



January 2007

A Happy New Year to Everyone

This Month's Meeting - Wednesday 17th January - The AGM and a Talk

Note:- The meeting will start at 8.00pm prompt as will all future meetings.

Normally the main and only feature of the January meeting is the Club AGM. This year a different format is being tried in order to incorporate a talk as well. The Chairman's Report and the Accounts for 2006 are published later in the newsletter. At the meeting you will be able to comment on both items, approve the accounts, vote on the subscription for 2007 and elect the Officers and Committee of the Club. The Club trophies - the Poser award and the Spitfire Award - will also be presented. This format will shorten the formal business

The **Agenda** for the AGM is as follows:-

1. Chairman's Report (see *printed version later in Newsletter*)
2. Club Accounts prepared by the Treasurer (see *printed version later in Newsletter*)
3. Acceptance of Accounts
4. To approve membership fees for 2007
5. Election of Officers
6. Election of Committee
7. Presentation of Awards
8. Any Other Business

Following the "shortened" AGM Myron Burak will be telling us about his Fly UK adventure with Bruce Drake last year. Hopefully the technical problems which prevented this talk in November will have been solved. It should be an interesting evening. Come Along and voice your views and opinions.

Christmas Meeting Competition Results

1 Member's Photo

This competition saw the largest entry that the Club has ever had. The Committee were quite pleasantly surprise by the number of entries which resulted in a somewhat haphazard display area. This coming year we will be prepared. Despite some very good photos the result was a clear win for Myron Burak and his photo of the Needles on the Isle of Wight.



2 Airscrew Photographer of the Year

The Airscrew Editor's selection of photos from the newsletter initially produced a tie but the final winner, selected by an independent Club member, was Ed Wells' photo of his daughter Polly in the back seat of his Blade.



3 Where is this?

John Hamer produced photos of 22 airfields in England, Scotland and Wales together with a clue for each one. This produced a lot of interest and debate and resulted in a large entry. Obviously the challenge was not tough enough because there were three winners who each identified all the airfields correctly. They were Alan Coulon, Jim Taylor and Mike Oliver. Well done to them - perhaps they could let us know when they have visited all of them!

The evening was enjoyed by all and thanks must go to everyone who attended and made the meeting success.

Quote of the Month

"It is as though we have grown wings, which thanks to Providence, we have learnt to control." — Louis Blériot,

Andrew John - Another Project! - by John Hamer

Andrew John has decided that he wants another HiMax and has thus purchased John Penney's substantially completed project. John did the design work for the changes that were made to Andrew's original HiMax and thus what Andrew has acquired is

almost a clone of his original. Although Andrew has decided to name his new project "Chocolat II", the proposed paint scheme at present will be slightly different in that the fuselage colours of cream and brown will be reversed. As you will see from the photograph Andrew has already tried it out for size in my workshop. I will add it was a bit of a struggle as he had to climb in through the roof as the door has yet to be cut out.



Safety and Charts

1. New terminology

These two items are linked this time because from 18th January a new acronym will be introduced into the charts from the CAA. You will now have to look out for RATS (Restricted Areas (Temporary)) instead of Temporary Restricted Areas (TRA's). The change of name is to avoid confusion with the new Temporary Reserved Areas which are being introduced. (*It is supposedly to avoid confusion but it could actually cause confusion because of the close similarity of the names - another CAA move to make flying more complicated particularly for GA and microlights? - Ed*)

2. Transponders

The latest development on the proposal to introduce transponders into all aircraft from 2008 is that Light Aircraft, including microlights, are likely to be exempted from carrying one until suitable lightweight models are approved and available. At least this is a temporary reprieve but there is still some 15 months to go before the first deadline so don't cheer just yet!

General Snippets

Members who read their copy of the “Loop” newspaper might have noticed that microlights featured strongly in their list of “scoops” for 2006. Out of seventeen items listed five of them, just under a third, were concerned with microlights and all were first tests for Loop. Not a bad showing for our sport.

In one of the Saturday papers there was a front page article about a Briton, Bear Grylls, who is planning to fly over Everest using a paramotor. Preparations are well advanced and he will be accompanied by another paramotor pilot. Two problems are causing some worries. The back-up helicopter cannot fly at those altitudes and the distinct possibility of running out of oxygen.

For Sale

Mainair Gemini Flash flexwing, Rotax 447, yellow pod, red/white wing, permit. Offers around £1650 to **John Caffull**. Tel: 01452 700565

Pegasus Q 462, G-MYTH, very well maintained. Upgrades include Ivoprop three blade propeller, Rotax rectifier and battery set, radio interface, carb heat and more. Engine overhaul 97 hours, replaced points, main coil, HT coil, fuel pump gaskets, water pump gaskets and plug leads. Many parts renewed and re-fitted at GS Aviation. Yellow trike, blue seats, wing to suit. Trike cover, prop covers, wing bag, batten profile, engine details, wing trolley. A treat to fly. Will have new permit. I have additional images of instruments and engine ready to e-mail to interested purchasers. £3750 ONO. Contact **Phil Hanman**, Work 01452 883121, Mob 07970 002135, Home 01452 415589

Strobe kit complete with both strobes as new, never fitted complete £160
Contact **Doug Young** 01594 810410

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Severn Valley Microlight Club - Annual General Meeting

Chairman's Report and Accounts for 2006

Chairmans Report

Flying in 2006 started out really well for a change, everyone thanking Global warming with record attendances at Popham and Spamfield. Ironically, the PFA's premier event "Flying for Fun", which was put back further into the Summer did not do so well and has resulted in further large events being cancelled in favour of smaller, regional events. Similarly, our Wednesday fly-ins started out well with nearly all the venues visited by the end of June, but very few thereafter. Splash at the NEC was fairly well attended with everyone eager to find out any new bits of kit. There was, what could be called a "concept car" in Motor Show parlance - an F16 lookalike capable of 200mph with its pusher prop, Shadowesque cabin and swept wing. They said a Microlight version was in development.....

Also new from P&M was the Indian imported "Magic Laser" to take advantage of Single Seat Deregulation when it finally comes to fruition. SSDR was another big issue for 2006, some will say a milestone, others say leave it under the stone for what advantage it gives.

Looking ahead, lets hope Global Warming continues to let us make the most of our sport and smile while we remember that mankind only releases 3% of the damaging CO₂ into the atmosphere, the majority by Commercial Shipping, and Commercial Aviation - (none of whom pay tax on fuel) while good old Mother nature releases the balance. Our world really does Spin!

Your Committee continue to enjoy their monthly visit to the HQ at Hartpury to discuss and arrange forthcoming club events, attempting to solve World events and deciding whether to include mince pies in the next Xmas Buffet. But seriously it does take a lot of time and Phil Hanman, our Treasurer for the last two years has resigned due to business commitments. Thanks Phil for all your efforts. This leaves the post of Treasurer vacant, would all volunteers place their name on a postcard, the winner will be drawn at the AGM.

New Aircraft are rolling off the production lines around the county with Colin Davis' SkyRanger awaiting its first flight, Bill Keel-Stocker finally making the 3 axis move in his Xair, Dave Steade's Kitfox MK7's first flight in December while Adrian Lloyd's Alpi continues to zoom around but not making it to a Club Fly-in yet.

AirScrew

Bill Austin continues his sterling duties as Editor and producer of our monthly newsletter. Remember it can only continue with your help by submitting articles, reports and ideas.

Treasury

As you will see from Phil's report, Club coffers are being maintained without making too much profit. This is a reflection of the committee's direction, we're not here to make money, only to ensure enough resource to provide a service to membership. One of these is the publication of Airscrew. The cost of distribution by email has slashed the cost with only 13 members continuing with conventional mail shots . Therefore the committee proposes to offer a discounted membership rate reflecting the email savings to the Club of £15. Other membership rates to remain the same. This is a change to the Club constitution and will need to be approved by members at the AGM.

Looking Forward

We can all hope for good weather but as I sit and write this with wind and rain testing the double glazing, it seems a long way away! Best to think about the Club talks we have coming up this year including Manuel Quiroz and Billy Brooks - neither of whom should need any introduction.

Mode S Transponders will be on everyone's shopping list soon with their mandatory introduction March 2008, I have noticed their price is falling as we get closer - a mere snip at £1500+ installation.

**SEVERN VALLEY MICROLIGHT CLUB
ACCOUNTS 2006**

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

YEAR END 31/12/06

INCOME

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| SUBS | 940.00 |
| RAFFLE | 92.00 |
| BUILDING SOCIETY | 11.53 |
| BONUS | 0.50 |
| ADVERTISEMENT | 5.00 |
| GROSS INCOME | 1049.03 |

EXPENDITURE

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| RAFFLE | 36.40 |
| B AUSTIN | 273.15 |
| B FINCH | 33.05 |
| XMAS FOOD | 45.00 |
| HALL HIRE | 425.00 |
| DONATION | 50.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | 862.60 |
| NET PROFIT/LOSS | 186.43 |

BALANCE SHEET YEAR END 2006

AS AT 31/12/06

CURRENT ASSETS

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| CASH IN HAND | 38.96 |
| BUILDING SOCIETY | 2732.68 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 2771.64 |

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| B/F PREVIOUS YEAR | 2585.01 |
| TRADING PROFIT FOR YEAR | 186.43 |
| TOTAL | 2771.44 |