

Bodmin Flyer



02/2017

AERoclub February 22nd @19:30



Sqn Ldr Graham Laurie MVO RAF (Ret'd)
THE HISTORY OF ROYAL FLYING

'The History of Royal Flying' is an illustrated talk given in aid of The RAF Benevolent Fund, covering the early days of Royal Flying, the formation of The King's Flight and The Queen's Flight, up to the present day, together with some personal reminiscences. Graham joined the Royal Air Force as a pilot in 1964. He flew for 36 years amassing a total of 13500 hours and during the last 20 years of that career he flew members of the Royal Family and Senior government Ministers. In 1981 he was selected for The Queen's Flight and in 1995, after that unit's disbandment, he moved to No 32 (The Royal) Squadron at RAF Northolt, completing in all, over 2200 Royal Flights. He retired in Dec 2000.

Please contact Michelle or Carol if you wish to dine with us ... book early!
01208 821419 or admin@cornwallflyingclub.com

New Airfield Manager

On the 11th December, we interviewed applicants for the position of Airfield Manager, working closely with our current staff and Board. Six candidates applied, each with their own set of skills and experience.

Jay's career started with 11 years in the Merchant Navy, followed by a long career in aviation management at many levels. His current position is manager at Blackpool Airport.

Despite his vast experience managing operations far bigger than ours, we were impressed with his understanding of our needs; his enthusiasm for 'grass roots' flying, encouraging access to aviation for those who think it is 'beyond them', and working with our charitable links to develop our role in our community. He understood our need to develop and grow, without losing sight of our heritage; our desire to be as busy and successful as Compton Abbas, without becoming over-commercialised and burdened by excessive rules and regulations. Jay's 'personal statement' forming part of his application is shown below. We look forward to welcoming Jay and his family to Bodmin in early March.



"I feel that my background, knowledge, experience and skills perfectly fit the remit that you are looking for in order to manage, grow, develop and expand Bodmin Airfield and take it into a solid future. As well as currently being an Airfield Manager, my current and past responsibilities includes management of busy flight operations environments, marketing and commercial activities to bring new business into the airfield, developing and maintaining strong ties with our local communities and charities, and mentoring young staff to

enable them to develop and become the next generation of aviation managers.

I am passionate about aviation, especially the development of GA, and I possess all of the essential skills that you seek, as well as most of the desirable skills that you require.

Additionally, my aviation, airfield and flight operations knowledge and experience is a perfect fit for the dual roles of developing and maintaining both Bodmin Airfield and the Cornwall Flying Club as the leaders in their field in General Aviation and Flight Training, not only in Cornwall. but in the greater Southwest and beyond."

Chairman's Report

Darren Fern



Never a dull moment...!

An extra-ordinary meeting was called on 21st January to discuss the events surrounding our attempts to purchase a new Cessna 172 aircraft for our club.

Fortunately we didn't have to re-ignite the debate about refurbishing the venerable ZM instead of looking for a 'new one', as we had just been advised that the person who purchased it from Andy Twemlow had discovered advanced corrosion in a main wing spar and it may be beyond economical repair.

We reviewed all of the documentation regarding the purchase of the new 172 as detailed in my letter to members earlier this month, and I won't bore you with the details again.

The meeting concluded with agreement on what our next steps should be, and the need to issue formal legal proceedings as soon as possible; threats of doing so have failed so far. We are acutely aware of the potential for rising costs, and we will factor these into decisions in the future. We are making one last-ditch effort to persuade the other two parties to reach agreement on how best to provide the aircraft that we believed we had purchased.

Following the meeting Graham Newby announced his decision to resign from his position as Treasurer, and our previous Chairman, Denis Wilkins, has released an apology on behalf of the Board, shown below.

I have now taken over responsibility for steering us through the quagmire and I'll keep you informed about progress, and the date of future extra-ordinary meetings.

We have appointed a new Manager to work with Michelle, as discussed earlier. I have heard disgruntled comments from a few members who have not met him yet, concerned that he is over-qualified for the post.

Every club member was given the chance to comment on the applicants at an open meeting on 4th January; No-one understands the needs of the club more than Matt and Michelle, who both interviewed. Two Board members and a club members' representative also interviewed. Making sure that Jay's needs and expectations matched ours was a key element raised during pre-interview strategy meetings. Jay was appointed unanimously, and without reservation; other staff and members who met him before the interview also praised his warmth, openness and friendly manner. A huge amount of work from many people who love our club underpinned this appointment; please don't disrespect their efforts, nor indeed the successful candidate. On the subject of disrespect, we have had another episode of bad behaviour towards a member of staff; If there is ANY recurrence, membership will be withdrawn with immediate effect. No membership = no hangarage.

The weather has been kind to us so far, and we have flown 10 times more hours this January than we did last year. We are using the parallel runways 13/31 East and West to preserve the grass, but we still need to be careful at the intersection area. We have signed the Hangar agreement with Trago, and expect to have our new tenants in place at the beginning of February.

Darren

"Further to Darren's recent update on the 172 saga, it is clear that as Chairman at the time I should have been more diligent in overseeing the arrangements and supporting those who were working hard on the Club's behalf during a busy time. I viewed the contract before it was sent off and the Committee was assured that we had a contract. This does not excuse the fact that I and the rest of the Committee failed to assure myself that there was signed contract in place before monies were disbursed. Undoubtedly, it would have been helpful in clarifying some of the present uncertainties. I apologise unreservedly for this oversight and I hope that the matter as a whole can be resolved satisfactorily in due course.

Despite controversy at the time, the Committee's decision to sell ZM appears to have been vindicated. I would also like to place on record my appreciation of Graham's unstinting work for the Club during his tenure of office"

Denis Wilkins

Board Matters

Airfield Notes

By Sandy Wilkinson

Other than a bit of tractor maintenance, there isn't a lot going on. Still waiting for the hangar door repairs that were scheduled for the end of the month. As soon as maintenance list has been prioritised, we'll sort out a budget allocation.

Flying Bulletin

By Matt Culverhouse

In 2016 we flew 1076 hours as opposed to 1409 for the previous year, but with fewer aircraft and lower expenses

So despite November and December being far better than the previous year and our best efforts we didn't manage catch up!

On a brighter note we have flown 25 hours so far in January as opposed to 3.8 last year. 1 ab initio student flown last week. G-YH is offline having its Annual at the moment, so currently we are down to one Club Aircraft. G-SM due at the end of the month. Dave Hobson very generously is still allowing us to use his Aircraft for Trial lessons. We have managed to source upgraded Dell computers and monitors for the briefing room. Navigation room will be completed by the end of February.

Examiner course preparation underway, starting in a week's time..

CAS News

By Rod Bellamy

CAS is busy and has had a slow stream of aircraft through the hanger for the last couple of months, paying our own way (well we would if people paid what they owed and on time). We are owed over £20'000 in outstanding bills and cannot continue to carry this burden. Some of this is internal and we need, as stated on the invoice as per our terms and conditions, payment within 14 days or a 2% interest charge will be added.

At present we have 12 aircraft at various stages of repair, some waiting for parts,

others waiting for space, with another 2 waiting to come in, not counting various Annuals, Arcs and 50 hour checks that are coming due in the next months. The club aircraft, YH is in for an Annual and SM is due 02.02.

IU is looking sorry for its self as the prop has been sent away for overall and the nose leg sent away for repair.

We desperately need toilet facilities down here in the hangar and the doors need looking at as the rivets on the big panels are coming off, we did temporary repairs before Christmas to make them secure. Scottish Hydro Electric are sending someone to read the meter in the hangar as they cannot dial into the meter resulting in no actual reading since 2015. They need to investigate, so we are expecting a large bill!

G-GAOH from Newquay, owned by Mark Stott came in for an annual and was found to have rot in the wing, plus extensive corrosion on some of the metal parts, the owner has been to view and there is a possibility this aircraft may be beyond economic repair. Just goes to show that wooden aircraft cannot be left outside.

Steve has been in and fitted new work surfaces in the office giving us more space to work and much needed storage space.

Admin Report

By Michelle Culverhouse

trial lesson sales were good in December, with 83 vouchers sold. We need members to pay their annual fees and hangar fees as soon as possible to help with cash flow. Ive signed the hangar agreement with Bruce, and hopefully can start to get aircraft in at the end of January. We have another business development meeting scheduled for 18th January and Ill advise on progress next month.

'Johny on the job' rescheduled for 24th January!

Finance News

By Graham Newby

CAS and CFC both made a profit in the past year to date, with lots of work available for CAS at the moment. There are still significant monies owed to CAS and would appreciate prompt payment.

The 172 saga continues without resolution, although a meeting of all parties is scheduled for 25th January.

It has become apparent that I no longer have the support of many club members, and I feel it is time for someone else to take on the role as Treasurer.

Business Development News

By Pete White

The Tiger Moths are destined to return in 2017 for as many weekends as we are able fit them into our schedules. We now have a 'Tiger Moth Voucher' and this is on the CFC computer to enable us to book it from the airfield as long as the contact is made to myself for booking the day. So far we have a list of 18 people wanting Tiger Moth flights and 3 of them have already paid (vouchers).

I have found some interest in bringing a Stearman to the airfield for wing walking experiences and flights and I intend to write a piece for the next N/L to generate interest, plus send out a flier to relevant organisations etc. It looks like being a mid-week event in June/July. The Mid Week Wing Walk

The Cornwall Military Vehicle Trust (CMVT) were our guests on Sunday 8th January when we were the lunch time target for their annual 'mince pie run'.

Carol and Steve worked very hard providing meals and beverages for about 30 people and after lunch Martin Pengelly and myself took our guests on a hangar tour.

Everybody enjoyed the experience and are very keen to return.

St Athan Airfield in S Wales are very happy to see our members visiting at any time and they would like to reciprocate and fly in to visit us both as a social event and to experience

grass runway operations. Operations manager is Neil Boyles and their maintenance company is run by John Sparks.

The middle section of the trench for our new water pipe system from the mains adjacent to Trago Lane is finished (thank you Richard Saw). Section 3 which links with the Clubhouse is on hold until the Pirate filming has been completed. Our contractor, P Rowe who visited to advise regarding the trench and acquisition of water pipe will undertake the initial section from the mains using a mole etc.

About 400m of 50mm pipe and fittings required for the job will be ordered soon but I did not want them around the site until needed.

Once SWW have inspected the trench and pipe joining site, connection can be made. SWW Connection Fee £274.80 (www.horizonaircraft.co.uk).

Social Media News

By Jacob Knight

Website:

Still working on updating pages to make them clearer and more inviting. Have improved the load speeds of the site to increase the ranking on search engines.

Facebook :
stats for the last 28 days:

New page likes: 86 (New users that have liked the page)

Post reach: 6,948 people (Total number of users that saw our posts)

Post Engagements: 3,928 people (Total users that interacted with the posts via liking, commencing and sharing)

The facebook page is growing nicely and I have started promoting posts and publishing an advert. The promotions have gained us the 86 likes to the page.

Currently budgeting for £25.00 per month on Facebook promotions.

8.33 kHz Radio Update!

The Civil Aviation Authority confirmed on 20 July that, subject to contract, EU funds will be made available to the Authority to help private pilots and aircraft owners move to 8.33 kHz radios. All aircraft registered in the EU need to be fitted with 8.33 kHz equipment by December 2017.

The CAA applied to the EU for €4.3m funding to encourage the timely transition of the UK GA fleet from existing 25 kHz radios to 8.33 kHz equipment. The Authority says this application was for the maximum permitted grant of twenty per cent of the estimated total cost of 8.33 kHz equipage.

“We will now be working closely with the UK GA member associations and representatives to distribute the funds to aircraft owners ,” says a CAA spokesman. More details on how that will work in practice will be released shortly.

Tony Rapson, Head of the GA Unit said: “We are delighted our application for radio funding was successful. This will go some way to easing the burden for aircraft owners converting to 8.33 kHz equipage in the UK and continues to demonstrate our commitment to get the best deal possible for the UK GA community.”

[8.33 Radio Claim Link](#)



Bodmin Airfield/UAV Drone School Understand the Law and Be Prepared!



A 37 year old male from Stratford upon Avon arrested on suspicion of Drone related offences

On Monday 23rd January 2017 PCSO Andy Steventon and I attended a residential address in Stratford upon Avon and arrested the 37 year old occupant on suspicion of committing offences under the Air Navigation Order 2016.

The property was searched and two drones seized along with computing, mobile telephone and digital storage equipment. The arrest came about following the discovery of videos uploaded to the Internet showing drone flights taking place across congested areas and close to airfields of South Warwickshire.

The arrested male has been bailed until mid-February with conditions not to possess, use or be involved in the flight of a UAV (Drone).

If you own a drone please read through our post at <http://tinyurl.com/jptz72j> to familiarise yourself with the main points of law surrounding drones under current legislation.

Updates will follow once the investigation is complete.

PC1681 Craig Purcell

Shipston Police Safer Neighbourhood Team

Our first course is next week, and courses will be held throughout the year.

FLYING CLUB EVENTS 2016-2017

AEROCLUB

Wednesday February 22nd The Royal Squadron
Graham Laurie A story by an experienced RAF pilot who spent time flying our Royal Family around the world

Wednesday March 15th "Gate Guards 2"
Dave Hobson and Martin Pengelly discuss the latest projects to come out of Gate Guards at Newquay

Wednesday April 19th Matt Culverhouse/Kevin Riley
Flight-plans, GAR, Sea survival. A must for all pilots, a pre season refresh of the all important details required before flying on any journey



March 25th FOG team attend YES meeting at Brooklands

April 22nd FOG fly CHSW

June 2nd-4th Devon Aerocamp

June 23rd-25th Cornwall Aerocamp

September 16th Bader Braves

SPECIAL EVENTS

May 6th (Sat) RINTOP NAV

May 27th (Sat) LADIES DAY FLY-IN & HANGAR DANCE

July 23rd (Sun) SUNDAY ON LUNDY

September 9th (Sat) ACTION STATIONS



FOG Events are held specifically for the named organisations, but other visitors are welcome to attend any of our events.

Contact Pete White 01752 406660 07805 805679 pete@aeronca.co.uk