

OS Day July 2013

Having got rained off at the last attempt the Gods smiled and the weather was perfect! Although listed as a 10 am start there were people there at the crack of dawn and resulting in over 30 aircraft - all powered by OS motors - lining up. As ever some people hadn't read the listing so turned up with the wrong sort of motors. The OS guys, Mark Collins & Cliff Fiddes, came up from Melbourne and the NSW rep was Neil Alleyne who brought a fine selection of Phoenix and Seagull ARF planes which they flew with enthusiasm. They also brought some great prizes but more of them later!



As well as the OS guys we welcomed Rod Bryant from RAFMAC with 2 of his aircraft (seen here tasting his fuel for freshness)



and Chris Hebbard with memories, here chatting with Mark Rickard. For those who don't know Chris he was our club president for many years as well as the owner of Wings'n'Things and a regular flyer.

Among our members was Stuart Cohen and his Ultimate which we forgot to include in the Biplane Day review - sorry Stuart!



Col Bruce brought a Long Eze that has yet to fly unlike his "wood finish" Stik which flew a lot. The top and sides of the fuselage are covered in iron on veneer but, as a typical Col B joke would have it - be very careful sanding it cos if you breath in the dust you can get venereal disease!



Dean Riebold had his long lens there and took some great shots - here is Stan Beggs Ultimate, just look at that sky!



Mike Minty had his Flivver which has got beyond "venerable" and is now approaching "ancient"!



A lovely shot of the big Phoenix Pilatus PC-21 for 33cc petrol coming in for a landing having been flown by the OS team.



And here's their 40cc four stroke powered Spitfire that lost an U/C leg cover to the "Belrose mud".



Probably the nicest engine there was this OS 5 cylinder Radial 300 on the front of Phil Rossi's Zero. It sounded terrific but didn't quite make the flying and had to be carried back by him & Peter P .



Another beautiful OS motor was a spark ignition one from Andrew Biddlecombes dads collection. It is still un-run and only 77 years old!



This was the prettiest of the demos, a Savage Cruiser 75 for a 95 FS, mind you this Gypsy Moth wasn't far behind in the pretty stakes.



David Foster flew his L4 Cub which plods round in a most realistic fashion at an appropriate sound & speed.



while Mark Rickard flew a Bitsa (wing from some previous model and a home- made fuselage to support it) and included a parachute drop after a lot of heckling from the hard working audience!

Talking of venerable they don't come much more so than George Kaley's 6th (?) hand Precedent BiFly. Built like a tank but still flies very well.



And so we got to the raffle prizes - a ticket for everyone who registered an OS powered plane - and what prizes they were! Seen here from centre to right, **Andrew Biddlecombe with a great 1st**



Prize ARF LA 9 complete with retracts and heaps of scale details. Dave Bolstad with a 2nd prize HiTec Aurora 9 outfit, Ron Clark and a 3rd prize GT 22cc petrol motor and Roger Crouch with 4th prize, one of the new chunky OS electric motors - thanks very much to the OS guys for such generous prizes!

As ever special thanks must also go to the folk who manned the car park, looked after registration and flight line control, cooked a mountain of sausages and to Col Buckley for the organisation.