

S.M.A.C. DIGEST

Official Journal of the
SOUTHAMPTON MODEL AEROPLANE CLUB

Volume 1. No. 1.

MARCH, 1947.

Fourpence.

INTRODUCING OURSELVES

The Committee of the Club having decided to publish a regular news-sheet or journal, have appointed me its first Editor, with Mr. Peter Cock to supervise all technical matters, and Mr. Pat. Shepherd to lend his literary abilities to the venture. - We introduce our first number.

It will have been realised that many members are not always free to attend meetings, and that there will always be those who cannot do so during their period of national service. It is due to these members that they should be kept fully informed of our proceedings.

Copies of the new journal will also be sent to our President and Vice-Presidents, and to the many other good friends of the Club. Though not to be regarded as a substitute for personal correspondence the journal will serve to implement the written word, thus making a valuable contribution to the maintenance of those close relationships so important to the Club.

As from the 1st March, the journal will be published once a month. Until such time as the Club possesses its own duplicating equipment the work will have to be put out, and in view of the cost, this will mean that earlier numbers must be very restricted in size. In order that the journal may be financially self supporting, the price will be fourpence per copy, but we are confident that members will judge the cost against the undoubted advantages that a regular Club journal would give.

First priority will be given to news. Details of all competition results will be published, together with programmes of coming events. Brief technical articles will be encouraged, and features and letters included when limited space permits.

Contributions from members will be particularly welcome. The Club has its experts in all branches of Aeromodelling; it is rich in talent and here is an opportunity to put it to use.

Such is the outline. Will you help to fill in the picture? With care and imagination on the one hand, and co-operation, with financial support on the other, there is no reason why the S.M.A.C. Digest should not prove a success.

R. O. Richards.

NEW HEADQUARTERS

Resolved that the Club be granted the required permission to use the Decontamination Centre (at southern end of Common) for a period of twelve months, in accordance with the suggestions of the Borough Engineer, and that all necessary arrangements, including the fixing of a nominal rent, be left in the hands of the Borough Engineer.

Passed by the Borough Council on 19.2.47.

HAMPSHIRE R.T.P. CHALLENGE COMPETITION

Inaugural contest, Cotswold Hall, Southampton, 16th February, 1947.

Competition Secretary's Report.

Three clubs participated in this contest - Portsmouth & Dist. M.A.C., Kiwi M.C. (Vickers - Armstrong), and ourselves.

Our chairman, having welcomed the visitors, introduced your Competition Secretary as Controller of the contest and then announced the names of the judges as follows:- Mr. F. A. Vincent (Portsmouth), Mr. W. R. Clark (Kiwi) and Mr. B. Smith (Southampton).

Trimming preliminaries were enlivened by the antics of Mike Richards' tail-less pusher, which gave a wild display of circuits and bumps (mostly bumps). It was immediately christened "The Bronco".

Meanwhile, the regulations governing the contest were read. Then followed nominations of teams and this brought concern to our camp for so far we had only three models - including "The Bronco". And our one "big hope" was missing! At the very last moment however a stir at the door heralded the arrival of Peter Cock - and his Coffin.

Flying commenced, and right from the start Portsmouth impressed us with fast, clean take-offs and steady, consistent flights, and at the end of the first leg they had already established a convincing lead.

There followed a break for tea.

On the resumption of flying, Portsmouth drew further ahead and quickly dashed any remaining hopes that we might overhaul them. Despite some hair breadth escapes from crashes in the first bursts of power they went relentlessly on. Good flights brought applause and when D. Figgins of Portsmouth clocked the first 100 second flight he received an ovation. Not to be outdone, our own Peter Cock immediately surpassed this with the best individual flight of the day 104.6 seconds - and gave our supporters something to cheer about.

In the final count Portsmouth won comfortably. Details were as follows:-

For Portsmouth & Dist. M.A.C. Caplehorn 52.8, 64.2, 60.0, total 177.0. F. Figgins 70.8, 84.2, 88.6, total 243.6,

D. Figgins 85.0 93.0 100.0 total 278.0. Underwood 48.0, 61.0, 63.6 total 172.6. Team aggregate 871.2 seconds.

For Southampton M.A.C. - D. Gordon 36.6, 18.3, 33.2 total 88.1
D. Foster, 55.1, 57.7 total 112.8. M.J. Richard 7.4, 45.0, 49.0, total 101.4, P. Cock, 73.2, 97.5, 104.6, total 275.3 Team aggregate 577.6. seconds.

For Kiwk M.C. - Davies 0 78.0, 29.9, total 107.9, L. Smith, 10.8, 46.0, 54.0, total 110.8, M. White, 5.0, 5.0, 14.7, total 24.7
Chastney 51.7, 72.5, 76.3, total 200.5. Team aggregate 443.9 secs.

A very successful meeting closed with the chairman congratulating Portsmouth on a fine all round performance, and the Kiwk sportingly entering the competition at short notice. Mr. Vincent responded.

J. L. W. Churchill.

Editor's note - Congratulations to Mr. Churchill on his excellent handling of this contest.

CLUB RECORDS (Indoor) Set up during February.

Class A.R.T.P.

D. Gordon, at Assembly Hall 14.2.47. 1 min. 15.0 secs. R.O.G.

P. Cock, at Cotswold Hall 16.2.47. 1 min. 44.6 secs. R.O.G.

Tail-less Types and Pusher Types R.T.P.

M.J. Richards, at Cotswold Hall 16.2.47. 49.0. secs. R.O. G.

NEW MODELS ON THE STOCKS.

Petrol and Diesel. "Keil Junior 60" (P. Cock); "Hell's Angel" enlarged 3:2 (J.L.W. Churchill); "Club Scientific" (L.J. Marshall); "Pleiades" (B. Welch).

Rubber-powered. "Copland's 1946 Wakefield" (D. Gordon).

Gliders. "Evander" (B.J. Pearce); "Aeolus" (D.E. Smith).

DATE TO MAKE A NOTE OF

The following competitions will be flown as a combined event, at Blackdown, near Beaulieu Road Station, on Easter Sunday, 6th April

Garage Cup, A.M.A.E. decentralised national competition.

Walton Memorial Competition (open and junior awards).

These are duration contests and are open to all classes of rubber-powered models, R.O.G.

FLYING REGULATIONS

In response to enquiries, it is explained that the Committee is still at work on the task of drawing up flying regulations for the new season. They aim to achieve smooth, efficient working and at the same time to produce a simple set of rules without trifling restrictions.

The revised flying regulations will be issued very shortly and will cover Club Competitions, a new Points System, claims for Club Records and Club Team Flying.

INSURANCE.

Those members who have not yet handed to the Secretary, full details of any insurance against third party risks, which they have taken out in respect of their models, should do so without delay.

ENQUIRIES should be addressed as follows:-

Re. Club - To the Secretary,
Mr. B. Welch,
"Redcroft",
Oaklands Way,
Bassett, Southampton.

Re. Digest - To R. O. Richards, Esq.,
"Seamills",
Hawthorn Road,
Highfield, Southampton.
