



May 2007

This Month's Meeting - Wednesday 16th May at 8.00pm prompt

This month our speaker is Dave Steade and he will be telling us about "Building and flying the Kitfox Mk 7." Over the years he has built a number of different aircraft so he will no doubt have a lot of "do's and don'ts" to pass on.

Members should note that this will be the **last meeting at the Farmers' Club until September.** The months of June, July and August will see the resumption of the Wednesday evening fly-in programme. Watch out for e-mail notification of venues. A phone number to call for information will be provided for those members not on e-mail.

Quote of the Month

"The fascination of flight can't be expressed with words. But it really lies beyond the capabilities of human endeavour. Once you've experienced it, you'll never be able to forget it."— Friedrich Oblessor,

Sale of the Century

The sale of aircraft "memorabilia" (bits and pieces!) at the last meeting was a great success. It is surprising what we all hoard in our sheds and cupboards. There was a good attendance and many members walked away with some bargains. As we have a "For Sale" section in the newsletter members with unsold items might like to take advantage and advertise them for the benefit of those who did not attend. Please let the Editor have details if you wish to take up this offer.

Over Farm - Nationals Round One

Robbie Keene posted the results of the weekend's competitions late on the Sunday night - what efficiency! He also sent the following vote of thanks to all those who helped.

"I'm pleased to say that club member Jim Taylor & former member Cliff Hanam came 3rd in the newcomers. A big thanks must go to all members who have helped and gave up time at the w/e to help. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed it and went away happy.

The competitors really appreciated your efforts and you all had a round of applause at the presentation.

Thanks again to all who helped for so long."



Jim Taylor n full flight!

Jim Taylor with Cliff Hanam flew all the tasks as noted in Robbie's remarks above and acquitted themselves admirably. Well done Jim and Cliff. Myron Burak and Stephen Sykes flew one task and put up a good show coming sixth overall in the newcomers' category. As Robbie said at the last meeting, everyone could choose whether to do all or some of the tasks and it

must have taken some courage to fly in an event with some of the “big names” of the competition scene also flying. Well done to all of them.



Flight line Over



The photographer survived!

It is no surprise to learn that the weekend’s winners were Paul Dewhurst and Paul Welsh flying a Skyranger 912S. Dave and Mick Broom in another Skyranger 912S came second with Richard Rawes in a Chaser in third place.

Personal Transport 1

How do you fancy an extra flying thrill? Well, the photo shows a new way to travel through the air using jet power. This is probably more exciting than Ben Ashman’s jet propelled Doodlebug!



You have the thrill of jumping out of an aircraft, unfolding the wings, igniting the jet engines for powered flight at 110 kts (125mph) until the fuel runs out and then parachuting back to earth. The engines are rather close to you so hypothermia should not be a problem!. However, a complete engine failure reduces you to a parachutist with a bit of extra weight so landing shouldn’t be too traumatic.

Personal Transport 2

A Dutch company is developing a PAL-V (Personal Air and Land Vehicle) based on autogyro technology. The web site has only an artist’s impression of the vehicle and a scenario of a day at work using the vehicle to travel to your appointments.



Basically you drive to your local airport, unfold the gyro wings and propeller, take off, fly to the airport near your destination, land, refold the wings and propeller and drive to your business appointment. Good in theory but would it work here? Would you have to have a Permit to Fly with annual inspection and, after three years, an MOT? What about insurance? Is it a vehicle or a flying machine? Can you imagine the problems of dealing with the DVLA and the CAA at the same time. Perhaps the idea is best left as a concept for the time being while we wait to see if the Americans embrace the idea first and reveal some of the problems.

Safety

If you have read the latest issue of Microlight Flying you will be aware that the microlighting fraternity have had two fatal accidents in this year already. One of the victims was a flying instructor said to be a good pilot with many hours behind him. If this can happen to someone with that amount of experience what does it mean for those of us with much less? If

you think that flying is easy then stop and think again. If you let them, both the aeroplane and the weather are quite capable of biting you quite viciously when you least expect it and are off your guard. As you are relaxed and unobservant the outcome may not be what you imagine or want. Remember that a flight is not over until you have taxied in and switched off the engine. Take off some of those “added” years and be a Boy Scout again - **“Be Prepared!”**

Fly-in Reports

The fly-in season is on our doorstep and you have all, no doubt, made a note in your diaries that all Wednesday evenings for June, July and August are reserved exclusively for flying. This will, of course, depend on the weather, holidays, school fetes, parents’ evenings, the number of “Brownie points” earned and available, the permission of the SATCO at home and, last but not least, a serviceable aircraft.

Last year those who hosted a fly-in provided a short report of the evening which was published in Airscrew for the benefit of those who could not attend. The Editor makes the same request this year of those hosting evening fly-ins and other flying events. Reports can be submitted by post, e-mail or phone.

Popham 2007

The highlight of Popham this year must be the official endorsement of Single Seat Deregulation (SSDR). A surprise to everyone that the CAA had suddenly acted and approved the legislation which was published on 30th April - just in time for the first microlight show of the year. For those members still suffering from shock and disbelief the official

notice can be downloaded from the BMAA site. However, the exemption granted is only valid until 31st January 2008.

Exhibitors took advantage of this to show off their new designs. Indications seem to be that suddenly innovation has returned to the microlight fraternity and flying will, once more, be fun.



In general terms this was the best show for some years. Although SSDR still requires a

licence, registration and insurance, many people not requiring a single seat aircraft capable of long distance touring may well join our ranks - let's hope so!

Dates for your Diary -a selection of events

9th June - Defford Air Day at Croft Farm. This is the annual event but this year **all aircraft flying in must be on radio.** There will be no "joyride " flights this year but there will be a number of GA aircraft attending. Entry is free but a donation towards the work of the Mission Aviation Fellowship will be appreciated.

8th – 15th June – Fly-UK 2007, Contact:- Tom Dawson tom@fly-uk.org or see www.fly-uk.org

8th – 15th June – England 'the long way round' Contact David Daniel davidgelsi@btinternet.com 07801380626 or 01278 794796 see also www.westonzoylandflyingclub.co.uk

15th – 17th June Spamfield, Sandown, Isle of Wight. Contact John Moore john@cyberstitch.co.uk or see www.wightparty.org

21st -22nd July Redlands Fly-in and Night Party, Redlands Airfield, Swindon. Organiser Clive Bunce percivile-pecker@tiscali.co.uk see also www.redlandsairfield.co.uk

23rd – 29th July – Oshcosh Fly-in, Wisconsin, USA

25th - 26th August – Wye Valley Flying Club Fly-in and Barbeque. Contact mart@martinshortman.f9.co.uk , Roger on 07749 702699 or Spence on 07787 564170

For Sale

Mainair Gemini Flash flexwing, Rotax 447, yellow pod, red/white wing, permit, well maintained, engine overhauled at 100 hours, Newton propeller. Flies well, no vices. Offers around £1650 to **John Caffull**. Tel: 01452 700565

Seven four litre cans of Silkolene Comp 2 two-stroke oil at £16 per can - half the current price.

Brand new and unused **three inch diameter ASI** 0 – 120mph £45.

Benwick **Fuel Flow computer** £100. Contact **Bill Austin** 01684 833484.

More photos from the Nationals



Acknowledgements

Over Nationals photos, Dick Osler; Popham photos, the Editor.

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