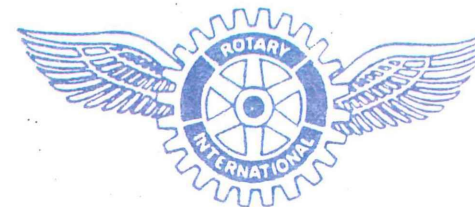


THE ROTATING BEACON



INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF FLYING ROTARIANS

UNITED KINGDOM SECTION

NEWS BULLETIN

SUMMER 1986

**EUROPEAN LIAISON**

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C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S  
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The first and most important item in this news packed Bulletin is to offer the sincere congratulations of all members of the U.K. Section of I.F.F.R. to Charles Strasser upon his election as World-Wide Chairman of the International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians

I.F.F.R. was first established in America in 1965 and during the 20 years since foundation the Chairman has passed from member to member every few years, but this is the first occasion that a Chairman from a Rotary Club outside the North American continent has been appointed as International Chairman. This is a much appreciated recognition of the hard work which Charles has put into promote Rotary throughout general aviation and flying throughout Rotary.

We in the United Kingdom are privileged to have Charles as one of our members and pledge him our active support throughout his two year term of office.

JOHN D. RITCHIE

Chairman  
U.K. Section

The efforts of Ives Branson and Peter Gresham to establish contact with Rotarian Pilots in Germany with a view to formation of a German Section as resolved at our own A.G.M. last October, were crowned with success when at the invitation of Dr. Theodor Wupperman, they flew taking your Chairman and the Ladies to Juist an Island on the coastal borders of Holland and Germany, for the preliminary meeting of the new Section. The meeting was presided over by Charles Strasser who, with his wife Maureen, had flown in from Jersey and in addition to the two twin aircraft, two more Piper Cherokees, one from Jersey flown by Graeme Le Quesne bringing his family and the other by Michael Muir from Elstree bringing some fellow Rotarians, overcame the problems of low cloud and poor visibility to attend the meeting.

The weather over Northern Germany reduced the numbers of new members who had hoped to attend but there was sufficient interest for Dr. Wupperman to accept the Resolution that he should convene a meeting at an Airfield near Cologne early in September and to accept the office of Founder Chairman. As the pleasures of I.F.F.R. were explained, the weather improved and following a most interesting tour of the foundation for young people operated by Dr. Wupperman's company on the island, the whole party was taken by horsebus to their Hotel. During an excellent dinner we were joined by some belated visitors from the mainland and the following morning dawned bright and sunny. The visitors were free to explore on foot the pretty little town, listen to the four-piece orchestra in the square and ultimately paddle in the cold waters of the North Sea which lap the wide sandy beach before returning home after lunch at the Aero Club. Since their arrival the airfield had been transformed. The few aircraft who had crept in through a 500ft cloud base on Saturday morning were now surrounded by serried ranks of aircraft who had flown in for the day for a swim and picnic and which now filled all the available parking space on both sides of the runway. Needless to say the weather deteriorated slowly all the way home, but everyone returned safely with happy memories of the birth of the new Section.



## THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

In so many Rotary Clubs the International aspect of R.I. is the one that receives the least attention. In IFFR the 'I' comes first and the next twelve months promises to be one of the most challenging and satisfying that we have known since the Fellowship was founded.

Long before man took to the air the eagle represented the pinnacle of flight and was accordingly adopted by both America and Germany for its National Emblem. Now we look forward to June next when the American IFFR Eagles will be flying across the Atlantic to receive a warm welcome from the young Eagles of the newly founded German Section of IFFR. The credit for this is shared between our World Chairman, Charles Strasser who presided over the preliminary meeting held at Juist in June which details are given elsewhere in this Bulletin and our European Liaison Officer, Ives Branson and General Secretary, Peter Gresham, who between them despatched over 150 letters to German Rotary Clubs based in cities with airports who might be expected to number among their members current pilots interested in forming a German Section of I.F.F.R.

However, extension in Europe has not been confined solely to the efforts of the U.K. Section. Karl Steen a Norwegian Rotary Pilot who first became aware of the existence of I.F.F.R. when he attended the Jersey Rally in May 1985 and was so impressed that he joined the U.K. Section on the spot and was persuaded this year to explore the possibility of establishing a Scandinavian Section and has now announced that he is convening a meeting to be held at his home airfield at Hamar in Norway on Saturday, 27th September at which he is expecting the attendance of more than 30 Rotarian Pilots. Charles Strasser has accepted an invitation to fly over to preside at that meeting also and anyone wishing to participate (and hopefully fluent in Norwegian, Swedish, Danish or Finnish) should contact Charles direct on 0534 - 51681.

Elsewhere in this Bulletin are brief details of the invitation we have received from the Swiss Section to attend a combined meeting of the Swiss and French Sections in Sion on weekend 14/15th September.

In his invitation to your Chairman, Marc Bonnet has pointed out that this field is some 20 miles up the Valley from the Eastern end of Lake Geneva and nowhere near Lake Lucerne as stated in our Spring Bulletin. Your Editor is now looking for a weekend course in map reading and navigation!!!

## THE HOME FRONT

While this edition of the Bulletin may seem rather pre-occupied on ambitious ventures abroad, not everything is planned exclusively for the long distance airman. Our next meeting which you should have already received a direct invitation, is the lunch to be held at Leavesden Airfield on Sunday, 31st August. You are welcome to fly-in, drive-in or even stroll-in and all we promise is a good lunch, congenial company with latest news on forthcoming events and an opportunity for you to discuss the programme with particular reference to our own Autumn A.G.M. and Meeting.

This year we hope to arrange this for the weekend 11/12th October and are seeking a suitable Venue. We need a convenient airfield, preferably in the southern half of the country with Hotel accommodation accessible, able to provide up to a dozen double rooms with a lounge or reception room in which we can hold the meeting on Sunday morning. A locally based volunteer member is needed as "contact man" to handle liaison between our members, the Hotel and the airfield. In recent years we have had meetings at Southend, Sandown, Stratford-on-Avon and although Staverton has been suggested, there is no reason why the alliteration should continue so that Hurn or Exeter, Oxford or Coventry would be equally acceptable so long as Customs could be arranged on demand to facilitate the attendance of our Channel Island and Irish Members.



## THE FRENCH CONNECTION

Once again we have received a warm welcome for our members to attend the French International Meeting this time to be held in conjunction with the Swiss Section at Sion on 13/14th September. We have been supplied with VFR approach and landing charts available from Ives Branson or Peter Gresham and some 6 or 7 aircraft are already provisionally proposing to attend. Spare seats are available in a twin from Biggin Hill, from East Midlands and possibly from Bournemouth. If you are interested in coming, please let one of us know (preferably Ives Branson) not later than 31st August to arrange Hotel accommation.

Arrival time is scheduled during Saturday morning for lunch at the Aero Club, followed by a tour of the Ancient town, during which we shall hear a short organ recital from the oldest working cathedral organ in the world. After a reception at 5.00 p.m. by the Mayor, a fellow Rotarian, we shall leave for Hotels to prepare for the evening dinner which judging from past occasions will be a meal to remember.

On Sunday morning a departure in good time for a tour of the magnificent Val d' Anniviers where we shall be taken up a 5,000ft mountain to see the wonderful Swiss scenery and enjoy a "surprise aeronautique". After reception and lunch, back to the airport for the return home. Fuel 100LL, Customs, Met information and RT both in French and English will be available. The bad news is the charge of 200 swiss francs per person which covers everything except your Hotel and even allowing for the decreasing value of sterling, still represents a most reasonable charge for a memorable weekend.

Numbers attending the French meeting rise very year, join us and you will see why.

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION MUNICH - JUNE 1987

Every good Rotarian will be aware that the next R.I. Convention will be held in Germany and is not likely to visit Europe again for many years. The Convention commences officially on Sunday, 7th June but for us the principal event is the I.F.F.R. International A.G.M. to be held on Saturday, 6th June immediately after the first of the Fellowship lunches. Charles Strasser is already hard at work planning a mass fly-over from the U.S.A. assembling in Jersey prior to departure on Friday, 5th June by all the European and U.S. aircraft direct to Munich Airport. For those wishing to travel direct from the United Kingdom, we are exploring an intermediate overnight stop which may be necessary to secure an orderly flow of aircraft in view of the substantial increase of traffic which Munich can expect that weekend.

Provisional accommodation is being arranged for I.F.F.R. members who wish to attend on the outskirts of the City at prices varying from DM 65 for a single room with shower to DM 135 for a double room with bath. Transportation will be provided to the City Centre and Convention events.

Offers please to John Ritchie any evening on 0462-684941 to discuss at the Leavesden Meeting.

A Dinner Dance for I.F.F.R. members and their Guests is being arranged for the Sunday evening at which we can exchange reminiscences and renew old friendships and make some new ones.

We appreciate that some Rotarians whose Clubs are attending in numbers would prefer to stay with their own Club members whereas others who are sole representatives may prefer to take up an I.F.F.R.

reservation. Accommodation at the proposed I.F.F.R. Hotel is extremely limited and it would be of considerable assistance to us if you would complete and return the attached proforma so that we can assess the likely demand.

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL BOOKING FORM AND

DOES NOT COMMIT YOU NOR SECURE ANY RESERVATION

A FURTHER COMMUNICATION WILL BE SENT TO YOU ON RECEIPT  
OF YOUR REPLY.

ROTAL INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - MUNICH - JUNE 1987  
INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF FLYING ROTARIANS

ENQUIRY PROFORMA

THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL RESERVATION OR REGISTRATION FORM  
AND IS FOR I.F.F.R. INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Please complete and tick the appropriate boxes and return it to Peter Gresham, Bedford House, Bedford Road, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells, Kent

1. I intend to participate in the RI Convention and would:-

- (a) prefer to be accommodated with the IFFR party ☐
- (b) prefer to stay with members of my own Rotary Club ☐
- (c) Propose to make my own arrangements for accommodation ☐

2. Please complete only if you have ticked box (a) above  
I require a single-twin bed room-shower and WC-bath  
and WC for the nights 5;6;7;8;9 June 1987

3. I plan to join the IFFR fly-in. My aircraft is a twin/  
single departing from \_\_\_\_\_ with 1;2;3;4;5  
persons aboard and 0;1;2;3;4; spare seats available

4. I would intend to:-

- (a) Join the proposed assembly in Jersey ☐
- (b) Fly direct to Munich ☐
- (c) Stop overnight on 4th June at Strasbourg/Luxembourg  
to arrive on Friday 5th June at Munich ☐

5. Much as I would like to come I should be unable to  
participate in the Munich Convention ☐

Signed.....

(NAME IN BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

Rotarian Peter Gresham  
International Fellowship of  
Flying Rotarians  
Bedford House  
Bedford Road  
Southborough  
Tunbridge Wells  
Kent