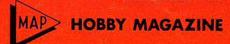
January 1974

# Aero Modeller

20p USA & Canada \$1

INCORPORATING
MODEL AIRCRAFT

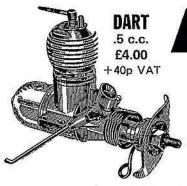


BOLERO - 76in. SPAN R/C GLIDER PLANS

**AEROMODELLER'S METALWORK** 

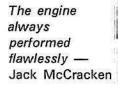
**CLOCKWORK DETHERMALISERS** 







# choice in U.S.A.





When US National Champion in free-flight scale models, Jack McCracken, travelled thousands of miles from California to Oshkosh to compete, he needed absolute reliability, steady power and easy starting. He chose the DART and Ouickstart fuel.

Jack's beautiful Sopwith Triplane is to 1/12th scale from Aero Modeller drawings by Peter Gray. It has a replica Clerget engine, true scale sprung axle, pendulum ailerons, full rigging and internal detail. All-up weight is 10 oz. and the DART is just the right size for perfect flight. No battery, no wires, no glowplug. All you need is a can of Quickstart fuel when operating a tried and trusted diesel.

## Photographs by Dick Stouffer and Bill Warner

# Others in the range . . .

MERLIN .75 c.c. £3.17 + 32p VAT SPITFIRE 1 c.c. £3.77 + 38p VAT RAPIER 2.5 c.c. £8.25 + 83p VAT

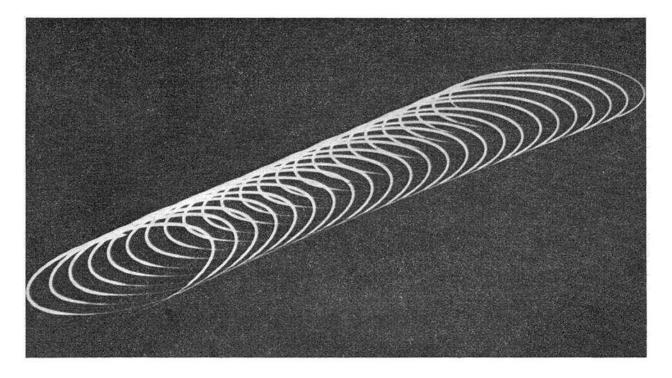
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HILLS MEADOW **DOUGLAS, Isle of Man** 

# SOLARBO



We'll tell you straight away it's an aircraft photo — a full-size helicopter in flight at night, in fact. The pattern is traced by lights on the rotor tips. Or it could have been an aerial shot of a control-line model flying at night with nav. lights!

Night flying used to be quite popular with models . . . and good fun. Pea bulbs for the navigation lights, coupled to a pencell. A power job could easily carry the extra payload of a proper landing light, switched on by a timer or a radio channel. Funnily enough, we have never tried – or seen – R/C night flying. Somebody must have done it. Car headlights are an obvious solution for lighting up the landing strip.

It just needs confidence in your model's performance. Confidence that starts right with the building of a completely reliable airframe. And there *everybody* knows the answer – Solarbo, the best balsa for every job. Models built from Solarbo Balsa perform better, live longer – day or night flying!

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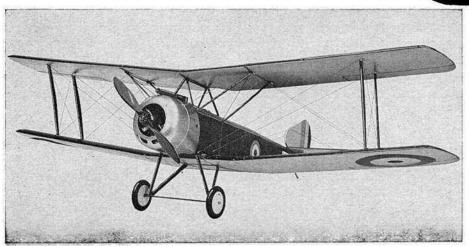
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For 1.5 to 2.5 c.c. Motors For 1.5 to 2.5 c.c. Motors Very-near-to-scala Aux-lliary Powered Soarer and Sport Plane for Intermediate 2-Channel Proportional Radio on Rudder and Elevator only. Canopy, A.B.S. Fairings, Wheel Spin-ner, etc. ner, etc.

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# FOKKER DVIII 46" Span (1168mm) KIT PRICE £9.98 For 1.5 c.c. (.09 cu. in.) with Rudder only (Single or 1 Propo) and up to 2.5 c.c. (.15 cu. in.) with 2-Ch. Propo on Elevator and Rudder, Also for Free-Flight with 1 c.c. Very-near-to-scale (Class 2) Vintage W.W.1 Circa 1917/18. With Wheels and A.B.S. Cowl. Transfer Decals.

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# Aero Modeller

INCORPORATING MODEL AIRCRAFT

# January 1974 CONTENTS

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# HOBBY MAGAZINE



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## comment

Another well attended Annual General Meeting of the S.M.A.E. at Leicester on December 1st produced lively comment, and changes both in terms of new faces for the Official posts, and the fees charged for membership. The 1972 decision to apply a uniform fee for both Senior and Junior members has not been popular or practical. For 1974, the Junior fee is now reduced from £2,50 to only £1 and this applies to all members under the age of 16 at January 1st. Good news for Juniors! Small penalty is the application of Value Added Tax to all membership fees so that in fact the fees are to be £2.75 for Seniors, £1.10 for Juniors. The S.M.A.E. meeting followed immediately after the F.A.I, reunion in Paris where many radical rule changes were debated. Outcome of the 28 Nation assembly's decision was that free-flight championship class specifications (and Coupe d'Hiver) are to stand unchanged, except that the U.K. proposition for Wakefield airframes to be a minimum of 190g, and the U.S. proposition for power model fuel to be 80/20 formula were adopted. In control-line, Combat rules have become 'official' which is a first step to World Champs status. Radio Control sees greatest changes. A new aerobatic schedule for World Championships; a completely different multiple task glider schedule to be used provisionally; standard silencer sizes and obligatory crash helmets for officials at pylon races are some of the important improvements. 1974 World Championships for Scale, plus Indoor will be at Lakehurst, New Jersey, U.S.A., July 1st/7th.

## on the cover

Trio of Junior Competitors at the 1973 Nats, R.A.F. Lindholme. Martyn Kinder (17-16tt) with a Reeves' 'Humplehound', Anthony Fantham (15) with brother Mike's design and Cliftord Waddilove (14) and his Pete Stewart-designed A/2 — all from the Richmond club, and keen as mustard.

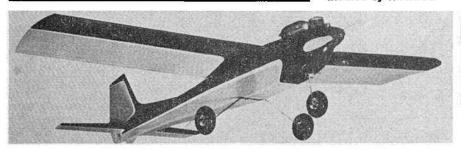
# next month

A Bucker Jungmeister 'special'! — plans for Eric Coates' superb free-flight scale model, plus three-view drawings and feature on the full-size machine for absolute scale authenticity. Free, full-size plans too for an attractive C/L stunter using 1.5 c.c. engines. More on basic metalwork plus how to make a winch for your towline glider. These and many more features are all in the February Issue of AeroModeller — on sale January 18th.



# **GIVES YOU A**

POWER, GLIDER, SCALE . . . FREE-FLIGHT, CONTROL-LINE or R/C. Take your pick from this list of the WORLD'S BEST KITS . . . specially selected and distributed by RIPMAX.



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Curtis Jenny JN4 323" span Fokker Triplane DR1 233" span Diamant Saliplane 74" span P-40 Warhawk 27" span Ciltabria 333" span €4.25 £4.25 £4.25 £4.25 Piper Cub Super Cruiser 35½" Cirrus 87½" span £4.25 £6.35

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Piper Tri-Pacer 583" span £14.30 Cessna 180 45" span €8.50 £10.10 Fairchild PT-19 48" span Piper Cub J-3 54" span Wizard Bipe Semi Scale 54" £9.50 £15.90 Piper Cub Super Cruiser 72" £21.20 Mustang P51 Super Scale 66" £29,20 King Cobra Super Scale 70" £25.45 Spitfire Super Scale 64" £29.20 Stearman PT17 Biplane 641" £34.50 Fokker D-7 Super Scale 58}" £33.45 Forker U-7 Super Scale 593, 233,45 S.E.5A Super Scale 403 spen £16,95 Lencer R/C Sports Stunt 53 1 £16,95 Schweizer 1-34 Seilplane 981 £17,50 Rimfire Super R/C Stunt 56 £15,90 Schweizer 1-260 Seilplane 70 £13,25 Fledgling de luxe kit 56" span £15.90 Super Lancer SL-62 R/C 62" £22.30 Citabria Super Scale 54" span £15.95

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CITABRIA (above)
All the latest ideas in Sterling kit prefabrication and design. Numbered parts for fast and accurate assembly the sterling parts for the sterling parts for a st

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Step right back into the old-lime with this 34" to the foot accurate scale classic. Built-up construction from die-cut parts, etc. For rubber power (as sup-piled in kit); or adapted to free-flight, R/C or control-line. (020-049 engines, or COZ.)



Detailed SCALE MODELS with IN-FLIGHT ACTION FEATURES. Fully prefabricated kits with die-cut and plastic parts, rubber motor, hardware, etc. EASILY CONVERTED to engine power for control-line or R/CI



Aeronca C-3 36" span Fokker D-7 24" span... Nieuport 17 blpe 24" span AT-6 Texan 18" span Piper Super Cub 18" span Cessna 180 17" span ... £3.20 ::: £3,20 £1,60 £1.30 £1.30



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# FLYING START TO 1974!



MODEL ENGINEER EXHIBITION

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# **GREAT SHO**

MODEL ENGINEER EXHIBITION

SEYMOUR HALL, LONDON, W.1 1st January - 12th January 1974 (Not Sunday) Daily 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

# Model Aircraft, Locomotives **Boats, Traction Engines** Military Models, Crafts



# COMPETITORS

£300 in prizes . . . some 30 cups, trophies and other awards, Championship Cups for permanent retention. A win confers 'Expert Status'l Edgar Westbury Memorial Challenge Trophy.

## ENTRY CLASSES

Examples of every form of modelmaking activity on show. Model Engineering masterpieces, locomotives, traction engines, aircraft, boats, yachts, cars. . . simple plastic creations. . . Classes include Military Models (six classes) and Craft entries (furniture, glass-fibre, etc.).

# WHAT WILL BE ON DISPLAY

OPEN PLAN arrangement of the MAIN HALL provides excellent access and viewing, whilst retaining the concourse round the WINNER'S PODIUM – (This year, we hope winners will fit this stand!) A slight change in S.M.E.E. WORKSHOP will allow spectators better viewing without blocking a door. 'Bill' Carter will again be in charge of the S.M.E.E. PASSENGER RAILWAY with non-stop service during opening hours for young and old. The team of experts from the Society will be providing practical work and advice to visitors.

Visitors,
LARGE FLYING CIRCLE - balcony to balcony - again in
operation with even more exciting and expert models, and
operators, All-electric models that do most of the things
that i.c.-powered control-line models do. It gets better every

year. TRADE STANDS TRADE STANDS - We have increased numbers this year in view of increasing demand from exhibitors. These are in MAIN HALL; further trade and DEMONSTRATION STANDS in BRYANSTON ROOM will show construction techniques and use of tools.

Introduction of a MODEL ENGINEER WORKSHOP manned by the S.M.E.E. proved immensely popular and will be increased in sizo and scope, again with experts from S.M.E.E. in charge and assisted by M.E. consultants. Working models under compressed air will also be on show, i.C. engine testing with swinging field type Dynamometer. BRYANSTON ROOM will again be a CLUBMEN'S CORNER with stands manned by the principal governing bodies plus club unit demonstrations, and trade demonstrations LECTURE HALL will house the clubs connected with MILITARIA — British Model Soldiers Society, International Plastic Modellers' Society, etc. — and also display the entries in the MODEL SOLDIER classes.

BATTLE GAMES on announced themes with expert commentary.

BATTLE GAMES on announced themes with expert commentary.
BOATING MARINA: Timed sessions wil be held. TRADE DEMONSTRATIONS of RADIO-CONTROLLED BOATS will be welcomed (please let us hear early), which will be varied with CLUB EVENTS (mainly in evenings) and STAFF EXHIBITS. There will be no selling at the poolside, but demonstrations can be announced and suitable display cards shown advising visitors where products obtainable and information given. Club features or displays specially invited – drop us a linel GALLERIES provide sitting-out space for several hundred persons, and offer best view of model aircraft flying. There will also be club exhibits displayed and entries in our BOYS' EXHIBITION and other displays.

## SOUVENIR GUIDE

Another CHRISTMAS EXTRA issue of Model Engineering will be coming out 2nd Friday in December with entries, trade stands, articles galore to assist the visitor and solace the stay-at-home.

## PRIZE POOL ALLOCATION

Classes attracting six or more entries will enjoy prizes to value of: 1st £5; 2nd £3; 3rd £1. With over 12 entries: 1st £7; 2nd £4; 3rd £2; 4th £1. Classes under six will have 1st and 2nd only, or at discretion of the judges, may be combined with other classes.

### REFRESHMENTS

Snack Bar in the Balcony Cafe, with teas, soft drinks, sand-wiches, cakes, Restaurant Service (licensed) available on ground floor. Parties may book in advance.

## ADMISSION

Price of admission at the door will be: 35p adult, 20p child, including V.A.T. A child is regarded as anyone still at school. Children under five who have not started school and are accompanied will not be charged. Reduced admission charges for pre-booking as under: Single and small number pre-booking tickets available from these offices, Adult 274p, Child 15p. Parties of more than 10; Adult 224p, Child 124p, Teachers I/c parties free - one per 10 in party. 10 in party.

A combined family ticket can also be bought in advance.

Advance Bookings and details from: EXHIBITION MANAGER. M.A.P. LTD., P.O. BOX 35, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTS HP1 1EE

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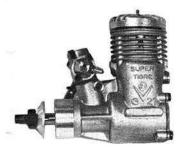
# THE NAME THAT STANDS FOR SPEED & PO

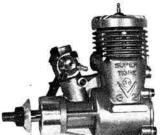
We are writing this advert copy whilst being driven down the Autostrada from Milan to Bologna by Mr. J. Garofali of Super Tigre. The writer has spent a day in the new factory at Pianoro and has been brought up to date with the current activity.

The new X15 is definitely scheduled for completion at the latter end of November. Some of the parts are already assembled and only await the final pieces before completion. All of this first batch of fifty destined for England are of the tuned pipe type and the price of approximately £23 including tuned pipe is expected.

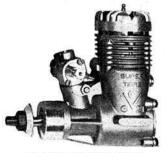
At the recent Italian championships the X15 did 238 k.p.h. on F.A.I. fuel on two lines .04mm diameter. The X29 did 258 k.p.h. and both are new Italian records. The factory at Pianoro is now working flat out to achieve 7,000 engines per month after the delays earlier this year. The shipment of G21/29, 35, 40 and 46 engines, together with X15 R.V. Diesels are at present clearing Customs at London Airport. The picture below shows the four G21 series motors, one of the nice points about these is the interchangeability since all use exactly the same crankcase casting and hence fit the same engine bearers or radial mount, it is very versatile to have a 5 c.c. motor giving out .5 b.h.p. to a .46 cu. in.-7.6 c.c. motor giving out .88 b.h.p. and weighing approximately the same.

The G21/29 and 35 motors are a lap piston type and the G21/40 and 46 are ring motors. Both types feature a chrome liner for long life, All four motors have the Mag. III carburetter with the thrimble control idle needle for lowest possible tick-over.









G21/29 F.1 R/C £17.55

G21/35 F.1 R/C £18.62

G21/40 F.1 R/C £18.62

G21/46 F.1 R/C £19.60

# THE SUPER TIGRE RANGE

G20/15 G £11.40 G21/29 F.1 * £14.02 ST.5	5 S R/C .		***	****	£12.16
	1 R/C .			*	£19.66
	6 R/C .				£21.08
					£22.25
G15 F.1 R/C * £18.13 G21/35 F.1 R/C * £18.62 G60	E 4 D /C			***	£28.10
		•••	***		£28.68
G15 R.V. D * £18.02 G21/40 F.1 * £15.30 G71	F.1 R/C .	•••	***	•••	
	R.V. Racing		***	***	
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G1519 F.1 " £14.50 G21/46 F.1 Std " £15.92 G60	Marine R/C		***	11444	£40.97
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C20 /22 P /C C21 /	29 R/C M				£24.48
• Available from stock as at 1st October.	20 11/0 14	4.8(4)	***	***	A67.70
Glow plug B/C 78n Need	CES de valves fi de valve an			•••	18p 57p
Silencers Retail Speed Glow Plug 750 Need	Throttle M	lan II			£4.88
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S71 fits G60 F.1 & R.V. & G71 £4.31 Radial mount for: R/C	car heat s	sink	****	****	£2.00
	ust extensi	ion (R/C	car)		£1.25
	Needle Ass	sy Mag	111	***	72p
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G60 tuned pipe £4.31 ST.51, 56 & 60 £2.15 Fuel			one	•••	12h

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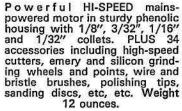
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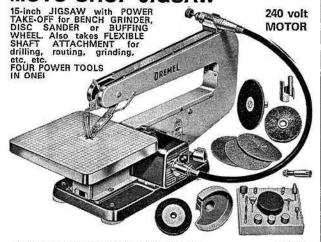
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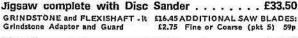
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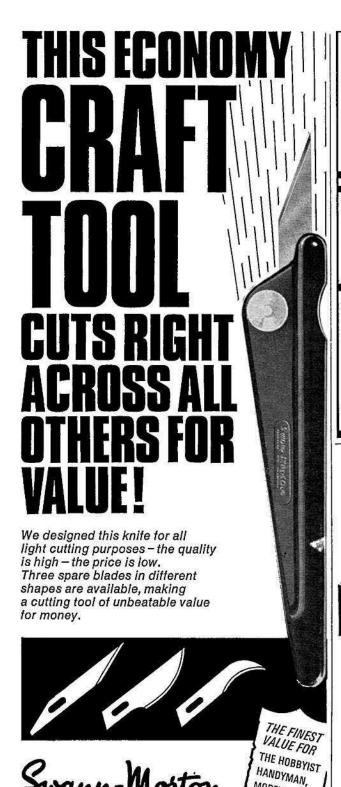
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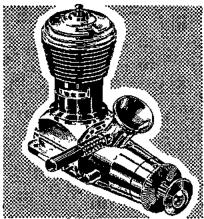
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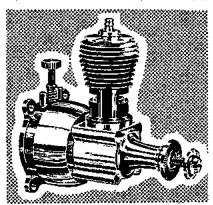
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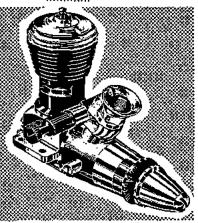
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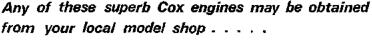
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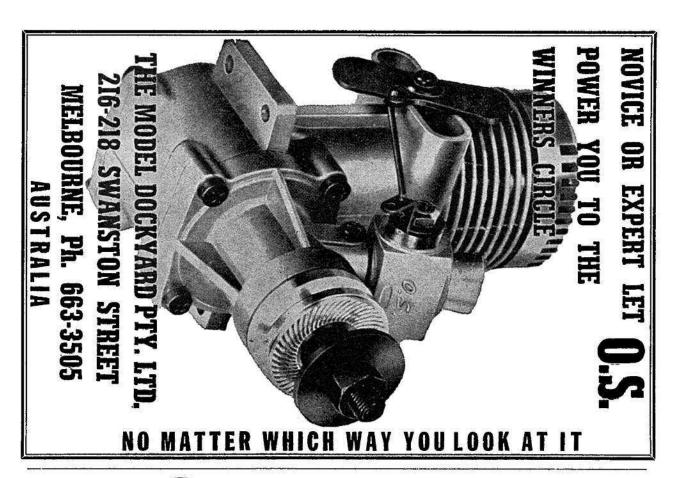
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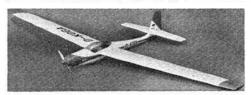
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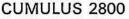


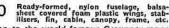
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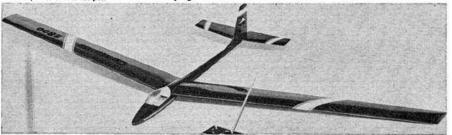
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R. G. Moulton

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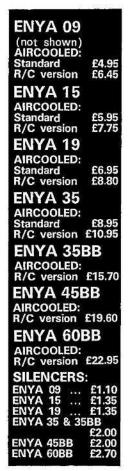


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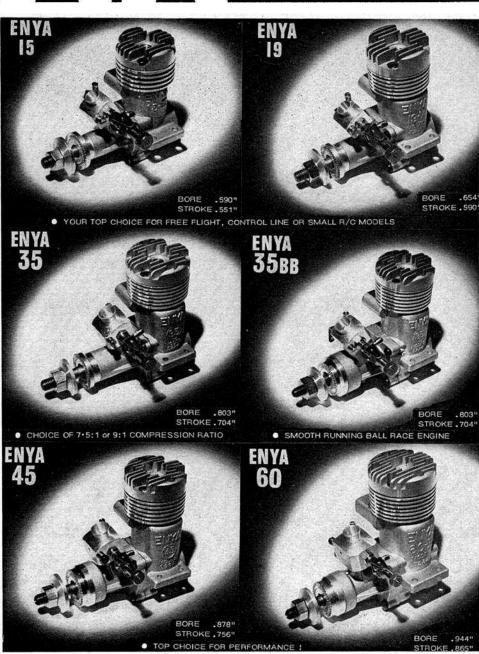
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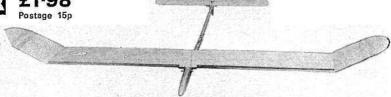


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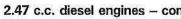
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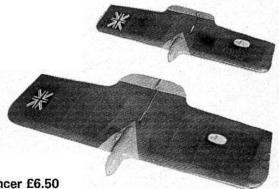
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# Heard at the HANGAR DOORS

PROVISIONAL DATES reserved for the 1974 World Control Line Championships are 24th-29th July, the venue being Hradec Kralove, Czechoslovakia. It seems likely that a very reasonably-priced air trip can be organised for this meeting, and in view of the current threat of petrol rationing this could, in fact, be the *only* way to travel! All persons interested in making up a party to fly to Prague (with coach transport to the contest site) should contact the Editor as soon as possible – final details can be established only when exact numbers are known.

ALSO PROVISIONALLY scheduled for the month of July is the Criterium des As European Championships, a meeting which in the past has been held on alternate years, between World C/L Championships, although sadly, 1973 proved the exception and no such event was organised. Now, however, the Belgian Aero Club have submitted the date of July 15th (the venue being Verviers, Belgium) to the C.I.A.M. for their approval. To choose a date just two weeks before a World Championships would seem most unfortunate to say the least . . . for all concerned.

THE ACADEMY of Model Aeronautics, governing body of aeromodelling in the U.S.A., have run into problems with finding a suitable site for their Nationals once again. Last year, for the first time. they were without the benefit of Navy help with regards to venue or personnel, and eventually had to settle on Oshkosh, home of the Experimental Aircraft Association. This site unfortunately proved most unsuitable to most factions, particularly the free-flight enthusiasts who had difficulty in even keeping a chuck glider within the confines of the airfield. However, this year all seems to have changed for the better, as the former Chennault Air Force Base has been offered to them by the Mayor of the Lake Charles community. The

site, which lies between New Orleans and Houston in the State of Louisiana, is huge: the main runway being 12,000 ft. by 200 ft. wide, and it has a full-length taxiway alongside. Also, there are two concrete areas, each at least 1,000 ft. wide, one nearly 4,000 ft. long, the other over 5,000 ft.! Free-Flighters will have at least one mile downwind within the confines of the airfield, with two miles in the direction of the prevailing wind. Most important, perhaps, is the fact that F/F, C/L and R/C events could operate with complete freedom of interference from one another.

The same good news for ourselves? Unfortunately, no... the S.M.A.E. has been negotiating for the use of several sites, but to find one suitable for all interests and practicalities, and one that is available over the period of 25th-27th May is far from easy. In fact, the site has not yet been established and time once more is running short.

REPORT ON THE Sixth Annual Symposium of the National Free-Flight Society must represent the most detailed technical analysis of free-flight competition aircraft available. Contents of this excellently presented publication include model glider performance from aerofoil data, a quasi-static analysis of model glider longitu-

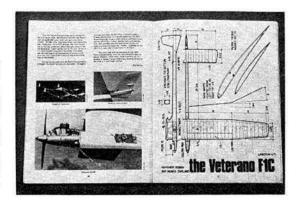
dinal towing characteristics, rubber thermodynamics, optimum propeller design, methods of producing propellers for rubber models, evolution and improvements made to the Rossi R15N and the experimental verification of indoor model flight by computer. Add to this drawings of the 'ten best' models of the year, then clearly this 88-page book is essential reading matter for dedicated contest flier and theorist alike. Copies are available at a cost of \$4.50 (add an extra dollar for airmail postage) from Jack Shafer at 9100 Rayford Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90045, U.S.A.

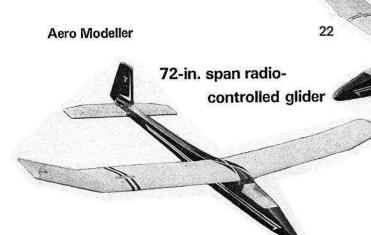
IMPORTANT rule changes affecting Goodyear team racing which will at least end the 'will they, won't they' speculation, were instituted at the last S.M.A.E. Council Meeting, held in November. The new rules state that models shall have profile fuselages with maximum width of one inch excluding cheek cowls and motors shall be uncowled. Fuselage side cheeks shall be permitted in so much as they do not cowl the motor. All motors to be sidemounted.

The other rule introduction which will probably be the most hotly debated, reads: No skids are to be affixed to the undercarriage or nose of the aircraft.

NEXT MEETING of the London Society of Air-Britain will be held at the Holborn Central Library, 32-38 Theobalds Road, London, W.C.1 on Wednesday, 9th January from 7 p.m.-10 p.m. The meeting will start with a slide show on Four Years of General Aviation around the Black Forest by Peter J. Marson followed by an illustrated talk on The Avro Shackleton by Peter J. Howard. Visitors are welcome, admission 20p.

The N.F.F.S. report on the Sixth Annual Symposium is an excellently produced, large format (11 x 8½ in.) publication with good photographic reproduction too — a typical page is shown at right, which just happens to illustrate Ray Monk's F.A.I. power model, Veteranol





 an ideal introduction to slope, thermal or even power-assisted soaring

# BOLERO

by W. I. BARRETT

BOLERO was designed to fulfil a variety of roles; it simply takes too much time, money and storage to build special-purpose gliders, even though they may be desirable! It had to be able to function as a slope soarer for windy occasions, a flat site 'thermal' soarer for those calmer days, and be able to fly as a powerassisted glider on those liftless or more rare, windless, days. In addition, something rather more elegant than a simple box glider was required without going to all the trouble of a planked fuselage, as the design presented here features straightforward, robust construction with a special emphasis on minimising material costs. Even in these days of escalating prices, the model should not cost more than £5 to build (excluding R/C), assuming, of course, that your 'scrap box' will come to the rescue with regard to many of the smaller components.

The ideal form of control is provided by one of the many two-function proportional radio control outfits, currently available at very competitive prices, and the model was in fact designed around such a system. Two servos are mounted side by side in the fuselage centre-section to operate the rudder and elevator controls. However, flight tests have shown that quite satisfactory control can be achieved using rudder alone, thus simple single-channel equipment may be used if preferred.

Construction should present no difficulties to anyone with a little previous free-flight and building experience, and the model is a suitable choice for the many new converts to radio control. Whatever your feelings about the 'purity' of free-flight, you must admit that having a model land at your feet certainly

beats the usual cross-country run!

Two basic fuselage sides are made up from  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. sheet balsa; the joint lines on the side elevation enable these to be made from three sheets of 3 in. x 36 in. medium stock balsa. Glue the 3/16 in. sq. longerons to the sides (remember to make them op-posite hand) and then mark upon them the position of the formers. Make up the servo mounting frame of the formers, Make up the servo mounting frame from hardwood, then position this, with the formers, between the fuselage sides. The nose and tail can be held together by rubber bands while the glue is drying. Before fitting the keels, install the operating rods from the servo units to quick-release clips at the tail; the position of the control horns can be determined from the plan. Add the lower keel strip and bind on the tow book the tow hook.

Build the fin and rudder assembly as a complete unit, and sand to section before mounting it in the fuselage. With this in position, the upper keel strip can be added, and the 3/32 in. sheet added to the top and bottom of the fuselage, the grain running across the fuselage width. Plank the upper nose section and glue on the nose block. When dry, sand the

whole fuselage, rounding off the edges.

Build the frame for the canopy as sketched. Before fitting the glazing (this is a simple moulding job, as very little 'stretching' of the sheet is required), paint the inside of the canopy and add your name and address - even with modern equipment things can still go wrong! A simple wire clip retains the canopy.

The tailplane and elevator can now be built, and checked for fit against the fuselage. Small keys on the upper sheeting will help to locate it. Fit the control horns and check that nothing fouls when the servo motors operate. The rear peg for holding the tailplane retaining bands must clear the cut-out in

the elevator.

Wing structure is semi-geodetic, which is virtually warp-proof, so build them as you want them to remain! Build the main spars first, and then clamp the plywood tongue boxes to them while the P.V.A. glue is drying. When this assembly is dry, pin the spars to the plan and add the leading and trailing edges, followed by the ribs. Build the inner panels first, and when set, lift up these panels onto supports and build the tips flat on the plan, remembering to pack-up the trailing edge tips by \(\frac{1}{2}\) in, to give built-in up the trailing edge tips by 1 in. to give built-in washout. After sanding, the wings are ready for covering.

The original model had the fuselage covered with lightweight nylon, and the flying surfaces covered



with Solarfilm. However, depending on the use to which the model will be put, either nylon or tissue covering could be substituted on the wings and tail. Tissue would be satisfactory for flat sites only, while nylon would stand up to a rough hill site better. When the model is painted, ballast the nose to give the correct balance.

The finished weight of the original model was 2 lb. 12 oz., but this will vary according to the type of radio gear being employed as well as wood selection, covering material used, etc.

Test glide over long grass, and if you can find a gentle downhill slope, longer glides can be obtained which will enable the effectiveness of the controls to be assessed. This method revealed the lack of sensitivity using the original rudder, and a new, larger one was quickly fitted. The elevator control is very responsive, and if proportional gear is being used, it is recommended that the trims alone be used on the early flights until the urge to 'stir the pudding' with the control stick can be contained.

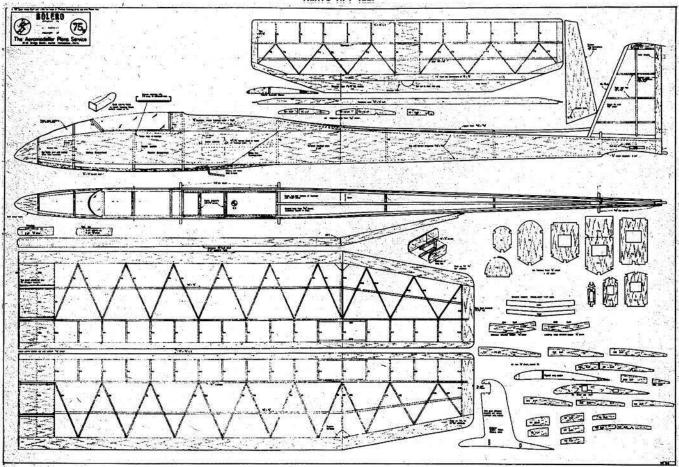
First attempts at slope soaring on Rivington Pike in gentle conditions showed that the model would maintain height in weak lift, although the occasional blundering by the pilot on the turns gave it the nick-name Rivington Riveter! The model has stood up to this punishment remarkably well, and has now learned how to fly properly (naturally, the pilot knew how to

do it all the time!).



For those who want a flat-field flyer, the model can be towed aloft, or fitted with a power pod as detailed on the plan. Very little motive power is needed to pull the model up - a veteran Amco .87 will produce a lazy (yet positive) climb, while any modern 1 to 1.5 c.c. motor will soon get the model 'up there'. However, if you use a glow engine, do not forget the fuelproofer. . . .

FULL-SIZE COPIES OF THIS 1/8th SCALE REPRODUCTION ARE AVAILABLE AS PLAN No. RC.1215, PRICE 75p (INCLUSIVE OF POSTAGE AND V.A.T.) FROM AEROMODELLER PLANS SERVICE, P.O. BOX 35, BRIDGE STREET, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTS HP1 1EE.



24

in which we help the beginner to 'bring 'em back alive' by detailing the fitting of an auto rudder and clockwork dethermaliser system to the Asteroid A/1 glider.

NOW THAT the 'donkey work' has been completed, all that remains is to cover the flying surfaces, and install the dethermaliser plus auto rudder mechanism. Tissue covering was dealt with in the April 1973 issue, but a precis (and reminder!) of the various operations are as follows:

a) Sand the whole model smooth with fine grade glasspaper. Take care not to alter shape of ribs, etc.

b) Cover the undersides first. The wing centre section is covered with heavyweight tissue, the remainder with lightweight, but both are applied in exactly the same way.

c) On undercambered surfaces, apply tissue paste to each rib as well as at the leading and trailing edges. Apply tissue dry, making sure it is smooth and wrinkle-free. Rub the tissue into contact with each rib until the moisture of the paste shows through. When using heavyweight tissue, use plenty of paste. Water-shrink after tissue paste is quite dry – prefer-

ably leave overnight.
d) When covering top surfaces, apply paste around the perimeter of the framework, soak tissue in cold water, then apply to wing, pulling taut and removing all wrinkles, etc. When dry, trim off, leaving small overlap – wrap around L.E. and T.E. and paste down.

e) Apply 3-4 coats of dope, thinned 50 per cent, to wings, and just a couple to the tailplane. Pin down to a flat surface when dope is touch-dry to prevent

warps creeping in.

f) If warps do occur, remove by holding in front of electric fire or over steam from a kettle while

twisting straight.

A dethermaliser is well worth fitting as an insurance against losing your model, and we shall describe the fitting of a typical clockwork item - in this case

When covering undercambered ribs, apply the tissue dry, and make sure that each of the ribs has a generous amount of tissue paste, as well as the leading and trailing edge. Rub the tissue over each rib individually as shown to ensure paste adheres well, Keep tissue as wrinkle-free as possible.

Water-shrink when quite dry.



a Tatone D/T timer, which costs around £2.60. The cheapest solution is, of course, the fuse type, described in the June 1973 issue, and this can easily be adapted to this model if preferred.

The Asteroid features a neat D/T arrangement which is often found on competition gliders, but is quite easy to install. The method of operation is clearly shown in Figures 1-3, but basically the se-

quence is this:

The glider is towed up with the rudder straight. As the towline falls off the towhook, a pin which is attached to the towline by an extra piece of nylon, is pulled from a brass tube glued to the fuselage side. As it does this, it releases the nylon line from the rudder - which is spring-loaded to the right with a rubber band. This causes the model to turn in right-hand circles when gliding.

At the same time as the pin operates this 'autorudder' it also switches on the dethermaliser timer. (A switch on the D/T timer is held in the ON position by a rubber band, but a second - stronger - rubber by a futber band, but a second – stonger – house band from the switch to this pin holds it in the OFF position. Thus as the pin falls away, the band loses tension and the second band pulls the switch on.)

When the timer has unwound (it can be adjusted for several minutes' duration) a slot in the disc re-leases the operating arm which releases the nylon line running from the tailplane hook. The tailplane, being tensioned by rubber bands passed under the fuselage, pops up to an angle of approx. 60 deg. allowed by the

wire loop shown, and brings the model safely down. To install the timer, we first made a cardboard template by drawing round the shape of the 'works', then measuring off the size of the faceplate. In this way we could position the faceplate as it would fit

Covering to the upper surfaces is applied wet and the wrinkles in the tissue are gently eased out with the thumbs. Take care not to tear the tissue – the lightweight tissue is quite vulnerable. Only apply tissue paste around the perimeter of the framework, not to ribs. Use separate pieces of tissue for each wing panel, i.e. tips and centre section.



the model, then pin-prick through the shape which would have to be cut away to fit the timer flush. Unfortunately, our timer was slightly bigger than the one on the plan, so we had to file away the top edge in order to allow it to fit under the wing mount. This we copied on to the template, and then cut out the

opening with a sharp balsa knife.

The timer is screwed in place with very thin wood screws – we found it necessary to glue in two bits of scrap  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. sheet to the lower fuselage longeron in order to have some 'meat' for the lower screws to bite into. Apply a drop of oil to the timer on/off switch and 'wiggle' for a while to free-off the action.

Now bend the tailplane hook to shape and glue in position. We highly recommend a fast-setting (or Five Minute) epoxy resin for all wire or metal to wood joints – take care to clean all metal parts with glass-paper first. Nothing else sticks metal as well, or as quickly as these epoxy resins. Likewise glue the D/T line guide and hook for the band to the D/T timer in position - bend all these from the 22 s.w.g. wire provided.

Visit your usual model shop and buy a length of 18 s.w.g. brass tubing — you need just ½ in. or so for this model! Cut off this length using an old knife blade in your balsa knife, and roll the tube back and forth. When scored all round, it will snap off easily and cleanly, Epoxy this in position shown.

Now is the time to explore your local fishing tackle shop, and buy a length of 5 lb. fishing line – at the same time you can purchase some lead split-shot weights and miniature split rings (approx. 3/16 in. diameter). We use these split rings at the ends of all nylon lines for neatness - they are not necessary as simple loops may be tied, but at 4½p for 10 they are hardly expensive!

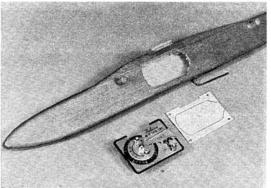
Firstly, the auto-rudder. The rudder must be tensioned to spring to the right - an elastic band anchored by a pin and looped over the plywood horn is fine. Two more pins act as 'stops' - one to keep the rudder straight, and the other to regulate the amount of off-set - the exact amount will be found by experiment later. Tie nylon line to the opposite horn and attach a split ring to the other end of the nylon, adjusting it so that when the pin is in the tubing, the rudder is

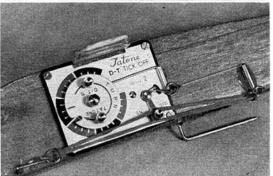
held tightly against the pin stop.

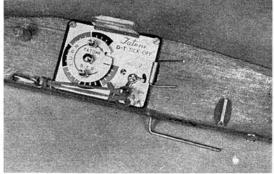
Now for the dethermaliser. Tie a split ring to a length of nylon, place over tailplane hook, then attach tailplane to fuselage by placing rubber bands over the hook and around the fuselage. Use several bands so that the tail is 'spring-loaded' and pops up readily when released. Now, taking the line through a guide at the tail, attach it via a split ring to the operating arm of the timer. Pull the line very tight during this operation — with the split ring over the operating arm, the tail must be pulled down hard onto its platform - the elasticity of the nylon line helps this.

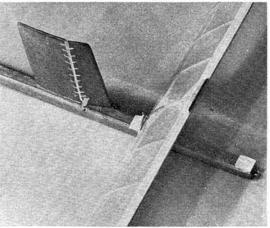
Operate the timer to release the operating arm, but hold the tailplane at its D/T angle of 60 deg. to form the normal position. Mark the position of the split ring when the tail is in position, then epoxy in place a U-shaped wire guide for the nylon, this will restrict the tail to the correct angle. All that now remains is

Top picture shows the card template and the hole cut in the fuselage side to clear the timer's mechanism. Note too how timer faceplate had to be filed down to fit the model. Below that is the timer mounted in the fuselage and 'primed' prior to release of the towline's operating pin (in brass tube at right). Below that is the timer in the final position after D/T operation — note how the removal of the towline's pin has allowed the timer to be started, and how the timer's slotted disc has released the operating arm — see sketches overleaf. At right, the 'tall end' reveals auto-rudder moved to the right and the tailplane tilted to the appropriate D/T position.





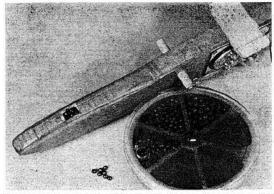




A small slot is cut in the top longeron over the 'weight box' area, and fishermon's load split shot added until the balance is correct. Seal the hole with Plasticine. We needed to epoxy a thin piece of load sheet either side of the nose in addition to make the model balance correctly.

to find a small rubber band which goes around the hook and to the on/off switch, holding it in the 'on' position, and a stronger one which holds it in the 'off' position when stretched between the switch and the operating pin. Thus the switch is held off until the pin is released and relaxes its tension when the second band takes over and switches the timer on. Check that all works smoothly, every time.

Now we just need to balance the model. Cut a small hole in the top longeron above the 'weight box' — refer to the plan. With the wings and tail in place, support the model either side of the fuselage in the position marked 'C.G.', and add the lead shot until the model balances exactly as shown. Near enough is not good enough! If all is well, stuff tissue paper into the hole to prevent the lead from rattling around, and seal the hole with a little piece of Plasticine. However, in our case, all was not well! Even with the whole of the 'weight box' crammed with split shot, the C.G. was still \(\frac{1}{2}\) in. too far back, so we were forced to epoxy thin lead sheet either side of the nose; check



the amount needed beforehand. Lead sheet may be obtained from the ironmongers as 'flashing' material. It is best to add a little too much weight in this way, as it is then simply a matter of filing away excess weight, or removing shot from the 'box', which is why we only use Plasticine to seal the hole. . .

Next month: making a bowline winch

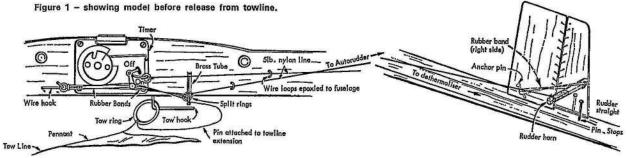


Figure II - showing auto-rudder operation and timer switched on as model leaves towline

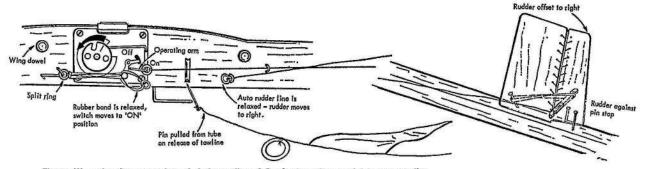
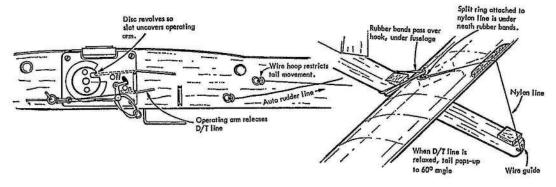


Figure III - showing operation of dethermaliser 2-3 minutes after model leaves towline.



# topical twists

by 'Pylonius' illustrated by Sherry



Guinness Book of Perhaps it's high time we began to examine some of the terms we use. We live in a dour and doleful age in which people no longer go to Galas, Rallies or

even meetings - they just go to fly in contests.

Rallying Round

BACK in the old days those huge contest lists were made up mainly of contestants who didn't stand an earthly chance of winning. They knew what the score was, or rather what the score was not likely to be, but in the general have-a-go-Joe, carnival atmosphere of the old time Gala, to enter all and every contest for which you had a model was the social thing to do. It was customary to hear some sporty type say to the timekeeper (a pluralistic factor in the days before the do-it-yourself rally became the vogue):

'I think you'd better stand back a bit. Haven't flown

this thing before?

Prestige contests, like the Wakefield, were no exception to the have-a-go enthusiasts of yesteryear. They would travel half way round the world merely to demonstrate their steadfast intent of one day getting the model unstuck from the take-off board. To the timekeepers they were welcome – a sight for sore eyes.

What surprises me about the modern-day meeting is that it is often referred to as a Gala, for, according

to my dictionary, a Gala is a festive occasion.

'Are you aware that this is a festive occasion?'

'No. But if you'll excuse me I want to pop over to control to put in a complaint against that group of merrymakers over there.

'Their bubble machine has a thirty-foot pole.' Or you may approach another festive type:

'Are you letting your hair down on this festive occasion?

'No. As a matter of fact the air has let me down, I never fly if the wind speed is above 5 m.p.h. I'll give it another hour to calm down, otherwise I'm off.

Don't forget your paper hat.'
One recent Gala styled meeting was so festive in spirit that entry to the field was limited to competitors only - no wives, girl friends or other frolickers allowed. Thus, when it comes to making modelling whoopee you can whoop it up with the 'he's' but not with the 'she's'. To heighten the Gala atmosphere the festive flyers were on a moment's notice to evacuate the field – possibly if the jollity were to get out of hand. The great romp off was to be preceded by a spectacular firework display of Very lights. No doubt it would all have been done in Conga style, with the merry makers pelting each other with streamers the while,

Delayed Charge

Electric model power, like battery-powered cars, seems to be forever in the pipeline without ever actually materialising: a tantalising promise of sweet, silent modelling, with none of the finger chewing, non-starting, noisy anguish of power flying, or the exhausting, line tangling misery of glider flying.

But, like many a Utopian dream, does anyone really want it? Taking first the electric car, who would want to be bothered with plugging in the car over-

want to be bothered with plugging in the car overnight, and then only to find a smoking mass of buckled plates because you had overlooked the topping-up maintenance? And what happens when you run out of maintenance? And what happens when you run out on juice? Just fancy staggering back from the nearest garage, perhaps a couple of miles away, with two dirty big replacement batteries. Surely you are not too readily going to pass up the convenience of just sloshing a few gallons of juice into a tank every few days, with no fear of being overcome by acid fumes in the special very slow lone of the M.1. in the special, very slow lane of the M.1.

Much the same arguments go for electric model flying. Most people who muck around with engines do so for the sheer mechanical hell of it. An engine is a piece of drama; an electric power unit just a system. And all that charging up too; not to mention the expense. If electric model power was the thing, and someone brought out a brash, noisy power unit which required no other attention or processing than a few squirts of juice into a tank, he would be hailed as a genius. And just think of the publicity blurb '... sounds just like the real thing. Flick prop start. All

the power you need. . .'.

# Lighten the Load

I STARTED entering control line stunt competitions four years ago and although a keen modeller when young, I had only just returned to modelling after a seven year break. The first thing I noticed was that the stunt 'crowd' were very free with their advice, which surprised me as I thought that the top flyers would want to keep their knowledge and skills to themselves! After only a short while I got to know most of the flyers and through information gained from talking to them, soon found my flying and building standards improving.

The next step was to find a model that both suited me and which would perform better than my own flying standard, thus if I failed to improve it was my fault, not that of the model. I designed a machine based on the F86 Sabre using the dimensions of a Nobler and this flew very well – but finally fell apart

last season

In the meantime I tried three Zlin 226's from the AeroModeller plans range which I flew in many competitions and in fact reached fifth in the Gold Trophy event, but I still had not found a plane that really suited me until Mick Harvey suggested the Jim Van Loo designed Chipmonk. This I built and within a short space of time was having a fair amount of success. I decided that this was the model for me, so I built another one and found that being lighter, it flew much better than the first, giving me a fourth in the 'Gold' on only one flight, as a mishap in the second flight gave me a low second round score.

At this time I changed my car to a smaller one and so I asked Jim Mannall about removable wings. He helped me no end, but also convinced me that a model should have as light a wing loading as possible. I started constructing another Chipmonk, this time with removable wings and tried to build it light, but found that most of the excess weight came from the finishing. I use mostly silver for a scale appearance and found that I was adding up to 16 oz. of finish from a bare wood structure! By the time I reached Chipmonk 4, I had made quite a few alterations to the original and it was flying far smoother but I realised that to improve my flying any more I would have to finish my models still lighter, so I set to reading articles on finishing and eventually came across an article by Don Bambrick in an old American magazine. My version of this finish is recorded below and if it helps a few people I shall be pleased as it took me four years to achieve the lightness I require in a stunt model.

The balsa I buy is graded 6/8 lb. cu. ft. so the framework is not all that heavy to start with, considering I use a double 'D' box construction, leading edge and trailing edge and solid tail surfaces. From the chart showing weights it will be seen that the last two coats, e.g. finishing colour and fuel proofer add

# Says PETER TINDAL

the most weight so the preparation beforehand will be well worth the effort as then the finishing coat can be kept to a minimum.

The fuselage and tail can be constructed as normal but the sheeting on the wings should be sanded with dry 320 grade wet and dry paper to remove all saw marks etc. before the wing is constructed. If left until the model is built you will find that when sanding, the wood over the ribs will become very thin.

Once the model construction is finished, weigh both pieces e.g. wings and fuselage, then rub entire model with 320 paper used dry until absolutely smooth all over. If there are any dents, 'dings' etc. then fill them now with a mixture of balsa dust (rubbed off the rest of model) and dope. Weigh again and see the difference; it may only be an ounce but it is worth removing. Once the model has the required finish, add two coats of clear unthinned dope to the entire model, except for capping strips — if added to capping strips they will tend to curl up and cause a distortion in the tissue (I've done it!). Weigh the parts again and you will be surprised how little weight has been added. Sand entire model with 320 wet and dry — still dry — and when all roughness has been removed (and any new dents filled) check the weight again. There should be little differenc from that before doping.

Mix 30 per cent dope, 70 per cent thinners and brush on clear lightweight tissue over entire fuselage and tail with this mixture (when covering make sure that where the tissue goes over a fillet or round an inside corner, e.g. tail to fuselage, join the tissue in the middle of the fillet in the form of a butt joint. Do not overlap because the shrinking effect of the dope will lift the tissue away from the fillet). The thinners will attack the dope in the wood and will produce very good adhesion; when dry add another coat of 30/70 and allow to dry completely. The tissue will take on a slightly 'furry' appearance and this must then be rubbed down with dry 320 (use the same piece because it will by now be slightly finer) until completely dull all over, but do not rub right through the tissue at this or any other stage. Mix up a 40 per cent dope, 60 per cent thinners mixture and brush on another two coats and leave to dry for 24 hours.

Having doped the wings with two coats of unthinned clear dope (not capping strips) and rubbed down to original weight again, use a mixture of 30/70 to apply the heavyweight clear tissue over entire wing (except bottom of fuselage – use lightweight). Once dry give another coat 30/70 to tissue over wood but still not capping strips. This method is far more satisfactory than tissue paste – it is quicker, cheaper, cleaner and LIGHTER! This will dry very quickly

and the tissue can be water shrunk almost immediately. When dry add two coats of 40/60 to openwork of wing but not to the wooden parts. When dry add two further coats of 40/60 to entire wing and

leave to dry.

Back to the fuselage; this is now ready to rub down with 400 (dry) and when completely matt all over and you are sure there are no dents etc. (the point of no return has been reached!) spray with a mixture of 30 per cent silver ??? and 70 per cent thinners. I questioned silver from Don Bambrick's article but it covers all and is an excellent base for any colour. Only a very thin coat will be necessary as it has very good covering qualities, so obliterates all balsa wood company's trade marks and wood grain colouring. When this has completely dried, rub down with 400 grade paper (dry) but make sure not to cut right through the colour at all, and the fuselage is ready for its finishing colour. I use silver for this as well so I apply two more coats of 30 per cent silver, 70 per cent thinners to the fuselage and this is then ready for decoration.

The wings should now be completely dry and should be rubbed down with a piece of 600 grade (dry) stuck to a piece of foam rubber with impact adhesive; this follows the contours of the wing and will not cut into the tissue if used carefully. The wings are ready for the 30 per cent silver, 70 per cent thinners treat-ment and when dry can be rubbed down again with the 600 dry, making sure not to cut out the tissue on the ribs or sheeting edges. This is now ready for the finishing coat and again I apply two more coats of 30 per cent silver dope and then leave entire model for at least three days before adding any decoration. It had been suggested that a coat of 30/70 clear over the entire model would help stop the finishing colour being damaged so on Chipmonks 6 and 7 I tried it and the gloss added was well worth the effort. It certainly helps when adding decoration as any slight drips of dope or enamel can be wiped away without the base colour being marked.

If silver is used as a finishing colour then to achieve a good finish it must be sprayed on and so must the fuel proofer as the dope consists of particles in suspension and a brush will leave ugly lines. The previous coat of 30 per cent silver, 70 per cent thinners need not be sprayed as it has to be well rubbed down,

thus the brush marks will go anyway.

When adding trim and using masking tape to achieve a clear line, it is advisable to run a thin seal of clear dope along the edge of the tape to prevent the

CI	HPMON	KNUN	IBERS
	5A	6	7
FUSELAGE	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.
with cockpit uncovered	15	11	12
with 2 coats full strength	151	111	121
after rubbing down - 320 dry	15	11	12
with lightweight tissue + 2 coats			
30/70 dope	151	111	121
after rubbing down - 320 dry	15ੜੇ	11½ 11½	121
+ 2 coats 40/60 dope	15%	113	121
after rubbing down - 400 dry	151	113	121
+ 1 coat 30% silver, 70% thinners	161	12	13
after rubbing down - 400 dry	161	117	12%
+ 2 coats 30% silver, 70% thinners-		(10.50.00)	10000000000000000000000000000000000000
finishing trim	171	13	14
+ Tufkote	18%	14	15
+ Fox 40, ally spinner, tank, shaft			
extension, prop. and silencer	31	273	28
WINGS			
Uncovered including flaps		121	121
+ 2 coats full strength dope		13	131
after rubbing down		131	13
covered with heavyweight tissue		14	133
+ 2 coats 40/60 dope		142	143
after rubbing down		141	14%
+ silver 30/70, 1 coat		143	143
after rubbing down		142	143
+ 2 coats silver 30/70 and			
finishing trim		147	143
+ Tufkote		155	153
+ wheels		17	173
· yriicola		5,535	4
Total Weight No. 6 before covering	, 385 oz	after c	overing
44 <del>2</del> oz.			
Total Weight No. 7, before covering 45½oz.	j 39 <u>‡</u> oz. –	- atter c	overing
A gain of 6% oz. No. 6-and 6 oz. N	0.7.		

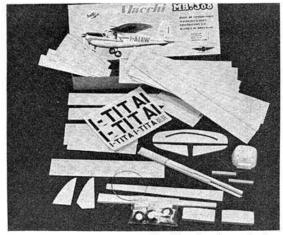
colour from running underneath. Apply the trim colour well thinned - whether sprayed or brushed it'should flow out smoothly.

As I said before, the last two items, finishing colour and fuel proofer are the heaviest; be sparing as you should have had a very good base to apply them to, so they only need to be thin.

This method of finishing should only add about 6 ozs. maximum to a 56 in. span stunt model so with a heavy motor like a Fox 40, weights of 44-46 ounces are within easy striking distance. Once the model is completely finished it is well worth making cardboard covers for all flying surfaces as although they may be damaged once on the flying field, transportation is usually the most injurious to good paintwork.

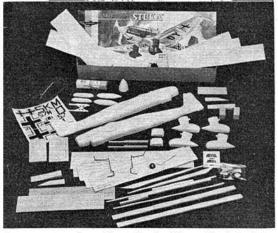


Proof of the pudding . . . the author with his collection of control-line stunters: three Chipmonks and a Sabre based model. By using the methods described, he has been able to cut down the weight of finishing his models by up to 10 oz, — try doing that by balsa selection alone!



The Aviomodelli Macchi MB 308 is claimed to be aerobatic, and uses 2.5-5 c.c. engines, Moulded ABS cowl and good accessory pack are included in the kit.

WE HAVE often bemoaned the lack of commercially available kits for any type of model aircraft other than those designed for radio control, but are happy to report that this situation is now changing somewhat with both small-production British kits appear-



Always a favourite subject, the Ju 87B as kitted by Aviomodelli should be a success. Note the moulded plastic fuselage, spats and bomb halves – all make for quick assembly.

said to be designed for stunt manoeuvres, which certainly provides for a more interesting model to fly. All ribs etc. are die cut while larger balsa sections such as the tailplane and fin are pre-sawn to shape. Thin ply parts are only partly die cut,

# TRADE NOTES

A review of the latest products

ing on the market together with various new imported items.

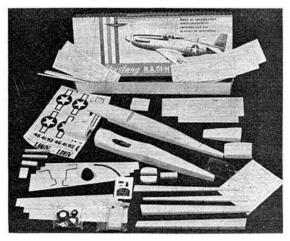
Control line fliers will certainly find their horizons widened by the attractive range of Aviomodelli kits now being imported from Italy by World Engines Ltd. (97 Tudor Avenue, Watford, Herts)

Scale enthusiasts have a choice of three different models. Firstly, there is the 40 in. span Aermacchi MB 308 for 2.5 to 5 c.c. engines and is

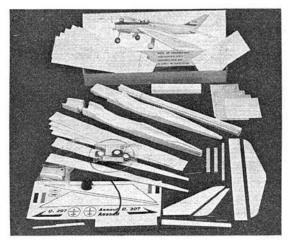
The Mustang from the Aviomodelli stable features 'hollow log' construction - the exterior is partially shaped, and templates are provided for final carving. Note the pre-slotted trailing edges and large transfers.

while the remainder are merely printed and need the use of a fret saw to cut them to size. A nice ABS moulded cowl overcomes the tricky problem of housing the engine neatly, while a hardware package included three rubber wheels, spinner, preformed undercarriage legs, and a huge transfer sheet for the registration letters — no tricky hand painting here! Plans are printed on three large sheets and clearly show the straightforward construction. Price of this attractive lightplane is £8.85.

Semi-scale stunt model from the Italian manufacturer uses 2.5-3.5 c.c. engines – nice convenient size for performance and economy. Lots of good quality wood in this kit, plus all the necessary hardware items.







Another C/L stunter from Aviomodelli to suit .19 cu. in. motors — the 47 in. span Assault which, like the Mustang, features a solid balsa fuselage. Good looker with its modern lines and tricycle undercarriage.

The Junkers Ju87D Stuka is a firm favourite with most modellers no doubt due to its glamourisation in most W.W.II film epics. Most interesting features of this 36 in. wingspan model is the extensive use of ABS plastic mouldings – indeed the complete fuse-lage, spats, bomb and bomb release are provided in this material, so it should appeal to those who like a quick result! However, both balsa and ply parts are simply die-printed, so the balsa knife and fretsaw will not be completely redundant. Other accessories include spinner, preformed undercarriage legs (rather spindly perhaps for a model which weighs some 28 ounces), wheels, bellcrank, etc., together with two very clear plans and excellent transfers. Price for this model, which is for 3.5 to 6 c.c. engines (should really tear round with that sort of power!) is £11.06.

this model, which is for 3.5 to 6 c.c. engines (should really tear round with that sort of power!) is £11.06. The last of the true-scale kits is for the North American Mustang P51H and which retails at £11.99. Fuselage construction is based around the 'log' principle — it being carved from two full-length pieces of balsa block which are joined horizontally. The parts are hollowed out and partly shaped, but much more carving is necessary to bring the weight down to reasonable limits as the balsa was rather on the hard side. Cardboard templates are provided to aid the final shaping. Again balsa parts are merely die-printed — a pity as the leading and trailing edges are superbly presented and are pre-grooved to accept the ribs. Hardware provided is similar to the previously described models and this 31 in. span model employs 2.5 to 5 c.c. engines.

Appealing to the aerobatic flyer who likes a semiscale appearance, the *Hurricane Stunt* should prove most popular. The balsa in our sample was of excellent quality while both ribs and fuselage sides were die-cut although many other parts are simply printed. In all, there was plenty of wood in this 47 in. span model which features coupled flaps/elevators in traditional 'stunt' fashion and should prove a good performer when fitted with a 2.5 - 3.5 c.c. engine; a 0.19 cu. in. glow engine would prove ideal.

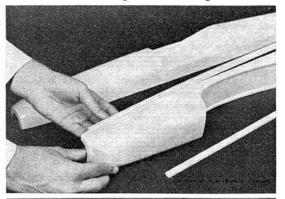
Above right, neat method of joining Baga's ABS fuselage halves, the channel strip covers the joint line decoratively, and adds strength. Below is the huge moulded fuel tank from the same kit – all tubes are simply push fits through hard rubber grommets, Similar tank designs provided in other Aviomodelli kits.

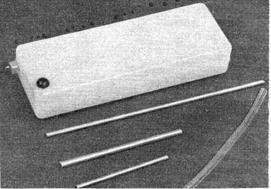


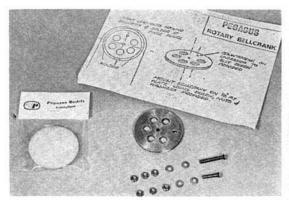
Probably the most 'de-luxe' control-line kit available the Bage 32, top of the Aviomodelli range, Fuselage is moulded in ABS plastic while there is is a high degree of prefabrication and completeness.

Accessories include tank, spinner, cockpit moulding, wheels, transfers etc. – in all a lot of model for £9.21, and one which is very straightforward to build from the two sheet plans.

Another stunter for similar sized engines, the 47 in. span Assault retails at £11.99 and has modern, rakish lines accentuated by its tricycle undercarriage. The fuselage is based on the hollow leg principle just like the Mustang, and the same comments apply. Leading and trailing edges are pre-formed and pre-slotted for







Two useful accessories from Pegasus Models for control-line racing fans. The 1½ in. diameter nylon wheels are sold individually, and the circular steel belicranks are nice and slim for burying in sheet wings.

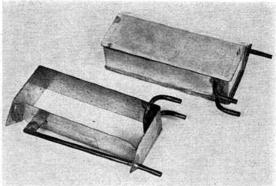
the ribs, while many other balsa parts are pre-cut. The accessories are similar to those previously described, and once more a nice transfer sheet is provided for this aerobatic machine.

Top of the range in completeness, manufacturing techniques (and price – £17.52) is the Baga 32 bis – a semi-scale type of stunter for 0.35 cu. in motors named after its designer Bagalini, a top Italian aerobatic flyer.

Most novel construction feature (although seen before in Aviomodelli R/C kits) is the two part vacuum formed ABS plastic fuselage, the top and bottom halves being joined by a plastic channel which is decorative and hides the potentially ugly seam line. The nose former is also a plastic moulding, and fits the fuselage contours snugly. The balsa supplied was of superb quality and all parts other than plywood ones are die-cut. All spars, leading and trailing edges are pre-slotted and nicely machined, and in all the quality is 'A1'. A torsion bar undercarriage is used, although main wheels are not supplied. Accessories include nylon hinges, control system, crystal-clear canopy, tail-wheel etc., plus a huge (baffle-less) polythene tank. A very attractive, fully aerobatic stunter with a 56 in. wingspan. Would also make a nice R/C model with very little adaption . . .

Pegasus Models (171 Bramcote Lane, Wollaton, Nottingham) also cater for control-line enthusiasts, the latest additions to their accessory range including a large (100 c.c.) metal fuel tank which is very well made and incorporates a longitudinal baffle. One neat touch which we particularly liked was the way in which the filler/vent pipes are soldered together inside the tank, while the feed pipe is supported on a bracket from the baffle. Good detail points which should prevent any chance of these pipes loosening when in service — and all for a very reasonable price of 66p.

The same company also has a couple of new items for racing men. Their 1½ in. diameter nylon wheels are ideal for Goodyear racers and sensibly are sold individually – priced at 20p each. Being solid nylon, there is no tyre to fall off! The other new product is a rotary bellcrank which is machined from steel and has a diameter of 1½ in. It is only some 3/32 in. thick so may easily be buried in sheet wings and although being made of steel does make it a little on the heavy side, it also simplifies line attachment as the leadout are just wrapped around 1½ times and spot soldered in place. Mounting bolts are pro-



Thirsty engine? Try a 100 c.c. baffled fuel tank from Pegasus Models - very nicely made with 'practical modeller' touches about them like the supported end of the feed pipe and filler/vent pipes soldered together internally.

vided, the whole retailing at 30p - excellent value and a convenient answer to what can be a tricky problem for the modeller with no machining facilities.

If you have ever lost a free-flight model, then you may appreciate the value of Aerobleeper, as marketed by Euronics Ltd. (Easthouses Industrial Estate, Dalkeith EH22 4DJ, Midlothian, Scotland). This consists of a small transmitter (2 in. x ½ in. x 1½ in., weight 2½ oz.) which is carried within the model and emits a continuous 'bleep' signal which can be picked up on a hand-held directional receiver. Range of the transmitter is limited to 25 feet which may not seem much, but any free-flighter can tell tales of models lying invisible from the searchers at even closer ranges when lost in grass, cornfields, even dense bushes or trees. By turning the volume switch to 'high' and 'sweeping' an area, the transmitter signals can be picked up. As soon as the approximate area is located, the volume is turned down and then the receiver is used to pin-point the direction from which the signal strength is loudest thus locating the wayward model. There is no switch provided for the model-borne transmitter, so access to it must be provided in order to connect/disconnect the battery, which incidentally will operate for some 20 hours. Cost of the transmitter/receiver is £10.00, the batteries costing an extra £1.00 and 16p respectively. Additional receivers cost £3.50 each. Full instructions are provided.

The Euronics Aerobleeper consists of transmitter (left) and hand-held receiver, and is useful aid in recovering wayward free-flight models. The transmitter has encapsulated components, so should be shock-proof.





Tools shown at left are those which most aeromodellers will have to hand anyway, so there should be little extra expense involved. At far left is seen a pair of 'school-type' compasses which can be used as dividers with a suitably sharponed nail sharpened nail.

Bill Burkinshaw describes how to avoid being a 'bodger' and to produce a good workmanlike result using just basic tools

# an aeromodeller's guide to

# BAST ETALL

IT HAS BECOME increasingly common over the past decade to find included on plans, drawings, etc., details of more and more sophisticated metal gadgetry, often referred to by other columnists as 'ironmongery', without which the model just will not function as the designer intended. The intention of these articles is to give the average modeller a basic working knowledge of simple metal-working techniques that can be used to help manufacture such 'ironmongery' - they are not intended for the expert, but for the novice who has not had the benefit of a technical education, but feels the need to 'have a go.

The first essential is a kit of tools, some of these most

The first essential is a kit of tools, some of these most modellers will already have, and others can be improvised, e.g. dividers, punch, scriber and soft jaws for the vice.

# Tool List

- Vice this can be one of the 'clamp-on' type; there are many different types of metal-working vices available.
   Soft laws to protect soft material such as copper or aluminium from bruising in the vice.
   Hacksaw the 'Junior' type will do.
   Hammer preferably ½ lb. ball pein.
   Hand wheel brace or a power drill. A hand drill can, however, be useful for making springs and also doubles as a winder for rubber models.
   Pliers Engineers' 6 in. combination and 6 in, roundnose.

- nose.

  Steel rule 6 in, long with 1/32 in., 1/16 in., 1/1 in. and millimetre graduation.

  4 in. Engineers' square.

  Files: 8 in. second cut, flat; 6 in. second cut half round; 6 in. second cut round. A handle for each file is absolutely essential the result of not using one could be a visit to the 'out-patients' department of the local hospital for stitches in the palm of your hand. . . . of your hand. . . .

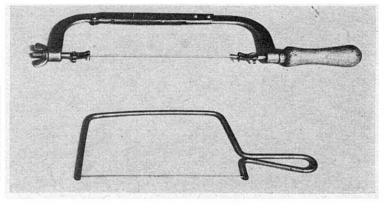
Pair of dividers — school-type pencil compass can be used instead, with a nail for the second point.
Pair of tin snips.
Abrafile frame, or if you have a large-type hacksaw, clips can be obtained.
Scriber.
Centre Punch.
Drills — the sizes given in the table on page 36 are those that will allow a running clearance for the varous model size wires and bolts commonly used. The actual size is given and the clearance size drills both imperial (plus No. drills) and metric, as many suppliers now only stock metric.

## Materials

Most of the plans in the AeroModeller plans range use materials that are within your reach in respect of availability and feasibility of handling with the sort of tools described, Many aeromodellers use very little other than tin plate, aluminium sheet, brass sheet, piano wire and thin-walled tubes of aluminium and brass. The great majority of these materials can be obtained quite easily at many model shops nowadays in reasonably small packages, while some materials you can find for yourself.

A source of supply for tinplate is, of course, the old faithful tin can. 'Maxwell House' coffee tins are very good and, of course, the larger biscuit tins are ideal, as they provide largish pieces of flat, clean material. A visit to a local breaker's yard or scrap metal merchant can often provide sheet aluminium or aluminium alloy and mild steel. Beware of paying too much however; anything more than 10p a square foot for 1/16 in, aluminium alloy second-hand is robbery without violencel Rods of 1/16 in., 3/32 in., ‡ in. or 3/16 in. mild steel are used for welding and can probably be obtained at a local garage which does welding, for only

Above, a conventional hacksaw frame fitted with adaptor clips to accept an Abrafile, while below is an Abrafile fitted in a specially designed frame — a cheaper alternative if you do not possess a proper hacksaw. These Abrafiles are very useful for cutting slots in metal, as they consist simply of very small-diameter round files with a coarse cutting action, which can be used like a hacksaw in any direction. Very reasonably priced too, available from most ironmongers, etc.



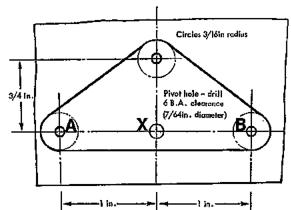


Figure 1 - Marking out a belicrank on the sheet metal.

a few pence each. These rods often have the added advantage of a copper coating which prevents them from rusting. It is necessary, however, to be reasonably certain of what material you are handling before subjecting it to heat and vigorous bending. Tinplate, for example, could be spoift by overheating which would destroy the coating of tin, while light alloy could, in extreme cases, be melted if mistaken for steel and can also crack along bend lines. If you are not certain what metal you have got hold of, try to find someone reasonably expert to identify it for you, as trying to describe detailed methods of identification of metals is rather beyond the scope of this article! Broadly speaking, aluminium alloy and aluminium are very much lighter than steel of same thickness; tin plate is much more silvery than seluminium, brass is a yellow colour, and copper raddish. Steel can easily be distinguished from all if a magnet is avaitable, as steel is attracted to the magnet, but as tinplate is also steel coated with tin, a magnet will attract this too. Tinplate can usually be distinguished from steel as the steel will almost inevitably be oxidised (rusty) on its surface, whilst the tinplate will be bright and shiny. Aluminium alloy is usually much harder than aluminium and bending between finger and thumb can often identify them.

# Making flat shapes

Making flat shapes

Before attempting to shape any of the materials mentioned, It is essential if accurate and satisfying results are to be obtained, to mark the shapes on to the metal really precisely. Metal worker's marking-out is usually done by accurately drawing, with proper instruments, directly on to the metal, unlike the technique of the balsa modeller who uses carbon paper, pricking through the plan or sticking the plan onto the material and cutting round it. The tools from the list needed are rule, square, hammer and dividers. In addition, with the aid of an 8 in. flat flie, a punch and scriber can be produced. Try to obtain a couple of nails (the 4 in, wire type will do) and file both to a conical point, one of about 60 degrees included angle, and one 30 degrees – the former to be used as a centre punch, the latter as a scriber. Alternatively, a punch and scriber could be purchased which will last much longer in batween sharpening, as they will be hardened, which is impossible with a nail. The scriber is used for all the line drawings except for when timplate is being used (a scriber scratches off the layer of tin and can cause corrosion of the exposed steel), when a pencil does the job. The centre punch will be used to mark the positions of all holes to be drilled, and also as a prick in the surface of the metal to locate the point of the dividers (compass with scriber inserted) when drawing circles. The hammer is necessary to strike the punch and the use of the ruler is obvious!

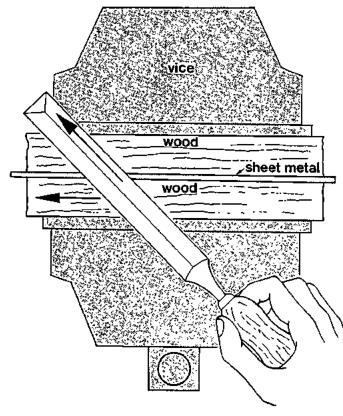
Once a few basic techniques of marking out are mastered they can be applied to more and more complicated shapes as the occasion demends, so it is proposed to describe how to mark out the bellcrank shape shown in Fig. 1 on to a suitable piece of material. The techniques needed are:

- Marking a line parallel to an edge. Marking a line square to an edge. Drawing a circle. Joining circles. Centre punching.

Firstly, mark a line A-B parallel to the edge of the metal using the compasses with a scriber. The exact distance is not very important as long as it is more than 3/15 in. away from the edge. Now with your scriber, mark a point X on the diagram approximately in the centre. Using the square and scriber, mark a line at right angles across the contre of line A-B crossing it at point X. Now set your dividers at in. and mark the position of the two leadout holes either side of X on the line A-B sticking one point of the dividers in X and drawing a small are across A-B each side. The pushrod hole will be marked in a similar fashion with the dividers set at ½ in. The hole centres can now be punched; there are four in all. The punch should be carefully positioned by laying it over so that the exact position of the point can be seen, and when correctly located, raised to an upright position and then struck once firmly with the kammer. If you strike more than once without checking that the punch is located correctly between blows, there is a likelihood that you will end up with a succession of punch marks across your work. A circle of 3/16 in. radius (½ in. dia.) is now drawn at each corner using dividers. The three circles can now be joined together using the ruler and scriber.

It should be quite easy to adapt the few techniques described to mark out any number of shapes; undercarriage legs, tailwheel brackets, anchorages for struts, etc., to name but a few. As long as you have a straight edge to start with for your dividers to run along and your square to test against, success should be yours. The mention of straight edges leads us on to the next part of this section on shaping metals. When using thin sheet metal the easiest way to prepare an edge straight is to use tin-snips, after firstly scribing a line with the aid of a steel ruler, Tin-snips are used exactly as scissors would be, and with care a perfectly straight edge right on the line can be schieved. If, however, you are not successful at producing an edge as straight as you wish for first time, you will have to use a file to true it up. With thin sheet some support is nacessary, otherwise the pressure of the file will probably distort the edge of the

Figure 2 - Supporting thin sheet metal between wood when filling.



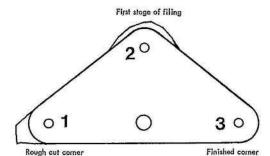


Figure 3 - Three stages of shaping a bellcrank.

sheet. Accordingly, find two scraps of wood of around 1½ in. x ½ in, section and with one on each side of the piece of sheet, place the 'sandwich' in the vice. The pieces of wood should be arranged so that very little more than the waste metal to be filed off projects above them so as to achieve maximum support. Filing should be done with the file covering the whole length of the sheet with each stroke of the file (Fig. 2).

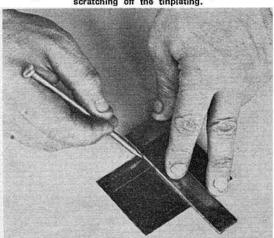
If tin-snips are not available the other alternatives are cutting with strong scissors (only for tinplate or very thin

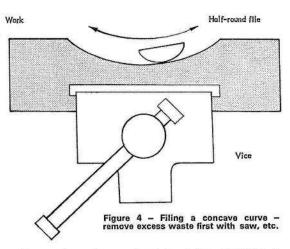
covering the whole length of the sheet with each stroke of the file (Fig. 2).

If tin-snips are not available the other alternatives are cutting with strong scissors (only for tinplate or very thin sheet, and then only if they are your own scissors!), or use a hacksaw, or even a fret saw. To hacksaw thin sheet successfully the metal ought to be well supported on the edge of the bench clamping down with a piece of softwood to spread the load and to protect the surface. Fret-sawing would be carried out using the same Vee shape support and sawing technique that would be adopted for wood cutting, but bearing in mind the comparative hardness of the metal and the fragility of the blade. Fretsawing metal is really a technique that demands patience, a good initial supply of blades, and above all, a gentle touch. If there is a feasible alternative, use it.

Having prepared one edge of a piece of metal straight and then marked out the shape, the next stage would be to drill any necessary holes before making the piece of metal too small to handle easily whilst drilling. The exception to this order would be if some bending had to be done and holes had to line up in opposing parts. Holes would then be drilled after the shaping and bending.

If you are using a hand drill and thin sheet metal (up to 1 in. thick) you could happily drill 1 in. diameter holes straight through, but over 1 in. diameter it is a very good idea to put a small pilot drill through first before the larger drill. Also the smaller-size drill will be easier to start off in the right place on the centre punch mark. If you are using a power drill then great care should be exercised when drilling small pieces of thin metal sheet. The small piece of sheet can very rapidly be transformed into a nasty sharp cutting device when the drill sticks in the hole, with little respect for soft fingers. Please, always hold your piece of metal in First stage in marking out involves using the engineer's square against the one 'true' flat edge. Note the use of a nail (proper



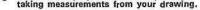


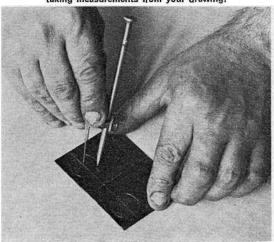
a vice or clamp of some description before attempting to drill with a power drill — even a pair of pliers is better than nothing at all.

Having frightened off the more squeamish, let's return to drilling with a hand drill. It is very frustrating to try to drill metal with blunt drills and I suggest that if you wish to avoid purchasing new drills every five minutes you try to find a friend with a grinder who has 'the touch' for drill sharpening. When you start to actually drill your hole, check after only a few turns that you have, in fact, started in the correct place and then, if all is satisfactory, carry on, If not, as long as you have not drilled too far, a little heavy work with the centre punch and hammer should 'drift' the centre of the hole back into the correct place. Whilst drilling, do not be too concerned with trying to emulate the r.p.m. of a Rossi 15, but with keeping the brace upright and a steady pressure on the work. As the drill starts to break through the metal you should relax your pressure as this is the danger point for drill breakages and small work 'mangling'. After completing the hole you will invariably find a 'burr' on the reverse side which can easily be removed with a larger drill held and rotated in the hand.

When drilling largish holes (anything over \( \frac{1}{2} \) in diameter) in thin sheet metal it is essential to clamp it down to a piece of scrap wood, both to support the exact point of drilling and also to help prevent distortion of the surrounding material. When all holes are drilled, the shaping of the metal can be commenced. One edge, the edge used as a datum for marking out, should already be straight. On this bellcrank shape shown, the next stage would be to remove as much waste metal as possible by cutting, either with Second stage in marking out the bellcrank, this time using the nail scriber in a 'school-type' compass to act as di-

Second stage in marking out the bellcrank, this time using the nail scriber in a 'school-type' compass to act as di-viders — again a cheap substitute for the proper article. Marking out must be prepared accurately — take care when taking measurements from your drawing.





	DRILL SIZES		
Clearance hole for	Actual sizes in dec. inches	Metric Equivalent	Dril No.
8 swg wire 10	0.160 0,1280	4.1 3.3	20 30 36
12 14	0.140 0.080	2.65	36 45
16	0.064 0.048	1.65 1.25	45 51 55
20 4 BA Thread	0.036	1.00	60 26 33
6 8	0.1057 0.1130 0.089	2.9 2.3	33 43

tin-snips or a saw as previously described. If you are using a saw, as the edge will inevitably finish up rough, try not to saw too close to the line, but allow for a small amount of cleaning up with a file. If using tin-snips, cut as nearly on the line as possible. When the shape is roughly correct, all the straight edges can be trued up and carefully finished with smooth gentle strokes of the file. File marks can be removed with a strip of emery cloth wrapped around a file so that you are using in effect a very fine abrasive file. Beware of rocking the file as you are liable to finish off with rounded edges instead of those clean square ones which give the finished article a professional look. The rounded corners should firstly be trimmed to the shape shown as corner '1' in Fig. 3 and then trimmed with a file to the 'threepenny bit' shape of corner 2 with each little flat being virtually on the finished line, and finally completely round off as in corner 3 and polish with emery cloth.

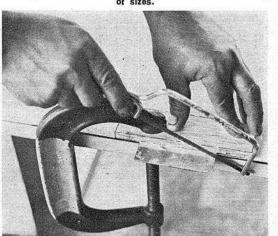
## Corners and slots

Corners and slots

So far only the making of shapes with all 'outside' curves has been tackled, but many of the required shapes will have 'concave' or inside curves and corners. If the curve is shallow the simplest method would be to use the curved side of the half-round file. In many instances the length of curve will be more than the width of the file, so after having marked out the shape, remove as much waste as possible with tin-snips or saw and then resort to the file. The whole width of the shape should ideally be completely covered with each stroke of the file (Fig. 4).

Slots and corners present no real difficulty as long as they are not too narrow or acutely angled. Thin material can be cut with tin-snips, thicker with a saw. Beware of cutting too far, especially with tin-snips, as they are prone to snapping shut and cutting past the desired point if care is not used. It is perhaps a good idea to carefully align the points of the snips with the finishing point so that if they do snap shut they can do no harm. If a narrow slot is required (Fig. 5) the easy thing to do is to firstly drill a hole and then cut down to the hole, cleaning up with a file as

Clamping a piece of thin sheet metal between the workbench and a piece of scrap wood. The wood prevents the work from being scored as well as supporting the metal along its length. Make the cut as close to the supports as possible. G-clamps are most useful, and may be obtained in a variety of sizes.



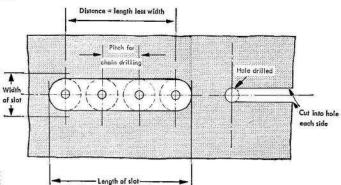


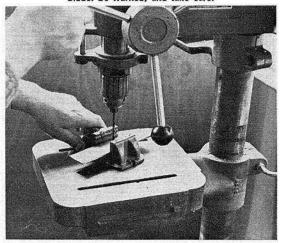
Figure 5 - Forming different types of slots in sheet metal.

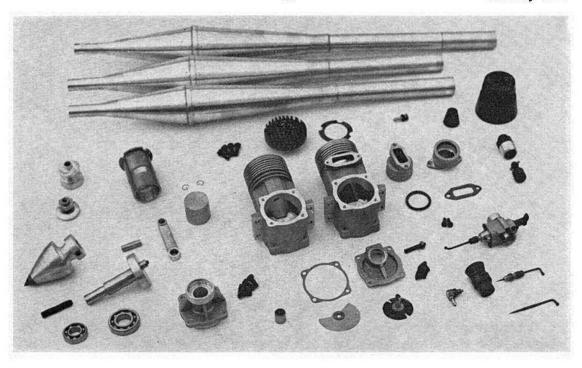
necessary. If very narrow slots are required, then either 'Swiss' / needle' files or a 'warding' file will be needed.

This method is all very well for a slot which is open-ended but what of the slot right in the middle of a piece of sheet? The answer is very simple really, no, it does not mean pushing sideways with a power drill in the hope that your drill will turn into a slot drill, but it does involve drill'ng. Firstly, it is essential to carefully mark out the slot as shown in Fig. 5. A centre line is marked, and the length and width of the slot. Then centres for a line of drilled holes to remove most of the waste metal must be marked. To arrive at the position of the hole, a little simple arithmetic is necessary. For example, a \( \frac{1}{2} \) in. wide slot 1 in. long will need four holes \( \frac{1}{2} \) in, dia, to remove most of the metal. Please don't make the mistake of drilling the first hole \( \frac{1}{2} \) in, from the end of the slot, remember that it will only be \( \frac{1}{2} \) in, from the end of the slot, remember that it will only be \( \frac{1}{2} \) in, the radius of the drill. Now, having marked the first, the next three can be marked \( \frac{1}{2} \) in. apart. A few lines back we said \( \frac{1}{2} \) in, holes, but now we take that back because it is better to use a size smaller drill than the marking out was intended for, as this will allow for any small inaccuracies of marking out. The drill would then be 15/64 in. or the nearest size you have. When you have drilled all four holes, being particularly careful to get them started exactly on the centre punch mark, other waste can be removed with a file. This process is called chain drilling. With really small slots the drilling procedure would have to be followed by either an Abrafile or piercing saw and then Swiss or warding files. Curved slots can be made quite simply by marking the centre line of the chain, drilling on an arc of a circle.

To be continued

When using a power drill to form the holes, it is essential to hold the work in some sort of vice or clamp, even pliers are better than nothing, Do not hold in your fingers, as before the drill has passed right through the metal, it will stick and the whole lot be transformed into a lethal revolving blade. Be warned, and take care.





# latest engine news

#### by Peter Chinn

#### New from France

One of the oldest established European model engine manufacturers are Moteurs Micron of Paris, who have been in business for some 30 years. Perhaps best known to older modellers for their 5 c.c. fixed-compression diesel first made during the German Occupation (and which powered a one-time world record holder), Micron engines have been of many types, both diesel and glow plug and currently range from under 1 c.c. to 10 c.c. displacement.

The present Micron line consists

of seven basic types. These include the Meteor 0.9 diesel (0.94 c.c.); the Racing 2.5 diesel (2.46 c.c.) in a choice of plain or ball-bearing versions; the Micron 21 glow plug versions; (2.62 c.c.) which can be versions; the Micron 21 glow plug motor (3.63 c.c.), which can be obtained in a choice of standard or throttle-equipped versions and with or without ball bearings; the Micron M.29, M.35 and M.45, all based on an 18 mm. stroke with a choice of 5.10 c.c. (19 mm. bore), 5.94 c.c. (20.5 mm. bore) or 7.16 c.c. (22.5 mm. bore) and with standard venturi and needle-valve assembly or R/C carb; and the Meteor 51 (8.35 c.c.) in C/L and

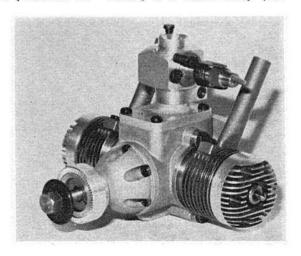
R/C versions. In addition, there are two entirely new and unique additions to the range, the twincylinder M2-24 and the fourcylinder M4-24.

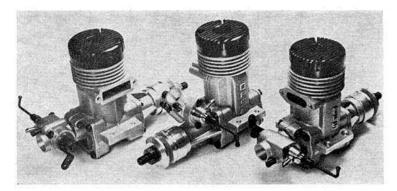
These are horizontally-opposed units based on 16 mm, bore cylinders and a 12 mm, stroke, dimensions which give an individual cylinder swept volume of just over 2.41 c.c. (hence the '24' designation) and actual displacements of 4.83 c.c. for the Twin and 9.65 c.c. for the Four.

and 9.65 c.c. for the Four.

These motors, obviously, are likely to be of greatest interest to scale modellers (both C/L and R/C) and the M4-24 is the only four-cylinder engine at present available that comes within the FAI 10 c.c. capacity limit. Unfortunately it is rather heavy (730)

Heading picture shows the components of the 1974 O.P.S. Speed-60 series engines, showing the additional parts that enable one of four models to be assembled. Right, the old-established French Micron company have recently introduced this 5 c.c. twin, the Micron M2-24. Exhaust pipes can be rotated to various positions. A be rotated to vari-ous positions. A 10 c.c. four-cylin-der version, the M4-24 is also available. Both en-gines are very ex-pensive.





grammes or nearly 26 oz., according to the manufacturer's specifications), probably because it uses lapped cast-iron pistons running in steel cylinders with integral fins. The M2-24 weighs just over 14½ oz. The cylinders on each engine are secured to a barrel type crankcase with detachable bell-shaped front housing secured with six screws. Each cylinder is fitted with an exhaust pipe which can be rotated to any convenient outlet angle. Heads are of aluminium and attached with six screws. Unlike the American Ross horizon-tally opposed twin, four and six cylinder engines, the cylinders are staggered to line up with the crankpins. Crankshafts are supported in ball-bearings and induction is via reed valves with mixture drawn from Kavan or Perry carburettors.

Running on the maker's recommended 5 per cent nitromethane fuel mixture, the engines are claimed to deliver 0.40 b.h.p. at 15,000 r.p.m. for the Twin and 0.80 b.h.p. at 15,000 r.p.m. for the Four. Suggested props are 10 x 6

for the M2-24 and 11 x 4 for the M4-24.

#### 1974 OPS models

The Italian OPS company, having recently acquired factory premises very much larger than their original workshops, are planning substantially greater production during 1974. In the past, they have concentrated mainly on their Speed-60 rear-exhaust piped racing engines for 10 c.c. class C/L speed and boat use. These are now available in four models, together with a redesigned and much improved version of the OPS Ursus 60 R/C unit for normal radio-control model use, but considerably expanded sales are expected to result from the introduction of a new range of engines in the medium capacity classes.

in the medium capacity classes.

The four Speed-60 engines consist of the 60-VAE (for controlline speed); the 60-RCB (for boats); the 60-CAR (for 10 c.c. class tethered racing cars) and the 60-RCA (a throttle equipped version of the 60-VAE for R/C). All are intended for use with tuned

Three of the many variants in the O.P.S. 40 range, Left to right, they are a 40-SLP, a 40-SLA and a 40-SFP. Each of these particular models is fitted with a throttle-type carb, but standard intake versions are also available.

pipe exhaust systems and OPS claim outputs of no less than 2.75 b.h.p. at 23,000 r.p.m. for each, excepting the R/C aircraft version which is rated at 1.65 b.h.p. at

16,000 r.p.m.

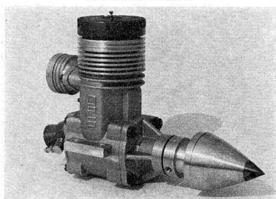
Like the original OPS engine, the newest Speed-60 has a Zimmermann disc-type rear rotary induction valve and, of course, Schnuerle loop scavenging. Each version of the engine uses one of two main castings, so that the exhaust is located either at the rear, above the carburettor (for normal aircraft installations) or, alternatively, at the opposite end, above the crankshaft (e.g. for marine use). Normally, the aircraft version of the engine is set up to run on FAI fuel – which is the only fuel that is legal for Italian C/L speed contests – but a special nitro pipe is obtainable for use in events where nitromethane is permitted.

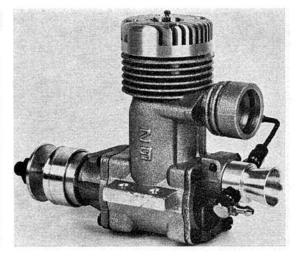
During 1973, OPS announced their Progetto 40 ('Project 40') in which the aim is to cover just about every contingency so far as .40 cu. in. motors are concerned: control-line, radio-control, R/C pylon-racing, C/L rat-racing, piped control-line speed and marine use, both standard and

racing.

A series of components, including two main castings, two crankshafts, two front bearing housings, two backplates and two cylinder/piston assemblies, along with a choice of two carburettors,

Below, latest version of the 10 c.c. O.P.S. racing engine: the 1974 O.P.S. Speed 60-VAE, while at right is the newest addition to the O.P.S. range, the Speed 29-VAA model, It is intended for 5 c.c. C/L speed work and is ported for use with a tuned pipe.





a tuned pipe and a flywheel, plus the various parts common to all versions, allow the 40 to be built up into any one of 16 different models. Indeed, instead of purchasing one or more complete engines, it is possible to actually buy the OPS 40 as a 'kit', enabling it to be assembled to suit any of the numerous applications mentioned.

There are four basic models in the OPS 40 series, each of which is subdivided into three, four or five versions tailored to individual applications. The four basic models are the 40-SLA, the 40-SLP, the 40-SPA and the 40-SPP. The first two letters of each suffix identifies the exhaust position: 'SL' stands for scarico laterale or side exhaust and 'SP' stands for scarico posteriore or rear exhaust. The last letter establishes the rotary-valve location: 'A' for anteriore or front and 'P' for posteriore or rear.

So far as standard (non-throttling) engines are concerned, the control-line — or, for that matter, free-flight — enthusiast has a choice of the 40-SLA with side exhaust and shaft type rotary-valve, the 40-SLP with side exhaust and rear disc type rotary-valve, the 40-SPA with rear exhaust and shaft valve, or the 40-SPP with rear exhaust and rear disc valve. This latter is also available in a special speed version with a different cylinder liner having ports timed for a tuned exhaust system.

As with all OPS engines, these 40 cu. in. models feature Schnuerle scavenging and, like all other current OPS motors, they are of the ABC pattern (ringless aluminium piston running in chromed brass liner). They all have a 21.6 x 17.8 mm, bore and stroke combination giving a swept volume of 6.523 c.c. or 0.3980 cu. in. Design layout broadly follows that of the 60 models except that the rear induction versions use a conventional disc valve (of Tufnol type material) within the crankcase, instead of the Speed-60's Zimmermann type assembly consisting of a thin steel disc running in a separate chamber.

A more detailed, illustrated description of these new OPS 40 models will follow in our next L.E.N. article.

Finally, the very latest OPS is a new 5 c.c. control-line speed engine broadly based on the 40-SPP Speed and known as the OPS Speed-29. This has the same stroke as the 40, but with bore reduced to 18.6 mm., giving a displacement of 4.837 c.c. or 0.2951 cu. in. For this engine, incidentally, OPS are claiming an output of no less than 1.8 b.h.p. at 25,000 r.p.m., the highest specific output of any OPS to date.

#### Quiet Revolutions . . .

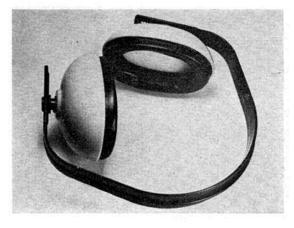
Small boys, we used to be told in our youth, should be seen but not heard . . . The same might be said for engine revs . . . Irvine Engines, who are the sole U.K. distributors of OPS motors have a new Japanese photo-tachometer (with which revs can be seen) and some ear-defenders (by which OPS and other pieces of high-speed machinery can still be heard, but with considerably less discomfort).

The tach is the Nisshin Tachometer, moderately priced at £15.50. It has its 'eye' mounted in the end of an extending tube, which telescopes into the body of the instrument and the meter is calibrated in three r.p.m. ranges: 0-6,000 r.p.m. (for checking idling speeds on R/C engines), 0-15,000 r.p.m. for general use and 0-30,000 r.p.m. for racing engines. These ranges are selected by a four-position rotary switch on the front of the instrument which is powered by the usual 9-volt PP3 battery. Photo-electric tachometers are not quite adequate for really accurate engine testing, especially so far as high speed motors are concerned, but they are very easy to use and, since they impose no load, are par-ticularly useful for checking the revs of smaller and less powerful engines. For the more accurate testing of high powered motors, Irvine Engines offer the Deumo mechanical tachometer at £50.60.

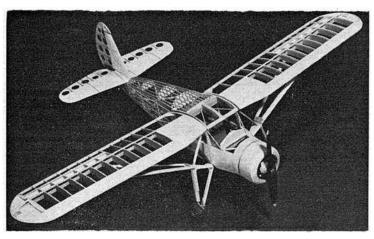


Recent addition to the photo-tachometer market is the Nisshin Tachometer sold by Irvine Engines, Reads up to 30,000 r.p.m, and has telescopic probe.

The ear defenders, appropriately named 'Sa-Fir', are of the headphone pattern and, having tried them during engine testing, we can vouch for their effectiveness. They are well made, are adjustable and have liquid-filled ear pads. They are comfortable to wear and, at 7½ oz., are quite a bit lighter than the Massey-Ferguson Amplivox Ear-Guards that we have been using for the past year or two. There can be no doubt that modern high-performance model engines, especially when being run in the workshop, are capable of producing dangerously high noise levels and some form of ear protection is very definitely recommended.



'Sa-Fir' ear-defenders. Strongly recommended to those who operate high - performance engines, especially during workshop testing.



# FLYING SCALE COLUMN

by Eric Coates

Electric-powered free-flight version of the 'Fairchild Argus' by David Carpenter of Southampton, as described in text. Uses the Mattel Super Star power unit.

THE LAST Sunday in October was blessed with the kind of weather aeromodellers, and in particular scale modellers, dream of. Almost total calm all day and a nice hazy, warm, autumnal sunshine to accompany it. This was the scene at R.A.F. Odiham for the last major S.M.A.E. competition of the year, the Southern Gala. Notwithstanding these perfect conditions entries in the scale competitions were pitifully small. Probably the fog, which prevailed in more Northern latitudes, dissuaded a bigger entry. Noise restrictions on the airfield precluded any power flying before 12.15 p.m., therefore the only scale model to take the air in the forenoon, in these ideal conditions, was my silent CO<sub>2</sub> powered Ryan P.T. Again, as at Woodford in August, many heads were turned in amazement at this small model's flights which approached two minutes in duration and 300 ft. in altitude. I mention this form of propulsion again because things seem to be stirring, on both sides of the Atlantic, which may result in a more readily available supply of these marvellously sociable power

With B.S.T. ending the previous night, combined with the late start and a marked lack of regular judges present on the airfield, flying time was very limited and, therefore, it was perhaps as well that only five entries were made in each of the classes. Flying commenced on the stroke of 12.15 p.m. in the F/F event, with my D.H.9a making its custo-

Flying commenced on the stroke of 12.15 p.m. in the F/F event, with my D.H.9a making its customary long take-off run laden down with its pair of '250 lb' bombs which, as usual 25 sec. after roll commenced, were deposited earthwards in front of the judges as the 'option' manoeuvre.

Terry Manley flew the Handley Page 0/400 for the first time in competition since the Nationals back in May. Unfortunately in flat calm the machine did not perform as impressively as it did in the wind at Lindholme on that occasion. It stubbornly refused to take-off, which destroyed its chances of winning the competition and insisted on flying in tight left-hand banks when hand launched. It did drop its large bomb effectively though, on its last flight, and performed a much more stable transition to glide than at the Nationals. Unfortunately it came to grief making a rough landing, on a disused hard standing, breaking its back on a hummock of grass. Still a very impressive performance though and sufficient to place it an easy second.

Winner of Eric Coates' accolade 'Outstanding R/C model of 1973' (strictly no prizes!) – Brian Taylor with his Spitfire Mk. I. He markets the plans for this design plus many other superb R/C scale models through his 'Digihangar' business.

After scrubbing the bottom out of his Dornier Do 18 flying boat on the runway, A. C. Jansen flew his all red Bristol Monoplane, which recently decorously adorned the cover of this publication, into third place.

Both the remaining competitors, R. S. Oldridge and D. Carpenter, flew an Albatros D.V. and a Thomas Morse S-4C respectively, very well to record respectable scores; making it a full five out of five flight qualification. Something of a record I think in F/F Scale Competitions! It certainly kept the judges, Derek Goddard and Mervyn Tilbury busy.

After making our flights, lacking any other R/C judges, Terry Manley and myself found ourselves judging the Class II R/C event. One competitor did not show up, so only four entries came forth to the flight line. D. Cooper was first away with his Republic P.47. After a hair-raising take-off and wild cavortations around the sky it was obvious that something was woefully wrong with the controls of this machine. The pilot informed the judges that he had no elevator control and was making a forced landing. Using throttle only to lose height he seemed to be making a very creditable job of it until about 20 ft. up aileron control also disappeared and the 'Jug' peeled over into the sod, regrettably crumpling a wing in the process.

Most impressive flight of the day and I personally consider the most impressive R/C scale flight I have ever judged, was made by the Spitfire Mk.I of Brian Taylor. I have long been an admirer of Brian's models of W.W.II machines, which always capture the atmosphere of the subject and his flying is always



of a high standard. This, his latest model, is better than anything he has produced before. Well up to the highest of Class I standards he was flying in a class of his own in this competition, as the results show. From the taxi manoeuvre performed with the characteristic weaving necessary due to the upward pointing nose obstructing the pilot's vision, to the final circuit followed by a perfect landing, the performance was pure Spitfire to all who are familiar with that beautiful shape airborne. The wheels were retracted at exactly the right moment in the climb out after take-off, the aeroplane flew with exactly the right 'sit' and at the right speed throughout each manoeuvre, the throttle being used intelligently throughout the flight pattern — not left flat out as is so often the case. All that was missing was that nostalgic Merlin whistle. After that flight all that followed could only be an anti-climax.

Results			
Free-Flight	Fi	ight St	atic Total
1. E. Coates	D.H.9a	1045	740 1785
2. T. Manley	H.P.0/400	630	804 1434
3. A. Jansen	Bristol M1	730	464 1194
4. R. Oldridge	Albatros D.V.	365	570 935
5. D. Carpenter	Thom, Morse S-4C	470	442 912
Class II. R/C			atic Total
1. B. Taylor	Spitfire Mk.1	1071	1250 2321
2. R. Brown	Hawker Tomtit	550	710 1260
3. T. Mellish	Comper Swift * * *	696	530 1226

The final event, in the Scale Competition Calendar, took place a week later, on November 4th, in the gymnasium at Brize Norton. Most of the well-known indoor enthusiasts braved the blustery elements to the sanctuary of this building kindly made available to S.M.A.E. members by the R.A.F. Brize Norton Club. Although it may be somewhat restrictive in size, the gymnasium is a darned sight cleaner and warmer on a November day than Cardington!

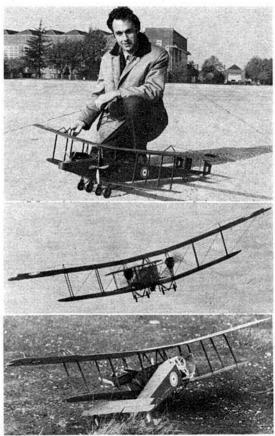
As usual the morning was occupied with trimming and sport flying. The competition taking place in the afternoon.

Nothing very startlingly new appeared, which flew, since the Cardington meeting in September. I flew a Druine Turbulent built from one of the Peck Polymer 'Peanut' kits. The little machine flew well but duration was somewhat limited due to the fact that I had overdone the paintwork a bit and the thing was overweight — a fault, I might say, which could be levelled at about 75 per cent of models present.

levelled at about 75 per cent of models present.

I did not fly in the competition as my Puss Moth's flight pattern cannot be trained to conform within





Before, during . . . and after – Terry Manley's superb twinengined F/F 'Handley Page 0/400' bites the dust. Quote from instructions received from our columnist 'Please print this one. I'm sure there are plenty like me who like a good prang photo. Terry won't mind.' Hope you're right, Ericl

the perimeter of the flying area, and I therefore assisted Derek Goddard in the judging.

The honours this time went to the best flyer: Andrew Moorhouse's Curtiss Jenny, one of the few competitors who managed to take-off and remain airborne for the required 15 sec. This combined with a respectable landing enabled him to establish a commanding lead over Vic Driscol's immaculate Wapiti — winner of the Cardington meeting. This aeroplane was not flying too well — just scraping the necessary 15 sec. from a hand launch. Third place went to the diminutive all sheet D.H.60 Moth of Alan Callaghan. Beautifully made, in the Ken McDonough style, this 10 in. beauty did well to remain airborne for the 15 sec. compared to the repeated failures of much larger brethren.

Results Flight Static Total Curtiss J.N.4.D 258 238 110 148 A Moorhouse V. Driscol Westland Wapiti 174 3. A. Callaghan D.H.60 Moth 150 204 4. C. Hadland Heinkel He.46 124 186 5. R. Oldridge Gloster Gladiator 82 100 182 S.E.5a 70 6. M. Reeves 130

R. S. Oldridge fires up his 'Albatross D.V.'. Always a popular subject with its colourful paint schemes, this design is available from Aeromodeller Plans Service as Order No. FSP 646, price 75p post free.



Although this is the January issue it will, of course, appear on the news-stands during the last days of 1973 and, therefore, marks the end of the second year of Flying Scale Column. That the Editor continues to publish it month by month and to judge from the steady stream of correspondence I receive, I hope to think that the combination I offer is to the liking of the majority of flying scale modellers. I try to ring the changes as much as possible and deal with all classes of scale models but I unashamedly admit the column has a bias to my major interest i.e. free flight models. If any reader has any practical suggestions as to any changes or improvements in the Column he would like to see, I would be only too pleased to hear them.

In the January issue of 1973 I looked back on the happenings of the previous 12 months in the scale world and, therefore, I think it would be an interesting comparison to see what developments and new models, etc., have come to fruition in the past year. Without doubt 1973 has been a big improvement weatherwise on 1972 — which was just about the most awful I can remember for the scale modeller. During the high summer months of 1973 one couldn't go wrong in England. Night after night of warm calm weather. One in fact became quite blasé about the situation. Instead of rushing out to enjoy the odd calm evening, of a typical summer, one was able to pick and choose which night one would fly in any particular week. A most unusual situation

in the British Isles.

In general the contest days were blessed with equally superb weather. The Nationals was a little breezy, but not impossible. With the exception of the All Scale Meeting on September 30th, which was a complete blow out, all other contests I partook in were flown in virtual flat calm conditions. Entries to competitions this season have been most unpredictable. The Nationals was well supported – F/F having its best entry for many years but after that things tailed off somewhat. The Eddie Riding attracted what must be an all time low of just three. R/C entries in S.M.A.E. competitions have been rather disappointing. As expected, with the introduction of Class II at the Nationals, the Class I entry plummeted to only 12. Class II however has hardly been the 'ball of fire' it was expected to be with only ten at the August 12th Rissington meeting and down to five at the Southern Gala. Perhaps the £1 fee demanded this year for R/C entries detracts all but the most dedicated. Control-line seems to be making a modest

Beautifully made in the Ken McDonough style (i.e. all-sheet, carefully decorated in ink and watercolours), this D.H.60 Moth by Alan Callaghan placed third at Brize Norton.

Winner of the Brize Norton indoor meet, Andrew Moorhouse and his 'Curtiss Jenny - one of the few present to achieve a take-off and a flight duration of 15 seconds.

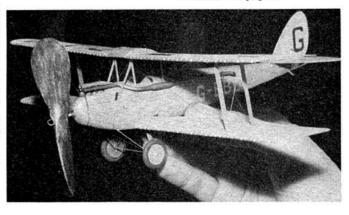
comeback. After several years of entries in the four and fives double-figure entries were much more

common this year at all events.

Indoor free flight, introduced last year as an experiment, has now become firmly established. Each meeting, whether at Cardington or Brize, sees more and more interest. At first it was chiefly the outdoor F/F enthusiast who produced half-sized models for flying indoors but then one or two people who seem to specialise entirely in indoor jobs started making their presence felt. I found it very encouraging to see one or two faces who are normally associated chiefly with control line circles having a go on November 4th, Maybe at the next meeting we shall have an entry from a dyed in the wool R/C type! Perhaps in indoor, sheltered from the elements, we have the class which will bind the scale fraternity closer together. It saddens me to see the stupid bitterness which often prevails between R/C, F/F and C/L classes when flying together on the same field. Complete intolerance to the other fellow's mode of flying is all too common. I know it rankles sometimes for a F/F perfectionist to see old moneybags Bloggs throwing his ghastly overpowered, foam-filled, plastic covered apology for a 'Mustang' all over the sky but he is not typical of the average builder and flyer of R/C scale models and it is no reason to condemn the whole R/C fraternity out of hand. Similarly there are, I know, a few R/C flyers who consider everything which takes to the air, without the assistance of at least four channels of wireless wonder, to be 'kids stuff' beneath their contempt. I like to think that the majority of true scale modellers are interested in scale models foremost and the method of flying them is of a secondary consideration. It would be nice, therefore, if there were a bit more cross denominational enterprise in 1974. To start the ball rolling I will let it be known that the Coates Design Office is at present working on a brand new R/C scale model for 1974. Not, I repeat not, yet another R/C modification to a retired F/F model!

What of the models which were to be seen airborne in 1974? For my money the most impressive F/F model was the H.P. 0/400 of Terry Manley. Entered in two competitions, in each it placed second but, as yet, a twin has to win a major event. Just as Jim Bridgewood and I, in the 1950s (as I recounted in the March edition) found them too much of a handful so has Terry this year and in 1971 with the

continued on page 44



# ROLLED PLYWOOD BOOMS

a useful technique described by TREVOR FAULKNER

MATURE READERS of Aero-Modeller will no doubt remember a very smooth model featured in the April 1942 issue . . . a Ron Warring design which was also featured on the front cover of his book Model Gliders. The rather idealised painting by C. Rupert Moore (how these paintings evoked the atmosphere of idyllic summer flying days even in wartime!) showed this model gently airborne on a very slack tow, and demon-strated so ably the configuration which is still hailed as beautiful by most model glider fliers. Several scale and semi-scale models are now being kitted which have most appealing lines, but in many cases rely on injection moulding or glass reinforced plastic to give advan-tageous production line characteristics. These techniques really come into their own where doublecurvature shapes are being created, but for the builder of any 'one-off' job, their utility for making single curvature forms is doubtful, and

certainly time-consuming.

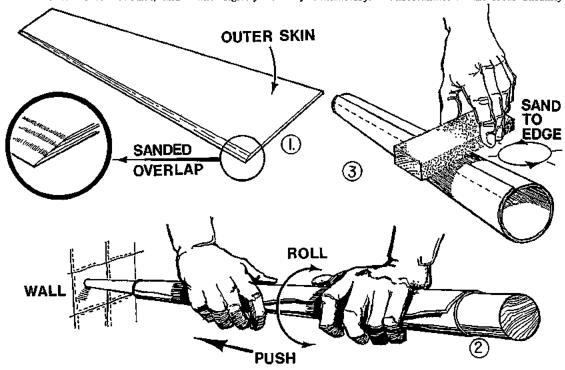
Having used rolled balsa tubes as fuselage/boom units for about ten years, and being convinced of the practicality of circular sections on a strength/weight basis, I decided to make a rather more substantial boom unit which would be grafted onto the G.R.P. front end of a prototype R/C soarer (as previously described in the Sep-tember 1973 issue). During the course of construction, certain little manipulative tricks were developed. Their employment has made it possible for booms to be produced quickly and easily, and in the con-text for which the units are destined, weight has been reduced in comparison with the normal 1 in. square spruce longeron, † in. balsa sheet tapered box. Wetted area' is also much reduced (almost 25 per cent), which means less dope or finish, with a reasonably dentresistant surface. Formers are unnecessary at intermediate points, and rigidity is very satisfactory.

The interior is smooth and uncluttered, allowing push-rods or cable linkages ideal access and movement.

#### Construction

Mark out the size of blank required, allowing a typical \( \frac{1}{2} \) in. or \( \frac{1}{2} \) in. extra along one long edge for an overlap. This overlap area should then be sanded to fade to a purely nominal thickness at the edge - see Fig 1. (Although BOTH edges will eventually be tapered, the material handles more easily if the second taper is left until later).

Soak the blank thoroughly (half an hour) in cold water, and meanwhile get everything else ready for use, as a more efficient job is possible with everything to hand. 'Everything' means your former, a supply of crepe bandage (nostalgic reminder of the rugger field and Sunday mornings spent with other unfortunates at the local Casualty



Dept . . . ), a wall, and if possible a second pair of hands.

Now drain the bath (we all use the bath, don't we?), and give the blank a couple of minutes in really hot water. This seems to improve flexibility markedly.

Remove the blank, and begin to persuade it around the former. Work until the blank feels amen-

able to taking up the shape, and then transfer your attention almost exclusively to the narrow end. Press the blank into close contact with the former in a position where the blank can be felt to be seating all the way round. This will probably be slightly towards the 'fat' end of the former, but at this stage, the important factor is being able to take a sound two-handed grip to maintain this contact (Fig. 2). The narrow end of the former will protrude from within the blank for some way, and this end is then pressed against the wall whilst the hands perform an alternate rolling and tightening action as though a sheet of paper were being rolled up. The effect of the combined action (pressure and rolling), is that the blank will become more

tightly wrapped around the former, meanwhile moving down to the required position. (It is advantageous if the former continues to taper a little beyond the required finished limits of the work-piece; thus the job can be over-tightened a little to compensate for any springing tendency that the ply may have retained when it has dried). Now ask your assistant to begin to wrap the ply, using the crepe bandage. Wrap tightly and continue towards the thicker end, maintaining the ply in close contact with the blank by a repetition of the rolling technique should it attempt to slacken off. To finish the bandaging, simply tuck the end under itself . . . the friction will hold everything soundly.

Allow the unit to dry thoroughly, then remove the bandage. Slip the blank off the former (the curl will spring slightly but no matter), and wax the former well before replacing the blank preparatory to gluing the seam. (P.V.A. is ideal for use with ply in view of its slight elasticity when dry). Wipe off excess adhesive, and bandage a second time ensuring that the blank

is in exactly the right place on the former to give the correct finished dimensions.

Remove the dried blank after an adequate period (24 hours if possible, and preferably longer), sanding the proud area of the overlap in the manner shown in Fig. 3. If you intend to cover the boom, or dope it with any substance likely to shrink, replace it on the former for both the operation and a sub-sequently drying time. Remem-ber . . . if it sets true, it'll stay

With a little experience, anyone should be able to carry out the processes involved with very little trouble. Refinements which can be envisaged include widening the seam overlap in areas into which, say, control surfaces will dictate cutting away later or tail and fin construction is made an integral part of the unit.

A typical boom using 8 mm ply, thirty inches long, and tapering from 2 in to 3 in diameter without finishing processes applied, weighs about 2 oz. The strength is very adequate.

#### **FLYING SCALE COLUMN**

continued from page 42

Vimy. All due credit to Terry though; I think he has brought the F/F twin to the highest state of perfection I have seen to date. If the 0/400 could have been persuaded to rise off ground he could have won either of the two events he entered it in, I suppose I must take the bow for the most consistent F/F model in 1973. After a rather inauspicious start last year I managed to trim the *D.H.9a* to fly with the utmost consistency this season and succeeded in winning all five events in which I entered it. By far and away the best contest season I have ever enjoyed. One of the reasons for establishing a high flying score in each event was the simple bomb dropping mechanism I fitted which usually scored a full house for the 'option' manoeuvre. I will fully describe this mechanism in a future edition of the Column.

Most impressive C/L machine I saw airborne this year was the massive Airspeed Oxford of Derek Goddard. What a pity he didn't manage to fit a retracting undercarriage and furnish the cockpit and enter it for the Trials. It would have been a fine asset to the British World Champs Scale team next year.

I have already earlier in this column described what I consider to be the outstanding R/C model of the year so that only leaves Indoor. This I find extremely difficult to reach a decision on. Most impressive looking model was undoubtedly Vic Driscol's colourful Wapiti but the flying performance leaves a lot to be desired. Perhaps all round Andrew Moor-house's Curtiss Jenny should take the honours for rubber-powered machines. Of the CO<sub>2</sub> powered jobs there can be no doubt: Doug McHard's Spitfire.

CO2 power has steadily grown in popularity in the

U.K. this last year - limited of course by the scarcity of the Brown Junior power unit. However to my knowledge at least six people now have at least one of these motors in this country - perhaps we may see

more of them flying at next year's meetings?

Finally I must mention the exploits of David Carpenter of Southampton in trying to get an electric powered F/F scale model airborne. The power unit used is a spare electric motor, plus the Nicad cells from a Mattel Super Star ready to fly model. I saw Ron Moulton flying one of the first of these in the Cardington hangar last year. David built a beautiful Fairchild Argus, 1/12 scale giving around 36 in. span, for the motor. All-up weight, including cells, is 16 oz. — only a little heavier than one would expect a diesel powered version to weigh. Charging from a car battery, through a transistorised controller at 1 amp, for 9 min., gives a useful power run of about 1 minute 20 sec., turning a Cox 8 x 5 prop. Unfortunately the machine seems unable to perform any more than protracted glides at the moment. It is always that these motors give the equivalent never claimed that these motors give the equivalent power of an 049 engine. Having seen the Argus I am quite sure a Mills 75, which is not renowned as the most powerful 049, would fly it with ease so perhaps this is rather an extravagant claim. The last I heard was that the Nicads had disintegrated through trying to get more power into them but that he was still pursuing the project. I hope he eventually succeeds as there is a certain fascination about silent flight which, I might add, is also shared by the general public; although I don't think the F/F scale flyer can be regarded as the biggest noise maker amongst the aeromodelling fraternity by a long way.



THERE ARE TIMES when I am asked how I manage to find material enough to fill my monthly column. In fact, this poses little problems — the usual difficulty being that of condensing sufficiently the backlog of contest reports without their degenerating into a mere listing of the winners. Often when other aspects of free-flight deserve consideration I have to decide what to omit.

This month is a case in point, as there are a number of interesting and possibly far-reaching proposals on the agenda for the forthcoming C.I.A.M. meeting. Since the necessary decisions will have been made long before this column appears in print, I have decided to postpone discussion until I know the outcome.

Before commencing on contest matters I would like to reply to the 'Readers' Letters' by Jim Moseley that appeared in the December issue. Some of his allegations can hardly

John O'Donnell's

# FREE FLIGHT COMMENT

It was wet at the York rally . . . here, Keith Proctor's rubber model gets a last-minute wipe-down before the launch - note how the model gets priority with the brolly!

pass unanswered; especially as the tone of Jim's letter, not

pass unanswered; especially as the tone of Jim's letter, not to mention its very existence, is sufficient to confirm the idea of discrimination – although not in the way he intended! At Elvington I was singled out for query, presumably on the basis of 'information received' and promptly disqualified. The arguments reged over whether turbulators were a structural modification or merely a trimming device.

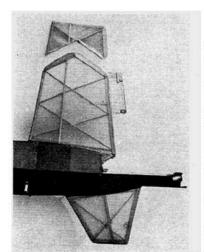
Plan designs are supposed to fly as presented. My Scram was built very closely to plan (far nearer the impossible 'exactness' of precise reproduction than most others I've seen) and glided at about 45 deg. After trying all 'norma' trimming techniques I fitted turbulators in a successful attempt to promote a glide. This transformed the model and gave it a level of performance way above 'Vintage' expectations, I see no difference in principle between a slab of \( \frac{1}{2} \) in, packing under the wing and a piece of thread stuck on top — they are merely alternative ways of correcting deficiencies in the plan!

I've no doubt that it is the result, not the means, that has caused trouble. Nostalgic vintage notions did not run to the concept of the event becoming a real duration event — despite this being the exact application for the original design! Have I put back the clock with a little too much precision? Jim, however, remains unconvinced, and his reply to the above comment is as follows:

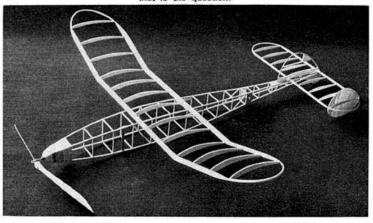
'I note with interest John O'Donnell's reply to my earlier letter concerning the Vintage event at the N. Area Belly and

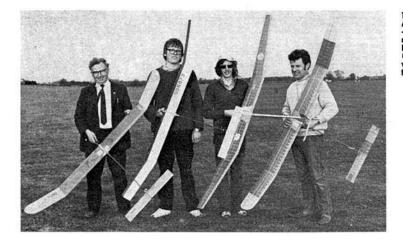
above comment is as follows:

'I note with interest John O'Donnell's reply to my earlier letter concerning the Vintage event at the N. Area Relly and am somewhat amused that 'its very existence' serves, in his opinion, to confirm discrimination. I have every respect for John as a contestant and his journalistic endeavours normally cover the free-flight aspect of modelling in a most worthy manner, by virtue of which his readership, including participants and organisers, expect fair and accurate reporting of events with credit or criticism allocated as deserved.



Left, J. O'D. takes trimming to mean more than just using packing pieces — see his 'surgery' applied to the fin of his small Open Rubber job. Below, uncovered view of the controversial 'Scram' — to turbulate or not to turbulate, that is the question!





Top four places in the annual Spanish A/2 postal event went to British entries - seen here (left to right) the winner, our columnist John O'Donnell, with David Barnes, Alan Jack and Phil Owen. British entries have always fared well in this event, indeed the Whitefield club has supplied no less than three senior winners in the past.

However, if such a report contains inaccuracies or is shaded by partial coverage of the facts of a given situation in such a manner as to imply unjustified criticism, then the writer must expect correction as in this instance. Should John feel that his text be beyond reproach, then he may well feel discriminated against by any person challenging same, but it is to his credit that he has accepted clarification. If I may quote further from his comment 'Plan designs are supposed to fly as presented'. In this one sentence John sums up the essence of Vintage flying and dismisses his case for the installation of turbulators upon his model thus rendering it beyond the terms of his own definition. Past contest results have proved conclusively that Vintage has been a real duration event since its inception, in the course of which perfectly stendard 'Scrams' have proved winners on occasions with high scores including, I believe, at least one 9:00; no doubt their builders will have their own comments to make in person following the doubt cast upon the accuracy of their machines.

Finally, I would refer back to my final paragraph in which I commented that acceptance of a model outside the terms of reference of the rules would create a precedent for others so inclined to utilise even greater licence in design interpretation.

The Scram design was resurrected by Ron Firth and pre-

pretation.

The Scram design was resurrected by Ron Firth and presented as a plan in his Model Aeroplane Gazette. This was followed up with one design postal contests, the rules for which now permit ... the use of turbulators or disruptors on the wing for trimming purposes'. There are obviously other opinions than the one Jim presents.

Could I introduce a note of warning in case sentiment and emotion combine to give suggestions that vintage models 'should be built to plan' or some such rigid requirement. There is undoubtedly a fair amount of nostalgic affection for vintage, yet such interest could easily be killed by turning the event into a 'documentation exercise'. The situation in scale where a 'Peanut' entry has been seen supported by a copy of Janes and a file of other literature should serve as a salt tory warning!

copy of Janes and a file of other literature should serve as a salutory warning!

The Scram controversy has opened my eyes to the fact that! appear to interpret 'trimming' in a far wider sense than many other modellers. My methods are not limited to packing the noseblock, altering incidences, or moving the C.G. If I think it is necessary then I am prepared to revise wing wraps, add turbulators, reduce fin area, perform a variety of structural modifications, and even interchange components. The accompanying photograph of some fin 'surgery' is an illustration in more ways than one!

There have been contests every weekend throughout the past couple of months with sometimes a choice of attractions. It is convenient, however, to deal with events in sequence and start with the 5th S.M.A.E. Area Centralised Meeting held on 16th September. Like all such events weather varietions throughout the country played an important part in deciding the outcome — with the North getting the better conditions. Of the three S.M.A.E. contests that for the Keil Trophy (Team Power) was by far the best supported. The need to field a full team provides some explanation for the numbers entered, whilst further interest arises from Plugge Cup considerations. These effects increase the size of the entry — but not necessarily its standard.

Even the winning team from Northampton fell far short of a perfect score, and in fact failed to record a single treblel Consistency paid off however, and Messrs, Short, Cowley, Payne and Parry won themselves the Keil Trophy with a total of just under 32 minutes. Runners up were Leeds who enjoyed very flyable conditions at Topcliffe, but who could only get Alan Cooper into the fly-off (with his American influenced '40' model). The power turn-out in the Northern Area was quite remarkable both for its size and for the number of mid-air structural failures witnessed. Further down the country, St. Albans edged out Anglia from third place by a mere two seconds. Conditions at Watton were reported as 'reasonable' with early mist, threats of rain, and poor visibility at fly-off time. On the South Coast at Beaulieu it was windy with both visibility and retrieving problems. Phil Ireland had a model disappeer into low cloud at 50 seconds o.o.s. — a disaster that cost Southampton the Team Power award!

The individual scores in the Keil Trophy reflect the remarks already made, There were only eight trebles out of 84 recorded scores, with the best fly-off (4:48) being made by Pete Harris of Evesham. In many ways this was a wasted effort since there are no rewards whatsoever for the individual positions, and Pete has no club support for Team events. He did, however, take the N.W. Area's token prize for its domestic event, Runner up in the national event was Mike Green, now flying for Grantham instead of as a Country Member, with just over 4½ minutes. Next were Roger Melville and George Fuller both of St. Albans.

A/1 Gilder called for 5 flights to a 2:00 max and the now accepted weight requirement of 7.76 oz. (220gm). The event was remarkably well supported with 43 fliers. Nevertheless there were only two 'full houses', from Cliff James and John Cooper, and only one near miss — subsequent scores being comparatively low. The winning model was a simple square-tipped and stoutity constructed design, with a box fuselage to offset

The last weekend in September had events on both Saturday and Sunday, and provided me with a couple of days that I would prefer to forget rather than have to describel I attended the Northern Gala on Saturday, 29th September, and the Liverpool Gala the next day. The latter coincided with the South Bristol M.A.C. Gala hold at Wroughton and featured as a photo report in last month's Aeromodeller.

Paul Fynn launches his conventional forward-fin magnet steered model at the Kolibri Pokal event → note the very small slope employed for the contest.

rail fyini faunches his conventional torward-in magnet steered model at the Kolibri Pokal event — note the very small slope employed for the contest.

The Northern Gala at Rufforth was a disappointment in many ways. Featured as a major event in the S.M.A.E. Calendar, and apparently intended to attract the general public (if the existence of a printed programme is any indication), it was poorly supported both by modellers and laymen. There is no doubt that advance publicity was poor. Even the pre-entry requirement so beloved by the Society was waived by default — since no forms were distributed furthermore the experiment of holding this meeting on a Saturday has hardly proved a success. Work, shopping, and other domestic chores seem to provide a 'counter attraction' to many of those normally in the contest circuit. The final blow came in the form of strong winds — heralded by a pessimistic weather forecast!

When the events opened at 10 o'clock there were only a handful of people present at free-flight control. Those who flew early soon showed that maxs were far from difficult, with drift almost streight down the main runway, bicycle retrieving was easy. Russell Peers wasted little time and recorded a treble in Open Rubber before commencing on Power. The wind swing at times taking some flights over a downwind farm and a small but dense wood beyond. Concern about possible complaints caused control to be moved — but the 'hump' characteristic of so many airfields prevented enough of a move to avoid these hazards.

As the day progressed it became apparent that rubber was the only event that was going to need a fly-off, Russell Peers did 2:35 on his third power flight after a couple of maxs, but this was still sufficient to beat Brian Martin who had started with 2:27, Both were using Eta 29's, Russell Peers did 2:35 on his third power flight after a couple of maxs, but this was still sufficient to beat Brian Martin who had started with 2:27, Both were using Eta 29's, Russell file progress of the beat sevent and the f





the rear fuselage trying to extract the winding tubel This left Russell to make a nominal fly-off to take the event and the once-coveted Caton Trophy. His flyover was D/T'd either too late or too early — depending on whether he should have aimed to land in front of the woods, downwind, or to clear them! The other two entrants comprised Ron Pollard and myself, both suffering from downdraughts on our first flights. I suppose I could claim to have placed third — but I feel it was really 'last but one'.

The Junior kit event was fought out between 10-year-old Mark Gibson and 13-year-old Nigel Tompkins who placed in that order! Both flew Swans and did well merely to complete five flights apiece. The York Club, at least, were guick to recruit the runner-up!

Notable for a S.M.A.E. event was the presentation of cash prizes to the winners — financed by charging an admission fee to the sifield.

mission fee to the airffield.

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The following morning saw the Liverpool Gala, held at R.A.F. Chetwynd, open in very windy conditions. As the five-flight A/2 event was held 'in rounds there was little opportunity for prospective entrants to hesitate. From what happened I should have chosen some other event — as I broke one model through towing it in, and promptly lost the other in a real monster thermal. Although watched down through binoculars, it could not be found — despite an excellent 'line' and much time spent searching. Five weeks later it was discovered by a farmworker, almost invisible in a clump of long grass in an empty-looking field!

The A/2 event was soon dominated by Terry Dilks, thanks to his first flight max being picked up by a farmer who then drove up to the 'drome' to report the model's whereabouts. After this Terry couldn't go wrong and eventually totalled some 14½ minutes with what the M.A.G. described as his J. O'D.-inspired winner. Perhaps I should say that the wind abated considerably from early afternoon. Runner-up was J. Watkins of Wolves who flew well following a slow start, and crept up almost unnoticed. Brian Picken was third, just ahead of Tony Evans.

Power was topped by Russell Peers with a treble using the same model flown at Rufforth. Pete Harris missed his second max by a few seconds — so was able to make a short D/T'd third flight to take second place without risk and still be well ahead of tinird man Brian Worthington. The combined Mini event was flown to '5 x 2' rules without a 'K' factor. Winner by just a single second was Julian Hopper flying ½A power — and ousting Tony Slater's A/1. Third place went to Roy Roberts. Chuck Gilder saw the usual 'names' surpassed by Dave Barnes and Phil Ball.

Open Rubber had a four-way fly-off held in rapidly failing light. Mike Duce won with what was definitely the longest flight — but which was still clocked off o.o.s. a minute before it landed in some trees. Hamish Gunn was second with an unusual design featuring an elongated pylon (a

Mention must be made of the prizes as being pre-engraved trophies: they caused a substantial loss to be made at the

Ray Sutton certainly caused a stir at the Kolibri Pokal magnet-glider when he proceeded to fly his modified Keil-Kraft Chief – had excellent penetration and managed a five minute max, eventually placing 19th.



How many would recognise this as magnet - steered? Ray Sutton's modified Chief with rear fin steering gets the 'heave-ho'. Quite a contrast to the normal 'stick-andrhino-horn' appearancel

meeting. Fortunately, the host club, Liverpool, seem able to withstand this.

As the next event was the sixth S.M.A.E. Area Centralised meeting, and I am still awaiting official results, this is a conventient point to leave discussion of domestic events – and pass on information from further afield.

Many British modellers have attended Continental contests, particularly in recent years. Naturally enough most events have been for the usual collection of F.A.I. rubber, glider and power. Rather less stereotyped was the Kolibri Pokal for magnet steered gliders that Brian Faulkner, Paul Fynn and I have had to precis severely) and a handful of photos taken by Hans Gremmer — well-known exponent of this class.

by Hans Gremmer – well-known exponent of this class.

Whilst magnet models only arouse a minority interest in Britain, the class is well supported in parts of Europe. This year's 'Kolibri Pokel' had 42 fliers and even this was well down compared with the previous event in 1971. The actual site came as quite a surprise being a small hill no more than 150 feet high. In the light winds that prevailed for much of the two-day contest, slope lift was very limited and called for a light, slow-flying model. Some of the local exponents had a fleet of varied models to cope with different conditions. The site, in fact, would have been very poor if the wind had blown the 'other' way, with little height and woods dangerously close.

Flown to the FAL system of five rounds with a five

woods dangerously close.

Flown to the F.A.I. system of five rounds with a five minute max, scores were naturally pretty high. Winner was Erich Morgeneir with 1,412 seconds out of a possible 1,500. The British contingent put up a respectable showing against such opposition. Ray Sutton made the best total of 1,036 seconds to place 19th – but certainly provoked much interest when he flew a KeilKraft Chief modified to incorporate rearfin steering. Although far removed from the usual 'stick and wane' approach, Ray's model had excellent penetration and managed at least one five-minute max.

There was gently side to this meeting as it also included

There was another side to this meeting as it also included a conventional A/2 contest - held at Wiener Neustadt in calm, hot weather. The less said about our showing the better, so I'm toldl Like most Continental contests, the Kolibri had a flourishing social side of which the formal prize giving was only a part. All in all it was a very pleasant venture for the three G.B. participants - and well worth every bit of the 3,000-mile trip.

Other international news has appeared in the shape of the results from two postal events — both held in April 1973. If this sounds a long time ago, then one must remember the inevitable delays associated with the submission of scores, the collating of results and finally, their dissemination.

the collating of results and finally, their dissemination.

The Sky-Scrapers Postal Contest was for hand-launch (chuck) gliders, flown as three-man teams with each member's score being his best six flights out of ten. A one-minute max was used – and the winning team did, in fact, record a perfect 18-minute total. This came from the Junior Birdmen of California: flying at San Ramon, otherwise known as 'Thermal City'. Paul Andrade and Marty Thompson flew in the morning with light winds and ideal thermal conditions – amply proved by Paul's best flight of 15:52 being recovered without D/TI Third man Dick Miller flew in what

they call wind! The New York Sky-Scrapers themselves fielded the second placed team, closely followed by the Dunham-Dunham-Ransom combination from Oklahome. In fourth place was the Wigan, England club team of Barry Kershaw, Roy Roberts and Dave Yates — a very commendable performance. Individual results were also tabulated on two separate systems: aggregate (with ties being decided by taking the fliers next highest flight) and best single flight. Mark Badley took aggregate with eight maxs and Paul Andrade the 'long flight event'.

fliers next highest flight) and best single flight. Mark Badley took aggregate with eight maxs and Paul Andrade the 'long flight event'.

The other 'postal' was the Seventh Spanish A/2 Postal Event, divided into both 'juvenile' and 'mayores' — with 21 years being the criteria. There were Individual and Team classifications, plus an A/1 event for the 'youngsters'.

As mentioned in the September issue, there were some very high times recorded in this postal by N.W. Area fliers at Chetwynd on 29th April. Our hopes were fully justified as we gained the top four individual positions in the postal. I took first with five three's, plus four plus five plus six plus five minutes exactly (trying for the seven-minute max). This put me just ahead of Dave Barnes who did 4:40 on his ninth flightl Next two were Alan Jack and Phil Owen, The Liverpool Club were given the senior team award for a composite team including both junior and senior members and inadvertently including both junior and senior members regard teams as being those people whose scores are sent in together. This particular postal is notable for providing all entrants with souvenir pennants, and with distinctive awards for the individual honours. Surprisingly Britain has done very well over the years — with three senior wins to my club alone!

HESULIS

5th S.M.A.E. AREA CENTRALISED MEETING, 16th September 1973
Keil Trophy - Team Power (29 teams): 1, Northampton 31:55; 2, Leeds 31:11; 3, St. Albans 31:04; 4, Anglia 31:02, Keil Trophy - Individual Scores (65 entries, 84 scores): 1, Harris (Eventralis, 185); 4, Harris

NORTHERN GALA, R.A.F. Rufforth, Saturday, 29th September 1973 Hamley Trophy - Open Power (10 entries, 9 scores): 1. R. Peers (Falcons) 8:35; 2. B. Martin (Tynemouth) 8:27; 3. P. Harris (Evesham) 7:53. C.M.A. Cup - Open Gilder (7 entries, 6 scores): 1. M. Cowley (Northampton) 7:55; 3. B. Baines (R.A.F.M.A.A.) 5:59. Caton Trophy - Open Rubber (6 entries, 4 scores): 1. R. Peers (Falcons) M+1:35; 2. J. Anderson (Tynemouth) M+0; 3. J. O'Donnell (Whitefield) 5:38; Junior Kit - Gilder (2 entries): 1. M. Gibson (Jarrow) 1:59; 2. N. Tomkins (York) 1:09.

LIVERPOOL GALA, R.A.F. Chetwynd, 30th September 1973
A/2 Glider (5 filghts): 1. T. Dilks (Falcons) 14:26; 2. J. Watkins
(Wolves) 11:20; 3. B. Picken (West Lancs) 10:53. Open Rubber:
1. M. Duce (Liverpool) M+4:55; 2. J. Gunn (Bristol & West)
M+4:07; 3. R. Peers (Falcons) M+4:00; 0. Open Power: 1, R. Peers
(Falcons): 9:00; 2. P. Harris (Evesham) 7:30; 3. B. Worthington
(Whitefield) 6:08. Combined Mini (5 filghts): 1. J. Hopper (Stanstead) 9:35; 2. A. Slater (Leatherhead) 9:34; 3. R. Roberts (Wigan)
9:10. Chuck Glider (5 from 9): 1. D. Barnes (Liverpool) 5:22; 2.
P. Ball (C/M) 5L:0; 3. A. Slater (Leatherhead) 5:01.

10th INT. KOLIBRI POKAL Wiener Neustadt/Herzogenburg, Austria, 23rd-26th August, 1973
Class F1E (42 flew): 1. Erich Morgeneler (W. Germany) 1412 seconds; 2. Albert Ruedlinger (West Germany) 1386 seconds; 3. Bernhard Schussler 1349 seconds; 19. Ray Sutton (Great Britain) 1036 seconds; 22. Brian Faulkner (Great Britain) 985 seconds; 26. Paul Fynn (Great Britain) 942 seconds.

Fynn (Great Britain) 942 seconds.

U.S. SKY SCRAPERS POSTAL CONTEST for H.L. Gliders, April 1973
Team (23 scores): 1. Junior Birdmen, California (Thompson, Andrade, Miller) 1080; 2, Sky Scrapers, New York (Minassian, Allen, Kaufmann) 999 seconds; 3. Dunham-Ransonn, Okiahoma (Dunham, Bonsonn 992; 4, Mayan M.A.C., England (Roberts, Yore, Kaufmann) 999 seconds; 3. Britainghourne & D.M.A.C., England (Grey, Kyati), 704 seconds; 13. Sittingbourne & D.M.A.C., England (Grey, Weeks, Ripley) 687; 20. Sittingbourne & D.M.A.C., England (Andrews, Monk, Harris) 460; 23. Swindon M.A.C., England (Andrews, Monk, Harris) 460; 23. Swindon M.A.C., England (Bailey, Woodruffe) 214, Long Flight Event (25 over 60 seconds); 1. Paul Andrade, Junior Birdmen, California 952 seconds; 2. Joe Gschwind (Individual) New York 850 seconds; 3. Dave Monaster, San Lorenzo/Hayward, California 450 seconds; 5. Trevor Grey, Sittingbourne, England 351 seconds. Individual Agg. (65 scores); 1. Mark Badley San Lorenzo/Hayward, California 360 +60 +60; 2. Dick Miller, Junior Birdmen, California +42; 12. Roy Roberts, Wigan M.A.C., England 334,

The ANNUAL SPANISH A/2 POSTAL EVENT, April 1973
Team Juvenile A/1: 1. Letecko Modelarsky Club, Prostejov, Czechoslovakia 2,205 seconds, Team Juvenile A/2: Arnhemse Luchtvaart/
Club, Holland 2,379 seconds. Team Mayores A/2: 1. Liverpool
D.M.A.S., England 2,700 seconds. Individual Juvenile A/1: 1,
Frantisek Nruby, Letecko M.C., Prostejov, Czechoslovakia 840 seconds. Individual Juvenile A/2: 1, Claudio Torres, Club de planca
dores de concepcion, Chile 900+58 seconds. Individual Mayores A/2:
L. John O'Donnell, Whitefield M.A.C., England 900+240+300
+360+300; 2. David Barnes, Liverpool D.M.A.S., England +281;
3. Alan Jack, Liverpool, D.M.A.S., England 900+240+300+357;
4. Phil Owen, Liverpool D.M.A.S., England 900+240+169; 6, Barry
Kershaw, Wigan M.A.C., England 894.

# BETWEEN THE LINES with Dave Clarkson

#### Demonstrations

Demonstrations

Not the political type (I am writing this whilst just such a one is going on here — here being Czechoslovakia, as it happens — to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution, but the club Model Aircraft type.

Most clubs do demonstrations at shows, etc., with the purpose of boosting club funds and/or doing a bit of public relations work, For many of the 'local' type shows, the space provided only allows the use of control line models. Frequently our 'demonstrations' are not quite what we would wish them to be, so it is with thanks to Stan Robinson of the Cosmo club in South London that we reproduce below some of the very interesting instructions written by Stan as the 1972 Demonstration Team Leader for the benefit of Cosmo's demonstration team:

Tor the benefit of Cosmo's demonstration team:
Display Controller
He is responsible for organising the preparation of models and equipment immediately before and during the display and issuing any instructions to team members that shall be necessary. He is also responsible for timing, general co-operation between members and liaison with the show

organisers. Commentator

He is responsible for seeing that the crowd barrier is in order before the show starts, checking the microphone position and operation and then to give commentaries as required. Most important, he is to give warning, by means of the PA system, if any child or adult gets past the crowd barrier.

Team Members

It is important that members flying in the display prepare and test their models thoroughly and are able to start their engines from cold in approximately five seconds on command from the controller.

Members should carry out, to the best of their ability, any instructions given by the controller and no one else. The time for arguments is after the display is over. Motors cannot be warmed up before the display has started, but can be warmed up during the display at the controller's indication. indication.

These are all sensible and necessary organisational instructions. It is notable that the Cosmo club are not ambitious with their programme, which consists of:

1. Solo Aerobatics - 1 model
2. Balloon Bursting - 3 models
3. Battle of Britain type combat - 2 models.

Their display is timed to last for 23 minutes. Remember, that a short, slick display gives a much better impression than a long, drawn-out one.

It is my feeling that most displays which fail to come up to expectations, do so because of an over-amhitious programme and too little organisation and preparation. Returning to the Cosmo programme, it becomes apparent how much organisational effort is required to put on a slick, continuous action display with the very simple and short display they perform:

Pre-display preparations

Approximately 20 minutes before the display is due to start the following jobs will be commenced.

1. Peg out balloon retaining net, blow up balloons and tie to their pegs. Place balloons and pegs under retaining net.

2. Lines and handles to be hooked up to models and laid out in order of appearance. Meanwhile controller is to locate and mark the centre of the circle.

3. Using one of the balloon-bursting models, four members of the team to mark out and peg balloon sticks, fix balloons to sticks and lay sticks flat on the ground.

4. Place stunt model in the circle and fill the tank.

5. Attach streamers to combat models and fill squeeze bottles.

6. Controller check that everything is ready and also check

bottles.
6. Controller check that everything is ready and also check all lines, connections and models for safety.
It is noteworthy that the Cosmo team only consists of eight members plus the controller and the commentator. This is very sensible indeed; as numbers rise, the display leader increasingly becomes unable to control everything that is going on.
Thanks for your info., Stan, hope that your displays went as well as they should have done, and shall be glad to publish any simple ideas for improving displays that really appeal.

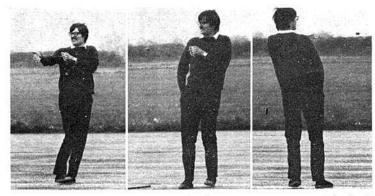
#### View Point – 'British Model Shop Balsa'

Most of us from time to time have a big grouse about 'British Model Shop Balsa', even I have been heard to call the balsa on display 'good for building houses, but not models'. But is it really that bad?

In the course of my travels, I have walked into model shops in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Japan and the U.S.A. In none of the model shops visited was the balsa any better than that I buy in my local model shop, and



Now confirmed as the British representatives in the F.A.I. team-race event at the 1974 World Championships are (left to right) Malcolm Ross, Derek Heaton, Richard King, Dave Rudd and the Brothers Tribe. Incidentally, the Editor owes his apologies to Alan Woodrow for criticising his flying style in the Team Trials report. Alan's performance in the speed pylon was impeccable—the 'unorthodox' pilot was, in fact, Pete Halman, who placed second. Also, third placed speed teamster David Smith wishes to point out that his club is Southend, not Lee-on-Solent, Sorry Folks!



Monoline? Nothing to it! John Dixon flies his 2.5 c.c. open class speed ship with seemingly nonchalant ease – even a casual 'right-hand in pocket' stance! Note the control 'button' in the two right-hand pictures – It has 'run down' the control unit to the end. Hope the next control needed is 'up', John!

in some all they had was spruce. Pity the poor Eastern European aeromodeller filling out his annual balsa requisition (and the Chinese one who has never seen the stuff) and reflect on how lucky we are.

It is a fact that those aeromodellers who demand the best balsa can get it in one way or another. I once asked Per Hasling how he selected his F.A.I. T/R wing wood, and he told me that he tripped around all of the model shops in Copenhagen for a couple of weeks with his scales and experienced eye and selected two sheets that were suitable out of the 100 or so examined. If the stock in my model shop is anything to go by, then we are better off in Manchester than they are in Copenhagen!

Some people, of course, give up on the quest for that perfect piece of \$\frac{1}{2}\$ in. sheet (straight grain, \$\frac{5}{2}\$ ib. density and firm) and mail order it from SIG in the U.S.A. I just wonder how popular the SIG type service would be in the U.K., i.e. mail order of high quality, well selected balsa at, say, a premium of 50 per cent? Personally, I would hate it, because the occasional gem would disappear from the model shop stock and I would loose the great enjoyment I get out of looking through the stock frequently, and passing comments like hearts of oak, floor boards, etc. . . .

**Motor Tuning** 

Copemen-Oliver, Rumpel-Super Tigre, Daly-MVVS, Haworth-ETA, What is it that distinguishes the 'tuned' motor from the standard? Why is it that some standard motors happily out-perform 'tuned' ones? What is this 'tuning' business

the standard? Why is it that some standard motors happily out-perform 'tuned' ones? What is this 'tuning' business all about?

The model aircraft engine is an engineering product, it is an assembly of many different parts all made to nominal size with ± tolerances. By accident one can buy a standard commercial motor in which all of the parts mete perfectly, and this is the rare one-in-a-hundred 'good 'un'. Equally and again by accident, a real bad 'un can be bought in which not one of the parts mate well! However, it is a fact that nearly all standard motors sold consist of a mixture of good and bad fitting parts. The real tuner (as opposed to the cosmetician) tries to identify the bad fitting parts and by a combination of re-working standard parts and by making new ones, the tuner attempts to make all of the parts fit well. By tuning, even the best tuner cannot make any motor better than that rare, standard good 'un, but he should make the average one good. It follows that if a manufacturer makes his standard product to exceptionally high standards, with really tight machining tolerances, then the tuner has little scope for improving mating fits — who has heard of a Bugl 15 tuner?

By experience, a tuner comes to know which parts of a particular model of motor usually fit badly and which fit well. It takes a long time to gain this experience, which is why most tuners specialise on one or two types of motor. However, there are general principles that apply to all motors to a greater or lesser extent, and we shall now look at these. The general principles are:

(a) Correct shaft fits
(b) Try to get the piston/liner fit correct at running temperature.

In addition, there are some less general ones like getting the head shape (Jess important) and volume (very import-

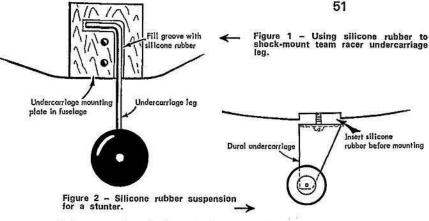
In addition, there are some less general ones like getting the head shape (less important) and volume (very important) right on a glow motor.

Firstly, I shall deal with shaft fits, and here I refer to twin ball-race shafts. There is almost nothing one can do

Half an 'Ironmonger' is better than none! Vernon Hunt walks Half an ironmonger is better than none; verion runt waits away with the remains after a spectacular mid-air collision in the quarter-finals of the Stockport combat rally, Having exhausted his stock of these machines, he had to resort to his trusty 'Warlord' for the remaining bouts. to a plain bearing shaft except the fitting of ball races, and that is a major engineering job — outside the scope of nearly everyone. Manufacturers vary in shaft fits. K&B generally fit shafts very well indeed (thank heavens — on the bigger K&Bs getting the front housing apart is not a job for mere mortals); MVVS shaft fits are usually horrible and Super Tigre vary from good to really tight. The intention of the tuner is to get the shaft to spin smoothly with no tight spots and no 'waggle'. To achieve this he works away metal to remove tightness, replaces and/or sets ball races to remove waggle. This type of work is simple enough and requires no special facilities (it can be done by hand and using an electric drill), but it requires experience. I am not going to give details here for many obvious reasons, the most important being that ! do not want people saying that I tempted them into ruining their motor by ham-fisted efforts at 'tuning'. All motor work requires care, knowledge and experience and not many of us have the required combination.

If shaft fits are easy, then the piston/liner fit is difficult. The factors that contribute to the correct fit at running temperature are complex and varied. The major problem is thermal distortion — it is easy enough to hone a liner true and circular and to lap a piston to fit it nicely; however, at running temperature the liner that is perfectly shaped when cold can (and usually does) bend into all sorts of peculiar shapes. The only person I know who has accurately gauged used liners is Dick Giles — and he has found that the liner bends backwards above the ports — this top 'bend' is in the order of magnitude of tenths of a thousandth of an inch, Insignificant you may say, It is not; the amount of bend is about equal to the difference in piston/liner fit between a new and a 'clapped' motor. The reason for this 'bend' at the top of the liner is simple to understand. As a motor warms up, a temperature difference in piston/







alr is presented to the front of the motor only (especially true for a cowled motor), so the back of the motor gets hotter i.e. expands more than the front and the 'bend' disappears. All of this may seem of no consequence, after all everything is O.K. when the engine is hot, But is everything O.K. if a liner can bend as it warms up? It will certainly lose circularity. What can the tuner do about this situation? Certainly some are more able to re-work the piston and liner to give near ideal fits at running temperature. Most of the cure lies in metallurgy (there can be little doubt that the supremacy of the Bugl and Rossi 15 result from correct piston/liner materials selection), and the rest of it lies in piston shape. Where the manufacturer's materials are particularly unsuitable, the only solution is to change them. Take the K&B 15 as an example; if one hardens the liner and uses a soft cast-iron piston then piston/liner fit life is vastly improved and the maximum allowable running temperature rises. John Daly does this to his K&Bs as a part of his diesel conversion and so does Emil Rumpel as part of his Super Tigre conversion, and these motors go considerably better after conversion, and these motors go considerably better after conversion, and these motors go considerably better after conversion, than before. Some great brain one day may be able to correlate the problem and the cure; I certainly would be pleased to enter into correspondence on the subject.

As pointed out above, piston shape seems to matter, At the Helsinki 1972 World Champs the 1-2-3 in both speed and team races had 'barrelled' pistons, i.e. relieved piston skirts and crowns essentially as described by George Aldrich in his excellent article in the 1968-9 Aeromodeller Annual. Think about it, a barrel goes up a bent tube easier than a true cylinder, I have seen quite savage barrelling on really good motors (i.e. discernible barrelling to the eye) particularly on many Rossi 15s.

With a properly fitted sheft, correct liner/piston metallurgy an

#### Make-it-Easy: Silicone Rubber

Make-it-Easy: Silicone Rubber

One of the more useful products of modern technology is silicone rubber. The type I am referring to is sold in tubes as bath sealant, available from most ironmongers, Do-it-Yourself suppliers, etc. It comes out of the tube as a thick pasty material that skins over quickly and sets to a nice rubbery consistency in about 24 hours. Being both fuel proof and heat resistant, it is an excellent insulator for heat, vibration and shock, and also an excellent adhesive for most things (e.g. metal to unpainted wood). Described below are two applications of particular interest to the racing and stunting fraternity. Many other uses exist for this very useful material, not the least being as a seal between wings and fuselages on 'detachable' models.

(a) Insulating Fuel Tanks against heat and vibration

When fuel tanks vibrate, the fuel froths and one gets very poor motor runs, particularly as the tank empties. Equally, if your tank is so placed that it can get hot (i.e. bolted to an engine pan), the fuel inside gets hot also, which means that its density goes down and the mixture supplied to the motor gets leaner. Many team-race men known both symptoms very well, and I wonder how many stunt men suffer without knowing the reason? The answer is to cover the whole tank with a layer of silicone rubber immediately before it sets (or whatever other mounting method is used)

(b) Insulating models against landing shock

If you use bent sheet dural undercarriage for stunters,

Eventual winner of the Stockport combat rally was Bob Morgan who received the Mainstream Trophy, thanks to his own variation of the 'Ironmonger',

or the wire-held-in-a-groove-in-the-model type U/C mount for team racers, then put some silicone in before final assembly and hey prestol Nice rubber suspension. Diagrams 1 and 2 show how.

#### To overtake is illegal?

I refer, of course, to F.A.I. Team Race and this statement is based upon current piloting rules. The relevant rules are:

a) The pilot must not walk backwards (i.e. he must walk forwards – not to walk at all is to obstruct).

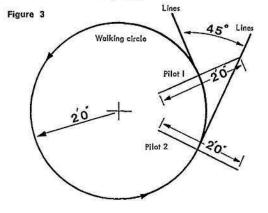
b) The pilot must keep his flying hand on the centre of his chest, except for landing and taking-off and overtaking.

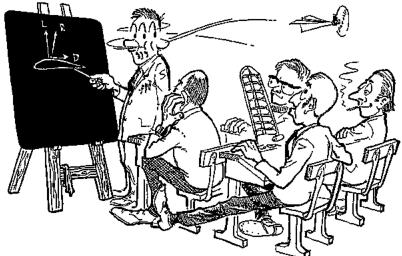
c) The pilot is allowed to take his hand off his chest for ½ lap during overtaking.

d) The pilot must not physically assist the model, i.e. must not whip, lead, lean on, etc.

A fair test for d) is to look where the lines are relative to the pilot's chest, i.e. centre to left – O.K., to right – whipping, and this is an almost universally applied standard (e.g. Helsinki World Championships).

To complete the basic data, I assume that all pilots are of equal size, walk on a two foot radius circle when flying and are two foot wide. Figure 3 illustrates flying to these rules with the pilot dimensions as stated. You will notice that Pilot 2's lines interfere with Pilot 1 when the angle between the lines is 45° i.e. ½th of a lap). If Pilot 2 is to overtake Pilot 1, and is only allowed ½ of a lap in which to do so, (i.e. he can take his hand off his chest for a quarter of a lap – he cannot get past if he does not), then he must advance ½th of a lap on Pilot 1 in ½ of a lap, i.e. he must be going twice as fast as Pilot 1. As we all know, such large speed differentials are almost unknown in FAI normal course of things, we must assume that overtaking T/R. Therefore, for a normal overtake Pilot 2 must break the rules. Since rules are not written to be broken in the in FAI Team Race is illegal . . .





# TEACHING **AEROMODELLING**

Peter Miller describes his experiences of running a series of Adult Education Lectures

Illustrated by Sherry

LAST WINTER I had the pleasure of running an adult aeromodelling class for the Sudbury Adult Education Centre. The response was remarkably good for an agricultural area, where mechanical hobbies are very low on the list, and with over 50 per cent of the class members who had never before built a model now confirmed aeromodellers, I feel that it has been a success. An added bonus has been the changed attitudes of the general public, simply because the hobbly is listed as an adult class.

For the benefit of those who would like to try the same thing, may I say that it is most rewarding, both in satisfaction and financially, and that apart from experience in free-flight, control-line and single-channel radio control, no qualifications are needed; so here is how to go about it.

The first step is to contact the Further Education Tutor for your local Adult Education scheme; he will probably ask you to come and see him. When you go, take some copies of Aeromodeller, Scale Models and Radio Control Models and Electronics, so that he can see that the hobby is sufficiently involved to justify classes. At this meeting, days and times of classes can be discussed. I found one twohour session a week enough.

Once the classes have been agreed upon, you can think about publicity, which you should start about a month before the enrolment day. Publicity is vital with the lesser-known hobbies, unlike say, Women's

'Keep-fit' classes which are always over subscribed.

The Tutor can have leaflets duplicated for you, which may be distributed by model and toy shops, the Public Library and, best of all, at displays given by your club at Fetes. The local newspaper will normally run an article with photographs which should stress that previous experience is not needed, and that all branches of the hobby will be covered. I was able to persuade Anglia Television to film the Sudbury Model Flying Clubs' models in action, and then give me a four minute interview on the Magazine programme About Anglia, as this was the first time that such classes had been run to my knowledge.

Some Adult Education Authorities want you to take a part-time teachers course, but this is usually only a couple of Saturdays, and is quite useful. You will also be asked to attend at least one enrolment evening, to answer questions from prospective class members. This completes the formalities and now

you are ready for your class.

The first lesson must be spent describing, briefly, all the branches of the hobby, helping the class to decide what types they want to build, and listing tools, materials and so on. You will be talking for two hours non-stop, so prepare notes; just one word will remind you of each item.

At this stage, you will find out what branch each member is interested in trying first, and you can recommend kits and engines to suit. It will also give you an idea on how to plan further lectures. For example, in the unlikely event that all that the class want to build are rubber-powered models and gliders,

you can skip a lecture on engines!



Publicity is vital!

It is not really advisable to let the class members build in the class, due to the risk of damaging structures on the way home if the glue is not fully dry. What with listening, and talking, not much gets built anyway, but they should be encouraged to bring their models in for comment and advice.

After the first lecture which, due to the amount to be covered, has to be all talking, you can give say, two half-hour talks on different subjects and answer questions for the rest of the time; you will have plenty!

Subjects such as covering, making cockpit canopies etc., should be actually demonstrated to the class but leave the doping to the end, as some people cannot stand the smell! Always try to bring in models and equipment to illustrate the lecture, especially half-built models to show construction techniques. I set up a single channel outfit on a board with a scrap tail assembly, to show the whole thing working. Do not use the members' models to point out bad mistakes unless you are very tactful. . .

Try to feel what the class wants, and give it to them. If you insist on giving the lectures the way you want, and they do not like it, they will just stop coming. In other words, they can vote with their feet.

Not all the members of the class will necessarily be interested in taking up aeromodelling. Occasionally, a person joins simply because he is lonely and wants to make new friends, and your class appears to be more interesting or different. Do not ignore these people, try to bring them into the discussions, and make them feel wanted. They may never become aeromodellers, but you will have helped them in a

far better way.

Another type you may come across, is the person who knows a little bit about the subject, and has to point out any mistakes or just tries to start arguments i.e. the traditional loud mouth. The treatment here is to jump on him hard and fast, or if you feel that it will work, suggest that he gives the next lecture as he knows so much about it. I am glad to say that I had neither of these types in my class!

It is a good idea to persuade a fellow club mem-ber to join the class, he can then tell you what the lecture was like from the front, which is a good guide to future talks, and if you are unable to get to a particular class, he can take over for the night.

My class consisted of eight people who had either never seen a model, or had done the odd rubber job, and one club member who had only been modelling for a few months. As the regulations stated that the class had to have at least ten members by the third week, two more club members stepped into the breach. They told me that they had learned some useful snippets, and had enjoyed the classes.

Of the eight who had virtually no experience, one

is flying multi-channel radio, having converted from boats, even though I did not cover multi radio control, one is flying single channel radio control successfully. and three are now members of our club which is exclusively control line. Of these three, one has made about 100 flights with his first model and can fly

loops, bunts, eights and inverted. One has designed his own combat wing which, apart from slight tail heaviness, is OK, and the third is progressing steadily with his first model, still in one piece. The remaining three members have just faded from sight.

I have since been asked to give a further course, but due to pressure of work, I am unable to do so

this vear.

To summarise the most important points on giving lectures are:

- (a) Always prepare notes, so that you do not forget any vital points, and can give your talk in sequence.
- (b) Always try to illustrate your talk with models and equipment.
- (c) After the first week, never talk for the full period of the class. Reserve a period for dealing with people's problems and general discussions.

(d) Use anecdotes to illustrate points.

The lectures I gave over ten sessions were as follows:

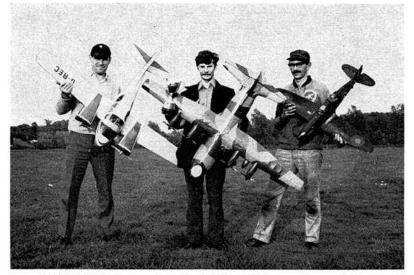
- (1) The types of model, tools needed to start, materials, suitable kits, engines, R/C etc.
- Basic building techniques, building from plans. Engines: types, operation, care, buying second hand, faults.
- Covering with iron-on plastic films, tissue, etc. (5) Basic design principles of C/L, F/F, and single channel R/C.
- Scale models, choice of subject etc., scaling up drawings.
- Achieving a good finish, moulding canopies. Basic aerodynamics (by request), making fuel tanks.
- (9) Repairs.(10) First flights, trimming.

Bear in mind that the 'problem clinics' and dis-cussions brought out a lot more basic construction gen than the lecture on the subject (2). Most of the other talks were of academic interest to the new-comers to the hobby, and as such provided interest beyond the 'Glue A to B' type of talk.

I hope that this article will encourage other aeromodellers to give evening classes. Those who do, will find that it is a most enjoyable way of spreading the word and improving the image of the hobby, not

to mention profitable!





# CLUB NEWS

The Sudbury M.F.C. is an all controlline group, with a strong interest in
scale. Here are the winners of their
'Roy Alston Scale Trophy' with (I to r)
Reg Cuthill plus Beagle Miles 218, built
from AeroModeller plans, powered by
two Enya 19s, who placed third. In the
centre is the winner Art Dickinson
with Hercules C130 – painted in the
actual official paint! Drops five parachutes, too. . . . Second place man
Peter (Dusty) Miller hides behind the
Boulton-Paul Deffant, Fox 25-powered
and with full cockpit detail even down
to hydraulic pipelines!

THERE ARE few sports and activities which are not sustained and given purpose by a vital competition element, and model flying is no exception. I do not say that model flying for its own sake cannot be pleasurable and rewarding, particularly where there is a measure of experimentation involved, but competition does provide an objective or target, and gives

a definite purpose to a group activity.

These reflections follow a visit to a well organised free flight meeting. The atmosphere was friendly and relaxed but heightened by the efforts of the competitors to get the utmost from their machines. Mostly the models, whilst beautifully built and meticulously prepared, were quite inexpensively produced, thus making for a democratic form of equality. The events, with perhaps the exception of F.A.I Power, could have been won by a not too affluent junior, provided he displayed the necessary skill. And this is certainly an area of model flying in which younger people - or anyone else come to that - can participate without any great financial outlay. Why not find out more about this side of the hobby from your club?

Just the type of club we have in mind features in our first report. This comes from the P.R.O. of the Timper-ley M.A.C., Mr. B. Faulkner. He informs us that this Cheshire-based club has always nourished a strong Glider interest, but as the club field is only available outside the crop growing season, club competitions for Glider (A/2 and A/1), Coupe D'Hiver and Chuck Glider, take place between October and February – chilly at times but usually calm. An associated free flight interest in the club is R/C Thermal Soaring, and on October 7th the Annual R/C Thermal Soaring event was held. This was an invitation meeting for clubs in the North and was fortunate in being blessed with ideal weather. An entry of 28 ensured a busy and varied day's flying. The team award was won by the Sheffield club, and the individual winner was Ron Donague with a high tailed model covered in solar film. Second was Trevor Faulkner flying a single channel Jedelsky wing glider. The club meets every Friday at 8 p.m., in the St. Albans Church Hall, Timperley. Free Flight and R/C Glider enthusiasts

Mr. Peter Dominic de Gale Miller writes to tell us that a whole year has elapsed since he sent in the last club report on behalf of the Sudbury M.F.C. He hopes to get it in before he is shot by the other members for dereliction of duty. Just by way of

variation to the previous report this Suffolk-based club is, with the exception of one radio heretic, exclusively C/L, with a strong Scale bias. In view of this a trip to the *Old Warden All Scale Day* was an absolute club 'must'. Eight models were taken along, and all flown at least once, with a touch of the spectacular provided by Art Dickinson's Lockhed Hercules five parachute drop. Displays at Fetes etc., are a club speciality, and have become so popular that a limit of six per season has been imposed. The usual programme starts off with Stunt and Scale. This is programme starts off with Stunt and Scale. This is followed by a Combat mèleé, and then a fast Cavalier biplane stunter does a few high speed aerobatics, plus some low speed hovering. Finally a Handley Page Heyford bombs a bridge; the bangs being electrically detonated. And here's a bonus. The displays provide sufficient club funds for sub charges to be waived! A fine trophy, donated by a local business man, who is also club President, Mr. Roy Alston, has been set up as the Roy Alston Scale Trophy. This was competed for in September. There were nine entries, and the winner was Art Dickinson's Hercules. Second and the winner was Art Dickinson's Hercules. Second was Peter Miller's Boulton Paul Defiant, and third, Reg Cuthill's Beagle Miles 218. The event got a good notice in the local press. Prospective members are asked to write to Peter Miller, Red Cot, New St.,

Glemsford, Sudbury, Suffolk.
From Mr. H. B. Kendall, of the Canterbury
Pilgrims M.F.C., comes a letter informing us of a Rally the club held in October to celebrate its 25th Anniversary. He encloses a report of same from the pen of the Contest Director, Mike Adams, of which can only give a brief resume. A Radio Control event this. An unauspicious start came with an overnight gale which flattened all the stands, stalls and toilets, but despite this all was in order on the day to welcome competitors from all over the South East. Emphasis was on fly-for-fun, and the not over-serious nature of the events reflected this. The first contest was most number of spins in one minute from take-off. Top performance at this form of aerial yo-yo was 'Woody' Woodley of the Anglia club, who spun no less than 45 times. The next event was all touch and go. Competitors were required to touch down and off as many times as possible in two minutes. 'Woody' Woodley, showing no signs of vertigo after his rapid series of spins, got down and up seven times to notch up another win. After a break for lunch, during which visitors regaled themselves on hot dogs and tea

served up by the Pilgrimesses, the stage was set for the Limbo event. This was not quite the purgatory it sounds. Contestants were asked to fly under a seven foot high tape as many times as possible in two minutes. And guess who won? Yes, 'Woody' again, with a nine-under score. The next event was for take-off, three loops, three rolls, an Immelman turn, and land in the fastest time. Not Woody this time, but Paul Rossiter in 29 sec. The grand finale was a hairy form of Stunt relay race, and was won

by Paul Rossiter and Tony McCluskey

The editorial of the Worcester M.A.C., newsletter sees a glimmer of optimism in the way the Press in general is taking a more realistic and serious view of aeromodelling. Some of the old 'toys for boys' attitude, together with the flippant news angle, is giving way to an acceptance of the hobby as a worthwhile leisure pursuit. What, of course, the publicists should not look at too closely are the mishaps, colourshould not nook at too closery are the mishaps, colour-fully described in the newsletter as using the spinner as landing gear. One bit of insurance against such highly expensive forms of ploughing is the setting up of a transmitter pound, which Ken Long has volunteered to supervise.

We seem somehow to have overlooked a report sent to us from the Leatherhead M.F.C., back in July, so let us speedily make amends by covering their latest submission. This is written around three exhibitions which the club either staged or was concerned in. A small one in the Club hut attracted a fair number of visitors on a wet evening, and got a half page cover, including three photographs, in the local press. At the B.A.C.'s Sports Day Exhibition, Mike Keevill took first prize in the Flying model section, and Stuart Tucker first in Plastics. A really big event, though, which the club had a hand in, was the Model Railway and Hobby Show at the Dorking Hall, Dorking. The club had a 24 ft. x 9 ft. stand on which were displayed 58 exhibits covering all types of aircraft, including a 1913 vintage compressed air model. Other news is that the club has obtained the use of a local sports ground for C/L flying.

Derek Dowdeswell has sent us a report of the successes of the Glevum clubs Combat team throughout 1973. The team consists of Dave Cox, Tim Court. Mick Lewis, Frank Smart, Derek Dowdeswell and Mick Taylor. Between them they have secured places in many of the big national events and in a number of international contests. Top achievements were Derek's Nationals win, the first four places at the Burns Brown Rally, and 2nd, 4th and 6th places, plus two team prizes at the Dutch International Rally at Spaarndom. And in something I have heard nothing of this year, the R.A.F.M.A.A. Nationals, Mick Taylor placed second in Combat and won the

Stunt event for the third year running.

Bill Draper, of the Nottingham M.A.C. assembled quite a formidable document of all that has been going on in the club during the past year, which I will attempt to summarise. The club has quite a large membership, around 50, with interests of F/F, C/L and R/C nicely balanced and often commonly shared. Flying site is the well-known Wymes-wold Airfield. This is suitable for all types, although there is a small sports field in Nottingham available for C/L. Finances are healthy, showing a fat bank balance. Meetings every Tuesday evening at the Russell Youth Club. There are regular contests for C/L and F/F categories throughout the year, but no mention is made of Radio events. The club is proud in having run the Gold Trophy at the '73 Nats, and

also for the part played in organising the Wymeswold Rally. Notable club success during the past season was the winning by Ken Oliver of the Bullin Trophy for Open Glider in the Area Meetings.

Where else would a club, styling itself the Concorde M.A.C., be established but in one of our aircraft groupings? Mr. Robin F. Morton, the Hon. Sec., of the new club, writes to tell us it is recruited based at the Flight Test Centre, R.A.F., Fairford, Gloucestershire. Membership is described in jury terms as 'twelve good souls and true', but there is promise of more. The club is lucky in being able to obtain insurance through B.A.C. In fact, the club forms a section of the B.A.C., Sports and Social Club. The security demands do not permit outsiders to become members, otherwise membership would be much higher, particularly with all that flying space available. Not that the flying space is squandered; members are frugal in using only a small area of the field, although the unbounded stretches are there for free flight operation. Big advantage of working on the field is that knocking off time means flying time (Sorry, dear, I'm working late tonight), and, understandably, lunchtime C/L flying is popular.

The Leicester M.A.C., newsletter has been given a facelift, losing that rolled-off-the-jelly look to a brighter, clearer typescript and a livelier presentation. This large and booming club is as large and booming as ever, if not more so, according to the newsletter, with a high proportion of members active on the flying field. It is pointed out that the club, which covers most aspects of the hobby, is predominantly a sportsfliers affair, although participation in club comps is better than in most clubs. Members also do a bit of participating in outside events. A group took the long road to R.A.F. Odiham for the Southern Gala to enjoy a fine autumnal day's flying. Gerry Ferer's high climbing rubber model qualified easily for the fly-off, in which he did a creditable 5:30 to place fourth. But with models disappearing into the dusk he could have been luckier.

Keep those reports rolling.

Clubman

#### Contest Calendar

December 26th CROCKHAM CLUB BOXING DAY F/F
MEET. Open R/G/P, all-in Mini (IA,
Cd'H, A/1). Venue: Chobham Common.
January 13th
NORTHERN AREA WINTER RALLY, A/1,
IA, Cd'H, HLG, Open R/G/P, Vintage,
Goodyear and F.A.I. T/R, Combat.
10 a.m. start at R.A.F. Topcliffe
S.M.A.E. members only. Cash prizes
or plaques. 25p per event (10p Juniors), Re-entry into N.A. events same
rates. rates

July 14th

STOCKPORT COMBAT RALLY at Worth Meadow, Stockport,

August 25th

F.A.C.C.T. THERMAL SOARING MEET. Venue: Weston-on-the-Green Airlield near Bicester, Oxon (off A43), 20

#### CLUB SECRETARIES:

Please forward details of your forthcoming contests or rallies as soon as possible to evoid duptication of dates and/or interests in next season's Calondar, terms for insertion in the Calendar must be received at this office by the 15th of the month, for publication in the next immediate issue, Details should be brief but explicit, and include exact location of venue.

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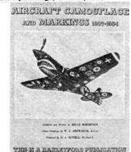
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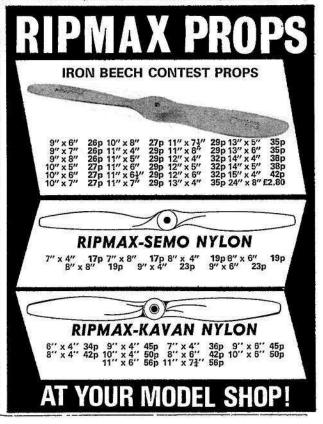
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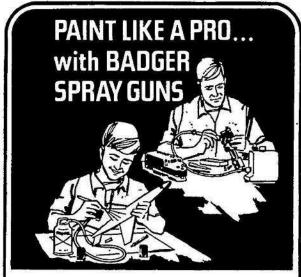
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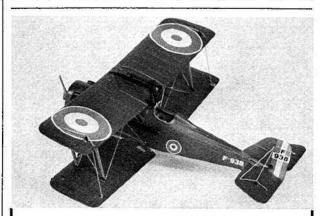
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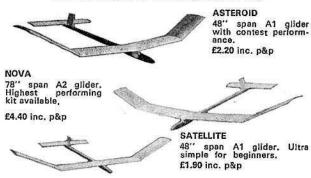
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