

John Riall – An Obituary

It is with regret that we must report the passing this weekend of John Riall of CADMAC and the Southern Area BMFA.

The Chairman of CADMAC Derek Honeysett has written a very nice article for the club's "Clear Dope" magazine giving the history of John's activities and contributions within the club that if you have access to it makes very good reading.

This article from Tony Butterworth the long-standing Chairman of the Southern Area BMFA, expanding on Derek's article by giving John's wider involvement within the Southern Area and the area's appreciation for all that he did.

John Riall was one of the first group of area examiners appointed in the southern area and was also a key member of the early area committee that organised numerous shows over many years in our area including the 2-day Southern Area Galas held at Beaulieu.

During the 70s & 80s John was a very proactive member of the Southern Area BMFA committee. Our meetings were held in Alton and John could always be relied upon to support all of our meetings as well as partaking in all of the numerous local shows and events we organised locally to encourage interest in aeromodelling.



John was an accomplished traditional aeromodeller, his models were all well-presented and he was practised in all forms of model flying so became a very important member of the team. He was always available to offer help and relished the opportunity to encourage the general public to become future modellers.

When the achievement scheme was first introduced John recognised this as an ideal opportunity to visit the many clubs in the area and actively encourage them to embrace this new challenge, an activity that he excelled at. The early days of the Balsa Brain quiz nights would once again see John and the CADMAC team regularly supporting this annual event, he was a staunch supporter of such events and was always

ready to help when necessary. As a committee member he would always offer his personal view,



which was backed up from his vast personal experience. More than that John was also a valued team player, he might not totally agree but he looked for the positives and was always prepared to give it a go. John was a key player for the Southern Area in those days and his commitment to aeromodelling meant the area was all the richer for his involvement. I'm sure all members from those early days who met John will remember him with affection as a person and regard for his contribution to promote aeromodelling in the Southern Area, a great loss.

Tony Butterworth on Behalf of the S.A. BMFA