

Hi everyone

Welcome to the November 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. A relatively brief Newsletter this month as not a lot to tell you.

You can always view back copies of this Newsletter as well as past copies of JB's Biggin Hill "Bugle" by visiting the club website at [www.bigginhillclub.co.uk](http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk)

### **BIGGIN WEATHER IN OCTOBER**

October has been a difficult month, with virtually a week of continuously poor conditions mid-month but otherwise some excellent flying days, where everyone tried to catch up with the missed flying programmes. At one point in the month we experienced one of the highest air pressures that I think I can remember (QNH of 1039 I think it was.....)

### **OCTOBER – A SAD MONTH**

This month has been a bad time for the loss of old friends..

### **DENNIS ANDREWS**

It is with great regret that advise you of the death of our friend, and old Biggin Hill'ite, Dennis Andrews on 2nd October.

Dennis was very well known in the 1960's and 1970's Biggin Hill community, as well as by some from the Croydon airport days prior to the move to Biggin. He ran Horsted Aviation, and was an active member of 600 Squadron Flying Group, as well as South London Flying Club and County.

He also attended the 60's & 70's "Bump Reunion 98", that was the catalyst to the formation of Biggin Hill Reunited and the user database, as well as the 2003 "Bump Reunion".

His funeral was held at St.John's Church, Church Road, Windlesham. GU20 6BL at 1pm on Wednesday 31st October 2018.

He will be missed by his many friends at Biggin Hill Airport - R.I.P. Dennis

### **TONY BLADES**

I am sad to tell you that former Biggin Hill'ite, Tony Blades, died peacefully at home on Monday 15th October after a long battle with leukaemia.

In the early seventies Tony was an instructor with Sportair Flying Club, where I was the CFI at the time, before joining me at the Biggin air taxi and charter company Trans Europe Air Charter. He followed that with a long and illustrious career with British Midland Airways and a retirement job with Flyglobespan.

Tony was a much loved, devoted and adored husband and father who will be sorely missed.

His funeral service took place on Wednesday 24th October at Stranton Grange Crematorium Chapel, in Hartlepool, where he lived with his wife Maria

R.I.P. Tony

### **LANCE OAKINS**

It is with great sadness that I have to advise you that old Biggin Hill'ite, Lance Oakins, passed away on 24th September 2018 after a long illness.

Lance learnt to fly with Surrey and Kent in 1974. His first aircraft was a little Jodel and then he bought his beloved Percival Proctor 4, which he took to many air shows. He was also one of the founding members of Cobby's Cloth Airforce.

He moved to Jail Lane to be near the airport he loved so much.

He was a loving husband to June and his 3 children, one of whom, son James, is also a pilot. He was a real gentleman who was loved and respected by all who knew him and will be sadly missed.

His funeral was held on Monday 15th October at 11am at Vinters Park Crematorium, Bearsted Road, Maidstone, ME15 5LG and after at The George Pub, in Trottiscliffe, ME19 5DR.

R.I.P. Lance

### **DEBBIE DANAHAR**

16<sup>th</sup> October saw the funeral of old Biggin Hill'ite, Debbie Danahar. Her funeral was held in Eltham, and was followed by a large gathering of friends at the Tatsfield Social Club. A wonderful send off for a lovely lady....

R.I.P. Debbie, you will be much missed by your many Biggin Hill friends....

### **END OF NEWSLETTER STORIES**

Many of you comment that you like the jokes at the end of the newsletter, and wonder where I get them all from – well they come from you!

To avoid the possibility of repeats appearing, please feel free to email any little ditties that you think would be suitable for the “and finally” section... Please keep them coming - I’m slowly running out.

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

## **ALOUETTE FLYING CLUB**

Greetings from Alouette,

Well it's clear to say the warm summer weather is behind us, here comes the frosty mornings and flat batteries.

Meanwhile at the clubhouse, students and instructors are working hard to consolidate hours before the weather sets in.

Are you busy on Wednesday 7th November around 19:30? If not why not come along to the Alouette social evening. A warm welcome, subsidised bar and great conversation is always guaranteed. You don't have to be a member to join us on that evening.

With Christmas on its way, don't forget trial flights make a lovely present.

Until next time, safe flying

Regards  
Josh Reeves  
Alouette Chairman

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

Greetings from all at Falcon

So another month of flying with some interesting weather thrown in. The cold has certainly come but we have been busy making sure you can still fly!

The first batch of Night Ratings are underway so please let us know if we can help you either gain night currency or even complete the rating itself!

So as we move towards the winter months let's remember to be ever vigilant with weather, checks and planning.

Till the next time. Fly safe, be blessed and watch for carb icing!

Anoop Singh Bamrah  
Falcon and EFG

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

October has been another average month for both business and light aviation. The effect of Brexit has been to dampen market enthusiasm and we will have to see how this will affect the business over the coming 6 months.

Work is continuing on the installation of the runway 03 approach lighting array with lighting gantries being constructed off site and tree cutting nearing completion. Bids have been received in respect of the repair work on Hotel taxiway and these are being evaluated as I

write. The hotel moves forward as we enter the final phase of appointing an operating partner. After that we will finalise design and tender the build of the hotel to suitable contractors. We still expect construction to commence in the early part of next year.

We have put much effort into reaching a conclusion with regard to the proposed Light Aviation Centre. We have received two proposals in respect of this project and we are evaluating these. At a recent Airport Safety Review Board meeting it was noted that the vast majority of risk surrounding airport operations remains with light aviation. We have a stated policy of reducing light aviation to 12-15,000 annual movements and we continue to move towards this goal. In the first three quarters of 2018, the airport hosted 19,900 light aircraft movements, so there remains a further reduction to be achieved if we are to reach the level of light aviation that we believe to be both safe and sustainable in the long term. At the recommendation of the Airport Safety review Board, airport management will shortly be reviewing progress made to date and considering additional measures designed adjust light aircraft activity in order to meet the stated targets.

There has been only one notable safety incident at the airport since I last wrote involving a pilot undertaking a night flight during which the pilot became seriously disoriented. At this time of year, many of you will be considering a night flying mission. If you have not flown at night within the recent past, may I suggest that you consider engaging the services of a flying instructor for the first night time excursion in order to be completely confident that the conditions will not overwhelm you causing a similar issue.

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](http://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](mailto: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.

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.....

Water in the carburettor....

WIFE: "There is trouble with the car. It has water in the carburettor."

HUSBAND: "Water in the carburettor? That's ridiculous "

WIFE: "I tell you the car has water in the carburettor."

HUSBAND: "You don't even know what a carburettor is. I'll check it out. Where's the car?"

WIFE: "In the pool".

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A woman asks her husband, "Could you please go shopping for me and buy one carton of milk and if they have avocados, get 6.

A short time later the husband comes back with 6 cartons of milk.

The wife asks him, "Why did you buy 6 cartons of milk?"

He replied, "They had avocados."

If you're a woman, I'm sure you're going back to read it again! Men will get it the first time.  
.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

"Doctor, my girlfriend is pregnant but we always use protection and the condom never broke. How is it possible."

"Let me tell you a story. There was once a hunter who always carried a gun wherever he went. One day he took his umbrella instead of his gun and went out. A lion suddenly jumped in front of him. The hunter used the umbrella like a gun, and shot the lion and killed it."

"Nonsense, someone else must have shot the lion."

"Good, you understood the story, next patient, please."

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A man got on the bus with both of his front trouser pockets full of golf balls and sat down next to a beautiful blonde.

The puzzled blonde kept looking at him and his bulging pockets.

Finally, after many glances from her, he said, "It's golf balls."

The blonde continued to look at him for a very long time, thinking deeply about what he had said.

Finally, unable to contain her curiosity any longer, she asked,

"Does it hurt as much as tennis elbow?"

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Hung Chow calls into work and says, "Hey, I no come work today, I really sick. Got headache, stomach ache, and legs hurt. I no come work."

The boss says, "You know something, Hung Chow, I really need you today. When I feel sick like you do, I go to my wife and tell her to give me sex. That makes everything better and I go to work.. You try that."

Two hours later Hung Chow calls again. "I do what You say and I feel Great.. I be at work soon.....You got nice house."

.....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"...)