

Hi everyone

Welcome to the July 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 July 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.

JUNE WEATHER

Wow, what weather we've had this month – Hottest temperature in June since that incredible Summer of 1976. The clubs and private owners certainly tried, within the limits permitted, to take fullest advantage of the weather and flew whenever possible.

At least this time we got away without a hosepipe ban and general water shortage...

MEMORIAL GATHERING FOR RICHARD

Friday 16th June saw a group of stalwart Biggin Hill'ites partaking in a few jars at the Kings Arms pub in Leaves Green for our friend Richard Chippendale, who sadly passed away in February, to give him a proper Biggin Hill send off.

Our appreciation should go to Jon Windover, Dan Humphries, and Gary Merchant, for what is frequently a fairly thankless task of trying to motivate everyone to join in at an event, but, in the end it was a really good evening and the buffet went down very well with all who attended.

R.I.P. Richard

MEMBER SEEKS INFORMATION ON OLD BIGGIN HILL'ITES

Old Biggin Hill'ite, Harry Harris, former Chief Flying Instructor of Vendair Flying Club at Biggin in the 60's, is seeking any information on a number of old friends and colleagues from those days.

Adele Parks (later married to an ARB inspector and flew for Fiji Airlines as co-pilot on 737's).

Alfie Westaway – from S&KFC in the days of Tiny Marshall and Peter Chinn

Brenda Furlong (who put together Dougie Gilbert's story for him - got married and moved up to Scotland).

Chuck Smith (became Chief Pilot of B747s with Singapore Airlines. I took him through to his PPL).

John Miles – CFI of 600 Sqn Flying Group in the 60's subsequently Lloyd International and others.

Margaret Dyne (nee Culbert) ex-Air Touring Club whom I taught to fly and she later instructed at Headcorn I think).

Peter Brown – former instructor at S&KFC in the mid 60's

Roger Barham (Vendair member and always taking photos around the airfield).

Roger Bailey (retired from BCAL / BA and last known address was somewhere in Shropshire I think but he had a place in France also).

Tony Cheshire (he had a big falling out with Mick Ronayne, but I later heard that he'd died but not sure about that).

If anyone can help with information, please email me on john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk and I will pass the information on to him...

END OF AN ERA – ADAMS AVIATION MD RETIRES

Steve Langston, who joined Adams Aviation in 1972, and rose to become the Managing Director in 2000, retires at the end of June 2017 after getting on for five decades with the company.

Originally joining the fledgling team of two in Hammersmith for six weeks work experience, Steve never looked back. As a part of that initial team, headed by current Chairman, Frank Gosling, Steve helped the company grow considerably in those early years, and since being appointed to the position as MD in 2000, the company's turnover has continued to increase impressively from around £5m to some £24m in 2016.

"I'm honoured to publicly congratulate Steve for putting up with us all for so long!" quipped Stephen Gosling, Adams' CEO, adding *"Really though I must thank him for the incredible amount he's taught me, on both a personal and professional level, and reassure him that we will all follow his lead with a determination to carry this company forward safely."*

Steve's commitment and loyalty to the company for almost 45 years shows monumental dedication, but that extends wider into the aviation world. A great supporter of the PFA (Popular Flying Association), the forerunner to today's LAA (Light Aircraft Association), he also became the Managing Director of EASO (European Aviation Suppliers Organisation) and was the first non-American President of ADMA (Aviation Distributors and Manufacturers Association).

Also taking early retirement is his wife, Marie-Justine, Adams' Sales Training Manager, who also led their French/Belgium sales team. Marie joined the company in 2008, marrying Steve in 2012, and they're both looking forward to spending more time with their children and grandchildren.

Steve joked of his well-earned retirement, *"After such a long sentence I've decided to retire while I'm still young enough to have some fun!"*, continuing, *"I intend for us to spend time travelling, visiting old castles, cruising around the countryside in my Morgan and basically doing whatever takes my fancy!"*

I'm sure that all Biggin Hill'ites would like to join me in congratulating Steve on all his work for Adams Aviation, and aviation in general, and to wish him, and his wife, a wonderful retirement.
[Ed]

HURRICANE ENCLOSURE AT THE FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT

Thanks to everyone who has sent in their order forms and payments for passes for the exclusive private enclosure at the 2017 Festival of Flight on Sunday 20th August. At the time of writing this Newsletter we are awaiting the passes from the printers, which will be distributed in the supplied Self-Addressed and stamped envelopes in the next few days. Their cheques will be presented for payment now.

The entry costs for the Enclosure have now increased to the full rate from their initial launch discounted price, and this is now reflected on the application form., which 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 self-addressed and stamped envelope and your cheque for the 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.

Places in the Marquee and enclosure has, until now, been only available to any present or past airport users, all airport Tenants, and of course their friends and families. However space in the enclosure has now been opened to other interested groups to ensure it is fully subscribed.

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.

COUPLE OF FUTURE LOCAL AVIATION EVENTS

I have been asked to let members know about a couple of local events that may be of interest to some of you:

RAF KENLEY AEROJUMBLE

Sunday 8th October 2017 at 10.30am - Kenley, Caterham on the Hill, Surrey CR8 5ES

We're pleased to announce an 'Aviation Aerojumble' at the famous Battle of Britain fighter base this coming autumn. The event is held in conjunction with the current successful Autojumble and Classic cars & bikes, at the RAFA club on this historic and original airfield site and access all around the airfield is possible. Entry will be £2.50 per person

also

CROYDON AIRPORT AVIATION & MILITARY COLLECTORS FAIR

Sunday 7th January 2018 10.30am - Croydon Aerodrome (Hallmark) Hotel, Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey - 40 Tables/Traders all in doors. Free Parking.

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,

Here at Alouette, not only do we give professional one to one pilot training; we also socialise regularly around our club bar. Our recent (obtuse) quiz night saw much scratching of heads within the healthy crowd.

We believe that getting together with other students and PPLs with instructors and management at hand is a worthwhile venture. You can learn so much from others. Come and join us every first Wednesday evening of the month.

Meantime, keep flying - keep current.

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

FALCON FLIGHT ACADEMY (inc EFG) & FALCON FLIGHT SERVICES

Greetings from the Falcon Camp

With the end of the month set to be a wet one we can only look back and be thankful it's cooled down somewhat. During the brisk heatwave of summer, all our instructors and pilots alike made the most of the amazing days and took to the skies. A combination of initial solo flights both in the

circuit and across the vast expanse of S.E. England ensure excellent progress for all levels of student.

This month saw the arrival of 2 new instructors:

Mariano Ripoll joins us from Easyjet. As a Captain for Easyjet and keen aviation enthusiast we are delighted to have him on board.

Mark Butler joins us with vast experience in the home counties. With years of experience under his belt we look forward to his advice and guidance over days to come.

PPL is busy as ever and the only thing keeping us grounded at the moment is the weather! Multi is busy with renewals and revalidation of pilots from both GA to those Corporate pilots keeping their skills sharp.

Don't forget in the ever-changing landscape of Biggin Hill, we pride ourselves with 40 years of solid service to the Business and Private sectors of General Aviation. So, whether you are new clients, or have instantly become old friends, we are happy to service your every need.

For: Flight Training call EFG on 01959 540 4000 or S&K on 01959 572255 and for Maintenance call Falcon on 01959 572 339 or 575 923

Till Then - Stay blessed

Best Wishes
Anoop Singh Bamrah

REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

This year's Festival of Flight is fast approaching with only 7 weeks to go - why does it always feel an age away and then suddenly!!!!!!

The flying display is all but put to bed, we just need to fine tune the running order for both days, bearing in mind that we are sharing some assets with Eastbourne and Herne Bay. But we still have some exclusive top-quality display items which include the Patrouille de France, Czech Saab Gripen, Hip & Hind helicopters, and then we must not forget of course the regular favourites; the Red Arrows, Battle of Britain Memorial flight, Breitling Wingwalkers, and Biggin Hill Heritage Hangar, plus many others.

Other than attending the show with a general entry ticket, you can upgrade to either the Hurricane Enclosure or the Spitfire enclosure, both of which are available on the 20th August. Please bear in mind that the special offer price for the Hurricane enclosure has now ended and tickets are only available at the full price. For more information:

for the Hurricane enclosure – go to <http://www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk/hurricane.pdf>
and for the Spitfire enclosure please go to www.lbhacommunity.co.uk/hospitality.

On the 27th June we had two special events;

The first was to help 72 Sqn celebrate it's 100th anniversary with a four ship flypast of RAF Tucano's from the home base at RAF Lynton on Ouse. The flypast, which took the formation over many of the airfields in the UK and Northern Ireland that have served as 72 Sqn former bases through its long history, was witnessed by veteran pilot FI Lt Rodney Scrace DFC, a former 72 Sqn Spitfire pilot.

Our second event of the day was to host the Bromley Youth Music Trust band Big Phat Brass as they undertook their weekly rehearsals in the airport's terminal hanger. During the session the airport presented them with a cheque for £3,500 to enable BYMT to bring music to Biggin Hill Primary School and Charles Darwin school through their Band on the Run project.

A final reminder to get your air show tickets before the price increase on the 7th August.

Best wishes
Colin Hitchins
Community Engagement Manager

MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF WILL CURTIS

June has been another busy month for business aviation. As many will be only too well aware, this has placed a strain in light aviation and in particular upon circuit training at Biggin Hill. We recently met with Biggin Hill based flying clubs and schools to inform them that the availability of the circuit for training details will be limited and that they should make arrangements with neighbouring airfields for circuit training details in order to avoid undue delays or disappointment. As usual, whilst many have accepted this as the reality of the situation, some have chosen to push back and demand access to the circuit at Biggin Hill. This simply won't happen because we cannot physically accommodate it, so the choice is to do the required circuits elsewhere or alternatively, not to do them at all. Business aviation pays the bills at Biggin Hill, so with all due respect to light aviation and its undoubted importance to the UK aviation industry as whole, we must deal with whatever business aviation needs first and foremost.

In understanding why we have taken this approach, it may be useful to consider the facts. In May, circuits represented over 50% of all aircraft movements at Biggin Hill. Total airport revenues for the month were circa £1.5 million of which landing fees for circuits represented just £4,170 – or put another way just 0.3% of that income. Even if we take into account fuel and rents on premises, the total is less than 2% of revenues. Our business jet customers must, therefore, come first because they pay the bills - and nowadays, the bills are big!

It has become increasingly difficult to fit circuit training in amongst IFR arrivals and departures and our SMS (and our Board) tells us that we must make adjustments. We do not believe that this change will affect the quality of training delivered to students and it may well improve it since there will be far fewer interruptions to the student's progress at a quieter local aerodrome. Redhill has expressed enthusiasm for taking any circuit details that cannot be performed here at Biggin Hill, so schools and clubs will be able to take advantage of this. This is not a "circuit ban" as some have sought to suggest - it is what the Governor of the Bank of England calls "forward guidance" – i.e. forward notice that circuit details may be considerably more difficult to obtain in future as our business aviation side grows.

In other news, you will all see that the second parking hangar on the main apron is making good progress. We expect it to be housing aircraft by December this year and we have numerous enquiries for this space so we expect it to be fully subscribed from day one. Our new hotel project has been the subject of a pre-application meeting with the borough planning division which went well and we expect to apply for full planning consent in the late summer with construction beginning late this year.

Since we adopted the new airport operating hours, we have seen a substantial increase in the volume of enquiries from business jet operators and aircraft maintenance firms. We hope to increase the built space at the airport in the coming years in order to produce more high value jobs and employment opportunities as well as rent and just as importantly, business rates and rents that will help the Council pay for services that might otherwise face cuts.

I am pleased to report that, with very few exceptions, light aircraft operators have followed the noise abatement procedures well and I would like to take the opportunity to thank all concerned for their help in making improvements in this regard. The areas that seem most often breached are the southern tip of the zone covering Biggin Hill and Tatsfield and the extension of the downwind leg for runway 21 without good reason or justification. Obviously, we will take such instances up

with the pilots concerned, but I would be most grateful if you could take these points into account when arranging your flight. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

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.

Having said that, thank you very much to all of you who have generously made financial donations in support of the Newsletter and the database upkeep. Your support really is appreciated. If anyone else would like to show their support, please make any cheques payable to "John Willis" and send them to "Biggin Hill Airport Users Database, 26 Churchside Close, Biggin Hill, Kent, TN16 3QF". If you would prefer not to use a cheque, but would still like to contribute, please contact me and I will give you bank details to which you can make a transfer.

All contributions will be acknowledged by email – thank you..

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.....

A sixty-ish woman was at home happily jumping on her bed and squealing with delight...

Her husband watches her for a while and asks, "Do you have any idea how ridiculous you look, what's the matter with you?"

The woman continues to bounce on the bed and says, "I don't care, I just came from having a mammogram and the doctor says I have the breasts of an 18 year-old"..

The husband replies, "What did he say about your 65 year-old bum?"

"Your name never came up," she replied.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

What is Celibacy?

Celibacy can be a choice in life, or a condition imposed by circumstances.

While attending a "Marriage Weekend", my wife and I listened to the instructor declare, 'It is essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other..'

He then addressed the men, 'Can you name and describe your wife's favourite flower?'

I leaned over, touched my wife's hand gently, and whispered, 'Self raising - All-Purpose, isn't it?'

And thus, began my life of celibacy.....

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A father put his 3 year-old daughter to bed, told her a story and listened to her prayers, which ended by saying: "God bless Mommy, God bless Daddy, and God bless Grandma and goodbye Grandpa."

The father asked, "Why did you say goodbye Grandpa?"

The little girl said, "I don't know, Daddy, it just seemed like the thing to do."

The next day grandpa died.

The father thought it was a strange coincidence.

A few months later the father put the girl to bed and listened to her prayers which went like this: "God bless Mommy, God Bless Daddy and goodbye Grandma."

The next day the grandmother died.

"Holy Moly, thought the father, "this kid is in contact with the other side."

Several weeks later when the girl was going to bed the dad heard her say: "God bless Mommy and goodbye Daddy.."

He practically went into shock. He couldn't sleep all night and got up at the Crack of dawn to go to his office. He was nervous as a cat all day, had lunch and watched the clock. He figured if he could get by until midnight he would be okay. He felt safe in the office, so instead of going home at the end of the day he stayed there, drinking coffee, looking at his watch and jumping at every sound. Finally, midnight arrived, he breathed a sigh of relief and went home.

When he got home his wife said, "I've never seen you work so late, what's the matter?"

He said, "I don't want to talk about it, I've just spent the worst day of my life."

She said, "You think you had a bad day, you'll never believe what happened to me this morning. My golf pro dropped dead in the middle of my lesson."

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

As a butcher is shooing a dog from his shop, he sees £10 and a note in his mouth, reading: "8 lamb chops, please."

Amazed, he takes the money, puts a bag of chops in the dog's mouth, and quickly closes the shop.

He follows the dog and watches him wait for a green light, look both ways, and trot across the road to a bus-stop.

The dog checks the timetable and sits on the bench.

When a bus arrives, he walks around to the front and looks at the number, then boards the bus.

The butcher follows, dumbstruck. As the bus travels out into the suburbs, the dog takes in the scenery.

After a while he stands on his back paws to push the "stop" bell, and then the butcher follows him off.

The dog runs up to a house and drops his bag on the step. He barks repeatedly.

No answer.

He goes back down the path, takes a big run, and throws himself - whap!- against the door. He does this again & again.

No answer.

So he jumps on a wall, walks around the garden, barks repeatedly at a window, jumps off, and waits at the front door. Eventually, a small guy opens it and starts cursing and shouting at the dog.

The butcher runs up screams at the guy: "What the hell are you doing? This dog's a genius!"

The owner responds, "Genius, my foot. It's the second time this week he's forgotten his key!"

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

21 reasons why it is good to be a bloke.

1. Phone conversations are over in 30 seconds flat.
2. Movie nudity is virtually always female.
3. You know stuff about tanks.
4. A week's holiday requires only one suitcase.
5. Match of the Day.
6. You don't have to monitor your friends' sex lives.
7. Queues for the toilet are 90% shorter.
8. You can open all your own jars.
9. Old friends don't give you crap if you've lost or gained weight.
10. Dry cleaners and hairdressers don't rob you blind.

11. When channel surfing, you don't have to stall on every shot of someone crying.
12. Your arse is never a factor in a job interview.
13. All your orgasms are real.
14. A beer gut does not make you invisible to the opposite sex.
15. Guys in hockey masks don't attack you.
16. You don't have to lug a bag of useless stuff around everywhere you go.
17. People expect you to ignore them.
18. You can go to the bathroom without a support group.
19. Your last name stays put.
20. You can leave a hotel bed unmade.
21. You don't have to clean the house and wash up just before the cleaner arrives to do it all.
.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Father Norton woke up Sunday morning and realizing it was an exceptionally beautiful and sunny early spring day, decided he just had to play golf.

So, he told the Associate Pastor that he was feeling sick and persuaded him to say Mass for him that day.

As soon as the Associate Pastor left the room, Father Norton headed out of town to a golf course about forty miles away. This way he knew he wouldn't accidentally meet anyone he knew from his parish. Setting up on the first tee, he was alone. After all, it was Sunday morning and everyone else was in church!

At about this time, Saint Peter leaned over to the Lord while looking down from the heavens and exclaimed, "You're not going to let him get away with this, are you?"

The Lord sighed, and said, "No, I guess not."

Just then Father Norton hit the ball and it shot straight towards the pin, dropping just short of it, rolled up and fell into the hole.

IT WAS A 420 YARD HOLE IN ONE!

St. Peter was astonished. He looked at the Lord and asked, "Why did you let him do that?"

The Lord smiled and replied, "Who's he going to tell?"

PEACE BE WITH YOU

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Only An Aussie Can Make You Feel Like A Woman

A plane passed through a severe storm. The turbulence was awful, and then it went from bad to worse when one wing was struck by lightning.

One woman lost it completely. She stood up in the front of the plane and screamed, 'I'm too young to die,' she cried.

Then she yelled, 'If I'm going to die, I want my last minutes on earth to be memorable! Is there anyone on this plane who can make me feel like a WOMAN?'

For a moment, there was silence. Everyone stared at the desperate woman in the front of the plane. Then the man from Australia stood up in the rear of the plane.

He was handsome, tall, well built, with dark brown hair and hazel eyes. Slowly, he started to walk up the aisle, unbuttoning his shirt as he went, one button at a time. No one moved. He removed his shirt. Muscles rippled across his chest.

She gasped...

Then, he spoke...

'Iron this -- and then get me a beer.'

.....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"...))