



# The TrimTab

## The monthly update of the Lancashire Aero Club

August 1994      Vol 1 Issue 10

**Editor's Bit** - Well, here we are in the thick of the Flying Season, with everything humming away busily. I think in PR terms we are doing very well at the moment, as evidenced by the Open Day in particular. Although the main activity was billed as the 'Our Girls' production, it seems that many local folk thoroughly enjoyed themselves on our daytime activities on July 9th. The main problem was one of enough volunteers to man the car parks, run the tours, control the security, etc. - same old story, apart from the Air Show (where we get a significant amount of volunteer help from outside the club) there is not a great deal of enthusiasm for helping in the lower key events.

However, there is evidence to suggest that lower key, Open Day/Village Fayre type events could potentially be more successful commercially than the massive undertaking that Air Show has become - witness the fact that our Air Show this year realised a loss, whilst my son's school fair raised £2,000 on just 3 hours on a Saturday afternoon! So I don't feel guilty about repeating my

plea from last month's issue - we need volunteers who collectively could stage a series of events through the spring-summer-autumn seasons. If we can plan a good, varied calendar for 1995, our events calendar could benefit everyone - members, social life, public, charities, club coffers.

And speaking of last month's issue - apologies for the lateness, we went to press on the weekend of Our Girls but got caught in an administrative delay. Sorry, but we'll try to get back in sync with this issue.

**Bomber Command Association** - The chaps & chapesses of this organisation, who are members of the LAC, have recently been most generous in two ways - Firstly, they have allowed LAC to look after & display their collection of World War 2 memorabilia. The equipment & uniforms, together with display cases, will be stored safely until the Visitor Centre has been updated to include its new museum section, then will be put on permanent show, as a reminder of their valuable wartime contribution & as a part of our local, historical culture.

Secondly, they have presented us with a very beautiful shield, for use as a presentation trophy. At this time,

we are debating whether it should be presented for a competition, or for a special contribution or effort for LAC. If anyone has specific ideas on this subject, we would be glad to hear & consider them.

Thank you, Bomber Command - you are an active, participating & positive part of LAC's culture, & we are grateful for your contributions.

**Warbirds at Barton .....** There is now a very strong possibility that by the end of September, we may have a museum collection of aircraft, including a Vampire, Jet Provost, Vickers Gunbus, Albatros & Spitfire replica, coming to live at Barton. These aircraft, & a large collection of memorabilia, are part of the Macclesfield Historical Aviation Society, which is being forced to move from its current site at Knutsford.

As we go to press, things are looking very positive for their arrival in time for participation in the September 24-25th recreational flying review. LAC could benefit very positively from their presence, in the form of permanently displayed aircraft as visitor attractions, extra income from visitors, & the enthusiasm & energy of their 30 or so members, who wish to affiliate with us. Obviously, this will mainly come to fruition in the 1995 summer season. Additionally the MHAS can call upon certain flying aircraft to participate in events, so we may see some more exotic aircraft visiting Barton next year.

However, they do require (yes, you've guessed it) help, in the form of :

(a) **Fundraising** to the tune of £500 to cover rental of premises at Barton & initial moving & setup expenses, and

(b) **Some person-power** (or even crane-power) to physically offload airframes when they arrive at Barton in August/September.

Any ideas, volunteers, cash, cranes, cuddly toys to Mike Edwards at the Tower for co-ordination (& Mike's beer fund (- joke)).

**\* \* \*Adverts Time - Again ! \* \* \* \* \***

**Did you know we've gotta Cessna Aerobat?** (Gasps of amazement). Well, yes we have - but if you don't hurry up & use the wretched thing, it might get taken away! At only **£68 per hour** (PPL rate) or £78 per hour (with instructor), why not try it out & turn your world upside down for half an hour? It's a pleasure to fly, but is currently under-utilised, so don't be shy, come & book it out for a session & clear your head with some falling-out-of-the-sky stuff.

**Did you know we've (still) got a Book ?** More repetition - but it's amazing how many people are not reading their newsletters. LAC is now an official publisher, & we have been allocated ISBN numbers for our first publication - *Three Score Years & Ten* by Pete Maher - & other publications we may come up with in future.

You can help us make this new venture a success, & give yourself a cracking good read as well, by purchasing our book from the Tower or Visitor Centre (at a special members price of £5.00 - the price at the booksellers will be more than this, so hurry up). & if you can't make it down to Barton, we'll offer it to you with your membership renewals, with p&p at £6.00. So watch for the form, & order a copy (or several

for your friends - stock up for Christmas presents).

## Events Review

**July 8th-9th-10th - 'Our Girls'** - This event has been mentioned above, but I have been asked to pass on Caroline Cleggs effusive compliments & thanks to the organisers & workers on this weekend. The event went off very well; in PR & goodwill terms it did a tremendous amount of good, & the newsletter cannot do justice to Caroline's 3 page letter of thanks to all involved. If anyone wants to read it, we'll put a copy up in the Tower for you - and maybe in due course, it could go in the mythical & legendary Elevator ?.

**15th-16th-17th July -Antonov AN2** - We had a super weekend with the giant biplane - pilots & passengers alike thoroughly enjoyed themselves, & James Black & Vincent (who brought the AN2 up for the weekend) were very complimentary about our hospitality. The AN2 attracted a lot of visitors, so LAC realised benefits in terms of fuel sales, visitor sales & generally good PR (though a couple of noise complaints had to be judiciously handled).

There's a strong possibility of a return visit for one full day in September, so we'll put up another list in the Tower for those who missed it - £115 for 20 minutes seems a lot, but you can take up to 11 guest passengers, & having now flown it I can say the experience was worth every penny! The CAP10

also came up for one day for charity PR purposes, to promote its aerobatic weekend for September.

## Forthcoming Events

### **14th August - Aerobatic Competition**

The date is now confirmed, & you will (of course) have seen the notice up in the clubhouse. The Aerobat is available on the day, & slots will cost you the very agreeable sum of £15 for 20 minutes. We should have airspace clearance to it all over Barton, which will make it a little more entertaining for the audience this year....

**12th-14th August - Microlight Fly-In Weekend** with Saturday evening disco entertainment run by the microlighters, but available to all. Microlight rides all weekend - if you haven't yet tried it, it's an incredible experience, especially if you're used to all the comforts of a modern spamcan.

**Saturday 20th August - Bomber Command Day Out** - We've had an invitation for members to join Bomber Command on this trip out in a coach to Eden Camp & Elvington, both in Yorkshire. Eden was a German POW camp, & Elvington hosts an aviation & military museum, so this will be of interest to any historians out there. The trip costs £10 (all admissions included), & the coach leaves the car park at Barton at 0830 on the day. Contact Bill Garsden on 061-736-6725 for details & to confirm a seat.

**Sunday, 21st August - PFA Fly-In, Brunch & Dawn Patrol** - Posters have

gone out to 40 airfields inviting 'enemies' to invade us on this morning. So far, the 'defenders' number 3 aircraft. Come on, for heavens sake, don't you relish a bit of fun for a change? There's a list in the Tower, which is crying out for more names. Pre-patrol brief by Martin Rushbrooke, date & time to be notified to defenders.

**Sat 17th September - Sponsored aircraft wash** - 292(Eccles) Sqdn, Air Training Corps is coming early (7-9am) to wash 20 aircraft in 2 hrs as a fund-raising effort. We've allowed them to start on the club fleet, now we're looking for 10+ aircraft to be volunteered.... Want a free wash'n'brush up for your wonderplane? Call the Tower & register it - it'll be in very safe hands we assure you!

**Sat/Sun 24th/25th September - Recreational Aviation/ Schools Weekend**, incorporating PFA fly-in, the aerobatic CAP10 doing charity stunts, a schools model aircraft competition, ground static displays, games & competitions, a barbecue & lots of fun for everyone, particularly the kids. Evening entertainment on Saturday in the clubhouse from Paul Weston's band. The weekend's organisation is now rolling along in the hands of Brian Winstanley, the famous George Formby impersonator. Want to be involved? Contact George - sorry Brian, via the Tower.

**PS: This weekend includes the CAP 10**, which is confirmed as a booking for both PPLs & members of the public. This is now getting rapidly booked up for sponsored charity aerobatic rides, so hurry up & get those names on the Tower list. It has an AOC for giving

joyrides as well as pilot experience. If anyone wants a go in this 2 seat aircraft the rates are as follows (all inclusive of VAT):

**£150 per hour.**

**£50 Minimum slot time 20 minutes.**

**Joyrides (non-PPLs) £49 & £79.**

**Late Oct/Early Nov - Halloween/Bonfire Nights** - details to be announced, but entertainment promised for all.

**Saturday 19th November - The Annual Wings Dance** - At the Moat House Hotel, Wilmslow. For newcomers, & to refresh jaded memories, the Wings Dance is the one annual *formal* bash where pilot awards are made for progress & achievements, & where trophies are presented for competitions, etc. Prices & options (like staying the night, etc.) to be announced in next month's Trimtab.

**\*\*\*\* Membership Renewals \*\*\*\***

On September 30th club memberships expire. Prices to be announced VERY shortly, the bonus being that there's no VAT this year.

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## Airfield & Safety Matters

**Ashcroft Farm - A Warning** - We received a letter from Bryan Lockyear, who is the (normally) very amiable & generous owner of Ashcroft Farm strip at Winsford, complaining about aircraft ignoring the very specific arrival & departure rules. Brian's letter amongst other things, says "it has come to my

notice that an opinion has been voiced at Barton to the effect of 'Bryan is easygoing & he doesn't mind really.. Well I am NOT & I DO'..".

We are with Bryan all the way on what he says, which is that **You Must Not Land or Go-Around at Ashcroft Without PPR & You Must Obey All its Local Flying Rules.** The simplest one of all - **NO FLYING TO THE NORTH** - is being ignored by certain Barton pilots, & this has resulted in official complaints being made by a NIMBY against Bryan. The Airfield telephone number is 0270 73 378, so you now have no excuse whatsoever for arriving there unannounced & uninformed.

If people persist after this warning, Bryan will ban them from Ashcroft, & they may also face the LAC Safety Committee. We simply cannot afford to be selfish flyers - there's a world of non-flyers out there who don't understand & who have the power to get us all grounded eventually if we behave irresponsibly. This is a local airfield - there is no excuse for not being aware of & obeying instructions.

And whilst we're on the subject.....

**Aircraft Noise** - Again, talking about neighbours, but now ones who are closer to home, we have recently had a number of complaints about repetitive noise when 09/02 LH is being used. OK, students have to learn their circuits in a disciplined way, but for the rest of us, maybe we could think of slightly varying our circuit & not using the same visual turning points each time? Interestingly, the most complaints come from Worsley rather than Peel Green & Eccles neighbours.

**Competition Time** - Following the success (?) of last month's competition, here's some well known staff & club members' anagrams to figure out. As some may not know these characters, the answers will appear in next month's issue...

**Fab 'n' Boily**  
**Gone BBod**  
**Derc M. Phitmolt**  
**r ... oil b c-en zee**  
**Hilda Pen**  
**Gamey Deckhan'**  
**Verd D. 'Airy Bak**  
**Walt P. NoUse**  
**Seb NoJob**  
**Jona G Sneeg**

**Bevan D.D. HotAir**  
**Giant Hobller**  
**Scorch Pupil**  
**Wott M. NoSend**

**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 2, 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)