

Impington Village College Model Aeroplane Club

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



Newsletter February 2026

Website ivcmac.bmfa.uk

edited by Alan Paul
alanpaul@outlook.com

Baby Ace



This is Chris Hinson's Baby Ace from a Guillow's kit. He built it earlier this year and this was its first outing in the sports hall. What a lovely model with plenty of scale details.



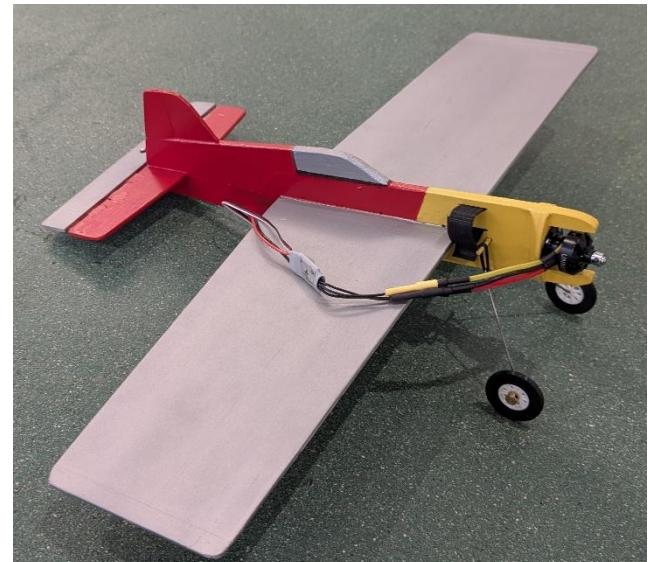
The detailed cockpit in the Baby Ace – just needs a pilot but the rubber might get between his legs!!

The full size Baby Ace was a 1929 homebuild aircraft with a motorcycle engine. Amazingly they are still being built from the plans to this day.

No news is good news?

Nothing has yet been heard about the new all weather pitch at IVC. The sports centre manager says he hasn't been told anything!

Another Ace



This time it's the electric control line trainer "Ace" from Dens models which you can get as a kit with all the electronics including a variable timer for the motor run which can also do various power settings.

This one was built by Mike Allen who is getting into the hobby via CL and some help from John Copsey. Good luck Mike.

Not like Chris Strachans!!



This is a simple rubber powered car from Temu that only costs £2 and is very child friendly with a simple plywood slot together construction. It comes as a "puller" with the prop on the front, but could be converted to a pusher.

Ramsey to Waterbeach

Cast your minds back to the 1980s when even serious modellers got up to all sorts of shenanigans. Why not fly an RC plane from Ramsey MFC to the Cambridge MFC at Waterbeach?

Well, Barry Richards and Robin Gowler did that. Robin Gowler of course was the BMFA stalwart whose widow presented the Club of the Year trophy named after him to John Copsey at the annual awards in November.



Barry flew the plane from the back of a van with Robin Gowler for company. Messrs Elf and Safety had not yet been born.....



Pictured after landing safely at Waterbeach – note the control tower which is now the only bit of RAF Waterbeach still standing on the actual airfield. Barry centre and Robin on the left looking a bit windswept after the trip.

On the right is Wendy Lymer, the widow of John Lymer who has started to build the plane. Barry finished it off and they did the flight to raise money in his memory.

The plane was powered by an OS Gemini twin, but can you identify the model or the date?

The Cambridge Evening News article reporting on the flight. Pictures from Gerald Coopers collection.

Modellers fly for charity



Mr Richards, Mr Gowler and Wendy Lymer, Mr Lymer's widow. R402816

Two Fenstanton flying enthusiasts are hoping to turn their hobby into a money-spinner for charity.

Robin Gowler and Barry Richards plan to fly a model plane from RAF Upwood, near Huntingdon, to Waterbeach Barracks to raise money for the Cambridge Kidney Research Unit.

Part of the radio-controlled plane was built by a Cambridge man Mr John Lymer who died in March after living on a dialysis machine for seven years, said Mr Gowler.

Mr Gowler and Mr Richards have completed the plane and hope to fly it on September 20, weather permitting.

Both Mr Gowler, who lives at 2 Sallows, and Mr Richards, of 10 Talls Lane, are members of the Ramsey Flying Club who use RAF Upwood as their base

Gordons Bleriot



In the last Newsletter we reported on Gordon Hannah and Paul Burlings resurrection of an old Bleriot that Gordon had started years ago.

The model is now complete and awaiting calm weather for its first test flight.

A picture of the pilot waiting in anticipation is overleaf.....



Test pilot Paul Burling at the controls of Gordons Bleriot. Lets hope he doesn't try to cross the channel on his first flight!

Bushwhacker completed



David Stophers Bushwhacker nears completion. He had to lengthen the nose considerably to get the CG anywhere near the right place. Looks like it should fly well. He says the colour scheme is loud and proud and should be visible even as the plane disappears over the horizon. Let's hope not - Ed.

Indoor RC Jets – Pauls Hawk



This is Paul Burlings latest indoor RC creation made from the RC gear from a cheap foamie.

Paul reports - I have been experimenting with some ultra micro RC on a budget, under £15.00 over Christmas.



The object was to produce a lightweight indoor RC jet under a weight of 25g and fly for 10mins. I used lightweight foam, 3mm from B&Q and decided to make a BAE Hawk (Red Arrows). This has been tested outside and flies well with an AUW of 19g. The wingspan is 210mm

I think this will open up a new segment for our sport, especially as the cost is so low to get such an aircraft into the air. The construction is very simple, cut / bond and paint. The hawk is not a profile but a triangulated fuselage, easily accepting the electronics.

Round the Pole

The RTP gang were in the sports hall on 29th December and as usual they brought a great selection of models. Club member Roy Bowron has been busy building RTP models as well. Here is a selection photographed by Malcolm Bates.



This is one of Roys new models – a lovely Fieseler Storch



Another of Roys new models a Siai-Marchetti SM.79 Sparviero (Sparrowhawk)



Autogyro by Martin Lavender



C-130 Hercules with 4 working engines



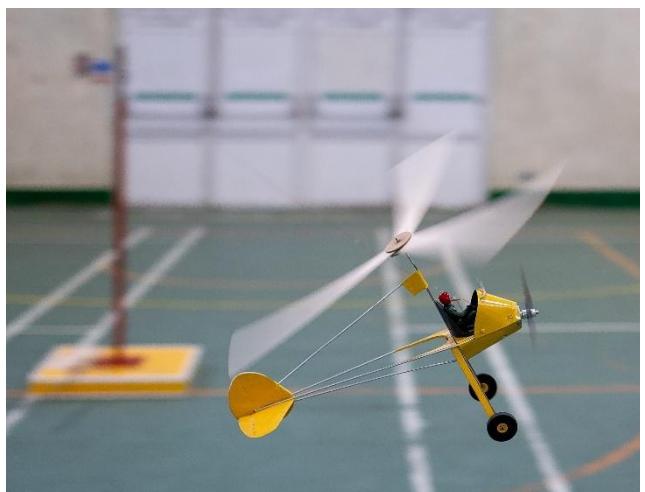
DH Swallow by Will Beavor



This was a small speed model - very high wing loading and almost pulled the pole over



Another autogyro



Martins autogyro flies



Name that famous plane!



Pitts Special



This US prototype hopped and skipped



Gloster Whittle – Britains first jet aircraft

Should be fast – and it was



Small and sprightly, this is Malcom Bates new Lightning which is a 64mm EDF in a plane normally the size of a 50mm EDF.

It flew very well, but sadly not for very long! A video of its brief but eventful life is [here](#).



It does not take long to assemble these small models and you get a lot of "bang for your buck"

Hobbyking Christmas sale



The only thing that your editor can't resist is temptation. This is the Night Tundra prior to test flying at Waterbeach. It's a great model and has a full LED light set ready for those dusky Friday evenings at IVC. It also comes with floats so is an all round bargain. Video [here](#).

HobbyKing 1S lipo batteries



If you are in the market for new indoor batteries, HobbyKing often have these for sale at bargain prices like £2 each. These have PH2 connectors which allow higher currents. You may have to solder new connectors on your models, but it's definitely worth it.

Cambridge Bomber & Fighter Society (CBFS)

Volunteers required to help restore a
Mark 1 Hawker Hurricane
at Little Gransden Airfield, Cambridgeshire

(No experience required - On-site training will be given)



Photos: Group Captain Peter Townsend – 85 Squadron with the actual aircraft

The workshop is normally open on a Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoon.
Once restored, the aircraft will be displayed at the Brooklands Museum in Surrey.
However, if you can't join us, donations would be gratefully appreciated.

Please contact Paul Rogers on 07703 832099 or email progers2601@gmail.com
for further information or check our website www.cbfs.org.uk

CBFS is a not-for-profit charity



We are also restoring a Hawker Fury biplane, serial number K1928,
which, in the 1930's, was one of the first 21 Furies built and flown by 43 Squadron.