

Hi everyone

Welcome to the Biggin Hill Users Database October Newsletter.

JB's October 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, or you can send items directly to me to pass on: john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk)

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

SUE CAMPBELL

The airport community was shocked in early September to hear of the sudden passing of our friend, Sue Campbell.

Sue apparently passed away on 20th August after battling a serious illness. Her funeral was on Friday 4th September. She was a great friend to many of us at Biggin Hill in the 1980's, when she ran the Swordfish Bar, following the death of husband Mark Campbell in the crash of a Harvard in Malta (in which Ted White, the original owner of the B17 Sally B, also died).

Subsequently Sue had a family with our great friend Mike Wennink, who also passed away a few years ago after battling a major illness. Sue was a very special friend to many, and she will be very much mourned by us all. I'm sure you would want me to pass your condolences to Sue's family who have gone through so much in recent years.

R.I.P. Sue - Remembering you always...

SEPTEMBER WEATHER

At last it seemed we were all blessed with a seriously good flying month's weather, with everyone seemingly taking full advantage of the opportunity of flying whenever possible. It seemed that, according to my own records, there were just 5 September days during which it was difficult for VFR club and private owner flying to take place. Great to see it again - I would be interested to see the actual airport movement records for the month, as I'm sure we will have experienced something of a record for such flying in recent years. Maybe this is a sign of some form of economic recovery?

SEPTEMBER AT BIGGIN HILL

This month has seen lots of activity that has brought great publicity to the airport and helped yet again to put Biggin Hill on the world map.

In particular, 18th September saw the BBC broadcasting live on the Radio 2 all morning, plus lots of activity during the BBC TV Breakfast programme. Then the evening saw a massive concert performance in the Rizon Jet hangar featuring the BBC Concert Orchestra and many TV and Radio personalities telling the story of the Battle of Britain for the 75th Anniversary in front of some 3,000 guests. The event was broadcast live around the world, and on the BBC's "Red Button", as well as in some 300 cinemas around the UK...

Then on the following day there was a special screening, again in the Rizon Jet hangar, of the iconic film 'Battle of Britain', which starred Sir Michael Caine, Sir Laurence Olivier, and Sir Michael Redgrave.

Both events featured flying displays by a Spitfire and Hurricane.

Thanks to all concerned for these two amazing events...

BEN HOLMES

I'm sure you would all like to join me in congratulating Biggin Hill'ite, Ben Holmes, who had his painting of Michael Caine in a Spitfire (taken from a scene in the film, "The Battle of Britain") exhibited at the BBC concert at Rizon on Friday 18th September. Ben has shown remarkable talent as an artist, and I'm sure would welcome your support if you ever need a painting of your aircraft, car, or virtually anything, done. Having purchased a painting from Ben myself, I can personally vouch for his exceptional talent. If you need a contact for him, please feel free to email me and I will pass it on to Ben who I am sure will be pleased to quote you. Well done Ben....

BOB NEEDHAM

Aussie resident, and old Biggin Hill'ite, Bob Needham, is coming to see us all again from his home in Australia. We will be meeting up on Saturday 17th October at the Kings Arms Pub at Leaves Green, close to the Airport's terminal. Meeting time was set at 3pm, but I believe Bob expects to arrive around 1pm, so free to arrive early if it's more convenient. JB and I may not make it until 3pm, but I'm sure others will be earlier. If you intend to be there, please drop me and JB an email – to john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk and johnbryan13@sky.com so we know rough numbers and can let Bob know who to expect to see there....

BUGLE ERROR LAST MONTH

Biggin Hill'ite Kevin Hitch has asked if I could correct a couple of very minor errors that appeared in last month's Biggin Hill "Bugle".

On the last page of that issue, Kevin looks like he was credited with all the photographs there. He was worried that he might offend the other contributor of photos as not all were taken by him, so apologies to Richard Hasler, who also provided some of the shots in that section.

Kevin also pointed out a minor typo in his phone number, which should have read: 07811 607214

PLEASE HELP TO SAVE OUR AIRFIELDS

If you haven't already signed it, please spare a moment of your time to review and sign an important petition to help protect our airfields from closure for housing development. This petition on the UK Government's own petition website, has been privately launched and is supported by Flyer Magazine and others.

To sign the petition, please go to:
<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/106779>

Your industry needs you....!

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)

FALCON FLIGHT ACADEMY (inc EFG) & FALCON FLIGHT SERVICES

Greeting one and all from the Falcon Camp

What a month September has been! Our students have been training hard whilst the weather is still good but the autumn weather is starting to show its head to us with the rain and cloud. Fear not though as both EFG and Surrey & Kent offer the IMC Rating. If you wish to go one step further come and speak with Ray about doing the IR!

Private owners have been having some good times too with news of them going all over Europe recently. With the airspace becoming busier, and the traffic evolving here, it is important to keep your skills and aircraft up to date. Please feel free to visit us and have some dual training, or even your next Licence Revalidation. As for your aircraft keep her in excellent shape with Singh, Shonu and the folks at Falcon.

Call us today for maintenance 01959 572 339, or your flight training at EFG on 01959 540 400 or S&K on 01959 57 22 55

Till the next time - Stay safe, fly true, be blessed.

Anoop Singh Bamrah

MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF WILL CURTIS

September has been dominated by the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. But aside from that we have had an active month on the part of flying clubs and an average month in respect of business aviation.

Lighting works at the stop end of runway 21 continue and we expect them to be complete before too much longer.

We understand from the Council that it intends to finalise our application for revised aerodrome operating hours in mid-November - over 1 year after our application was first submitted. The new Noise Action Plan will offer protections to local residents where none currently exist, and will ensure that Biggin Hill Airport cannot grow to become a large noisy commercial airport in the future. We hope that the Council will approve our plans, but your support when the next Council meeting takes place will be much appreciated.

Hopefully you will never have cause to see it close up, but we have recently purchased a new fire appliance to replace one of the older units. This forms part of an ongoing strategy to upgrade our hardware where we can and we continue this drive, which has included a new aircraft de-icing rig, a new tractor and new Operations and Security vehicles. We are committed to remaining operational in all weathers and now have better snow clearance capability too having purchased various equipment from the now defunct Manston Airport.

The Lookout Café now offers fresh homemade sandwiches and hot meals for those looking for Refreshment, and we serve Costa coffee and other beverages too. If you haven't yet tried the "Lookout" we would be pleased to welcome you there.

Until next month, safe flying

Best regards
Will Curtis
MD – Biggin Hill Airport Ltd

BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT SOCIAL CLUB

Full membership details can be found at 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).

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.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

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 (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 – it 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.....

A Dog Named Sex

People generally aren't very creative in choosing names for their dogs. That's why there are so many named Rover and Spot. But, have you heard the plight of the fellow who thought he'd be cute and named his dog Sex?

It goes like this:

"One day Sex and I took a walk and he ran away from me. I spent hours looking for that dog. A policeman came by and asked what I was doing in this alley at midnight? I told him I was looking for Sex.

My case comes up next Tuesday."

"But, that isn't the worst part. One day, I went to the town hall to get a dog license for Sex. The clerk asked me what I wanted. I told him I wanted a license for Sex. He said, "I'd like to have one, too."

Then, I said, "You don't understand. She's a dog."

He said he didn't care how she looked. When I told him I'd had Sex since I was 5, he said, "You must have been an early bloomer."

"When I decided to get married, I told the Minister I wanted to have Sex at the wedding. He told me I'd have to wait until after the wedding. When I protested that Sex had played a big part in my life and that my whole life revolved around Sex, he said he didn't want to hear about my personal life."

After my wife and I were married, I took the dog with us on the honeymoon.

When I checked into the hotel, I told the clerk I wanted a room for my wife and wanted one for Sex. She said. "Every room in the hotel was for sex." I said, "You don't understand. Sex keeps me awake at night." The clerk said, "Me, too."

"When my wife and I separated, we went to court to fight for custody of the dog. When I told the Judge I had Sex before I was married, he grinned and said, " Me. too."

"Now that I've been thrown in jail, married, divorced and had more trouble with that dog than I ever imagined.

I'm in counselling - My psychiatrist asked me what my problem was. I said "Sex has died and left my life. It's like losing a best friend and I'm so lonely," I told him.

He said, "Look, you and I both know that sex isn't man's best friend. You should get a dog.
.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A little boy goes to his dad and asks, 'What is Politics?'

Dad says, 'Well son, let me try to explain it this way: I am the head of the family, so call me The Prime Minister. Your mother is the administrator of the money, so we call her the Government. We are here to take care of your needs, so we will call you the People. The nanny, we will consider her the Working Class. And your baby brother, we will call him the Future. Now think about that and see if it makes sense.'

So the little boy goes off to bed thinking about what Dad has said.

Later that night, he hears his baby brother crying, so he gets up to check on him.

He finds that the baby has severely soiled his nappy. So the little boy goes to his parent's room and finds his mother asleep.

Not wanting to wake her, he goes to the nanny's room. Finding the door locked, he peeks in the keyhole and sees his father in bed with the nanny. He gives up and goes back to bed.

The next morning, the little boy says to his father, 'Dad, I think I understand the concept of politics now.'

The father says, 'Good, son, tell me in your own words what you think politics is all about.'

The little boy replies, 'The Prime Minister is screwing the Working Class while the Government is sound asleep. The People are being ignored and the Future is in deep shit.'

Couldn't have put it better myself!!!!

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Always choose a memorable password!

A lady helps her husband install a new computer. Once it is completed, she tells him to select a password, selecting a word that he'll always remember.

As the computer asks him to enter it, he looks at his wife and with a macho gesture and a wink in his eye, he selects a word:

mypenis.

As he hits "enter", to validate the selection, his wife collapses with laughter and rolls on the floor in hysteria!!

The computer had replied:*

"TOO SHORT- ACCESS DENIED!"

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

As I age, I realise that:

1. I talk to myself, because sometimes I need expert advice.
2. Sometimes I roll my eyes out loud.
3. I don't need anger management. I need people to stop pissing me off.
4. My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance of idiots that needs work.
5. The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."
6. When I was a child I thought nap time was punishment. Now it's like a mini holiday.
7. The day the world runs out of beer is just too terrible to think about.
8. Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it can muffle the sound!
9. Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes; come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller.
10. If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would've put them on my knees.
11. When the kids text me "plz" which is shorter than please, I text back "no" which is shorter than "yes".
12. At my age "Getting Lucky" means walking into a room and remembering what I came in there for.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

I have a little Satnav, It sits there in my car

A Satnav is a driver's friend it tells you where you are.

I have a little Satnav, I've had it all my life
It's better than the normal ones, My Satnav is my wife.

It gives me full instructions, Especially how to drive
"It's sixty miles an hour", it says, "You're doing sixty five".

It tells me when to stop and start, And when to use the brake
And tells me that it's never ever, Safe to overtake.

It tells me when a light is red, And when it goes to green
It seems to know instinctively, Just when to intervene.

It lists the vehicles just in front, And all those to the rear
And taking this into account, It specifies my gear.

I'm sure no other driver, Has so helpful a device
For when we leave and lock the car, It still gives its advice.

It fills me up with counselling, Each journey's pretty fraught
So why don't I exchange it, And get a quieter sort?

Ah well, you see, it cleans the house, Makes sure I'm properly fed
It washes all my shirts and things, And keeps me warm in bed!

Despite all these advantages, And my tendency to scoff,
I only wish that now and then, I could turn the bugger off.
(Thanks to Pam Ayres)
.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....
The Laws of Life

1. Law of Mechanical Repair - After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you will need to pee.
2. Law of Gravity - Any tool, nut, bolt or screw when dropped, will roll to the least accessible place in the universe.
3. Law of Probability - The probability of being seen is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.
4. Law of Random Numbers - If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal - someone always answers.
5. Variation Law - If you change traffic lanes, the lane you left will always move faster than the one you are in now.
6. Law of the Bath - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone will ring.
7. Law of Close Encounters - The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.
8. Law of the Result - When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, IT WILL!!!

9. Law of Biomechanics - The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

10. Law of the Theatre & Football Arena - At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle always arrive last. They are the ones who will leave their seats several times to go for food, beer, or the toilet, and who leave early before the performance or game is over. The folks in the aisle seats come early, never move, have long gangly legs or big bellies, and stay to the bitter end of the performance. The aisle people are also very surly folk.

11. The Coffee Law - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

12. Murphy's Law of Lockers - If there are only 2 people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

13. Law of Physical Surfaces - The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor is directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

14. Law of Logical Argument - Anything is possible IF you don't know what you are talking about.

15. Law of Physical Appearance - If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

16. Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy - As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it OR the store will stop selling it!

17. Doctors' Law - If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there, you'll feel better. But don't make an appointment and you'll stay sick.

.....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"...))