

Hi everyone

Welcome to the September Newsletter for the Biggin Hill Users Database. Welcome also to any new Database members who may be receiving this regular Newsletter for the first time.

My apologies for the very delayed publication – as regular readers will know, this is normally sent out on the first of the month – I am so sorry for the delay. (as most readers will know, I had a fall on 31st August, which effectively took me out of circulation for potentially 2 to 3 weeks with a suspension of my Aviation Medical. It has been suggested that, assuming all goes well, I may be able to get a new medical after around 2 to 3 weeks!)

You are reminded that, even if you ever fail to receive your Newsletter by email, you can always view it online, as well as back copies of this Newsletter and also all the original Biggin Hill “Bugles” written by our own John Bryan (JB), by visiting the club website at www.bigginhillclub.co.uk

AUGUST WEATHER

What a great month August was – with absolutely record temperatures and brilliant flying weather for a major proportion of the month.

Obviously it was not all good, but in the main, apart from a few non-flyable days, it has been one of the best month’s ever for private flying.. Long may it continue

2019 FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT

In case anyone has already forgotten – 18th and 19th August were the dates for the 2019 Biggin Hill Festival of Flight.

As I explained in the last Newsletter, this year we didn’t have our own Marquee for the first time in several years, and I understood that the publicly available hospitality enclosures were apparently sold out.

If you hadn’t bought your show entry tickets in advance, I do hope you understood that entry tickets were not available to purchase on the day

NEWS FROM AROUND THE CLUBS, BUSINESSES & OTHER AIRPORT USERS

If you would like me to include your business or personal comments in the Newsletter, either on a regular basis, or just occasionally, please drop me an email with your contact details and the requested contribution and I will try to include it in the next Newsletter. I will acknowledge anything sent to me for inclusion. (Please email: John Willis at john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk)

ALOUETTE FLYING CLUB

Something special is happening at Biggin. Say hello to the new Alouette Flying Club

Alouette Flying Club is changing and has very exciting plans for the future. We will be launching a number of changes over the next 3-6 months and at the recent Biggin Hill Festival of Flight 2019 it gave us the opportunity to unveil our new look and aircraft.

The new look reflects our exciting plans and future at the Airport as an established flying training organisation and flying club. We want to make flying a family experience at Alouette!

It was great to see so many Alouette members past and present during the recent air show. We now have three aircraft which are available for an ever increasing pool of students and for our private and professional pilot members. Our stand was busy with many potential new members

and it was a great privilege for the Alouette team to be visited by the Mayor and Mayoress of Croydon and by the Biggin Hill Airport CEO, David Winstanley and family.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to non-members to visit our social evening on Wednesday 4th September and Wednesday 2nd October; each evening from 7:30pm. It's a great opportunity to talk to members, enjoy a drink and have an opportunity to see our new aircraft. We are offering all current PPL's who have membership at other clubs a free membership at Alouette until end of March 2020. You will then have access to some special self-fly Hire Rates currently on offer; a great opportunity to hire an aircraft and enjoy the rest of the summer with a day trip or weekend away with fellow flyers or make it a family experience. We have a new website launching soon and we will announce when this is live; our new web address is flyalouette.com

Current Alouette special offers

*Free Alouette membership until the end of March 2020 for new members who have paid a membership at another flying club

*Trial flying lessons £199 - saving £41. A great present for someone special

*Self-fly rates £175 per Tacho Hour - saving £20 per Tacho-hour.

We want to actively support the GA community at Biggin Hill and we look forward to fully engaging in the light aviation working group at the Airport to define a future for light aviation.

This is a great opportunity for past and new members to join our club and we very much look forward to welcoming you soon. We hope to see many of you at our social evenings in September and October. Together we can make Alouette a very special flying club.

See you there.

Regards
Bruno Bruniges
Club Chairman

MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE CEO'S OFFICE

News from the CEO's Office

It seems hard to believe that 6 months have already passed since my first day in the post and, to be honest, with the very odd exception, I can say I have loved every minute. That's not to say my first 6 months hasn't been without its challenges; however, the potential in London Biggin Hill is there for all to see.

The Business Aviation Market remains a very challenging environment, although London Biggin Hill continues to buck the trend and hold its own. As I reported last month, the closure of RAF Northolt has not generated the traffic increase the Airport was expecting and the concerns regarding Brexit remain. That said, the Airport continues to invest in our infrastructure and welcome new operators.

I had hoped to have held the first meeting of the Light Aviation Steering Group in August; however, it looks like it will now be held towards the end of September and I will confirm the exact date towards the end of this week. I am delighted by the interest shown in being part of shaping light aviation at London Biggin Hill and I remain convinced the steering group will have a genuine impact and that the debates will be informative and lively!

Turning to development news, I am pleased to inform the Airport community that the work to resurface Taxiway Hotel proceeds at pace and the project is ahead of schedule. Again, I would like to thank all our partners for their cooperation and patience whilst we improve our Airport infrastructure. Work continues to deliver the GPS approach for Runway 03 and we now await final confirmation from Gatwick that they are content with our proposal prior to final submission to the CAA. This process has been delayed due to the holiday period.

The Airport continues to work with London South East Colleges to progress the development of the Aerospace Technology college. The current programme still targets an opening date in time for the 2020 academic year. Development work continues regarding the Airport's proposed Hotel development and additional hangar accommodation on site.

Finally, I would like to thank our partners for their support and cooperation during the Festival of Flight. I hope that those of you who joined us for the festival had a superb day.

Cheers
David Winstanley

ROLL OF HONOUR

Thank you to members that continue to provide us with additional names of old Biggin Hill'ites who we had missed. The Roll of Honour can be seen on the website at www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk

(Anyone who flew from, or worked, or even socialised regularly at the airport since it became a civilian base in 1959/60 and who has passed away, should ideally be included on there. If you know of someone whose name belongs on the Roll, please email me with their names, and details at john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk)

DATABASE EMAIL ADDRESSES

A constantly updated list of database members can be seen at <http://www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk> Please remember to let me know if your email address is changed. If you know others who are not on the list but are eligible to join (i.e. if they currently fly from the airport, or work there, or ever have done so) please let me know or tell them about us – Database membership is, of course, free.

That's it for this month.....
John Willis
Biggin Hill Airport Users Database

(And Finally: As usual, a few amusing stories that, according to the many comments I receive about this section, is very popular amongst the membership. (As always, no offence to anyone is intended!). Thanks to everyone for sending their contributions....)

QUOTE.....

My wife and I were watching Who Wants To Be A Millionaire while we were in bed.

I turned to her and said, 'Do you want to have Sex?'
'No,' she answered.
I then said, 'Is that your final answer?'

She didn't even look at me this time, simply saying, 'Yes..'
So I said, "Then I'd like to phone a friend."

And that's when the fight started...

I took my wife to a restaurant.

The waiter, for some reason, took my order first.

"I'll have the rump steak, rare, please."
He said, "Aren't you worried about the mad cow?"
"Nah, she can order for herself."

And that's when the fight started.....

My wife and I were sitting at a table at her high school reunion, and she kept staring at a drunken man swigging his drink as he sat alone at a nearby table.

I asked her, "Do you know him?"
"Yes", she sighed,
"He's my old boyfriend. I understand he took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear he hasn't been sober since."

"My God!" I said, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?"

And then the fight started...

When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed.

But, somehow I always had something else to take care of first, the shed, the boat, making beer.. Always something more important to me.

Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point.
When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors. I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house. I was gone only a minute, and when I came out again I handed her a toothbrush.

I said, "When you finish cutting the grass, you might as well sweep the driveway."

The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp.

My wife sat down next to me as I was flipping channels.
She asked, "What's on TV?"
I said, "Dust."

And then the fight started...

Saturday morning I got up early, quietly dressed, made my lunch, and slipped quietly into the garage. I hooked up the boat up to the van and proceeded to back out into a torrential downpour. The wind was blowing 50 mph, so I pulled back into the garage, turned on the radio, and discovered that the weather would be bad all day.

I went back into the house, quietly undressed, and slipped back into bed. I cuddled up to my wife's back; now with a different anticipation, and whispered, "The weather out there is terrible."

My loving wife of 5 years replied, "And, can you believe my stupid husband is out fishing in that?"

And that's how the fight started...

My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary. She said, "I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 150 in about 3 seconds."

I bought her a bathroom scale.

And then the fight started.....

After retiring, I went to the Social Security office to apply for Social Security. The woman behind the counter asked me for my driver's License to verify my age. I looked in my pockets and realized I had left my wallet at home. I told the woman that I was very sorry, but I would have to go home and come back later.

The woman said, 'Unbutton your shirt'. So I opened my shirt revealing my curly silver hair.

She said, 'That silver hair on your chest is proof enough for me' and she processed my Social Security application.

When I got home, I excitedly told my wife about my experience at the Social Security office.

She said, 'You should have dropped your pants. You might have gotten disability too.'

And then the fight started...

My wife was standing nude, looking in the bedroom mirror.

She was not happy with what she saw and said to me, "I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly. I really need you to pay me a compliment.'

I replied, "Your eyesight's damn near perfect."

And then the fight started.....

I rear-ended a car this morning...the start of a REALLY bad day!

The driver got out of the other car, and he was a DWARF!! He looked up at me and said 'I am NOT Happy!' So I said, 'Well, which one ARE you then?'

That's how the fight started.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Ten Best Caddie Responses

Number: 10 Golfer: "I think I'm going to drown myself in the lake." Caddie: "Think you can keep your head down that long?"

Number: 9 Golfer: "I'd move heaven and earth to break 100 on this course." Caddie: "Try heaven, you've already moved most of the earth."

Number: 8 Golfer: "Do you think my game is improving?" Caddie: "Yes . . . You miss the ball much closer now."

Number: 7 Golfer: "Do you think I can get there with a 5 iron?" Caddie: "Eventually."

Number: 6 Golfer: "You've got to be the worst caddy in the world." Caddie: "I don't think so . . . That would be too much of a coincidence."

Number: 5 Golfer: "Please stop checking your watch all the time. It's too much of a distraction." Caddie: "It's not a watch - it's a compass."

Number: 4 Golfer: "How do you like my game?" Caddie: "It's very good – personally though, I prefer golf."

Number: 3 Golfer: "Do you think it's a sin to play on Sunday?" Caddie: "The way you play, it's a sin on any day."

Number: 2 Golfer: "This is the worst course I've ever played on." Caddie: "This isn't the golf course. We left that an hour ago."

And the

Number: 1 Best Caddy Comment: Golfer: "That can't be my ball, it's too old." Caddie: "It's been a long time since we teed off, sir."

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A lady goes to her priest one day and tells him, 'Father, I have a problem. I have two female parrots, But they only know to say one thing.'

'What do they say?' the priest asked.

They say, 'Hi, we're hookers! Do you want to have some fun?'

'That's obscene!' the priest exclaimed,

Then he thought for a moment . . . 'You know,' he said, 'I may have a solution to your problem.

I have two male talking parrots, which I have taught to pray and read the Bible . . . bring your two parrots over to my house, and we'll put them in the cage with Francis and Peter.

My parrots can teach your parrots to pray and worship, and your parrots are sure to stop saying that phrase in no time.'

'Thank you,' the woman responded, 'this may very well be the solution.'

The next day, she brought her female parrots to the priest's house . . .

As he ushered her in, she saw that his two male parrots were inside their cage holding rosary beads and praying . . .

Impressed, she walked over and placed her parrots in with them . . .

After a few minutes, the female parrots cried out in unison: hi, we're hookers! Do you want to have some fun?'

There was stunned silence . . .

Shocked, one male parrot looked over at the other male parrot and says . . . 'Put the beads away, Frank, our prayers have been answered !!!

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Little Hodiaki.....

The teacher said, 'Let's begin by reviewing some American history. Who said, 'Give me Liberty , or give me Death?' She saw a sea of blank faces, except for Little Hodiaki a bright foreign exchange student from Japan, who had his hand up: 'Patrick Henry,1775,' he said.

'Very good!' Who said, 'Government of the People, by the People, for the People, shall not perish from the Earth?' Again, no response, except from Little Hodiaki, 'Abraham Lincoln,1863.'

'Excellent!' said the teacher continuing, 'Let's try one a bit more difficult... ' Who said, 'Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country?' Once again, Hodiaki's was the only hand in the air and he said: 'John F. Kennedy, 1961.'

The teacher snapped at the class, 'Class, you should be ashamed of yourselves; Little Hodiaki isn't from this country, and he knows more about American history than you do.'

She heard a loud whisper: 'Stuff the Japs.' 'Who said that? I want to know right now!' she angrily demanded..

Little Hodiaki put his hand up, 'General MacArthur,1945.'
At that point, a student in the back said, 'I'm gonna puke.'

The teacher glared around and asks, 'All right! Now who said that?'

Again, Little Hodiaki said, 'George Bush to the Japanese Prime Minister,1991.'

Now furious, another student yelled, 'Oh yeah? Suck this!' Little Hodiaki jumped out of his chair waving his hand, and shouted to the teacher, 'Bill Clinton, to Monica Lewinsky,1997!'

Now with almost mob hysteria someone said, 'You little shit. If you say anything else, I'll kill you.'

Little Hodiaki frantically yelled at the top of his voice, 'Michael Jackson to the child witness testifying against him, 2004.'

The teacher fainted. As the class gathered around the teacher on the floor, someone said, 'Oh shit, We're screwed!'

Little Hodiaki said quietly, 'The Australian Labor Party, 2019!'

.....UNQUOTE

(If anyone else has good examples of, for example: - Governmental stupidity and removal of the population's right to live a normal life, or simply any funny, unusual and interesting stories or anecdotes that you feel may interest or amuse our readers, please email them to me as a possible inclusion in a monthly "and Finally"...))