



Chairman's Report

A very brief report this month! I would like to thank all members who have supported the recent events. I hope that you agree that we have tried to put on some different and interesting events (if you have any other suggestions please let a committee member know).

ESFC is also moving into the 21st century and we hope to have a Broadband connection installed in the clubhouse in the first half of November. On behalf of the club I would like to pass on our thanks to Mike Shelton for making this happen.

We also plan to have the latest version of ProPlan installed soon – to anyone like me who like to take the easy option this is an excellent flight planning tool.

Mike Tidmarsh

Chippie Event' Report – Dave Disney

I jumped at the chance of an hour in a "chippie". However on the day appointed I expected it to be cancelled because the wind was 20 gusting 30 at 30 degrees off the runway! Pete said "no problem" and after the briefing I was installed in the front cockpit (since I had elected to have an hour's instruction rather than air experience or aero's). I reasoned that to try anything else before actually learning to handle the machine would be pointless! I found it an absolute delight to fly-beautifully harmonized controls and very light but not twitchy. It needed a 'boot-full' of rudder on take-off and climb-out - the opposite way to my Cessna and every other aircraft I have flown.

I had about half an hour of general handling and then Pete said we could go back and do some circuits. I was much more apprehensive about this because of the wind situation. The first two approaches were to be touch and go's and Pete said that he would release the flaps at the right time. I must point out that the throttle is on the left and the flap lever is on the right so having landed in the three point attitude with minimum throttle and flaps down (left hand on throttle right hand on stick) it is necessary to open the throttle, transfer left hand to stick to push forward to get the tail back up whilst getting flaps off with right hand and feeding in a 'boot-full' of rudder at the same time. Pete was wise to take one of these tasks off me! I wasn't sure who landed the first time - it seemed very smooth in spite of the unfriendly wind but Pete said it was all down to me. The second was not quite as good - I had got out of shape in the circuit in order to miss another aircraft and hadn't enough brain left to rescue the situation! However the third landing felt like the best that I have ever done in any aircraft - I couldn't believe we had landed all we did was slow down and trundle up the runway. Pete insisted that it was all down to me but I must say that he had a voice input now and again. During that last circuit I did feel very comfortable and even had enough brain left to think about the radio calls but Pete had already agreed to do those.

I thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience –the Chippie is a lovely flying machine and Pete is a great instructor - I could really take to this aircraft but, alas, my 'Roobarb' is more practical and therefore I will have to envy Chippie owners and flyers (but now even more than before)

East Staffs Flying Club



Newsletter

October 2004

Chez Margaret

In August I celebrated one year of catering at the club and would like to thank all of those members who have supported me during that time. I have enjoyed very much being with you - so much that I have decided not to throw in the (tea) towel just yet!

For those that may not know it, I have opened the café every Friday as well as Saturday and Sunday since last August and though it is seldom busy, especially in the winter months, I do propose to continue opening on Fridays and hope to see more of you! Core opening hours are 10am to 4pm Saturday and Sundays but I am happy to exceed these times when activity demands. On Fridays I'm not usually around 'till nearer 11am. (No I do not sleep late but I do get up and bake the scones, flapjack etc. before leaving home).

By the time this message reaches you I expect to have taken delivery of more club clothing. However I will gladly order items to meet specific requirements but please bear in mind that the suppliers rarely fulfil orders within 28 days so if items are required as Christmas gifts I suggest ordering now. Items can be ordered on the club website www.esfc.org.uk but if you want to see what is available please call in at the club during café hours.

I have mentioned Christmas which I'm loathe to do in October, but cakes and puddings have to be made in advance and once again I shall be offering them for sale at the café. Orders are now being taken but please order as soon as possible especially if you would like a non standard recipe. Order forms are available at the café.

Once again a huge thank you to all for your support and encouragement during this past year and I look forward to your company and to catering for you in the future.

Radio Roster

Since ESFC has taken over responsibility for the Radio Roster several people have retired from the radio cover. The club is seeking more volunteers to fill these vacated places. If no other cover is forthcoming then this condenses the available roster and means asking the remaining operators to perform extra duty.

As the responsibility lies with ESFC we are seeking more members to help out. If you can help out with 4 hours of your time approximately every couple of months and are willing to train as radio operators please contact Rob Rowley rob.rowley2@btopenworld.com.

Please remember that this service is for the benefit and added safety for all pilots using the field.

FLYING EVENTS

Aerobic Seminar

Alan Cassidy is four times British Aerobic Champion (Unlimited Class) and the current British Team Manager and Coach. Alan is renowned as an aerobic instructor and author of many books on his art.

Alan is willing to come to Tatenhill to hold an aerobic seminar perhaps early next year. It is promised that the seminar will be conducted from the cockpit and not from the classroom!! Come along and experience this exquisite form of torture. The day will be as the members wish, i.e. Simple gentle aerobics, upset training, spin recovery, or for the more adventurous, a full sequence!!

The course will be conducted almost certainly using Alan's well-known **Pitts S2A G-STUA**.

It is a bit of a coup d`etat for the club to get Alan on board so please support the day(s) if you can. Your committee is striving to bring "something new and interesting" for the members. This is one such venture.

If you don't feel you can handle aeros then try your hand at flying a high performance tail dragger. The day is yours!!

Interested parties should give their names to Rob Rowley Robert, rob.rowley2@btopenworld.com, any committee member or enter your name on the notice board.

If you have any suggestions for flying events or would like to help, please contact Liam Darcy on 01889 500676.

Please keep an eye on the club notice board and the website (www.esfc.org.uk) for more regular

NEWSLETTER

If you have any articles for the newsletter or comments on the format, please contact Alison at alie_todd@yahoo.co.uk.



SOCIAL EVENTS

CLUB NIGHT – 28 October 2004

Thursday's club night this month will be an end of season barbecue and quiz. It is being held at the ESFC clubhouse at Tatenhill Airfield. Food should be available from 7.30pm so it's advisable to not have a big tea beforehand. As is normal on club night drinks will be available in the clubhouse. Hope to see you there!

CLUB NIGHT – 25 November 2004

To be confirmed, however as always drinks and snacks will be available in the clubhouse.

OTHER EVENTS

If you have any suggestions for other events or would like to help, please contact Hugh Clarke on 01283 531556.

Joke of the Month

A DC-10 had come in a little hot and thus had an exceedingly long rollout after touching down. San Jose Tower noted: "American 751, make a hard right turn at the end of the runway, if you are able. If you are not able, take the Guadalupe exit off Highway 101, make a left at the lights and return to the airport."

NEXT MEDICAL DUE?

As a reminder Dr Hill, our local AME, continues to give a discretionary £5 discount on aviation medical examinations to East Staffs Flying club members. To receive the discount you must show your current ESFC membership card at the time of your medical.

Contact details for Dr Hill are as follows:

Dr J D Hill AME
Burton upon Trent
01283 730201