

Hi everyone

Just some brief news items from Biggin Hill.....

Many of you will know that the Biggin Hill Air Fair this year is not until September 18th and 19th, having been moved from its normal Summer slot in June. As many of us will miss the Summer event, with its social gathering that it always involves, there is a gathering at the airfield for "Its Not The AirFair" on Saturday 12th June 2004 at the Pilots Pals Bar. Whilst this unfortunately will not include any flying display items, it is hoped to include all sorts of fun for all members of the family, including Paper Aeroplane Competitions, a static display of model aircraft, a Best Dressed Junior Pilot competition, Computer Air Race competition, and flight simulator displays. There will be a barbecue during the afternoon and early evening (1pm to 4pm and 6pm to 8pm). For the children a bouncy castle - and for us oldies, a live band from 8pm to late (the one that was there at the last event, and which everyone has asked Joe to get back again!). Everyone is welcome, so if you're at a loose end, do drop in and see us all.....

You will recall that I passed on the sad news of the death of our friend, Ben Parker, a few weeks ago. Ben was, I believe, the oldest Pilot in the UK, and had been actively involved in Biggin Hill since everyone moved from Croydon in the late 50's.

Ben had asked Joe Merchant, via a letter in his will, if he would arrange for his family and friends to be able to remember him in a service at the chapel, and afterwards at the Bar. The memorial service has now been confirmed at 11am on Friday June 11th at the RAF Memorial Chapel with a few wee drams at the Pilots Pals bar afterwards. I do hope that anyone who knew Ben, and is able to spare the time, will be able to join us.

regards
John Willis
Biggin Hill Database