

East Staffs Flying Club



Newsletter

August 2008

Chairman's Report

A heartfelt thanks to all those who assisted with the setup (+ take-down) of the ESFC Annual Fly-In. As we all know the weather conspired to make the day a wash-out however we were pleasantly surprised by the number of people who turned up on the day - the BBQ and the café did steady business throughout the day. For those who missed the event you also missed two inspired displays given by John Calverley and John Deaville in the 'Baltic Bear' and Gennady Elfimov in Colin and Jane's Yak-52. In spite of the weather these were two impressive and very complex displays and the crowd were clearly amazed at the skills shown. We managed to collect approximately £1300.00 for the charities on the day by mugging people (probably 2-3 times) so an excellent achievement.

I would urge you to attend the club night on Thursday 28th August at the Albion to hear a presentation from the RAF about the LARS service offered by Shawbury. Even more so as we will have an external speaker on the evening a good turnout would be a welcome sight for him I am sure.

Keep an eye on the ESFC Forum for any unscheduled Fly-Outs organised by members, these will almost certainly be more local. Let's hope September offers better weather than we have had to-date.

I would like to pass on a message from Tatenhill Aviation, could everyone when taking off from runway 08 maintain a centre line departure until over the upwind numbers before turning en-route. Because of the additional length available some aircraft are turning off the runway heading early which can create additional noise for our neighbours who live in this area.

We still have the final BBQ of the season planned for Saturday 13th September so we hope to see you there, especially students and new members.

Finally, I am sure we all know about the tragic air accident that happened at Coventry. This is even more poignant in that one of the pilots killed had only recently joined ESFC, I am sure that our thoughts are with their families and friends at this terrible time. Let's all continue to fly safely and enjoy what is a privilege to be able to do and also an excellent and sociable sport.

Mike Tidmarsh



Recent Achievements

Graham Struggles passed his PPL Skills Test on Monday the 28th of July. Congratulations. PS. I know that Graham is rather keen to fly over to the Isle of Man at some point in the future. If anyone else has a similar plan and is looking to share costs then I suggest that you give Graham a shout.

Stuart Perren flew solo for the first time on Thursday the 14th of August. He just managed to make it around the circuit before yet another heavy summer rain shower hit the airfield. Well done.

Alan Boast completed his first solo flight on Sunday the 17th of August. Well done.

After a bit of gentle persuasion from myself, Gary Mitchell flew solo for the first time on Thursday the 21st of August. Gary did particularly well to achieve the standard required after only thirteen hours.

August has been a bit of a washout. Heavy rain showers, low cloud and frustrating crosswinds. I was hoping to be able to announce that my intensive student, Joanne Snook, had managed to finish her PPL training on time. However the poor weather conditions slowed us down considerably. Joanne has got to the stage where she's almost ready for her QCC. When she returns to the UK in a few months time we should be able to finish her training and get her a licence in time for spring.

Martin Handley.

CHANGES TO DONCASTER AIRSPACE

Yes! It's happening again. More of the Open FIR is being heisted and turned into Class D, this time 'oop north'.

Doncaster Robin Hood is grabbing its own huge volume of airspace as of 28th August. As you all know, having kept up with every new addition to the AIP Yellows, this will affect anyone intending going north of a line from Waddington to Coal Aston.



However, this time there are some additional warnings for everyone.

1. If you have looked at the AIP Yellow concerning Doncaster's Class D then be careful! It has some minor (!) errors. For example, confusing Waddington & Scampton and, far worse as far as GA is concerned, introducing a low level VFR/SVFR route through the zone which requires you to fly on the left side+ of the feature!

We have contacted Doncaster and they have passed us a revision to Annex B of the AIP Yellow, which is now believed to be correct.

For information, the low level corridor follows the routes of the A1 (M) and/or the M18.

2. The revised airspace will be shown on the new Northern half-mil map due to be published on 28th August, but is not present on the Southern map - although this map extends north all the way to the Doncaster ATZ. If you are going anywhere near, or as far north as, Gamston or Netherthorpe, make sure you are fully aware of the Doncaster CTAs - which extend that far south.

3. Sandtoft will now be located partially within the northern Doncaster CTR and partially under a 1500ft CTA ceiling. Phone them for arrival details before attempting to visit them or you may find you have inadvertently infringed.

4. Netherthorpe and Gamston will both be under a 2000ft CTA ceiling. Make sure you are aware of any new local arrival/departure rules before visiting them.

5. There is a considerable overlap between the Southern and Northern half-mil maps but the new Class D detail will only appear on the Northern map until the next issue of the Southern one (in 2009?). If you intend going close to or through the zone on a trip, make sure you switch to the new Northern map and have contacted Doncaster Approach and made your intentions clear in plenty of time.

Please be careful, Folks. No-one wants that nasty letter from the CAA and I don't want that icy phone call from ATC asking me to get you to contact them on landing!

John McLinden
Tatenhill Aviation Ltd.

+ Although the Right Hand Rule does not have to apply inside controlled airspace [Rule of the Air 16(2)], flying from the left hand seat in most aircraft makes anything other than a right hand track very difficult to follow in practice.



"A Talk not to be Missed"

"As some of you may be aware I am now in my 9th season with Historic Aircraft Limited based at Duxford.

Charlie Brown has been to our functions on many occasions to describe his art and craft as a world leading warbird pilot.

I am pleased to announce that a new pilot has joined us for this season to fly the Hurricane.

Dave Harvey (Harvs) is still a serving RAF Officer and is currently posted to RAF Leeming as a senior instructor on the Hawk. He is a Tactical Weapons Instructor, Instrument Rating Examiner and Authorising Officer for the Hawk.



Harvs has served tours on the F4 Phantom,(111 Sqn) Tornado F3 (25 Sqn) and Hawk. For three years he was Strike Command Hawk Display Pilot and has 5,000 hours alone on the Hawk.

Harvs also displays the only airworthy F-86A Sabre in the world for the Golden Apple Team.

I am pleased to say that Harvs will be delighted to come to ESFC later in the year to give us a talk on his craft and flying experiences.

I realise that we can only dream of what it must be like to fly these aircraft but don't be too despondent because Harvs flies his own little Vans RV4 for fun when not flying heavy metal and will no doubt be pleased to talk about that also.

Rob Rowley



SOCIAL EVENTS

**CLUB EVENT - Thursday 28th August,
7.30pm start**

SHAWBURY LARS

**Warrant Officer Ade Cheshire (RAF
Shawbury)**

The air traffic control centre at RAF Shawbury provides not only control of the many helicopter training movements in and around the local area but also a valuable Lower Airspace Radar Service (LARS) to general aviation. This service covers a vast area stretching from Tatenhill to the Welsh coast, Manchester to Hereford in the south.

Shawbury LARS is an important and very useful service for anyone flying out of Tatenhill to the west (on weekdays, anyway!) and I would encourage members to come along, listen and ask any questions that they would like answered.

Upstairs at the Albion Hotel, Shobnall Street, Burton upon Trent

OTHER EVENTS

If you have any suggestions for other events or would like to help, please contact Jon Faulkner at esfc2007@hotmail.co.uk

NEWSLETTER

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

FLYING EVENTS

Fly-outs

Due to a lack of interest in the further a field fly-outs the club is proposing to have two over water/ foreign fly-outs in 2009 and have more regular local fly-outs which will better accommodate those members who wish to fly-out but lack the time, confidence, skills or money to partake in the bigger trips.

If anyone has any suggestions for a place they feel they would particularly like a fly-out to be organised to please make contact with any of the ESFC committee members or contact Mike Dillon as per the details below

Contact

If you have any other questions relating to any of the proposed events please contact Mike Dillon on 07818 004188.

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

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