



Turweston Aerodrome Newsletter

**Turweston Flight
Centre Ltd**

Issue 28

September 2009

Updates & News

Wings and Wheels

We are delighted to say that we have received very positive feedback about the Wings & Wheels event via our website. Some exhibitors have sent photographs and these have been added to the main information page http://www.turwestonflight.com/Wings_and_Wheels/wandw_2009_main.htm. A new page has been added for the conference room exhibitors. There are also pages for the event programme and a gallery of some of the people planning to exhibit this year. We hope this will prove to be a good family day out. Please do tell your friends and colleagues and encourage people to join us.

WAC 2009

Despite being heavily hampered by the weather the Championship concluded on Saturday 29th August. We have some super photographs of the various teams' aircraft courtesy of resident photographer Roger "The Lens" Syrratt which can be viewed on our website events gallery.

Note from Chris Brown

You may have noticed an abundance of fuel bowzers on the airfield of late. The reason for this is that we now sell Jet A1 and have had a replacement for our aging Avgas bowser. These new bowzers are larger than the old one and have a much larger turning circle; due to this fuelling on the hangar aprons will no longer be carried out. All fuelling will have to be done on the main apron area. Sorry for any inconvenience .

A Tribute to Bill Bushell

Turweston Aerodrome lost one of its best-loved characters when Bill Bushell, aircraft engineer, dedicated aviation enthusiast and photographer died on Saturday 29th August after a short illness.

Although Wiltshire born in 1940 Bill's upbringing had taken place in rural Berkshire where, surrounded by D-Day airfields and under the busy main airway west from London, his passion for aviation was nurtured. Joining the Royal Air Force as a Boy Entrant straight from school Bill eventually served 17 years in the service as ground crew after failing the aircrew medical due to colour blindness, something he shared with this writer and which was the subject of much mutual ribbing over the years. Whilst stationed at RAF Gaydon Bill met his future wife Jean who says the initial attraction was that Bill had a motorbike! They were married in December 1959 and would have celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary this year. Like all married couples they had their differences like when Bill blew his entire week's wages, £4 10 shillings, on a brass telescope for aircraft spotting, leaving nothing for the housekeeping. However their marriage survived that and all the RAF could throw at them including unaccompanied tours to Aden, 12 months and Gan, nine months, plus visits from the RAF Police who failed to understand why anyone would be so interested in aircraft as to

want to take photographs and record their serial numbers.

Bill's last posting was to RAF Bicester where he was demobbed in 1973 taking up work as an aircraft engineer with CSE Aviation, the UK Piper dealers, at Kidlington where he remained for the next 21 years. During this time Bill built up a tremendous fund of knowledge of light aircraft, not just of Piper but also of other types. After being made redundant he worked as a freelance and was frequently to be seen at Turweston working at AKKI and Mick Allen's where his wide experience and no-nonsense skills were greatly appreciated. Many of Turweston's resident aircraft have felt the imprint of Bill's spanners over the years, and many a hard-to-find spare was magically conjured up from the depths of his shed.

Bill's aviation enthusiasms were many faceted: he built up huge collections of black and white photographs, colour slides, books, magazines, but would willingly share them and information with fellow enthusiasts amongst whom he was widely known. The Bushell link with aviation continues after his death with daughter Sue, who has carved out a career as a well-known aviation journalist, and who is currently the compiler of Jane's All The Worlds

Forthcoming Events,
Aerodrome and Local: (further
information available from TFC
on 01280 705400 unless stated
otherwise)

Turweston Wings & Wheels Sun 20th
Sep

Launch of The Flying Pig Autumn Menu Oct

Aircraft, and grandson Andrew who works for Holcroft Aviation at Hinton-in-the-Hedges.

Bill is survived by wife Jean and daughters Sue and Carol to whom, and their respective families, we offer our sincerest condolences.

(Words kindly written by
Roger Syrratt)



Bill with grandson Ian at an aviation event some years ago.