

East Staffs Flying Club



Newsletter



December 2006

Chairman's Report

Having seen Martin's notice below I never knew that he suffered from a bad wind problem - if I fly with him must make sure that the windows are open! As I write this we now have the dreaded fog and would probably welcome some wind.

At our last committee meeting we have started to compile a list of events for 2007 - so watch this space. Thank you to all those members who sent in their suggestions of flying/social events for the coming year. If you have any more ideas please let me or a member of the committee know about it.

I hope that you have seen my notes on lobbying your MP about the possible airfield/brownfield planning issues and also the proposed attempt to increase GA fuel tax costs. Please make some time to put pen to paper or fingers to keyboard.

Finally I would like to wish all our members a very happy Christmas and a good New Year.

Mike Tidmarsh

Recent Achievements

On the whole December has been a horrible month. The wind has been the biggest problem. As I write, the windsock is indicating 200°/ 20 gusting 30 knots. Not ideal for second solo's, etc.

Olivier Balland now has a share in G-BBUE. He recently flew over to Belgium for the weekend. Quite an achievement when you consider that he's only just received his licence. On the way back he taught himself hazard avoidance around shipping in the English Channel. This was something that never really came up while we were training together.

On Sunday the 17th of December Roger Hawkes passed his Skills Test. After a lot of waiting around due to poor weather he finally got a nice day. Roger's recently bought a third share in a Tatenhill based Europa. Hopefully we should see him flying it in the New Year.

Both Dave and I have spent a lot of time on the ground this month. Dave's major achievement occurred on the 13th of December. On this date he managed to eat considerably more mint chocolates than me. No mean feat I can assure you! I've just been trying to remain sane. Oh, I really hate the winter!

Colin Carter has recently bought himself an "N" registered Cherokee 180. All that he needs now is a licence. We're waiting for a nice day so that he can take his Skills Test with Dave.

Happy Christmas. See you all in the New Year.

Martin Handley.

CATERING MESSAGE.

The catering will not be available for the weekend of Friday 22nd December and the weekend of Friday 29th December (Margaret is having a well-earned holiday break).

Some Jokes For a Merry Christmas

"You know that your landing gear is up and locked when it takes full power to taxi to the terminal."

Advice given to RAF pilots during WWII:
"When a prang (crash) seems inevitable, endeavour to strike the softest, cheapest object in the vicinity as slow and gently as possible."

"Mankind has a perfect record in aviation; we never left one up there!"

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

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

No December Club Night due to the Christmas dinner at the beginning of the month.

CLUB NIGHT - 25 January 2007

BURNS SUPPER at the Clubhouse, partners welcome. The evening commences at 7.30pm.

CLUB NIGHT - 22 February 2007

A TALK & PRESENTATION BY RODGER "DODGE" BAILEY

"The training of pilots to fly the historic aircraft of The Shuttleworth Collection"

Dodge is currently the chief test pilot at Cranfield University and in his spare time is a display pilot with the Shuttleworth collection amongst others. He is an ex RAF squadron pilot and then test pilot after qualifying at Edwards in the USA. He has also flown as test pilot at RAE Bedford.

Venue: - Albion Hotel, Shobnall Road, Burton on Trent. Start 7:30pm

OTHER EVENTS

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

SOCIAL EVENTS

No events planned for the immediate months.

If you have any suggestions for flying events or would like to help, please contact Angus Stewart on 07967 593 341.

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