

Peterborough MFC Rubber Powered Paper Plane Nationals

With generous sponsorship from the BMFA's East Anglia Area, Peterborough MFC were able to plan and run the National Indoor Paper Plane event on the 2nd March at the Bushfield Leisure Centre in Peterborough. Over 40 people came to the event with 9 entries in paper plane duration and 6 entries in paper plane scale.



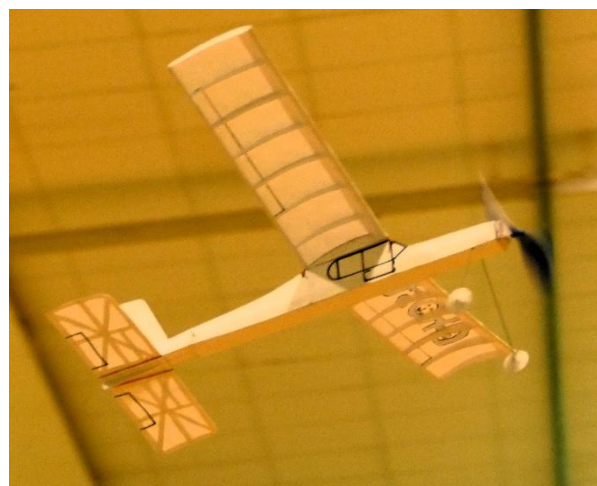
The competitors line up with a sheaf of model planes – all made of paper

To ensure good numbers at the event PMFC had also organised more traditional indoor fare such as traditional rubber scale, Hanger Rat and sport flying. The indoor scale community also took the event as an opportunity to trim for the FF Indoor Nats in April and so we were treated to some spectacular model flying.



Some amazing creations – all from paper

The rules the paper planes were set such that the rubber motor had to be contained inside a paper fuselage, and getting the balance between a fuselage that could take the repeated strain from the rubber while still being light enough proved to be the real challenge.



The winning time in the duration event was achieved by Bert Whitehead of PMFC with a flight time of 37.8 secs.

Just look at that amazing built up paper construction.



Brian Lever was the driving force behind this event - seen above launching his duration attempt.



Doug Hunts Antoinette. A mix of paper drinking straws, 40g layout paper and tail strengthened with slivers of bamboo!

Getting the balance between weight and strength with the paper scale models proved to be even more challenging. So much so that nobody amongst the 6 entries achieved a qualifying flight of over 12 secs. This didn't stop some courageous attempts. Making a flying Antoinette Monoplane out of paper earned Doug Hunt of Sam35 the Concours prize for the sheer creativity involved.



Colin Sharman pictured above with his scale Spirit of St Louis.

The event was a great success and everyone enjoyed a good days indoor flying. All of which would have been difficult to organise without the East Anglia Area assistance which enabled PMFC to book such a large hall for the entire day.

Full results of the duration competition

1. Bert Whitehead (PMFC) 37.8
2. Chris Grant (PMFC) 30.7
3. Gordon Hanah (IVCMAC) 26.5
4. Brian Lever (PMFC) 22.0
5. Paul Burling (IVCMAC) 20.3