



THE ROTATING BEACON

NEW YEAR 1990 BULLETIN

of the

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP of FLYING ROTARIANS

United Kingdom Section

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL

A letter from the Chairman

Dear Flying Rotarians,

1st December 1989

BOURNEMOUTH FLY-IN 31st MAY - 2nd JUNE 1990

As you are aware, one of our IFFR members, Len Smith # 1365 is currently President of R.I.B.I. It seems highly unlikely that we shall have another of us in such an exalted position in Rotary for many a long year, so it seems appropriate that we should put on a good show in support of Len at the R.I.B.I. Conference in Bournemouth next Spring. To this end the Committee has designated this our Main Event of the year. There will be no organised IFFR participation in the Jersey Rally in 1990.

As well as giving support to Len this will be a first-class opportunity to bring IFFR to the attention of fellow Rotarians and to attract potential new members. Various ideas have been tossed around; some thought that we should do a fly-past in formation over the Conference Centre, and then remembered that few (if any) of us have experience of formation flying, so we promptly forgot that one. If the wind and weather are favourable we might persuade our ballooning members to float along the sea-front with their envelopes suitably draped and hailing the crowds beneath with inspirational Rotary messages ! Alternatively have we any aerobats among our numbers who might be encouraged to give a display in Len's honour ? We looked into the possibility of banner-towing, but looked again into our IFFR coffers and came to the reluctant conclusion that the subscription would not stand that one.

However we DO intend to have an IFFR stand in the Hall of Friendship, with a display of pictures of past IFFR events, and are exploring the facilities available for a video on Learning to Fly, accompanied by a personal-computer simulator on which visitors can try their hand at happy landings. For this we need SUPPORT from as many members as possible to make it worthwhile. Len is having a presentation of "Fellowships" as part of the Conference programme in which we have been invited to participate. We have also received an invitation from IFFR member Ron Harrison for all those flying in to enjoy the facilities of InterAir Aviation at Hurn Airport and hope to arrange a tour of their recently expanded engineering workshops which are now licensed to deal with avionics as well as aircraft.

It would be nice if all IFFR members could stay in the same hotel and be able to do a little hanger-flying after the rigours of the Conference day, as well as help with ground transportation for those wishing to display their aircraft. Nothing can be reserved until we know the numbers involved so please decide NOW that you are coming, advise the Secretary John Ritchie of your accommodation needs, and send us any pictures or other items which would help to promote IFFR. If you can lend us a video or F.C. for the week please say so. If you can spare a couple of hours to man the stall please do so. Above all else, please COME to the Conference.

We rely on your co-operation in this unique exercise - let's go for it

Yours in Aviation Rotary,

David Rowe, Chairman, IFFR-UK

PROGRAMME 1990

- January 27 Committee Meeting at Hurn
- March 17th/18th SPRING MEETING : Leeds/Bradford Airport. Arrive before lunch in time for afternoon visit to the world-famous Museum of the Film. Dinner - informal : no speeches. Sunday morning fly or drive through the Dales. Contact Malcolm Bainbridge 0532-842162 for further details.
- April 27/28/29th WEST GERMAN SECTION SPRING RALLY to be held close to Dusseldorf. Contact Graeme le Quesne 0534-53623 or John Ritchie 0462-684941 for the programme & prices.
- May 18/19/20th *Jersey Air Rally. (NOT an IFFR official event this year but we know that some of you will want to go anyway!)*
- May 31/June 2nd R. I. B. I. CONFERENCE, BOURNEMOUTH. This IS our major event of 1990 with IFFR member Len Smith in the chair as President of R. I. B. I. Help man the IFFR booth in the Hall of Friendship; attend the IFFR U.K. AGM at the Conference (formal notice to follow). BOOK NOW to ensure accommodation at the IFFR Hotel. Contact Ron Piggott on phone or fax 0305-783257 for reservation and Ron Harrison, Interair Aviation 0202-581001 for parking
- June 22/24th ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, Portland, Oregon, USA. For accommodation, aviation information, details of IFFR International AGM, and the chance of a flight trans-America with an IFFR member, contact John Ritchie or Charles Strasser on 0534-74941 AT ONCE.
- July Dates and details of the Italian Section meeting will be advised as soon as published, but please contact Graeme le Quesne with a request for particulars.
- August 25/26th SCANDINAVIAN SECTION MEETING : Trondheim, Norway. This would justify a weeks holiday touring up by air through Holland, Germany, Denmark and back again. Those who attended Odense last year will be sorely tempted. Ask Graeme le Quesne if he can make up a party once more.
- September 8/9th FRENCH SECTION RALLY : Date fixed, venue to be advised.

PLEASE support IFFR by attending at least one of these events this year. For those without easy access to a suitable plane do remember that seats are often available with other members. For those reluctant to try the longer trips remember that there is a wealth of experience available to you on request. If your spouse is unwilling to fly with you there is no shame in going by jet. If you incorporate one of the Rallies as part of a holiday you will have a memorable time among friends at minimal expense to you. SO THAT WE CAN MAKE THE NECESSARY RESERVATIONS AN EARLY REPLY IS VITAL.

The Bordeaux Run - 1989

Six crews from the UK section of IFFR attended the French-organised rally at LIBOURNE, near Bordeaux, over the weekend 8th to 11th September. As might be expected, the French were especially well-represented. There were also participants from Belgium, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. About 100 Rotarians including wives and friends took part in this well-organised and happy meeting. The venue was well-chosen, Libourne-Saint Émilion being at the very heart of the wine-growing area close to the River Dordogne. Wines from this area are famous the world over. The rally was organised by Jean Recullet strongly assisted by Jean-Pierre Thézard of the Rotary Club of Libourne and a great many others.

Here is one members' account of the rally. Barry Paget writes from Cornwall:-

"It was 8.30 on Friday 8th September when we wiped off the heavy dew from Sierra November. She had sat outside the hangar patiently all night on Bodmin airfield in preparation for an early take-off and was all fuelled up and ready. We lifted off the wet grass and headed for Plymouth where we would file a flight plan and clear Customs for our flight to Libourne near Bordeaux to attend the IFFR rally.

'We', in this context, were Mike Stephenson and me, Mike being one of the 3 co-owners of Sierra November. Though not a Rotarian, Mike had accepted my invitation to join me on the flight to France. Our planned route took us via Dinard and thence to Nantes and along the coast towards Bordeaux. At the November Bravo NDB we headed straight for Libourne which came up dead on track, its new bituminous 'piste' looking good in the afternoon sunlight as we made our approach to land. It was 5 pm local time and, by good luck as well as judgement, the time we had actually planned. We were the third aircraft to arrive and were given a warm welcome by Jean-Pierre Thézard who introduced us to his wife and to Jean Recullet, Chairman of the French section and his wife Jacqueline and to various others in the welcoming Committee.

Our bags having been stowed away on a coach we were then free to sit and chat, enjoy our drinks and fellowship while watching the arriving aircraft which proceeded to land in a steady stream for the next two hours. This is the life, I thought, as we sat watching the aircraft landing and taxiing in, to line up one by one in the parking area. Sometime after 8 pm (by which time we were ravenous), we climbed aboard our coach and made for a restaurant (whose name I forget) in the nearby town of Saint-Émilion. The name may be forgettable but the sea-food banquet was not. The table groaned with enormous heaped plates containing every imaginable kind of shellfish. These were preceded by large oval plates containing a dozen oysters- not my favourite food at normal times but being hungry I gulped them down with relish.

It was a jolly and boisterous evening in excellent company and it must have been very late when we re-embarked on the coach for the short journey to our hotel. Fortunately the organisation at the Hotel "Climat de France" was magnificent; absolutely no formalities; each of us was given an envelope containing our room key and in minutes only we were installed and able, speaking for myself, to fall into bed and a deep sleep.

On Saturday the weather was quite promising. After breakfast we set off by coach for a conducted tour of the St Émilion-Lussac district. Jean-Pierre Thézard was both our driver and guide and being himself the proprietor of a prestigious vineyard, he was thoroughly knowledgeable and enthusiastic on the subject of viticulture and viticulture. Our visit coincided with the start of 'la vendange', the harvesting of the grapes and we were fascinated to see the 'gathering' machines working their way along the marvellously neat rows of vines doing the work of heaven knows how many labourers. Our tour culminated at the home of M. Thézard, the Château Lion Perruchon where we gathered round to listen while he explained the art of wine-tasting, following which we were free to enjoy drinking the wine and eating the delightful selection of canapés generously provided by Jean-Pierre and his wife Maguy.

We returned to the airfield to enjoy an excellent lunch in the Flying Club restaurant and to watch demonstrations of flying by the ULM aircraft manufactured on the airfield. We had a short but incredible aerobatic display by one of these tiny aircraft following which several of us dared to have a trial flight. Speaking for myself and once I had got over the shock of finding myself sitting at 500' surrounded by air and nothing to hold onto except the stick, terror quickly changed to pure exhilaration. One could easily get hooked on this type of sport flying.

I was also able to enjoy, at the invitation of John Donne, some circuits in his delightful Beech Duchess, with which I became so engrossed that we missed joining the rest of the group on their conducted tour of the town of St Emilion. John and I lost 10 Brownie points for this lapse but it was worth it. Thanks a million, John. In any event, we joined up with them again in time to visit the magnificent historic Château de Pressac for further talks on the subject of wine-making processes.

Then it was back to our hotel for a quick change of clothes before embarking once more by coach for the Chateau de Vayres, the former home of King Henry IV, where we enjoyed aperitifs before assembling in the grand hall for a formal dinner. It was an evening of many speeches, including a very able address delivered in French by John Ritchie, without the aid of any notes. Well done, John!

All in all, Saturday 9th September was what you might call a full day!

Sunday morning dawned with unpromising weather and a worse forecast. The visibility was poor but happily the rain held off. At 9.15 precisely our coach departed for the Château des Laurets where we were able to witness a colourful, ceremonial meeting of the Collège des Echevins (The Brotherhood of Vintners?) de Lussac Saint Emilion et de Puisseguin Saint Emilion. This was both dignified and impressive and culminated, to our great surprise and delight, in the bestowing of honorary membership of the Brotherhood on several distinguished IFFR officers. Each in their turn, John Ritchie, Carlo Vanoni, Jean Recullet, Charles Strasser and Marc Bonnet, clad in flowing red robes, were duly installed and presented with a beautifully-framed, illuminated certificate; their names being inscribed for posterity in a massive bound register. The Château des Laurets provided a magnificent setting for this memorable event and I think we would all have liked to have been able to spend more time wandering round and viewing this lovely old house.

Everything after that had to be an anti-climax. We returned to the airfield in time to witness the official opening of the new runway by Armand Lotti, a well-known French aviation pioneer, who flew the Atlantic only one year after Charles Lindberg made his famous solo crossing in 'Spirit of St Louis'. The opening ceremony was followed by cocktails and lunch. Unfortunately things were rather overshadowed by the dull weather and the anxiety of most crews to get away before the threatened thunderstorms arrived. Although some crews had intended to stay Sunday night, because of the uncertain weather they changed their minds and in the event only Mike and I remained.

We said farewell to all our friends and watched rather sadly as their aircraft departed until by 3 pm the field was deserted. Only Sierra November was left, looking lonely on the grass parking area, where a short time before she had been surrounded by a mass of other aircraft. Never mind! It had been another good IFFR weekend and we are all deeply grateful to those whose organisation of this event ensured that it went off without a hitch. Roll on our next get-together!

Apart from ourselves those attending from the UK were John Ritchie and Mary, from Elstree, with their son George and his wife Caroline, Charles Strasser arrived from Jersey in his twin Seneca II with his guests Roger and Carrol Thebault, Feroz Wadia, temporarily sans wings of his own, flew down by shuttle to Manchester to join Erwin Rogers and Roger Harrison flying the Rockwell. From Edinburgh also came John Donne and his co-pilot Enad in the Beech Duchess twin, while from Coventry came Roy Carey and Brian Russell in their Beech Sierra. Except that they came round the long way, having flown first to Rimoni in Italy where Roy had to attend a business meeting and thence to Elba, Cannes and Libourne. Surely a story in itself, worthy of more than the foregoing bald outline. "

EPILOGUE

Despite the weather, all arrived home safely, though each with their story to tell. Erwin's aircraft developed a burst exhaust over the Channel and he had to make a SRA down to 300 ft into Guernsey. That meant an unscheduled night stop and yet another scheduled flight for Feroz who had to leave for Heathrow and shuttle back to Edinburgh. Barry and Mike flew back on the Monday bound for Plymouth but for weather reasons were diverted away from Dinard to cross the Channel at Cherbourg and thence along the coast in the most filthy thunderstorm to carry out an NDB approach into Plymouth. There they had to abandon Sierra November and go by taxi to Bodmin airfield which was already clogged in. Ah well! Its all part of (IFFR) life's rich tapestry...

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF FLYING ROTARIANS
United Kingdom Section

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 1988/89

	1989	1988
Income		
Subscriptions & donation	1077.00	990.00
Less International subscriptions	<u>561.25</u>	<u>453.25</u>
	515.75	536.75
Sales of ties badges etc	96.50	50.80
Bank interest	<u>21.05</u>	<u>11.96</u>
Total	633.30	599.51
Expenditure		
Meeting expenses	25.00	113.64
Purchases		220.46
Donation (E. Darlow memorial)	10.00	100.00
Postages, phones & Fax	116.93	142.11
Printing & copying - Bulletins	333.45	222.58
Membership Directory	173.15	
Advertising	80.50	
Stationery	<u>49.89</u>	<u>7.70</u>
Total	788.92	806.49
EXCESS of Expenditure over Income	(155.62)	(206.98)

BALANCE SHEET 30/9/89

Balances at Bank			
Deposit a/c	284.93		
Current a/c	200.64	485.57	799.49
Stock of ties at cost		136.40	214.34
Sundry debtors	119.50		
Less creditors	<u>38.00</u>	<u>81.50</u>	<u>(76.80)</u>
Net Assets		703.47	937.03

N.B. As a pin badge is given on receipt of the initial subscription the cost of the current stock of badges has been written off.

BUDGET 1989/90

Estimated income : 90 subs @ £12	1080
Less IFFR int. sub @ \$1.55=£1	<u>697</u>
Net income	383
Anticipated expenditure :	
Bulletins 500	
Secretarial 50	
RIBI AGM <u>100</u>	<u>650</u>
Shortfall	270

John D. Ritchie
Secretary/Treasurer

R. J. Harrison
Hon. Auditor

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY 1990

Every member of the U.K. Section of IFFR should have received copies of both the International and U.K. Section Directories. In view of the number of new members who have joined since the U.K. Directory was published we have prepared a supplemental list which follows. This has been prepared in a format which will enable you to detach the last sheet of this Bulletin, and by trimming the outside edge of the page the additional list can be fitted into your Directory. Any member requiring an additional copy of the original U.K. Directory is requested to add £1 to his membership renewal to cover the printing cost. Ties in blue or wine colour are still available at £3.50 each inclusive of postage, and we are expecting a delivery of more pin badges at £1.25 each inc p.&p.

IFFR U.K. Section Supplemental Membership List 1990

BONWITT, Danny (Barbara) Catering Equipment Distributor
B.A. 5, Kingston Business Centre, Chessington, Surrey
Phone 01-391-4099 Fax 01-391-4529
H.A. Birch Cott, The Hamlet, Potten End, Berkhamsted HP4 2RD 044-286-2974
Club: Berkhamsted Bulbourn (Tues 8.00 pm) Airfield: -

BOWERS, Robert H. (Heike) Engraver
B.A. R.E. Bowers & Freeman Ltd, 15, Saffron Rd, South Wigston, Leics.
Phone 0533-785311 Fax 0533-779544
H.A. 49, Springfield Crescent, Kibworth Beauchamp, Leicester LE8 0LJ
Phone 0533-792503
Club: Wigston (Mon 12.45 pm) Airfield: Leicester

CHAPMAN, Kenneth (Kathleen)
B.A. Chapman & Co (Diss) Ltd, Carmel Works, Denmark St. Diss, Norfolk IP22
3AS Phone 0379-651051 Fax 0379-650126
H.A. Cotswold Cottage, Stuston, Diss, Norfolk, IP21 4AD Phone 0379-740726
Club: Diss & District Airfield: Eye/Ipswich

CLARK, Angus (Alisma) Man. Director
B.A. Hepworth Refractories, Genefax House, Tupton Park Rd, Sheffield
H.A. Stonesvale, Limsfield Common, Oxted, Surrey. Phone 0883-713728
Club: Titsey (Wed 7.30 pm) Airfield: Biggin Hill

DEAMER, T.L. (Margaret) Director
B.A. & H.A. 65, Catherine St., St. Albans, Herts. Phone 0727-51021
Club: Berkhamsted Bulbourn (Tues 8.00 pm) Airfield: Elstree

DONNE, John (Licia) Marine Agent
B.A. Donne Enterprises, 36, Grindlay St, Edinburgh EH3 9AP
Phone 031-229-6697 Fax 031-229-8804
H.A. 20, Queensferry Terrace, Edinburgh Phone: 031-332-0687
Club: Edinburgh (Thurs 12.45 pm) Airfield: Glenrothes, Fife.

FROST, James (Elsie)
B.A. The Frost Group Plc, Walton Lodge, Aylesbury, Bucks
Phone 0296-436661 Fax 0296-26857
H.A. The Old Rectory, Cuddington, Aylesbury, Bucks Phone 0844-290768
Club: Aylesbury (?? 12.45 pm) Airfield: Oxford (Kidlington)

FUNNELL, Rodney E. (Elizabeth) Architect
B.A. Station Approach, Southgate, Chichester, West Sussex PD19 26A
Phone 0243-786221 Fax 0243-784419
H.A. 1, Raughmere Court, Raughmere Drive, Lavant, Chichester PD18 0DT
Phone 0243-527766
Club: Chichester (Tuesday 12.45 pm) Airport: Goodwood

HUGGINS, Geoffrey D. (Diane) Director, Photographic Processing,
B.A. Unit 4, Surrey Close, Granby Ind. Estate, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 9TY
Phone 0305-774098
H.A. 4, Rymbury, Preston, Weymouth, Dorset, DT3 6DP Phone 0305-833573
Club: Melcombe Regis (Wed 7.30 pm) Airfield: Bournemouth, Hurn.

McGRAV, Brian (Ruth) Financial Adviser
B.A. & H.A. 58, Glenfield Drive, Gt. Doddington, Wellingborough, Northants,
NN9 7TE Phone -
Club: Wellingborough (Mon 12.45 pm) Airfield: Sywell

MULHALL Martin J. (Helen) Restaurateur/Master Baker
B.A. 6, High St., Kilkenny, Ireland, Phone 056-21329
H.A. Elmira, Kilkenny, Ireland, Phone 056-21843
Club: Kilkenny (Mon 1.00 pm) Airfield: Kilkenny

SNOOK Allan R. (Joyce) Farmer/Butcher
B.A. & H.A. Deanwood Farm, Stockcross, Newbury, Berks Phone 0635-43850
Club: Hungerford (Tues 12.30 pm) Airfield: -

STRAWFORD Brian F. (Jill) Holiday Park Proprietor
B.A. & H.A. Llynfi Holiday Park, Llangorse Lake, Brecon, Powys, LD3 7TR
Phone 0874-84283
Club: Brecon (Mon 1.00 pm) Airfield: Shobdon

THOMPSON, David S.F. (Joan) Furniture Manufacturer
B.A. Charta Furniture Ltd., Westhampnett Mill, Chichester, West Sussex PD18
0NP Phone 0243-787081 Fax: 0243-533107
H.A. The Mill House, Westhampnett, Chichester, West Sussex PD18 0NR
Phone 0243-786732
Club: Chichester (Tues 1.00 pm) Airfield: Goodwood

WARDROBE, Danny (Elizabeth) Airport Manager
B.A. Bobbington Estates Ltd., Halfpenny Green Airport, Bobbington,
Stourbridge, DY7 5DY Phone 038-488-350
H.A. 10, Ludlow road, Bridgnorth, Shrops, WV16 5AF Phone 0746-766698
Club: Bridgnorth (? 1.00 pm or 7.30 pm) Airfield: Halfpenny Green

YATES, Alan (Kath) Hotelier
B.A. & H.A. Bull Hotel, Chapel St., Abergyle, Clwyd LL22 7AW
Phone 0745-832115
Club: Abergyle (Tues 1.00 pm) Airfield: Caernarvon

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