

# St Neots Model Flying Club

## News letter Summer 2018



Ian Storey  
Barry Copper  
Chris Wright  
John Burrows  
Pete Jackson

(Chairman)  
(Vice Chairman/ Safety)  
(Membership/Treasurer)  
(secretary)  
(Events)

What a fantastic summer we are all having, the weather is and has been glorious enjoy it while you can.

As you can see from above there have been some changes to the Committee. Keith has decided to concentrate on his flying and has said the following ;

“I have stepped down as Club Secretary. I will not bore you with the details. However, I need to do all the usual things, try to relax more, eat a healthier diet and do more exercise etc. All easier said than done. Given the ever faster changing technological landscape of model aviation today, a Club Secretary, with a younger, and more agile mind than I possess, au fait with such developments, would surely be an asset. I should like to thank all of you who have been so helpful and supportive, in particular, with Club communications, which helps to keep the Club together.”

We must all thank Keith for his superb efforts over the years and welcome John and Barry to their new roles on the Committee.

It is amazing how the model flying world is changing from the advent of 2.4 radios and all the advantages that has come with that, to the fully programmable, self landing, stabilising, and G.P.S. systems; that's without mentioning all the new battery technologies. It seems only yesterday that all you needed

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to enjoy this hobby was balsa wood glue, a few bits of wood a smelly engine (a large engine was 2.5 cc) and a control box with a huge aerial sticking straight up in the air. But now with all the regulations, tests and exams that are being imposed upon us some of the fun of our hobby has disappeared but I suppose this is progress in our modern times !!!

With all the new technology , RC gear, batteries, programmable devices , drones, F.P.V., there is so much to learn and understand.

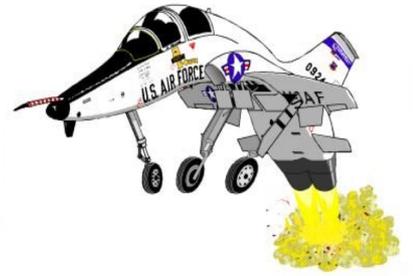
We have within the club some very knowledgeable members who are willing to give talks and demonstrations, so keep an eye out for when these are on.

Drones have been racing on our flying site after 4pm at weekends if you have any sort of drone please go a long and see what it's all about, or if you need any help with a drone there is always somebody there to help or offer advice.



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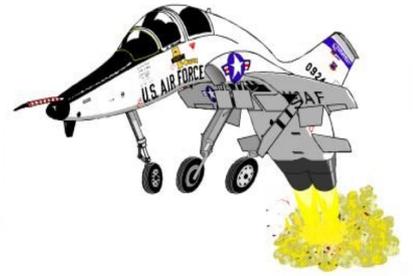
Above shows a circuit layout with a drone just going through a gate which can be 4 gates and 4 flags with markers on the grass along with a lap counter.

Lipo batteries are still giving some concerns to modellers. These notes are from previous news letters.

Now that a lot of chargers are being supplied with storage mode this should be used, it is recommended that you should not leave your Lipo batteries fully charged for more than 2-3 days, you need to discharge your cells down to approx 3.8 volts per cell or whatever your charger goes down to in its storage mode, until you are ready to use them again. Try to keep your lipo cells at room temperature, don't get them too hot, and never charge a battery that is still warm from using it, and do not use

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## News letter Summer 2018



a battery that is still warm from charging. Do not use cells that are swollen excessively.  
All battery packs should be checked before use.

We have a few events this year and once the barley has been harvested we should be able to organise some dates.

### **Chairmans challenge.**

The competition is for the longest flights from launch to landing (on our take off and landing patch) using a small Diesel Engine up to 1.5cc , only 2 servos, the flying machine must fit in the club box, ready to fly, (44 inches by 40 inches) 10 minute launch/start slot, fuel and the fuel amount supplied by the club, when this is all used up the total time in the air flying will be added up to decide the winners. These are the only rules except for the normal safety stuff so the model, providing it meets the above specification can be anything you can come up with, to try to win the competition. As an example engine size, prop size, model configuration, what you use your servos for, how you launch your model, please use your imagination if you want help please ask.

Thanks to Alan we have a barbecue at this event and some good prizes all from sponsors, some members are still building so look out for announcements.

Barry our safety officer will be judging this.



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## *News letter Summer 2018*



Above the prizes on offer for the challenge.

### **Warbird event.**

The warbird event takes place on the 15th sept.  
More details to follow later.

We have some new members this year, please remember to read the club rules, and the BMFA handbook. You need to be flying at the BMFA "A Standard" if you are flying un-supervised on any of our flying sites.

If anybody is concerned about flying alone speak to a committee member.

Only club recognised trainers are to teach on the SNMFC sites, a list is available from the club secretary.

We are waiting for 3 loads of road chippings as soon as they are available they will be piled just inside the gate then the work starts but hopefully we have a JCB and driver to help us. Volunteers would also be welcome.

Ian.