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Brissle Strutter

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



Message from the Chair

Dear Strut member,

Well, as I sit in my study looking out the window and listening to the wind, it seems as though the summer weather looks to be very definitely over now. There do look to be a few flying windows (and events—see page 3) over the next couple of weeks though, so don't give up hope yet – after all it was absolutely glorious at the weekend for the LAA Rally, and it was a delight to see some of you there!



We have our AGM set for this coming Thursday at BAWA, and it would be great to see as many of you as possible for the evening – especially to discuss what we might do to celebrate our 40th anniversary, as well as looking at plans for the year, and of course re-electing the committee members. Hopefully you have all seen the great write up on our Fly-In in the Struts4U column in this month's Light Aviation magazine, and I believe there may be something in this month's *Pilot* magazine.

For anyone who hasn't picked up that the CAA have launched a public consultation on a mandate for Electronic Conspicuity – you have until 22 September to put your comments in. Irrespective of your particular thoughts – if you don't send them in, they won't be registered, let alone taken into account! You can find the proposal on the CAA website - <https://consultations.caa.co.uk/safety-and-airspace-regulation-group/ec-mandate/> will take you straight to the page.

I look forward to seeing you on Thursday (standfast those who have already said they can't make it...)!

Neville

Inside this issue:

Message from the Chair	1
Last month's meeting	2
Next meeting	2
Information from the CAA and elsewhere	2
Now and Then	3
Where to go in September	3
Tailpiece	3

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SEPTEMBER 2026

Last month's meeting

Well. There wasn't one, as we take a summer break and leave you to organise your own activities. But since we last met, there was of course our 2nd Strut fly-in at Oaksey Park, with favourable weather, a very pleasing turn-out of some 64 aircraft and over £750 raised for the Great Western Air Ambulance.



DENS arrived first, to grab the shade!

This month's meeting

Our AGM, future planning and post-summer natter is in BAWA Room 4 on 10 September at our usual 19:45. You should have received the calling notice for the AGM.

Don't forget, for your diary, that we also have the BAWA skittles alley booked for Saturday 10 October for our annual match against Bristol Aero Club, when we hope to win. *Anon: The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result!*

Information from the CAA and elsewhere

Last chance: LAPL(A) holders are reminded by CAA to transition their licences to the new revalidation requirements (aligned with those of PPL and NPPL) by October 1; 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! Also pilots currently utilising the exemption [ORS4 1633](#) for revalidating their SLMG/Microlight ratings are [similarly reminded](#) that they must transition to a 24 month validity by October 31st.

You may be interested in [CAP3303](#), guidance to instructors on the refresher training flight for the revalidation of single-engine class ratings by experience.

A new edition of [CAP3181](#) has been published. It sets out the requirements for obtaining a National Private Pilot's Licence (Aeroplanes), including credits that can be transferred from other licences. It also includes information on additional ratings, including the Instrument Meteorological Conditions Rating.

The CAA held a webinar on 11 August 2026 in relation to the CAA's [consultation on a Proposed Electronic Conspicuity Mandate in the UK](#). A [recording of the webinar is now available](#) for those who were unable to attend or would like to watch the session again. The webinar ran through the proposed approach and outlined the scope of the consultation. Note Neville's comments on page 1 about responding to the consultation.

The CAA have published [CAP3296](#) to help people understand what to expect from a GA flight and feel informed before deciding whether to fly. Pilots, flying schools, clubs, operators and instructors are encouraged to share it with anyone new to GA flying, including friends or family flying for the first time, people considering a recreational flight, and those undertaking trial or introductory lessons.

Southampton Frequency Monitoring Code Area has expanded to now include Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight. Information on the expanded FMC area is contained in [NOTAM C4906/26](#) and will be published in the [UK AIP EGH1 AD 2.22-7, ENR 6-80](#) as of 1 October 2026.

There was an AIRAC update on September 3rd; the next is on October 1st: don't forget to keep your electronic databases current.

Now and Then

As Neville has mentioned, 2026 is not only the 80th anniversary of the formation of the precursor organisations to the LAA, it's also the 40th anniversary of the Bristol Strut. I'm looking back through the early Newsletters with interest. I note that in those days there was an annual skittles match with Wessex Strut—but results were not totally one-sided!

Trevor

Where to go in September

Well, the Rally is over, but there is still:

Flyer vouchers: Barton, Cromer, Old Warden, Strathaven

Light Aviation vouchers: none this month.

Sept 12: [Cornwall Strut, Bodmin](#)

Sept 12/13: [Sackville Farm Grass Roots fly-in](#)

Sept 12/13: [Swansea BBO](#)

Sept 19: [Devon Strut, Branscombe](#)

Sept 19: VAC Popham

Sept 19: Caernarvon 50th

Sept 19/20: North Weald Marshalls, Little Gransden

Sept 19/20: Pooleys Compton (by invitation)

Tailpiece

A bad case of hangar rash!

