



The TrimTab

The monthly update of the Lancashire Aero Club

Editor's Bit

Hullo again! As you know, this & following issues of The TrimTab will be available for collection in the Tower or Clubhouse, as well as being sent out with other mail.

Issue 1 feedback has been....mixed! Generally, it was something like "Thank goodness, at last some information on what's happening" ..."the last thing I found out about the club was through Flyer magazine..". These comments ran along with "It doesn't give us enough detail" and "why can't it be posted every month". The most serious criticism was from those who felt that TrimTab had usurped the Elevator, stolen its content, and lost the 'quality' feel.

Publisher's Note:
Mike Edwards was editor of this issue.

I as Editor, and we as The Committee can only stress ***in no way do we see the TrimTab displacing The Elevator.*** It cannot compete in terms of quality and content, it is limited to a 2-sided sheet, & is published to get factual information out ASAP to the membership. Short of reading (interpreting!) minutes, we have suffered socially & politically from the lack of timely information (poor event attendance, wild

rumours, ignorance of safety/airfield rules, etc.). A wealth of information is still left for The Elevator. By limiting TrimTab's scope we promise timely, regular, factual news - and that is a quality feature in itself.

Barton Visitor Centre (BVC)

In Issue 1, we said an article on BVC was enclosed - and it wasn't! We apologise - the subscription renewal workload is high & the enclosure was overlooked. BVC plans are on the move, and the article is now dated, so here's a summary:

With recent uncertainty over Barton's future, we could be in a stronger position if we became a part of the community - not just a bunch of flyers hoping The World will leave us alone. The World isn't like that -- we have government, councils, Airfield Environment Groups, NIMBYs, etc. & we cannot ignore them. If we can present a better public image, we will do ourselves some good. We will also encourage air-mindedness, recruit more members, and on the way, we may actually make some money!

Every day, Joe Public can be seen at Barton, watching aircraft, walking around, and occasionally enquiring about taking part in the activities. However, at Barton there are:

- No facilities for first contact with the public
- No public refreshment, rest or recreational facilities

- No guiding information or welcoming mechanisms

LAC is one of the oldest aero clubs in the country. We are sited on a historical airfield, with listed buildings. *We have not taken advantage of this cultural richness, & have not communicated Barton as a cultural/educational/social amenity to the public. We should do so, and if we succeed, we could put ourselves firmly on the map as a centre for sport aviation in the North of England. Ambitious stuff - but if we tackle it in stages, we can do it. Our goal is:*

- A public enclosure, separate from the LAC enclosure, and a building which will be the focal point for the public when they visit Barton.
- A shop, information point, museum and education centre - themed on LAC & sport aviation.
- Facilities for the public to enjoy their visit (toilets, refreshments, benches, disabled access, etc.).
- A properly organised system for guided tours, educational visits and one-off events.
- Emphasis laid on educating and introducing youngsters to the world of aviation.
- All achieved without seriously affecting members' enjoyment of their sport, and making a profit for itself.

There are many details which need a book to expand on - but you get the general idea. Now - How to get it done? Well, the first stages have started - we're planning for two portakabins to be sited in a paddock area, and we're talking - to members, staff, potential non-club contributors and suppliers, and Joe Publics. The next stage will be to physically set up, and plans are advancing for this to be done by the end of 1993. We're targeting on opening on March 26-27th 1994, with a Spring Fair event (see over), and we have plans laid for further events in the year.

How can YOU contribute? Help could come in the form of event participation, information/history contributions, and practical help in terms of the centre set-up. Specifics we need right now consist of cheap sources for:

- Crane hire for moving portakabins
- Railway sleepers & paving stones for base & path

Please get in touch if you want to contribute, or have any comments.

Sad news

Peter Dyson, one of our senior and long-standing members passed away suddenly in October. I am sure you will join us in passing on our condolences to his relatives and close friends.

Events Review

November 6th - Annual Wings Dance. This was rated a great success by Our Chairman, being attended in the end by about 140 people. There was a last minute rush for tickets, the main cause seeming to be the lack of awareness of the event and its date. We will make sure next year that you all have much better notice. And just out of interest, we're booking the same venue for 1994.

Forthcoming events:

Membership Renewals must be received by **16:00pm on Friday 31st Dec 1993**, or you will incur the rejoining fee of £58.75. Renew early to avoid financial disappointment! If you have specific problems with your renewal, please contact the Tower or a Committee member ASAP - it's better to have it sorted out before the closure date.

Significant Committee Decisions and Actions

Kids Xmas Party - Sunday 19th Dec - 13:00 to 17:00 in the clubhouse. **Members please note that only the Rollo Room is available to members on that afternoon.** Food, entertainment & an airborne Santa Claus (weather permitting) bringing your sprogs a present. Age range 1-10 yrs. £4 per child. You **must book** by putting name(s) on the list in the clubhouse by Sunday 5th Dec. Any volunteers for Father Xmas? (seriously!) Free ride in a Jodel as a reward!

New Years Eve - 5 Star carvery with wine, coffee, glass of whisky at midnight, cabaret disco, fireworks and a free party bag! £20 per ticket. Book now at the Tower.

LAC evenings - Soon to be arranged along the lines of PFA meetings - socialise, meet the members, topical themes, etc. Dates to be announced.

24th January 1994 - First Airshow Helpers Meeting at 7.30pm in the Clubhouse. Free Hot-Pot supper for all volunteers. Lists will go up for names, to get an idea of how we're faring. Don't be shy - Airshow day is long but a good'un! Volunteers get food plus one adult advance ticket free (which can be upgraded by paying the difference).

26/27th March 1994 - Barton Visitor Centre opens. Pop in and have a (tethered) ride in a hot-air balloon, plus other (untethered) activities to be arranged. Fly-In, static display, barbecue, & shop selling aero-related bits 'n' bobs. Raising money for LAC **and** local charities.

22nd May 1994 - Manchester Air Show at Barton. The North West's premier airshow is up and running again. It's too early to give any firm facts on acts, but we're sure it's going to be a good and varied programme.

Lease negotiations are complete, as per the conditions stated by our Chairman at the September meeting, and 'clean copies' are ready for signing ASAP. Meanwhile, strategic plans are underway on the future airfield layout, but *nothing is firm on these as yet*. The future of existing buildings is still under debate; suffice it to say, we do not foresee major changes for at least 5 years.

Airshow 1994 first committee meeting has taken place, to decide preliminaries. First date for volunteer helpers meeting - **Monday 24th January 1994, 7.30pm.**

Clubhouse evening opening hours will be restricted from 6.12.93 until 28.2.94. On some days the clubhouse will close at 9pm, due to lack of attendance (interest!) from members. Please check the notice in the clubhouse for details. Believe me, we are just as unhappy about this as you are, and we intend to change the situation ASAP. So, on a more positive note, we're planning a 1994 calendar of events to get attendances up again. Watch this space...

The Clubhouse refurbishment will be planned, but held off until 1994. We have now had a reduced quote from A.Sharman, who wish to use the completed room as a showpiece & reference site, so you can expect some real quality when complete, at a much better price.

Maintenance labour rates are going up to £21.50p.h. wef 1.12.93. LAC members will get a discount of 8%, bringing the member rate to £19.78p.h. The increase is due to

overheads incurred bringing us up to JAR145 standard.

Airfield and Safety Information

Overhead Joins - Comments from pilots & instructors alike have pinpointed many members' unawareness of the correct procedure for overhead joins at Barton. A recent GASIL highlighted the problem also, and we urge you to read it, or ask our CFI to explain it to you. In our next issue we will publish a specifically edited version for Barton.

Airfield Obstructions - A recent airfield incident shows that we must be aware of the ground's propensity to subside (usually next to manhole covers and concrete areas). If you're taxiing and see potential danger spots, **use the radio & let control know** - the area can then be coned, & you might save someone an insurance excess bill, as LAC is not liable for damage so caused.

Aircraft Share Ownership - There are rules on this, which you must be aware of if you take on a share. The ANO states: "*A flight shall be deemed to be a private flight if*

(a) the aircraft is owned jointly by persons... who each hold not less than a 5% beneficial share and:

(aa) the aircraft is registered in the names of all the joint owners; or

(bb) the aircraft is registered in the name or names of 1 or more of the joint owners... & written notice has been given to the Authority of the names of all the persons beneficially

entitled to a share in the aircraft;...".

This has implications as regards operation at Barton (particularly for training). If in doubt, talk to our CFI and clarify the local rules with him.

Did You Know...

LAC Car Stickers are available now from the Tower and the Clubhouse at 50p each. Why don't you get one (or more if you're a fleet owner). Even better, get a few to take and swap on your trips to nether regions next year.

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH !!

To retain historical value, no changes were made to the wording in this old document when publishing on the www.

However, the original was produced using Word 3, in a single column. I have reformatted the text into two columns and used colour to emphasise headings, with a view to making it easier to read on a computer screen.

Signed **Chris Hicks** (Dec 2006)