



## November 2009

### **This Month's Meeting - Wednesday 18th November**

**T**his month Rees Keene will be telling us about the World Microlight Championships. We will be starting at 8.00pm prompt.

### **Quote of the Month**

**"N**ever fly anything that doesn't have the paint worn off the rudder pedals." — Harry Bill

### **Club Member to Fly to Australia**

**M**artin Bromage, one of our newer members, intends to set out early in 2010 to fly, unsupported, from London to Sydney in a QuikR. Martin is not new to adventure having flown microlights, paragliders and helicopters and has circumnavigated the British Isles four times by microlight! In addition he has done scuba diving, whitewater kayaking, mountaineering and rock climbing and also raced motorcycles. He has climbed in the UK and the Alps is one of the few people to have scaled the Old Man of Hoy. Perhaps, when he gets back, he will tell us about his adventures - if he is not too tired! For more information and to keep up to date see Martin's web site at <[www.flytoaus.com](http://www.flytoaus.com)>

### **The LAA Sywell Rally 3rd - 5th September 2010**

**T**he LAA have given notice of next year's rally in the following press release. It appears to be a re-incarnation of the original PFA Rally which ceased a few years ago.

*"Following the successful 'dress rehearsal' of the Sywell Revival Rally 2009, the Light Aircraft Association, in conjunction with Sywell Aerodrome, are partnering to deliver a major aviation Rally for September 3rd, 4th and 5th 2010.*

*This will be the full LAA Rally, but contained within the 'back to basics' ethos that worked so well for us in 2009. It's an opportunity to witness the full range of UK home built, kit, vintage and microlight aircraft within the LAA fleet and beyond."*

### **Safety**

**T**he flying season is drawing to a close and many microlighters will be putting their aircraft back in the hangar to overwinter. For many pilots this might well be the last outing until next Spring depending on weather and time available. For these it is time to make sure that their aircraft is "winterised" in the best possible way. Remember that our furry friends are also looking for

somewhere to spend a cosy winter so ensure that you remove anything that could be chewed up to make a bed.

Your engine also needs to be "decommissioned" which will involve injecting oil into the tops of the cylinders to stop corrosion of the bores. If you have a two-stroke engine drain the carburettor bowl to prevent the oil in mixture solidifying after the petrol has evaporated. Remove batteries, store them at home and give them an occasional charge from the mains over the winter to retain their efficiency - gel batteries need a special charger unless you want to blow them up for fun!

Flexwing fliers need to proof their wings as far as possible against small creatures gaining access to the inside - mice seem to like the stitching used in wing manufacture. Even a steel cabinet is not proof against mice as Ed Wells will tell you from his experience last year!

It all seems rather daunting perhaps and if you want to avoid some of the problems the answer might be to do as much winter flying as possible - but that could be expensive, too, if you invest in heated clothing! (Christmas is approaching so you could add it to your "wants" list and do some shopping at the Flying Show at the end of the month!)

### Internet

October 22nd was the release date for the latest Microsoft operating system - Windows 7. All the reviews and feedback from people who have used the Beta versions are positive and enthusiastic. The previous system, Vista, was not well received and had many teething problems but the word is that Microsoft have learned from the experience and have improved the product. The Editor, due to having a computer crash in the summer and having to buy a new computer, qualified for a free upgrade to the new system and is currently awaiting delivery of the DVD.

Hopefully the upgrade will go well and your Airscrew will appear on time as if nothing has changed!

### Dates for your diary

**28th -29th November** - The Flying Show at the NEC. The annual exhibition of the BMAA and the BHPA.

**16th December** - Club Christmas Party at the Gloucestershire Club (the usual monthly venue!)

**3rd to 5th September 2010.** - LAA Rally at Sywell

### Hangarage available

Gary Ball has a vacancy in his hangar at Teddington Hands. It will accommodate a fully rigged flexwing, though a fixed wing may be a possibility. If you are interested speak to Gary. He can be contacted on 07836 217404

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