



# SOARPOINT

Newsletter No. 3/2008 for the East Sussex Soaring Association -June 2008

## Subscriptions

There are still some members from 2007 who have not paid up for 2008. I hope you are still wanting to fly with us this year but do remember that if you are a BMFA member through ESSA then you will not be covered by insurance until you pay your subs. I will not be sending out any more reminders but if you have decided not to rejoin it would be helpful to me to know why, especially if there is some aspect of the club that you find not to be satisfactory.

Please send cheques to me for £40 to include BMFA or £12 if you are a country member or get BMFA membership through another club. My address is 17 Wannock Lane, Eastbourne BN20 9SB. Existing members do not need to fill in an application form but they are available for new members and can be obtained from me by email - [Ray.wells@virgin.net](mailto:Ray.wells@virgin.net) or phone 01323 483506.

## New members

On behalf of the club I would like to welcome Pat North (bloke not woman. Sorry to disappoint) who joined a few days ago. I understand that he is new to slope flying but not to building so any help he can be given on the slope would be appreciated.

## Taster Sessions

If you know of any potential members who might like a try out on a two channel floater using a buddy box put them in touch with me. We have a spare Hitec transmitter in the club and I have invested heavily in a compatible cable. I am, of course, talking about really basic try outs- nothing flash like aerobatics etc.

## Lost Model

Members may remember two Dutch flyers who visited last autumn and lost a model on Butts. It has now been found well down the slope by a dog walker. The model is in my possession but owner so far has not replied to emails. The airframe is in good shape but the electronics and motor look kaput.

## Local Shops

Model Zone is still offering 10% discount to Club members. There are serious gaps in what they stock but I do find it worthwhile giving them a call if you want something.

Hobby Zone in Uckfield is a small independent retailer run by an enthusiastic owner. They are now closed on Mondays but open on Wednesdays.

### **Tips for other beginners**

Don't do what I did a few weeks ago. Wind NEish and apparently full in face on Tascombe. Launched straight into all wind and turbulence with no lift. After a longish walk and minor damage then looked at north slope and concluded I should have gone there first. Moral of story – check slopes first and don't confuse wind with lift!

### **Cross Country Competition 25th May 2008 - Long Man SW Bowl**

#### **Report by Julian Perrott**

The rains of the previous evening subsided politely to allow the competition to proceed. The wind was a variable, thermic SSW direction from between 5 and 15mph, a fairly desirable speed for the discipline.

Four turning points were set up. 1 was near the gate approaching the SW bowl, 2 further towards the normal pits. 3 was further round the bowl and 4 was set with the hope that this would prove difficult to get to due to the wind direction. The spot landing was in its normal place by the pits and the low pass was designated to happen in from of the pits.

This year the rule to deduct 2 points for each landing whilst on the course was employed.

Eight competitors turned up with a variety of models ranging from 48" foamies to Toms Starlight which was out to play in its first competition and looked lovely!

Competitors set out on the course with a marker after the scoring rules were explained to all in the pilots briefing (well nearly all...).

The conditions meant that the higher performance planes managed to scratch around whilst waiting for some thermal activity but foamies were struggling to maintain any altitude in the variable conditions.

John Phillips seemed determined to stall his Wizard whilst performing thermal turns and had a couple of land outs but flew well as ever with a model not best suited to the discipline due to his thermal machine not accepting a charge. Colin flew what he could of the course, his attendance is always appreciated. Jim flew his Cito which seemed to take up a lot of sky in his efforts to "keep it up" and also had a couple of land outs which caused some centre panel damage. Alan started off by flying a foamie, but after accumulating a score of -6 without making any turning points elected to change planes (actually I am convinced he left the hill, went home and scratch built his next steed before returning to the hill...), the next plane a large thermal rudder elevator model was much more suited to the task! Ray also flew a large rudder elevator model and made it to all 4 turning points. Gary flying his revenge scorched round the course (with one eye on hopping over the fence for a bit

of DSing no doubt!). Tom brought his Starlight out for only its second visit to the slopes and spend a while getting used to the handling and started to dial the model in, but it looked excellent. I had my yearly outing with my 2 metre Highlight and had to scratch around a little for lift but was probably flying the most suited model for the task it having such a tight thermal turn which could be employed easily behind the turning points. Every year I ask myself why I do not fly this model more as it is just so precise...

So the Results were...

<b>Pos.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>TP 1</b>	<b>TP 2</b>	<b>TP3</b>	<b>TP4</b>	<b>Spot L</b>	<b>Low Pass</b>	<b>Penalties</b>	<b>Total</b>
1st	Julian Perrott	18	16	16	12	10	10	0	82
2nd	Tom Noble	16	12	14	10	10	10	0	72
3rd	Jim Taylor	18	10	14	10	10	10	-2	70
4th	John Phillips	14	10	10	10	10	10	-4	60
5th	Gary Harrison	10	10	10	10	10	10	-2	58
6th	Colin Lennox	10	10	10	0	10	10	-8	42
7th	Ray Wells	10	10	10	10	0	0	-4	36
8th	Alan Elliott	10	10	10	0	0	0	-6	24

### **Remaining Competition dates for 2008**

29 June	Fun Fly to be followed by a lunchtime BBQ. Get details from Julian.
3 August	Reserve 1 – Club F3F
4 October	BMFA 60” league (This is not a club competition)
5 October	BMFA F3F league (Ditto)
12 October	Reserve 2
2 November	Reserve 3

Do try and support the club competitions even if you are a newcomer. There is nothing wrong with coming last and you may surprise yourself. If you happen to be reading this newsletter and you are not a member but would like to take part do contact me (RW)

### **Contacts**

John Phillips – Chairman	07703 452534
Ray Wells - Secretary	01323 483506
Tom Noble – Treasurer	07957 703707
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