

Hi everyone

Welcome again to the Biggin Hill Users Database March Newsletter....

JB's March 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.*** As always, please keep those stories coming in for inclusion in future issues. (JB's direct email address is [johnbryan13@sky.com](mailto:johnbryan13@sky.com), or you can send items directly to me to pass on: [john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk](mailto:john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk))

## **EMAIL ADDRESSES**

Welcome to the new Database members who may be receiving this regular Newsletter for the first time. 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 (ie. 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.

## **FEBRUARY WEATHER**

February has been very mixed with some really excellent flying days when the area around Biggin absolutely buzzing with aircraft as we all tried to take advantage of the conditions. Then, just as we thought we could get flying regularly again, back down it came to low scudding clouds and poor visibility. Still, I guess it is only February (but at least we weren't snowed out for any part of the month, with the exception of a short sharp burst on 21<sup>st</sup> that disappeared almost as quickly as it arrived!)

With March now upon us, and clocks changing to BST at the end of the month, lets all hope we can look forward now to an excellent summer's flying weather.

## **THE 2003 BUMP REUNION – BIG SCREEN – NEXT VIDEO**

This month's video from the Big Screen presentation at the 2003 Bump Reunion has now been published. This month features film about Biggin Hill "Then and Now" and includes shots of Meteor Squadrons at Biggin in the 50's and some great Air Fair flying display film

Click on the link below (or copy and paste it into your browser) to view:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMLAew21HRk>

Enjoy.....

## **GASCo SAFETY EVENING**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February saw around 80 pilots attending one of the excellent General Aviation Safety Council's Safety Evenings, hosted by Biggin Hill Airport at the Main Terminal. The theme of the meeting was the "GA Safety Six" – Runway Excursions (they really were "ex"ursions, not incursions as many mistakenly thought was intended!), Airspace Infringements, Controlled Flight into Terrain, Airborne Conflict, and Loss of Control, with Human Factors running right through the entire group.

The speaker made the evening amusing, whilst getting the point across, and used a number of very entertaining but thought provoking slides and particularly videos. There were some prizes awarded, plus each attendee received a full pack including leaflets containing much that was in the slides. Additionally, on exit and giving in their feedback form, each person received a very useful AFE "Cockpit Companion" booklet.

If you haven't attended one of these sessions before, I would strongly recommend looking out for the next one near you, they are carried out frequently and all around the country. (see the GASCo website at [www.gasco.org.uk](http://www.gasco.org.uk) or call the local office on 01634 200203)

## **AIRPORTS UNDER THREAT AGAIN**

Not satisfied with closing Manston, Panshangar, and West Malling (and these just in our immediate vicinity), Flyer Magazine has now announced that Cotswold Airport (formerly Kemble) is now under threat:

QUOTE....

Plans are in place which propose the development of privately-owned Cotswold Airport (formerly Kemble) for 2,000 homes and other services, creating a 'new, sustainable village'.

FLYER contacted Cotswold Airport management for a comment on the plans, but were referred to Tristan Fitzgerald Associates (TFA) who issued us with a press release which explains, 'As part of the Local Plan process, Commercial Estates Group (CEG), a company who actively develop and manage land and property in the UK are making representations to show how Kemble Airfield can help the council sustainably meet its housing supply.'

When FLYER asked whether Cotswold Airport's owners were actively pursuing the development, and if CEG were working on the proposal on their behalf, TFA answered, 'CEG are working in partnership with the landowner and have entered into a long term agreement to promote the airfield through the planning system.'

Also in the release, Matthew Tunley of CEG comments, "Kemble Airfield provides an opportunity to create a new sustainable village of around 2,000 homes alongside shops and services, education, leisure facilities and employment. This could be a very special place and deliver a wide range of benefits including parking for Kemble Station and improving broadband connectivity in surrounding villages."

The General Aviation airport is currently occupied by aircraft hangars, two runways, and industrial and commercial units. Kemble Enterprise Park, which accommodates a wide range of business units, adjoins the site to the south. Cotswold District Council is currently consulting on the Local Plan and further consultation will take place later in the Spring/Summer.

A website is being constructed to include the representations made to Cotswold District Council - [www.kembleairfield.com](http://www.kembleairfield.com). More details as they become available.

.....UNQUOTE

I know there are many others also under threat around the UK – where will this all stop?

## **THE AIR SHOW MARQUEE IN JUNE 2015**

Thank you to everyone who has reserved their places in the Biggin Hill Reunited Marquee at the 2014 Festival of Flight show on 13<sup>th</sup> June. Response has been good, but there is still time to reserve your places. Reservations are still being taken for the time being, with priority given

to the earliest received reservations – just send me an email stating the number of places required to [john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk](mailto:john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk)

Persons holding reserved places will be emailed directly in the near future requesting payment of the £18 per ticket with instructions. Reservations not taken up after around three weeks will be returned to the 'pot' for general purchasers, who will be able to buy their tickets after the release date. (Actual Air Show entry tickets will be required in addition to Marquee tickets, and these will be available from the end of March from [www.bhfof.com/tickets](http://www.bhfof.com/tickets))

The Marquee (with a prominent display line position with a furnished garden area looking over the airport from which to watch the display, and a licenced bar) is available to anyone who is, or ever has been, a Biggin Hill Airport user and of course all airport tenants, plus any guests of those persons. So, if you work there, or run a business there, or fly there, or even did in the past, you are welcome to buy tickets to use the Marquee on the day - just email me on the above email address!

### **CHARITY APPEAL BY MEMBER**

*I don't usually include these in the Newsletter, but this is both a good cause and is involving one of our members, so any help anyone can offer would be good. (Ed)*

QUOTE.....

I am a PPL pilot based at Alouette Flying Club and also help out as a scout leader at the Biggin Hill Scout Aviation Centre!

From Friday I have given up alcohol for 3 months (a challenge for a uni student!) and in June I will be abseiling down the side of King's College Hospital in SE London. This in order to fund-raise money for the Kings College Hospital helicopter appeal.

At the moment when the air ambulance wishes to land it has to do so in Ruskin Park and then the patient has to be transferred by road to the hospital this can add 25 mins to the patient journey.

A video on the appeal can be here and the donation link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COcNrEYkCNo>

if you could donate any amount (Nothing is too small) I would be extremely grateful the link can be found here: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/ThomasWheeler>

Many Thanks  
Tom (Wheeler)  
.....UNQUOTE

### **AIRPORT EXTENDED HOURS PROPOSALS**

Just a quick reminder that the Bromley Council survey/consultation is due to end on 13<sup>th</sup> March. If you haven't already responded, please show your support for the airport. As we are all aware, the NIMBY's have spent thousands trying to scare every Bromley resident into voting no – they won't be happy until the airport is forced to close and they can build a housing estate on the land!

The Council's online survey can be accessed at: [www.bromley.gov.uk/bigginhillairport](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/bigginhillairport)

Please don't let the NIMBY's win over your airport...

## **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](mailto:john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk) )

### **RIZON VOTED NUMBER ONE FBO**

Congratulations to Biggin Hill's Rizon Jet FBO who have recently been voted number one in Europe, Middle East, Africa and Russia by the readers of European Business Air News (EBAN) for the second time since becoming operational in 2011.

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

Greetings from a very sunny Falcon Camp!!

So... low cloud, snow, rain, and bright beautiful sunshine...we've had it all this month! This hasn't stopped everyone trying their best to get flying.

With a few days of Runway 29 to keep your skills sharp and rain suddenly appearing out of nowhere we could say it's been rather unpredictable, I'll just keep it as being Biggin.

As usual Quarter 1 for any flying school tends to be quiet but we are taking bookings for the next couple of months so if you've been hibernating and need a currency check please give us a call on 01959 540 054.

Don't forget that Roger and his team at S&K can also prepare your flying skills for the upcoming Spring and Summer months. Having flown with John Bishop I can personally vouch for his suave demeanour really filling me with confidence and keeping me flying straight as an arrow!

Singh and Shonu have been happy to feel the temperatures rise as the sun pokes it's head out.

With the guys and gals at Falcon all your maintenance and ELT needs are only a short walk away!

Till next time

Be safe, Flight Straight, Stay Blessed.  
Anoop Singh Bamrah

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

We are hopefully nearly through the winter months and without a repeat of the drenching we received last winter. We have seen good number so of light aircraft movements through the winter which has been pleasing.

You are all aware of the ongoing Council consultation which will run until the 13th of March. If you have not already completed the Council's survey in support of our plans, please do so at [www.bromley.gov.uk/bigginhillairport](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/bigginhillairport)

The usual band of angry anti-airport campaigners are out and about stuffing their lies through resident's letter boxes and preaching doom and gloom as usual. These people do not care about jobs or the future of Bromley youngsters, which is sad because we need to do

everything we can for our next generation and we need the Council to increase its revenues to pay for public services, including care for the elderly, which are currently facing the axe.

Some in the light aviation community have asked me "what's in it for us" and I think this is a very good question that perhaps I have not answered adequately before. I will try to do so! We are committed to maintaining a vibrant and thriving light aviation sector at Biggin Hill for as long as light aviation wants to be at Biggin Hill. I am well aware that massive investment is required to bring our GA facilities up to a standard that we would all, in the 21st century, hope to provide. We have prepared concept plans for a program of improvements to East Camp which will, in the longer term, provide better GA facilities. We are studying the benefits of American style T-hangars and we have drawn up plans for new access roads and car parking to the west of the East Camp Hangar line. Of course, all this will require some serious investment over the coming years and this will therefore rely, at least to some extent, upon the Council approving our requested changes.

We carried out our own consultation in the autumn of 2014 and one of the many things local residents told us was that they would like a public viewing area at the airport. I believe that this is a good idea - it removes the mystery and mistrust from the airport and allow local residents to see what we actually do here. It may also inspire some young boys and girls to learn to fly when they grow up, which can only be a good thing. So, in the spring, we will open a small cafe and viewing area using the old Cabair flying school building. There will be an outside viewing area with appropriate fencing and this will be situated such that it does not overlook either EFG or Rizon facilities. We hope that this will be the first step in providing facilities for pilots to gather for a chat.

Until next month, safe flying!

Best regards  
Will Curtis  
MD – Biggin Hill Airport Ltd

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

Thanks again for your support for the club and database so far this year – your financial support is very much appreciated and is used to fund the costs of servers for the BigginHillReunited and BigginHillClub websites.

Full membership details can be found at [www.bigginhillclub.co.uk](http://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)).*

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.....

Demetrius Syriopoulos Explanation of the Greek Bailout!!!

It is a slow day in a little Greek Village. The rain is beating down and the streets are deserted. Times are tough, everybody is in debt, and everybody lives on credit.

On this particular day a rich German tourist is driving through the village, stops at the local hotel and lays a €100 note on the desk, telling the hotel owner he wants to inspect the rooms upstairs in order to pick one to spend the night.

The owner gives him some keys and, as soon as the visitor has walked upstairs, the hotelier grabs the €100 note and runs next door to pay his debt to the butcher.

The butcher takes the €100 note and runs down the street to repay his debt to the pig farmer.

The pig farmer takes the €100 note and heads off to pay his bill at the supplier of feed and fuel.

The guy at the Farmers' Co-op takes the €100 note and runs to pay his drinks bill at the taverna.

The publican slips the money along to the local prostitute drinking at the bar, who has also been facing hard times and has had to offer him "services" on credit.

The hooker then rushes to the hotel and pays off her room bill to the hotel owner with the €100 note.

The hotel proprietor then places the €100 note back on the counter so the rich traveller will not suspect anything.

At that moment the traveller comes down the stairs, picks up the €100 note, states that the rooms are not satisfactory, pockets the money, and leaves town.

No one produced anything.

No one earned anything.

However, the whole village is now out of debt and looking to the future with a lot more optimism.

And that, Ladies and Gentlemen, is how the bailout package works

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

There are many surnames that have historical significance. There are for example, Smith, Brown, Jones, Hall, King, etc. BUT. ....

## WHO IS JACK SCHITT??????

For some time many of us have wondered just who is Jack Schitt? We find ourselves at a loss when someone says, 'You don't know Jack Schitt!'

Well, thanks to genealogy efforts, you can now respond in an intellectual way.

Jack Schitt is the only son of Awe Schitt.

Awe Schitt was married to O. Schitt, the fertilizer magnate, and owner of Needeep N. Schitt, Inc. They had one son, Jack.

In turn, Jack Schitt married Noe Schitt. The deeply religious couple produced six children: Holie Schitt, Giva Schitt, Fulla Schitt, Bull Schitt, and the twins Deep Schitt and Dip Schitt.

Against her parents' objections, Deep Schitt married Dumb Schitt, a high school dropout.

After being married 15 years, Jack and Noe Schitt divorced. Noe Schitt later married Ted Sherlock, and because her kids were living with them, she wanted to keep her previous name. She was then known as Noe Schitt-Sherlock.

Meanwhile, Dip Schitt married Loda Schitt, and they produced a son with a rather nervous disposition who was nick-named Chicken Schitt.

Two of the other six children, Fulla Schitt and Giva Schitt, were inseparable throughout childhood and subsequently married the Happens brothers in a dual ceremony. The wedding announcement in the newspaper announced the Schitt-Happens nuptials.

The Schitt-Happens children were Dawg, Byrd, and Horse.

Bull Schitt, the prodigal son, left home to tour the world. He recently returned from Italy with his new Italian bride, Pisa Schitt.

Now when someone says, 'You don't know Jack Schitt,' you can correct them.

Sincerely,  
Crock O. Schitt  
.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A big city lawyer went duck hunting in rural North Wairarapa. He shot and dropped a bird, but it fell into a farmer's field on the other side of a fence.

As the lawyer climbed over the fence, an elderly farmer drove up on his tractor and asked him what he was doing.

The litigator responded, "I shot a duck and it fell in this field, and now I'm going to retrieve it."

The old farmer replied, "This is my property, and you are not coming over here."

The indignant lawyer said, "I am one of the best trial attorneys in New Zealand and, if you don't let me get that duck, I'll sue you and take everything you own."

The old farmer smiled and said, "Apparently, you don't know how we settle disputes in North Wairarapa. We settle small disagreements like this with the 'Three Kick Rule.'"

The lawyer asked, "What is the 'Three Kick Rule'?"

The Farmer replied, "Well, because the dispute occurs on my land, I get to go first. I kick you three times and then you kick me three times and so on back and forth until someone gives up."

The attorney quickly thought about the proposed contest and decided that he could easily take the old codger. He agreed to abide by the local custom.

The old farmer slowly climbed down from the tractor and walked up to the attorney. His first kick planted the toe of his heavy steel toed work boot into the lawyer's groin and dropped him to his knees!

His second kick to the midriff sent the lawyer's last meal gushing from his mouth. The lawyer was on all fours when the farmer's third kick to his rear end, sent him face-first into a fresh cow pie.

The lawyer summoned every bit of his will and remaining strength and very slowly managed to get to his feet. Wiping his face with the arm of his jacket, he said, "Okay, you old fart. Now it's my turn."

(I love this part)

The old farmer smiled and said, "Nah, I give up. You can have the duck."  
.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Some great quotes.....

~ John Glenn...

As I hurtled through space, one thought kept crossing my mind - every part of this rocket was supplied by the lowest bidder.

~ Desmond Tutu...

When the white missionaries came to Africa they had the Bible and we had the land. They said 'Let us pray.' We closed our eyes. When we opened them we had the Bible and they had the land.

~ David Letterman...

America is the only country where a significant proportion of the population believes that professional wrestling is real but the moon landing was faked.

~ Howard Hughes...

I'm not a paranoid, deranged millionaire. I'm a billionaire.

~ Old Italian proverb...

After the game, the King and the pawn go into the same box.

~ Betsy Salkind...

Men are like linoleum floors. Lay 'em right and you can walk all over them for thirty years.

~ Jean Kerr...

The only reason they say 'Women and children first' is to test the strength of the lifeboats.

~ Zsa Zsa Gabor...

I've been married to a communist and a fascist, and neither would take out the garbage.

~ Jeff Foxworthy...

You know you're a redneck if your home has wheels and your car doesn't.

~ Prince Philip...

When a man opens a car door for his wife, it's either a new car or a new wife.

~ Emo Philips...

A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kickboxing.

~ Harrison Ford...

Wood burns faster when you have to cut and chop it yourself.

~ Spike Milligan...

The best cure for Sea Sickness, is to sit under a tree.

~ Robin Hall...

Lawyers believe a person is innocent until proven broke.

~ Jean Rostand...

Kill one man and you're a murderer, kill a million and you're a conqueror

~ Arnold Schwarzenegger...

Having more money doesn't make you happier. I have 50 million dollars but I'm just as happy as when I had 48 million.

~ WH Auden...

We are here on earth to do good unto others. What the others are here for, I have no idea.

~ Jonathan Katz...

In hotel rooms I worry. I can't be the only guy who sits on the furniture naked

~ Johnny Carson...

If life were fair, Elvis would still be alive today and all the impersonators would be dead.

~ Warren Tantum... (School photo album).

I don't believe in astrology. I am a Sagittarius and we're very skeptical

~ Steve Martin...

Hollywood must be the only place on earth where you can be fired by a man wearing a Hawaiian shirt and a baseball cap

~ Jimmy Durante...

Home cooking. Where many a man thinks his wife is.

. ~ Doug Hanwell...

America is so advanced that even the chairs are electric.

~ George Roberts...

The first piece of luggage on the carousel never belongs to anyone

~ Jonathan Winters...

If God had intended us to fly he would have made it easier to get to the airport.

~ Robert Benchley...

I have kleptomania, but when it gets bad, I take something for it.

.....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" ...)