

BUCKMINSTER LODGE DISPLAY OF MIKE BEACH HISTORIC MODELS.



For the next few weeks from mid-April, there will be a display of some of Mike Beach's historic models in the main reception area at the BMFA Buckminster National Flying Site. Mike was a founder SAM 35 member, prominent in both vintage control line and restoration of historically important free-flight models such as Forster's wartime Spitfire. If you are visiting

Buckminster for a SAM 35 or other event, be sure to take time to look in the main reception area for the display of some of the models, which are destined as future exhibits in the planned BMFA museum at the site.



Some of the other vintage control line models constructed by Mike not on display are available for sale, with the proceeds to go towards the construction of the planned hard control line circle, so please enquire if you have an interest in acquiring one of these to fly or preserve in his memory.

Pictured below in the foreground is P E Norman's original 1944 Natsneez model with the small petrol engine he built for it, renovated by Mike and preserved in flying condition.

Pictured left in the background is the Forster wartime Spitfire free-flight model. Unfortunately the original wing and tail surfaces are lost, so if any SAM member who might be interested in constructing replicas to complete the model could please contact Steve Betney, plans are available and the job is currently vacant!

To the front of the Spitfire is the fuselage for H H Groves' Mystery Model or "Powered Wakefield" as featured in SAM Yearbooks 11 and 12.

Again, the flying surfaces for this model have not survived storage since Mike's death. No drawings are available (though many photographs are), so if any brave soul would like to construct reproductions to complete the model, please make yourself known!

