

Hi everyone

I have to pass on the sad news of the loss of another old Biggin Hill'ite.

On Thursday morning our old friend Ben Parker passed away peacefully in his sleep in hospital in Derbyshire. One of Bill Webb's era, Ben was, as far as I know, until recently one of the UK's oldest current pilots licence holders. For those than may not remember him, Ben was very active in the earlier days at Biggin Hill, being very involved in the social side of Surrey and Kent Flying Club (and the Surrey Flying Club at Croydon prior to the move to Biggin Hill) when it was one of the largest flying clubs in this Country. I am told that it was Ben that brought the old "Runway 29" bar building up from Croydon to its location at Biggin Hill where Shipping and Airlines are now sited. He actively flew on his PPL until quite recently.

There is a memorial service planned for his family and friends at 11am on Friday 11th June at the RAF Memorial Chapel - more later.

On a lighter note - on this wonderfully hot and sunny Saturday, for those of you living near to Biggin - I hope to see some of you at Joe's Pilots Pals bar tonight for his Spring mini-display and barbecue - starts 6pm tonight and there is a small band from around 8pm. With such a beautiful day and anticipated warm evening, it should be a very pleasant way to spend a Saturday. Hope some of you can make it.

regards

John Willis

Biggin Hill Airport Users database