



# Bournemouth Flying Club Newsletter

Spring 2008

## Hail and Farewell.....

**Tony Erwood was elected Club President at the AGM on 17 January. Tony has been a club member for several years, and has served as a committee member in various roles.** His interest in aviation began as a pupil at nearby Oakmead School, watching jet aircraft flying overhead. He joined the Air Training Corps as a cadet and eventually became the Officer Commanding a local ATC Squadron. A career as RAF aircrew was denied him, (*Ed—was he too tall for the standard cockpit?!*) but he pursued his interest in aviation by becoming a blacksmith with British Aircraft Corporation at Hum, involved in the production of the BAC 1-11, Concorde and Tornado.

His career then took on a completely different direction when he joined Dorset Police, serving in various roles through the country over the next 30 years. He retired in 2004 and has become actively involved as a volunteer in various organizations such as SSAFA, (Soldiers,

and Sailors Air Forces Association) Dorset Reclaim and Bournemouth Aviation Museum. Although he is not a qualified pilot, Tony has many hours logged in powered aircraft, gliders and even in hot air balloons and is, therefore, well qualified to take on the role of Club President.

## And Not Quite Farewell.....

**We extend our thanks to Bill Field and his committee for the sterling work put in over the last year during his presidency.** There was a wide variety of visits, social events and flying competitions and the level of participation was encouragingly high. In addition the Club raised over £600 for his chosen charity, The Dorset Air Ambulance Trust. Bill hopes to organize the presenta-

tion of a cheque to one of the helicopter crews if they can manage a training mission to BFC on a Thursday club night. More on this to follow. Thanks Bill and we are pleased you will continue on the Committee as Vice President for the coming year, and BFC/BCFT liaison which among other duties will involve the organization of flying events. Any ideas? Tell Bill - he wants to hear from you!



President Tony Erwood

Following his election Tony said "I am keen to move the club forward, to introduce new ideas, but to maintain the traditions that have been built up over the years and which are valued by our members, so that the club develops into the club you expect"

We wish Tony and his committee every success for the coming year, and with the active support of the membership, our expectation is for a *great* year ahead.

Tony's charity for the year will be announced in due course.

**Inside Story -**  
Colin Morris is overall winner of photo competition



## Your New Committee

President:	Tony Erwood
Vice President and BFC/BCFT Coordinator	Bill Field
Treasurer	Sally Hargrave
Assistant Treasurer	Sue Whitmarsh
Secretary	Mark Wigmore
Events Coordinator	Terry Trevett
Assistant Events Coordinator	Terry Mobley
Membership Secretary	Tony Griffin
Restaurant Liaison	Peter Ebbins
Newsletter Editor	Ron Clarke

## Membership Update

Tony Erwood has sent a notice to all members explaining the changed status of the premises in which BFC (Social) meets. This should have little or no impact on our activities and we will continue to enjoy the convivial (and happily smoke-free) atmosphere that we have appreciated over the years.

If you are reading your personal copy of this Newsletter you have probably paid your subscription, but if you have slipped through the net, then accept this as a reminder that it was due by the end of February and it is £10 per person per year, or £15 per person per new member in the first year, reverting to £10 thereafter. **We want more members!** Your President's expectations are that the club goes from strength to strength, delivering quality club evenings and events to the membership. There will be a structured approach which will be developed so that you will see regular, but varied events, throughout the year. Don't be mean, share it all with like minded friends and acquaintances. **Recruit a new member** - the bigger the membership the more revenue to spend on events! Go on, persuade someone!

## Forthcoming Events

**Bournemouth Red Arrows Association**  
(Every 2nd Tuesday in the month at 1945)  
**Bournemouth Flying Club**  
(Every Thursday in the month at 1930)

- Monday March 3rd - Ferndown ATC Presentation night.
- 11 March - A Presentation by Paul Kingsbury
- 13 March - Member's talk TBA
- 22 March - Thai Experience Evening
- 8 April - 100 Years of Scouting - Mark Tonks
- 13 May - Blandford's Military History— Lt Col Bob Brannigan
- 31 October—BFC Dinner Evening

Under Investigation

Spinnaker Tower (Portsmouth)

Bletchley Park

RNLI Poole

Tangmere Museum

RNAS Yeovilton

Shuttleworth Collection

Milestones (Victorian Village) Basingstoke

Tangmere Museum

Helicopter Museum - Weston Super Mare

Dorset Police

RIAT Fairford - apply for your early bird tickets before the end of February

"Life as a Bobby" - Tony Erwood

Members' guests are welcome to join these events, but please note that members come first, and there may be a surcharge of up to 25% applied to guests

## Photo Competition

A very successful Photographic Competition was held at the club on 8 February when 15 members entered 138 of their photographic creations in four categories: Nature, Action, People & Places and Aviation

The competition was judged by Lyn Freemantle, Annabelle Draper and Michael Chant of the Bournemouth branch of Jes-

Category	First Prize	Runner Up
Nature	Colin Morris "Fledgling"	Terry Trevett "Delphiniums"
Action	Terry Trevett "Peugeot Cosworth"	Victor Dyke "Motorcyclist"
People & Places	Bill Field "Snow over Compton Abbas"	David Allen "Lawrence of Arabia"
Aviation	Colin Morris "Britannia"	Victor Dyke "Red Arrows"



Tony presents to Colin Morris, the overall winner

sops. The entry standard was very high so judging was difficult, but these were the winners who emerged after careful and diligent scrutiny

### Flying Achievements

Major flying milestones have been achieved by BFC students. Congratulations!

Luke Turner	First Solo	29.7.07
David Pharaoh	First Solo	28.11.07
Jack Nicoll	Night Rating	10.12.07
David Briggs	Night Rating	25.1.08
James Hansom	Night Rating	28.1.08

## Very Light Jets - VLJ

VLJs are beginning to roll off the production lines and delivered to customers, mainly in the U.S. VLJs seat 4-8 people, are designed for single pilot operation and being less than 4540 kg, are capable of operating from runways under 1000 m. The air taxi business is seen as the growth market for these aircraft, and as you might expect, Cessna (with the Citation Mustang) was the first company to deliver production aircraft to its customers. One other company, Eclipse, is also delivering and claims to have orders for 2,500 of its Eclipse 500.

There may be



Colin Morris was declared the overall competition winner with his study of a blue tit fledgling cupped in wife Vi's hands - "Rescued from the Magpies"

Jessops generously provided gift vouchers, and the whole evening was well organized and managed by Terry Trevett and Mark Wigmore. Verdict: A thoroughly enjoyable, well managed event!



Jessop's team judging 138 entries

A screech of brakes,  
And frantic reversing,  
As I retrace the cold carnage-strewn road.  
For there on the alien tarmac,  
A tiny blue and yellow fluff-ball trembles.  
And wonders how it came to be grounded,  
In so bleak a spot,  
Where huge rushing wheels straddle its fragile form,  
And leave it too shocked to move.  
But this tiny blue and yellow titmouse is lucky,  
I grasp its perfect little body,  
And cup it in the safety of my hand,  
Quickly crossing the death trap,  
To the hawthorn thicket.  
Here a troop of tiny fluff-balls play with their mother,  
And there I part with the errant fledgling,  
And watch as it hops back safely to its family

### 50 Years Ago

"Abeline, Texas, April 1958  
Mayday.....Mayday

USAF Major James Obenauf, aged only 23, landed his Strategic Air Command Boeing TB-47B Stratojet here tonight after risking his life to save his flying instructor. The mid air drama began when an engine caught fire. Fearing an explosion, Obenauf was about to eject with the navigator when he noticed the instructor had been knocked unconscious. He took the controls, radioed "Stratojet 2278, Mayday, Mayday, Mayday" and managed to bring the crippled aircraft to safety" Ed—we would have done it for Lance, wouldn't we!

some hype on performance, but it sure looks impressive. Speed around 350 knots, range around 1,300 miles, an all glass cockpit, and only one lever per engine to facilitate single pilot operation. Nor is there any shortage of companies prepared to invest in development - there are two companies delivering aircraft, seven in flight test programmes and a further seven developing their product. There are even homebuild designs for 2, 4 or 8 people and the fastest, the Cruiserjet, claims a top speed of 472 knots, a range of 1,450 miles and seating for 4 people.

Introducing new technology is never without its difficulties. VLJs all seem to be a bit cramped, To have a toilet or not, seems to be occupying the intellects of the designers - most do not seem to have one provided, and passengers are recommended to take

## Short Finals

### Website Rebirth?

Tony Griffin and Peter Ebbins are planning to investigate the reinstatement of the social club website link from the BFC host, as a means of improving communications with members, and also to help recruit new members. Watch this space for news.

### Bournemouth Aviation Museum

At the time of going to press, discussions are taking place between the Bournemouth Aviation Museum Action Group and the Airport Management with a view to finding a suitable site, **on the airport**, to rebuild the aircraft collection, or to find adequate short term storage, pending the availability of a permanent display site.

### Airborne Events

Bill Field has this under his wing and we can expect some relaxing navigation competitions, spot landing exercises, and whatever else he (or you) can dream up, and you do not have to be a pilot to participate. Make yourself known to Bill to be included.

### Ops Centre News

Warrior G-OLSF has a sick engine which will need replacing, but is anticipated to be back on line soon.

You will have noticed the building of a stylish extension to the hangar behind the Ops Centre. This is to house a new Hawker 4000 Exec Jet which has a high tail to be accommodated

### An Evening in Thailand

On 22 March, Jill will be hosting a Thai Evening in the club house with a professional Thai Cultural Group. Come along and enjoy the pleasures of Thai cuisine, the delicacy and beauty of Thai dancing and the enchantment of Thai singing. Cost is £15 per head with proceeds going to charity—so hurry and order your tickets.

their own travel bottles, if vulnerable to being caught short en route - could be really interesting!



"Is that bottle full, or can I top it off"

Watch out for the first VLJ at BFC or BCFT! Our U.S. commentator reckons that making the transition from piston engine aircraft to the VLJs will not be a problem. He says "An instrument proficient single engine piston airplane pilot with 400 hours should not have any trouble". Club flyers can look forward to booking their first trial lesson, but start saving now for its likely to set you back a tidy amount. More at <http://philip.greenspun.com/flying/very-light-jets>