

Dear Biggin Hill Airport User

On behalf of Joe Merchant and Bill Robinson, and all those involved in organising the recent Biggin Hill 60's and 70's reunion, I would like to thank all those who attended the event. I do hope that you had as good a day as we did on this very special occasion. For those who were unable to make it, I am sorry that we did not have the opportunity of meeting you again. It was truly amazing to see so many of the friends from those incredibly sociable days in the past, and worth all the effort that was put in to organise the event.

For Joe and I, having committed ourselves to several thousands of pounds up front to hire the marquee, furnishings, stage, and dance-floor etc., it was really gratifying to find that you all donated so generously to the fund. In the end, not only did we cover all our costs, but we also generated a substantial sum for charity. The exact amount of the surplus will be determined over the next few weeks but, at the time of writing this letter, the total from all sources, including the profits from the barbecue, would appear to amount to around £1500. Thank you all very much. (Please accept my apologies for not acknowledging all donations personally)

Thank you also to everyone who has phoned, written, faxed, or emailed, us showing appreciation for organising the reunion - such letters are much appreciated.

PIC Productions, who have produced the video of the event, have allowed us to enclose this note with their mailer, and I hope that you will honour them with your custom. I have seen the video, and can confirm that it is an absolutely perfect reminder of that special day and, at £20 (delivered), it represents excellent value.

A number of you have asked me if I am prepared to maintain a database of names, addresses, and contact numbers, etc., of all the Biggin Hill users. Having started the ball rolling with the contact list for the reunion, this is a relatively easy extension of this, and I would be happy to do so. I do appreciate that many of you would not like your details passed out to all and sundry, so I am happy to confirm that, unless you specifically authorise me to do so, I will only offer to pass on written communications by post to enable you respond or ignore it, as you see fit. The database will not, at any time, be supplied to anyone else for marketing purposes.

On the assumption that you all agree that this would be a good idea, please take a few moments to complete the form on the reverse of this letter, and send it back to me. Should your details change in the future, please also let me know. With any luck, this will ensure that we will never have to spend so long trying to find our old friends if we should ever organise anything again in the future.

Thank you all once again for making the reunion a very special day for us.

John Willis
(1st October 1998)

Many of you who are no longer frequent visitors to the airfield have said that you stay away because you don't know anyone any more. Joe has asked me to point out that, by virtue of being a part of the reunion and having your name on the database, you are considered to be a member of the "Pilots Pals" Bar, and are welcome there at any time. If you are ever likely to find someone you know from the past, then let's make this the place where we can all meet up.

The Bar telephone number is 01959 570586

Please treat this as YOUR club whenever you are at Biggin Hill.

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The information requested on the form for the Biggin Hill Airport Users Database as attached to the above letter is as follows:.....

Title/First Name/Surname
Preferred First Name (ie. if different, the one that others will normally know you as)
Postal Address (inc Postcode)
Home Phone/Home Fax/Home Email
Work Phone
Biggin Hill Background (ie. member of clubs/company's worked for, etc)

Basis of Contact required

If anyone wishes to make contact with you, there are basically two ways this can be dealt with:- If you are happy to allow it, then your address/phone, etc. can be given out, or, if you wish to retain privacy and decide who you wish to know your details, then we can decline to give the details out, but offer to forward written correspondence to you to give you the choice of whether to reply or not.

Which would you prefer? (please advise)

It is OK to give my details out OR Please only forward letters - do not give my details out.

Please return the information to:

John Willis, 26 Churchside Close, Biggin Hill, Kent, TN16 3QF
(Tel: 01959 571533 Fax: 01959 540424)

or Email to: johnw@cic.co.uk)

(If the information is not supplied, we will keep your details as currently held, and will NOT give your details out to anyone who wishes to contact you, but WILL forward mail or emails if received.)

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY RESPONDED WITH THIS INFORMATION AND CONFIRMATION OF HOW YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR DETAILS TO BE HANDLED, PLEASE IGNORE THIS PART!

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The following is the text of the mailer being sent out by PIC Productions who produced the video of the Reunion.....

"We have now completed work on the commemorative video of "The Bump Reunion" and John Willis (who organised the event with Joe Merchant and Bill Robinson) has suggested that we contact you in case you might like to purchase a copy as a memento of that unique occasion.

It runs for around 45 minutes and has been carefully edited to include pictures of the great majority of people who attended. As well as depicting as many people as possible we have tried to convey a flavour of the activities that took place from start to finish without it becoming a boring presentation. Chris Smith (leader of "The String of Pearls Orchestra") kindly gave permission for us to record the superb sounds of his big band and these add greatly to the nostalgic appeal of the production. Frank Gosling's attempt to conduct the band playing "The Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines" is something that definitely ought not to be missed!

I and my colleagues have had a long association with the airfield and, like yourself, were guests at the event. We have produced the video as a purely speculative project and are not seeking to profit from it. Once costs have been covered any "extra over" will be donated to the fund's charity.

The tapes cost £20 each (inclusive of post and packing) and are supplied in plastic library cases. They are attractively labelled with a specially designed full colour commemorative sleeve. To obtain a copy simply send an order with the details shown below and the appropriate payment - payable to PIC Productions - to PIC Productions, 2 Oaklands Lane, Biggin Hill, Westerham, Kent, TN16 3DN

To minimise costs orders will not be acknowledged but tapes will be dispatched within 28 days of receipt of order.

Name, Postal Address (inc Postcode)
Day & Evening Phone number

Number of copies required at 20 UKL per copy (inc P&P)

Mike Hughes

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THANKS A LOT FOR READING THIS LENGTHY EMAIL, I APOLOGISE
IF YOU ALSO GET A POSTAL VERSION OF IT, BUT THIS IS BEING
SENT OUT IN CASE WE HAVE ONLY GOT AN EMAIL ADDRESS FOR
YOU.

BEST REGARDS

JOHN WILLIS