

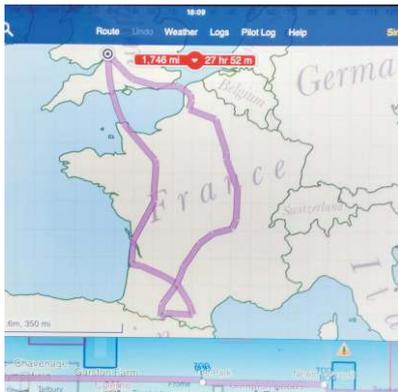


AIRSCREW

March 2019

This month we have a Club Meeting on Wednesday 20th March at the Flying Shack 7:30 for 8pm start.

The Talk is “2018 Tour around France” by Jon Ingram, Ed Wells, Phil Hanman and Mark Peters.



THE FLYING SHACK DINER have a range of snacks and bar food that will be available before our club night on Wednesday 20th March.

So if you are going to be low on stamina for the evening's presentation, get there early and fuel up !

Gasco Safety Evening

The Flying Shack are intending to hold a safety evening on Thursday 16th May 2019 19.00 for 19.30

Please put the date in your diaries !

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Some members have yet to pay their 2019 subscriptions.

Please can those members who have not yet paid their £20.00 please do so right away.

Subs can be paid by bank transfer – HSBC sort code 40-22-09 a/c number 62599821

and please make sure you label your payment with your name.

There is also the Paypal option on the website – but bank transfer is the preferred method.

I would like to be able to pass the 2019 membership list on to our webmaster by 31st March.

Members are reminded that subscriptions became due on 16th January.

Any problems/queries please contact: Andy Virgoe on 07852 606 606 or email: andy@ashleworth.net

For the latest Club updates and information please check out the club website: <https://svmc.info>

Introducing the Club's new Chair



Steve Slade

I gained my PPL in 1974, aged 17, after being awarded a RN Flying Scholarship and then working on a building site during the summer holidays to finance the remaining hours. Having just failed my driving test it was strange to think I could fly a plane before I could drive a car. That flying experience changed my life – I applied for, and was accepted to train as a pilot with BA but an accident in a 4-tonner whilst on detachment with the CCF led to a 4 ½ month stay in Stoke Mandeville Hospital forcing a change in career direction. Aeronautical Engineering at Southampton University occupied the next three years of my life, obviously interspersed with a few trips to the Student Union bar. As a final year project I was able to conduct a review of what hand controls were available for light aircraft at the time and to develop one of them to work more effectively on a PA28.

Joining RR in 1978 at the end of Uni I was working my way through the graduate training scheme when I spotted a picture of a blue Turbulent on the office wall of the one and only Eddie Clapham. Also working in the Development Department was Mike Batchelor who had spent many years in the hang-gliding scene and had built his own trike – along with his friend John Hunt; two of the early microlight pioneers. Eddie and I purchased a trike kit from Mainair, a second-hand hang glider wing and first flew in February 1982. Mike Batchelor was mentoring us and he snapped the picture below of me landing after my first flight. As you can see, I was a bit pleased with myself.



A two seat Mainair Tri-flyer with a Striker wing followed for a couple of years before we started building the prototype MW6, now known as "Mother". Our adventures with MW are pretty well documented, but include Round Britain Rallies, Land's End to John O'Groats in a day, and the Kiev to Odessa Rally just before the Soviet Union broke up. Branching out on my own, a 503 powered Rans S6 was my trusty steed for a few years, followed by my current 912 powered aircraft, G-MIKI, which I have owned for more than twenty years and over 2,000 flying hours and in which I have had lots of adventures.



After a long day visiting 114 airfields

Not long after I bought G-MIKI I was returning from somewhere up north one Wednesday evening only to spot lots of aircraft on the ground. Whilst I don't normally land anywhere without PPR, I thought that I would run the risk on this particular occasion. It turned out to be a good decision, as I was a bit peckish and a burger was very welcome. A lot of Wednesday evening burgers have slipped down the same way since, and who could forget the calories we put on at Monica's feasts!

A club exists for its members and those balmy summer evenings in good company were, to me, what the club was all about. Fly-ins, fly-outs, winter talks, etc... the club is functioning very smoothly thanks to the input from some hard-working members of the committee behind the scenes. I will do my best to provide a small contribution to the already smooth running of the club.

One thing I am not blessed with, however, is a good memory for names and faces and it occurred to me that, at the very least, the club should have pictures and contact details of committee members on the website to aid new and existing members with memories like mine. Whether or not we try to expand this to include names and photos of all of the members is something we will discuss at the next meeting. Subject to the requirements of the recent GDPR legislation this could be something that might help new members, and more recent members who share my lack of talent for putting names to faces.

I have a few other ideas to explore with the committee in the next couple of months and thoughts from any member would be most welcome but, in the meantime, I am sure you will all join with me in thanking Ed Wells for his superb contribution over the last three years.



The Club has received thanks and acknowledgement for last year's donations to the Air Ambulance charity.

Many thanks to all those that contributed and helped us to achieve a total of £1102.99 for the year.

Let's hope that we can do even better this year.

Brize Norton Traffic

Last month we had a great talk from Brize Norton air traffic controller Neil McDonald. This was very well supported by club members.

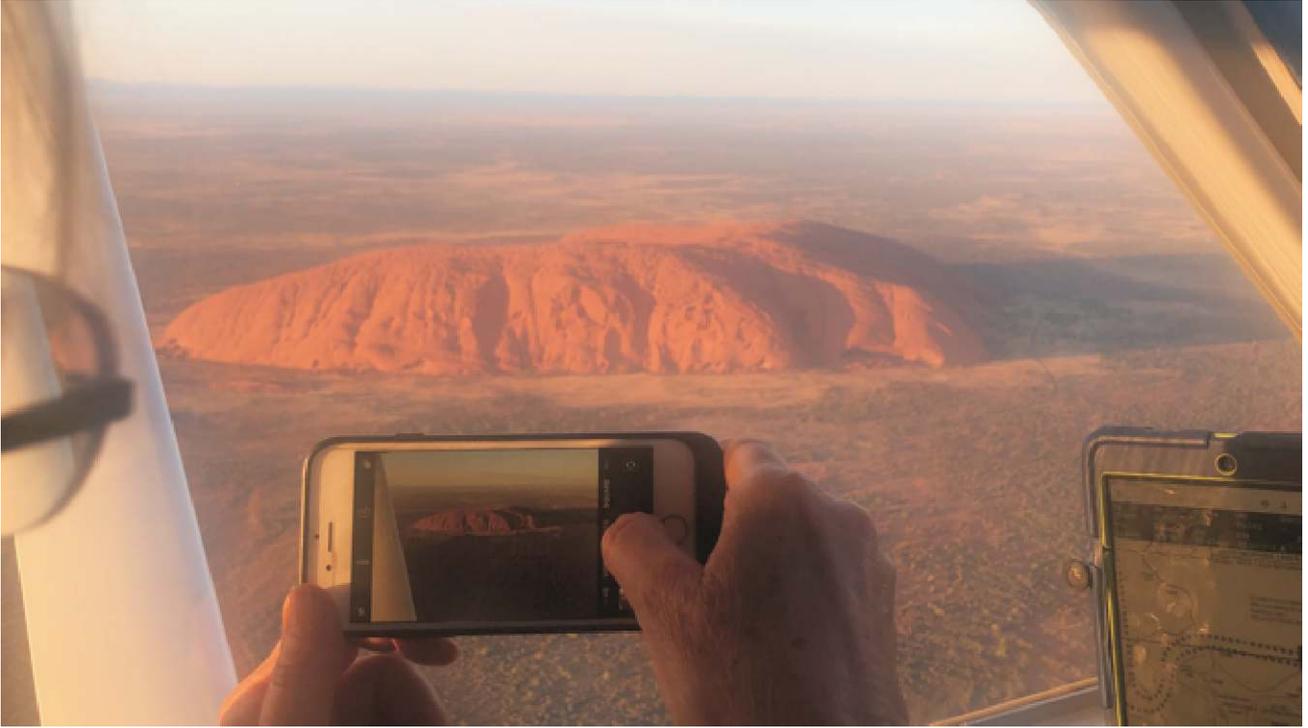
In the talk Neil mentioned that they sometimes have to handle some very large incoming traffic and to illustrate that point here are some photos of the massive A225 aircraft.

For anyone wishing to transit the Brize Norton control zone in the future, the following link may be very useful:-

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/our-organisation/stations/raf-brize-norton/documents/raf-brize-norton-control-zone/>



Photo Gallery



Photos from Australia by Fiona and Angus Macaskill



Cat balloon and Kemble
By Lyndon Griffith





Over Avonmouth by John Sparks



Finals Wolverhampton by John Sparks



By Lyndon Griffith

Best Wishes

We've just heard that Club stalwart Bob Hinds is currently unwell and hospitalised. The Club would like to send best wishes and hope that he has a speedy recovery.

For the latest Club updates and information please check out the club website:
<https://svmc.info>

Items for Sale

Aircraft refueling pumps available now from Graham Lindley – contact gclinley@tiscali.co.uk or 07976-607597 for further details.

Club Merchandise

<https://svmc.info/svmc-merchandise>

Many thanks to Steve Slade for his article and to all the people that sent in photos for this month's magazine.

Please send any future contributions to the Airscrew to the Editor Pete Smith at:
jellylegs56@hotmail.com