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Brissle Strutter



Newsletter of the LAA Bristol Strut

APRIL 2023

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Message from the Chair

Well the weather hasn't been particularly kind of late, although there has been the odd glorious day (although sadly for those of us still working these always seem to be during the week)! But there is much to look forward to as the weather starts to pick up – including our first set of Strut fly-outs for a while (more on that later), and a fascinating presentation on moving from being a bog-standard PPL pilot to flying a Second World War British classic.

Looking slightly broader – for those who haven't flown so much over the winter (and as a brush up for all of us) – the CAA have produced a [Return to Flying](#) pre-flight checklist. And for those who want a bit of a challenge – how about brushing up your VFR navigation skills (you remember – pre-GPS!) – and participating in the [TopNav competition](#) this year?

Finally, as we're all very aware, we need to continue to bring fresh young blood into the organisation. Please do take the time to read the message from Youth and Education Support attached to the Newsletter distribution and consider if you might be able to volunteer some time to help – and I know the Strut has been heavily involved in the past, but perhaps it's time to think about what we can do again.

Happy landings!
Neville

This month's meeting

"How the Hell did that happen?" We will be enjoying listening to Jeremy Liber talking about his flying experiences, leading from a PPL to becoming a fully paid-up Hurricane pilot! Without wanting to eat all of Jeremy's sandwiches, I can tell you that he learnt to fly on Tiger Moths at Cambridge, runs an aerospace consultancy specialising in design and certification, and has well over 2000 hrs in a very wide range of aircraft types – to find out more, come along to BAWA Room 4, 19:30, 4th April.

Neville



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Last meeting

On the 7th March we enjoyed a hybrid meeting on the subject of 'My Favourite Airfield', to agree where the Strut would go for the first couple of fly-outs in 2023. We had a total of 13 nominations ranging from relatively small strips through to well-found airfields – and it was clear that good food and drink, plus the ability to get out into the local area, were major factors in the voting. Enthusiastic participation both in person and online, with some passionate support for particular sites, made for some interesting discussions – but it was all down the final vote – which did produce some definite winners! The results at the top of the table were:

1 st	-	Compton Abbas
2 nd	-	Lee on Solent
3 rd	-	Bembridge
4 th	-	Halfpenny Green

With honourable mentions also going to Old Warden, Popham and Middlezoy...

So – we'll now be doing some planning around going to Compton Abbas and Lee on Solent in May and July respectively! We will be aiming to tie up with the BAC for these, and will also be looking to ensure that no Club member is left behind – more on that closer to the time. Depending on how successful the first couple are, we will consider putting in a few more – including (potentially) an evening fly-out to Popham if they are running their BBO evenings again. Thanks again to all who took part – now roll on the flying weather!

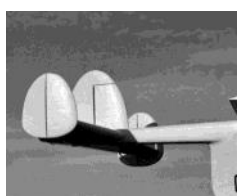
Neville

Picture Quiz

Just one reply to last month's pictures—from Alan, correct as always!



Percival Mew Gull



Miles Aerovan



Miles Messenger



de Havilland Mosquito

When David Ogilvy's latest book is published (soon, I hope) you will be able to read about his experiences with them.

And something different for this month; why would you want to rent this humble dwelling?



Information from the CAA and elsewhere

A busy month for such information!

The CAA has provided [feedback](#) from the recent Pilot Medical Declaration online survey. This indicates an overwhelming view of respondents that the PMD is providing a proportionate contribution to flight safety. Let's hope that the further planned CAA consideration of the PMD respects this position.

West Airspace Deployment—major changes to controlled airspace in Wales and the west of England have been introduced by [UK AIC Y 013/2023](#). However these effectively relate to controlled airspace above 7000ft so are probably of limited interest to our members.

The CAA has issued [Safety Notice SN2020/005](#) on ageing aircraft component reliability, with relevance to the acceptance and use of replacement parts on permit aircraft—worth a read.

The latest [CAA Safety Files podcast](#) addresses the importance of take-off decision making and pre-departure briefings, and questions whether enough attention is given to the choice to reject a take-off.

The February edition of CHIRP for GA is now available online [here](#).

The next AIRAC update is on 20 April; don't forget to keep your electronic databases current.

Congratulations to Sam Edwards on (re)gaining his PPL. Sam may be looking for an appropriate local share in an aircraft.

Pooley's are currently advertising their Dawn to Dusk competition [here](#). In recent months we've heard from successful participants Neville & Sarah and Fiona & Angus - so why not have a go this year?



Tip of the Month

When I have a query on our Continental C90 engine, my first port of call is the very comprehensive [Overhaul Manual](#) and the associated [Illustrated Parts Catalog](#). But another very useful source of information is [Harry Fenton's Hints & Tips for Small Continental Engines](#) - a wealth of practical experience. However do read the introductory words about competence and responsibility!

Do you have a tip to offer for future newsletters?

Where to go in April

Landing vouchers

Light Aviation: Headcorn, Leicester, Netherthorpe

Events

April 1	Popham — Eurofox Fly-in
April 15	Turweston — Vintage Aircraft Club Spring Fly-in
April 22	Henstridge 80th Anniversary/LAA Meet the Members Popham — Jodel Fly-in Bodmin — TopNav competition Halfpenny Green —Vintage Piper Aircraft Club Fly-in
April 23	Bicester Scramble—VAC invited
April 29-30	Popham — Microlight Trade Fair
May 1	Popham — Classic Car Show and Vintage Fly-in

And Finally!



Many thanks, Steve, for the last 7 years—and may you find more time to fly Airymouse!