



# St Marys Lands



## Model Aircraft Flying

We have two sites where you are welcome to fly model aircraft, one at St Mary's Lands and one at Newbold Comyn.

These sites are both used by other visitors as well and flyers are expected to behave in a way that does not unduly disturb other users or nearby residents. The rules below have been designed to ensure the safety of everyone visiting the area and the comfort of nearby residents, whilst allowing model flyers to enjoy their hobby. If you fly on one of these two you must adhere to the following rules:

### Rules of Flying

- Flying should take place only within the flying area defined by the boundary markers. Flyers must make every effort to ensure that models do not stray beyond this.
- These are public areas and flyers must give priority to other visitors at all times.
- All flyers must be current members of the British Model Flyers Association (BMFA) and covered by a minimum of £5million public liability insurance. Evidence of BMFA membership must be available for inspection by Council Officers at all times when flying
- Only models of less than 7kg may be flown
- Flyers must at all times comply with Civil Aviation Authority's Air Navigation Order and code of Practice CAP 658 'Model Aircraft: A Guide to Safe Flying'
- All models must be fitted with an appropriate silencer and operated in a manner which minimises the potential to cause noise nuisance. Flyers causing a noise nuisance to neighbouring residents may be asked to cease flying

### Flying Times

Flying must only take place during the following times:

- Monday - Friday (excluding bank holidays) 10.00am to 7.00pm
- Weekends and bank holidays: 11.00am - 4.00pm

### Additional restrictions at St Mary's Lands

- On Wednesdays and Sundays only silent flight is permitted - no powered flight
- Flying is not permitted during race meetings

### Contacts

Warwick District Council  
Tel. 01926 456128  
[www.warwickdc.gov.uk/parks](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/parks)

Warwick Model Flyers  
[www.warwickmodelflyers.org.uk](http://www.warwickmodelflyers.org.uk)

## 90 Glorious Years at St. Marys Lands Flying Site

The Wright brothers first flew in 1903 marking the start of sustained flight and the advancement of aviation beyond all expectations. Eleven years later we saw the aeroplane evolve into a machine used for fighting purposes, refined from the original Wright patents, using wood and fabric as the main building material. Interest in aeronautics gathered momentum worldwide and information was exchanged by enthusiasts on the best types of design, and how to build the most efficient aerofoil sections. In 1927 a turning point came about which proved the aeroplanes capability to fly long distances. Charles Lindbergh flew the Atlantic nonstop, travelling from Roosevelt field, Long Island, New York to Paris in the Spirit of St Louis aeroplane. These were to be known as the 'Golden Years' of aviation.

Meanwhile worldwide groups of enthusiasts were busy designing and flying small flying machines as models. At that time the only available power was rubber power which was twisted into skeins and provided the necessary power to the twisted tinplate propeller blades. Model groups were formed and flew from open land or 'commons' and this is where our own roots start as model builders and flyers. In 1926 wealthy gentlemen would travel up from London to their other properties in the Midlands. They would tend their well kept gardens at Warwick, now known as Hill Close Gardens, whilst they waited for the race days ahead. In between there was another interesting group of people appearing on St Marys Lands; bowler-hated men were carrying frail flying machines, and meeting up to fly their creations on the common. They were known as aeromodellers, the first people experimenting with what were known as A-Frame pushers. These were twin rubber driven models with motors facing outwards and simple wire skid undercarriages. **Miniature aviation first appeared at Warwick on the very land we fly on today in 1926, a year before Lindberghs flight across the Atlantic.**

In 1936 model aeroplane competitions were starting to appear and attract large crowds of people. The aerodrome at nearby Baginton was to become the scene of one such event which was repeated that same year at St Mary's Land. Model flyers from all over the country gathered to fly their machines, some of which were covered with oiled silk and made from bamboo and other materials. Just like today the friendly banter and exchange of ideas took place. Today, you can see a typical gatherings of the young and not so young enjoying a days flying.



As the war years approached there was to be a nationwide ban on flying powered aeroplanes in case of any confusion with invading German aircraft. Model flying did carry on although much more in a limited capacity. The Army used the land for practise and the odd Westland Lysander would be seen landing here in connection with Budbrooke barracks not far away, and the old satellite Warwick airfield across the way flying Airspeed Oxford aircraft doing landing practise. A plan for an A-Frame pusher like the ones used on our common.

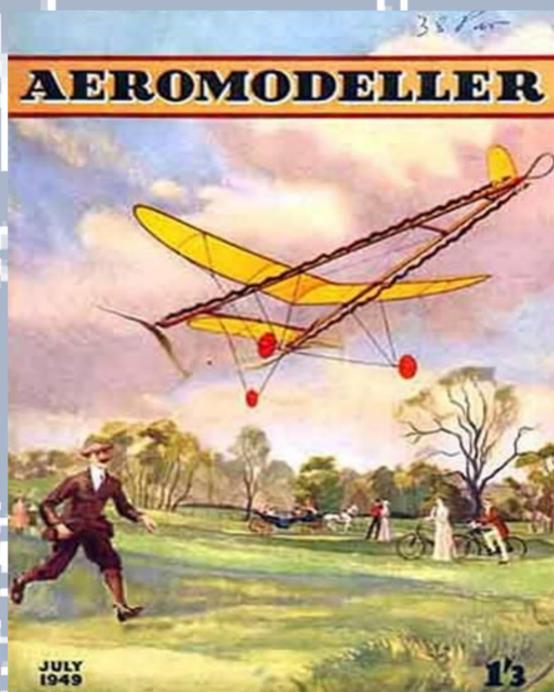
**So we, The Warwick Model Flyers, are the current custodians of an activity that has been practised on St Mary's Lands for 90 years. The common has been very much a small part of the history of aviation throughout time. Even though the model types, and technology has changed dramatically, the same enthusiasm prevails as it did all of those years ago.**

### WDC MODEL FLYING FIELD

**In the interests of Health & Safety, the Public are kindly requested to not venture on to the mown Airstrip area during model flying.**

**We would kindly request that you keep both children and pets under control whilst in this area.**

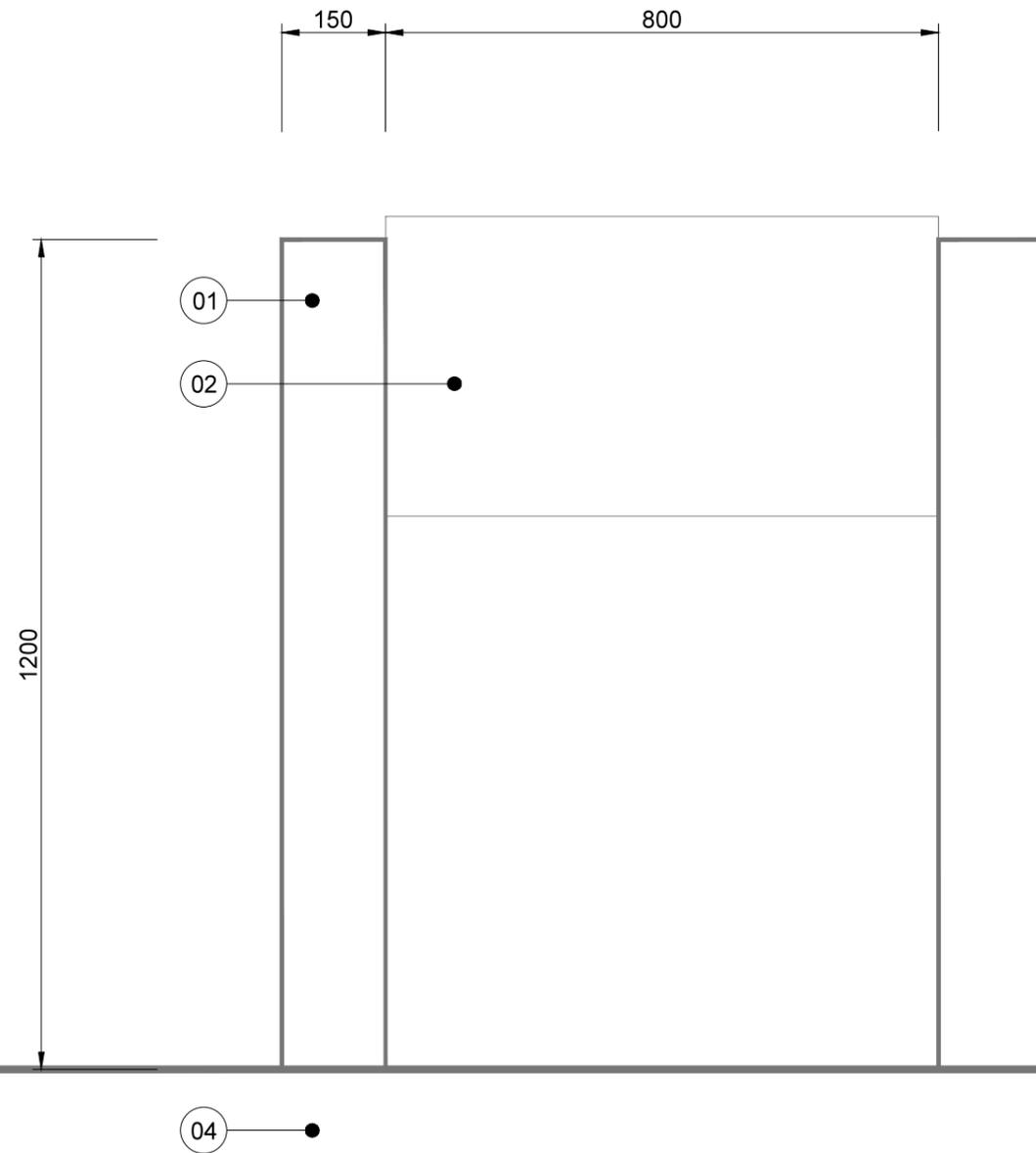
**If you would like to view the flying, you are more than welcome. Please stand safely in the same area as the flyers.**



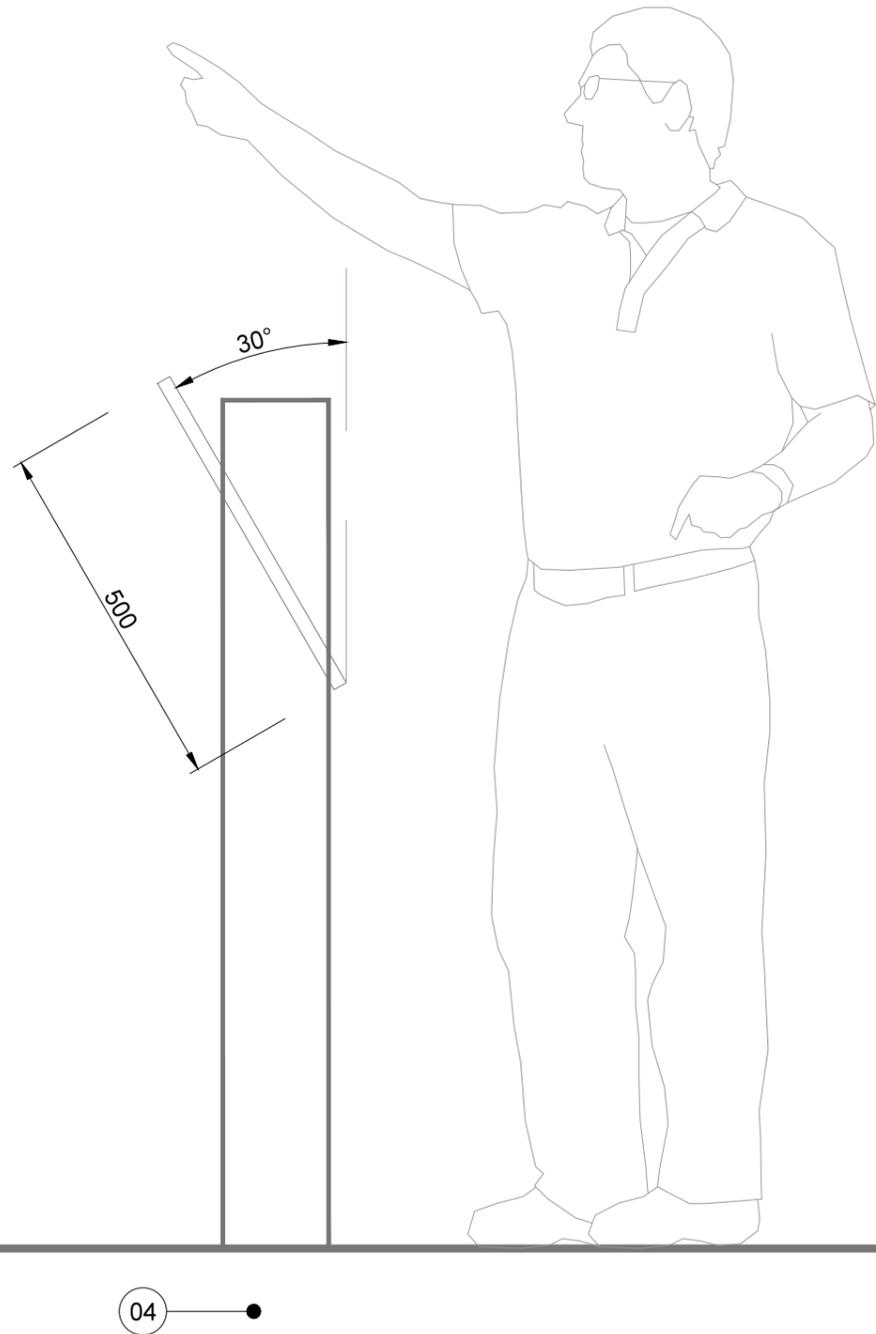
# Model Flying at SML

**ZONE 2: WARWICK COMMON**

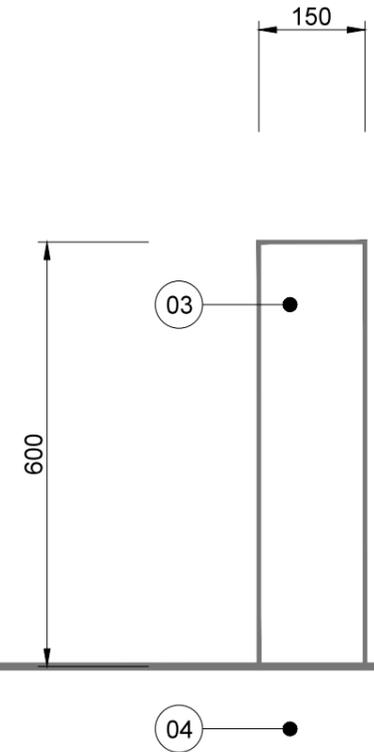
- 01 - 150 X 150MM AIR DRIED OAK POST WITH PYRAMID TOP DETAIL. POSTS 1200MM ag.
- 02 - 800 X 500MM NON FADE GRAPHIC PANEL MOUNTED ONTO TIMBER BOARD FIXED AT 30 DEG ANGLE TO TIMBER POSTS WITH HEX-BOLT RECESSED SECURITY FIXINGS.
- 03 - 150 X 150MM AIR DRIED OAK MARKER POST WITH PYRAMID TOP DETAIL. POSTS 600MM ag. INFORMATION GRAPHICS ROUTED PRIOR TO PAINTING.
- 04 - POSTS SET IN CONCRETE FOOTING TO MANUFACTURERS RECOMMENDATIONS



INTERPRETATION SIGNAGE ELEVATION



INTERPRETATION SIGNAGE SECTION



WMF FIELD BOUNDARY MARKER ELEVATION



**CAUTION**  
WDC MODEL  
FLYING FIELD

