



PMFC NEWS

News and Views from Peterborough Model Flying Club

Summer 2026

Online and in Print



INSIDE...

- ***Bryan Lea picks up joint 2nd in the Scale Free Flight comp run at Scale World Champs***
- ***Slingsby Swallow build***
- ***Control line: can you name the models?***



PMFC Committee

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Cover: Bryan Lea receives his second place award for the Free Flight Scale event held during the FAI World Scale RC and CL Championships that took place at Buckminster July 10 -18, 2026

Editorial



As we arrive at the apex of one of the warmest summers on record, I hope the flying has been enjoyable for all that have partaken.

This newsletter comes to you having been put together very quickly before I take my summer break, and as a result, I apologise in advance for any omissions, or anything that was about to come in that might have 'mised the boat'. It won't be too long until the next issue!

Inside this issue is a report from the RC and Control Line World Scale Championships which happened only a couple of weeks ago.

Brian Waterland has this to add in addition to the article within:

The recent RC and CL World Scale Championships at BMFA Buckminster were the biggest ever held . They featured 20 CL and 90 RC models, from 23 countries housed in a 120 metre marquee. It was a real treat and all involved with it are to be congratulated.

More to come in the next PMFC newsletter .

Happy flying for the
rest of the summer

Tom



ANSWERS: Control Line Conundrum Quiz Page 5

- 1) RUTTER-ESS (Danish model)
- 2) Frog Talisman PAW 1.49.
- 3) Jasco Trojan PAW 1.0cc .
- 4) Mini Goodyear Racer 1.5 tuned PAW 1.5
- 5) Mini Goodyear Racer 1.5 tuned PAW 1.5
- 6) KK Champ Racer PAW 1cc ball race.
- 7) Tribute VOETSAS (AM25 power) Racer
- 8) Peacemaker Stunt Racer. 2.5 ball race .
- 9) KK Phantom Racer 1.5cc paw ball race
- 10) Elite VOETSAS Racer (PAW 2.5 ball race).
- 11) Electric Powered British 24 hour duration record holder. (1 of 8 models)
- 12) Weatherman Speed (Irvine Mills 1.3)
- 13) KK Champ Speed.ED Bee 1cc power.

Bryan Grabs Second in FF Scale during RC and CL World Championships

Bryan Lea reports

Yes you read that right! The evening of the first Saturday at the 2026 FAI World Scale Championships was set aside for a free flight scale competition. Unfortunately, the weather did not get the memo as wind speeds were 16 mph according to RAF Wittering. Fifteen entries were originally posted but eight brave souls put in flights with 7 qualifying scores. I brought out my Velie Monocoupe again. My first flight just went up and over into the ground but for the second flight I moved a bit downwind and had a good flight that went the length of the runway. My third flight ended rather abruptly, and by the fourth it was clear that I had a bent prop shaft. Most competitors suffered damage of some sort. Only the best flight score was needed and I was quite surprised to get second place. Just like in Formula 1 motor racing the results were revised when it became clear that the score for Bill Dennis flying a rubber Bucker

Jungman had been miscalculated. He had the same score as me and we were actually second equal. Mike Smith flying a Mercury Tiger Moth was the winner and Chris Brainwood with a Keil Kraft Cessna 170 came fourth, both were diesel powered.



Above: Bryan launches his successful Velie Monocoupe

Right: The model in flight on its way to 2nd place

*Photos:
Andrew Boddington*



When it was first announced that the 2026 FAI F4 World Championships for Scale Model Aircraft was going to be held at BMFA Buckminster I decided that this was an event that I wanted to be involved in. The last time it was held in the UK was 1978 at Woodvale and I was there. Graham Kennedy the driving force behind the event appealed for donations and I went through my aeromodelling stuff asking myself one question 'am I going to use this engine or read this book again?' I packed up several boxes and Graham put the contents on eBay which raised a few quid. I put my name down to volunteer as litter picker for the whole event with camping on-site. This really was a once in a lifetime experience – OK twice in a lifetime!!

If you want to see what it was all about click on the link below.

[2026 F4 World Championships for Scale Model Aircraft](https://worldscale26.bmfa.uk/), don't forget you can relive the event and enjoy the full archive of media that was captured during this very special Championships:

<https://worldscale26.bmfa.uk/>

From the daily roundup videos to the final scores, everything is there for you to enjoy and treasure.



Bryan Lea (litter picker), Brian Waterland (marquee guide), Gareth Tilston (Chief of Panel static judge F4H) – (all PMFC of course), and Mike Smith of Medway MFC and BMFA Scale Tech Committee (Chief of Panel static judge F4C).



Hitching a ride on Andy Green's golf buggy. Andy helped with grass cutting and transport to the flight line.



Gareth Tilston taking the oath on behalf of the judges and officials. Ian Pallister BMFA Chairman standing behind.

Control Line Conundrum



Can you name these models?
(front and back view shown)

Numbered outline
reference on the
back cover

Answers on page 2



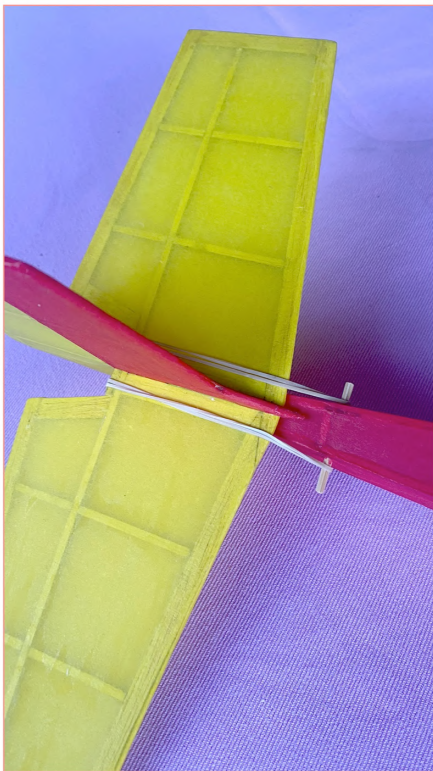
From the Workshop of Brian Lever

Brian has built this Slingsby Swallow

Brian was busy in the spring building this beauty. The all up balanced weight came out at 73.4gms and the CG is 1.5" from centre leading edge. Rear anchorage of tailplane and fin shows the use of bands for easy trimming.

The colour scheme is taken from a Dunstable Gliding Club aircraft. Final detail finishing will take place after the model is trimmed for bungee launch, release and glide.

The rear fuselage has 1/16" sheet inserts to provide strengthening.



Editor's note: Has the model flown yet?
If so it would be great to get an update for the next issue!



The 2nd club competition on 8th May.

The max was set at 50 seconds and the weather

forecast predicted light winds and rain showers but it turned out to be almost perfect, with occasional thermal breezes and non stop sunshine. There were no losses this time but some flights flirted with the trees.

Some passing members of the public had an 8 year old lad, Connor, with them. He was very interested in the models and he was allowed to have a go at catapult glider. He is quite "techy" and is already doing 3D cad and 3D printing.

RESULTS

P20 5 entries.

	Time in secs
1ST CHRIS GRANT	140
2nd BRIAN LEVER	138
3RD COLIN WATTERS	119
4TH ANDY SEPHTON	113
5TH JAMES WATTERS	DNF

E20 2 entries

1ST ANDY SEPHTON	118
2ND CHRIS GRANT	107

James and Colin had a fly off to decide 2nd place with James scoring 50 seconds and Colin 33.

VICTOR LUDORUM AFTER 2 EVENTS

BERT WHITEHEAD	21
BRIAN LEVER	13
JAMES WATTERS	9
ANDY SEPHTON	9
PETER GIBBONS	8
MICK PAGE	8
COLIN WATTERS	7
CHRIS GRANT	6
DAVE RUMBALL	6
ANDY GREEN	5
BRIAN WATERLAND	2

36"HI-START 4 entries

1ST ANDY SEPHTON	139
2ND DAVE RUMBALL	84
3RD BERT WHITEHEAD	68
4TH BRIAN WATERLAND	62

36" SCALE GLIDER 1 entry

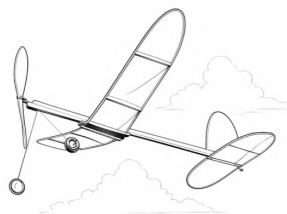
1ST BERT WHITEHEAD	49
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CAT/HLG 5 entries

1ST PETER GIBBONS	66
2ND BERT WHITEHEAD	59
3RD ANDY SEPHTON	48
4TH CHRIS GRANT	39
5TH CONNOR	31

CLOUD TRAMP 5 entries

1ST BERT WHITEHEAD	139
2ND JAMES WATTERS	136
3RD COLIN WATTERS	136
4TH BRIAN LEVER	119
5TH ANDY GREEN	60



Results of the **3rd PMFC club competition:** Ferry Meadows. June 5th.

CLOUD TRAMP (4 entries)

- 1 James Watters
- 2 Colin Watters
- 3 Mick Page
- 4 Bert Whitehead

P 20 (3 entries)

- 1 Brian Lever
- 2 Mick Page
- 3 Colin Watters

CAT/HLG (4 entries)

- 1 Pete Gibbons
- 2 Bert Whitehead
- 3 Connor
- 4 Mick Mahon

RUBBER PRECISION (3 entries)

- 1 Brian Lever
- 2 Bert Whitehead
- 3 Mick Page.

36" HIGH STASRT GLIDFER (2 entries)

- 1 Bert Whitehead
- 2 Dave Rumball

36" HIGH START SCALE GLIDER

- (1 entry)
- 1 Bert Whitehead

- E 20
- No Flyers

Thanks to 10 year old Connor who joined in the fun to come third in Cata-Glider and also acoustics engineer James Watters and his dad Colin Watters who rushed to the venue after work to take part. Bert finally got his bungee scale Slingsby Swallow glider to launch straight and high on the third flight only to land in the top of our favourite oak tree.

Everyone enjoyed the perfect weather with the highlight of the day being the Fly-off for second and third place in Cloud Tramp between Mick Page and Colin Watters. Young Pretender Colin Watters coming 2nd with 60 secs. and pushing Stalwart Mick Page into 3rd with 45 secs. The overall cloud tramp winner being James Watters. And thanks to Pete Gibbons using his oratorical skills at the presentation.

