

Welcome to the JERSEY AERO CLUB

# May 2022 members newsletter

## Chairman's update ... from Nigel Hall

- Exploratory talks consider regarding the possible development of part of the car park.
- Property maintenance is on-going.
- Our new Treasurer, James Pirie, is in place and there has been a smooth transfer from Matt Palmer.
- Thanks to Matt for all his hard work over the last two years.
- Discussions are taking place with Ports of Jersey management team regarding developing a closer relationship with PoJ Staff and the JAC Club.
- An idea has been floated to install a boule/pétanque pitch in the garden area for both Club Members and to facilitate competitions. Do members have any views on this proposal?
- The Social side of the Club needs to be managed by JAC Members as your Committee simply does not have enough bandwidth for this very important activity.

#### Property update ... by Andrew Renouf

#### Hangar Doors – again

Last week Steve Tompkins made great progress fastidiously removing all of the rust from the angle cross sections. He primed and top coated the steels so after another coat of paint, we won't have to touch them for 20 years! He's back in a few weeks to finish off. Before and after below.



Another decorator, Steve McGill worked on the surrounds of the last 4 Hangar Doors closest to the entrance which has improved the look of this area.

In response to feedback from visiting pilots and members, the Committee plan to tidy up the airside entrance of the Club in the next few weeks.





We are working on numerous projects. For example, the Solar Panels are waiting for a reflectivity report to ensure they don't cause glare to incoming aircraft and the Car Park Barriers are waiting for cables to be pulled through existing ducts via the PoJ plant room. Improvements to the look of the Flying room are planned and other upgrades to facilities are being planned – watch this space.

Finally, please try to visit the café at least once a week for a coffee or lunch, we are open 7 days a week and the café is great value.

#### For sale and wanted items...

As mentioned in previous newsletters, should you have anything you want to sale or buy, contact me on <u>evelinehawkin@gmail.com</u> and I will publish it.

#### New opening in JACL aircraft group

G-JACL is a 4 year old Tecnam P2010 with the 180hp Lycoming engine with a 2 blade fixed pitch propeller.

According to Tecnam it is the most advanced high-wing, modern single-engine aircraft in the marketplace. Balanced controls. Unsurpassed stability. This aircraft is where performance and comfort meet in one sexy IFR package. Cut through the air with speed, ease and efficiency in the Tecnam P2010, thanks to its smooth shape, gently upswept wings and sculpted cowling.

It normally cruises at 120 knots TAS and burns around 50 litres an hour in the cruise. In still winds you get a range of just over 400 miles not including final reserve and fuel for an alternate. This is the equivalent of flying from Jersey to Edinburgh or Glasgow.



If you would like to know more please contact George Romeril.

Phone number - 07456 767277 Email - <u>romerilga@yahoo.com</u>





## Flying story ... 100 year old Typhoon Veteran

#### ...by Pauline Gardiner

Many of you not so young members will remember Bernard Gardiner as a Captain for Jersey Airlines where in 1949 Bernard became the first pilot of the fledging airline which was being formed by businessman Maldwyn Thomas. After various amalgamations with various other airlines Bernard ended up as chief pilot, operations manager and a director of British United Island Airways or BUIA. He retired in 1982.



However it was for his WW2 flying that the the Hawker Typhoon Preservation Group held a celebration at the RAF Club in Piccadilly to honour Bernard for flying Typhoons during the war. Bernard is a strong supporter of the group who are rebuilding a Typhoon, a huge project, which will become the only flying Typhoon in existence.



His birthday started with a visit from the Lieutenant Governor H.E. Sir Stephen Dalton who came to Bernard's home to offer his congratulations and present him with a birthday card from the Queen. He spent half an hour chatting to Bernard and was very interested in looking at Bernard's war time log book and hearing some of his stories.

Bernard fondly remembers the Typhoon saying it was a lovely aircraft to fly, with immense power having a 2,000 horsepower engine and a big 14 foot diameter propellor. He completed 71 combat missions over German occupied Europe with 193 squadron whose primary role was ground-attack operations, mostly trying to prevent the enemy moving V1 and V2 flying bombs to their launch sites by breaking the railway lines that transported them and their supplies to the Dutch coast.



Next came the wonderful weekend held at the RAF Club where the the Hawker Typhoon Preservation Group could not have done more to make Bernard feel special. The celebration was incredible. All Bernard's family were there and were treated nearly as royally as Bernard. The Hawker Typhoon Preservation Group could not have done more to make Bernard feel valued and special.

He was awarded a beautiful special edition Hawker Typhoon watch, the face of which resembles the cockpit of the Typhoon. Only one hundred are to be released next month and Bernard now has number one with his name and squadron engraved on the back. Later that day all the guests were assembled in the Winston Churchill bar as Bernard was escorted in to loud applause and he was presented with a commissioned painting of his Typhoon flying through the clouds with a glimpse of the land below where Bernard flew one of his missions.

There were about fifty guests who were keen to meet him, shaking his hand, some giving gifts, some wanting to tell their story and some wanting autographs. Afterwards we were led into the very elegant dining room and aside from a wonderful meal, Bernard had personal messages of thanks read to him from Air Commodore Mike Baulkwill (Combat Air Force Commander), Air Chief Marshall Sir Mike Wigston (Chief of the Air Staff), Air Marshall (retd) Cliff Spink who is the Patron of the Hawker Typhoon Preservation Group and many more. All these messages were later presented to Bernard in a book in which all the guests were encouraged to add their goodwill messages. He was also sent a video message from the Red Arrows and the Blades Aerobatic Team. If all that wasn't overwhelming enough a large cake was wheeled in appropriately decorated with the Jersey flag, the Union Jack, the names of airlines he flew with and a copy of his squadron shield on the top.





Ex Spitfire pilot sharing a joke with Bernard, George Pritchard ex Mosquito pilot age 98 and Colin Bell ex Mosquito pilot 608 Squadron (Pathfinders) Age 101

A speech was given about Bernard's life by an even older veteran, Flight Lieutenant Colin Bell, a Mosquito pilot from 608 squadron (Pathfinders) who is now 101 years old.

The photo of Bernard with Colin includes another Mosquito pilot called George Pritchard whose reached the grand age of 98. If you add their years together it is amazing.

The entire day was photographed and video recordings were made of Bernard being interviewed recalling his special memories.



*Next month* ... One of the most amazing aeroplane stories ever. The story of Lockheed SR71 Blackbird test pilot Bill Weaver's escape from a disintegrating aircraft at 78,000 feet Mach 3.1. ... *sent by David Esterson* 

## Plane spotter's corner ... from Bob Sauvary's collection









F-BASX Breguet 963 Provence 2 October 1973 Toussus Le Noble

D-EFAS Cessna 140 19 December 1973 Egelsbach

F-BDOX SNCAN built Stampe SV.4C 10 October 1981 Brive

F-PCAN Midgy LD.261 30 July 1983 Brienne le Chateau







#### F-WIRA Pereira GP-3 Osprey 26 July 1990 Moulins

F-PCAM Jodel D.19 7 June 1992 Dinan

**F-PBXS Druine D.31 Turbulent** 

11 July 1992 Caen







F-PEDF Nicollier HM.700 Menestrell II 23 July 1993 Moulins



D-EDPZ Dornier 27A-3 24 July 1993 at Moulins



F-BOMV Piper PA.18-95 Super Cub 24 July 1993 Moulins



D-EIWJ Yakovlev 50 13 July 2002 Fowlmere



# Jersey's flying charity ... by Eveline Hawkin



Well, the day might not have started with the most perfect weather but it did clear enough to allow 21 around the island flights to take place with 23 HW guests on board with their families or carers.

It only takes a look at the photos to see how much everyone enjoyed the day!

So, once again, it's a huge thank you to everyone involved making the day a success.















Sadly, amongst all this happiness, we have to say goodbye to Myra Shacklady, who in her role of Commercial Director for Ports of Jersey, had been a great supporter of Helping Wings. After attending the first bursary presentation as in the picture below in 2014, she then orchestrated a yearly scholarship with our 2021 recipient Nicole Camacho receiving hers earlier this year.



Myra will be much missed and we will remember her fondly.

At this very sad time, our thoughts are with her family and friends.

## Faye

We also have to say goodbye to Faith (Faye) Kleis whom many of you will remember who passed away last week after a short illness.

Faye was a great friend and we worked together for many years running the Ops Desk in the old then the new club premises. She was such a fun, lovable person to be with, always there for everyone.

Our thoughts are with her family and friends . She will be greatly missed.



#### and finally ...

A few of us, club members, were chatting a few days ago about how we revive the social side of the club.

And so, we are thinking of organising a meal on Friday, June 17th.

Once more details are available, we will contact you all. But, please, keep this date in your diary!

But, let's hope we see you at the club before then!

... Eveline