



# BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT BUGLE

News from our Airport at Biggin Hill - established 2005



CLUB AND AIRPORT NEWS

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## JUNE - BARBEQUE FLY IN

A beautiful sunny day early in June with a light breeze saw several aircraft arrive at a location near Chiddingstone, for an aviator's day out in the country for a fly-in B.B.Q attended by seven aircraft and their occupants along with several land based aviation experts.



Two of the oldest pilot 'chappies' from Biggin Hill attended this prestigious event. JB and Cobby whose respective ages are 77 & 76 their experiences are vast, varied and expertly applied when flying.



Post landing discussion with all the appropriate experts, JB (pilot expert) Tony Habgood (pilot) Graham Playford (gallant observer and pilot), Owen Rees (flying instructor) son of the late Doug Rees (pilot and aircraft owner) those were the good old days when men were pilots and all flying rallies were the places to be.



A few of the attendants, left to right JB (editor), Gary Duncan, Ann Rees, Sue Duncan and Georgina Duncan.



Fed and watered the pilots departed, with a fly past by Melissa Sagers in her Gypsy Moth, followed by Tony Habgood in his Piper Cub.



Thanks to Ann Rees and family a wonderful day out was had by all. A FESTIVAL OF JUNE 2010 Not since the summer of 1976 have we had so many events on at one time. Some fabulous tennis from Wimbledon, which really caught the attention of everyone, even those that do not follow tennis. The epic tie breaker match between



John Isner from the USA (above) who stood at 6ft 9inches and the diminutive Frenchman, Nicolas Muhat. Their game lasted for 11hrs 25mins ending in favour of Isner 70 games to 68.



Even the World Cup football, has drawn a lot of attention with football fans, tennis players and many other sporting people.

The many games were played in various stadiums throughout South Africa, two of which we reproduce.



The Royal Bafokeng Stadium at a height of 1500m above sea level. This is 4920ft amsl and coupled with high temperatures of South Africa makes an equivalent altitude of almost 7000ft. This is a bit of a disadvantage for European players, most of whom are accustomed to playing at almost sea level and cooler denser atmosphere.

The beautiful stadium at Durban is



the Mosea Mabhidha Stadium costing around £250 million.

The Arch is 350m long and boasts a cable operated funicular railway which takes you to a viewing platform 106m above the pitch, where you can be strapped into a bungee harness ( for a fee ) and swing in an arc of 220m over the pitch. Sorry, I seem to have been carried away. The object was to mention the football world cup series being played in South Africa. England, were due to play Germany during the time of the air display and several people rushed off to the nearest TV screen ignoring the flying display all around them. The outcome was a miserable defeat by Germany 4 - 1

#### 48<sup>th</sup> BIGGIN HILL AIRSHOW

We were graced with very good weather with a temperature of 29C. Traffic on the road appeared light due to the fact that many people were torn between watching football, tennis or motor racing and even the Hickstead Horse Trials. In all, a very busy weekend.

The hospitality suites at this years air show were excellent, with good food and bar facility, a comfortable viewing area, with a close up of the



Red Arrows. The buffet lunch was served after the Red Arrows display and was of such excellent quality that this 'Pilot Chappie' was so contented after his lunch that he fell asleep, nearly falling off his chair. We let him be..! He was soon woken by the roar of the Typhoon display.



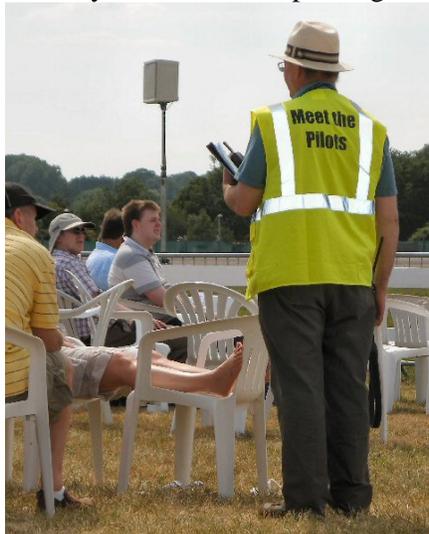
The hospitality area had some wonderful viewing directions as seen by the picture below.



In fact these areas were so comfortable, it was like having a display in your own back yard.



Meeting the pilots? Well, we are not sure if this marshal actually sold any tickets for this privilege..!



Perhaps we have mis-understood the meaning of the displayed words on his back.

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SHOW

The Blades Aerobatic team below



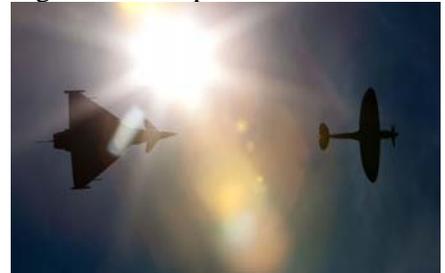
The Harrier always thrills the crowds with its ability to hover giving one a feeling of sheer power



The two Folland Gnats put on a fabulous display on the last day.



The highlight of this years show represented the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Battle of Britain was the Euro Fighter and a Spitfire formation.



It is hard to imagine 70 years ago the skies over Britain were as hot as this day, but in a totally different way. The 2010 Air Show was blessed with scorching sunshine, even the grass was scorched on two consecutive days following a simulated bombing display, quite spectacular, plus the efforts of the fire crew. Well done lads..!