

# Severn Valley Microlight Club

## Airscrew

October 2009

### **This Month's Meeting - Wednesday 21st October**

This month's meeting will be a talk by Darren Lewington, Head of Operations at Gloucestershire Airport entitled "**How to win friends and influence people in ATC.**"

Darren was responsible for the highly successful visit by the SVMC earlier this year and, being a former Air Traffic Control at the airport, is well placed to provide all we need to know about talking to ATC. It should be added that recently he recently ticked flexwing flying off his 'list of things to do,' having enjoyed a fabulous day out at Bruntingthorpe with Alan Coulon and G-BYFF. He reports that he thoroughly enjoyed his trip from Kemble and is seriously considering taking it further. We will be starting at 8.00pm prompt. Please make an effort to be there on time as a courtesy to our speaker.

### **Quote of the Month**

"My soul is in the sky."— *William Shakespeare*

### **Defford Radio - change of frequency**

Members will know that Defford has its own allocated radio frequency - currently 119.0Mhz. **This changed to**

**122.25Mhz from 20th October.** Please remember to use the radio to make blind calls whenever you visit the airfield.

### **Engine Theft and Security** - By Andrew John

The recent alarming rise in engine theft from aircraft hangared on largely unsecured airfields and farm strips must be making us all scratch our heads as to the most suitable method of reducing this risk. Some of our members may well have heard of Smartwater which is a fluid marking system containing your unique forensic code which can be applied invisibly to almost anything. Viewed under UV light this mark shows up as fluorescent and can be analysed quickly by the police to identify the owner of the property when found.

Our local police force in South Worcestershire have given this method of identifying items of property their full support via the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, as they consider it to have already had a significant part to play in reducing domestic and industrial theft where it has been used. I am using it domestically and will now include items on my aircraft such as engine, radio, GPS, headsets, together with a small sticker on each to act as a warning to would be thieves.

The cost was only £20 (in 2008) as an introductory offer through my local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and the Police issued a statement of registration which I sent to Smartwater Technology Ltd, who then issued me with a small vial of liquid containing my chemical 'DNA' to apply to my property. However for light aircraft, they recommend a Vehicle marking kit which is available for an annual fee of about £35 and would be more suited to aircraft and engines.

Apparently where Smartwater has been used as evidence in court, this method maintains a 100% record for prosecution. As a deterrent it is both low cost and simple to use, as I have found.

Someone I know recently lost his Rotax 912S from his aircraft overnight, so I can appreciate the seriousness of the situation. I hope this information will be of help to anyone looking to deter theft of their property on an often deserted airfield or farm strip.

### **CAP 413 Radio Telephony Supplement**

The CAA have just reissued CAP 413 Supplement 3: **A Reference Guide to UK Phraseology for General Aviation Pilots**. This a supplement to CAA Radiotelephony Guide CAP 413, aimed at General Aviation Pilots, in the form of an interactive quick reference to the UK phraseology most commonly used in General Aviation operations. The supplement covers arriving at and departing from aerodromes, cross country flight, operating at unattended aerodromes, instrument approaches and emergency messages. It is available as a free download from the CAA website :- <http://www.caa.co.uk/application.aspx?catid=33&pagetype=65&appid=11&mode=detail&id=3749>

### **Fly-in Reports**

**13th September - Eastbach, Spence Airfield** - by Bruce and Wendy

It looked as though a lovely day was on the cards, weather-wise; fingers crossed it would last! Unfortunately the date of the fly-in clashed with a meeting at the Scilly Isles but, nevertheless, a few loyal souls turned up. Dick arrived in his Eurostar, John and Monica in their 'chocolate bar' and John and the two boys drove over from Hawling, plus a few others. The 'do' was combined with 'Spence' Open Day, so there were lots of other visitors to talk to, including Edwin Shackleton and Eddie Clapham. Plus a couple of helicopters 'dropped in'.

As usual, Bruce was kept busy on the barbecue, supplying everyone with burgers and hot-dogs, but he had some very welcome help this year in the form of Ray Dance.

Approximately 30 aircraft flew in, and what with the 250 - 300 visitors by road and on foot, it must have been the busiest SVMC meeting ever! Especially since the majority of members decided to "clear off" to the Scillies and forego the fun!

It was a super day and the Air Ambulance collection box raised £200.00 on behalf of our mates, Rex and Mark. Sorry about the lack of pictures, but owing to the number of people there, we couldn't get them all in! A safe day, lots of food, fun, frolics and friends. What more could you want? A really good day had by all. Roll on the next one!

Very best wishes & happy landings,

### **Shopping by Air**

A favourite jaunt for members on a Sunday seems to be up to Long Marston to visit the market. Well for those that enjoy that sort of thing, there is another airfield market to visit. As of the last weekend in September, there is now a market between 9 am & 4 pm on a Saturday at Halfpenny Green airfield.

**Dates for your diary**

**28th -29th November** – The Flying Show (formerly SPLASH) at the NEC. The annual exhibition of the BMAA and the BHPA in Hall . The BMAA AGM is at 12.00 noon on the Saturday in the Tote Suite.

**Acknowledgements**

Andrew John for the Smartwater article, John Hamer for the CAP 413 and the Shopping by Air information. Bruce and Wendy for the Fly-in report.

**Fly-in memories 2009**

Despite the weather there were some Wednesdays when flying was possible. The following photographs will remind you of some of those "better" evenings!



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