

# Clear Dope

APRIL 2011



## Fund Raising at Fishbourne Circa 1980-81

Shortly after losing the flying site at the municipal fields the club was invited to give a public display at Fishbourne. At that time the field was not maintained in a mown state and the only buildings in existence where some old wooden war time accommodation huts and the Fishbourne club were raising funds for the first buildings of the old hall. In the picture from left to right are John Riall with his Burder Cub, Ron Biggs with a Stompe, Gerry Devenish and his Lazy Ace, Ray Hackett at the rear with his own design delta and John Pimm with an Attila the smaller version of the Magnattila



## GOODBYE FROM THE HOT SEAT

How time flies when you're having fun. It's very hard to believe that it was over eight years ago when I first look up the pen as Clear Dope Editor. In that first issue (January 2003) Peter Sackman was still our Hon. Chairman, Roger Bedford was our Southern Area Chairman and Tony Nijhuis had just demonstrated his first 'bouncing bomb' electric Lancaster on Thorney Island during an 'All Electric Day' organised by Andrew Gibbs.

Back in 2003 I'd just taken over from Trev and Bobby Bowry and I was about to learn just how much time and effort was needed to edit, produce, print, collate and staple around a hundred and fifty magazines every month. Of course that wasn't the end of the toil. After each club meeting the editor had to put about fifty copies into envelopes and then address, stamp and post them to members who hadn't made it to the club meeting. That was on a good month, on others there were all the gremlins in the PC and printer to cope with, dodgy ink cartridges, postal strikes, holiday interruptions and the occasional total collapse of the clubs printer.

By the latter part of the 2000s attendance at the monthly club meetings had dropped to an average of about 50 members and so with getting on for 100 envelopes to post each month the job became much easier when Bryan Stichbury joined the team and took over all responsibility for distribution in 2008.

It has been great fun and a great honour, though, to be involved in putting our magazine together. It was always interesting and exciting to receive photographs or 'copy' from another club member, while getting out and doing a bit of real reporting has been the cause of a great deal of enjoyment over the years. Covering the club competitions has been a doddle since Ray Beadle always writes up a good report of the events but over the last eight years, armed only with a camera and a copy of CD I've managed to blag my way behind the barriers of three to four major flying displays each year, plus the Nationals, and talk to pretty much all the heroes of our sport from Boddó to Ali.

In total contrast I used to enjoy sitting down and drafting out the Tex and Rex cartoons. Just for the record, the two characters represented Andy Gibbs (Rex), the smart fellow in the bobble hat and me as Tex (the cowboy – the fool) in the ten gallon job. Ecurb the author was of course Bruce written backwards and the series ran for a good few years greatly supported towards the end by Colin Stevens writing under the pseudonym of Cobbo.

Every April edition of CD, of course, always contained a spoof item. Most memorable amongst these were the toilet blocks on the Thorney Island plan, the bent screw sets for corner fixings and of course Trevor Bowry's Indoor World Speed record. (He still gets asked about it!) Last April's edition, did in fact carry my usual fizog in the bottom corner but 'winking.' One eagle eyed club member spotted it and very kindly enquired if I was actually suffering with an eye injury.

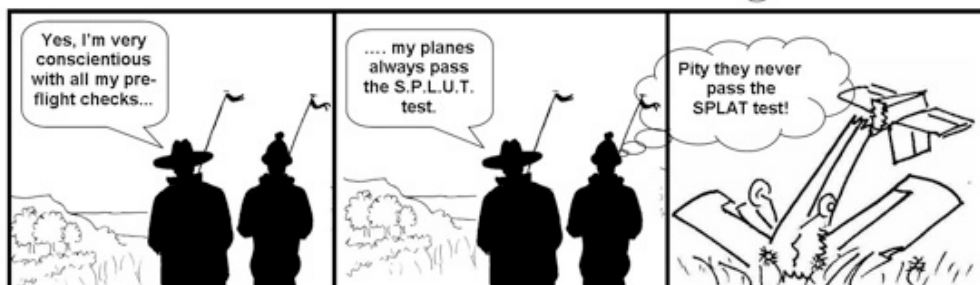
It's surprising, when you look back, just what a revolution our hobby has gone through during my tenure: Affordable turbines now grace the skies over Thorney, interference has just about been eliminated with the introduction of 2.4GHz SST and the ubiquitous NiCad has been superseded with powerful, lightweight polymer cells. Who knows what will be the next revolutionary gizmo to enhance our hobby pleasure? Well I suppose the answer to that will be....you will. Many of our members don't subscribe to the usual round of expensive modelling mags and they'll need to rely on anyone of us with a specialist interest or specific knowledge to let them know what the latest developments are, through the pages of our own magazine. So.....

I sincerely hope you'll give all your help and support to Ken Knox as he takes over this most onerous task. He certainly has all of my best wishes, and sympathy. It's a very lonely place to be when you've got to get an edition out and just no one's sent in any contributions. Ken, I know, has the skills, knowledge and expertise to take CDe on to another level but he can't do it on his own. I've always followed the old BBC mantra 'To Inform, Educate and Entertain,' and I know he'll be only too please to receive something from you which falls into any of these categories.

My most sincere thanks to you, for your support over all this time, and for the many kind words I've received. I'm going to miss the love-hate relationship with old CD and maybe now I'll be able to get down to some real building again. But on the other hand.....I can't see the old keyboard sitting for too long, in the corner, collecting dust.....old habits die hard. So for the time being.....

Goodbye

TeX & ReX *by Ecurb*



Bruce's "Twilight Tear" which he has had much pleasure in building and demonstrating over the years, it is a credit to his modelling skills and attention to detail



## Climb & Glide 19<sup>th</sup> March 2011

Saturday was lovely day after the last few weeks of freezing weather, Sunday with a light wind from the sea. There were 8 entries for the first comp of 2011. Three rounds were to be flown. The best two to be added together. The climb time was set to 20 sec for B cert. flyers and 30 sec for a cert. flyers and the flight had to touch down in a large marked area 10% was added to scores if the model landed in this area.

We had two Cougars, a Limbo Dancer, a Wot 4, a 1950's Top Dog, a semi scale Cub, a Fusion and Bruce's Sledge Hammer now owned by Declan.

Stuart Whittle kindly did the timing for this Comp.

Ray Beadle started us off and did 2.40 min. this was a time for the rest to aim for but got caught out by the wind and could not make the box. Declan Cousins was next with the Sledge Hammer made 2.22 min, no box.

Tony Chant followed with the Limbo and did the best time of the round with 3.48 min. still no box!

Tony Coombs came next with a modified Cougar but only did 1.56 min, he was followed by Colin Stevens and the Cub with a good 2.36 min then came John Riall and the Wot 4 for a time of 2.09 min and finally Bruce Smith with his Cougar and time of 2.12.

Ken Knox did not fly the Top Dog and George Chant had problems with his Big Fun.

The time handicap seemed to work well, but no body made the box in this round.

In round two Bruce managed to leave the engine running and only found out as he came to land, so scored no time. Ray was the only one to improve on his first round time with 3.29 min, again nobody managed to make the box, the light wind stronger than we thought.

In round three everybody managed a time between 2 min and 3 min, except Tony who caught some lift and did the best time of the day with a 4.27 min and Ray was the only one on the day to make the box in this round.

The result after totalling the two best rounds and adding the bonuses was a win for Tony Chant 8.15 min, second Ray Beadle 6.43 min and third Colin Stevens 5.29 min.

Thanks to all who came and to Stuart Whittle who did the timing. I hope all enjoyed it and will come to the next, which will be the Bomb Drop.



Cheers Ray

# Climb & Glide 19<sup>th</sup> March 2011 Results



Name	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Box Landing + 10%	Total Minutes	Position
Tony Chant	3:48	3:45	4:27	Nil	8:15	First
Ray Beadle	2:40	3:29	2:57	0:17	6:43	Second
Colin Stevens	2:36	2:28	2:53	Nil	5:29	Third
Declan Cousins	2:22	2:18	2:25	Nil	4:47	Fourth
Bruce Smith	2:12	Scratched	2:29	Nil	4:41	Fifth
John Rial	2:09	Scratched	2:12	Nil	4:21	Sixth
Tony Combes	1:56	1:05	Scratched	Nil	3:01	Seventh



## The Club Auction held at Fishbourne on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2011

This was the first auction we have held at the Fishbourne club since the rebuild it was a great success, the building layout making it much easier to host the auction than before.

John Rial was the master of ceremonies who was aided by Steve Skinner amongst others, Sandra Dawson and John Fowler greeted the prospective sellers recording details of the items being offered for sale, of which there was approximately 60 lots, most items were bought and there were some very good bargains. However from my point of view my Warhawk did not attract any buyers, more of that later.

Richard Archer was presented with his 'A' certificate by our Chairman Tony Chant the auction proceeded in a timely manner and closed at about 11pm.



With regard to my Warhawk which was unsold it took some picture of it and put for sale on eBay the next evening with the note that it was **collect** only.

Guess what? The guy who made the successful bid lived in Manchester, he was Polish and had little command of English! I had to do all the subsequent conversing with his fourteen year old daughter. He asked me if I could post it so Declan Cousins and myself acquired a large new bicycle box but found although the weight was ok but the size was too big and I could not get a courier to accept it. In the end he drove down yesterday (Friday) from Manchester with his daughter and collected it, **Expensive Buy!!** Motto: Always read the instructions

# EVENTS CALENDAR 2011

- Saturday March 26th Indoor Flying Seaford College 1 - 5pm  
Sunday March 27th Romsey auction?  
Thursday Apr 14th Tony Nijhuis Fishbourne 8.00pm  
Saturday April 16th Bomb Drop Thorny 12 noon  
Saturday April 23rd Indoor Flying Seaford College 1 - 5pm  
Saturday May 8th Electric Fly In (Thorny Shut?) Porthole  
Thursday May 12th Derek Knight K&P Fishbourne 8.00pm  
Saturday May 14th Blackbushe Show  
Saturday May 21st Indoor Flying Seaford College 1 - 5pm  
Saturday May 21st Scramble I/c only Thorny 12 noon  
Thursday June 9th Light Flight and Control line Fishbourne  
Saturday June 11th Pattern Thorny 12 noon  
Thursday June 2nd Evening Flying for members Goodwood Aerodrome  
Sunday June 12th BMFA Fly-in  
Saturday June 25/26th Wings & Wheels North Weald  
Thursday July 7th Evening Flying for members Goodwood Aerodrome  
Thursday July 14th Light Flight and Control line Fishbourne  
Saturday July 16th Slope Competition Trundle  
Thursday August 4th Evening Flying for members Goodwood Aerodrome  
Thursday August 11th Light Flight and Control line Fishbourne  
Saturday August 13th Open glider Thorny 12 noon  
Saturday August 20th Open glider Thorny 12 noon  
Saturday August 27/29th National Championships Barkestone Heath  
Saturday September 3rd Open glider Thorny 12 noon  
Thursday September 8th Indoor Flight Fishbourne  
Saturday September 10th Loops, rolls, spins Thorny 12 noon  
Saturday September 17/18th South of England Show Hop Farm  
Thursday October 13th Balsa Brain Competition Fishbourne  
Saturday October 15th Scale Comp Thorny 12 noon  
Thursday November 10th Annual general Meeting Fishbourne 8.00pm  
Thursday December 8th Subscription Night Fishbourne  
Dec ? Indoor Fly in comp Seaford College 1 - 5pm



*Competition Calendar 2011*



<i>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April</i>	<i>12 Noon</i>	<i>Bomb Drop</i>	<i>Thorney Island</i>
<i>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May</i>	<i>12 Noon</i>	<i>Electric Fly in</i>	<i>Porthole</i>
<i>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May</i>	<i>12 Noon</i>	<i>Scramble I/C only</i>	<i>Thorney Island</i>
<i>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June</i>	<i>12 Noon</i>	<i>Pattern</i>	<i>Thorney Island</i>
<i>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>12 Noon</i>	<i>Slope</i>	<i>Trundle</i>
<i>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August</i>	<i>12 Noon</i>	<i>Open Glider</i>	<i>Thorney Island</i>
<i>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August</i>	<i>12 Noon</i>	<i>Open Glider</i>	<i>Thorney Island</i>
<i>Saturday 3<sup>d</sup> September</i>	<i>12 Noon</i>	<i>Open Glider</i>	<i>Thorney Island</i>
<i>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September</i>	<i>12 Noon</i>	<i>Loops, Rolls &amp; Spins</i>	<i>Thorney Island</i>
<i>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October</i>	<i>12 Noon</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Thorney Island</i>
<i>TBA December</i>	<i>13:00</i>	<i>Indoor Competition</i>	<i>Seaford</i>