



HIRLWIND FIGHTER PROJECT

Spring Newsletter

Hello everyone!

One of the many problems that we as a project team face is the unpredictability of Sod's Law. Which means that if you see something you want everything will get in its way to stop you from achieving your target and so we found with our attempt to obtain a front Whirlwind windscreen and frame recovered from a dump many years ago, and was put on eBay.

After much running around and a lot of help from the team and membership we had raised the money to buy it only to find that the seller wouldn't sell it to us and withdrew the auction. At least we do have a Perspex windshield in the collection and will be able to use that as a template to create a new frame so the only person that loses out is the seller.

On to more positive things. I went down to the Kent Battle of Britain Museum at Hawkinge to see Dave Brocklehurst MBE regarding the setting up of the Whirlwind exhibition for the museum for this year. Regrettably we will not be able to have the rear fuselage on show as Airframe Assemblies will not have it finished in time but Steve Vizard has given permission for us to move his Peregrine engines from the Rolls Royce Museum at Derby to Hawkinge! Also Dave Brocklehurst MBE has a pair of Hispano 20mm Mk1 cannons in the collection which he is prepared to put in the display along with as many other Whirlwind parts that we can muster.

While I was there, I also dropped off several prints of Dave Gibbings painting of the prototype Whirlwind along with a number of raffle tickets for the summer raffle.



These can also be purchased via our website. The draw will take place at East Kirkby Air Show on the 1st of August 2020 at 3pm.



courtesy Anthony Pugh

This prize is a 75cm by 100cm colourised print by our own Gunnar Olsen on aluminium of P7110

Many of the items that we sell to raise money for this project build are donated to us by many individuals who expect nothing back from us except to see this construction progress to fruition and I say a very big thanks to them.

The fuselage is 35% complete so we need a lot more cash to finish it off.

To achieve that aim we need money and help from people to raise it, so if you are willing to help or know of someone you can volunteer in your place, please let me know.

One of our supporters Timo Starkloff is in to Whirlwinds in a big way - and I mean big.





Timo also found these pictures of 1/12 scale Whirlwinds for air combat contests. The accurate glass fibre models are designed by Vid Plevnik, today working for Pipistrel Aircraft in Slovenia.





Many thanks for the pictures and we are looking forward to the day that your Whirlwind flies.

Another interesting thing that happened was that both myself and Peter Lancaster (Membership Secretary) paid a visit to the Kent Battle of Britain Trust at Hawkinge to offer our help for the day and ended up on the roof of the

old 25 Squadron building helping to fix the roof, in time for the museum to open at the beginning of April.



“That’s all folks” till the next newsletter at the end of August.

Chris Hayward

Secretary

PS for those in the UK...

We do have an easyfundraising account... so for those who can (i.e. those with UK postcode) could, if they felt so inclined, direct their online shopping via easyfundraising who collect a small donation for our project on our behalf.

Here's a referral link, to make it sooo much easier!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/whirlwindfighterproject/?invite=sx5hha&referral-campaign=s2s>

Well... it's a clunky-looking link.. but it works!

All the best to all members around the world – which means the UK, France, New Zealand, Japan and the United States!

Above all - Stay Safe!

Peter Lancaster

Membership Secretary