

# Dartmoor Slope Soaring Club



## NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 / Issue 1

### OKEHAMPTON AEROTOW OCT 11TH

For those that attended the last event of 2020, the Okehampton Model Flying Club Aerotow was a very enjoyable day. The weather was kind considering the recent stormy days. Some good flying took place along with a few challenges including Chairman Cliff getting a snagged towline. There is more about that on our Facebook page.

Our thanks go to OMFC for hosting the event and we look forward to a similar event at L.H next year.



*Socially Distanced Gliders*

### A NEW(S) LETTER

Apparently, some longer-term members may remember our club used to publish a hard copy newsletter from time to time. Some may also remember it had a name (Sloping Off). As our winter club meetings look unlikely to go ahead for the foreseeable future, we wondered if members would like to keep in touch via a newsletter. We have an active website that is hosted FOC for us by the BMFA and a very active Facebook page but some members might prefer to receive a printable newsletter. If this is your preference then please email John or Robert with notes or pictures of what you are up to, whether it be a new build, a small repair, a problem found or solved, an interesting purchase or just some outdoor fun flying. We are not promising to circulate a newsletter every month, but whenever we have something to say or to fill a page, we will.

### CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Hi everyone, the best way to stay safe in these strange times is to get out into the fresh air! Whether it be on the slope or on the flat!

I've picked up some sort of bug currently, it's like a cold without the runny nose and sore throat, just aching limbs and a constant headache, my doctor says the only way to combat this is to take a paracetamol and focus on any sort of model flying activity. It's also the best way to prevent any illness ... fresh air and exercise ... but we all knew that didn't we?

I know a lot of members have been out enjoying some flying, we're lucky down here. I guess, being in the lowest tier, and long may it continue, whether it's been up on the Moors, at LH or Okehampton MFC.

It's very easy to become complacent and 'wait for it to be all over' but memories aren't made at home, unless you building of course.

I think our club probably has more builders than most clubs proportionally, (probably an age thing lol) and there's so much to choose from. I was in Stan's today and he said business was brisk currently, all good news. As we know Stan has a great selection of models to choose from with the sort of back-up that most model manufacturers lost a long time ago.

Keep building but, more importantly, keep flying.

**Chairman Cliff.**

PS I've just bought a new fur-lined transmitter muff from Banggood so I've got no excuse.

## Little Haldon News

Look out for Cliff wearing this!



*Dynam de-electrified Catalina flying from Frocester Hill by one of our ex members Richard Farrers who moved to Gloucestershire. The photographer is Phil Hayward and Joe sent in the photo.*

free of charge.  
The following year the airfield witnessed one last attempt to give it a lease of life rejected.  
A bid to turn the aerodrome into a base for model aircraft was dashed by the presence of rare nightjars, which mistake miniature aircraft overhead for birds of prey.  
English Nature raised concerns about the possible purchase of the site by the British Model Flying Association as a permanent base.  
The land had been offered by landowner Major Ranulf Rayner of the Ashcombe estate, but the association wanted Teignbridge District Council to provide a certificate of lawfulness before proceeding with the purchase, to confirm it would be able to fly model aircraft.  
The council refused to issue a certificate due to English Nature's concerns, with a planning inspector subsequently dismissing an appeal.

Bernard Northway from the TVMFC came across this little piece of Little Haldon History. We are not sure when this occurred but who knows, we might have been HQ for the BMFA.

More recently, Gordon Neate generously collected a fly tipped folding bed and took it to the tip. Thanks Gordon.

One of the new gatepost footings was damaged recently and Pete Brock has kindly repaired it FOC. Thanks Pete.

The two seater Spitfire from Exeter was spotted over L.H. We wonder if that was the flight Roger enjoyed in September.

## Christmas Lunch

The lunch, that was scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> December at the Dainton Golf Club is cancelled. John and Cliff are looking into the possibility of a Xmas fly-in and raffle this year.

## INTERESTING WEB LINKS

Click on this link - <https://dssc.bmfa.org/> to go to our website. There are quite a few pictures in the gallery from this year and posts by John, David Ramsden's glider build and others.

Click on this link - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/436268846939798> to goto our Facebook group. This is a very active group and includes some excellent Utube footage by Cliff showing what he has been up to and some footage from the Okehampton Aerotow event in September.

Click on this link - <https://scalesoaring.co.uk/> to go to Scale Soaring UK website. A few of our club members have joined this website – including one called Calipso who is reporting on his 5 metre K7 build.

This Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PSS.Power.Scale.Soaring> has some interesting silent flight models that should know better and have an engine or in several examples multiple engines.

## Future Newsletters

If there is anything that you would like to include in a future Newsletter or a topic you would like discussed, then please email John at [johnandmaggieharvey@gmail.com](mailto:johnandmaggieharvey@gmail.com) or Robert at [Robert.woolley4@btopenworld.com](mailto:Robert.woolley4@btopenworld.com)