



Brissle Strutter



Newsletter of the LAA Bristol Strut

JANUARY 2026

Message from the Chair

Dear Strut Member,

With the end of the year almost upon us, I'm penning these last few words of 2025 before heading off to sunnier climes – as Sarah and I are going for a 2-month road trip around New Zealand (with hopefully some flying opportunities along the way). Those of us who made the Christmas meal had a very enjoyable time at the Willy Wicket, and Alan's quiz was even more challenging than normal – but also enlightening in terms of unusual places to find some old aircraft in the local area! And as for the prize – – a truly unique book: Combat Biplanes in WW2.



There were some good flying opportunities in December, and I hope that all of you managed to get airborne – it was gloriously pretty at times with great visibility, medium level clouds and a low sun! Just a reminder that January's meeting is the traditional catch-up on each other's activities over the last year – so come armed with pictures, video, and any other medium to tell your tales of derring-do! Trevor will be running both the January and February meetings, so do come along to support him – and I look forward to seeing you all again in March!

Best wishes,

Neville



Inside this issue:

| | |
|--|---|
| Message from the Chair | 1 |
| This month's meetings | 2 |
| Information from the CAA and elsewhere | 2 |
| Puzzle Picture | 2 |
| Where to go in January | 2 |
| Tailpiece | 2 |

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This month's meeting

....is at 19:45 on Thursday 15th January, BAWA Room 4. We'll take our usual January look back at the past year, so come along and tell us about your activities, successes, obstacles, lessons learned. Laptop and projector will be available if you want to bring pictures.

Information from the CAA and elsewhere

I have previously mentioned the threat to Popham Airfield from the Basingstoke and Deane Council's Local Plan again identifying Popham as a site for housing. The consultation for the revised Local Plan is open until 27 January so you still have chance to comment—see [here](#) or Google 'Popham Airfield threat' for other sources of information.

The CAA recently issued [information](#) on the transition of LAPL licences to a 24 month validity period by 1st October instead of a rolling validity. However [it has been pointed out to them](#) (and accepted) that the information is poorly worded, so if you don't understand it please wait for an early revision!

There is a new website for Henstridge at eghspilots.co.uk.

The next AIRAC update is on January 22nd; don't forget to keep your electronic databases current.

Puzzle Picture — no replied to Alan's picture of a Knight Twister, a design which first flew in its original form in 1932!

Given the scarcity of replies in general, I'll give this item a rest for a while and try to think of something else.



Where to go in January

The event calendar is empty — though (too late now!) there were New Year's Day fly-ins at Bodmin, Sleep and Northrepps. But as Neville said, there is winter flying weather to be enjoyed. Landing vouchers:

Flyer: Retford Gamston, Eddsfield, Longside, Perth

Light Aviation: Nothing this month.

And where not to go (yet): Compton Abbas is closed until 7 January.

Tailpiece

Well, that's one way to get a group photo!

A shorter Newsletter than usual—too many distractions this month! Best wishes for a Happy New Year and safe flying in 2026.

Trevor

