

Severn Valley Microlight Club **AIRSCREW**



JANUARY 2006

A Happy New Year and Safe Flying

This Month's Meeting –Wednesday 18th January

This month the Club's AGM will be the main focus of the evening. Please make every effort to attend as it is the time when the past year is reviewed and the operation of the Club is positively up for scrutiny and comment by you, its members. Every effort is made to provide an interesting and topical programme of events throughout the year but suggestions and offers of help are always welcome.

The Agenda appears at the end of this Newsletter

Christmas Meeting and Competitions

The Christmas meeting was well attended and, judging by the empty food dishes at the end, a success. The photographic competition was well supported with the largest display seen for several years. The two winners were Bruce Drake (top photo opposite) and John Davis (the two below which were submitted as one entry).



Ground crew await arrivals at Hawling



Mr Bumble arrives at Hawling

Mr Bumble had thought up a variation on the photo competition and produced a sheet of prints depicting some twenty locations. These were all airfields or microlight strips which members might have visited at some time. The winners of this competition were Robbie Keene and Phil Hanman.

Safety

Andrew John's accident last year must have made everyone in the Club take a deep breath, step back a pace, shudder at the severity of the accident and marvel at the speed of Andrew's recovery. It could have happened to any one of us and the more you fly the greater the possibility. Constant vigilance, conscientious pre-flight checks, an acknowledgement that we are not infallible and Andrew's comment that "this was an avoidable accident" should keep all of us on our toes for 2006.

However the misfortune did not end there since just before Christmas Chris Ball had a mid-air coming together with a Cessna which resulted in the Cessna pilot's death. Chris and his passenger survived without major injuries. Nothing more is known about the incident at the time of going to press and an investigation is in progress.

With these two incidents in mind the old saying is as pertinent as ever – "Safety is no accident!"

Internet

Now that we are in the darkest part of the year it is the ideal opportunity for those members with access to the Internet to take a look at the CAA site www.caa.co.uk and catch up on some of the publications. Of particular interest is LASORS, a large PDF file which contains all you will ever want or wish to know about licencing, medicals, etc. and all the

Safety Sense leaflets. The latter are always being updated and topics added to the list covering a host of practical subjects.

You will notice that our old friend CAP 85 (the dreaded Air Law publication) has disappeared. Now, if you want to know anything about the legality of your flying you need to consult the Air Navigation Order or the Rules of the Air. It is also worth taking a look at CAP 413 – the Radio Telephony Manual – as that, too, is revised on a regular basis. The advantage with all these publications is that you can download the PDF versions of them free of charge. Even if you are on a dial-up connection it is probably cheaper than actually purchasing them!

Quote of the month

"The airplane has unveiled for us the true face of the earth." - *Antoine de Saint-Exupéry*

SPLASH Revisited

Just to prove that Airscrew is read in high places, Roger Patrick of P&M Aviation e-mailed me to take issue with the comment that there seemed to be little that was new at the show. To put the record straight he pointed out the first appearance of their Quik GT450 with a wing area of just 13 sq meters which is actually 2.6 sqm less than that on the Quantum and not 3 sqm more as stated in the report. (*Adrian Burden is the proud owner of one of these. Ed*)

He also added that there was a new Airborne trike and wing there, and the Tanarg was at the show for the first time.



Perhaps this was a case of the reporter looking for something never seen or reported before rather than the first appearance in public of aircraft which had featured previously in the press in articles and photos.

Charts

Bearing in mind that amendments are being made to Bristol airspace members with access to the Internet might like to Bookmark the CAA site which details amendments to half-mil and quarter-mil charts.

<http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?categoryid=64> An occasional check will avoid straying into restricted airspace.

Manchester Low Level Corridor

If you are doing some forward planning for the flying season and intend going north you may be interested to see a write up and photographs about the Low Level Corridor. The document is in PDF format and can be found at http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/299/Manchester%20Low%20Level%20Route_2005.pdf

Dates for your Diary

4th – 10th April – Sun 'n Fun, Lakeland, Florida

21st – 23rd April – Fly! The London Airshow, Earls Court

29th – 30th April – Microlight Trade Show, Popham

16th – 18th June – Spamfield, Sandown, Isle of Wight. (Provisional dates)

30th June - 2nd July – Flying for Fun, Kemble. (The former PFA Rally)

24th – 30th July – Oshkosh Fly-in, Wisconsin

General Advertisements

Adrian Peatman e-mailed with the following plea. Has anyone got an MW electric start conversion for a 447 I could borrow/steal/buy, please? He can be contacted on 01453 542000 or by e-mail at [<atp@chosen-hill.gloucs.sch.uk>](mailto:atp@chosen-hill.gloucs.sch.uk)

Agenda for the AGM

1. Apologies for absence
2. Chairman's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Adoption of Treasurer's Report and recommendations
5. Election of Officers and Committee
6. The Poser Award for 2005
7. The Spitfire Award for 2005
8. Any other business

Bill Austin (Editor)

01684 833484

bill@austin65.freeserve.co.uk

Memories of 2005

