



June 2009

This Month's Wednesday Fly-in

Watch your e-mail next Tuesday for details of the venue and specific instructions for attending the fly-in.

A Tribute to our Dear Friends and Fellow Aviators - Rex Paddock and Mark Taylor

Apart from being dedicated husbands and fathers, both Mark and Rex's second love was flying and anything to do with flying.

Flying at our airfield doesn't mean turning up, rolling out the aircraft and taking off; there is a whole host of tasks and jobs from building, building maintenance, making up roads and painting to grass cutting and engineering. With Mark's building and landscaping skills and Rex's practical and meticulous engineering skills, their help and intuition was invaluable to the shaping of our airfield as it is today.

Mark was also one of our company directors and carried out that duty with dedication and ease - an inspiration to us all.

At our open days and barbecues Rex and Mark helped make welcome our fellow flying visitors and visiting friends and families with their happy-go-lucky attitude, full of devilment, making these occasions memorable.

After all the work and entertaining they could then turn to their true love of flying, Mark in his Quantum and Rex in his Escapade (immaculately engineered and built by himself), taking friends and family on flying trips, explaining the flying characteristics of their aircraft to all who listened. Their enthusiasm was quite magic.

I could write volumes on these two special friends, but can anyone put into words our true feelings for those who were so revered.

When they prematurely left us on that fateful day, a part of all of us went with them but we must absorb the pain and somehow carry on. I know if our roles were reversed they would have endeavoured to press on, for we can cope better by looking forward than by continually looking behind.

Their camaraderie and smiling faces will remain in our thoughts and hearts always.

Our love and affection goes out to their families, relations and many friends. They will be truly missed by us all.

*Bruce and Wendy,
Representing all at Eastbach 'Spence'
Airfield.*

Fly-in Reports

20th May/27th May - Yet more cancellations. The weather is certainly not on our side at present. Although disappointed, JH is secretly pleased as the total number of venues available is less than the number of Wednesdays available. You will not, therefore find yourself flying to the same place twice and eating the burgers left over from the last visit!

2nd June - Our First Wednesday night fly-in (though be it on a Tuesday) - by Dave Steade

On Tuesday the 2nd June David and Susan Steade had the pleasure of hosting the first fly-in of the season at Clive Porters strip Croft Farm Defford.

This was the fifth week the event had been considered and although it was probably still going to be flyable on the Wednesday it was decided to guarantee good weather and go for the Tuesday. It turned out that one or two members could not make this day but from the weather point of view it could not have been better with a cloudless evening 0 to 3 knots light breeze and temperatures in the mid 20's. Truly a rare summer evening for the UK but the type you always remember.

Twenty-two aircraft flew in which was an excellent turn out and made hosting the event very worthwhile.

Fare for the event was the usual barbeque of burgers and hot dogs with cakes for afters. Dave said he went a bit overboard on the fried onions as he ran out on his last event. If any future hosts want any guidance 22 aeroplanes consume about 65 hamburgers 20 hotdogs but only about 5 kgs of onions.

Dave and Susan would like to express their thanks to Clive Porter for the use of his strip and assure everyone that all the landing fee's and donations are passed

on by Clive to the MAF for their charity work.

John Hamer also reports

On the fifth attempt at trying to hold a Wednesday night fly in, we struck success albeit on a Tuesday! On a hot summer's night over forty people and twenty aircraft attended the fly in at Croft Farm Defford on Tuesday 2nd June. They were treated to a BBQ which was hosted by Sue and Dave Steade.

Our thanks go to them and to Clive Porter for allowing us use of the airfield for the event. It should be added that the club made a contribution to Clive's favourite charity - Mission of Aviation Fellowship.

(Photos of the fly-in are printed at the end of the newsletter - Ed)

10th June - Normal service has been renewed after last week's event - the weather has closed in again. I am writing this on Wednesday to the accompaniment of thunder and lightning outside!

Microlight training at Shobdon

There is a new AFI at Shobdon's Sabre Airsports - Steve Eyers - who is offering training every day of the week. Initially he will be using a Eurostar but, in due course, will also offer training on flexwings. Shobdon is a busy airfield with gliders, GA, helicopters and microlights all using its facilities. Not only will you learn to fly but will also be trained to use the radio as part of the course. You can contact Steve on mobile 07973 859756 or 01568 708168 or e-mail <sabre@microlight.kc3.co.uk > Their web site is www.kc3.co.uk/local/sabre.html

You can do it if you.....!

The home builder's favourite store now sells microlites (no it's not a spelling mistake) but don't get too excited as things are not what they seem. Pop along to your local B & Q store and check it out.



Future Club Member?

Get them young is often said and the SVMC is no exception. This young pilot tried JH's MiniMax for size and obviously has caught the flying bug. Dad, Jon Ingram, had better hide the keys to his flexwing or Josh will "Fly away Home".



World Air Games - Turin 6th - 14th June

Gold medal for Britain in Microlight Pylon racing

The first World Air Games event came to a close in the blink of an eye with the Microlight Pylon event final. The winners were the British team of Rob Grimwood and Chris Saysell who flew the

three circuits of the 1200m course in a time of 3 minutes 30.6 seconds.

The second British team of Rob and Rees Keene had to settle for second place but were only one tenth of a second behind. The semifinal was held shortly before the final round with the Italian team of Rossi Soavi/Vanzini gaining the bronze medal in a time of 3:53.3 min and Carra/Rossa coming fourth in 4:47.2 min.

So what was the story behind this event, the first time inflatable pylons have been used for a microlight race? Of course the high performance of the trikes played a role. The P&M QuikR microlights flown by the British teams benefited from a design which did not require a kingpost, making the wing aerodynamically superior in relation to the other competitors wings. But this is only half of the story; the very tight turns in the course required pinpoint accuracy and a great deal of concentration. Both the British teams showed controlled flying, maintaining an even height around the whole course. It was the combination of pilot skill and also high performance design which proved decisive in the race for medals.

Dates for your diary

19th - 28th June - Fly-UK 2009. From the Midlands anticlockwise around the UK to a mystery destination. Registration mandatory on www.fly-uk.org Organiser Tom Dawson e-mail tom@fly-uk.org

20th - 21st June - Kemble Air Day. Air displays on both days starting at 1100. The Red Arrows are on the display list for both days. Check for airspace restrictions.

11th - 12th July - Wiltshire's Wonderful Weekend of Wizardry. Fourth annual Fly-in at Craymarsh Farm, Melksham, Wilts. Register on BMAA website or with Charles Fuller on 01249-713270 or ccff@btopenworld.com

18th July - The Great Westonzoyland Scrumpy 'n Cheese Microlight Fly-in.

Westonzoyland Airfield. Contact 07811 194640/07929 868866 for PPR or Mick Evans on <mick.evansfly@my-postoffice.co.uk>

25th – 27th July – Bleriot 100. Mass microlight crossing of the English Channel to mark Louis Bleriot's 100th anniversary. Contact: Frank Spiniello frankspiniello@hotmail.co.uk

For Sale

One medium/large Irene Wells flying suit. All black, fur lined with collar. Excellent condition. £45 o.n.o. Contact Adrian Lloyd on 07787 847064

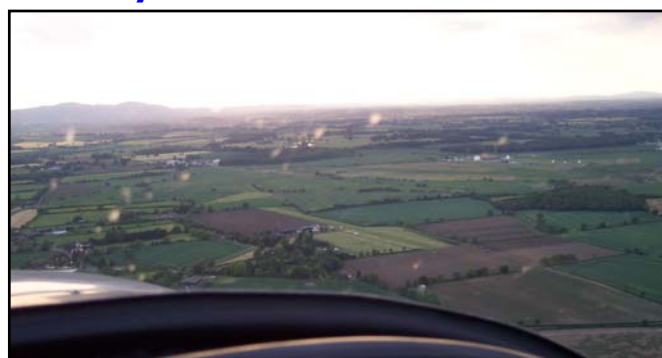
Hangarage available

Gary Ball has a vacancy in his hangar at Teddington hands. It will suit a full rigged flexwing, though a fixed wing may be a possibility. He can be contacted on 07836217404

Acknowledgements

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Photos of the first Wednesday fly-in of 2009 which took place on a Tuesday!



Bill Austin (Editor)
bill@austin65.freeserve.co.uk
01684 833484