protection Officer

Membership secretaries report

We have a total of 90 members which is up 1 on last year. Of the 90, 18 are new members.

Included in the 90, we have 3 honorary members and 6 juniors who do not pay a membership fee. Several new juniors have joined the club this year.

It is great that despite Covid the numbers are holding steady. In fact whilst this figure has been roughly the same for the last few years, the current membership is about 50% higher than 7 years ago.

Safety and Welfare officers report

Stuart Marsden reports that there have been no serious accidents or incidents in the last year and this is very good news.

The general guidance for indoor and outdoor flying at Impington is on the website under "Club Documents" and provides useful advice. It is up to all members to read this information and fly safely whilst still enjoying the unique environment that the club offers.

Treasurers Report

Many thanks go to Ann Parker for looking after the finances and doing the accounts for us once again. The full accounts are on the last page of this report. In particular Ann has managed to simplify the accounts by closing the old Building Society account that we were unable to access and consolidating the clubs money into one account.

It is the committees aim to gradually reduce the clubs bank balance from the current £8,998 to about £5,000 and spend the money for the benefit of members. Much of this expenditure will be on providing indoor flying facilities for free flight and radio flyers. It is felt that this will reward long term loyal members whilst still leaving a sensible "war chest" to cater for unknown future eventualities. It should take several years to gradually spend this money so there will be ample opportunity for members to comment and vote on this strategy.

A brief analysis of the accounts shows that we have a balance in the bank that's about £500 higher than last year. This is because we had various refunds because of cancelled indoor sessions due to Covid. However we expect to use this up and more over the next few months by paying for the additional "free" Saturday sessions.

We have also got £276 left of the County Council grant of £588 we received last year to spend on junior members.

For background information the costs we pay to hire facilities are as follows

- IVC Small Gym - £21.67 per hour (we use 2 ½ hours every Thursday)
- IVC Sports Hall - £21.67 per hour (we use 3 hours every Saturday)
- IVC Sports field - £14 per evening session (once a week in summer)
- Girton field - £280 for the whole years use
- Birthday Bash in the summer – approx £150 for IVC sports field and BBQ

The Sports Hall Saturday costs used to be roughly cancelled out by payments from members, but over the 7 months this winter it will cost us about £1,700 from club funds. See AOB motion 2 below.

The Sports Hall and Gym cost the same which is a bit odd, however we can't get an evening booking in the Sports Hall or we would of course have moved the Thursday slot over.

Club Subscriptions

The committee has decided that the membership fee for adults of £28 will not increase for 2022. This very low fee has not increased for over 5 years.

The BMFA fee for adults has gone up from £38 to £40 for 2022 and juniors from £17 to £18 – both still good value.

Any Other business raised by club members

Motion 1 - The club should have a proper, permanent and private flying site. This was proposed by Dave Kay and seconded by David Stopher. A paper was prepared and sent to all members to vote on.

The paper had additional information and said that if there was sufficient support for this proposal (a simple majority of those who vote), we would establish a working group to investigate without committing to anything and report back to members once there were any possible sites and costs identified. There would then be a further chance for members to comment and vote prior to any decision or expenditure.

The voting was as follows –

For	27
Against	10
Did not vote	53

Whilst the vote was carried, the significant number of people who did not vote perhaps shows that a large number are rather ambivalent. Some comments, including from members who voted yes, were concerned about potential costs.

Whilst it would be very useful to have a more private site without the hazards of dog walkers and sports activities, the committee are aware that any significant increase in club subscriptions could be divisive and counterproductive.

The committee has asked Dave Kay to lead a working group to look into options and has collated all the comments including previous research into various potential sites to assist the search. If any members feel they can contribute to a search, please let the club secretary know.

Members should note that this is a very difficult investigation as suitable sites at sensible costs are few and far between. It should not be assumed that by next summer we will have succeeded in finding a site.

Whatever the outcome of the search, we still have IVC on Friday evenings and Girton year round (see website for details). We also have access to unofficial sites at Cottenham and Longstanton. Please contact the club secretary if you want details of these as we can't make them public on the website.

Motion 2 - The club should continue to provide free Saturday afternoon indoor flying sessions for the rest of this winter season. The committee has decided that we will do this and review the finances prior to next winters flying season.

Provisionally, next winters Saturday indoor flying (starting September 2022) will be charged at £5 per session. This is cheap compared to other indoor flying clubs and will still require a small ongoing contribution from club funds, but considerably less than the £1,700 it will have cost this winter.

The future of the Club and strategic direction

It is the intention of the committee that the general ethos of the club should not change significantly. This club is unique and different, catering as it does for Free Flight, Control Line and RC with a big emphasis on indoor flying in the winter and our mixed Friday sessions in the summer. There is no intention to change this dynamic.

The investigation into a more private flying site is not the thin end of a wedge to make IVCMAC an RC flying club, but merely an opportunity identified by some of our members to see if we can improve the facilities we can offer to members.

Impington Village College Model Aeroplane Club
Profit And Loss Account
For the year ended 31 October 2021

		2021		2020
		£		£
Income	Membership Fees	3,042		3,012
	Less BMFA Membership	<u>-896</u>		<u>-910</u>
		2,146		2,102
	Fly day October	-		450
	Less Fly day expenses October	-		-383
	Fly day March	-		245
	Less Fly day expenses March	<u>-</u>		<u>-390</u>
		0		-78
	Christmas party	-		374
	Christmas party expenses	<u>-</u>		<u>-456</u>
		0		-82
	Competitions	110		-
	Less Competition expenses	<u>-97</u>		<u>-</u>
		13		-
	Saturday afternoons	73		932
	Saturday afternoons expenses	<u>-650</u>		<u>-1,333</u>
		-577		-401
	Building society interest	2		4
	Miscellaneous	<u>20</u>		<u>-</u>
Gross income		1,604		1,545
Expenses	Sports hall gym and field	-824		-1,268
	Hire Girton	-142		-138
	Newsletter	-74		-113
	Miscellaneous	<u>-112</u>		<u>-138</u>
		-1,152		-1,657
Net profit/loss		452		-112
Balance brought forward from previous year		<u>8,546</u>		<u>8,658</u>
		<u>8,998</u>		<u>8,546</u>
Balance at Building Society		-		4,231
Balance at Bank		9,938		3,942
Cash in Hand		60		60
Prepaid - sports hall gym and field		-		1,030
Prepaid - website		-		40
Prepaid - trophies		-		48
Creditor - ELA Active Ltd		-705		-260
Creditor - Flyday Expenses		-19		-19
Creditor - Secretaries Expenses		-		-70
Creditor - CC Council Grant Balance		-276		-276
Creditor - BMFA, Control Line Circle		<u>-</u>		<u>-180</u>
		<u>8,998</u>		<u>8,546</u>