



BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT BUGLE

News from our Airport at Biggin Hill - established 2005



CLUB AND AIRPORT NEWS

BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT SOCIAL CLUB LTD

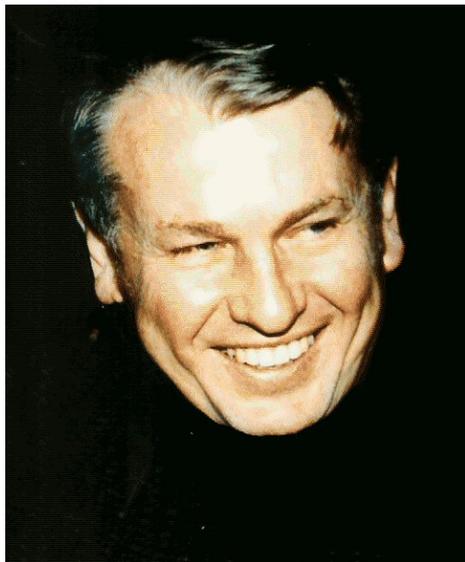
In Ass. with BigginHillReunited.co.uk

ISSUE No. 60

www.bigginhillclub.co.uk

1st February 2010

DOUG REES



Friend of many at Biggin Hill, Doug, who was one of the regular pilots at Biggin Hill, sadly died on the 31st December 2009. He owned a couple of aircraft during his aviation exploits, a DR400 Regent, and a Jodel Mousquetaire 140 aptly registered G-REES. Doug also ran



a small trucking business transporting fresh food to the continent for many years. The Editor did some driving for Doug for a short period during the 80's, mainly driving through the night for up to three days for a round trip travelling from Biggin Hill, to Austria and back to Ireland, via Holland and Belgium and back to Biggin, sleeping at every opportunity – *had some good trips.*

Doug bought a Dove aircraft, registered G-KOOL, with the intention of transporting live crabs to and from Jersey during the 80's, but this venture didn't off the ground. The aircraft would be sold to the college of knowledge at Redhill.

THE SNOW RETURNS AGAIN

Creating chaos on the airfield, and of course our un-gritted roads especially, essential bus routes. Singh Bamrah owner of Falcon Air Services at Biggin Hill surveys the early morning scene with many of his aircraft buried under a blanket of snow during the night. Even Singh appears to be sporting a snow white Father Xmas beard.



We at the Bugle think the boys in the next column with a single shovel have aspirations beyond their snow clearing intentions. Far better they retire to the comfort of the warm hangar.



Gil Ben Ari sent the next picture with the following comment. "There is no security, like snow security". This snow guardian



even wears a Hi-Viz jacket, a little over the top we think, as no one is going anywhere today. Someone quite obviously saw the fitting of this jacket as a necessary item of safety for the snowman, as they always wear white and are well camouflaged in these wintry conditions around Biggin Hill.

The January snows were effecting



the roads of Kent and beyond, with cars being abandoned by their owners. Others drove on despite

the obvious prevailing conditions,



beyond their driving skills and vehicle traction on the icy road.

A good 4 X 4 vehicle is the answer to these conditions, but should be driven with due caution, as they too will slide off the road like any other vehicle. It makes for a disciplined driving technique to complete the journey safely.

INOVATIVE SNOW DESIGN

Spotted in Biggin Hill. This unique Igloo was sculptured from snow.



It even had a window in one side.

GORDON JONES - ESQUIRE



An charismatic gentleman, smartly turned out at all times whether it be at the wheel of a racing car or the controls of an aircraft sadly passed away on the 14th January 2010.

Gordon was a quietly spoken, astute businessman who owned a Black Cab Taxi Company, selling or leasing cabs for many of the Black Cab taxi drivers around London.

Gordon became involved in motor racing in the mid 50's owning more than one racing car, winning several trophies for his mantel piece.

Having suffered an injury in racing he decided to sell his racing car after which his thoughts were turned toward aviation. Following this transaction he subsequently found himself the owner of an aircraft.

He of course couldn't fly at this moment in time.

He duly presented himself at the mercy of the Experimental Flying Group at Biggin Hill. Following some flying lessons, Gordon became a pilot, and also the owner of more than one aircraft during his aviation days.

He became a regular visitor to Biggin Hill Airfield for the next 49 years. Pictured below: with Valerie Shires, the late Sqdr Ldr Bill Webb and Paul Shires, during one of the many air shows at Biggin Hill, which he enjoyed.



Gordon was an exquisite gentleman with a cheery disposition, which will be sadly missed around the hangar and at the bar afterwards.

He was a modest drinker, just a half please! Only one at a time!



AIRFIELD PERSONALITIES



TERRY HAYTER:

'New York from 1500 feet like it has never been seen before'. A Flying Instructor for the past 21 years, all of which has been at Biggin Hill. I often wondered what sort of flight would perhaps be the most memorable and meaningful. My eldest Son Daniel, who works for the Bloomberg organization, moved with his family to New York



This meant that a trip to New York at least twice a year was in my diary. My other son Alex and I first visited them last March and then again last October. During the October visit Daniel pointed me in the direction of a company called Performance Flight based at White Plains Airport (Westchester County Airport). They operate the latest Cirrus SR20 and SR22 aircraft. Well, without too much encouragement required I promptly booked a slot for a Cirrus SR20 with Performance Flight for myself and Alex to take a site seeing trip to see some of New York from the air. Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think that Air Traffic would allow me to fly down the Hudson River at 1500 feet.

Rumour has it, that this stretch of airspace is the busiest in the World. We departed runway 34 with a left turn out which placed us over the Hudson, whilst flying down the Hudson with Alex taking pictures “like they were going out of fashion” ATC called us and said “Sir would you like to twice orbit the Statue?” that of course, was the



Statue of Liberty. Needless to say, the reply to that call was “Affirm” After orbiting the Statue twice and taking more pictures we then flew



back up the Hudson to West Point Military Academy. After that we made a right turn and headed



back to White Plains with a right hand join downwind for

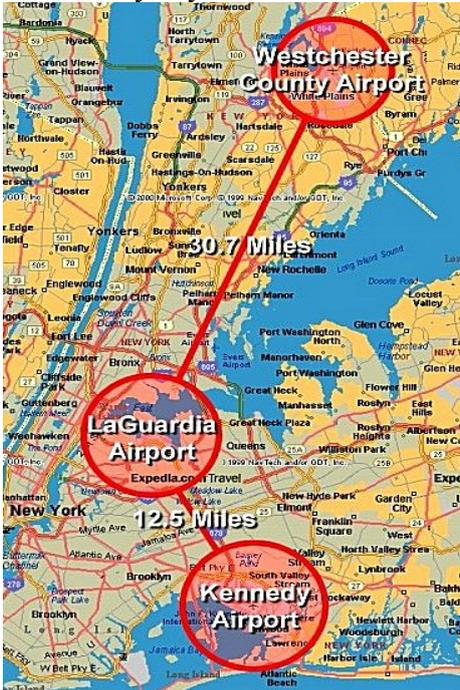


runway 34 .Total flight time was about one hour thirty minutes. The Cirrus SR20 is certainly a magnificent aircraft; I found the sidestick a joy to use and with the 200bhp continental the cruise was 140kts. My thoughts on the flight were many,(emotional and varied)



Especially flying that close to Ground Zero, (which you may see in one of the photos) pausing for a moment and thinking back to that dreadful day. My Son Alex called the flight “magic” I call it probably one of the best flights I have done and probably ever likely to do. Until next time of course!

Author Terry Hayter. 1st December 2009



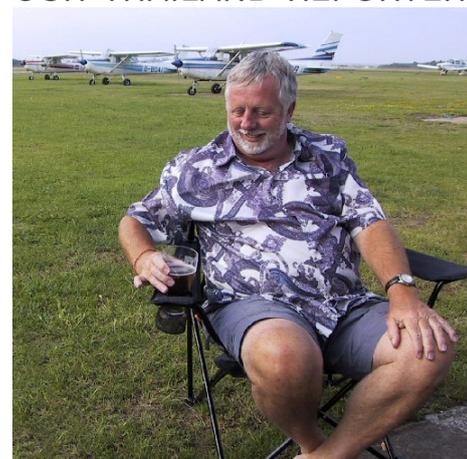
(The above map was inserted by Editor)

Editors comment: This was certainly a magnificent flight so close to a city like New York, imagine receiving a complimentary clearance to do a couple of circuits around Canary Wharf (London) on a local flight out of Biggin Hill.

Final note: Terry’s photos can possibly be viewed at the following link – however, if you are not registered to facebook they may not open – good luck

<http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=2040400&id=1267490645∓l=178eb69546#/album.php?aid=2040400&id=1267490645>

OUR THAILAND REPORTER



Jack Ryan (Taxi Jack) enjoying his last cool beer at Pilots Pals 14th August 2004. The next day he moved to Ko Samui. Thailand. Almost six years on, he is still slumming it on home made bamboo furniture. All he has now are a couple of friends, all similarly clad with little clothing as the constant sunshine has eroded their shirts. They still seem to have a



never ending supply of beer, but say they would appreciate a hand out for a couple of shirts to protect them from the blazing sunshine. Sorry lads, the recent earthquake at Haiti in the Caribbean is stretching our humanitarian aid resources. We will review your plight later..!