

### **It's a Bring and Buy, so clear the attic !**

Well, I went to Harlow to see the Mystery speaker (who spoke about his career as a pilot). Which meant I had my suspicions confirmed.... yes .....? it WAS Bill Michie!

Bill kept us enthralled with his unrelenting quest to fly, which began with his being joined into the BOAC Jet Club in 1957 (he said he was 3 years old? So his parents have a lot to answer for!) Anyway, he managed to join the Air force, and avoided their first re-action which was to keep him away from the controls, and to make him a Navigator! However, he learned to fly in a Provost (bit like a Harvard, but without retracts).

After that, he flew just about everything the Air force could offer including Vampires, and Heli's, but with his eye to the future ended up flying DC 3's. From then it was on to civilian airlines.

However, I have only been able to give a brief account of Bill's adventures here, as the whole colourful story would take several news letters to cover. Also, the episode with regard to South Africa's "Troubles" and the subsequent actions is a bit of a hot potato to cover here. So, if you get the chance to hear Bill in the future, don't miss it!

The weather, apart from some short interludes has been so awful that there is little to report on as regards flying. Although, Kevin flew his ic powered model with great success, and we were privileged to see Alan's new pattern ship perform with great aplomb! However ~ it DOES have a tendency to shed its canopy due to rather feeble fixings on an otherwise great design. Alan is designing a more robust fixing (it has come off three times!)

Friday 16th Nov saw the A.G.M. Which was a mixture of good, and bad news. Good, in that we no longer have to worry about mowers or cutters for the patch, as Tim (our grass man who lives on the farm) is NOT LEAVING (hurrah!). Mind you, the Farmer has again indicated that he would not be bothered if the Club decided to move away, which is bad news! (Which we were not aware of)

It would seem that we have been under the impression that no news is good news for too long and perhaps guilty of neglecting to keep in friendly contact with the farmer which would have warned us of him getting "fed-up" with our presence,. especially at harvest time, when the weather is good for flying, and there are a lot of cars which hamper HIS access to HIS fields! This becomes more and more of a problem during the week, and there has been a tendency for flyers to increase their presence during the week. (during the day AND evenings). Unfortunately, we didn't know that we were in the way, but we DO now!

"Perhaps we should finish at 6pm?" was proposed by Chris Cutting, and seconded by Shahid. this was accepted by members together with our vacating the patch by 6.30pm. It was also considered reasonable to cap membership, to avoid complications in the future. Well, having digested that unwelcome news the election of officers was no surprise.

Chairman – Mark Pearce

Secretary – Bill Michie

Treasurer Jason Channing

Membership Secretary – Laurie Poulter

Website – Shahid "Bango" Banglawala

Newsletter – Mike Moylan

Training Officer – Mike Turner

Committee Member – Kevin Twitchett

Committee Member – Neil M

Kevin and Neil welcomed as new committee members

Alan Wild gave a vote of thanks to all club officers

Cheers Dears, Mike