

Impington Village College Model Aeroplane Club

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



Newsletter September 2026

Website ivcmac.bmfa.uk

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Girton Fete

This was held on a very hot and windy Saturday 11th July.



As seen from a drone, we had a great line up of models and quite a few visitors during the day. The fete organisers think that the flying display is one of the highlights and have already asked us back for 2027.



Alans Aeroscout with streamer taxis back to the pits after a flight.



Mark Leggs combat model with engine detached after a mid air collision.



The other combat model didn't get off totally unscathed!!



Jon Oakleys P47 ready for takeoff.



"Turbine Tim" Coles Turboprop ran nicely and wowed the crowd.



CL combat launch



Combat in full swing



An impressive line up of models



Models and flags at the fete. Full video [here](#).

What's this?



Answer at the end

Indoor flying resumes soon

- Last outdoor – Friday 11th Sept
- Round the Pole – Saturday 12th Sept
- Indoor FF – Saturday 19th September

Check the website "upcoming events" for full details.

Lightning does strike twice

In the last newsletter we reported that Alans Radian shed a prop blade and the resultant vibration tore the nose off.

Well a similar thing happened to Nigels e-flight Clipped wing Cub – luckily without too much additional damage although some parts drifted away and were never located. See photos overleaf.....

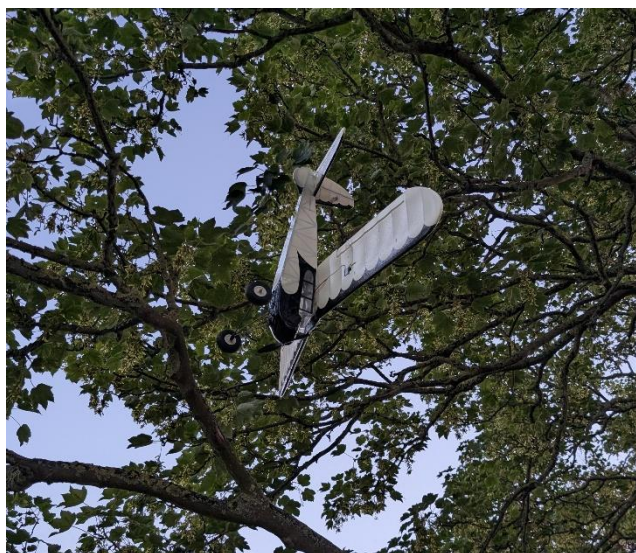


Nigels Cub – relatively unscathed.



A close up of the ripped out motor and the lost hatch.

Caption Competition



Landing!! Answers on a postcard please LOL

Club Poles

The club now has a 13m pole which will be kept by David Stopher and Bob Pigotts 7m pole which will be kept by Alan Paul.

Good RC Trainers



Pictured at Waterbeach are the HK Bixler and the FMS Easy Trainer. Both are good models along with the Easy Star and the Prodigy. All of these are regular outdoor flyers at IVC.

If you want the best all round trainer, the Easy Star is the pick of the bunch, but is also the most expensive!!

Guess who?



This drawing is by Ray Malmstrom and is one of his pupils "back in the day" who was a regular club member for many years and an accomplished aeromodeller.

Allegedly, during art lessons, Ray would send this chap into the stock room to "tidy up" but what he really meant was "have a read of the latest Aeromodeller"!!!

It is in fact Mike Nelson who was a welcome guest at the Birthday Bash in July.

In their Youth



Name these 2 chaps, the lady in the background and the model.

It's John Copsey and Bruce – John writes -

My guess (after some pondering) is that it was taken around 1988 - 1989, but no idea who by. The model is an oversize KK Spectre in Navy Blue and yellow that someone gave me, but no idea who, but it was a dog. I think that is Heather Wynn to the side so maybe John took the photo? Happy photo for me, but probably not for Bruce! See below.....

Not that Friday evening but a similar one, around that time there was a miscommunication between Bruce and myself and Bruce received some very nasty cuts to his fingers and hand. Went to hospital and had microsurgery to restore tendons and nerves in his fingers. I have always felt bad about it but Bruce has never held a grudge over it and we have discussed it (even recently), but not surprisingly Bruce didn't assist me after that.

Birthday Bash BBQ

We went ahead with the Birthday Bash to celebrate the club's 80th year on a very windy day – it had rained overnight (the first rain for a month) but was sunny for us on the day.

About 40 people came along for a mainly social event with the BBQ and a bit of flying by hardy souls!!

Some pictures from the event follow and a video compilation is [here](#)

Special thanks to Steve and Norman for transporting and manning the BBQ which went down a treat.



Name this model made by Gordon Hannah



It's a L'Eole built in France in 1890 and steam powered. It actually flew 50m at a height of 20cm, but had no means of control so is not considered the first flight which was the Wright brothers efforts in 1903.







Answer to What's this then?

Anti-Airship Incendiary Bomb 1914

Developed before the war by the Royal Laboratory in Woolwich, this aerial bomb was designed to destroy enemy airships. The spikes were intended to rip through the airship's gas bag. The orange ball held an explosive but it is not known how this was ignited.

Developments at Girton

Not content with building an all weather pitch at Impington, now Girton Parish Council have decided to install a cricket pitch. Work started last week to prepare a cricket square.

This is pretty much in the middle of the field we fly in, and once completed it will be like the one on the main rec in front of the parish offices – i.e. it will be roped off to prevent people walking over it.

We don't think this will impact flying at Girton but the committee will be keeping an eye on things. At the moment it's rather more severely fenced off with workmen and diggers. The only likely downside is that there may be organised cricket matches at weekends and this would obviously affect flying. We will try to get a programme of official events and we would be able to fly on the adjacent "St Johns field" which is now kept reasonably well mown.

See a video of the field from the air as at 24th August 2026 [here](#).



Alans Easystar after some reconnaissance flights over the work.....

Aerial picture overleaf.



From the North looking South