

Hi everyone

Welcome to the October 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.

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

BIGGIN WEATHER IN SEPTEMBER

Still a basically good month for flying although, the UK did suffer from a prolonged period of strong and gusty winds that affected light aircraft flying quite seriously. As we go to print the temperatures over the last few days of the month have been quite pleasant with some very smooth flying conditions and excellent visibility....

DEBBIE DANA HAR

It with great sadness that I report that our friend Debbie Danahar tragically succumbed to her illness on 18th September 2018. Having been diagnosed with the cruel condition more than a decade ago, it appeared for many years that Debbie had won her battle. She went on to be the very successful practice manager at a Biggin Hill firm of accountants until she found the condition had returned at the beginning of 2018.

Debbie, who was 59, was born in the UK, but moved with her family to Accra in Africa before moving to Fiji until she was 19. She then attended University in New Zealand from where she graduated as a computer programmer. After some 7 years in New Zealand, Debbie moved to the UK. Amongst her many skills, she could speak Hindi and understand Fijian. She held a PADI diving qualification and dived at many sites around the world. She even took some flying lessons in the early 90's at EFG.

Debbie is survived by her parents, Donald and Veronica, who reside in Fiji, and her Brother, Barry, who lives in Australia, and loving husband and Biggin Hill'ite, Steve.

Debbie's funeral is to be held at Eltham Crematorium on 16th October 2018, at 9:15am for a 9:45am start, and afterwards at the Tatsfield Social Club, from 11am. All Debbie and Steve's friends are welcome to attend both the service and the subsequent informal wake, but if you can only make the Social Club, please feel free to attend that. Steve asks that if you wish to bring flowers, please just a single yellow rose, and make a donation to the Hospice that looked after Debbie for her final weeks.

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

DON WAUD

Just a couple of days ago we received a message to advise us that long term Biggin Hill'ite, Don Waud, had sadly passed away. Don was the owner of the Cessna Cardinal G-BAJA which he flew from Biggin Hill for many years. Unfortunately nothing further is known, but his name has been entered on the Biggin Hill Reunited website "Roll of Honour". R.I.P. Don.

AIRPORT UNVEILS LIGHT AVIATION CENTRE PLANS

The Biggin Hill Airport Management unveiled this month their plans for the new Light Aviation Centre to be located near to the A3 hold and the Milking Lane entrance. With very quick and easy access to both ends of the runway, and fantastic views across London, the airport's plans

include a large aircraft parking ramp, with adjacent grass parking for aircraft, it is planned to have refuelling facilities, Customs, space for training organisations, and restaurant and social club/bar.

Dependent upon the airport attracting a suitable build and management partner, it would be a major step forward for light aircraft up to 2,730Kgs both based and visiting. We await with interest the development timescales.

CROYDON AERODROME AVIATION & MILITARIA FAIR

The annual post New Year Aviation and Militaria Fair is again to be held at the Croydon Airport hotel, (Hallmark), A.23, Purely Way, Croydon, Surrey on Sunday 6th January 2019 from 10.30am.

With around 40 stalls, all indoors, offering Books, Militaria, Models, Toys, collectables, Paintings, etc. Entry is £4 - Free parking.

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,

Behind the scenes, some long overdue maintenance will commence shortly at the clubhouse, meanwhile both club aircraft have been kept busy with students and members.

With the onset of the clock changes at the end of October, why not consider getting a night rating, if you haven't already got one – it certainly helps if you are delayed on a daytime trip's return. And of course, if you already have the rating but haven't used it for some time, think about a dual night check to keep your night currency up to club requirements.

On the social side, why not come along to the next Alouette social evening on the first Wednesday of every month? The temperatures may be dropping, but there's always a warm welcome at Alouette.

I would like to thank "Little Sandwich Shop" for the generous sandwich platters donated to the September social.

Until next time, Safe flying

Regards
Josh Reeves
Alouette Chairman

FALCON FLIGHT ACADEMY (inc EFG) & FALCON FLIGHT SERVICES

Greetings from the Falcon Camp

Don't panic the summer hasn't gone completely! The chilly mornings are leading to some beautifully crisp and warm(ish) days allowing many a flying day.

This month has seen first solo flights at Lydd and Headcorn, qualifying cross country flights and skill test passes aplenty!

Jack joins our Ops team as the new Operations Administrator and with plenty of ops experience behind him he is already making positive waves at the school.

As we progress towards the winter months don't forget about IMC and Night Ratings as they are booking up as we speak! Ray has been putting students through their paces on the MEP Ratings and as the only approved MEP aircraft around she is doing stellar work.

The hangar is busy as ever but never too busy to take on your next check, project or rectifications so give Singh and Shonu a call on 01959 572 339.

Till the next time - Stay blessed, fly safe and squawk 7047!

Anoop Singh Bamrah
Falcon and EFG

MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF WILL CURTIS

September has been an average month for business aviation and light aviation alike and perhaps slightly behind budget after several months of over budget performance. It remains to be seen where we end up once all the numbers are in.

There is little new to report since last month, but there have been a few safety incidents attributable to light aviation, although these have mainly involved visiting aircraft. Controlled airspace infringements continue to be an issue for light aviation with the London Gatwick Zone the primary target and Biggin Hill ATZ a close second. Proper flight planning will obviously reduce the risk of CAS infringements, so please ensure that you know your intended route and landmarks before departure.

Furthermore, several based aircraft have sadly fallen foul of the noise abatement procedures and have been identified by the Noise Monitoring & Track Keeping System, leading to a surcharge. I must stress that, together, we have made massive improvements over the past 24 months and we must not lose sight of this positive trend. Nevertheless, at the risk of repeating myself, I appeal to all parties to ensure that the noise abatement procedures are adhered to in the interests of us all. Thank you, in advance, for your help and cooperation in this important area of good neighbourliness.

The runway 03 approach continues to make its way through the CAA Airspace Change Process and we are hopeful of good news before too much longer. Meanwhile, work is well underway to install the approach lighting array with the lighting system now being built off site and the land preparation and tree cutting nearly completed. The Hotel taxiway tender is out with contractors and we expect bids back shortly after which we can appoint a contractor for this very expensive investment in our airport infrastructure. We hope works will begin this autumn as planned.

Sadly, the best of the summer weather is behind us and we must start thinking about winter operations. Accordingly, we are presently conducting de-icing refresher training and dusting off and servicing the winter kit so that we can keep the airport operation throughout the winter months.

Don't forget to ensure your aircraft is ready for colder temperatures. This may mandate a check of the tyre pressures, a change of engine oil grade or other winter preparation. Consult your maintenance organisation to ensure that your aircraft is ready to face less clement autumn weather - it's on its way!

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.

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.....

Some supposed R/T quotes – the oldies are always the best.....!!

Tower: "Delta 351, you have traffic at 10 o'clock, 6 miles!"

Delta 351: "Give us another hint! We have digital watches!"

Tower: "TWA 2341, for noise abatement turn right 45 Degrees."

TWA 2341: "Centre, we are at 35,000 feet. How much noise can we make up here?"

Tower: "Sir, have you ever heard the noise a 747 makes when it hits a 727?"

O'Hare Approach Control to a 747:"United 329 heavy, your traffic is a Fokker, one o'clock, three miles, Eastbound."

United 329: "Approach, I've always wanted to say this...I've got the little Fokker in sight."

A student became lost during a solo cross-country flight. While attempting to locate the aircraft on radar, ATC asked, "What was your last known position?"

Student: "When I was number one for take-off?"

A DC-10 had come in a little hot and thus had an exceedingly long roll out after touching down.

San Jose Tower Noted: "American 751, make a hard right turn at the end of the runway, if you are able. If you are not able, take the Guadeloupe exit off Highway 101, make a right at the lights and return to the airport."

A Pan Am 727 flight, waiting for start clearance in Munich , overheard the following:

Lufthansa (in German): "Ground, what is our start clearance time?"

Ground (in English): "If you want an answer you must speak in English."

Lufthansa (in English): "I am a German, flying a German airplane, in Germany. Why must I speak English?"

Unknown voice from another plane (in a beautiful British accent): "Because you lost the bloody war!"

Tower: "Eastern 702, cleared for take-off, contact Departure on frequency 124.7"

Eastern 702: "Tower, Eastern 702 switching to Departure. By the way, after we lifted off we saw some kind of dead animal on the far end of the runway."

Tower: "Continental 635, cleared for take-off behind Eastern 702, contact Departure on frequency 124.7. Did you copy that report from Eastern 702?"

Continental 635: "Continental 635, cleared for take-off, roger; and yes, we copied Eastern... We've already notified our caterers."

One day the pilot of a Cherokee 180 was told by the tower to hold short of the active runway while a DC-8 landed. The DC-8 landed, rolled out, turned around, and taxied back past the Cherokee. Some quick-witted comedian in the DC-8 crew got on the radio and said: "What a cute little plane. Did you make it all by yourself?"

The Cherokee pilot, not about to let the insult go by, came back with a real zinger: "I made it out of DC-8 parts. Another landing like yours and I'll have enough parts for another one."

The German air controllers at Frankfurt Airport are renowned as a short-tempered lot. They not only expect one to know one's gate parking location, but how to get there without any assistance from them. So it was with some amusement that we (a Pan Am 747) listened to the following exchange between Frankfurt ground control and a British Airways 747, call sign Speedbird 206.

Speedbird 206: " Frankfurt , Speedbird 206! Clear of active runway."

Ground: "Speedbird 206. Taxi to gate Alpha One-Seven."

The BA 747 pulled onto the main taxiway and slowed to a stop.

Ground: "Speedbird, do you not know where you are going?"

Speedbird 206: "Stand by, Ground, I'm looking up our gate location now."

Ground (with quite arrogant impatience): "Speedbird 206, have you not been to Frankfurt before?"

Speedbird 206: (coolly): "Yes, twice in 1944, but it was dark, -- And I didn't land."

While taxiing at London 's Airport, the crew of a US Air flight departing for Ft. Lauderdale made a wrong turn and came nose to nose with a United 727.

An irate female ground controller lashed out at the US Air crew, screaming:

"US Air 2771, where the hell are you going? I told you to turn right onto Charlie taxiway! You turned right on Delta! Stop right there. I know it's difficult for you to tell the difference between C and D, but get it right!"

Continuing her rage to the embarrassed crew, she was now shouting hysterically:

"God! Now you've screwed everything up! It'll take forever to sort this out! You stay right there and don't move till I tell you to! You can expect progressive taxi instructions in about half an hour,

and I want you to go exactly where I tell you, when I tell you, and how I tell you! You got that, US Air 2771?"

"Yes, ma'am," the humbled crew responded. Naturally, the ground control communications frequency fell terribly silent after the verbal bashing of US Air 2771. Nobody wanted to chance engaging the irate ground controller in her current state of mind.. Tension in every cockpit out around Gatwick was definitely running high.

Just then an unknown pilot broke the silence and keyed his microphone, asking:
"Wasn't I married to you once?"

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Subject: The Ambidextrous Woman

A group of men live and die for their Saturday morning golf game. One transfers to another city and they're lost without him.

A new woman joins their Club. When she hears the guys talking about their golf round, she says, "I played on my college golf team. I was pretty good. Mind if I join you next week?"

No one wants to say 'yes', but they're on the spot. Finally, one man says. "Okay, but we start at 6:30 a.m." He figures the early tee-time will discourage her.

The woman says this may be a problem, and asks if she can be up to 15 minutes late. They roll their eyes, but say, "Okay". She's there at 6:30am sharp, and beats all of them with an eye-opening 2 under par round. She's fun and pleasant, and the guys are impressed. They congratulate her and invite her back the next week. She smiles, and says, "I'll be there at 6:30 or 6:45."

The next week she again shows up at 6:30 sharp. Only this time, she plays left-handed. The three guys are incredulous as she still beats them with an even par round, despite playing with her off-hand. They're totally amazed. They can't figure her out. She's very pleasant and a gracious winner.

They invite her back again, but each man harbours a burning desire to beat her.

The third week, she's 15 minutes late, which irritates the guys. This week she plays right-handed, and narrowly beats all three of them. The men grumble that her late arrival is petty gamesmanship on her part. However, she's so charming and complimentary of their strong play, they can't hold a grudge.

This woman is a riddle no one can figure out. They have a couple of beers in the Clubhouse, and finally, one of the men asks her, "How do you decide if you're going to golf right-handed or left-handed?"

The lady blushes, and grins. "When my Dad taught me to play golf, I learned I was ambidextrous," she replies. "I like to switch back and forth."

"When I got married after college, I discovered my husband always sleeps in the nude. From then on, I developed a silly habit. Right before I leave in the morning for golf practice, I pull the covers off him. If his willie points to the right, I golf right-handed; if it points to the left, I golf left-handed."

The guys think this is hysterical. Astonished at this bizarre information, one of the guys says, "What if it's pointing straight up?"

She says, "Then, I'm fifteen minutes late."

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A husband walks into 'Victoria's Secret' to purchase a sheer negligee for his wife.

He is shown several possibilities that range from \$250 to \$500 in price... the more sheer, the higher the price.

Naturally, he opts for the most sheer item, pays the \$500, and takes it home.

He presents it to his wife and asks her to go upstairs, put it on, and model it for him.

Upstairs the wife thinks (she's no dummy), 'I have an idea. It's so sheer that it might as well be nothing. I won't put it on, but I'll do the modelling naked, return it tomorrow, and keep the \$500 refund for myself.'

She appears naked on the balcony and strikes a pose.

The husband says, 'Good Grief! You'd think for \$500, they'd at least iron it!'

He never heard the shot. Funeral on Thursday at Noon. Closed coffin.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Subject: WHERE ARE MY CAR KEYS!?!

They weren't in my pockets. Suddenly I realized I must have left them in the car.

Frantically, I headed for the car park.

My husband has scolded me many times for leaving my keys in the car's ignition.

He was afraid that the car could be stolen.

As I looked around the car park, I realized he was right.

The car park was empty. I immediately called the police.

I gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen.

Then I made the most difficult call of all to my husband:....."I left my keys in the car and it's been stolen."

There was a moment of silence. I thought the call had been disconnected, but then I heard his voice.....

"ARE YOU KIDDING ME?" he barked, "I DROPPED YOU OFF!"

Now it was my turn to be silent.....

Embarrassed, I said, "Well, come and get me."

He retorted, "I will, as soon as I convince this police officer that I didn't steal your damn car!"

WELCOME TO THE SILVER YEARS...

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Subject: Today's Humour....

Bookseller conducting a market survey asked a woman, "Which book has helped you most in your life?"

The woman replied, "My husband's cheque book!!"

A prospective husband in a book store: "Do you have a book called 'Husband - the Master of the House?'"

Sales girl: "Sir, fiction and comics are located on the 1st floor!"

Someone asked an old man: "Even after 70 years of marriage, you still call your wife - darling, honey, and luv. What's the secret?"

Old man: "I forgot her name and I'm terrified to ask her."

Pharmacist to customer: "Sir, please understand, to buy an anti-depression pill you need a proper prescription... Simply showing a marriage certificate and your wife's picture is not enough!"

A man was granted two wishes by God. He asked for the best drink & the best woman ever. Next moment he got mineral water & Mother Teresa.

There are 3 kinds of men in this world:
Some remain single and make wonders happen.
Some have girlfriends and see wonders happen.
The rest get married and wonder what happened!

Wives are magicians. They can change anything into an argument.

A university professor asked "Why do women live a better, longer & more peaceful life, compared to men?"

A very INTELLIGENT student replied: "Because women don't have a wife!"

GREAT MESSAGE BY A WIFE: "Dear Mother-in-law, Don't ever try to teach me how to handle my children. I am living with one of yours and he needs one hell of a lot of improvement!"

When a married man says, I WILL THINK ABOUT IT - what he really means is that he doesn't know his wife's opinion yet.

A lady says to her doctor: "My husband has a habit of talking in his sleep! What should I give him to cure it?"

"The doctor replies: "Give him an opportunity to speak when he's awake!"

.....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" ...)