

Severn Valley Microlight Club **AIRSCREW**



MAY 2006

This Month's Meeting Wednesday 17th May

This month Bob Hinds will be giving us a presentation on his "Reach Mission Trip" to Romania and the work which he and his group undertook while they were there.

NOTE:- This will be the last meeting at the Farmers' Club until September. The meetings during June, July and August will be Club fly-ins which will be posted in that month's Airscrew if the venue is known at the time of publication. Otherwise the venue will be notified nearer the day by e-mail. Members not on e-mail should contact JH to confirm details and obtain any PPR information – 01452 700314.

Quote of the Month

“When a flight is proceeding incredibly well, something was forgotten.”— *Robert Livingston, 'Flying The Aeronca.'*

Fly-in Reports

Wednesday 26th April Gary Ball's Field Teddington Report and photos by Andrew John

By 1900 hrs we had thirteen a/c on the ground, lined up to show a splendid mixture of flex and fixed wing machines (twelve types) The weather was calm and some exemplary

landings were made proving that the winter's lay off had not eroded handling skills. Finally, Bruce arrived with his customary flair and grin to complete the turn out of fourteen aircraft, a record for the first fly-in of the season.



One eye catching number was the new Quik GT 450 in shining red and black livery flown in by a proud Adrian Burden, who is delighted with it's performance. Our thanks to Gary for welcoming us to his very strategic field with food and fuel of both kinds on the threshold.

(What a magnificent start to the flying season. An excellent turn-out, a report and photos – keep it up! Ed)



Catsbury Flightline



Teddington Flightline

These weren't the only visitors as more people actually came by road and thus were able to demolish JH's magnificent spread - which at one time he thought was destined to be fed to the gathering flock of peacocks, ducks and geese. By the end of the evening they were disappointed, while SVMC members seemed to have left well satisfied!

Wednesday 10th May John Davies' strip, Hawling

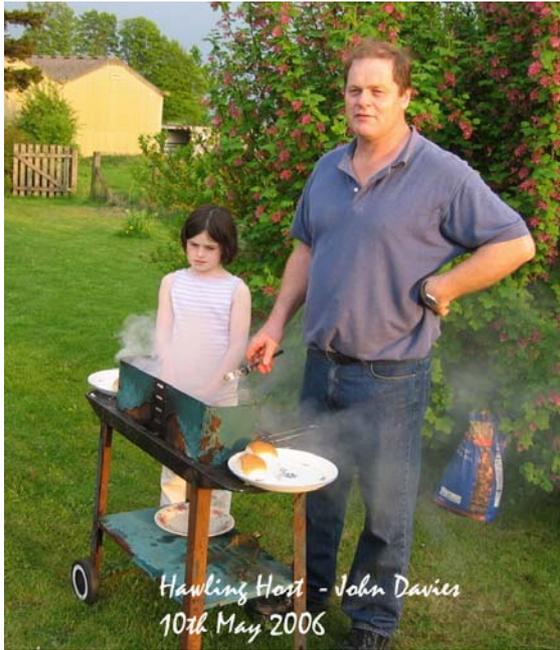
The third of this season's fly-ins occurred this evening at Hawling where John Davies and his wife Sue hosted thirteen visiting aircraft - comprising of five flexwings, the rest being fixed thus reflecting the sign of the changing times in microlighting.

Wednesday 3rd May John Hamer's strip, Hartpury

The second Wednesday night fly-in took place at JH's place at Hartpury. Although it was sunny there was a very blustery wind and this undoubtedly deterred many from venturing forth. The first to arrive was Dave Steade with Sue his wife in his Kitfox. This was particularly worthy of note as this is the first time a Group A aircraft had landed at the strip. There then followed a pause when those that arrived by road doubted whether anyone else was coming. However after a time when the wind settled down, the aircraft slowly began to arrive - in the end six visitors braving JH's challenging strip.



Hawling Flightline



*Hawling Host - John Davies
10th May 2006*

(I think John said "I'd like to go flying" but Sue heard it as "I'd like to go frying!" - Ed)

Thunder showers were forecast for the late afternoon, but fortunately they held off just long enough though they did force a slightly premature end to the evening as the black, thundery weather worked it's way in from the south.

Our thanks go to Sue & John for their hospitality.



Hawling before the thunder

Popham 2006

The Spring Bank Holiday, a trade show and fly-in and superb

weather on the first day – what more could you wish for? Saturday excelled all previous years in both weather and aircraft flying in. There were some 700 movements on the Saturday and aircraft were being turned away as there was no space available for them to park!



Now where did I park it?

So, what was there to see? There was a good mix of flexwing and fixed wing aircraft on display. The Quik GT450 was very much in evidence with a number giving demo flights all the time.



UL260i Engine

There was the UL260i, a new 2592cc, four stroke, direct drive, fuel injected engine from Belgium which appeared very clean and compact. Unfortunately there were only static engines on

display but they hope to have an aircraft flying at the Flying for Fun show at Kemble in August. This was another engine that exuded simplicity from the design – a complete contrast to the Rotax 912 engines.

In the large marquee there was a two seat powered parachute from Powrachte being marketed in the UK by Wessex Aviation and Transport. Anyone who has been to Sun 'n Fun will recognise it immediately as there are a lot of them flying in America. The trike unit appears to be solidly constructed and the engine is the 100hp 912 ULS. It is still being put through the certification process as a kit but David Bayne, the Technical Manager, hopes it will be flying by the Autumn. It is hoped that kits will be available soon afterwards.

The fixed wing exhibitors did not have it all their own way this year which is rather heartening. It was also noticeable that many of the fixed wing aircraft have now acquired folding wings – a feature which, no doubt, will further enhance their popularity since it saves space and lowers hangarage fees.



Unfortunately the Editor was not present to witness the “invasion” on Saturday and Sunday, by comparison, was quite tame as well as being cold. Never before has Popham closed by

1630 on the Sunday but by that time most of the exhibitors were tearing down their displays and trailering out their aircraft. That in itself must speak volumes for the conditions!

Dates for your diary

27th – 28th May Shobdon PFA Strut Fly-in -0900 to dusk, food available all day, camping on the airfield (01568 708369) PPR 01584 881205 in advance or 07904 502436 on the day.

27th – 28th May – Round Wales Rally 2006 Contact Martin Sims martin@microlightwales.co.uk and see www.wingsoverwales.co.uk

9th – 16th June – Round Britain Fly-in 2006. Contact Tom Dawson tom@fly-uk.org and see www.fly-uk.org

16th – 18th June – Spamfield, Sandown, Isle of Wight. Subject to confirmation

14th – 16th July – RIAT 2006, Fairford. www.airtattoo.com. Watch out for airspace restrictions.

24th – 30th July – Oshkosh Fly-in, Wisconsin, www.airventure.org

For Sale

Mainair Gemini Flash Flexwing, Rotax 447, yellow pod, red/white wing. Permit. Offers around £1650. Contact John Caffull 01452 700565.

Pegasus Q in immaculate condition, low hours engine and airframe, Black and green sail and trike. £4800 ono. Contact Peter Hancox 01684 292639 or 07767 875787

Photo acknowledgements

Thanks to Simon Chilton, John Davies, John Hamer and Andrew John for the photos in this issue.

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