

Hi everyone

Welcome to the August edition of your Biggin Hill Users Database Newsletter. Welcome also to any new Database members who may be receiving this regular Newsletter for the first time.

JB's August edition of the Biggin Hill Airport "BUGLE" is also now available online on the Social Club's website at <http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk> To view it, once in the Bugle section, via the link on the homepage, click on the appropriate month's link.

JULY WEATHER

After an amazing June, the month of July has been somewhat more changeable! We have had a real mix of weather – some where it has been perfect for private flying, and some where the only thing we could do was consume inordinate amounts of Lookout Teas and coffees and reminisce about all things aviation.

Let's hope the month of August is more stable and friendly towards us private and club flyers.

ROY ST.CLAIRE FINCH

Sadly I have to inform everyone that former Biggin Hill'ite, 96 year old Roy Finch, passed away on Monday 3rd July 2017.

He became quite well known at Biggin Hill whilst flying with Surrey and Kent Flying Club , which he joined in 1994. Many at the airport will know of Roy's early flying background as a pilot in the RAF, flying Wellington bombers in WW2.

Lots of us will recall that, on the 30th November 1941, Roy and the other five crew members took off on a mission but soon realised they were in trouble with engine problems. At around 8pm that evening they ditched in a rough and very cold north sea 50 miles west of the Danish coast. Sadly four of the crew perished however Roy and the flights wireless operator/gunner made it into the dingy and spent an uncomfortable 13 hours in the cold and wet, until picked up by a Danish fishing boat. It was Roy's 21st birthday! They were taken to the Danish mainland and made POW's by the Germans and Roy spent the rest of the war in prison camps.

After the war Roy ran a successful hotel laundry business and was able to return to regular flying again with Surrey & Kent in 1994. A keen dancer, many will also remember him, with his large group of friends and colleagues at the Biggin Hill 2003 "Bump" Reunion, taking full advantage of the swing band 'Chris Smith and his String of Pearls'.

A good friend to many old Biggin Hill'ites, he will be remembered by many of us as someone who lived life to the full as one of England's true Gentlemen.

R.I.P. Roy

BIGGINHILLREUNITED "ROLL OF HONOUR"

I have recently been contacted by members asking whether a particular person could be added to the Roll of Honour on the website at www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk

The situation is that, whenever I am made aware of the passing of anyone who has, at any time, been either associated with, or flying/working at Biggin Hill Airport, I will add their names to the Roll. Obviously it is necessary for me to check with a third party that the information is correct.

(I was once given the name of someone well known to many on the airfield who, I was told, had passed away. I made a check call to someone who I felt may well know if that was indeed the case, and he confirmed it. The person's name was added to the Roll. The next day, for some reason I became a little uneasy, and I phoned the home number of the supposedly deceased person – and guess what – he answered the phone!! Whilst making small talk and rapidly thinking of a reason for the phone call, I simultaneously removed his name from the Roll – Close call or what!!)

So, if you know of anyone associated with the airport who you believe should be on the Roll, please drop me an email, with details of the date and circumstances etc., Once confirmed I will of course add them. I know that sometimes the deceased families do find some comfort in seeing their loved one's names on the Roll being remembered by colleagues from their aviation days.

HURRICANE ENCLOSURE AT THE FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT

By the time you read this, everyone who ordered and paid for tickets for the Hurricane Enclosure, who supplied a Stamped self-addressed envelope, will have received their tickets and where appropriate hospitality car park passes. Anyone who did not supply a return envelope will be contacted by email to arrange for collection of their tickets.

The marquee is now more than three quarter's subscribed so, if you haven't already sent in your form and payment (with a self-addressed stamped envelope, of course), you need to act quickly before they are all gone.

The ticket application form can be downloaded from

<http://www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk/hurricane.pdf>

To obtain your Enclosure tickets, download the form, complete it, and send it to the address shown on the form, together with a return envelope and payment. Applications will be actioned immediately, until the available space is fully committed, in which case the application and cheque will be returned in the supplied envelope.

The Marquee and enclosure is predominantly only available to any present or past airport users, all airport Tenants, and of course their friends and families whether accompanied or not. Associated friends of the airport are also welcome.

The "Hurricane" Enclosure and Marquee will again have a pay bar offering very competitive prices, will be right on the display line, and has a furnished garden area from which to watch the show.

The show should definitely be a good one this year and well worth coming....

NEWS FROM AROUND THE CLUBS, BUSINESSES & OTHER AIRPORT USERS

If you would like me to include your business or personal comments in the Newsletter, either on a regular basis, or just occasionally, please drop me an email with your contact details and the requested contribution and I will try to include it in the next Newsletter. I will acknowledge anything sent to me for inclusion. (Please email: John Willis at john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk)

ALOUETTE FLYING CLUB

Hello Friends,

So now the flying continues in earnest as we make the most of the good weather.

You may have to plan a few days ahead to get an aircraft at the moment as they are heavily booked by PPLs and students.

Our social events remain popular; this week sees us feasting on a Fish and Chips supper around the bar.

We will, of course, be open to all during the Festival of Flight this August; so come and have a look and chat with us. Bring the kids and partners and show them inside our aircraft.

Hope to see you there.

Best Wishes
Bruno Bruniges
alouettechairman@gmail.com
www.alouette.org.uk

FALCON FLIGHT ACADEMY (inc EFG) & FALCON FLIGHT SERVICES

Greetings folks - Another eventful month here at the Falcon Camp.

The recent restrictions on circuits haven't been particularly helpful but our relationship with the tower has ensured that we manage to cater as much as possible for the GA community. Thank you for the tower for all the support to the schools and community.

The first of our Cessna 152 aircraft has had a Garmin 660 installed helping you to stay clear of those pesky things we call airspace infringements!

Course structure will be changing to keep current with the ever changing UKCAA and our new ATPL courses have had the first few intakes. Slowly but surely the outlook is ever hopeful for all of us in the industry.

With the Festival of Flight around the corner don't forget to collect your tickets so you can visit the EFG stand.

Shonu and his team will have a maintenance project on display as Falcon teams with London Southeast Colleges paving the way for future aeronautical engineers to be trained right here at Biggin.

Thank you for all who visited our most successful Cirrus BBQ. With a day of burgers, beers and buzzing enthusiasm it was a great event!

So as the clock ticks round closer and closer to the darker nights and shorter days make sure you call to book your Night Ratings as we only have limited days to carry them out.

Till the next time. Stay blessed and clear skies

Best Wishes
Anoop Singh Bamrah

REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

With the forthcoming Festival of Flight on 19th and 20th August Colin Hitchins is quite obviously up against deadlines that have to be met. He has sent his apologies for not having a full entry in this month's newsletter and wishes you all a great day at this year's show

MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF WILL CURTIS

July was another busy month for business jet activity and adds further weight to the evidence that the new operating hours are key to our business jet customers. As a result, business jet activity was up 20% year on year. The weather was less solid than May and June, but nevertheless club activity held up reasonably well.

The new terminal hangar apace and we except the new building to be open in December. The runway 03 GPS approach has moved to the approval stage with the CAA now inspecting the proposal following the extensive consultation and design phases. Once the CAA are happy with the proposal, we can move to the implementation phase. As previously mentioned, we hope to have the new approach active in the autumn.

The Biggin 100 Festival of Flight is set for 19th and 20th August. We hope that you will all enjoy the show which promises to be exceptional this year.

As many of you are aware, we have had to restrict circuit training at the airport for safety reasons. this has given some cause for concern that light aviation has no future at the airport, but this is far from the case. We have been clear that, due to the changing mix of traffic, Biggin Hill is fast becoming an environment for more experienced pilots only. We believe that light aviation will fit in fine with business jet traffic provided that the volume is not too great. This means that whilst Biggin Hill is unlikely to be able to accommodate ab-initio training in the future, it should still be able to accommodate the present level of private owners and aircraft operators and the fairly limited number of circuits that they require for validation of licences and ratings in the future.

Until next month - safe flying!

Best regards
Will Curtis
MD – Biggin Hill Airport Ltd

DATABASE EMAIL ADDRESSES

A constantly updated list of database members can be seen at <http://www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk> Please remember to let me know if your email address is changed. If you know others who are not on the list but are eligible to join (i.e. if they currently fly from the airport, or work there, or ever have done so) please let me know or tell them about us – Database membership is, of course, free.

Hope to see many of you at the Festival of Flight on the 19th or 20th

That's it for this month.....

John Willis
Biggin Hill Airport Users Database

(And Finally: As usual, a few amusing stories that, according to the many comments I receive about this section, is very popular amongst the membership. (As always, no offence to anyone is intended!). Thanks to everyone for sending their contributions....)

QUOTE.....

Little Johnny had been playing outside with the other kids for a while when he came into the house and asked his Grandma, "Grandma what's that called when two people sleep in the same room and one is on top of the other?"

She was a little taken aback but she decided to tell him the truth. "It's called sexual intercourse darling."

Little Johnny said "Oh OK" and went back outside to play with the other kids.

A few minutes later he came back in and said angrily, "Grandma it isn't called sexual intercourse. It's called Bunk Beds. And Jimmy's mum wants to talk to you."

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A woman in a hot air balloon realized she was lost. She reduced altitude and spotted a man below.

She descended a bit more and shouted: "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised a friend I would meet him an hour ago but I don't know where I am".

The man below replied "You're in a hot air balloon hovering approximately 30 feet above the ground. You're between 40 and 41 degrees north latitude and between 59 and 60 degrees west longitude".

"You must be a technician." said the balloonist.

"I am" replied the man "how did you know?"

"Well," answered the balloonist, "everything you have told me is probably technically correct, but I've no idea what to make of your information and the fact is, I'm still lost. Frankly, you've not been much help at all. If anything, you've delayed my trip with your talk."

The man below responded, "You must be in management".

"I am" replied the balloonist, "but how did you know?"

"Well," said the man "you don't know where you are or where you're going. You have risen to where you are, due to a large quantity of hot air. You made a promise, which you've no idea how to keep, and you expect people beneath you to solve your problems. The fact is you are in exactly the same position you were in before we met, but now, somehow, it's my f***ing fault!!!

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Some young lad had someone from TV licensing knock at his door.....

"Do you watch live TV sir?"

"Nah mate, TV's shite, don't even own one. Prefer my music me"

"May I pop inside and look so I can confirm and put that on our system?"

"I don't have to let you in do I?"

"No sir, but if you're not letting me in when you say you don't own a TV, that gives me reason to believe that you could have a TV and therefore require a licence"

"To be fair mate, the lass at number 23 won't let me in her knickers, that doesn't mean I've got reason to believe she could have a c**k..."

With that, the door was closed.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A stranger was seated next to a little girl on the airplane when he turned to her and said, 'Let's talk. I've heard that flights go quicker if you strike up a conversation with your fellow passenger.'

The little girl, who had just opened her book, closed it slowly and said to the man, 'What would you like to talk about?'

'Oh, I don't know,' said the stranger. 'How about nuclear power?' and he smiles.

OK, ' she said. 'That could be an interesting topic. But let me ask you a question first. A horse, a cow and a deer all eat the same stuff - grass - . Yet a deer excretes little pellets, while a cow turns out a flat patty, and a horse produces clumps of dried grass. Why do you suppose that is?'

The stranger, visibly surprised by the little girl's intelligence, thinks about it and says, 'Hmmm, I have no idea.'

To which the little girl replies, 'Do you really feel qualified to discuss nuclear power when you don't know shit?'

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A chicken farmer went into a local bar, sat down next to a woman and ordered a glass of champagne..

The woman smiled, looked up and said, 'How about that? I just ordered a glass of champagne too!'

'What a coincidence' the farmer said. 'This is a special day for me and I'm celebrating.'

'This is a special day for me as well, and I too am celebrating,' said the woman.

'What a coincidence!' said the farmer.

As they clinked glasses the farmer asked, 'So tell me, what are you celebrating?'

'My husband and I have been trying to have a child for ages and today my gynaecologist just told me that I'm pregnant!'

'What a coincidence!' said the man. 'I'm a chicken farmer and for years all of my hens were infertile, but today they're all laying fertilized eggs.'

'That's incredible!' said the woman, 'How did your chickens become fertile?'

'I used a different cock,' he replied.

The woman smiled, clinked his glass and said, 'What a coincidence!'

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

BEAUTY PARLOUR - A place where women curl up and dye.

CHICKENS - The only animal you eat before they are born and after they are dead.

COMMITTEE - A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.

DUST - Mud with the juice squeezed out.

EGOTIST - Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.

HANDKERCHIEF - Cold Storage.

INFLATION - Cutting money in half without damaging the paper.

POSTENTIOUS - Beyond pretentious.

MOSQUITO - An insect that makes you like flies better.

POLITICAL CORRECTNESS - A doctrine fostered by a delusional, illogical minority.

RAISIN - A grape with a sunburn.

SECRET - A story you tell to one person at a time.

TOOTHACHE - The pain that drives you to extraction.

TOMORROW - One of the greatest labour saving devices of today.

YAWN - An honest opinion openly expressed.

WRINKLES - Something other people have....similar to my character lines.

OLD - I very quietly confided to my friend that I was having an Affair. She turned to me and asked, "Are you having it catered?" . . and that, my friend, is the definition of 'OLD'!!!

In youth, the days are short and the years are long.

In old age, the years are short and days long.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

THE GOVERNMENT'S NEW SYMBOL IS THAT OF A CONDOM, because it more accurately reflects the government's political stance

A condom allows for inflation, halts production, destroys the next generation, protects a bunch of dicks, and gives you a sense of security whilst you're actually being screwed!

Wow, it just doesn't get more accurate than that!

.....UNQUOTE

(If anyone else has good examples of, for example: - Governmental stupidity and removal of the population's right to live a normal life, or simply any funny, unusual and interesting stories or anecdotes that you feel may interest or amuse our readers, please email them to me as a possible inclusion in a monthly "and Finally"...))