

East Staffs Flying Club



Newsletter

February 2006

Chairman's Report

Well we have seen some very strange weather conditions recently as indicated by this flight briefing being given by one of TA's newest instructors!

I would ask that particular attention is given to Rob Rowley's appeal for people to get involved with the Fly-In, we are looking for people to take on individual responsibilities for certain tasks, so please don't be shy come forward and give your name to Rob. This year's event is planned to be bigger and bolder and will need some careful planning to ensure that it is the success that we intend it to be.



Don't forget if you have not renewed your 2007 membership please do so, your fees contribute to weekend , ongoing maintenance and the various events that we have planned throughout this year. You can renew securely online at www.esfc.org.uk or give your cheque/money to Margaret at the club house. Also remember that you can buy club merchandise from Margaret, again these can be viewed either at the club house or online at the above website.

Finally, congratulations to one of our members, John Calverley, who has recently passed his Instructor's rating (in an incredibly short time).

Mike Tidmarsh

Fly-In 2007 - AN APPEAL

August the 4th has been set for our fly-in this year. After the successful day last year your committee has decided to try and make this year even better.



At a recent meeting I was very kindly invited to act as Flying Display Director once again and also take on the task of organising the day as a whole so as to give a little continuity to the process.

No one person can successfully organise a day such as we have planned alone, that person will need help and support. I make that appeal now.

An outline task for the day has already been formulated and in particular areas help is needed.

Already members are volunteering to help on the day or just preceding it. That is great but we need some support now particularly in the following areas.

Sponsorship:-

ESFC will not be able to mount a successful day to include displays without sponsors. Already one major and two more sponsors have come forward and are pleased to be involved.

The major sponsor will bring in Historic Aircraft Collections` Spitfire Vb and Charlie Brown, that is the desire of the sponsor, to see this a/c at Tatenhill for the whole day.

Other aircraft/pilots who are very keen to take part are Gena Elfimov in the Yak-52, who can forget Gena`s stunning show last year.?

John Taylor in the Extra 300L but we shall need sponsors for these items. DO YOU know anyone who may be interested in being involved?

We are already very fortunate in that John Calverley and Dave Holland will bring the Antonov and the Yak to the display free-of-charge. We could not bring this sort of day to the members without their tremendous generosity.

Organisational Areas:-

There are many "unglamorous" areas to organising a day such as ours. Here is a list of Task Areas where we hope someone can take ownership of individual elements.

Advertising/Sponsorship.

Catering/Amenities

Ground layout/traffic/parking. (Brian Hall will oversee this but he will need help)



Electricity/Water Supplies.

Fly-In for visiting aircraft. (Contacting other clubs & aviation media with invitations etc)

Ground Radio:- (Under the control of Alistair Pritchard, but he will need assistance.)

This year we are intending to make a small charge on the day to raise funds for our chosen charity, which is the County Air Ambulance. This could be in the form of a programme containing a competition(s) to encourage purchase Is any one out there skilled in desk top publishing or has access to a friendly printer?

These are the areas where **we need support RIGHT NOW**. Can you help? Do you know of anyone who could help us?

Please give it some serious thought. We want to make it a day to remember, put Tatenhill on the map and foster good relationships with the general public.

I am indebted to Mike Tidmarsh, Liam Darcy, Jonathan Faulkner and Brian Hall who already have become involved and are working hard behind the scenes but we need more help.

Please get in touch with any committee member if you can help.

Rob Rowley

Recent Achievements

After a very long spell of bad weather the sun has reappeared. Since the end of January we've been lucky enough to experience some gloriously clear days.

The 23rd of January was a particularly good day. First of all Colin Carter passed his PPL Skills Test with Dave. Shortly afterwards I took my two year old daughter flying for the first time. When we got back I then launched Bob French into the night-time skies. After one hour and ten



minutes worth of navigation and circuits he had completed the training required for his night rating. Its days like this that makes my job worth while.



"Never too young to learn..."

On Tuesday the 6th of February Ian Clayton completed his first solo flight. Ian started training in G-BELP at the beginning of the year. He did particularly well to achieve the required standard after only 9.8 hours of training.

Pete Tapping passed his PPL Skills Test on Tuesday the 13th of February. Well done Pete!

As spring approaches I'm sure that I'll have an increase in achievements to report. I know that Dave has at least two or three students who are almost ready for test. As for me, I've got a couple of new students who are training intensively. Hopefully they will both have their licences before the start of the summer.

Fuel

I've just got one note regarding safety. Over the past few months both Dave and I have, on a number of occasions, had to explain to aircraft hirers the benefits of having fuel in the tanks. We have had aircraft returning to the airfield with less than thirty minutes worth of fuel left on board. Please check the tanks before flying.

Bookings

Please note that the training slots are filling up rapidly. The weekends are particularly busy. To insure that you get the day and time that you want



please book well in advance. I send my apologies to any of my weekend students who can't get a training slot. I'm currently fully booked on Sundays all the way through to the end of May. Please let me know if you want to be put on a cancellation standby list.

Martin Handley.

SOCIAL EVENTS

ESFC AGM followed by Charlie Brown - 29th March 2007

The ESFC Annual General Meeting. The accounts and will be presented along with individual committee reports starting at 7.15pm, to be held at The Albion Hotel, Shobnall Road, Burton.

There will also be a buffet provided.

*The AGM will a be followed by a presentation from **Charlie Brown** entitled "Merlins over Malta" which is about a flight in September 2005 the month a Spitfire and Hurricane flew from Duxford back to Malta for the first time since 1952.*

OTHER EVENTS

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

NEWSLETTER

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

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