

Indoor Scale Nationals News



Keeping you informed with the planning and progress for the 2026 BMFA Scale Indoor Nationals



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Notes from the Organising Team

By Paul Rich

A gentle reminder to anyone considering entering the 2026 Scale Indoor Nationals to get your entry in as soon as is possible please.

Currently 43 competitors have entered this year's event, with most competing in multiple classes and even on both days!

Our final number of competitors for 2025 was a total of 53 so our current projection is that we will exceed that number for 2026.

If that is the case the Organising Committee may have to make an informed decision on closing the entry form early, (it is due to close on 12th April 2026)

To ensure you submit your entry in time please use the entry form at: [BMFA Scale Indoor Nationals Entry Form 2026](#) | [BMFA Scale Technical Committee](#)

The North West Gala

By Paul Rich

Organised by the North West Area , the North West Gala took place at the impressive venue of the Manchester Velodrome on Saturday 14th March.

The event had an impressive scale presence, with a total of 21 models competing in the **Scale Open (Flying Only) competition**.

In first place was Tim Horne flying his lovely RWD-10. Second was Dave Whitehouse flying his high -performing Stinson 125 and in third Place with Steve Haines with his Currie Wot.

As winner Tim took home the David Lloyd-Jones Cup.

In **Peanut Scale** Mike Stuart took first place with his Vought King Fisher. In second place was Peter Brown with his Found Centennial and in third place was Steve Haines with his Nesmith Cougar.

A single point separated Peter and Steve in second and third place.

Mike took home with him, for an impressive third consecutive year, the Modellers Den Trophy.

A special mention must also be made to Tim Milner, who took home the Roy Lever Jet-x Trophy for his endeavor and perseverance in finally coaxing an impressive qualifying flight from his Jodel D-9 Bebe in the **Scale Open (Flying Only) competition** with his last flight of the day!

Pete Fardell has added a video from the event to his YouTube Channel which is a splendid record of a fantastic day in Manchester. <https://youtu.be/z2INOqXBNv8>

Finally, huge thank you's to Martyn Kinder for his help and support with performing the combined roles of Scale Static and Flight Judge at the North West Gala, and Dave Whitehouse for organising and running the day as event CD.

Look out for the 2027 dates and come along and join us for a fantastic day of Scale Indoor Free Flight flying.

News from the flightline and more

By Paul Rich

Times Tables....

The Scale Indoor Nationals organising committee would like to request competitors for the Scale Free Flight Nationals on Sunday 26th April for their help.

Those attending last year's event will be aware that the number of tables provided by Wolverhampton University was insufficient for our needs and it was more by luck than judgement that we were able to accommodate everyone taking part.

We would like to avoid any similar issues in 2026 so we would like to request, if competitors are able to do so, for them bring their own table to use during the competition in April.

Thank you in advance for your help and support with this request.

May Welsh, 23rd – 25th May 2026

Martin Pike is again organising an extravaganza of Scale Free Flight in North Wales in May.

Whilst all free flight disciplines are welcome the event has special emphasis on Scale Free Flight. With both outdoor, indoor flying and social events taking place over the weekend.

The poster below provides a glimpse of the stunning flying field at Bethesda that Martin and his fellow North Wales Aeromodellers regularly fly from, (bring your wellies!)

For further details contact Martin Pike directly at MARTIN.PIKE.XRAY@gmail.com or on 07831 141418. Full details can also be found online at:

<https://www.sam1066.org/MayWelsh.html>



Plan of the month – Fokker Spider (Spin)



The picture above is of a model of a Fokker Spin, built by the late Pete Iliffe and now owned by Brian Spencer.

This miniature masterpiece is powered by a Gasparin G24 CO2 motor and flies beautifully.

The Fokker Spin was the first aircraft designed by Dutch Aviation Pioneer, Anthony Fokker. The many bracing wires used to strengthen the aircraft made it resemble a giant spider, hence its name Spin, Dutch for Spider.



Plan of the month is a recent addition to the Outerzone website and is a Peanut Scale version of the Spin, designed by the "Buzzer Model Airplane Company".

If you start building now, you could have your model ready for the 26th April! 😊

[Oz : Fokker Spider plan - free download](#)



YouTube Inspiration – video of the month

Another excellent video from Tom Hallman this month.

In this video Tom builds a vintage Guillows P-38 Lightning, (another plan available on Outerzone) [Oz : Lockheed P-38 Lightning plan - free download](#). This design dates to 1940 and has been absent from the Guillows range for a few years.

In this brilliant video Tom walks you through the building of his model, sharing some innovative hints and tips along the way.

Finished in a striking all red scheme, "Yippee" was the 5000th Lightning built at Lockheed's Burbank, California factory.

<https://youtu.be/sA4hvaJTOQU>



We will be back in April – look out for the next Newsletter!

Until then happy building and flying; may all your skies be blue 😊