



# South West Area

## Achievement Scheme Weekend Event Hosted by Okehampton MFC 2024

For the third year, a little bit of magic happened in the heart of the BMFA South West Area. Fourteen Members submitted their application forms either for training or to take an Achievement Scheme test.

Some had quite lengthy journeys to reach the lovely Okehampton flying site at Exbourne from as far as Bude and Torquay but notably, one came from the Lizard in Cornwall and one all the way from Bristol.

Examiners are not exempt from travelling distances. We're very fortunate to again welcome Dave Durnford, from Bournemouth, for his third year conducting tests here with examiners, Dave Perret, Shaun Williams and Daz Rickard.

This is also the third year for Darryl ( Daz ) Rickard, which is particularly special for him as he has recently joined the SW Area Committee as the new Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator (ASC).

This is turning out to be an amazing annual event. It's been really great to see members meeting and making new friends from other clubs.

What an incredible effect the BBQ has had again, delivered this year by Rob Oats and his Wife Debbie proving again its value in generating the interaction enjoyed at the Lunchtime mini event bringing the members and the whole event together.

A beefburger or a hot dog with fried onions, tomato sauce and mustard all for just £1 and free all-day hot and cold drinks, is a new format that has set a new popular template for this event to follow.

Two days enjoyed by all bar none, with perfect weather again this year. Those who passed their 'A' certificates are returning next time to do their 'B' certificates. Some new 'B' certificate holders are now asking how to become club examiners, which is really good news. Without examiners we can't generate the greatly needed Area Chief Examiners and vice versa. A vicious circle, well actually a rather passive inactive circle that's now being revitalised.

The SW Area Committee wishes to extend a big thank you to all who helped make this very worthwhile annual event such a great success.