

Peter Amos Launches Miles Aircraft Book

2nd May 2009



The book launch at Woodley on Saturday went off exceptionally well - the weather was excellent and the fly-past finally came together and couldn't have been better. SIX MILES aeroplanes participated in the fly-past and of those, FOUR were pre-war!

The six Miles aeroplanes were (with owner/pilot's names and bases in brackets): G-ADGP Miles M.2L Hawk Speed Six (Roger Mills, White Waltham); G-ADWT Miles M.2W Hawk Trainer Mk.II (Richard Earl and Brian Morris, Oxfordshire); G-AEEG Miles M.3A Falcon Major (Peter Holloway, Old Warden, flown by Peter's friend, Steve); N3788 Miles M.14A Hawk Trainer Mk.III (Peter Holloway, Old Warden; previously Miles M.14A Magister in RAF service); G-AKVZ Miles M.38 Messenger Mk.4B (Shipping & Airlines, Biggin Hill, flown by Tony Habgood) and G-AJWB Miles M.38 Messenger Mk.2A (Peter Bishop, Hamburg, who flew it over from Hamburg the day before, especially for the event).



I think this was also a record - to have SIX Miles aeroplanes - of FIVE (almost six if you count the two different marks of Messenger!) different types - in the air at the same place at the same time - was truly remarkable. A very special thank you to all who took part.

I don't think that anything like this has ever been seen before (and certainly not in the 62 years that I have been interested in Miles aircraft) - it really was quite incredible! What a day - what a moment to treasure!

I have since collected quite a few photographs of the occasion, thanks to a number of friends who were able to get to White Waltham before the aeroplanes took off for the fly-past and these, together with some of the fly-past itself, make for a truly historical record of the event. An excellent video, with sound, was taken by another friend and I am hoping that this will be put on to CD shortly.



A very special vote of thanks must also go to Jean and Ken Fostekew of The Museum of Berkshire Aviation, Woodley, for hosting the launch, waiving the normal entrance fee to the museum for the day, putting on an excellent display in the new entrance hall and for providing such a splendid buffet.

Also many thanks to White Waltham for hosting the fly-past briefing and for very kindly waiving the landing fees for Miles aircraft for the day.

