



Cockpit

Issue 6 - Winter 2010/11

Newsletter of the Bournemouth Aviation Museum

AGM Report -Your Museum needs you!

The Annual General Meeting of the Bournemouth Aviation Charitable Foundation Ltd was held on Friday 12 November 2010 at the Dorset Scope Centre in Poole

Martin Gwynn (Chairman) took the opportunity to thank the Trustees Steve Rhymes, Paul Rushton and Ken Bradley and the volunteers for the hard work and effort they have put in throughout the year.

Finances.

Ken explained that a lot of money had been spent on setting out the museum and that this year was the first full financial year of trading for the Museum. The accounts for the last financial year ending August 2010 were still with the auditors but they showed a severe problem concerning cash flow. The outgoings in terms of rent and facilities through the winter months were in excess of the Museum's ability to meet those commitments from a cash flow perspective.

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Club Meeting Report 'Wessex Aviation'

Mike Phipp once again gave us a fascinating insight, liberally illustrated, into aviation history. This time his focus was on the various aircraft manufacturers in and around the area. From the Isle of Wight we have Britten Norman at Bembridge 1950 - present producing the BN1 prototype which did not develop, through Cushion Craft hovercraft to the now world famous Islander ; Samuel White 1912 - 1916 producing early seaplanes including a Shorts design (the shipyard worked till 1963); Saunders Roe in East Cowes with the Princess flying boat, SR53 Rocket fighter, the Black Knight and Black Arrow rockets, hovercraft from smallest to largest, and lastly windmill vanes albeit not under the Saro name since the early '60s. Along Southampton Water grew Supermarine (Spitfire, Walrus amongst many others, AV Roe (predecessor to Saunders Roe) Fairey and Folland's of Gnat fame. Inland we see Eastleigh being used to make helicop-

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Cockpit Progress



Above you can see the result of hours of cleaning the protective coating from a new but long stored cockpit canopy on the Meteor. Much additional work was also required in repairing the damaged runners.

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Aviation original paintings for sale

The museum has had a large collection of aviation books and original oil paintings donated for onward sale. Paul Rushton is trying to find someone who can value them and advise where we can sell them, meanwhile a few samples by artist Pete Messenger



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Events and Meetings

Next Club Meeting: 2nd Feb, 8pm, Mike Phipp - Bournemouth Airport - Part 3

Next Event - 6th March - Vintage Transport Day.

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AGM Report Cont

Although the Museum has increased its visitor income by 39% on the previous year, with visitor numbers also increased, the anticipated income and visitor numbers fell short mainly due to the poor weather during the critical Summer trading period. The level of income would need to be raised significantly (by about 50%) in future to meet the Museum's site costs, particularly to cover the Winter months. To do this a robust series of events, ably supported by volunteers, would be needed. Events planned and suggested were : January - Sale of artefacts, March – Transport Day, April - Fire Engine Day, August – Airshow / Draw / Aviation auction, September – Military Day, October - Classic Car Rally. Further ideas - Harley bike rally, Seasonal events – Christmas, Easter. Etc, Bi-monthly focus talks, Kids trail, Seek sponsorship of exhibits, Apply for grants, Joint promotions with Adventure Wonderland, Visitor promotions through press releases.

Other ideas, including suggestions from volunteers were to Improve the fence display with a new banner, donation boxes in clearly visible places, car boot sales, improved web site, more advertising, increased admission and membership fees.

More people are needed to help run the Museum and to organise events.

In particular there was a need to reduce the day to day burden on Ken Bradley.

A membership secretary is required and volunteers needed to take on and manage the database.

It was hoped that a satisfactory outcome could be achieved in balancing the site costs and the future potential income to enable the Museum to continue successfully.

Appointment of Officers

As he felt that the Museum would benefit from having a Chairman who is more locally based, Martin Gwynn decided to stand down as Chairman and Trustee, but would continue as a volunteer. No replacement was appointed. Ken, Steve and Paul were all re-elected as Trustees. Mike Cherry will support Trustees as a volunteer.

Since the AGM.....

Following on from the AGM, all the good ideas that were suggested are currently being investigated or acted upon. A lot of hard work has taken place to enable the Museum to move forward as we look ahead to a prosperous and successful year ahead, which the Trustees would like to acknowledge the help and support of Kevin Stark, Mike Cherry and Marjoleine Butler who have all worked miracles behind the scenes



Aviation original paintings for sale Contd

are shown here. Each is an original art work with a dramatic theme including Sopwith Camels, BE2c, a scene depicting the airship SL11 under attack by Leefe Robinson amongst many others.



Cockpit Progress Cont

The Vampire too has seen its new canopy finished, again with many hours spent on cleaning and then fitting the framework. The photographer missed the timing when the covers were off but the general progress and appearance can be seen here 23Jan11.



Club Meeting Report Cont

ters amongst more traditional aircraft; Chilbolton used by Supermarine and Old Sarum where the Optica was made. Closer to home we have Airspeeds, with the Horsa glider and Ambassador before the de Havilland take over at Christchurch with Vampire Venoms and Vixens and then of Course Vickers at Hurn with the world famous Viscount and BAC1-11.

