

SEVERN VALLEY MICROLIGHT CLUB

AIRSCREW

November 2017

Hello again and welcome to the November edition of Airscrew. Seems like only a few days since I was penning the October edition, before going off on holiday to Bonnie Scotland. I had a truly remarkable week and apart from the wonderful walks in the unspoilt woodland and beaches with the Grandchildren, I also got a bit of flying in! More of that later, if I can get an article put together in time for the publishing deadline. Weather-wise, we are all suffering from a lack of flying opportunities, brought about by the seemingly endless low pressure systems which are a feature on autumn in the UK. My personal antidote is to ensure my aircraft is well maintained, clean and fuelled up, so that when a weather window opens up, myself and SX are ready, willing and able.

The answer to the teaser I posted in last months' Airsrew, seen at Popham with a tailskid, was manufactured by Britten Norman ! the Islander folk. Only a couple were built and this is the only flying example – in the world! As always my Editorial virtual door is always virtually open for your contributions/anecdotes/photos etc. Trev Jackson. Trev.kate@btinternet.com Home 01453511141. Mob 07502417963. Well hush my mouth! Just as I was having a justified whinge about the weather, yesterday (8th November) turned out to be an absolute peach! So off I went flying, Chase to Abergavenny, west up the valley to Crickhowell and on to Llangorse Lake, hooking around Talgarth and Hay on Wye, east to Hereford. Continuing east to May Hill and crossing the Severn just north of Slimbridge. I did my customary pfl, this one into Doynton and with the personal plumbing straining at the seams, back to Chase for tea and medals. A grand day out.





Llangorse Lake on the nose Cap'n



MAMBA (miles and miles of bugger all)



Next Winter meeting – 15th November

Put it on your calendars as 3rd Wednesday is early this month. And with Xmas looming we have agreed the date and venue as 13th December, Over Farm Barn. As there is no charge to club members for this and expenses will be taken from Club funds please make the effort to come with your partners/guests – it's your money!

We have a new couple who enjoy STOL aircraft so much that they actively seek out Mountain flying. And they have volunteered to talk to us about their experiences. This should be interesting. Let's try and keep the numbers up for the November meeting this week.

- October – Flying in France
- November 8th – Committee Meeting at the Flying Shack (see minutes in this month's Airscrew)
- **November 15th – STOL aircraft and flying in mountains**
- **December 13th will be the Xmas party at Over Farm Barn**
- January AGM – and something special
- February – A trip to the Jet age museum
- March - *vacant*

Winter meeting review – 18th October 2017 – Ed (The Chair)

Thanks – To our hosts at The Flying Shack Staverton and to all those members who came out on a wet and miserable night – I counted around 28 in total and the car park was full. I hope you all got home in that fog ok. (I got lost on the new Elmbridge crazy doughnut roundabout in the gloom).

Talks – Thanks to Jon and Steve for their presentation about the joys of Flying in France. We will start trying to pull together some hints and tips to publish ready for next year. **December will be the Xmas party**, January 18 AGM and the rest will be a surprise!

Summer Review – Talking to Club members I think we lost fly outs to Broad Meadow, Eastbach, Chase, Redlands, Port Talbot and some of the regular things in the area like the Cider and Cheese at Westonzoyland. All because the weather went wrong. As a Club we did manage 6 early season regular fly outs (maybe 9 possibles this season) – so better than most. Bumble is now on a mission to spot stable weekend weather windows to see if we can add another couple of fly ins before we all give up and hibernate until next spring. On the plus side, clearly the burger budget wasn't challenged at all, so we can move some of that into the Xmas Party fund. If you have any contacts for the entertainment or the venue this year please contact me ASAP.

Club night is a really good time to catch up with the news, especially now when the summer flying season has stopped the normal social flying gatherings. Really good to see John and Harry Davis back at the meetings after a troubled summer for John – keep plugging away John you will be back in the air soon I'm sure.

And Finally – Graham Linley from Eastbach has been busy developing a re-fueling pump which is a cut above the normal flimsy plastic variety we normally see offered at the shows – its business end is copper with filters in and out, and it will fit 10 or 20 litre jerry cans. Anyone interested can contact Graham directly on 07976-607597 or gclinley@tiscali.co.uk

What about those pictures

It's that time of year when the clocks change and Autumn mists and skys can do some exceptional things. I was walking up May Hill just after the clock change - when the sun was just coming up. I saw an

exceptional lot of 'sky writing' in the form of vapour trails all heading into Birmingham for the early slots - but missed the picture. A few days later the sun came up so brightly that a silhouette of the Trees and May Hill appeared on low cloud/mist covering Ross. After 34 years living here I have never seen that before, another one missed. So now I have the camera with me waiting for something to happen. At the moment all I can share with you is the following. I'm still trying for the Severn Valley shot for the web site background, and if I can't go flying early enough I can do it at 996 feet from the top of May Hill. Very... uplifting!



Fairford – What's this then? - Picture 4.

As I said I will drop odd pictures into my piece for the Aircrew and roll these into the Xmas comp. This is number 4.

