

Severn Valley Microlight Club

Airscrew

November 2007

This Month's Meeting - Wednesday 21st November

Something different this month. Pete Smith will be telling us about his adventures riding a motorcycle in India earlier this year and raising money for charity at the same time. He commented on his return that he was 'blown away' by the experience and would like to return to India at some time in the future. Apparently another Club member has already signed up to do the same trip next year. It should be a fascinating evening and will start at 8.00pm prompt.

Quote of the Month

"Man must rise above the Earth - to the top of the atmosphere and beyond - for only thus will he fully understand the world in which he lives."
— *Socrates*

SPLASH 2007

Just three days after this month's meeting many members will be heading for the NEC at Birmingham for the annual show - see details under "Dates for your Diary". This year the BMAA AGM is at 1.00pm on the Saturday.

Recently the Xair Hawk has received its Permit to Fly from the CAA so it will probably feature prominently but what else are we likely to see? With SDR now fully operative there will no doubt be some new single seat microlights available for those who find the hassles of two seat aircraft too much to bear. What else will be there to help you unlock your wallet?

Hopefully there will be some refinements and auxiliary equipment to tempt you and, maybe, some small, lightweight, cheap transponders. Whatever there is, it will be an aviation day out! Enjoy it!

Travel Notes

At last month's meeting Anthony Hartley agreed to make available his notes relating to the trip to Morocco. They are in Microsoft Word format and could be sent by e-mail if required. The notes relate to:- VFR co-ordinates in Morocco, Flying in the Channel Islands, French ATC terms and notes on Olivia (on the French equivalent of our CAA site) which will give you NOTAMS related to your proposed route. Mr Bumble has already made arrangements for these notes to be included in the annual SVMC CD which will be distributed in January.

This Year's National Competitions

If you have read the latest edition of *Microlight Flying* you will have seen the final results table of this year's Nationals. Of particular note is the fact that six of our Club members appear in the list - an all time record! Robbie and Rees Keene came second, Jim Taylor and Cliff Hannam came eleventh and Myron Burak and Stephen Sykes came fifteenth. For Jim, Cliff, Myron and Stephen it was a personal "first" They all "gave it their best shot" despite the fact that they were up against members of the British Team. Well done to all of them! Perhaps, next year, they and other Club members will take up the challenge again. A former Club member, Richard Rawes,

won the Solo Class yet again as he did in the World Championships..

Radio Amendments

You may recall from your radio course and CAP 413 that you could use the word "Tyro" particularly when in contact with military controllers to indicate that you were a novice. Now, if you are a student or ab initio pilot you may preface your call with the word "Student". This will enable the controller to avoid issuing complicated instructions which could lead to confusion on the part of the pilot.

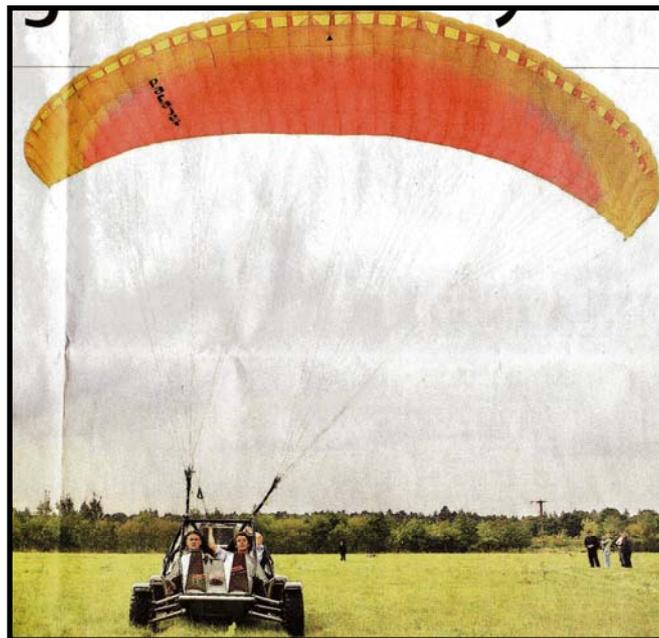
Another change on the horizon is a reduction in the number of services available from ATC. In the past there has been some confusion over the six levels of service available - FIS, RIS, RAS, Mandatory Control, Air Traffic Advisory Service and Approach Control Service. These will be replaced with four services - Basic, Traffic, Deconfliction and Procedural. These changes will apply to all civil and military controllers and pilots and will be incorporated in a new CAA publication CAP774. Watch this space for more information in due course.

What about a Skycar?

In January 2009 a group of adventurers will leave London bound for Timbuktu in Mali. What is remarkable about that you ask? This group will be using a flying car as the main transport and will have two large lorries and crew as backup. The leader of the expedition is Neil Laughton whose background includes scaling the highest mountains on seven continents, trekking at both poles and being the first person to jetski around Britain.

The idea is that they will travel on tracks and roads in an all terrain vehicle. The vehicle will have a paramotor at the back and a parachute (parawing) on board. When they encounter an obstacle, or the track runs out, they will deploy the parachute and take to the air. The car's range will be 300 miles. If the expedition is successful it is planned to market the vehicle as a Skycar for £35,000. Sounds

exciting and not much different in price from some of the upmarket microlights!



The "Skycar during testing

Dates for your Diary

24th - 25th November SPLASH the microlight and paraflying show. The NEC Birmingham, Hall 5. Admission for BMAA members (on production of membership card) £5, non-members £10. Parking at the NEC is £8 per day.

08 - 09 Dec Wolverhampton Airport (Halfpenny Green)

Professional photographer Paul Bunch (trading as Perspective-I) will be at the airport to photograph every arriving aircraft. Fifteen minutes after arrival a top quality 11" X 8" colour photo, mounted and ready for display or framing will be available from the Control Tower - free to pilots paying the normal cash landing fee of £7.50 for Microlights and £10 for singles. Organiser is Tony Rowlands e-mail <atc@wolverhamptonairport.co.uk>

For Sale

SkyRanger 912, (Colin Davis' plane) Xlam coverings, 30 hours. Offers in the region of £23000 to Jim Taylor 07976 818566. NOTE: Jim is handling the sale on behalf of Colin.

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