

Hi everyone

It is February already – where did the time go? Welcome to the February 2011 Biggin Hill Users Database Newsletter. The February edition of the Biggin Hill Airport "BUGLE" by John Bryan is also available for viewing/downloading on the Social Club's website at <http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk>

As always, please keep those stories coming in for inclusion in future issues. (JB's direct email address is johnbryan@jbplstd.demon.co.uk, or you can send items directly to me to pass on). Just a brief Newsletter and Bugle this month, as weather has been awful and everyone seems to have been in hibernation since Christmas.

EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATES AND ADDITIONS

Thanks to those who have sent amended email addresses, and suggested new members, and of course, welcome also to those that have recently added their names to the database.... For current member names see <http://www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk> and go to the link to the database membership..

THE AIRPORT

The CAA has published some of the airspace proposals for the temporary restricted and/or controlled airspace during the 2012 Olympics period – these can be seen at:

<http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=7&pagetype=90&pageid=10181>

At first glance there seems to be little to affect us at Biggin – BUT – they have yet to publish anything for the immediate area around Biggin Hill, so I fear the shocks are yet to come....

Whilst on the subject of the Olympics, Bromley Council are shortly to be reviewing the responses to Biggin Hill Airport's proposals for that same period for variations in the airport lease (for details of the Airport's proposals see www.bigginhillclub.co.uk/bh_olympic_proposals.pdf).

Whilst I feel the Airport Management, by its handling of the premature termination of the Air fair contract, have really not endeared itself to many of us (as airport users and residents alike), I am nevertheless appalled at the misinformation and propaganda being distributed by the normal airport opposition groups in the area around the airport. Some of that rubbish can be viewed at:

<http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk/braad.pdf>

Interestingly, this new "Association" appears to claim it is a coalition of – amongst others – Residents Associations. It does NOT appear to represent the Biggin Hill & District Residents Association (of which I am a member), who have come out with guarded support for the Airport's plans for the Olympics. See press release:

<http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk/bhsupport.pdf>

Whatever I (and many others) may feel about the Airport Management from time to time, I do feel that we should perhaps join forces with them in opposing such anti-airport views. These opposition groups are dangerous to the very existence of the airport, and they really must not be allowed to gain a major foothold on the way the local area residents view our airport. If they are allowed to grow in strength, they can only damage the airport that we operate from, and none of us would want really want that...

So – can I ask all of you that either live nearby, work at, or fly from, Biggin Hill Airport, to quickly put pen to paper to let the Bromley Council know that not everyone wants to stop the airport operating. We all know it is important that the airport makes the most of the commercial opportunity offered by the Olympics coming to London. We only ask that the management, in return, recognise the support and do everything they can to allow Biggin Hill based clubs, businesses, and privately owned based aircraft, to operate through that period with minimal restrictions placed upon them. You don't even have to write a letter, it can be done by email – but it is important that we do all do it..

Time to put away our personal grievances with the management and show our support for once... After all, a strong and financially secure airport will ensure Biggin Hill survives as an airport into the future for all our benefits!

Residents and other interested groups can express their views about the BHAL plans in an eight week consultation period. The slightly extended consultation period now closes on Friday 18 February 2011 at 17.00 hours. Comments can be e-mailed to airport.consultation@bromley.gov.uk or made by writing to Bromley Council's Renewal and Recreation Department, Airport Consultation, Bromley Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Bromley BR1 3UH.

BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT SOCIAL CLUB

Thanks to all those who have renewed their membership – you should all, by now, have received your new membership cards. Existing members can renew by simply sending in their fee with a self addressed stamped envelope – no new form is required, and no photo (unless you want to use a different one for the new card of course!) Full details on the club website at www.bigginhillclub.co.uk

Applications from new potential members should follow the instructions on the website.

That's it again for this month...

John Willis - Biggin Hill Airport Users Database

(And Finally:
Sent to me from various sources over the last few weeks.....

QUOTE.....
It has been pointed out that this year there are some quite freaky dates and occurrences....
This year we will experience 4 unusual dates.....
1/1/11
1/11/11
11/1/11
and 11/11/11.....

Also

Take the last 2 digits of the year you were born and add to it the age you turn this year and it will equal 111..... Freaky!
.....UNQUOTE

And now something for the oldies amongst us.....

QUOTE.....
How many of these things do you remember?

Headlight dip-switches on the floor of the car.
Ignition switches on the dashboard.
There were two postal deliveries per day.
Trousers leg clips for bicycles without chain guards.
The street lights were turned off at about 11pm each night.
Soldering irons you heated on a gas burner.
Using hand signals for cars without turn indicators.
Fizzy drinks were delivered in glass bottles by lorry each week, and the empties returned.

and now a quick quiz.....
Count all the ones that you "remember", NOT the ones you have been "told" about.

Ratings appear after the list of questions.

1. Sweet cigarettes
2. Coffee shops with juke boxes
3. Home milk delivery in glass bottles
4. Party lines on the telephone
5. Newsreels before a film
6. TV test card patterns that came on at night after the last show and were there until TV shows started again. (There was only 1 channel anyway, if you were fortunate enough to have a TV at all)
7. Peashooters
8. 78 rpm records
9. 45 RPM records
10. Hi-fi's
11. Metal ice trays with levers
12. Blue flashbulbs
13. Cork popguns
14. Wash tub wringers

If you remembered 0-3 = You're still young
If you remembered 3-6 = You are getting older
If you remembered 7-10 = Don't tell your age
If you remembered 11-14 = You're positively ancient!

Unfortunately, I came out as 'positively ancient' but those memories are from are some of the best periods of my life.

.....UNQUOTE

Thanks to Pam in Australia for these last few gems from the past..

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 unusual and interesting stories or anecdotes that you feel may interest our readers, please email them to me as a possible inclusion in a monthly "and Finally"...))