

Hi everyone

Welcome to the November Newsletter for the Biggin Hill Airport Users Database. Welcome also to any new Database members who may be receiving this regular Newsletter for the first time.

You are reminded that for Database subscribing members, even if your Newsletter doesn't arrive by email at the beginning of the month, you can always view it online, as well as any back copies of this Newsletter by visiting the club website at [www.bigginhillclub.co.uk](http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk)

*(If you have not received your copy within 24 hours of the beginning of the month, please check the club website above where you can find and draw it down for yourself!)*

## **OCTOBER WEATHER**

Well I guess it is reasonable to assume that Autumn has now become well established, and the weather last month has been significantly variable as it is to be expected. There have, of course, been quite a significant number of days this month that have been perfectly flyable for light aircraft flight training and touring. But unfortunately there have also been quite a bit of quite unstable conditions that have not been on the side of light aircraft visual flying.

As you read this Newsletter you will know the clocks went back last Sunday, so besides the likely wintery weather, the days will be significantly shorter now and this continues to reduce until it starts to reverse slowly from about the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December onwards.

But even knowing that, let's hope we get some nice weather some of the time to enable training and private flying to continue to be possible until we get to the Spring and the clock change again in late March...

**STOP PRESS:** Met Warning, which hopefully most members will be aware of, there are major storm warnings from the Met Office that are expected to affect us all in the South East area from late afternoon on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November through to late on Friday. The warnings include very heavy rain and very strong winds, which are likely to affect all of us – good idea to tie down your aircraft or hangar it if possible to hopefully avoid damage if it is indeed severe.

## **STUART HOARE**

Sadly on 4<sup>th</sup> October we lost another long term Biggin Hill'ite, John Stuart Hoare, known to all of us as Stuart Hoare.

He was a part of Biggin Hill Airport for many years commencing back in the early 60's (he even did own my first check out after I got my licence in tailwheels in a PA28 at Vendair Flying Club – the first modern nosewheel Piper at Biggin!)

Stuart was born and lived in Rawdon near Leeds and, as reported by his sister Val, he won the application for a flying scholarship at Yeadon Airport at the age of 16 (although the first his family knew about it was when it was actually announced on the tannoy at the airshow there!)

Stuart did his first solo not long after his 17<sup>th</sup> birthday (the youngest possible in those days of course). After gaining his PPL, he went on hour building and gaining a Commercial licence very quickly, and his first job was banner towing up there initially in a Percival Prentice that was owned by Cobby at Biggin.

Many of us oldies will remember Stuart appearing at Biggin in that aircraft doing the Lamtex Rugs banner towing as well as starting to fly as an instructor with a number of private owners at the airport in some modern exotic aircraft that started to appear in those days.

As many will remember of course, he married Janet, who was eventually a controller in the old tower on the South East apron for many years, after Stan Lee and I had left there.... Stuart and Janet eventually lived in a cottage at Emmetts National Trust property not far from Brasted and Ide Hill, before moving many years later in the mid-80's to Outwood in Surrey where they rented a cottage in the grounds of their old friends, Judi and Philip Wolf.

Stuart became a serious professional pilot operating many different aircraft types for organisations at Biggin and elsewhere that did air taxi flying and other corporate style operations. This flying was mostly in extremely modern (at the time) aircraft types like Cessna Golden Eagle's, and Beechcraft Travel Air's, Baron's, Queen Air's and later King Air's.

Sadly, as many of us knew, his wife Janet died suddenly in March 2014, which inevitably was a total shock to Stuart, who soon after moved over to a home near to Gatwick and eventually gave up flying after around 2009 following some medical issues that required the fitting of stents....

Val told me that for a while he apparently worked in a cycle repair shop in Horley to occupy his time. His retirement was spent happily helping all his wonderful neighbours with garden projects, house sitting and repairing motorcycles, cycles, lawn mowers, chain saws etc.

Stuart's funeral will take place at 3:30pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> November at the Surrey & Sussex Crematorium. Family flowers only please.

If anyone wishes to make a donation to St Catherines Hospice in his memory this would be greatly appreciated.

His name has now been added to the Biggin Hill Reunited "Roll of Honour"....

Rest in Peace Stuart, our old and long term friend of so many Biggin Hill'ites.....

### **MICHAEL DAVIES**

Sadly this year, in February, our old friend and Biggin Hill'ite, Mike Davies, passed away after a long illness. He was 85, but despite the challenges he faced with this, he never forgot his flying days at Biggin Hill Airfield.

Flying was a great passion in Mike's life. It was something he had wanted to do since he was in his teens, which was reinforced by his time doing military service in the RAF.

In the late 60's Mike learnt to fly at Biggin Hill, gaining his PPL and, in 1972, he bought his pride and joy, the Fournier RF-5 G-AZRK. He flew as much as he could all over the UK and

would make frequent weekend trips to France for baguettes, artichokes and brie, much to the surprise of customs. Mike loved nothing more than taking part in Breakfast Patrols.

When he wasn't flying his aircraft himself, Sportair Flying Club at Biggin (when I was the Chief Flying Instructor and examiner there) would use Mike's plane to teach their trainee pilots, some of whom will almost certainly remember his plane.

Mike was also a regular at Sportair Flying Club on a Friday night for the social get-togethers. He loved the social community there and made many good friends over the years. Some of those friends remained in his life until he was no longer able to keep in touch.

His name has been added to the BigginHillReunited Roll of Honour.

Rest in Peace Mike, our old Biggin Hill'ite and friend of many.....

### **BIGGIN AIRPORT INFORMATION**

Not much to add here with regard to airport matters this month....

The only real things to remind you are:

if you haven't yet got your Airport Photo ID Security Pass, please make sure you do organise that (details were provided in the previous Newsletter). Airport security is tightening up largely because of the Airport's proximity to the capital city, and most airside access gates will require a pass to open them.

And do remember the importance of registering for the online Airport "Centrik" system to enable you to always be aware of what is happening operationally at the airport. If you haven't already done so, please do register yourself to keep up to date.

Details of both the above items have been included in the last couple of month's Newsletters. If you don't still have them, please go to the club website where all past Newsletters can be viewed – [www.bigginhillclub.co.uk](http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk)

The CEO's section below will let us all know the latest developments and operational and other important updates at the airport.

### **AIRPORT COMMITTEE MEMBER'S**

As many of you will already be aware of, I personally have been an active member of several Airport Committee's for many years – including the SANARB (Safety And Noise Abatement Review Board), the Biggin Hill Airport Consultative Committee, and the Light Aircraft Steering Group.

If any airport users (for example, Private Owners, GA Licenced Pilots, and Flying Training clubs/schools etc.) have any specific concerns or requests that they would like the management to be made aware of, and hopefully get a response, then they should feel free to contact either myself, or John High, or in the case of Flying club members they should make contact with Anoop Bamrah.

We would always endeavour to make contact with the appropriate airport management member on your behalf with your expressed concerns and come back to you with the relevant response.

### **NOVEMBER BIGGIN HILL POSTED FUEL PRICES**

The “posted” Biggin Hill Airport fuel prices, excluding VAT, for the calendar month of November 2023 are:

£1:90.7 per litre for 100LL Avgas if supplied from the Fuel Bowser (if uplifted using fuel account card Only from the Self-Refuel pumps = minus 5p per litre)

£0:97.1 per litre for Jet A1 and Sustainable Aviation Fuel (while in stock...)

**SPECIAL NOTES:** Users are advised that credit and debit cards can no longer be used at the self-refuel pumps. If you use self-refuelling, you will need your airport H-TEC fuel account card with you when you go there. (if you haven't got one with you, you will have to go over to the Main Terminal apron to uplift fuel from the bowsers instead).

### **FALCON / EFG**

Hello from all at Falcon and EFG

It's been a somewhat turbulent month, but we have taken full opportunity of some splendid flying days.

With clear skies allowing a number of first solo flights, QXCs and a fresh new batch of qualified PPL holders being created, we stand firm by our belief that we train some of the best pilots out there, though I am a tad biased!

The hangar has busy finishing off a couple of projects and the feedback has been brilliant. A huge thanks to all the team lead be Singh, Shonu, and of course Ashley.

For those looking at their career options, this coming Saturday marks the November Pilot Career's Live event at London Heathrow Sofitel at Terminal 5 – come and say hi!

Hot off the press – Pilot medicals will soon be conducted from EFG on limited dates.

Class 1 & 3 Renewal and Revals.

Class 2 PPL/LAPL Initial, Renewal and Reval

The next dates are: 24<sup>th</sup> November and 15<sup>th</sup> December

For details please email Dr Cemali Aksogut on [cemali@doctors.org.uk](mailto:cemali@doctors.org.uk)

Till the next time, fly safe, stay blessed, have a hoot!

Anoop Singh Bamrah

## **MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE CEO'S OFFICE**

October was another challenging month for the Airport and, whilst movements were generally as expected, the traffic mix has seen a reduction in the long sector flights. This trend is being mirrored across the business aviation sector with movements 2.8% lower than this time last year but still 16.8% ahead of pre COVID levels. The Airport's share of the London market has stabilised around 23% just behind Luton and Farnborough but the Airport remains the 8<sup>th</sup> busiest business aviation airport in Europe. Light general aviation activity showed a reduction across all activities, with the exception of private owners, which has seen a slight increase when compared with October 2022. The current economic environment remains challenging and prudent cost control for any business remains the sensible course of action.

Notwithstanding the current economic challenges, the Airport continues to focus on its enduring strategy of the creation of a cluster of engineering and aviation related support companies engaged in the business and general aviation sector. This strategy was a key promise and purpose of our revision to the Airport opening hours in 2015/16, with the intention of attracting more inward investment and creating many more local jobs, so we are delighted with the successful progress of this strategy.

The Airport continues to attract significant interest in further infrastructure development across the site including enhanced aircraft completions facilities, additional hangarage, a dedicated skills academy, engineering accommodation and improvements to navigational aids. Aligned to this, the Airport continues to progress options for the re development of West Camp and plans have been developed to capture both Airport requirements and the potential to redevelop certain listed buildings within the old RAF camp. These plans will be developed in partnership with LBB and Heritage England.

The Airport has submitted a revised statement of need to the CAA to request a full operational trial of its preferred design for a new 03 approach. The CAA has accepted the request to amend the statement of need and an initial assessment meeting took place this month. If approved, the trial will be instrumental in facilitating the implementation of an instrument approach to runway 03.

The Airport has completed the consultation on the runway 21 approach airspace change that replicates what already happens to the north of the Airport but will use modern, more accurate satellite navigation as opposed to older ground based navigational equipment. The current timeline provides an approval date of 24th May 2024, following a 17-week decision period required by the CAA. This is targeted for completion by September.

Regards  
David Winstanley

## **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 in the past) please let me know or tell them about us – Database membership is, of course, free.

That's it again for this month. Do enjoy your flying - Please stay well and stay safe.....

Best wishes  
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 ever intended!). - a few relatively amusing short stories....

I would like to thank everyone for sending their contributions for this section. To avoid me running out of jokes, please keep them coming by email to [john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk](mailto:john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk)

QUOTE.....

A few brief quickies.....

“Do not touch” must be one of the scariest things to read in Braille

Arguing with a woman is like reading the Software Licence Agreement.  
In the end, you ignore everything and click “I agree”.

If a woman says, “Do what you want”  
DO NOT DO WHAT YOU WANT.  
STAND STILL, DO NOT BLINK.  
DON'T EVEN BREATHE.  
JUST PLAY DEAD.

The Wife asked me what I was doing on the computer last night.  
I told her I was looking for cheap flights.  
'I love you!' she said, and then she got all excited.  
She quickly undressed and we had the most amazing sex ever. Which is odd because she's never shown an interest in darts before!

For Those Who Haven't Heard:

Washington State just passed both laws; gay marriage and legalised marijuana. The fact that gay marriage and marijuana were legalised on the same day makes perfect biblical sense because Leviticus 20:13 says, 'If a man lies with another man they should be stoned.'  
We just hadn't interpreted it correctly before!

Prenuptial Agreement Senior Style

An elderly couple in their 70's were about to get married.  
She said: I want to keep my house.  
He said: That's fine with me.  
She said: I want to keep my Car.  
He said: That's fine with me.  
She said: I want to have sex 6 times a week.  
He said: Put me down for Friday's.  
.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Pat was at the airport with a sack over each shoulder and when he was stopped at customs they found that both sacks were full of mobile phones.  
When asked why Pat said, "Well, while I was on my travels in America I got a call from my mate Mick who told me that he is starting up a jazz band and could I bring him back two saxophones".  
.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

True Love 1.  
An 80 year old woman was arrested for shoplifting.  
When she went before the judge in Bromley he asked her, 'What did you steal?'  
She replied, 'A can of peaches.'  
The judge asked her how many peaches were in the can.  
She replied, '6.'  
The judge said, 'Then I will give you 6 days in jail.'  
Before the judge could conclude the trial, the woman's husband spoke up and asked the judge if he could say something.  
The judge said, 'What is it?'  
The husband said, 'She also stole a can of peas.'

True Love 2.

The same 80 year old couple were travelling in their car when a Traffic Policeman pulled them up for speeding.  
The old man got very argumentative with the police office denying he was speeding. The old lady leant across her husband saying 'Don't argue with him officer he always gets like this after five or six pints'  
.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

RED SKELTON'S RECIPE FOR THE PERFECT MARRIAGE

1. Two times a week we go to a nice restaurant, have a little beverage, good food and companionship. She goes on Tuesdays, I go on Fridays.
2. We also sleep in separate beds. Hers is in California and mine is in Texas.
3. I take my wife everywhere, but she keeps finding her way back.
4. I asked my wife where she wanted to go for our anniversary. "Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!" she said. So I suggested the kitchen.
5. We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.
6. She has an electric blender, electric toaster and electric bread maker. She said "There are too many gadgets, and no place to sit down!" So I bought her an electric chair.
7. My wife told me the car wasn't running well because there was water in the carburettor. I asked where the car was. She told me, "In the lake."
8. She got a mud pack and looked great for two days. Then the mud fell off.
9. She ran after the garbage truck, yelling, "Am I too late for the garbage?" The driver said, "No, jump in!".
10. Remember: Marriage is the number one cause of divorce.
11. I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first name was 'Always'.
12. I haven't spoken to my wife in 18 months. I don't like to interrupt her.
13. The last fight was my fault though. My wife asked, "What's on the TV?" I said, "Dust!".

Can't you just hear him say all of these?

I love it. These were the good old days when humour didn't have to start with a four letter word. It was just clean and simple fun. And he always ended his programs with the words, "And May God Bless" with a big smile on his face.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A man & a woman took their six-year-old son to the doctor.

With some hesitation, they explained that although their little angel appeared to be in good health, they were concerned about his rather small penis.

After examining the child, the doctor confidently declared, 'Just feed him pancakes. That should solve the problem.'

The next morning when the boy arrived at breakfast, there was a large stack of warm pancakes in the middle of the table.



'Wow, Mum,' he exclaimed. 'For me?'  
'Just take two,' the woman replied. 'The rest are for your father.'  
.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Bob, a 70-year-old, extremely wealthy widower, shows up at the Flying Club with a breathtakingly beautiful and very sexy 25-year-old blonde-haired woman, who knocks everyone's socks off with her youthful sex appeal and charm, and who hangs over Bob's arm and listens intently to his every word.

His mates at the club are all aghast. At the very first chance, they corner him and ask, 'Bob, how'd you get the trophy girlfriend?'

Bob replies, 'Girlfriend? She's my wife!'

They are knocked over but continue to ask.' So, how'd you persuade her to marry you?'

'I lied about my age', Bob replies.

'What, did you tell her you were only 50?'

Bob smiles and says, 'No, I told her I was 90'.  
.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

The Body Builder takes off his shirt, and the blonde says, "What a Great chest you have!"  
He tells her, 'That's 100lbs of dynamite, Baby.'

He takes off his tracksuit bottoms and the blonde says, 'What massive calves you have!'  
The body builder tells her, 'That's 100lbs. Of dynamite, Baby.'

He then removes his underwear and the blonde goes running out of the room screaming in fear.

The body builder puts his clothes back on and chases after her. He catches up to her and asks why she ran out of the apartment like that.

The blonde replies, 'I was afraid to be around all that dynamite, especially after I saw how short the fuse was!'

.....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" ...)