Hi everyone

It's the end of yet another year! Merry Christmas and all that!

Welcome to the Biggin Hill Users Database December Newsletter. Welcome particularly to the new Database members who may be receiving this regular Newsletter for the first time.....

JB's December edition of the Biggin Hill Airport "BUGLE" is also now available online on the Social Club's website at http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk As always it is NOT included here - to view it, once in the Bugle section, via the link on the homepage, click on the appropriate month's link.

Please keep those stories coming in for inclusion in future issues. (JB's direct email address is johnbryan13@sky.com, or you can send items directly to me to pass on: john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk

### **NOVEMBER WEATHER**

Well, what can I say about the November weather – It has been diabolical – more like January or February surely? It just seems to me that, if the cloud ever lifted, it did so because of strong winds. If the wind dropped, we had poor vis and/or low cloud. Whilst I know I was away for the first twelve days in the month myself, I gather I didn't miss much then, and since then, at the time of writing, I've only personally managed to actually fly on 6 days – Where light aircraft VFR flying is concerned, this month must be something of a record for the least flyable days in any November (unless someone knows something different?)

## SINGH'S XMAS "GATHERING"

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November saw a gathering of Biggin Hill'ites at the Crown pub for Singh's Christmas meal and drinks. Quite well attended, the evening was very good with lots of chin-wagging and reminiscing. The Crown is run by new people, very nice folks, and this was one of their first forays into catering for a large'ish group. The meal itself was quite entertaining, if not rather disorganised, but when it arrived, the food was quite good, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

Well done Singh for getting everyone together again.

## **AIRPORT HOURS & BROMLEY COUNCIL**

As many of you will know by now, 25<sup>th</sup> November saw one of the most controversial and heavily attended Council meetings ever held, when Bromley met to formally approve or reject the airport's proposals to extend the operating hours.

So great was the interest, the Council meeting was for the single purpose of debating just that proposal and it was held in the Great Hall, rather than the Council Chamber, in order to accommodate the large numbers of people who they knew planned to attend.

In the end, the meeting took place in a completely packed Hall, with hundreds of very vocal and noisy protestors, and a reasonable but well behaved, and heavily outnumbered, group of supporters from the airport and surrounding areas who actually feel that the proposals are not unreasonable.

The meeting started with a session of submitted questions from interested members of the public - a total of 27 pre-submitted questions, only 5 of which were in support! It was interesting

that, although the supporters asked only their pre-submitted questions, all the opposition questioners also asked a second supplementary question as well to drag out the meeting. Most of these were incredibly stupid and in many cases somewhat irrelevant to the matter in hand and revolved around lies and miss-information tabled to try to convince all Councillors to reject the application.

After two councillors proposed and seconded the motion to support the airport's submitted plans, to heavy booing and shouting from the opposition, this was followed by 5 minute speeches by the usual Councillors from the areas of heavy opposition, in Keston, Farnborough, Petts Wood, Crofton and Downe, who stood up to decry all that the airport planned, and did so with much showboating to the very vocal delight of the opposition groups. The statements showed that they really didn't have much of a clue about the subject matter, and were simply opposed no matter what. There were a small number of Councillors who bravely stood and spoke in favour of the proposal and were shouted down by the opposition when they said anything positive, but in the main, most Councillors kept their own views to themselves.

When it went to the vote, the opposition groups were very confident of victory, and I must say we, as supporters, were not overly confident of a positive vote. One by one the Councillors voiced their vote – for, or against. And to most people's absolute amazement, the proposal was accepted by 29 votes to 19!!!!

The Hall erupted into shock and horror and most of the protestors walked out, not even staying for the seven man Executive Meeting that followed, and which actually was the most important part. Those that did remain, constantly shouted out their views (ignored by the executive, quite rightly) in an attempt to shame the Executive into rejecting the Airport proposal. In the end, common sense clearly prevailed, and the Executive voted in favour of the proposals by four to three, and the motion was carried.

Thank you to all Tenants and Users and Database members who took the time and trouble to attend the March and November meetings to demonstrate your support of this important proposal. It is a unique victory for the airport, and something that we should be proud of. Will Curtis has also sent out a memo to everyone, thanking them for supporting the proposals and helping to get the proposal through – for those that haven't seen it, please click on the link below:

http://www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk/thankyou.pdf

## **BIGGIN GOES PPR IN JANUARY**

The long awaited online Booking system is now running to iron out any minor issues prior to becoming mandatory on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016.

At EFG we, and a few other organisations, have been trialling it for a few days now, and it seems pretty simple and user friendly. I would recommend all airport users register themselves on the system and start using it so that you are fully familiar with it by the time it becomes compulsory.

Basically, Biggin Hill is going Prior Permission Only from 1<sup>st</sup> January for ALL flights, whether based or non-based. The only exception is for those aircraft that have filed an ATC flight plan, which eliminates the need to book in or out. So, whether you are off for circuits, going for a local flight without landing away, going to another airport without a flight plan, or returning from another airport without a flight plan, you will need to book the flight in or out first.

Go to <u>www.bigginbooking.com</u> where you will be invited to register for an account. You will need to register your name and contact mobile phone number (used to call you if there is a problem

or the aircraft does not arrive at Biggin when expected and fuel endurance is getting close) and your email address (used to send you acknowledgement messages and confirmation messages once the movement is accepted). If you own an aircraft, or more than one aircraft, you can then save those aircraft registrations and types so you don't have to enter them each time. Once you have your logon, you will use this each time to book out, so you will be able to access it on any internet connected device, irrespective of how many you use.

Use is simple: when you are going flying – 30 minutes or more before you are planning to depart, login to your system – select Bookings and then one of the option, which are 'Arrivals', 'Departures', 'Local', 'Circuits', or 'Other'. The appropriate input screen will appear. The questions asked are very basic, and you can use the drop down menus to select the aircraft, pilot (if you have registered more than one), enter departure time (if local or circuits it will ask the planned flight duration) and fuel endurance, flight rules, PoB, and ATZ departure point (like Sevenoaks or Kenley). Once you hit submit, you will then get an email acknowledgement of your request. Once the movement is accepted, you will then get a second email confirming acceptance or rejection. (Just one important point – if you don't get the acknowledgement email within a few minutes, please check your spam folder in case the system has seen it as spam and sent it there instead – you should be able to authorise the source email address so this doesn't happen again in the future!)

I know many people don't like change, but please try to keep an open mind – it really isn't a major problem. If you are sufficiently technically capable to fly an aircraft, you should be quite capable of using this system with ease!

Try it – and feel free to ask if you find it's a problem for you – lots of us will be prepared to help you to get used to how to use it. Remember it will ultimately be mandatory for everyone and in the AIP for visitors from outside. It will get to the point where, if you call up on the R/T without having booked out, you will eventually be asked to shut down and book out before calling again.

In due course, you will receive a formal notice from the airport that will tell you about the procedures to be adopted etc., and calls to be made on initial R/T contact, but in the meantime, please try it for yourself.

## **NEWS FROM AROUND THE CLUBS & BUSINESSES**

If you would like me to include your business in the Newsletter, either on a regular basis, or just occasionally, please drop me an email with your contact details and I'll be in touch directly. (John Willis - john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk)

## FALCON FLIGHT ACADEMY (inc EFG) & FALCON FLIGHT SERVICES

A Blustery Hello from the Falcon Camp

As winter approaches can we thank everyone for all their support this year. We have all worked steadily to bring you excellent training and a fantastic experience either learning to fly, private hiring or maintaining your aircraft.

Don't forget we have already taken bookings for 2016, so if you want your licence revalidated, Renewed, or even a friendly flight with an instructor let us know! Of course we are here to cater for all your IMC, Night, Commercial and Maintenance needs.

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas from Falcon, EFG and S&K

Safe flying

#### MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF WILL CURTIS

(Will sends his apologies for the short contribution this month – pressure of work meant he was unable to contribute more in time for our deadline – Ed)

At last! After 22 years the Council has voted to help the airport to win business and develop its infrastructure and businesses. Thank you to everyone who gave their time to making this a reality.

The anti's tried everything in the book, including accusing us of deliberately skewing the Council consultation - something they were still accusing us of at the meeting on 25th November, despite the Officers Report pack including a report on the Council's investigation of this allegation that said they could not find anything wrong with the results or the airport's conduct. It seems that Councillors and even our MP Jo Johnson do not actually read the documents they are provided with by Council Officers and consultants before publicly slandering us!

We will now be working to make the changes needed before we can open longer. It may be late next year before we are able to actually take advantage of this change, but the main thing is that it's coming.

May I also take this opportunity of wishing everyone a great Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Until next month, safe flying!

Best regards Will Curtis MD – Biggin Hill Airport Ltd

### **BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT SOCIAL CLUB**

It is almost the year end and that time for renewals of your Biggin Hill Airport Social Club membership, which will become due at the end of December if you wish to show your continuing support. Of course, membership is not required just to continue receiving the Newsletters! Thanks for some who have already sent in their renewal fee...

Full membership details can be found at www.bigginhillclub.co.uk - When sending anything to us by post, please remember to use the new address on the site. Existing members renewing do not need a further form, so just send the appropriate fee. (If you need to replace the existing photo, please include a new head and shoulder shot with your name on the reverse – or you can email the photo to me). If you are a new member, please send both the fee, head and shoulder photo, and a completed application form.

(In all cases, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope for the return of the membership card(s).

Thanks again for your support, which helps to fund the costs of servers and domain renewals for the BigginHillReunited and BigginHillClub websites.

## EMAIL ADDRESSES

A full and current list of member names can be seen at http://www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk Please remember to tell us if you change your email address. If you know others who are not members 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 – it is, of course, free.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE

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### ALL THE BEST TO EVERYONE FROM JB AND ME!

That's it for this month, and for this year.....

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.....

Teacher to Johnny: If I gave you 2 cats and another 2 cats and another 2, how many will you have?

Johnny: Seven, Sir.

Teacher: No, listen carefully... If I gave you 2 cats, and another 2 cats and another 2, how many will you have?

Johnny: Seven, Sir.

Teacher: Let me put it to you differently. If I gave you 2 apples, and another 2 apples and another 2, how many would you have?

Johnny: Six, Sir.

Teacher: Good. Now if I gave you 2 cats, and another 2 cats and another 2, how many would you have?

Johnny: Seven!!! SIR!

A very angry Teacher: Where in the hell do you get seven from??

A very angry Johnny: Because,.... I've already got a f\*\*kin' cat!! .....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Two blondes were filling up at a gas station and the first blonde says to the second, "I bet these awful gas prices are going to go even higher."

The second blonde replies, "Won't affect me, I always put in just \$10 worth."

One day, Jill's husband came home from the office and found her sobbing convulsively. "I feel terrible," she told him. "I was pressing your suit and I burned a big hole in the seat of your trousers."

"Forget it," consoled her husband. "Remember that I bought an extra pair of pants for that suit." "Yes, and it's lucky for you that you did," said Jill, drying her eyes. "I used them to patch the hole."

Two blondes were walking down the road and the first blonde said, "Look at that dog with one eye!"

The other blonde covers one of her eyes and says, "Where?"

A blonde decided to redecorate her bedroom. She wasn't sure how many rolls of wallpaper she would need, but she knew that her blonde friend from next door had recently done the same job and the two rooms were identical in size.

"Buffy," she said, "How many rolls of wallpaper did you buy for your bedroom?" "Ten," said Buffy.

So the blonde bought the ten rolls of paper and did the job, but she had 2 rolls leftover. "Buffy," she said. "I bought ten rolls of wallpaper for the bedroom, but I've got 2 leftover!" "Yes," said Buffy. "So did I."

A blonde bought two horses and could never remember which was which. A neighbour suggested that she cut off the tail of one horse, which worked great until the other horse got his tail caught in a bush. The second horse's tail tore in the same place and looked exactly like the other horse's tail. Our blonde friend was stuck again.

The neighbour then suggested that she notch the ear of one horse, which worked fine until the other horse caught his ear on a barbed wire fence. Once again, our blonde friend couldn't tell the two horses apart.

The neighbour then suggested that she measure the horses for height. When she did that, the blonde was very pleased to find that the white horse was 2 inches taller than the black one.

Blonde Interview

The executive was interviewing a young blonde for a position in his company. He wanted to find out something about her personality so he asked, "If you could have a conversation with any person, living or dead, who would that be?"

The blonde quickly responded, "The living one."

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A Somali arrives in Vancouver as a new immigrant to Canada.

He stops the first person he sees walking down the street and says.... 'Thank you Mr. Canadian for letting me in this country, giving me housing, money for food, free medical care, free education and no taxes!'

The passer-by says, 'You are mistaken, I am Mexican.'

The man goes on and encounters another passer-by. 'Thank you for having such a beautiful

country here in Canada!' The person says, 'I not Canadian, I Vietnamese.'

The new arrival walks further, and the next person he sees he stops, shakes his hand and says, 'Thank you for the wonderful Canada!' That person puts up his hand and says, 'I am from Middle East, I am not Canadian!'

He finally sees a nice lady and asks, 'Are you a Canadian?' She says, 'No, I am from Africa!' Puzzled, he asks her, 'Where are all the Canadians?' The African lady checks her watch and says... 'Probably at work' .....UNQUOTE

QUOTE..... An Italian Mama

Mrs. Ravioli comes to visit her son Anthony for dinner. He lives with a female roommate, Maria.

During the course of the meal, his mother couldn't help but notice how pretty Anthony's roommate is.

Over the course of the evening, while watching the two interact, she started to wonder if there was more between Anthony and his roommate than met the eye.

Reading his mom's thoughts, Anthony volunteered, "I know what you must be thinking, but I assure you, Maria and I are just roommates."

About a week later, Maria came to Anthony saying, "Ever since your mother came to dinner, I've been unable to find the silver sugar bowl. You don't suppose she took it, do you?"

"Well, I doubt it, but I'll email her, just to be sure." So he sat down and wrote an email:

Dear Mama,

I'm not saying that you "did" take the sugar bowl from my house; I'm not saying that you "did not" take it. But the fact remains that it has been missing ever since you were here for dinner. Your Loving Son, Anthony

A few days later, Anthony received a response email from his Mama which read:

Dear son,

I'm not saying that you "do" sleep with Maria, and I'm not saying that you "do not" sleep with her. But the fact remains that if she was sleeping in her OWN bed, she would have found the sugar bowl by now. Your Loving Mama

Moral: Never Bulla Shita your Mama

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

The plane leaves JFK airport under the control of a Jewish Captain. His co-pilot is Chinese.

It's the first time they've flown together and an awkward silence between the two seems to indicate a mutual dislike.

Once they reach cruising altitude, the Jewish Captain activates the auto-pilot, leans back in his seat, and mutters, 'I don't like Chinese...'

'No rike Chinese?' asks the co-pilot, 'Why not?'

'You people bombed Pearl Harbour, that's why.'

'No, no', the co-pilot protests, 'Chinese not bomb Peahl Hahbah. That Japanese, not Chinese.'

'Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese. Doesn't matter, you're all alike.'

There's a few minutes of silence...

'I no rike Jews. the co-pilot suddenly announces.

'Oh yeah, why not?' asks the captain.

'Jews sink Titanic.' says the co-pilot.

'What? That's insane. Jews didn't sink the Titanic.' exclaims the captain, 'It was an iceberg.'

'Iceberg, Goldberg, Greenberg, Rosenberg, no mattah...all frucking same.

# .....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"...)