

# HAMPSHIRE HEDGEHOPPER



LE August 2017

## The Official Newsletter of the LAA Andover Strut

This is YOUR newsletter. If you would like to contribute or pass some interesting news on – please get in contact. If you are currently working on a project or have a friend currently working on a project, and have a few pictures – please share them with us.

### Late change to the program.....

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July:** Please note that due to a change of plan we won't be firing up the BBQ on Monday night. Please don't arrive hungry! The usual coffee's and tea's will be available and most of the regular's will be there for a chat and a catch up.

### Sunday 27th August: Strut Fly-in and BBQ at Barton Ashes

Our traditional summer bank holiday weekend fly-in and BBQ courtesy of Paul Grellier at the Barton Ashes strip. Food available for a donation from 12ish. We will be joined by friends from the South Hampshire Historic Aviation Society. Feel free to bring fellow pilots and guests. Non Strut pilots welcome to fly-in by invitation. Briefing from Bob Howarth.

### Strut Winter Programme

Once again, hopefully I have managed to put together a series of talks that will entertain, educate and generally discourage gossip amongst yourselves!

Traditionally we commence our more structured winter strut meetings in **September** so we kick off with an evening of high adventure when Eddy & Julie Mc Cullem regale us with tales of flying their RV across the pond to that 'Mecca' of sport aviation, Oshkosh, and then of course plodding back home to Northumberland. Eddy & Julie will claim by a long mile, distance to travel to attend an Andover Strut meeting, they will be flying down care of Easyjet or similar. We therefore have to pull out all the stops to make their visit to EGHP a pleasant and memorable one.

**October.** Those of us within the vintage scene more over the Vintage Aircraft Club will know Anne (Hughes). Anne and David Collings have teamed up to present a talk on the prototype Beagle Pup restoration. If you have read the latest report you will know this almost the precursor to other planned early Beagle restorations.

**November.** This month we have a return visit from M.A.F (Mission Aviation Fellowship) in the name of Capt Brian Pill. Brian brings the good works of MAF to many clubs and organisations in the form of his illustrated presentation. MAF currently

has a fleet of 51 aircraft, most GA and bush types operating in Africa, Asia, Eurasia & Latin America. This will be an occasion for strut members to support MAF in their wonderful work.

**December.** With the festive season upon us it will be time for our traditional Aeronautical quiz (Once again Bob, Malcolm we are not all aeronautical anoraks!). This will be followed by the equally traditional festive cheese n' wine. This will be the occasion to 'treat' your other favourite one to their annual evening of utter strut enjoyment!

## **2018**

**January.** From PPL to Channel 4! This title introduces Arthur Williams who some will know in person but most through the medium of Ch4 TV and his wonderful series on various airborne exploits around the world as experienced by someone wheelchair bound. Arthur became disabled as the result of a car accident whilst he was a serving Royal Marine. This left him paralysed from the waste down. Arthur gained his PPL with Aerobility and has become an active volunteer with the charity. It is here that I have got to know Arthur, further more we both own Yellow Piper Cubs! Finally you will also know that Arthur recently became an LAA Ambassador. So he is truly 'one of us'.

**February.** The title of this evenings talk seems fairly bland, Building & Flying PL793. This has been a project that has consumed Steve & Kaye Markham's time for several years. The object of the talk is really the build of the Australian Mk 26 Spitfire with the trials and many tribulations associated with this project. Suffice to say that the gleaming new Subaru engine on its stand became a talking piece in their front parlour for a considerable time! Steve supports the RAF Benevolent Fund and will seek to further their good work in return for his time with us at our meeting.

**March.** Another Steve, this time a well known Popham face, Steve Boxall, a man that knows 'everything' about gyros, the airborne sort with the whirly bits on top. Steve will give a presentation on all aspects of gyrocopter operations, history and not forgetting how they defy gravity and fly! Steve has CPL, IR and instructors rating, I believe the only instructor with this combination in UK.

**April.** 'Lightnings and beyond' is the title of the last of our guest speakers prior to the start of the 2018 flying season. Vic Lockwood had an extensive career in the RAF with the Lightning being his great joy. His career subsequently spanned many facets of aviation and aerospace culminating in retirement with being a member of the Great War Display team. As the title suggest Vic will talk mainly of his time on that amazing English Electric creation the Lightning and all it's marques.

**May.** And, finally to bring us down to earth the dreaded AGM! This will be followed once again by cheese, wine & nibbles

'Hope you all enjoy what I have put together. I am always open to ideas for future strut evenings, include contact details etc if you are able.

Alan

## Why You Should Join Our Club...

If you have an interest in light (or possibly heavy) aviation, be a home builder (or considering a project), a PPL holder, a LAA member or a plane spotter and you live not a million miles from Popham Airfield in Hampshire joining the LAA Andover Strut will give you access to like-minded people, interesting aviation related talks and the opportunity to take part in the various events we hold throughout the year. Annual membership is £15 a year – please speak to Eryl Smith.

## How to find us...

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month start at 7:30pm till we finish  
Spitfire Flying Club, Coxford Down, Winchester, Hampshire, SO21 3BD



## The Strut Committee

**Chairman:** Keith Picton  
keith.picton@ntlworld.com  
01264 396074 or 07927 008500

**Strut Secretary:** Vacant

**Website:** Bob Howarth  
bobhowarth99@btinternet.com  
01980 611124 or 07710 744098

**Events:** Alan Lovejoy  
alan.lovejoy18@gmail.com  
01256 413354 or 07831 606075

**Treasurer:** Eryl Smith  
eryl@smithwinchester.net  
07836 294963

**Editor:** Craig Hopkins  
LAAAndover@gmail.com  
07726104788

**Wise Sage:** Dicky Bird  
dickybird2@talktalk.net  
01722 323683

**Wise Sage:** Malcolm Rogan  
mrogan@nomansland.free-online.co.uk  
01794 390322

## Subs

Strut Membership subs are due at the beginning of the year (MAY). The annual subs of £10 can either be paid to Hon Treasurer, Eryl Smith or paid directly into the Club Account, details below.

Please don't forget to put your name as payment reference & ideally let Eryl know!

Bank: Barclays  
Account Name: Andover Strut  
Bank Sort Code: 20-59-14  
Account No: 93409597  
[Eryl@smithwinchester.net](mailto:Eryl@smithwinchester.net)