

Hi everyone

Welcome to the May 2018 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.

Regretfully, although JB is back home now and in recovery, he is finding things quite difficult, and can't get out of the house. Clearly he has been unable to put pen to paper and produce the May "BUGLE" for you all, and he sends his apologies. I'm sure you would all like me to send him your best wishes for a speedy recovery

BIGGIN WEATHER?

April was rather a mixed month from a weather point of view, with virtually a week of poor weather and dense fog early in the month, followed by a period of around a couple of weeks of excellent flying weather, which included several days of record breaking temperatures (I'm told the hottest April temperatures for some 70 years!). Certainly it made a wonderful change to actually be able to fly light aircraft for several consecutive days for probably the first time this year. Let's hope this is the start of a wonderful Summer's flying...

FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT 18th & 19th AUGUST 2018

Once again the Festival of Flight will be a two day extravaganza, celebrating 100 years of the Royal Air Force, at Biggin Hill on 18th and 19th August 2018. Once again timed to co-incide with the Eastbourne Air Show, it promises to be an event not to be missed.

Tickets for the event, which will not be available on the day, are now available online - see: <https://lbhacommunity.ticketsrv.co.uk/> and are available at an "early bird" discounted rate of £23.50 per adult (Up to two children under 16 admitted free with every Adult ticket holder) - normal ticket price will be £29.00 (children aged 3 or less are free).

(For bona fide Biggin Hill residents, who are not seeking space in a Hospitality Enclosure, special residents "walk in" tickets will be available at the same price as last year, from 7th May. They will be available from the Lookout Café on the airport, and the Spitfire Café in Biggin Hill village. Remember though they are "walk-in" only – cars will not be permitted with these special tickets!)

BRONZE HOSPITALITY ENCLOSURE

Instead of running our own Enclosure and Marquee this year, Users and Tenants and their guests will have access to the "Bronze" Hospitality Marquee and Enclosure on the flight line on the Sunday 19th and we have negotiated a discounted ticket price (which includes Show Entry and 2 course BBQ lunch).

The "Bronze" Hospitality Enclosure, is of a similar style to our previous marquee but without the need to buy separate show entry tickets as well as marquee tickets, as they have been combined. It is normally priced at £50 per person (£20 age 12 and under) including show entry and free BBQ. However we have an exclusive allocation, for a limited period, of discounted tickets at £45 per person (£18 age 12 and under) - children aged 3 and under are free.

The show organisers held back 100 of the 200 tickets for airport users and tenants and these will be held for us exclusively only until 18th May, thereafter any unsold tickets will be released for public sale!

Included in the Bronze Marquee Hospitality price is:

Entry to the Air Show itself
Private VIP entrance and car park
Free Event Programme
Use of the Marquee with its own garden area
Executive toilets
Free BBQ and salad buffet, followed by strawberries and cream
Pay bar
Child friendly space with entertainers provided for part of the day

Children's ticket price is valid for ages 4 to 12 inclusive, with those age 3 and under free.

(Special Note: Unlike in previous years, Hospitality guests will NOT be permitted to bring in their own food or alcoholic drinks, except for crisps/nuts/soft drinks for children who are under drinking age. There will be a pay bar within the enclosure.)

All Bronze Hospitality tickets are now available for online purchase - go to:

<https://lbhacommunity.ticketsrv.co.uk/index.php/component/?view=codeverification>

Please note the discount code to enter is: TENANTS

Following entry of the discount code, you will be presented with a Hospitality purchase page giving you the ability to select the required number of "Hospitality Bronze Family Marquee" tickets for Adults and Children.

Below that is the number of *ADDITIONAL* normal showground entry tickets - you do NOT need show entry tickets as well for Hospitality guests as that is included in the overall "Hospitality" ticket price!

Please remember, don't delay - these are likely to sell out quite quickly and once our allocation has been fully subscribed or the 18th May deadline is exceeded, further Hospitality tickets are unlikely to be available at any price.

STOP PRESS

At the time of publication, just based on word of mouth we have already sold 60 places, so there are now just 40 tickets out of the 100 allocation left, and the publicly available tickets have already sold out – if you want to be in the Enclosure – buy them today or it may be too late!

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

Greetings from Alouette.

With the "average" April weather behind us now, let's hope we get the opportunity to make the most of the Summer hours at Biggin.

Alouette is always looking to the future and is run by members for members. Needless to say no matter our fate at Biggin, we are committed to our members and intend to keep flying for many years to come. We are always happy to see other flyers at our various social functions and would

welcome new flying and social members - contact me or any committee members or instructors for details of our membership fees.....

Everyone is reminded of the last minute CAA - LAPL licence deadline extension. The new deadline is now 7th June 2018. Don't get caught out - take a moment to check and ensure you keep current.

Safe flying,
best regards

Josh Reeves
Alouette Chairman

FALCON FLIGHT ACADEMY (inc EFG) & FALCON FLIGHT SERVICES

Greetings from the Falcon camp. What a month we have had! The weather seems to be here with us for some time yet so good news there.

EFG sees the introduction of our Piper Cadet G-CDEF with touch screen Garmin GPS and a great paint job to match. We bid a fond farewell to the first of our Cessna 152 aircraft making way for essentially an all Piper Fleet.

Our members and students have shown tremendous support in wake of the news from the tower and we are committed to finding the right deal and environment for all our members going forward. As the only ATO at Biggin, Falcon, constantly evolves and looks at best practice going forward. So whatever changes lie ahead we look to keep you all flying high for many years to come.

This month saw Fly2Help visit the flying schools where we took up inspiring young people as they consider their future careers It was all smiles as they got to fulfil their dreams over the Garden of England.

Another student starts on the CATS Aviation ATPL program as we drive forward our commitment to training the highest calibre student to their Business Aviation careers or airline aspirations. Don't forget to quote "Falcon" when applying for the best prices!

The hangar remains busy and with this glorious weather please book in early for all your needs. Work has started on the refurb of our Archer G-BRUD whilst G-CKVV awaits its new interior! As a company dedicated to excellence we are excited at all the prospects before us.

So as summer approaches we wish you lovely clear skies ahead.

Stay blessed

Anoop Singh Bamrah
Falcon, EFG, and S&K

MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF WILL CURTIS

March was a month blighted by poor weather and although the airport made budgeted levels of business aviation, light aviation was considerably down as a result. Then beyond past that, in early April an extensive period of dense fog contributed to the misery, before we went from deepest Winter to searing mid-summer in 48 hours flat. Let's hope that Spring has arrived at last!

Many of you have written to me asking why we are reducing light aviation movements from 33,000 to 12,000 annually and I therefore repeat that which I have previously set out. We are addressing a matter of safety and nothing else. We have no anti light aviation agenda nor any desire to see light aviation precluded from the airport - we just need to maintain a safe and manageable air traffic environment and with the recent growth in business jet movements and the advent of TCAS on board all business jets, we can no longer safely support high volumes of light aviation at the

airport. Many of you refute this as being fiction, but with great respect we are the beneficiaries of the output of a well-developed airport wide Safety Management System and that system clearly identifies the issues surrounding the current mix of disparate air traffic. We therefore have no option but to act upon its output and to mitigate any risk by reducing light aviation to a more manageable level as expeditiously as possible.

Sadly, last month's Safety and Noise Abatement Review Board (SANARB) was forced to take the unusual decision to exclude two light aircraft pilots from using the airport. One had deliberately defied ATC instructions whilst the other had continued flight into weather conditions for which he was not licensed and then lost control of the aircraft concerned whilst in IMC, coming very close to crashing into terrain with attendant fatalities. In the latter case a file of evidence has been sent to the CAA enforcement branch for consideration of further action. The SANARB took the view that if the Airport were minded to reduce the volume of light aviation then it was appropriate to exclude those who threaten safe airport operations thereby leaving more space for those who operate sensibly and within their own limits. I admit that I find this logic compelling. If pilots choose to put themselves and even others at risk by an avoidable lack of airmanship and it subsequently comes to our attention (and it does because it is all recorded by the NMTKS and ATC tapes), the SANARB will probably ask those to operate elsewhere (always assuming there is anyone left alive to talk to) and the CAA may well go on to take an unwelcome interest in the matter.

The new hangar is now complete and has been handed over. The offices require some furniture and partitions but are ready for occupation by tenants and we expect the first tenants to move in within a month or so.

Meanwhile the resurfacing work for taxiway Hotel is out for tender, as is the work required to build a link taxiway between the southern end of the main apron and the runway. The runway 03 GPS approach continues its journey through the regulatory maze and we hope it will emerge intact shortly, after which we will begin implementation.

Now that the fine weather has arrived might I ask everyone to refresh their memory regarding noise abatement procedures and ensure that flights are operated in such a manner that they remain clear of noise sensitive areas. In particular, please do not leave propellers at fine pitch longer than is necessary and reduce power where it is safe and sensible to do so in order to keep noise levels down as far as may be practically possible. Please also avoid overflying the houses to the right of runway 21 along the A233. Whilst we require a 10 degree right turn (track change) after departure for noise abatement in the village of Biggin Hill, this should not be commenced until the upwind end of the runway has been reached. Residents of these house are fed up with overflights by low flying departures that have made an early right turn, so please avoid this error. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

We were pleased to welcome Andrea Leadsom, Leader of the House of Commons, to Biggin Hill Airport last week. Andrea toured the Bombardier facility and was impressed with the industry here at the airport and expressed support for the initiatives we are pursuing as an airport community. She was accompanied by various members of the Council and by the Tory candidates for Biggin Hill in the upcoming local elections. All were pleased to learn that over 80% of our airport wide revenues are made up of exported services (ie. services supplied to overseas registered aircraft visiting the UK for business or maintenance) and to learn that we are good for the local economy and for UK PLC too!

Until next month, safe flying!

Best regards
Will Curtis
MD – Biggin Hill Airport Ltd

ROLL OF HONOUR

Thank you to members that continue to provide us with additional names of old Biggin Hill'ites who we had missed. The Roll of Honour can be seen on the website at www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk

(Anyone who flew from, or worked, or even socialised regularly at the airport since it became a civilian base in 1959/60 and who has passed away, should ideally be included on there. If you know of someone whose name belongs on the Roll, please email me with their names, and details at john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk)

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, any contributions towards the cost of maintaining the various web servers and domain names etc., would always be gratefully received. (Cheques should be payable to "John Willis" and posted to me at 26, Churchside Close, Biggin Hill, Kent, TN16 3QF). Thanks to those who have already sent in contributions - your help is much appreciated.

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.....
Seniors Thinking Ahead....

I went to the Off Licence on Tuesday afternoon on my bicycle and bought a bottle of Jack Daniels. I put it in the bicycle basket.

As I was about to leave, I thought to myself that if I fell off the bicycle, the bottle would break.

So I drank all the Jack Daniels before I cycled home.

It turned out to be a very good decision, because I fell off my bicycle seven times on the way home!

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....
Adam and Eve said, 'Lord, when we were in the garden, you walked with us every day. Now we do not see you anymore. We are lonesome here, and it is difficult for us to remember how much you love us.'

And God said, I will create a companion for you that will be with you and who will be a reflection of my love for you, so that you will love me even when you cannot see me. Regardless of how

selfish or childish or unlovable you may be, this new companion will accept you as you are and will love you as I do, in spite of yourselves.

And God created a new animal to be a companion for Adam and Eve. And it was a good animal and God was pleased. And the new animal was pleased to be with Adam and Eve and he wagged his tail.

And Adam said, 'Lord, I have already named all the animals in the Kingdom and I cannot think of a name for this new animal.'

And God said, 'I have created this new animal to be a reflection of my love for you, his name will be a reflection of my own name, and you will call him DOG.'

And Dog lived with Adam and Eve and was a companion to them and loved them. And they were comforted. And God was pleased. And Dog was content and wagged his tail.

After a while, it came to pass that an angel came to the Lord and said, 'Lord, Adam and Eve have become filled with pride. They strut and preen like peacocks and they believe they are worthy of adoration. Dog has indeed taught them that they are loved, but perhaps too well.'

And God said, I will create for them a companion who will be with them and who will see them as they are. The companion will remind them of their limitations, so they will know that they are not always worthy of adoration.'

And God created CAT to be a companion to Adam and Eve.

And Cat would not obey them. And when Adam and Eve gazed into Cat's eyes, they were reminded that they were not the Supreme Beings.

And Adam and Eve learned humility. And they were greatly improved. And God was pleased. And Dog was happy.

And the Cat Didn't give a shit one way or the other!

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

I came out of the chip shop with a meat/potato pie, large chips, mushy peas & a jumbo sausage. A poor homeless man sitting there, said, "I've not eaten for two days." I told him, "I wish I had your will power!"

I took my biology exam last Friday. I was asked to name two things commonly found in cells. Apparently "young blacks" and "Romanian gypsies" were not the correct answers.

A fat girl took a while to serve me in McDonald's at lunch time today. She said, "Sorry about the wait." I said, "Don't worry dear. You might lose it eventually."

I walked past a black kid sitting at a bus stop, as I went into the bank. When I came out, he looked at me and said, "Any change?" I said "No, you're still black".

Snow in the forecast! The TV weather girl said, she was expecting 8 inches tonight. I thought to myself, "Fat chance with a face like that!"

An Irish boy stands crying at the side of the road. A man asks him, "What's wrong?" The boy says, "Me ma is dead". "Oh bejaysus," the man says. "Do you want me to call Father O'Riley for you?" The boy replies, "No tanks mister. Sex is the last ting on me mind at the moment.."

Years ago it was suggested, that an apple a day kept the doctor away. But since all the doctors are now Muslims, I've found that a bacon sandwich works better !

Japanese scientists have created a camera with such an immensely fast shutter-speed, that it is now possible to take a photograph of a woman with her mouth shut.

I hate all this terrorist business. I used to love the days, when you could look at an unattended bag on a train or a bus, and think to yourself, "I'm gonna take that!"

Man in a hot air balloon is lost over Ireland. He looks down and sees a farmer in the fields and shouts down to him, "Where am I ?" The Irish farmer looks back up and shouts back, "You can't fool me. You're in that basket up there."

I had a Trivia Competition in the bag until the very last question - which I got wrong. The question was: "Where do women have the curliest hair?" Apparently the correct answer is Fiji.

A woman has a medical at the doctors. "You are grossly overweight," he says. "I want a 2nd opinion," she exclaims. "OK. You're bloody ugly as well."

That should more or less offend everyone!

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

1. Now on sale at IKEA - Lesbian beds - no nuts or screwing involved, it's all tongue and groove...
2. A Muslim has been shot in the head with a starting pistol; police say it's definitely race related...
3. Due to a water shortage in Ireland, Dublin swimming baths have announced they are closing lanes 7 and 8....
4. Paddy thought his new girlfriend might be the one, but after looking through her knickers drawer and finding a nurse's outfit, a French maids outfit, and a police woman's uniform, he finally decided if she can't hold down a job, she's not for him.
5. I got sacked from my job as a bingo caller the other day apparently, 'A meal for two with a hairy view' isn't the best way to announce number 69.
6. Paddy is doing some roofing work for Murphy. He nears the top of the ladder and starts shaking and going dizzy.
He calls down to Murphy and says "I tink I will 'ave to go home, I've come all over gidly and feel sick."
Murphy asks "Ave yer got vertigo?" Paddy replies "No I only live round the corner."
7. After 100 years lying on the sea bed, Irish divers were amazed to find that the Titanic's swimming pool was still full.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A husband and wife who worked for the circus went to an adoption agency. The social worker raised doubts about their suitability.

The couple then produced photos of their 50-foot motor home, which was clean and well maintained and equipped with a beautiful nursery.

The social worker then raised concerns about the education a child would receive while in the couple's care.

"We've arranged for a full-time tutor who will teach the child all the usual subjects along with French, Mandarin, and computer skills."

Then the social worker expressed concern about a child being raised in a circus environment.

"Our nanny will be a certified expert in paediatric care, welfare, and diet."

The social worker was finally satisfied and asked, "What age of child are you hoping to adopt ?"

"It doesn't really matter as long as the kid fits in the cannon."

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A woman walks into an accountant's office and tells him that she needs to file her taxes.

The accountant says, "Before we begin, I'll need to ask you a few questions."

He gets her name, address etc. And then asks, "What's your occupation?"

"I'm a prostitute," she says.

The accountant is somewhat taken aback and says, "Let's try to re-phrase that."

The woman says, "OK, I'm a high-end call girl".

"No, that still won't work. Try again."

They both think for a minute; then the woman says, "I'm an elite poultry farmer."

The accountant asks, "What does poultry farming have to do with being a prostitute?"

"Well, I raised a thousand cocks last year."

"Poultry Farmer it is."

.....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"...)