

Biplane Day June 2011

After a week of heavy rain and wind we were lucky to get sunshine on Saturday 18th and, while not the best of winds, at least it was flyable - the main problem was the sludgy bit in the middle of the field!

We had a good turn out of 13 biplanes with 2 Sopwith Pups and 3 Ultimates. There were some old regulars like Jims Jungmeister



and a very new small Ultimate from Patrick van Oorschot which unfortunately didn't make it past its first landing!

The strong Westerly meant that the WWI bipes had to forgo their classic long shallow take-offs and just gun it to avoid the swirls round the bowl. Mike M had a real nasty one of those that nearly did for his Pup.



Stan did some very nice aerobatics with his Ultimate that could have won him the Best Bipe Trophy if it weren't for the fact that he won it last year and so had to pass it on. Col Mitchell has a new motor in his Nieuport with a lot more grunt. Clive had a new Panic he brought back from the UK which he says was first kitted 27 years ago. David Foster's Pup does a great take-off roll on its main wheels, nice to watch. It's behind him and his Stearman.



Andrew Yu flew Mike Ms Ultimate but it really needs more oomph than an ancient OS 90 FS can provide. Ron Clarke flew his trusty Waco, it looks very pretty in the sunshine. David Menzies brought a 3rd or possibly 4th hand Pitts Special that he had just rebuilt.



Judging was by the pilots for 1st to 4th place and when they were all added up they gave

- 1st Mike Minty, Sopwith Pup
- 2nd David Foster, Sopwith Pup
- 3rd Stan Begg, Ultimate
- 4th Col Mitchell, Nieuport

And then it was over to Stan to nominate the "Best Biplane" to receive the trophy for a year and he chose Mike's Pup!



Thanks to all who took part, see you next year!