

The **Rotating Beacon**



Tony and Rosi over France

Enjoy our reports insides from around UK, Europe and USA

Help us make membership to IFFR awesome

You provide the transport, we provide the refreshments and the sights!

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A letter from the President



Dear Members, I wrote to you recently to share with you details of our programme of events for 2020. I hope you've had a chance to have a look and see what appeals to you. But if not, you'll find the details below.

Annual Meeting

Hopefully you've got the weekend of 26 – 29 June marked firmly in your calendar for our meeting in Lincoln. Within easy reach for all, in the centre of the country, this will be a great opportunity to mix flying, fellowship and fine food! If you've not yet booked in, you can find the details on our website here.

“Midweek Meetings”

We have now rolled out our programme of one day social meetings, some on Wednesdays, and some on Saturdays. Again, full details on the IFFR.UK website.

The first of this year's meetings is on Wednesday 4 March, and will be at Redhill, just north of Gatwick airport. Used as a Spitfire base during World War Two, it's still an interesting and picturesque place to visit, and the Pilot's Hub café is – to quote their website (<https://www.pilotshub.co.uk/>) more than just great food. For those able to make it, aim to arrive close to noon, giving us an opportunity for lunch together, to look around (it's still home to a LOT of interesting aircraft) and to return home from around 3pm. If planning to attend, please contact John Davy at john.w.davy@icloud.com.

Hope to see you there.

Autumn Get-together

After a number of very successful and happy meetings for Christmas Lunch at the RAF Club in December, the Committee has concluded that it's time to consider a new format for our second big meeting of the year (after our Annual Meeting). We recognise the challenges for many of our members of getting to London in December, and that the costs of attending (allowing for travel and possible overnight stay, in addition to the lunch) are rising.

STOP PRESS

A response to the challenges set by Covid19 from President Tony

The consensus of the Committee is that we cancel everything up until the end of April. Will re-evaluate Lincoln and other events toward the back end of April. If a decision is made to cancel Lincoln before the end of April we will only lose the £300 for the Washingborough dinner, £75 deposit for the musician and £40 for bags spent so far - 15th March 2020.

So, this year, we are looking to try a format that we hope will appeal to members all around the country – although it may be said to be going back to what we did a number of years ago.

The plan is that we will meet at Sywell, Northamptonshire, on Sunday 20th September, aiming to arrive between 10.00 and 11.00 hrs so that we can join the second day of their famous 'Piston and Propellers' festival. This combines historic racers, hot rods and motorbikes with classic planes and vintage music to create a fantastic two-day event, celebrating classic motoring on the ground and in the air. You can watch amazing live action on the transformed 'Racing Runway' and 'Sprint Strip' with iconic Formula 1 cars, Hot Rods, Dragsters and Motorcycles all in action throughout the weekend. And up in the skies; expect to see a variety of breath taking aerial displays & acrobatics from a variety of display teams. We've put a little video of what you can expect at Piston and Propellers at the bottom of the page on the website here.

Whilst you can just join us for the day, we will be making a mini-break of it, staying over at the classic art deco Aviator Hotel at the airfield and with an evening of IFFR fellowship as we dine close by. Initial expectations are that the cost will be landing fee, with hotel rooms £75 per room plus breakfast, and dinner at your choice. So, come on the Sunday, and return home on the Monday morning. For those driving, it's just off the M1 at Northampton. Full details to follow shortly.

I hope that we will see you all at one of our events soon.

Best wishes

Tony Flinn

UK Section President

Feedback Opportunity

To follow up on these forthcoming events, we on the IFFR UK Committee are keen to know if we are hitting the mark and giving our members what they want, or to find out if folks have any queries. So, over the next month, we will be running a telephone exercise to reach out to all our members to find out their views on the proposed programme and get their feedback, to gauge what sorts of levels of support we are likely to get this year, and to find out if there are other activities that you would like us to arrange.

If for example, you'd like to come to some of the events, either in the UK or one of the European events, but need support with transport (land or air), do let us know and we can investigate the art of the possible. Part of that is knowing if you still fly, would like to fly, or would like to connect with us in other ways.

If you look at our website, you will see, for example, that we've provided details on how you might make "weekend city breaks" out of the European events, even if you are not flying yourself, with suggestions of how to get there by other means.

IFFR is your Fellowship. We want to offer you events you will enjoy. So, we do encourage you to look at what we have planned now and to make the time for a call from one of Feroz Wadia, Peter Jude or me. Hopefully that way we can do more to make IFFR the fellowship you want it to be.

Best wishes, and many thanks.

Tony Flinn
UK Section President

Meet the Committee

Although IFFR UK section is a Limited Company a group of 11 people comprise the committee who effectively run the organisation.

Brief biographies follow.

President Tony Flinn

Tony is based at Sandtoft and flies a rather mature PA28 181 Archer II. His wife Rosi, also an IFFR member is a regular participant. The PA28 was chosen as it allows access for a disabled pilot. Most pilots are familiar with the PA28 Cherokee as it usually does the job! Tony gained his PPL in 2016 and has 400 hours as PIC.



Immediate Past President Peter Jude

Peter Gained PPL April 1986, & later IMC, current hours 1108.

Piper Cherokee 140 (PA 28) 160HP G-GCAT. Manufactured 1969. Had full respray & new engine in 2011. I am the registered owner but run the aeroplane as "GROUPCAT", 3 pilots with each of us having equal shares. I have been part of "GROUPCAT" for 23 years. Previously based at Humberside (EGNJ) but moved to Wickenby (EGNW) in 2019 where she continues to be hangered. Avionics etc are updated with maintenance carried out by TLAC at Lt Snoring an excellent company.

Originally living in Norfolk I flew from Lt Snoring flying 3 different Ralleys Cessna 150s & a PA28. Other types flown C172, Grob Tutor and C182. Having moved to Lincolnshire & meeting 2 pilots based at Humberside they invited me to purchase a share in G-GCAT which turned out to be a great move. I then started the "going further afield" venturing abroad and enjoying that wonderful experience of flying yourself. Within this group, pilots have moved on. I have found it essential to ensure that a prospective new member understands the way we work which is to respect each other and of course respect the aeroplane & to treat her as your own.

I have flown to many countries across Europe, flown in Florida & had a day floatplane flying in Canada from Vancouver with an instructor. We were spending Christmas there with relatives. This is & I hope the only time I will experience a total engine failure. Below me was of course a choice of many places to land (lakes) & then paddle to the nearest bank! As soon as the emergency occurred all the training kicked in & despite the instructor asking me if I wanted him to take over the answer was "no" & I did a pearly, hardly a splash (well that's my account)!



Treasurer Paul Howell

Paul Flies a Cessna Cardinal 177. Paul was recently elected to Parliament being returned in Tony Blair's old constituency of Sedgefield. "given my last couple of months G-BRDO is fairly appropriate: Get BrexitDone." Why this one? As a new pilot wanted it to be local with good access and 4 seats, nothing any more scientific than that.



Feroz Wadia

I now fly a Kit-built Czech SportCruiser, Piper Sport, PS28 or whatever other names it may go by. The same aircraft if factory built would operate under EASA rules with the commensurate costs. Being kit-built it operate under LAA rules -- a much less bureaucratic, simpler and more economical regime.

Raye does smile when I say we now own 1/3 of an aircraft as our Bonanza had six seats and we now have two, we did have a gross weight of nearly 1800 Kilos and now have 600, carried 456 litres of Avgas and now carry 114 of Morrisons Mogas. Finally the two year old SportCruiser cost us exactly 1/3 of what we paid for the 25 year old Bonanza.

As we only plan to fly to IFFR meetings in Europe we now accept the slower cruise speed. Admittedly it did take 19.9 hours of flying to get us to Vilnius and back but then we are retired so what is the hurry!

Duncan Moffat Editor of the Rotating Beacon

Duncan is a friend of IFFR and non-pilot. He does fly however and this message came through recently:

Hi

787 Dreamliner 17hrs Baggage class

Lots of Turbulence and toilet noises!

Then after a 2 hour refuelling stop in Perth another 3 hours to Melbourne

Crew and service Great

Now in recovery mode



Angus Clark

I started flying some 30 years ago. It was the result of what Alisma says was the most expensive birthday present she has ever bought me. This was two trial lessons at a flying school at Biggin Hill near where we lived at that time. One day we were driving in Kent and came across Headcorn Airfield. We saw a Robin taking off. Alisma said – “You know if we ever have an aircraft it will be one of those.”

So, it was in 1992. We bought our first Robin G-BHLH. This trusty stead took us to our first IFFR event outside the UK to La Baule in Brittany. It also took us on a memorable trip back from a Scandinavian Section meeting in Norway over the North Sea to Aberdeen. It had a peculiarity in that it did not have foot brakes - only an umbrella pull handle. It caught a number of engineers out!! Initially unbeknown to me Alisma took pinch hitter lessons to be able to land the aircraft. She went on to get her PPL and an IMC rating. She did this on the condition that I took up golf – I readily admit that she was a better pilot than I was ever a golfer! By having a shared interest in flying we have been able to do so much more.

G-BHLH was replaced by G-JBDH in 1999. This has been part of the family since then. It has been to Malta twice, to deepest Finland, to Southern Spain and to the Ukraine. That resulted in another epic day of flying getting home to Netherthorpe in by eight in the evening on the same day. It has taken us all over Europe, by the last count, to 26 countries. IFFR, as an extension of Rotary, has been the most brilliant organisation for us to members of.



George Ritchie

George learned to fly at Luton airport in the late 1970s, cycling 13 miles to the airport as he didn't yet have his driving licence.

A Piper man through and through, in 1981 George joined his father and sister in the family group when it had a PA28C, G-ATAA. Having been left upside down in a field near Paris by George's father John, they progressed to a PA28R Arrow, G-BMJG. When Katherine and Emma were born, the family decided to trade up to something larger so the three generations could fly together. They acquired the PA32 300 which John registered G-IFFR.



George and Caroline met when both were in Rotaract, and attended their first IFFR meeting in 1989 with George's parents. This was at Libourne, Bordeaux, where they enjoyed the visit to the caves at St. Emilion rather more than the dedication of the new tarmac runway, marked by interminable speeches in French! Plus ça change

After far too long in Round Table, and a number of years as an Honorary IFFR member, George is now President of Westminster International Rotary Club – 28 members, 15 nationalities, 60% female and with an average age in the mid/late-40s. A great place to do Rotary.

IFFR UK Webmaster George

With the 2019 season of IFFR flying events in Europe over, planning for 2020 is now well underway. Hopefully you already have the date in your diaries for the main UK Section meeting in Lincoln (26 – 29 June). But have you seen that our fellow IFFR members across Europe are now starting to announce their plans for 2020 – with most of the dates and venues now known? We want to keep you all up to date as best we can, so I've been updating our UK section website (www.iffir.uk) with the details known so far, and will continue to do so as and when we receive more information.

If you are wanting to spread your wings abroad next year, have a look at what's in store on the "Non-UK Events" page. I've tried to make it more modern, more dynamic and more interesting by including a map with all the details you need:

Hover your cursor over one of the location "pins" and it will tell you the dates

Click on one of the pins and it will open a pop-up window (give it just a few seconds to do so) with all the details you need, pictures, and in some cases, promotional videos

And if you might be thinking of going to the World Convention in Hawaii, or the Golden FlyAway in California before it, scroll the map left to find the details.

This is all "home built", and we are trying it out. Mostly it works, but I've had feedback from some Apple users that it's a bit clunky and sometimes won't open the pop-up pages. But do give it a go and let me know if you have problems. If the map doesn't work for you, you can see the main details of the various meetings set out below the map. We want to make it all as interesting and informative as we can for you, so do bear with us as we try to master the technology.

Not being a pilot, not having access to a plane or not wanting to fly so far needn't be a bar to participating in these European meetings. We'd love for you to join us for some great Rotary IFFR fellowship. So, "new for 2020", in the pop-up windows, I've included suggestions of how you might get to events if you are not flying yourself. IFFR meetings are great weekend "city breaks" with interesting aviation related activities and with likeminded people.

For example, if not flying yourself:

For the Benelux meeting, why not take the Eurostar to Amsterdam and then a short local train ride; or for the German section meeting in Potsdam, take a low cost flight to Berlin (right now flights with Ryanair are only about £30 per person!); or for the Scandinavian meeting, a low cost flight to Billund.

Finally, we've updated the other pages too – in particular, if you've not received your recent copy of The Rotating Beacon, you will find it on the newsletters page.

I hope you find this useful – do remember to check back on IFFR UK from time to time to see what's going on!

Best wishes to you all.

George
IFFR UK Webmaster





Germany / Austria Invitation

Fly-In Potsdam May 1st – 3rd 2020

Dear Friends,

In May 2020 the city of Potsdam is on our agenda:

Capital of Brandenburg...Water City in between the Brandenburg lakes land....many reasons to fly-in to Schönhagen (EDAZ now with GPS approach) visiting Potsdam

On Friday afternoon we will start with an exciting sightseeing tour to give you an overview of the booming city with a population of around 180.000 people.

On Saturday we will join a presentation in the Urania Planetarium followed by the visit of Park of Science of Potsdam including the famous Einstein Tower.

After lunch downtown an a short walk through the gardens of Sanssouci our next highlight will be the world of Prussians Kings – the Castle of Sanssouci.

To enjoy our gala dinner on Saturday evening we will board the “Fridericus Rex”, a salon ship built in 1927 which will cruise exclusively for us on the Lake of Templin.





Lunch at the RAF Club

Annual Lunch at the RAF Club in December 11th 2019

The splendid venue of the RAF Club on Piccadilly played host to another excellent Lunch. 64 people took part with members and guests from all parts of Europe including Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, The Netherlands, France and Italy.

Old acquaintances were re-established and new ones made during the drinks reception.

We were treated to an excellent presentation by Aerobility representatives Harvey Matthewson and Werner Stroud. Harvey, a recent PPL, who has Cerebral Palsy, gave an interesting overview of the activities and aims of the Charity. An auction of a painting of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight by yours truly was won by Dutch IFFR member Han Klinkspoor who paid handsomely and very generously. All proceeds went to Aerobility and in total we were able to donate £1,280.

Thanks again to Diana Green-Davy and John Davy for organising this excellent event.



Lincoln Fly-in

26-29th June 2020

We are delighted to invite you to our main weekend Fly-In in 2020. We will fly into Wickenby Aerodrome on 26th June. Wickenby is 12 miles from the Historical City of Lincoln in the county of Lincolnshire in the East of England.



Wickenby, a Former RAF base whose 626 Squadron's Lancaster Bombers played a large part in the bomber offensive, took part in many of the major raids from 1942-45. The airfield is home to RAF Wickenby Memorial Collection which includes the Museum and Archive based in the old Watch Office. We will have a buffet lunch, talk and tour of the Museum before short coach ride to the Hotel in Lincoln at 4pm.



Visit our website www.iffr.org.uk for application form

Pooley's plate for Wickenby Aerodrome.

Pilot information:

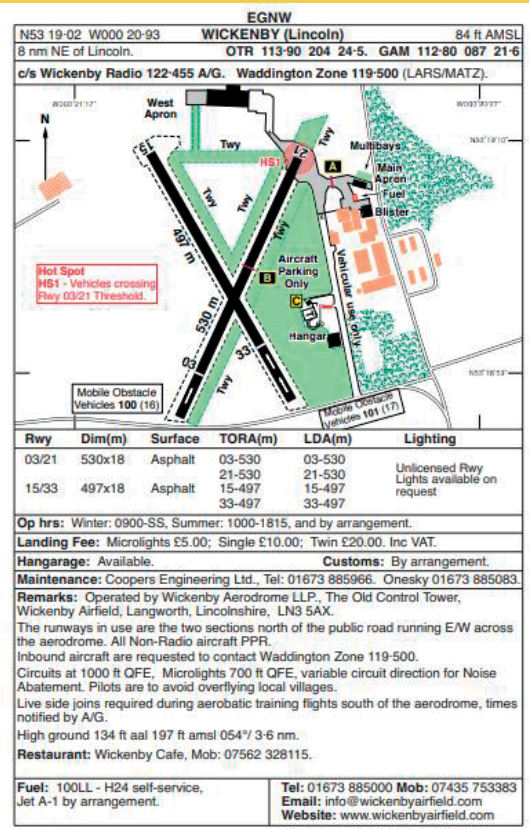
Flight Plan and General Aviation Report (GAR) are required for international incoming flights. Both SkyDemon and RocketRoute have the facility to file a GAR. These should be submitted 4 hours in advance for arrivals from an EU country, 24 hours in advance for non EU countries and 12 hours in advance for the Channel Islands, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. If this is done there is no requirement to land at a “Customs Airfield” prior to landing at Wickenby.

Please consult

<http://www.wickenbyairfield.com> for further airfield information and joining instructions. Former Chairman Peter Jude is based at Wickenby and is available for any queries you may have:
Home Tel. 00441754273104,
Mobile 00447807901749
email peterfjude@gmail.com

For those aircraft requiring longer runways nearby Sturgate EGCS (820m) or Humberside EGNJ (2196m) may be suitable.

See <http://www.lincolnaeroclub.co.uk/> or <https://www.humbersideairport.com/>. Transport from/to these alternative arrival points can be arranged. For those wishing to come by commercial airline, East Midlands, Humberside or Doncaster Sheffield Airports are all within range and transport from these hubs can be arranged. Further information is available on request from the organisers.



The Lincoln Imp is a ‘grotesque’ on a wall inside Lincoln Cathedral and it has become the symbol of the city.

A legend tells of it being a creature sent to the cathedral by Satan, only to be turned into stone by an angel.



On Saturday 27th at 10.00 we get a coach from the hotel up the Hill to the historical centre of Lincoln. Rotarians may wish to walk rather than coach up but Steep Hill is not inappropriately named! We begin with a tour of the Cathedral Quarter before visiting the magnificent Cathedral, which commenced construction in 1072 and was the tallest building in the world for 200 years.

After lunch an independent visit to the castle is planned. The Castle dates back to 1068 and a provides a chance to see a copy of the Magna Carta, a document written in 1215. 'The Great Charter', is one of the most important documents in history as it established the principle that everyone is subject to the law, even the king, and guarantees the rights of individuals, the right to justice and the right to a fair trial, written well before the much lauded US declaration of Independence.

After a period of free time in the afternoon we reconvene for Dinner in the Hotel. Transport back down the hill to the hotel has been arranged for 4pm.

On Sunday we will visit the International Bomber Command Centre on the southern outskirts of the City, leaving the hotel at about 11.00am. After a tour of the facility we will have a buffet lunch and a talk. Transport has been arranged back to the hotel at 3pm.

The Battle Tank was invented in Lincoln during the First World War and a Mk IV female tank is on show at the Museum of Lincolnshire Life for those who wish to cram even more into their spare time on either Saturday or Sunday:

The UK section AGM will take place at 5pm on Sunday 28th June in the Doubletree Hotel followed by the Gala Dinner at Washington Hall from 7pm. (Coaches at 6.30pm)

Transport back to the hotel at 11pm.

Rotarians and guests will depart from Wickenby on Monday 29th. Coach leaving the hotel at 9.30.



Pre-Convention Fly Away - California & Nevada

GEORGE CHAFFEY

The 2020 Pre-Hawaii Convention Fly-Away - Friday May 29 through Thursday June 4 - will be centered in the San Francisco Bay Area. It will include some of the most beautiful and diverse places in California and Nevada.... And you never have to move... each day ends up back at our hotel.

The FlyAway is limited to 52 participants. Cost is \$1,100 per person.

First come-First served... for the first 52 who register and pay.

There are a few slots still available.

IFFR has a block of rooms at the Crown Plaza hotel in Concord; registrants make their room reservations directly with the hotel.

May 29 Welcome dinner.

May 30 San Francisco

May 31 Carmel, California Coast

June 1 Gold Rush Country

June 2 San Francisco/ Sierra Nevada Mts., Lake Tahoe

June 3 Sacramento

June 4 Napa Valley Wine Country, Closing dinner

To register and pay, contact Steve Henderson.

Pay by:

- (1) Cheque - made out to IFFR
sent to Steve Henderson, 561 Auto Center Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076) or
- (2) PayPal to ifframericas@gmail.com using "send money to friends or family", or
- (3) Credit card info (you can give Steve credit card information over the phone).
Steve Henderson (831) 818-1488.

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International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians

PPLs WANTED

If you enjoy this magazine, why not join our fellowship.
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Not a Rotarian?

You can become a friend of the International Fellowship
of Flying Rotarians and enjoy the fly-ins.

Organised events are held throughout the flying season and valuable help is
on hand from members if it's your first time anywhere.

Just visit our website for more information

www.iffrr.org.uk

We look forward to meeting you!

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