

## ISSUE 135

## DECEMBER 2020

As 2020 finally draws to a close I think we can all agree that it's not a year we will forget in a hurry - no matter how hard we try!

We have just exited from 'Lockdown 2' to be met by 'Tier System 2'. This means we can fly at the Club again provided we do so in a Covid secure way. Advice from the BMFA is that more than 6 people visiting the field independently does not appear to break the regulations, just don't mingle. And now for something completely different.

The main bit of news this month is the Club AGM which was held last night on Zoom, for which we used the Midlands Area licence so we could extend the meeting beyond the normal forty minute limit. In total, seventeen members joined in, the same number as we had at last year's AGM at the Wishing Well.

To briefly summarize the reports from our Secretary, Treasurer and Chairman (Gareth, Alan and Niall), desipte this year's problems, quite a bit of work has been done to tidy and improve the Field this year. Money has been spent on mowing and spraying equipment but the cost was covered by the sale of models and equipment donated by Brian Blizzard's estate (A 'thank you' letter is being written to his family). We finished the year with a reasonably healthy thirty members and it was decided that the Club fees could, again, remain the same.

Only one prize was awarded this year. The George Coleman Shield, awarded for contribution to the Club, was awarded jointly to Jon Cole and Andrew Riley for their work on maintaining the Field and keeping the moles at bay. Congratulations and thanks, to you both. Also there was a special mention to Steve Mason and Malcolm Styles for the work they put in to spray the Field with both weedkiller and fertilizer.

The AGM on Zoom. If you wanted sausages and chips this year, you needed to cook your own.





This month the Spotlight Model is presented to us by Derek Bailey. This 31" span model was a pull-out plan from RCM&E in January 2017 and is the first model Derek has built in over 40 years. This picture was taken just before the test flight which Derek describes as 'successful' so it looks like the long gap between builds didn't do

any harm. Looking closely you will see that Bob (of Minion fame) has taken on pilot duties.

By now everyone should have received an e-mail with a reminder of Club Fees and how to pay them this year. I've nothing to add to it, I just didn't want anyone to think I had forgotten to put the information in this Newsletter like I normally do!

My Bixler replacement, a Volantex Ranger. This is the electronics that I plan to squeeze into it, I may even add another camera underneath to aid aerial searches.



Finally, while looking for calendar entries, I found the Web seminars (Webinars) that the BMFA do most weeks at 'itat.bmfa.uk'. Have a look at the ones coming up and see if any interest you. After all, there's little else going on.

## Upcoming Event/ December 2020

January 2021

Wed 2nd AGM on Zoom

**Fri 25th** Christmas Day **Fri 1st** New Year's Day

Wed 6th Club Meeting on Zoom **Newsletter Contact Details** 

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Check itat.bmfa.uk for weekly web seminars (webinars).