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# Brissle Strutter

Newsletter of the LAA Bristol Strut **MAY 2026**

## Message from the Chair

Flying friends and enthusiasts,

I have to begin with a couple of apologies – the first being for delaying the newsletter (sorry Trevor!) – and the second being the reason why I'm late writing this – which is that our May visit has fallen through! Unfortunately Hercules Propellers aren't able to take us this month, so I'm looking round for an alternative – and I'll email/WhatsApp as soon as I've got any news.

Looking more generally – just a reminder for any members flying on a LAPL that they've got until the end of September to convert across to the new currency requirements – the relevant link is on page 2. Also – the CAA has got a couple of items out that may be of interest: the first is a request for feedback on the North-West Transit Corridor - if you've flown it and wish to make a comment then [this link](#) will enable you to do that. The second is that the Consultation Response Document relating to the proposed ANO and Aircrew changes regarding the PMD has been issued – again, see page 2; there has been an interesting approach taken to the issue of PMDs and instructors – worth a quick read.

I also need to say a quick word of welcome to Kevin Noble and his son James who have just joined the Strut. Kevin flies from Oaksey and has just joined an RV7 syndicate – so do keep an eye out for him at future meetings/get-togethers and say hello.

The final thing to remind you is that we've got our fly-in scheduled for 4 weeks' time on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June – and I'm just working out how best to guarantee good weather for that weekend (all ideas welcome). Seriously, we do still need some volunteers to help on the day, and I'll be sending out a specific email tomorrow with both the poster and a list of the roles that we need help with – it would be great if in the LAA's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year (and the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bristol Strut!) we were able to pull off something akin to our success 2 years ago!

Best wishes

Neville

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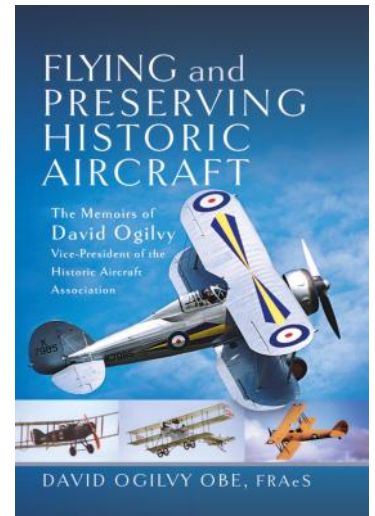
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## Last month's meeting

This was a 'homebrew' evening. Chris started us off with a briefing on his development activities for his Luciole, plus a look at a fascinating private collection of historic aircraft — mostly flyable.

Trevor told us about 5 years of conversation with David Ogilvy and helping him to get his 17th book to print, at the age of 94. It covers his flying career—PR Mosquitos in the RAF, air racing, flying club CFI, General Manager at Shuttleworth, founder member of the Vintage Aeroplane Club and AOPA UK and holder of most roles in that latter organisation until he retired from paid employment at the age of 82! The book also contains flight assessments of some 36 British historic aircraft and much more.

Neville briefed us on the future programme for the Strut—see page 1—and on G-DENS's participation in the Royal Institute of Navigation's Top Nav competition. DENS came second—why not have a go; it's already underway for this year but you could still make some of the later events.



## This month's meeting

As Neville has already said, please await further information.

## Information from the CAA and elsewhere

Last month I mentioned the start of gliding activities at Colerne. You may already have noticed the relevant NOTAM through to 28 June for winch launching Saturdays and Sundays plus May 5th and 25th.

LAPL(A) holders are reminded by CAA to transition their licences to the new revalidation requirements (aligned with those of PPL and NPPL) by 1 October; details are [here](#). So first make sure you can meet the transition requirements! Then the transition — a paperwork exercise — can be done at any time before 1 October. Failure to do so could require a proficiency check with an Examiner rather than an instructional session with your friendly instructor — don't delay!

Edition 24 of CAP413 - the [Radiotelephony Manual](#) — is now available and is effective from 1 July.

There is a new [podcast](#) from the CAA on fuel contamination and trim runaways, also a new [Safety Notice SN-2026/005](#) on autopilot and trim runaways in GA aircraft.

In the coming weeks expect updated CAA guidance for the evaluation of cardiovascular risk, which will apply to the medical assessment of pilots and air traffic controllers.

[CAP3249](#) is a CAA response document to a consultation on the use of a PMD—essentially with regard to its use by instructors. It does contain a reminder that a wider review and consultation on the use of the PMD has already been conducted and reported on in [CAP3059](#), though its implementation awaits identification of an IT system to support its changes.

The next AIRAC update is on May 14th; don't forget to keep your electronic databases current.

## Information from the CAA and elsewhere (cont'd)

News of the next Bristol Aero Talks meeting:

**Simon Begent** will give a talk entitled The History of Aviation around Weston-Super-Mare.

The talk will cover a number of aspects of aviation around Weston-Super-Mare including:

- The pioneer flyers who flew their biplanes and gave displays from the 'Sands' aerodrome on the Weston seafront;
- The establishment of Weston Airport which was one of the busiest in the country in the 1930's;
- The introduction of scheduled air services including one to Cardiff that allowed travellers to avoid the Aust Ferry (no Severn Bridge in those days);
- The creation of the Bristol Aeroplane Company wartime shadow factory to manufacture the Bristol Beaufighter;
- The Royal Air Force opening of RAF Locking in 1939;
- The setting up of the Bristol Aeroplane Company Helicopter Division, headed by helicopter pioneer Raoul Hafner, in 1955;
- The Helicopter Museum that today stands on a corner of the airfield site.

This talk will be held at **7:15 pm** on **Tuesday May 26<sup>th</sup> 2026** at **Aerospace Bristol** in **The John James Theatre**.

In order to cover the costs associated with the talks program such as reimbursing the costs incurred by the speakers, we ask for a donation from attendees when leaving the talk. In the event there is an accrued surplus at the end of the season of talks it will be donated to Aerospace Bristol.

## Where to go in May

Landing vouchers:

*Flyer*: Causeway, Felthorpe, Perth, Jersey (first 5 visitors only!)

*Light Aviation*: Old Warden (in April magazine)

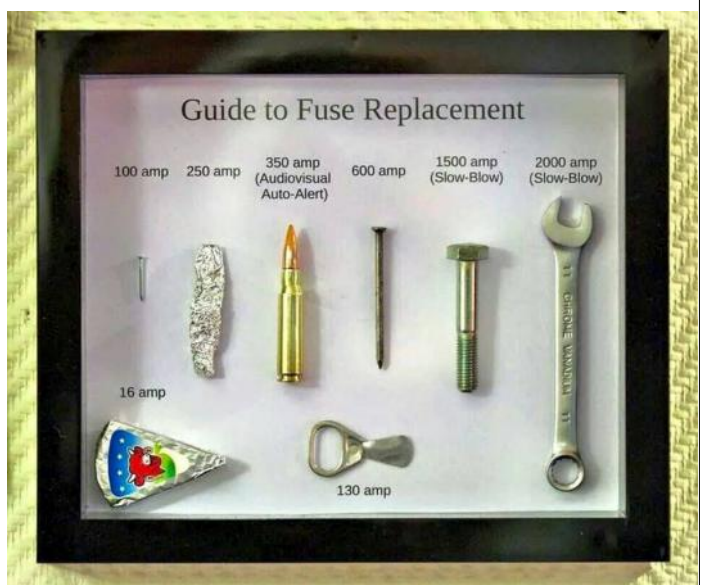
2 May: [Enstone N fly-in](#)

16 May: Bodmin [Ladies' Day fly-in](#); Caernarfon [50th anniversary fly-in](#).

25 May: Goodwood [fundraising fly-in](#)

## Tailpiece

Some useful maintenance information for you....



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# LAA RALLY 2026



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4th, 5th AND 6th SEPTEMBER 2026