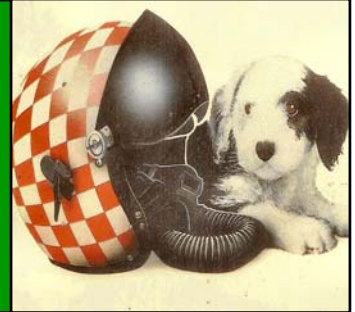




BIGGIN HILL BUGLE

ESTABLISHED 2005

HOUD IGNOTA LIQUOR



BEST NEWS AND SCANDAL
ISSUE No. 33

WWW.PILOTSPALS.CO.UK

IN ASSOCIATION WITH PILOTS PALS
1ST SEPTEMBER 2007

WOMEN IN BLACK SERIES



Her name is Vicki is all we know and it is far more information than you need to know, gaze and dream. Only the Bugles photographer knows her true identity.

OVERHEARD AT THE BAR

True story. During a recent Lottery draw contestants answer questions to win holiday prizes. *The question to contestant* – What is the longest river in Africa?. *Contestant answers* – The Amazon. **Voice from behind the bar says.** ‘That is a jungle, isn’t it..! Much laughter followed.

Elderly ‘*Pilot Chappie*’ enters the bar having stumbled and fallen heavily, outside. He said, **“I thought I had suffered a heart attack, because I felt a very sharp pain in my chest as I hit the ground”**. It transpired his sturdy ‘*Pilots Pals pen*’ in his shirt pocket had stabbed him in the chest as he fell. Luckily, there was no damage to the pen. We had a good

laugh at his misfortune. He didn’t buy us a drink for listening with interest to his sufferings. Maybe he was in shock. We’ll remind him next time he comes in.

HIGHLY VISIBLE SMOKERS

Read into this, what you may. Now that all public places have to comply with the no smoking ban, there are more people standing outside than ever. (*even outside the restaurant we just departed*). It will be interesting to see what happens when winter comes. What happens to all the cigarette ends, *look around you*, they litter the pavements, more than ever before. The knock on effect for pubs is yet to show itself. There will probably be an alcohol ban next, forcing people to turn to drugs or reading the Koran as there will be nothing left. The Christian religion will fade into obscurity and we will gradually be forced back to the dark ages under the umbrella of an Ayatollah preaching an intolerable religion. We’re being told that we are overheating the planet (*Global warming*) and we must cut back by switching off lights and standby equipment. Can you see the production of cars, aircraft, and other commercial and domestic appliances etc., being stopped because of the so called emissions polluting the atmosphere and the over heating of the planet. The tourist industry will die along with our social life as we come under an Ayatollah’s guidance that will only retard these problems by a system of oppression. Our government is losing its grip on reality and the

welfare of the nation. There is no control of the influx of unwanted people from ethnic countries, building their ramshackle temples on every corner. Try building a Church of England in their country, it would not be tolerated. We will end up with nothing except a degenerate ruling religion that is incapable of rational thinking, nor developing any form of culture. This will decimate, all we have developed over the centuries. We will lose all forms of discipline, the infrastructure will disintegrate. We have all seen the sandwich board men, depicting the ‘*end of the world is nigh*’, well that day is probably closer than we think. We are going down the road of extinction like the Roman Empire. Don’t worry about global warming, look at the people around your village or town and the way that they are allowed to incite terror and intolerable inconvenience to our way of life wherever we go.

BA FUEL SURCHARGE FINE

The recent fine to BA of 121 million pounds for conspiring with Virgin Atlantic reference fuel surcharges which goes to show how holiday makers are abused. After all, these very people are the life blood of airlines. Most of us are a bit bemused by the addition of a fuel surcharge on long haul flights (*in fact, Easy Jet and others add this surcharge on short haul flights*). There is also the possibility of Airport Taxes in some places (*countries*) which can be embarrassing because they demand this payment in local

currency, (which you have probably spent to the last penny) as their currency is useless outside their borders. Isn't it far better for Tourist Companies to investigate these additional taxes when compiling holiday deals and quote the price (the real price) that is the actual end user cost. It is bad enough traveling these days, with enforced security within an environment (airport terminals) which are totally inadequate for this process. The final insult, is to be crammed into a densely packed aircraft fuselage with poor cabin service. The day will come when all seats are removed and there will be a series of light weight metal stalls in which passengers stand for flights no longer than two hours. **Think about it – it's a good idea..!** When the US army evacuated Saigon in their last desperate days they managed to get 741 people into an empty Jumbo Freighter.

THE LAST POIGNANT DAYS

These images reflect the thoughts of days gone by and the uncertain future, of a social life at the airfield for all the aviators, and those with a keen interest in aviation. This is a rather sad end to a wonderful era.



Ron, our friendly supplier, of alcoholic beverages. We will miss his wonderful cheery smile.



Two of our senior members reflect on their next watering hole where they can meet 'like' people.



A mid life member can only reflect on a mid life crisis as the sun sets during the final moments of a glorious era.

PREPARITY RECONNOITRE

Where do I go from here – another esteemed member of Pilots Pals tries a new mode of transport during his search for a new venue.



This vehicle looks as if it could have a CoG handicap during severe cornering. However, the pilot is well versed in the science of Weight and Balance and should therefore understand any Centre of Gravity discrepancies to avoid spilling the shopping.

HUNGARIAN GRAND PRIX

A very good race, (5th August 2007) although attendance at the Pilots Pals Bar was poor. The race was marred by some political controversy within the McLaren Team, which was explained after the race by our **Racial Harmony**

Officer as a misunderstanding between races. F1 races he hastily added...! Then, he in turn, with the collusion of another *disinterested member*, commandeered the TV remote and caused considerable confusion, by changing channels, whilst the dedicated were trying to listen to the outcome of the day's event within the McLaren ranks. No wonder we have racial hatred, when this kind of thing happens. Congratulations to Lewis Hamilton, he deserved this win.



One of the best looking trophies is received by Lewis in Hungary. This feud between Alonso and Hamilton reflects back to the day's of Ayrton Senna and Alain Prost each taking the other off the track in their bitter rivalry to win.

THE CRASHER CREW SAGA

Not content with a fall from a very high ladder, crashing someone else's motorcycle which was on loan, injuring his ankle, yet again, in the process, and then, whilst carrying out reluctant domestic chores, he thrusts his hand into a sink full of plates and one carving knife duly slicing his wrist. He takes himself to hospital only to be told by the nurse that his appointment for his ankle injury is next week. It's not my ankle he responds, it's my wrist, with blood spurting out he holds it up to show the nurse who duly feints. (believe that, if you may) Finally, he decided to take his Mercedes S

Class vehicle to work rather than his trusted Land Rover Defender. He has to go shopping down the road for some vital building materials only to have his faithful Mercedes damaged by some unknown who reversed into it within the car park, obviously by a flat bed truck, damaging the bonnet beyond repair. With the closure of the Pilots Pals this poor 'Pilot Chappie's' future is rather fragile. He is seeking professional advice and guidance, along with Sharon



who is looking ahead for a new career, as they both gaze out of the Pilots Pals Bar window for the last time. A period worse than the collapse of the Roman Empire – devastating...!!

THE BUGLE WILL CONTINUE

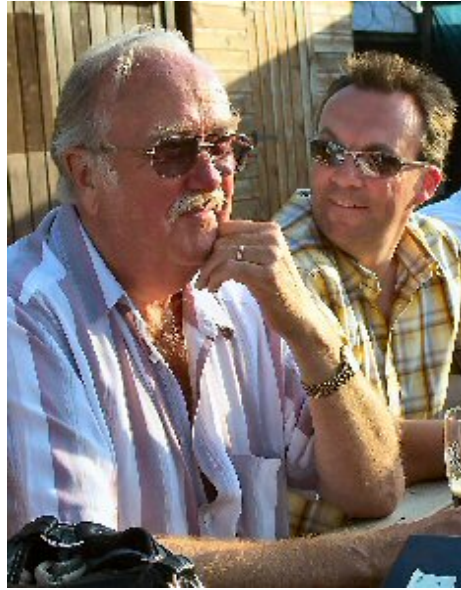
The be published each month keeping you informed of the activities around the airfield although it looks as though the last bar has finally closed, or has it ?? Don't forget the 1st of each month, Bugle day. Any stories, no matter where you are, are welcome. Send them to the editor by Email, or Fax.

johnbryan@jbplstd.demon.co.uk
 Fax: 0870 0558171

This will be the last issue to be left in the Pilots Pals Bar – from now on it is only available on the internet – www.pilotspals.co.uk. If your colleagues or friends are not computer literate, tell them, to get real. The pencil and Basildon Bond days, are over. As extinct as the Dodo, and the wonderful bars, and clubs, that existed over the

years at Biggin Hill Airfield. The sunrise will never be the same.

CRYSTAL BALL IMAGES



A mystic could read so much into these expressions for the future and the pending doom that is not quite visible. The predictions of the Zodiac are the same for everyone. Therefore we can eliminate the mystic and save our money for another round of drinks, cheers...!!

A FINAL FAREWELL PARTY

"Hi Darling" wont be long, just accepting a small presentation gift, from the members. See you soon..!



JOHN BRYAN GOT ONE TOO



His one, much more ruvvery than my one. Be home soon. Bye...!!

A GRAND FAREWELL EVENT

At the Pilots Pals Bar on the 25th August 2007 was the beginning of the end of an 'Era for the Social Life' at Biggin Hill. John Bryan spoke of the social life that existed at Biggin Hill over the last 43 years. It is hard to imagine that this part of our lives has gone, the problem being that the young pilots of today are presented with different circumstances. The old days of pulling the aircraft from the hangar before the sun had risen are gone. The enthusiasm and encouragement to be involved in handling aircraft, has faded. No more the enthusiastic Instructor encouraging the fledgling pilot to gain first flight of the day for this privilege of helping out at dawn. In those far off days future pilots were taught to fly, by an enthusiastic instructor. (Whereas today's fledgling pilots buy a flying lesson from a flying school which has no club atmosphere).

The old days of the way it was, have gone. Just like Joe's Bar, which has been there for the last 15 years (the last one), everyday. Unfortunately old age catches up with us all, and we are left wondering how best we can relate our glorious past – the only ones that listen, are those that are still alive. The rest are about 60 years behind and learning a new way of life – we have enjoyed our life to the full and we encourage those who are interested in aviation to continue in our path – it was a good life, using our skills to the best of our ability and enjoying a social community among like people. Just where we will all congregate I am not too sure. There are several possibilities being investigated. It doesn't take much to disperse people beyond the boundaries of recovery once a building (your meeting point) is closed and bull dozed to the ground. It is quite a shock.

JOE AND JILL, FAREWELL

A very successful gathering was held on Saturday 25th to say farewell and thanks to Joe Merchant and Jill Minter. Trying to keep the event under wraps until the last moment was quite difficult with people asking questions as to what was going to happen. We at the Bugle were bound to secrecy. For those of you that couldn't make it, we advise the following.

Joe was presented with a Raymond Weil Gold watch and Gold Bangle Jill was more than surprised to be presented with a Rotary Watch and a White Gold Necklace. *Joe and Jill* . express their sincere thanks to all who have supported them over the years. They were rather surprised at the preparation behind this last organised party which lasted until 0330 hours Sunday morning. TC's Snack Bar 1 Roundways, Biggin Hill, Kent TN16 3XZ,,provided a wonderfully presented 'Finger Buffet' they are to be congratulated for their efficiency and professional services with their catering services.



A toast, from Jill to the members.



BBMF – CREWS ATTEND

This final farewell which made a fitting end to the day, pictured with our black and white attired ladies.

THE EDITORS COMMENTS

I personally wishes to thank all those who attended and for their contributions. Sorry I didn't get to speak to everybody as we were a little overwhelmed by the numbers. We calculated 70 – 80 would attend the presentation. It transpired to be 120 at least, rising to 200 plus, excellent turn out. People came from far and wide from John O'Groats and Spain.

RALPH SCOTT AND BRIONY



Ralph, formerly Express Aviation falls for the Editors Step Daughter whilst waiting for the Air Display to begin. Edwin Benninkmeyer put on a very smooth display in a CAP10 a nice ending to the day. The other aircraft had some technical problems terminating their displays, unfortunately.

MORE EMIGRATE ABROAD

Not only are Joe and Valerie moving to warmer climes. Pam Small and Dave King are heading



for a new life in New Zealand. Pam of course is a New Zealander. We wish them all the very best and will miss their cheery faces.



Pam's little children are remaining in the UK for the time being. The boys are no strangers to New Zealand and we guess, they'll be heading southward very soon.

MAXINE GAZES AHEAD



Looking for the future without life on the airfield and Pilots Pals.

NEW VENUE REVIEWED



The Bugle visited the Biggin Hill Squash Club which is situated opposite the first entrance to Charles Darwin School in Jail Lane. It has a large lounge, two bars, two full size snooker tables, a pool table, four squash courts, table tennis table, a large kitchen and an excellent menu reasonably priced from sandwiches to all day breakfast etc., including *Special Daily Blackboard Menu* ! There is a large car park and secluded garden area. Pilots Pals Members are welcome to use the facilities on production of their Membership Card until the current expiry date. The club also has a private room for meetings The excellent toilet facilities include changing rooms and showers for men and women.