

Severn Valley Microlight Club



AIRSCREW

May 2005

This month's meeting – Wednesday 18th May

For the second time in three months John Hamer will be entertaining us. This time he will be telling us about his visit in April to Florida and 'Sun and Fun' (Popham and the PFA rally put together and held on an airfield the size of RAF Fairford) At the last count he was sorting out the best of the 300 photos he took to include in his presentation! It should be an interesting evening. We aim to start at 8.15pm.

Quote of the Month

"He moves not through distance, but through the ranges of satisfaction that come from hauling himself up into the air with complete and utter control; from knowing himself and knowing his airplane so well that he can come somewhere close to touching, in his own special and solitary way, that thing that is called perfection." — *Richard Bach, 'A Gift of Wings'*

Popham Report - Compiled by the Editor from comments made by members

Popham was apparently a trial for all who went on Saturday. Most seemed to get there finally around 15:00 after a long wait and a BBQ at Redlands. It was a very stop start out journey which culminated in many members hugging the A34 to avoid the rolling low cloud/sea fog? One estimate was

at best 300' above ground just to avoid the continuous white outs which confronted them as soon as they moved onto the Wiltshire downs.

For some there was no sensible turn back option onto a reciprocal heading knowing that the claggy sky had far too many microlights following the same Popham inbound route just behind them. In the eyes of one member the show was normal (i.e. boring) and he wouldn't have bothered to go at all but he had arranged to meet someone there to pick up a starter.

One interesting photo (below) seems to have been made by a model plane maker who clearly decided the next step was to make a real one which he (or her) could just get into. The owner/pilot was not around but they must have been very very small with very short legs!



Some new composite planes were in evidence but one person thought that the

whole thing was losing its way and most new kit didn't qualify as affordable flying. Gyro's were out in force which was nice to see.

Another member noted that there were a couple of "new" flexwings, one from Oz and one from France, both aimed at the "quick" market with prices to match and a "new" Chaser, probably ready for the deregulation – if it ever happens.

Pioneer were there showing the "ALPI", a la Adrian Lloyd, complete with retractable undercarriage (not sure if its sub 450kg though).

Everyone seemed to arrive together as normal but not until after 3:00pm as the viz was poor. Mark Taylor rang Brian Finch from Wellesbourne where they had diverted for lunch due to bad viz. Purchases included a 500mil edition 31 South and a mailshot from a true entrepreneurial photographer offering to sell the recipient a picture of his worst take-off ever!

Six aircraft departed from Over Farm and they too stopped at Redlands waiting for better weather. Two decided to call it a day and retraced their steps to Over. The others eventually struggled on to Popham.

It rather sounds as if the whole event was a nightmare

Microlight on TV

Did anyone see the TV programme on the "Seven Wonders of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire"? We watched it because we had just returned from that area. The presenter decided that the best way to see them was from the air. Not only that but he chose a microlight as the aircraft. The registration was not clear but does anyone know who the pilot was?

Internet

Egyptian Experience January 2006

Fancy flying along the Nile? Well read the following which is copied from the Web site <<http://www.egyptianexperience.co.uk/Microlight.htm>>

"The trip will take 14 days. We anticipate flying between 4-6 hours a day. Average temperature will be 24 degrees with 11 hours of daylight. A full support crew will follow on land so there will be little to carry on the Microlights. For comfort we will stay in 4-5* hotels.

To date approximately 80 people have shown an interest in participating and we are happy to organise it for 50 microlights.

It is difficult to judge precise costs at this stage but we anticipate it to be approximately £2500. This will be for 1 person and a microlight a passenger will be approximately £1000. This will include the following:

- Flights
- Airport tax
- Tours around the monuments
- Hotels on a bed and breakfast basis
- Transportation to and from airports
- Shipping to and from Egypt
- Import and export charges for both UK and Egypt
- Full support crew
- Airport Landing charges for Microlights

We do have names of a few people who would like to fly in a microlight and if you are prepared to take them it is up to you how much you charge them as it should cover some of your costs etc."

That was it. I wonder if anyone in the Club would be interested?

For Sale

Kolb Twinstar Mk III G-MYKB 582 Rotax low hours, serious STOL superb visibility, fixed wing, enclosed. Heavy landing now repaired but needs reassembly of perspex, recover of cockpit fabric, respray front cockpit, engine checkover and all rubber eg engine hoses, tyres. All complete with tailor made trailer fully enclosed for transport and hangerage (wings fold and push/winch in) c/w radio, headsets, full build drawings & plans cost £14,000 selling for £8,000 Tel 01594 810410

Treasurer Trades Up

Last Tuesday (10th May) Phil Hanman agreed to purchase a Quantum 15 powered by Rotax 582. The aircraft is currently based at Redlands but hopefully will shortly be based at Over. As Phil is trading up he has his Pegasus Q for sale. Any offers for this immaculate aircraft? Contact Phil on 01452 415589 (Home) or 01452 883121 (Work) for further details.

Dates for your Diary

28th – 29th May – Round Wales Air Race/Rally - www.WingsOverWales.co.uk

18th – 24th June – Fly UK rally starting from Redlands.

24th -26th June Spamfield, Isle of Wight
www.wightparty.org

1st -3rd July Flying for Fun (PFA Rally) Kemble – look out for the Yellow AIC published nearer the date.

25th – 31st July Oshkosh, Wisconsin,

Fly-ins

Regular weekly Wednesday fly-ins are planned – that is to say we intend having one each week – subject to weather and venues being available. Details will be posted by e-mail probably on the Tuesday

preceding the fly-in. Members not on e-mail can ring John Hamer on 01452 700314 for details.

Teddington Fly-in 11th May by Andrew John

A cold but very flyable evening encouraged ten aircraft into Gary's field. Bruce made his usual stately flyby at 1500 feet to check his GPS and eventually returned to make a positive landing. Adrian Burden in his Quantum flew in from Kemble having routed via Upfield Farm and John Hancock was welcomed flying his Foxbat into this field for the first time. Of the ten aircraft there were nine types and a fifty/fifty split on flexwings and three axis. The cold drove us all into the pub for refreshment before clearing the field by 8.30pm. An excellent start to the fly-in season despite the cold, and our thanks go to Gary for the invitation.

Title Photo

Myron Burak and his Kiss 450 feature on the title page this month.

Talking of photos, don't forget to let the Editor have any photos you may take during the year for inclusion in next year's record of Club activities. There are still available copies of the Club CD containing photos and editions of Airscaw for 2003 and 2004. If you want a copy let the Editor know.

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