

Indoor Scale Nationals News

Keeping you informed with the planning and progress
for the 2025 BMFA Scale Indoor Nationals



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Notes from the Organising Team

By Paul Rich

The BMFA Scale Indoor Nationals are scheduled to take place over the weekend of **Saturday 26th (Radio Control) and Sunday 27th (Free Flight) April 2025** at our traditional home of Wolverhampton University, Walsall Sports Centre, WS1 3TA.

This occasional Newsletter has been created to keep you up to date with our plans for 2025 along with, (hopefully), providing some inspiration and ideas to encourage you to join in.

The entry form for entering the Scale Indoor Nationals will be going live in January 2025. For further details and news on the BMFA Scale Indoor Nationals keep an eye on the BMFA Scale Technical Committee, (STC) website at:

<https://scale.bmfa.org/>

The Chris Strachan Trophy

By Paul Rich

Many of you will know Chris Strachan, for many years an active participant at both the Scale Indoor Free Flight Nationals and on the Outdoor Scale and Free Flight scene.

Chris delighted in constructing unusual prototypes that were real crowd pleasers, often causing people to scratch their heads in identifying the subject Chris had created in miniature.

Unfortunately, Chris's health means he is no longer able to attend aeromodelling events.

To celebrate Chris's love and contribution to Indoor Scale Free Flight modelling his family, along with his good friend Gordon Hannah, are providing a new trophy for 2025 which will be known fittingly as, "The Chris Strachan Trophy".

Chris's Family have requested that the trophy is awarded to the, *"Highest placed Scale racing aircraft in all BMFA Scale free flight classes at the Indoor Nationals", providing an opportunity for a modeller not on the podium to take home some silverware.

Chris holds a real passion for racing aircraft, so it is only appropriate that the Trophy bearing his name be awarded to a model of this genre.

If you are seeking inspiration to find a suitable racing plane plan to build from, there are many that can be found on the Outerzone Website:
<https://outerzone.co.uk/index.asp>

*Models entered in the traditional air race will not be applicable to be awarded the Chris Strachan Trophy.

News from the flightline and more

By Paul Rich

Visiting the Vintage Model Company

In October I had the pleasure, along with a group of aeromodelling friends, to visit The Vintage Model Company, (VMC), at their factory in Flag, near Buxton, in the beautiful Peak District.

We were treated to factory tour by Hadi Kanan, the proprietor of VMC. Hadi was exceptionally generous with his time, answering all our questions and explaining the process of creating a laser cut kit from start to finish.

VMC are one of our sponsors of the Scale Indoor Nationals and their product range contains several designs that whilst designed for rubber free flight, are suitable for conversion to indoor radio control.

From their "Magnificent Flying Machines" range designed by Andrew Darby to their laser-cut recreations of the Keil Kraft, Veron and Skyleada vintage scale designs, there is something for everyone.

Paul Briggs, a regular Scale Static Judge at the Free Flight Nationals took several of his VMC models for Hadi to photograph. An image of Paul's VMC SE5a, (built from the kit in the "Magnificent Flying Machines" series), can be viewed below and shows the potential these designs offer.

If you are looking for a project for your next indoor scale model, why not have a look at the VMC website for some inspiration?

<https://www.vintagemodelcompany.com/>



Looking for somewhere to stay?

Many modellers make a weekend of visiting the Scale Indoor Nationals.

There are several hotels in and around the Walsall area that you can choose to stay at.

Some of the more popular hotels are:

<https://www.lyndonhousehotel.com/>

The Lyndon House is situated in Walsall Town Centre and has a reputation for offering value for money as well as excellent breakfast and range of real ales in the bar!

[Premier Inn, Bentley Bridge, Walsall.](#)

Part of the Premier Inn Hotel chain, it is located a short drive away from the University and is easily accessible from Junction 10 of the M6 Motorway. Parking onsite is also available,

[Holiday Inn Express, Walsall.](#)

Again, easily accessible from the M6 Motorway and only a short drive to the University. Breakfast is part of your booking and onside parking is also available.

There are also lots of other hotels available in the surrounding West Midlands area within easy travelling distance of Wolverhampton University. [Trip Advisor - Walsall West Midlands](#)



YouTube Inspiration

If you are seeking some aeromodelling inspiration or are simply looking for something interesting to watch YouTube has several sites that are well worth a watch to get you in the mood for next year:

[Maxfliart](#) – Tom Hallman's YouTube channel contains a host of inspirational free flight video's along with some excellent techniques videos that you can incorporate into your toolbox.

[The Devil is in the Detail](#) – Danny Fenton's YouTube channel dedicated to RC Scale Aircraft.

[Pete Fardell's YouTube Channel](#) – Pete Fardell is Aeromodeller's regular Scale Correspondent. The linked video shows Pete's new Stinson Sentinel model flying at Interscale 2024 held in Nijmegen.

[FFScale](#) – Mike Stuart's YouTube channel showcasing his impressive fleet of Scale free flight models.

[Squirrelnet28](#) – Chris Brainwood's YouTube channel promoting traditional scale free flight modelling.

[Essential RC](#) – A regular visitor to the BMFA Scale Indoor Nationals; the linked video showcases all the action from our 2024 Indoor RC Competition.

