

Impington Village College Model Aeroplane Club

Based near Cambridge we fly Free Flight, Radio Control and Control Line aircraft



Newsletter October 2024

Website ivcmac.bmfa.uk

edited by Alan Paul
alanpaul@outlook.com

It's not a V1

This is one of Chris Strachans beautifully made scale free flight models purchased by Paul Burling and converted to RC.



It is in fact an American copy called the JB-2 Loon. The model is a Richard Crossley design of 12.5 inches span which Chris flew with a Rapier rocket motor. The full write up of Pauls RC conversion is available on the [club website articles page](#).

A note from Mrs Strachan

I'm so glad that people have bought and are flying some of Chris's aeroplanes – it would have given him great pleasure to know this.

Thank you to Alan and Gordon who have organised a lot of the sorting and selling of the great mound of Chris's modelling paraphernalia.

I just wanted to let the Club know that we are all (myself and our three children) delighted at the amount of money that has been raised (£865 so far and I know there is more to come).

This will be spent on doing as much as we can to support swifts in this area as Chris loved them so much.

Christine Strachan
September 2024

A week in a tree



This is Chris Caruanas model that went behind the trees where the CL fliers operate and ended up wedged on the far side at the very top of one of the trees. A week later we were contacted by someone who had found it on the ground and Chris picked it up with no damage!!

Last man flying on Friday



The picture shows Greg and Tony packing up after a good Friday evenings flying. What is remarkable is that this photo was taken with a modern phone in almost complete darkness without doing anything other than pointing and pressing the button – technology eh?

Avro Lancasters



This is the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Lancaster at a recent Old Warden Airshow.



This is the Hobbyking version on special offer recently for £133 and too good an opportunity to be missed. 1.35m wingspan and with 4 working engines. They have dispensed with retracts to keep things light so it's a simple hand launch and belly land that looks good in the air.

Unfortunately it had a tendency to flick rapidly into a stall / spin if you let the speed drop off in a turn as this pilot found out to his cost twice.

It was rebuilt with just the 2 inboard motors to save weight and reduce the amount of outboard wing loading and did fly a bit better, but not for the faint hearted!! You need to keep the speed up and fly it like a fighter!!



It looked great in the air – pity it didn't fly as well as it looked!! Picture by Malcolm Bates.



It survived 3 flights before ending up looking like this. A video of the flights and crash is [here](#). It is now flying again.....

Christmas dinner

After the success of last years dinner at the Holiday Inn Impington, we have booked again for this Christmas. The dinner will be held on Thursday 5th December 7pm for 7.30 in the same semi private end of the restaurant as we had last year.

The cost will be £43 per person with a cash bar on the night.

This is just a heads up and we will be asking for names and payment in advance in early October.

Details and menu on website [here](#)

Little and Large



2 Red Arrows Hawks – the one on the left is a hand launch 3S version from Arrows Hobby and the one on the right is a 6S with flaps and retracts from FMS.

Both fly extremely well, but the strange thing is that in the air they both look much the same – perhaps there is something to be said for simplicity? Oh, and the big one is £450 with the little one coming in at about £150!!

2024 AGM

This will be held on Saturday 7th December at 2.30 in the Sports Hall and will straddle the RC and FF sessions which should ensure brevity.

Try to contain your excitement chaps!! If you have any suggestions or ideas, please let us know.

Good choice for a model



This is a full size T28 Trojan seen at the Little Gransden airshow in August. It makes for a nice model as demonstrated by club member Mark Saunders.

That's a big drone



Seen at RIAT 2024, this is the Pyka Pelican autonomous drone. Note the large brushless motors that dwarf ours! With a wingspan of 38 ft, 4 x 25 kW motors and a 50 kWh Lithium ion battery, it has a range of 200 miles and can carry a payload of 400 lb at 70 kts.

We probably won't see these zooming around our local area, but they will become a regular sight in more remote locations where they will be more cost effective than other forms of transport.

Name that model



Tony Welch holds his eBay purchase. The engine is a PAW 100 twin ball race (1cc) but Tony doesn't know what the model is.

Can anyone identify it? It certainly flew well.

Chris Strachans models fly

Andrew bought this model and had it flying nicely in the sports hall. Can you name it?



It did take Andrew a few minutes to rack his brains, but of course it's a 1934 Botali P.A.M.A. Chris loved to model unusual aircraft and he made this in 1991. The box has a history of all its flying sessions with notes on the rubber used.

The original was a French design and the P.A.M.A designation stood for planeur à moteur auxiliaire, or motor glider. A video of its first flight since February 2020 is [here](#).

Hark back to summer



Stuart winding at Old Warden in July. Now was that an Ajax or an Ace?

Next few weeks Calendar

OCT 5 Sat	Indoor mixed flying – RC (1pm to 3pm) and FF (3pm to 5pm) @ IVC Main Sports Hall Oct 5 @ 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
OCT 12 Sat	Indoor Free Flight flying @ IVC Main Sports Hall Oct 12 @ 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
OCT 19 Sat	Indoor Radio Control flying @ IVC Main Sports Hall Oct 19 @ 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
OCT 26 Sat	Indoor mixed flying – RC (1pm to 3pm) and FF (3pm to 5pm) @ IVC Main Sports Hall Oct 26 @ 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Committee meeting @ IVC canteen area Oct 26 @ 3:00 pm – 3:45 pm
NOV 2 Sat	Indoor Free Flight flying @ IVC Main Sports Hall Nov 2 @ 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
NOV 9 Sat	Indoor Radio Control flying @ IVC Main Sports Hall Nov 9 @ 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
NOV 16 Sat	Indoor mixed flying – RC (1pm to 3pm) and FF (3pm to 5pm) @ IVC Main Sports Hall Nov 16 @ 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

What's this model then?

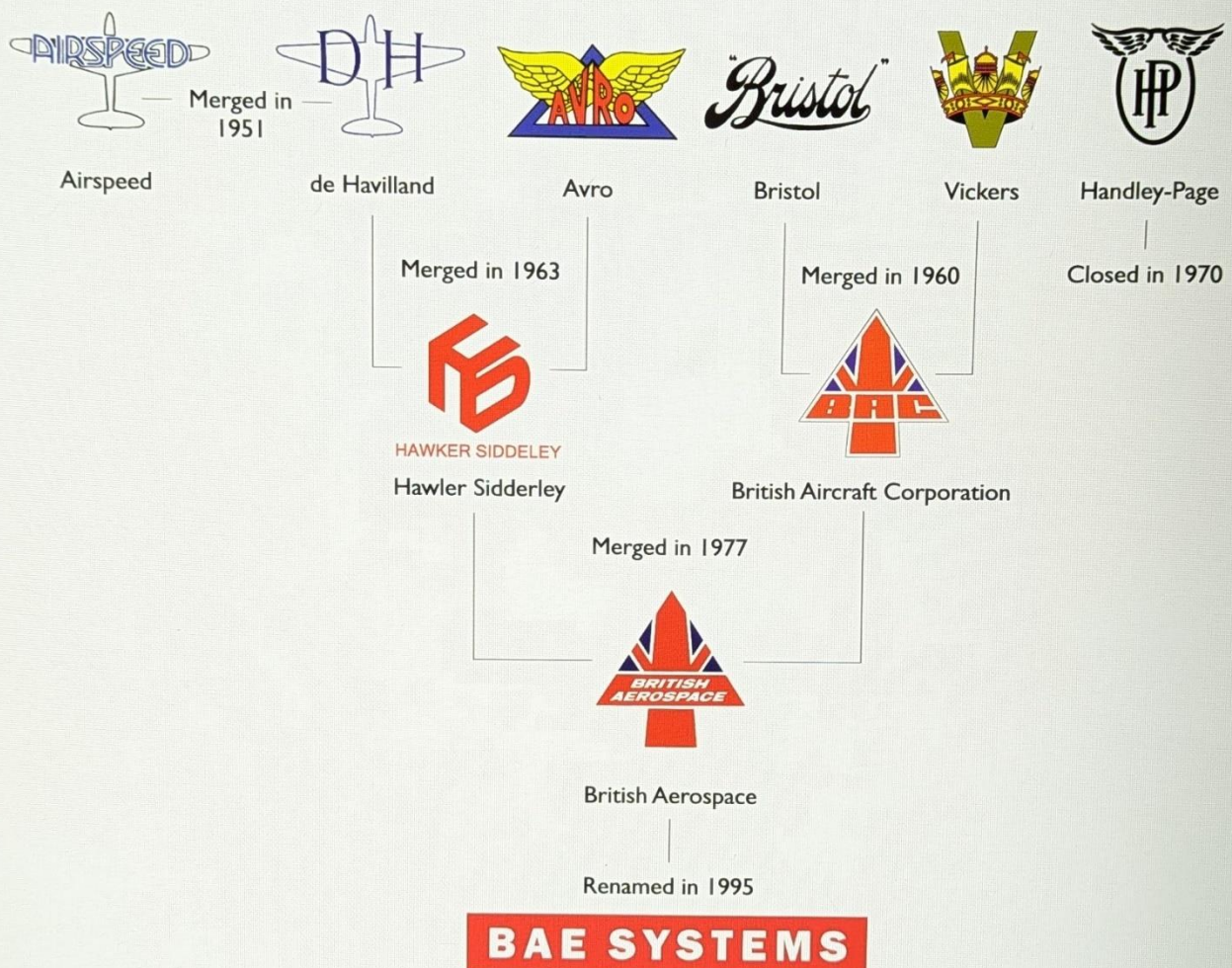


Andrew with another of Chris Strachans models which he was trimming out in the sports hall. We were all trying unsuccessfully to identify the plane – can you?

British Aircraft companies restructured

British airlines often bought American aircraft rather than British-built airliners that had been designed specifically for them. Technical innovation was not enough to sustain so many aircraft manufacturers and cuts in defence spending added to the industry's problems. A succession of bankruptcies, government-driven mergers and acquisitions saw the demise of many famous names.

By 1963, only two major aircraft companies remained in the UK, the British Aircraft Corporation (BAC) and Hawker Siddeley. They merged in 1977 to form British Aerospace, which itself became BAE Systems in 1999.



BAE SYSTEMS still builds Airbus wings, at Broughton near Chester, but sold its 20% share in Airbus in 2006, ending British-owned participation in civil airliner production.

This poster was seen at Duxford, but can you name any other ex British Aircraft manufacturers that are not in the chart? And what happened to them? E.g. The Canberra and Lightning etc.