

Hi everyone

Welcome to the September 2012 Biggin Hill Users Database Newsletter – a relatively brief one this month as I have only recently returned from holiday and am yet to get totally organised.

The September edition of the Biggin Hill Airport "BUGLE" by John Bryan is also available online on the Social Club's website at <http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk> ... It is not included here - to view the Bugle you need to go to the club website and click on the link on the homepage – when you get to the Bugle section, you need to then click on the September 2012 edition link – this will open it in a new browser window so you can read it or print it..

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).

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Welcome to the new members of the Database who are receiving this regular Newsletter for the first time.. For current member names see www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk and go to the link to the database members list..

Please let us know if you change your email address at any time – and if you know anyone else who has been involved on the airport, please pass me their details so they can be added to the database.

GORDON READER

Former old Biggin Hill'ite, Gordon Reader, who worked at Shipping and Airlines at Biggin Hill in the 1980's and 90's, sadly passed away on 21st August 2012.

His funeral service will be held at the Elmers End Crematorium on the 5th September at 13.30 pm. All who knew Gordon are welcome to attend the service.

Gordon's story can be seen in this month's Bugle.

THE OLD HAY WEEKEND

Held on the weekend of 18th and 19th August, the Old Hay Aviation Boogie this year was an excellent event and enjoyed the warmest weather seen all year.

There were flying displays over the two days from The Diamond 9 Tiger Moths, The Red Devils in their Fournier RF4's, A trio of Stearmans, The Trig Pitts Special duo, The BBMF, and various solo aerobatic displays, including a solo Hurricane, and a Yak 11 displayed beautifully by Rob Davies of Woodchurch Warbirds.

In the evening, there were model aircraft flying displays, which included illuminated night flying models, whilst two bands provided the live music.

The organisers send their thanks to all those that supported the event. They explained; "We aim to host the event again next year, so watch this space..."

CAMPAIGN TO CHANGE THE UK'S AIR PASSENGER TAX

The campaign, mentioned in the last couple of Newsletters is gaining momentum and has now exceeded their target of 100,000 individual emails to MP's. But the entire aviation industry is urging people to add their support – let's not stop just because the initial target has been met.

Currently 75 MP's have also signed up to an Early Day Motion (number 174) – The more emails MP's receive, the more MP's will be forced to take notice..

Adding your voice to the campaign couldn't be simpler - go to <http://www.afairtaxonflying.org/> where the simple template does the entire job for you, just by entering your postcode, and adding your name and email .

In the meantime, click here to view an amusing little cartoon on the subject by BALPA http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4O_6xiYAtwU&feature=youtu.be

OLYMPIC RESTRICTIONS

With the exception of some significantly lesser restrictions associated with the Paralympics, it would appear that things at Biggin Hill and in the local area are now going back to normal.

From what I hear, and read, it would seem that the draconian restrictions dreamt up by the powers that be (not the Biggin Hill management, I hasten to add) took their toll on air traffic in the area – with many people simply doing as I did – leaving the Country and taking holidays etc. The effects of the restrictions and media coverage on potential tourism also seems to have put off a large number of corporations around the world from flying in to the UK to get to the Olympics – as written in many corporate aviation web-based journals. Notwithstanding that, I think it sounded as though Biggin Hill did at least get a reasonable share of the market associated with Olympic traffic, but it could be that the overall effect may not have been as they would have expected or liked – more from that in Jenny Munro's piece below, I am sure.

Biggin Hill did their best to make it easier by removing the PPR requirement as soon as it was obviously not needed, but there was nothing they could do about the more onerous requirements that had put many GA pilots off altogether.

From my part, looking on from abroad, it did appear that the actual Olympics ran smoothly, despite earlier doubts, and the UK did itself proud both in the athletes achievements and with the apparent efficiency of the games and friendliness of all involved.

AUGUST AT BIGGIN HILL - FROM THE OFFICE OF JENNY MUNRO

Well, with the exception of the Paralympics now well underway (Go Team GB!!), I can heave something of a sigh of relief that the slot restricted / peak period of London 2012 has been and gone relatively smoothly and without any of the operational events which might have been fuelling the nightmares of some of us!

But did it deliver the expected traffic levels and the business bonanza that was anticipated? The short answer is no.

I don't need to tell the readers of this newsletter that light aircraft largely remained on the ground – with some exceptions, but the majority chose not to tackle the complications and risks of the (rightly) heavily guarded airspace. This is completely understood and had I been a pilot or light aircraft owner, I would have done the same.

The business which would have taken place during that time any other year didn't happen, so the Olympics business jet traffic was largely replacement traffic, rather than additional as had been widely expected. This was the case at Biggin, and I think it followed the same pattern in many Airports and even in wider industry. Interestingly, Heathrow reported a drop of over 4% in passenger numbers in July, and we have probably all heard or seen the reports of businesses in London who have had a similar experience.

So, with the exception of some very busy days, which meant we had an impressive 70+ business jets on the ground for the Opening Ceremony, it didn't really come up to the high expectations.

I am grateful to the Airport employees, who have been under a leave embargo for the summer, but have nevertheless approached this whole challenge with professionalism and good humour.

I would also like to thank those who chose to fly during this time, for their patience and understanding with my team. PPR was the only locally imposed restriction and we were as eager to lift it as you must have been to see it lifted.

We are taking the opportunity to progress some maintenance work on runway 11/29 and will have it back in service in due course.

Jenny Munro
MD – Biggin Hill Airport Ltd

BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT SOCIAL CLUB

Thank you all for your continued financial support – it is appreciated..

That's it for this month..

John Willis

Biggin Hill Airport Users Database

(And Finally: For your amusement this month, two stories sent to me by old Biggin Hill'ites from far off places, the first thanks to John Allen from the USA, and the second from Alan Smith from New Zealand

QUOTE.....

“Paraprosdokians” are described as figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected; frequently humorous. Here are a few - Enjoy!

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right - only who is left.
7. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit.. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
8. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
9. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
10. In filling out an application, where it says, 'In case of emergency, Notify:' I put 'DOCTOR'.

11. You do not need a parachute to skydive. But you do need one to skydive twice.
12. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
13. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
14. You're never too old to learn something stupid.
15. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but its getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....
"TANJOOBERRYMUTTS"

By the time you read through this you will understand "TANJOOBERRYMUTTS".
And only then will you be ready to take on China ! Believe me... you WILL understand!!!

The following is a telephonic exchange between someone like you, as a Hotel guest, and room-service in China

Room Service: "Morrin. Roon sirbees."

Guest: "Sorry, I thought I dialled room-service."

Room Service: " Rye , Roon sirbees...morrin! Joowish to oddor sunteen?"

Guest: "Uh... Yes, I'd like to order bacon & eggs."

Room Service: "Ow ulai den?"

Guest: "What??"

Room Service: "Ow ulai den?!?... Pryed, boyud, pochd?"

Guest: "Oh, the eggs! How do I like them? Sorry.. Scrambled, please."

Room Service: "Ow ulai dee bayken? Creepse?"

Guest: "Crisp will be fine."

Room Service: "Hokay. An sahn toes?"

Guest: "What?"

Room Service: "An toes. ulai sahn toes?"

Guest: "I.... Don't think so.."

RoomService: "No? Udo wan sahn toes???"

Guest: "I feel really bad about this, but I don't know what 'udo wan sahn toes' means."

RoomService: "Toes! Toes!... Why Uoo don wan toes?... Ow bow anglish moppin we botter?"

Guest: "Oh, English muffin!!! I've got it! You were saying 'toast'... Fine...Yes, an English muffin will be fine."

RoomService: "We botter?"

Guest: "No, just put the botter on the side."

RoomService: "Wad?!?"

Guest: "I mean butter... Just put the butter on the side."

RoomService: "Copy?"

Guest: "Excuse me?"

RoomService: "Copy.. tea... meel?"

Guest: "Yes. Coffee, please... And that's everything."

RoomService: "One Minnie. Scramah egg, creepse bayken, Anglish moppin, we botter on sigh & copy... Rye ??"

Guest: "Whatever you say."

RoomService: "Tanjooberrymutts."

Guest: "You're welcome"

Remember I did say "By the time you read through this... .. YOU WILL UNDERSTAND 'TANJOOBERRYMUTTS'...."

And you do, don't you!

.....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 unusual and interesting stories or anecdotes that you feel may interest our readers, please email them to me as a possible inclusion in a monthly "and Finally"...))