

Hi everyone

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

Welcome to the January 2025 Newsletter for the Biggin Hill Airport Users Database. Welcome also to any new Database members who may be receiving this regular Newsletter for the first time.

In view of the holiday period, this Newsletter edition is very much briefer than normal, so my apologies for that – we will be all back to normal next month I promise.....

As usual, you are reminded that for Database subscribing members, even if your Newsletter doesn't arrive by email at the beginning of the month, you can always view it online, as well as any back copies of this Newsletter by visiting the club website at www.bigginhillclub.co.uk

(If you have not received your copy within 24 hours of the beginning of the month, please check the club website above so you can find and draw it down for yourself!)

DECEMBER WEATHER

December weather has been atrocious. There has been more days unflyable than there have been flyable for clubs and private owners. With several days in a row with severe fog that failed most of the time to clear, as well as several days with a strong and very gusty wind at around 90 degrees across the single remaining runway, so not a good month for many of us.

Fortunately, for the Corporate Aircraft the weather has not been totally bad for the whole time, so their operations have fortunately continued for most of the month, which is good for the airport...

But I guess none of this is surprising at this time of the year!

Let us hope we will eventually get some days where the weather is flyable for light aircraft in order that we can all keep our handling up to date, and for the clubs and schools to maintain at least some revenue until we get to the Spring and Summer again...

BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT

Well, even with the poor weather recently, our airport has been a great "corporate" airport for our capital city.

As we said last month, in 2025 the main runway (03/21) is planned to be resurfaced fully, and new centreline lighting installed. The work will take place each night in relatively small sections. It is intended to enable the runway to be returned into use each morning until the job is fully completed.

I'm sure that this major improvement will help to make Biggin Hill Airport THE airport for the world's corporate aircraft to use for coming to the UK's capital city...

See the Airport CEO, David Winstanley's, monthly section, which is present towards the end of this newsletter, and keeps us all fully up to date with any airport plans ...

JANUARY BIGGIN HILL POSTED FUEL PRICES

The “posted” Biggin Hill Airport fuel prices, excluding VAT, for the calendar month of January 2025 are:

£1:69.3 per litre for 100LL Avgas if supplied from the Fuel Bowser
(if uplifted using fuel account card Only from the Self-Refuel pumps = minus 5p per litre – and an additional 1p per litre off if also paid by Direct Debit)

£0:82.2 per litre for Jet A1 (Sustainable Aviation Fuel £1:05.7 per litre)

(As you should be aware, from 1 January 2025, the government has mandated that all JetA1 fuel be sold with a 2% blend of Sustainable Aviation Fuel. This mandate, which is applicable to all UK airports, is intended to secure and grow UK SAF demand, support the growth of the SAF industry and reduce greenhouse gas emissions of aviation fuels in the UK.

Due to the additional cost of introducing more expensive SAF into JetA1 fuel as dictated by this compulsory government initiative, we will be introducing a SAF levy on JetA1 sales from 1 January 2025. To aid clarity and transparency, we intend for this to be displayed as a separate line on your invoices.

Thank you for your understanding.)

SPECIAL NOTES: Users are advised that **credit and debit cards can no longer be used at the self-refuel pumps**. If you use self-refuelling, you will need your airport H-TEC fuel account card with you when you go there. (if you haven't got one with you, you will have to go over to the Main Terminal apron to uplift fuel from the bowsers instead).

FALCON / EFG

Hi everyone

We've had a tremendous year, as a brief snapshot here are some of the great accomplishments here at EFG and Falcon:

18 First Solo Flight
11 First Solo Nav
13 QXC
18 Skill Test Passes
9 IR(R)
Over 6 community and industry events

Thank you to each and every one of you for making this year so special. Without our members, instructors, and engineers, the props simply don't turn.

I often say that EFG, and indeed the whole Falcon Group, is more than just a place to fly and repair aircraft. The Falcon Family is here through some of your happiest days, and we count ourselves very lucky.

So, this Christmas, we are grateful for you, and the memories you share with us.

May your glass be full, and your skies forever clear. Have a safe and joyous start to 2025.

Best Regards
Singh, Shonu, Anoop and your Falcon Family

MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE CEO'S OFFICE

As 2024 draws to a close, we can reflect on another very successful year for the Airport as it continues to attract new customers, develop its infrastructure and attract further inward investment.

Whilst overall movement levels have been slightly lower than expected, hangarage and parking revenues remain very positive and this reinforces that Airport's strategy of being a home base and an eco-system of complementary maintenance and repair organisations works.

Significant investment in improved infrastructure continues, and 2025 will see more of the same.

Looking forward, 2025 will see the start and completion of the runway resurfacing project, the acceleration of the Bombardier paint facility construction, the introduction of the new Instrument Runway Visual Range (IRVR) system, 24-hour automated METAR reporting and new Engineering accommodation.

In 2024, the Airport launched a campaign of improved engagement with residents through the establishment of the Airport Residents Noise Action Forum (ARNAF), which focused on direct engagement with Resident Associations. The ARNAF has proved to be very successful, and the Airport intends to build on its success throughout 2025 and launch other initiatives to demonstrate it is fulfilling its obligation as a good neighbour.

2025 will see significant progress regarding the Airport's 2nd phase of its Air Quality Monitoring initiative. The new monitors, which we installed last year, detect SO₂ (Sulphur Dioxide), NO₂ (Nitrogen Dioxide), CO (Carbon Monoxide), VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) and O₃ (Ground Ozone). The sensors will also detect Particulate matter 1, 2.5, and 10 micrograms of solid or liquid particles in the atmosphere. The Airport will be working with the ARNAF throughout 2025 to see how the Airport might report on Air Quality in the future.

The Airport is excited to support the establishment of the new Private Pilots Group (PPG) and will be keen to see how this group develops through 2025 to build on the excellent engagement with the GA community across the Airport site.

Finally, we ended the year with the exciting news that the CAA have approved the IFP design and Trail Plan for the new O₃ instrument approach. This is a vital step in achieving full all-weather capability for the Airport, and we will move quickly in the new year to complete simulator and flight validations and put the trail in place as soon as practicable.

I will avoid the temptation to list an array of achievements in 2024 and will simply close by wishing you all a prosperous New Year.

Kind regards
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 to: john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk)

DATABASE EMAIL ADDRESSES

A constantly updated full list of database members is always viewable online on the main website at: www.bigginhillreunited.co.uk

Please remember to let me know if your email address is changed. Also, 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 in the past) please let me know or tell them about us – Database membership is, of course, free.

That's it again for this month. Do enjoy your flying (if we ever have some decent weather!) - Please do all stay well and stay safe.....

I would like to wish you, and your friends and families, a very Happy New Year....

John Willis
Biggin Hill Airport Users Database

And Finally: As usual, here follows 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 ever intended!).....

I would like to thank everyone who occasionally does send their help for this section. To avoid me running out of jokes (which keeps happening), please keep them coming regularly by email to: john@bigginhillreunited.co.uk

QUOTE.....

Why did the turkey join a band? - Because it had drumsticks.

Why does Santa have 3 gardens? - So he can Ho Ho Ho.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

The old lady handed her card to the bank teller and said, "I would like to withdraw \$10."

The teller replied, "For withdrawals under \$100, use the ATM."

The old lady asked why...

The teller, annoyed, handed her card back and said, "These are the rules. If you have no other requests, please go away. There is a line of customers behind you."

The old lady was silent for a few seconds, then handed her card back to the teller and said, "Please help me withdraw all the money I have."

The teller was stunned when he saw the balance in her account. He nodded, bent down and respectfully said, "You have \$300,000 in your account and the bank doesn't have that much money right now. Could you make an appointment and come back tomorrow?"

The old lady then asked how much she could withdraw right away.

The cashier replied, "Any amount up to \$3,000."

"Well, then give me \$3,000 now," the lady said.

The cashier handed it over to her with kindness and respect.

The old lady put \$10 in her wallet and asked the cashier to deposit the remaining \$2,990 into her account.

The moral of this story is:-

Don't be hard on the elderly, they've spent a lifetime honing their skills.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

After being married for 50 years, I took a careful look at my wife one day and said, 'Fifty years ago we had a cheap house, a junk car, slept on a sofa bed and watched a 10-inch black and white TV, but I got to sleep with a hot 23-year-old girl every night.

Now, I have a \$500,000 home, a \$45,000 car, a nice big bed and a large screen TV, but I'm eeping with a 69-year-old woman. It seems to me that you're not holding up your side of things.'

My wife is a very reasonable woman. She told me to go out and find a hot 23-year-old girl and she would make sure that I would once again be living in a cheap house, driving a junk car, sleeping on a sofa bed and watching a 10-inch black and white TV.

Aren't older women great? They really know how to solve an old guy's problems

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A blond sits down on a plane and starts to read her book but the guy sitting next to her, a lawyer, won't leave her alone.

Finally, he says to her, "Let's play a game. I'll ask you a question and if you can't answer it, you owe me five dollars. Then you ask me a question and I can't answer it, I owe you a thousand dollars."

The blond says, "Okay."

The lawyer says, "What's the distance from the earth to the moon?"

Without a word, the blond opens her purse, takes out a five-dollar bill, and hands it to him. She then asks, "What goes up the hill on three legs and comes down on two?"

The lawyer thinks about this; he does an internet search; he calls his friends and asks them but he's stymied and he hands the blond a thousand dollars. She puts it into her purse and goes back to reading. The lawyer says, "Hey! What's the answer?"

Without a word, the blond opens her purse, takes out a five-dollar bill, and hands it to him.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

One evening, the old farmer decided to take a walk to the pond, since it had been a while since he had been there. He took a large white bucket to collect some fruit on the long walk to the remote area.

As he approached the pond, he heard voices laughing and shouting with joy.

As he walked further, he saw that several young women were bathing naked in his pond.

He made his presence known, and they all moved to the deep end. One of the girls shouted at him, "We're not coming out until you leave!"

The old farmer frowned, "I didn't come here to watch you girls swim naked or get you out of the pond without your clothes on."

Holding up his bucket, he said, "I'm here to feed the crocodile."

Some old men can still think quickly.

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

A man went into the confessional and said to his priest, 'I almost had an affair with another woman.'

The priest said, 'What do you mean, almost?'

The man said, 'Well, we got undressed and rubbed together, but then I stopped!'

The priest said, Rubbing together is the same as putting it in. You're not to see that woman again. For your penance, say five Hail Mary's and put \$50 in the poor box!

The man left the confessional, said his prayers, and then walked over to the poor box. He paused for a moment and then started to leave.

The priest, who was watching, quickly ran over to him saying, 'I saw that. You didn't put any money in the poor box!'

The man replied, Yeah, but I rubbed the \$50 on the box, and according to you, that's the same as putting it in!

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

Sixth-grade science teacher Mrs. Samson asks her class:

"Who can tell me which organ of the human body expands to 10 times its usual size when stimulated?"

Nobody raises a hand, so she calls on the first student to look her way:

"Mary, can you tell me which organ of the human body expands to 10 times its usual size when stimulated?"

Mary stands up, blushing furiously:

"How dare you ask such a question?" she says, "I'm going to complain to my parents, who will complain to the principal, who will have you fired!"

Mrs. Sampson is shocked by Mary's reaction, but undaunted.

She asks the class the question again, and this time Sam raises his hand.

"Yes, Sam?" says Mrs. Sampson.

"Ma'am, the correct answer is the iris of the human eye."

"Very good, Sam. Thank you."

Mrs. Sampson then turns to Mary and says:

"Mary, I have 3 things to tell you:

- first, it's clear that you have not done your homework.
- Second, you have a dirty mind.
- And third, I fear one day you are going to be sadly disappointed."

.....UNQUOTE

QUOTE.....

1. Cashtration (n.): The act of buying a house, which renders the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period of time.
2. Ignoranus: A person who's both stupid and an asshole.
3. Intaxication: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realise it was your money to start with.
4. Reintarnation: Coming back to life as a Hillbilly.
5. Bozone (n.): The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.
6. Foreplay: Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purpose of getting laid.
7. GiraffitJ: Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.
8. Sarchasm: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.
9. Inoculatte: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.
10. Osteopornosis: A degenerate disease. (This one got extra credit)
11. Karmageddon: It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.

12. Decafhalon (n.): The gruelling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.

13. Glibido: All talk and no action.

14. Dopeler Effect: The tendency of stupid idea to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.

15. Arachnoleptic Ft (n.): The frantic dance performed just after you've accidentally walked through a spider web.

16. Beelzebug (n.): Satan in the form of a mosquito, that gets into your bedroom at three in the morning and cannot be cast out.

17. Caterpallor (n.): The colour you turn when you discover half a worm in the fruit you're eating.

.....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"...))