

BMFA S. Area, Achievement Scheme (AS) Hosted by kind permission of Basingstoke MAC Sunday 18th May.

A report by David Durnford – S Area AS Co-Ordinator - ACE & ACI FW & SFE.

After the previous year's poor weather resulting in several postponements, it was very pleasing to greet the early Sunday morning with superb fine sunny conditions.



A gathering of 25 or so assembled at the excellent BMAC flying site including test candidates, their companions /helpers and observers for this AS event.

(The photo on the left shows the briefing at the start of the Day)

Our youngest junior participant, Douglas Smith from Salisbury MFC, took and successfully passed his Fixed Wing 'A' test. (See photos below)



Most of the test candidates this year were undertaking their 'Club Examiner' assessments for fixed wing and helicopter model types. This required flying their own 'B' test manoeuvres first followed by they themselves acting as examiner in testing our excellent team of 'Test Pilot' flyers.

A scrumptious BBQ was served during the day thanks to the Basingstoke MAC team who together with members of BMFA Southern Area, made the whole day a great success. Thank you one and

all. I am very pleased to report all candidates registered for AS tests passed with flying colours, well done.



If your club would like to host an Achievement Scheme (AS) event, require tests or training assistance for your members, contact the BMFA Southern Area Committee who will be pleased to assist.



Achievement Scheme Testing Day (Southern Area)

A report by Roy Thompson BMAC Events officer.

On Sunday 18th May 2025 the Basingstoke Model Aero Club hosted the Southern area Achievement Scheme testing day. The club had been approached by David Durnford and Terry Weeks of the BMFA Southern Area committee, to host the event. The BMAC committee happily accepted this opportunity to support the BMFA-SA and moreover, to support our hobby in this way.

On the day the weather was almost perfect with sunshine and an 8 to 10 mph breeze.

Activities started at 10:00am with David Durnford BMFA Southern Area, Achievement Scheme Co-Ordinator, Mark Hemsley BMAC Safety officer and Roy Thompson BMAC Events officer giving a briefing and introduction to the day. Bob McAlpine BMAC Chairman was also on hand to give the days volunteer test pilots, their wings ahead of the examiner's tests.



The briefing was followed by registration of the 7 candidates, who were then allotted a place in the day's schedule along with their associated examiners. It was also a chance for everyone to introduce themselves and get familiarised with the tasks ahead. Overall, some 26 people were in attendance. First off the marks was Douglas Smith, a junior from the Salisbury area with examiners Terry Weeks (SA ACE) and David Durnford (SA ACE). Douglas was the first success, setting the bar high for the day obtaining his Fixed-Wing "A" certificate, using a high wing model some 30 plus years old.

This was followed by Charlie Holdford a BMAC member with a FW “B”, examined by Simon Wood and Alan Haskell. Charlie was the second success using his own design model called Ted.



Catering was managed by BMAC’s dynamic duo, Chairman Bob McAlpine and training officer Peter Love. They provided a constant supply of tea, coffee and soft drinks, alongside running the BBQ with ample burgers and bratwurst.

The day continued with 4 examiner tests with one Helicopter and three Fixed-Wing, all of which were successful. Congratulations to Simon Kierstan (Heli), Mark Hemsley (FW), Mike Inwood (FW) and Arun Horne (FW).

The day concluded around 3:30pm, and for BMAC it was a very successful day with two new Fixed-wing examiners, one new Heli examiner and one new B-Cert flyer added to our membership.

Further thanks must go to all the Examiners who attended, the day could not have gone ahead without them, the BMAC members for allowing our site to be used and finally to the committee members of the BMFA S Area and BMAC for arranging the day with special thanks to David Durnford and Peter love for all their hard work in making the day a success.

Added photos by Phil Stevens of the Spitfire club of Popham.