

Unadopted Minutes of the BMFA North Eastern Area Meeting held on 3rd September 2025 at Burnmoor Cricket Club, Burnmoor, Co. Durham, DH4 6EX.



Officers Present

Y Chairman: Martin Johnson (Novocastrians)	Y Treasurer: Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA)
Y Vice Chairman: Brian Worrall (Peterlee RMC)	Y Delegate: Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)
Y Secretary: Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)	N Outreach Co-ordinator: Euan Galloway (Area 51)
Y Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator: Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)	

Clubs Represented (eligible to vote)

Newcastle MFA; Peterlee RMC; Tynedale MFC; Novocastrians; NE Model Flyers; Darlington & District MFC; Weardale MGA.

Apologies for Absence

Terence Sanderson (Chester-le-Street RMC); Tom Walker (Sunderland & District MFC).

Corrections to Previous Minutes

None.

Adoption of Minutes

Proposed: Dave Riley (Novocastrians)
Seconded: Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA)

Matters Arising

None.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman informed delegates that the Royal Aero Club offer bursaries to junior BMFA members to aid their development as model flyers. If your club has a junior member that may benefit from such an award, then you can put them forward for consideration when applications open at the beginning of November.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that he had still not received an invoice from Albemarle for their part of the airfield licence, Gary has been in touch with our contact at the DIO (Defence Infrastructure Organisation) and she has also been unable to get a response from either of the staff responsible as they are off camp. She is trying to find someone else who can assist and has promised to get in touch as and when she gets an answer. Gary also reported that club secretaries should have received the first two mail shots regarding the Society AGM in November. Some delegates may have noticed that the events page on the Area website has disappeared, having contacted Andy Symons about this it turns out that the "plug-in" used to generate the calendar was causing persistent error logs which became so large it caused all

of the area websites to go offline. He has now changed to a different “plug-in” but the calendar needs re-building which Gary will do in the coming week.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurer, Peter Franklin gave an update of the current state of the area’s finances and confirmed that the monthly £5.00 fee is no longer being debited from the account.

Delegates Report

The Delegate, Gary Armstrong gave a short report on the agendas for the forthcoming Area Council and Board meetings. The only items from the Board meeting which require the four non-executive directors to vote on are two proposals from the CEO Dave Phipps. One is to create an additional membership class for those flying micro drone racers (also known as “tiny whoops”), this would be a dedicated membership class for drones weighing less than 100g and flown indoors, those taking out such a membership would be able to upgrade to full BMFA/BDF membership for the difference in cost. The second proposal is to set up an additional Technical Committee to look after the interests of existing FPV/Drone flying members, at present the British Drone Racing Association is the only “drone” specialist body and sit on the R/C Power Technical Committee but do not represent all drone flying activities, creating a dedicated Technical Committee would better represent all drone flyers. Following a very short discussion the delegate was mandated to vote in favour of both proposals. Gary also reported on the ongoing discussion on the Area Council forum regarding “rolling memberships” and the misunderstandings about how they work and what club membership secretaries need to do (or not do) and explained how the system works through the membership portal. One other item for discussion as an AOB item at the area council is in relation to Area and Club websites hosted by the BMFA and ways in which they can be improved, some of the ideas put forward are a “how to” document for web masters and a dedicated contact for those needing help rather than relying solely on Andy Symons.

Outreach Coordinators Report

No report submitted.

Achievement Scheme Coordinators Report

Nothing to report.

Flying Disciplines Officers Reports

Free Flight

Nothing to Report

Radio Control

September is a busy month for F3A (Aerobatic) competitions with the Nationals taking place at Buckminster on 6th and 7th, there are also F3AUK National League events at Knettishall on the 13th and Leicester on the 28th. And finally, the annual “Triple Crown” home international is being hosted by Ireland on 20th and 21st.

At the F3A World Championships at Muncie in the USA the UK team of Thomas David, Dan Workman and Garry Peacock finished 37th, 45th and 46th respectively. The Event was won by Andrew Jesky (USA), with Lassi Nurilla (Finland) 2nd and Tetsuo Onda (Japan) 3rd. The team event was won by the USA with Japan 2nd and Austria 3rd.

Control Line

At the 5th BMFA Centralised F2B (Stunt) competition held at Buckminster on 10th August Barry Robinson (Shildon MFC) placed 1st. The BMFA Control Line Nationals were held at Buckminster from 29th August to 1st September, in F2B Barry Robinson placed 6th and in

Classic stunt he was 3rd. In Vintage Combat Graham Ives (Novocastrians) placed first, whilst in the F2E class Ben Johnson was 5th, Martin Johnson 4th, Graham Ives 2nd and Dave Riley 1st, all four being Novocastrians members.

Indoor

Brian Worrall reported that the Peterlee MFC indoor events resume on 6th September, Full details of indoor events hosted by Peterlee RMC, Washington MFC and Shildon MFC are on the area website www.northeast.bmfa.uk

Any Other Business

The Secretary had been contacted by Iain Nicol from the SW Flyers group to invite BMFA members to a fly-in they are hosting at Albemarle barracks on 20th September, all classes of models are welcome including control line and there are no weight restrictions, and they have BMFA and LMA site permits in place to operate up to 1500' above ground level. Gary also brought to delegates attention a potential safety issue that had been flagged up by the Darlington & District MFC delegate relating to a "Y" lead supplied by Logic RC that has no insulation on any of the joints between pairs of wires which could lead to short circuits causing loss of control or worse. The details have been shared with Andy Symons at the BMFA for wider circulation and investigation.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

The next meeting will be at 8pm on Wednesday 1st October 2025 at Burnmoor Cricket Club, Burnmoor Co. Durham, DH4 6EX.

Club Secretaries and PROs please note: if you have an event to publicise, give the details to either, the Area Chairman Martin Johnson martinjohnson9531@gmail.com or Gary Armstrong, Area Secretary: garyarmstrong13@virginmedia.com

The details of your event can then be distributed with the Area minutes in Forthcoming events* if there is sufficient time and posted on the Area web site and Facebook page.

Forthcoming Events

Date	Event	Contact
1 st & 3 rd Sat each month from Sept to May	Peterlee RMC Indoor Flying @ East Durham College, 11am-1pm. Resumes 6th Sept' 2025. See Area website www.northeast.bmfa.uk for details.	Brian Worrall bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk
2 nd & 4 th Sat each month from Jan to May	Washington MFC Indoor Flying @ Nissan Sports Hall, Washington 2-4pm. Resumes Sept' 2025. See Area website www.northeast.bmfa.uk for details	Peter Watson peterjwatson@blueyonder.co.uk
20 th Sept 2025	Fly-in at Albemarle Barracks hosted by SW Flyers. Open to all BMFA members and all classes of model from foamies to jets and over 25Kg as well as control line. LMA/BMFA Site permits in place to allow operation up to 1500' above ground level.	Iain Nicol 07742 131833 iain@iadmodeldesigns.co.uk Gerard Gaynor 07831 117 920 gerardgaynor@talktalk.net