

Hi everyone

Welcome to the June 2008 Database Newsletter.....

The June edition of the new Biggin Hill Airport "BUGLE" by John Bryan is available for viewing/downloading on the Social Club's website at <http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk>

Please remember to send JB any stories of interest, and photos, for inclusion in future issues. It's your newsletter so please help JB to keep it coming.... (his direct email address is johnbryan@jbplstd.demon.co.uk, or you can send items directly to me to pass on)

Changed email addresses

Thanks to all of you who have recently changed your email addresses and let me have your new address for the database. As always, please let me know if any friends known to be on the database have recently changed their address, and of details of any new people who you think should be added to it.

Departed friends

Richard Tomkinson

I was shocked to hear that an old student of mine, and someone well known to many old Sportair Flying Club members, Richard Tomkinson, passed away on 31st March in Singapore, following a long battle with cancer. Richard lived and worked in the far east, and had always continued with his flying. He was a part owner in a light aircraft (G-ATTM) which he kept out in the far east and flew all over that part of the world - see August 2006 article in the Sakhalin Times at : http://www.thesakhalintimes.com/index.php?action=archive&year=2006&month=08&id_catalog=6&id_news=602&page=1

Richard was last seen by many of us when, in 2003, he famously flew all the way from Singapore especially to join us for the 2003 Airport Reunion (where his photo can be seen on the reunion site at www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk - 2003 reunion section on the Photo page 2, 4th one down on the right side).

A sad loss of a young man in his prime of life.

2008 Biggin Hill Air Show

It is that time of the year again - the Air Fair is almost upon us. This year the weekend of the 7th and 8th of June promises to be a great show (as always) and I'm sure most of you will attend at some stage if you are not living too far away.

For current members of the Biggin Hill Airport Social Club, you are reminded that the yellow "Airport" membership photocards are regarded as formal Air Show entry passes for the holder only - so please carry these and show them at the gate on entry. The holder may, of course, take their car into the main car park,

but all occupants must hold either a valid entry ticket or photo membership card. To avoid complicating matters, I suggest any non-members in a car are dropped just before the entry gate where they can walk through and purchase their tickets, meeting you on the other side of the gate, as this may save time. Gate staff will have a board at all entry gates showing all acceptable forms of entry ticket, and the club pass will be included on there. (Please bear in mind that staff may sometime not have seen the pass before, and will be unsure of the validity - if this is the case, please explain that the pass is one of those on the board showing all passes acceptable, as ask them politely to check. Please do not be rude to them or try to push your way through. They are doing their job, and should not be subjected to any abuse.)

JB and I have spent several months trying hard to obtain a location for a temporary bar on the airport for the period of the show, without success. We came very close to having something, but that final route was confirmed as unavailable to us only a few days ago. So, sorry that there is no formal watering hole on the airfield this year (we can only hope things are better next year!), and I hope that many of us will at least meet after the show each evening at the Jail pub in Jail Lane. (In fact, on the Saturday evening, we are trying to organise a special Airport gathering with some sort of Air Show special area outside in conjunction with the pub - more later this week, but keep the evening free if you can to join everyone there....)

I hope you all have a good show, in spite of the changes this year that have resulted from the loss of Joe's Pilots Pals Bar. I know it won't be quite the same, but lets try to all meet up anyway off airport....

That's it for this month

John Willis
Biggin Hill Airport Users Database