



Reviewed by Office Staff

# Silverlit - Power in Air!

EP micro helis - the next generation...

Silverlit are well known for their innovative micro electric helis that appeared on the scene quite a few years ago now and continue to take the indoor fun scene by storm! There are other brands of micro machine - in fact a plethora - but in this scribe's view, the genuine

product is always the best and is backed up with full spares support in the UK by the Silverlit distributor, Flying Toys.

Here we have four new additions to the range that each in its own way offers something different, whilst having the one thing in common - massive fun appeal! Purists may tut tut and bemoan the loss of aeromodelling flying skills, but they obviously haven't had a go at flying a Silverlit little beastie - if they had, they would be totally hooked, I bet! Go to any indoor meeting in the country and you will find at least a few of these being flown. Available on 3 separate infra red channels, they don't need to be flown one at a time (but do check with other users before switching on) and being so small and light, they can withstand a lot of 'getting the hang of it' arrivals and 'trimming' mishaps. In terms of good, clean safe fun, they take some beating - and could well be

## Pilot's Verdict

The Hugo looks really cute held in the palm of your hand, but can be a bit of a handful until properly trimmed. Sounds like a demented bee was one comment! The instructions are really good and give good trimming tips and it only took a little while for me to feel that it was going where I wanted it to go, rather than making its own mind up! Great for living room flying (once trimmed) and the storage in the Tx is brilliant - the Tx has a belt clip on the rear face, so it is easy to carry, too!



## Pilot's Verdict

These are most satisfying to fly as you can steer them round on the floor, then take off and do circuits, land and drive around again - brilliant! They're certainly the most challenging to get the hang of, but also the most rewarding when you get there, because they just look so great in the air! These are going to be very popular, we think.



## Pilot's Verdict

We all found the Grasshopper easiest and most pleasing to fly as it looks so great in the air - those flashing 'eyes' are really cool and the clear blades with the 'veins' printed on them really add to the 'dragonfly/mosquito/hornet/grasshopper' look. Whether the review model was more in trim than the others, but it needed the least adjustment to get it perfect hovering, circulating and going forward - I think we'd all like one of these!



the spark to start an interest in our sport for the younger element (if they can prise the control Tx out of dad's hands, that is!).

They can be flown in the smallest of areas with varying levels of success, depending on your experience with them - perhaps a sports hall is the best place to try that first take off and guided circuits! Our team thoroughly tested this quartet, led by our own micro chopper jockey specialist, Alex (OK, he's one of our graphic designers!) and listened carefully to their comments. So, what is different about these new additions? Well, let's look at them in turn:

### Hugo

This is a very tiny, scale-looking heli (like an early Bell), about half the size of the original Picoo Z that allows it to be stored in the Tx case! The Hugo can zoom around the hall in complete control (some trimming will be necessary as explained in the instructions). The control is via the traditional layout 2-stick Tx - the left stick controls motor speed (hence up and down) and the right stick controls left and right rotation and thereby some forward control. There was some criticism of the original Picoo Z in that it was difficult to get to move forward without a bit of careful trimming - and the Hugo is no

exception, but there is a L/R trim knob at the top of the Tx face to assist in-flight trimming. To get the best out of it, careful and patient trimming is needed - success straight out of the box is marginal, but worth persevering with. The Tx needs 4 x AA dry cell batteries and incorporates the charge lead for the onboard Lipo battery under the

clear bottom front cover which also hangs Hugo. Hugo is available in three colourschemes: silver/blue, red/white and yellow/green. Price is £24.99 each from all Flying Toys stockists.

### Bullet & Skywave Rider

This is a 3-channel development of the Picoo that gives positive

control of forward motion - at two different speeds and adds greatly to the manoeuvrability of the machine - again, careful trimming is the key and will give satisfying results with full directional capability - it can also be driven and steered on the ground. The Tx is a 3 channel unit, the left stick controls height, whilst the right hand stick



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← controls turning left and right in the normal way. In addition, two push buttons, one on either side of the Tx top face, control forward speed - the left button moves the heli forward at a normal speed for a brief period. Pushing the right hand top button moves it forward at a faster speed, again, for a brief period - to keep it moving forward continuously, press both buttons at the same time. Takes a bit of getting used to, but like all Silverlit gear, the effort is well worth it when it has been mastered. Again, 6 x AA batteries are needed for the Tx/charger unit.

The Bullet and Skywave Rider have different body shells - the Bullet has normal skids, whilst the Rider has a tricycle wheeled undercarriage. Available on one of three channels and in 3 different colours, blue, green and red (Bullet) and blue, yellow and red (Skywave Rider), they cost £29.99 each from all Flying Toys stockists.

### Insecta Grasshopper

Bug-bodied with four long legs and clear blades with a 'veins' look - this is a bit different! Available in green with purple head highlighting, they each look sufficiently menacing in the air to be very attractive to younger fliers, perhaps - although it scared the life out of my young granddaughter! The added attraction to the Grasshopper is that inside the head where you would expect the eyes to be there is an LED that flashes at a steady bright green pulse at the flick of a switch on the face of the Trannie - how cool is that? Naturally, instead of landing skids, they have four long, arched legs! The boom is thin with a clear plastic skirt to aid stability. The

'Insecta' Grasshopper has the same 'go forward' facility of the Bullet and Skywave Rider.

Price is £29.99 each from all Flying Toys stockists. ✨



The 3-channel infra red Transmitter for the 'go forward' helis have forward speed buttons on either side of the Tx top.



### General Flying Tips

- Read the instruction thoroughly, several times, before attempting to fly.
- Always watch the heli - do NOT look at the Tx.
- Once airborne, use only fine adjustment on the throttle stick - ease off too much and it will fall out of the air!.
- Regarding stick movement, keep them small - don't over control.
- Don't attempt to fly in an area beset with obstacles!
- If you turn left (viewed from the rear), the heli will slow down - turn to the right and it will speed up.
- If you don't have a 3rd channel, you can go forward by slowly turning right - to stop moving forward turn briefly to the left.
- If you DO have the 3rd channel, don't let the heli fly forward too fast, as it will lose stability (the fast forward button on the last two only work briefly).