

Scale Day Nov 2011

The day dawned well and Doug Radford was first to the field before 8 am closely followed by Mike Minty (when you have biplanes to assemble you need plenty of time!). By 9 the pits were getting crowded with the usual suspects and some new ones. One of the most interesting was this twin electric from Rob



Kaley. It's a Gotha Go 244, from a Jack Bale plan, with an 82" inch wing span and 2 brushless outrunners on a 4s 3000mah. The original plane was built as a glider, for troops and equipment (the Gotha go242) then the Germans found a bunch of radial engines and the 244 was born. We didn't see it fly but next comp

The wind was blowing gently from the sea but the forecast was not good so many people tried to get in early flights. Reg Milsom was an early one who managed a very gentle landing with his huge Cessna on top of a tree! No damage but a bummer to retrieve! The judging was done by fellow fliers taking turns (thanks guys) but a special thank you to Col Simpson who spent a lot of time on the judges bench despite not flying in the comp.

It was good to see so many old faces as visitors like Graham Duckworth and Ron Lucas and also to welcome ex-club member Bruce Gould with his Hurricane and Tim Nolan (of float plane fame) and a huge Wilga.



By lunchtime we had 37 planes registered from 22 pilots (guess the new rules brought some extras out of the cupboard) and most people had flown at least once and welcomed the sausage sizzle from the BBQ. It was then then that the wind turned 180 degrees and produced some nasty swirls over the hill which

made it tricky for some of the lighter loaded planes. Mike M had a lot of problems getting his Heinkel off the ground and blamed the wind until he found one wheel had seized on its axle! Dave Pound did an interesting knife edge approach to a landing with his Hurricane claiming he was fumbling for the flap switch in the wrong place - he finished safely in the long grass at the end of the field. He also had to do an emergency landing when the motor over-heated in his new P47 (and he tried to claim it as a designated manoeuvre!). Ron Clarke did his usual fine display with his B25 while Dave Foster & Col Mitchell flew half the UK & German aircraft in WWI. Tom Sparkes managed to keep his Fokker Tripe (or as Mr P wrote it a "Fokker Tryplane" - nice one Dave) upright on the ground most of the time, no small feat for a plane like that. We actually had 2 helicopters though one (what happened Mr Flint) didn't stay long. Andrew Biddlecombe had two AT6s much to the confusion of the judges and Andrew Yu flew Mike M's 19yr old DL5 briefly! There were 3 Tiger Moths, Doug's BIG one, Mike's Medium one and George Kaley's small one.



In the background Al Zuger had organised the sale of assorted stuff from the late Tony Vella and bargains were to be had.

When all the points were added up it transpired there were some very close results (anyone wanting more detail should contact Dave Pound)

Military under 7KG.

1st	Dave Foster -- Sopwith Pup	scored	79	out of	100	points
2nd	Mike Minty -- Heinkel He46		76.3	" "	" "	" "
3rd	Dave Foster -- Fokker DVIII		75.6	" "	" "	" "
4th	Andrew Biddlecombe -- AT6		67	" "	" "	" "

Military over 7KG.

1st	Mike Minty -- Sopwith Pup	83
2nd	Tom Sparks -- Fokker Triplane	80.3

3rd	Ron Clark -- B25	76
4th	Dave Pound -- P47D Thunderbolt	74.6

Civilian under 7KG.

1st.	Dean Schuback -- Bonanza	82.3
2nd	Mike Minty -- Tiger Moth	81
3rd	Doug Radford -- Avro Avian	79.3
4th	Elie Mehanna -- Bell 222	74.6

Civilian Over 7KG

1st	Doug Radford -- Tiger Moth	82
2nd	Doug Radford -- Ultimate	77.6
3rd	Peter Papas -- Extra 300	75.3

The pilots choice went to **Ron Clarke** with his B25 and the Wal van Heekeren trophy went to **Doug Radford** with the highest scale score of 38 out of a possible 40 with his Tiger Moth.

A point worth noting is that Bruce Gould now from an outside club would have won with his Hurricane in the under 7kg Military with a score of 80 points beating Dave foster by 1 point but, of course he was not eligible. Similarly Tim Nolan, again from an outside club would have won in the over 7kg Civilian with his PZL Wilga with a score of 85 points beating Doug's 82. He also had a scale static score of 38 out of 40 the same as Doug.

Thanks to all who worked hard to make it a great day again (and with so little carnage!) - see you next year!