

THE ROTATING BEACON

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF FLYING ROTARIANS

UNITED KINGDOM SECTION

SPRING 1987

MEET ME IN MUNICH

The principal preoccupation of Rotary Pilots at the time of going to press is the R.I. Convention to be held in Munich, West Germany. Over 120 IFFR members and guests will be attending the Sunday evening dinner under the Chairmanship of our own Charles Strasser and no fewer than 24 aircraft flown by members are scheduled to make the flight to the International Airfield where special arrangements have been made to ensure that they are accepted in addition to the anticipated busy airline traffic.

The list below gives particulars of the U.K. flying contingent who will be joined by six aircraft to be flown across the Atlantic by American members of IFFR, four more from Germany itself, two each from France & Switzerland, and another one each from Norway & Sweden. Only two years ago IFFR sections did not exist in Germany or Scandinavia, but under the energetic leadership of Charles Strasser the gospel has been spread throughout Northern Europe. Sadly, few will be attending from Italy in spite of the large membership and successful meetings held by them in recent years, but the Alps still provide a formidable barrier to VFR pilots and single-engined aircraft.

Those coming from England will be stopping overnight at Luxemburg on the 5th June in order to stagger arrival times at Munich and although all the available hotel accommodation has been taken up, if you have a last minute urge to join in we suggest that you phone Ives Branson on 0892-29914 or Charles Strasser on 0534-51681 in the hope that someone may have dropped out and made a space for you.

<u>AIRCRAFT</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>WIFE</u>	<u>ROTARY CLUB</u>	<u>STOP</u>
G-ARYF	Ives Branson	-	Southborough	LUX
	Peter Gresham	-	Southborough	
	David Jenkins	Heather	Gower & Llŵchwr	
	Ron Piggott	Marjorie	Weymouth	
G-BAIA	John Barham	Mary	Southend Estuary	LUX
	Bruce Foxall	Susan	Southend Estuary	
	Desmond Scott	-	Southend Estuary	
G-BGXD	Christopher Brown	-	Humberside	LUX
	Ray Redfearn	Audrey	Humberside	
	George Todd	-	Humberside	
G-BMJG	John Ritchie	Mary	Stevenage	LUX
G-PLUS	Charles Strasser	Maureen	Jersey	-
G-BEYL	Graeme le Quesne	-	Jersey	-
G-DASH	Erwin Rodgers	-	Marple & Goyt Valley-	
	Feroz Wadia	Rachel	Edinburgh	

Other U.K. Members will also be travelling by scheduled services.

The IFFR Annual General Meeting will be held at 14.30 local time in the Gelber Salon of the Hotel Bayerischer Hof Promenade Platz 2-6. Directions to the hotel will be posted at the IFFR Booth at the Convention Centre. This Booth will require to be manned throughout the Convention and if you can spare some time to assist your help will be much appreciated. In addition you will have the opportunity of meeting other Pilots from all over the world and to enroll them into our Fellowship.

SPRING RALLY DUXFORD

Perhaps World-War II Fighter planes should have been designed by the late W.T.Piper. We had arranged the Spring Meeting to be held at Duxford Aerodrome, the base of the aircraft section of the Imperial War Museum nedar Cambridge, on their Open Day for "Fire Engines & Fighters". After a morning display of firefighting the afternoon airshow was due to provide displays by a Grumman Bearcat, Curtiss Kittyhawk, Vought Corsair, Mustang, Thunderbolt and Spitfire. The 25kt crosswind with frequent stronger gusts all day played havoc with the tailwheel aircraft and the general public who had turned out in force saw only a brief sortie by two Harvard Trainers and latterly a stately pass or two by the B17 Flying Fortress.

Nonetheless out of only six visiting aircraft four (all Pipers) were flown in quite safely by IFFR members coming literally from North South East & West, to be joined by others arriving by road. In spite of the chill wind, the threatened rain held off to enable everyone to enjoy inspecting the vast collection of military and civilian aircraft comprised in the Museum, all comprehensively labelled and well exhibited.

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IFFR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT as at 1st May 1986
(Reprinted from IFFR World Bulletin April 1987)

Balance brought forward	1st May 1985	\$6,890.89
INCOME		
Dues & gifts less		
bank collection charges	7,991.65	
	TOTAL	\$14,882.54
EXPENSES		
Preparation & Printing		
Directory & Bulletins	7,062.76	
Printing Stationery & forms	145.50	
Postages & Parcel Mailing		
of Directories	3,269.51	
Rent of Post Office Box	53.00	
Secretarial services, phone		
and supplies	1,851.89	
Production 200 Banners	660.70	
Bank cheques printed	27.23	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$13,070.59
BALANCE AT 1st MAY 1986		\$1,811.95

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The Editor is always on the lookout for copy for the Bulletin. If you have any interesting story to tell, news item to report, forthcoming event to notify or even simply a gripe to get off your chest do write and tell us. We don't promise to print it but all contributions are welcome and will help us to give IFFR members what they want in the Bulletin.

WINTER MEETING

At the request of several members attending the A.G.M. at Cheltenham last year, the Winter Meeting was held at the Crest Hotel, South Mimms, Herts. being the nearest hotel to the junction of the M25 and A1 motorways. This succeeded in its principal objective of securing a good attendance although due to the weather only the intrepid Feroz Wadia from Edinburgh actually made the trip by air, travelling in a Piper Commanche 250 and landing at Luton where he was collected by the Chairman.

After assembling on the Saturday afternoon the whole party enjoyed an excellent dinner the leisurely pace of which coupled with a total absence of speeches promoted much fellowship. The members of Wood Green Rotary Club were celebrating their 50th Anniversary in the ballroom of the hotel and the opportunity was taken to convey to them our congratulations on the occasion. On the Sunday morning John Eames from Radlett, one of our members recently retired from flying Concorde gave a most interesting talk well illustrated by slides on the history performance characteristics and general operation of this remarkable aircraft. Suprisingly, it was the wives who had joined us as usual, who asked most of the technical questions concerning loading stalling and fuel transfer techniques while their husbands seemed to be more concerned at the risks to the stewardesses from exuberant passengers in the narrow centre aisle.

The attendance list illustrates the distance that many of those attending had travelled to be present and it was considered by all to have been a most enjoyable and relative inexpensive weekend.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>WIFE</u>	<u>ROTARY CLUB</u>
Norman Brown	Margaret	Weymouth
Ives Branson	-	Southborough
Frank Collins	Audrey	Watford
Cliff Elliott	Joyce	Weymouth
Douglas Green	-	Barnet
Peter Gresham	-	Southborough
Ron Harrison	Denise	Weymouth
David Jenkins	Heather	Gower & Llwrchwyr
Barry Paget	Beryl	Truro
Ron Piggott	Marjorie	Weymouth
John Ritchie	Mary	Stevenage
David Rowe	Gillian	Whitstable
Ray Stebbings	Effie	Hungerford
Feroz Wadia	-	Edinburgh

On the first flight for my Night Rating I looked down in the darkness and asked my instructor what to do if the engine failed. He explained confidently "Establish the best glide angle, make a 'Mayday' call, attempt a restart, head towards what looks most like a clear area and turn into wind. When you get close to the ground turn on the landing light, and if you like what you see, then land". "But what if I don't like what I see", I asked. My instructor turned towards me, smiled, and said softly, "Then turn off the landing light". (With acknowledgements to 'Readers Digest').

SUMMER PROGRAMME

JULY

In order to cater for those unable to make the meetings abroad, we are planning fly-in meetings on two successive weekends. The first at SWANSEA on 25th/26th July will be organised by DAVID JENKINS who has reserved overnight accommodation at the Langrove Motel, close to Swansea Airport on the Gower Peninsula (one of the loveliest parts of South Wales) at the price of £21.70 per head double room or £25.45 single for dinner bed & breakfast. The Rotary Caravan Fellowship will be holding their meeting nearby and offer a warm welcome to fellow IFFR members. There will be a parachute display all day on the airfield so there will be plenty to see and do, but if arriving by air establish radio contact in good time and be prepared to accept a possible hold to accommodate vertical air traffic (and I don't mean Hawker Hunters !) For further details and to book accommodation please phone David Jenkins on 044-128-2811 as soon as possible

AUGUST

The following Saturday, 1st August, an informal fly-in & swim-in will be held (this time in North Wales) at CAERNARVON. Bring your wife or girlfriend (or both) a picnic lunch and a swimsuit but please phone ERWIN RODGERS on 0298-812106 so that he has warning of the numbers expected and can keep contact with the airport authorities. If the weather is lousy on the Saturday and likely to be fine and warm on the Sunday we could consider re-scheduling the event IF we knew you wanted to come. This meeting should be of particular interest to the many IFFR members in the Midlands and North who are looking for something happening locally.

SEPTEMBER

Remember to keep the weekend 12/13th September free. The French Section of IFFR is holding its Annual Meeting that weekend, in conjunction with the Swiss Section, at AVIGNON and details of the programme will be advised as soon as the customary invitation is received. It would assist IVES BRANSON who will be co-ordinating the arrangements if you could inform him now whether you are contemplating joining the party, as this will ensure that we communicate directly with you without the high cost of circulating all our members.

OCTOBER

To round off the season we shall be holding our own A.G.M. at East Midlands on the weekend 3rd/4th October. As usual you will be welcome whether you come by road or air but please notify our Secretary PETER GRESHAM so that advance hotel reservations can be made and the Ladies Programme planned. The weekend will follow the established pattern, assembling on Saturday, dinner together in the evening, and the formal A.G.M. on Sunday morning while the ladies are otherwise provided for. We do try to move our events around the country each year and to hold costs to a reasonable minimum to encourage attendance. Do remember - wives and girl-friends are always welcome to all our meetings and often find a whole new interest in both flying and Rotary when able to discuss their common interest with the other girls present.

ROTAMS

Membership

As some of you may have seen, IFFR inserted an advertisement for members in the April issue of 'Pilot' Magazine, which has already produced enough new members to justify the expense. We welcome among others :

John Studholme, 38 Duffield Rd., Woodley, Reading, Berks

Francis Birch, 4 The Park, Potterhanworth, Lincs

Raymond (Tex) McGuinness, 248 Riverside Rd, Kirkfieldbank, Lanark

Malcolm Hill, Canberra House, Beech Lane, Grasscraft, Oldham, Lancs

Peter Warner, 1, The Granary, Chamberhouse Mill, Thatcham, Berks

Michael Ruggieri, Southmills House, Blunham, Bedfordshire

Membership now stands at over 90 in spite of a few resignations, and we have paid the agreed international subscription of \$5 per head to the IFFR Treasurer in America.

An Airfield is Announced

Congratulations to Philip Irish, one of our longest serving members of IFFR who despite the customary ecological objections has succeeded in persuading the C.A.A. to licence his 520 metre strip near Truro. Details will be in the next issue of Pooleys Guide and in the meantime phone Philip on 0872-560488 if you wish to drop in. He would be pleased to see you.

What Goes Up

To mark his retirement from active farming, IFFR member David Liddiard arranged a record breaking Balloon Meeting on his farm at Marsh Benham near Newbury, Berks. 116 Balloons and an Airship took to the skies on a fine Saturday morning in January with participants coming from as far away as Florida, U.S.A. and landing that day as much as 69 km from the lift-off point. What a way to celebrate -- that was the 'Office Party' to end all office parties !

The Chairman's New Baby

The last edition of the Rotating Beacon told the sad tale of the demise of G-ATAA lost among the sunflowers of Central France after running out of fuel in bad weather on the way to the French IFFR Meeting at Sion. While such an experience might have deterred weaker spirits, the Chairman's lady is made of sterner stuff and provided consolation and encouragement to the joint owners in the form of an excellent dinner party at the end of which, stimulated by memories, mellowed by good food and wine, and armed by receipt of the insurance proceeds, they resolved that another Bird should rise from the ashes of the old. After a search an ex-South African Cherokee Arrow II was found, re-registered in the U.K. as G-BMJG and issued with a new C of A. Now John & Mary are airborne again and learning that in future the call "Check Three Greens" does not simply mean that lunch is ready.

Group Study Exchange grounded

The Board of Directors has ruled that G.S.E. team members when transported by air must always travel by scheduled air services. This decision is the usual response to a fatal accident in Australia in 1985 !