



# THE ROTATING BEACON

## The Bulletin of the United Kingdom Section of THE INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF FLYING ROTARIANS

The Fellowship operates in accordance with Rotary policy  
but is not an agency of nor controlled by Rotary International.

### SPRING 2004

#### Diary of Summer Events

March/April	Milan, Italy	Italian IFFR Conference "handicap & flight"
May 7/10	Cambridge	UK Section Spring Meeting & AGM
May 20/23	Gorlitz (German/Polish boundary)	German/Austrian Section
June 11/13	Midden Zeeland	Benelux Section 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting
June 19/20	Amiens, France	French Section Spring meeting
June 25/27	Rome, Italy	Italian Section Fly-in
July 7 (Wed)	Cranfield	Visit to Bletchley Park Codebreaking centre
July 10/11	Sheffield	IFFR World President's Open Weekend
August 19/22	Frederickstat, Rygge	Norway - Scandinavian Section meeting
Sept 3/5	Torgau - Black Forest	German/Austrian Section Autumn meeting
Sept 10/12	Caen, Normandy	French Section Autumn meeting
October 2/3	Norwich	UK visit to RAF Radar Museum
October	North Portugal	Iberian Section meeting Details to follow

\*\*\*\*\*

#### WARNING

Airfield VFR charts for most European airfields are usually available from your Secretary at short notice either by email (which usually takes longer to download) or by post as a hard copy. However from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> April I shall be away on holiday in Florida and thus out of contact. This embraces the Easter weekend when many of you may be thinking of shaking the mothballs out of your planes & brains. If you require any charts for journeys over Easter please contact me now, by phone to 01462-684941 or email to [john@ritchieiffre.freehost.co.uk](mailto:john@ritchieiffre.freehost.co.uk) so that I can issue them before I leave.

#### Welcome to New Members

They are: **Derek Abbey** of the Castle Donington R.C. whose airport is East Midlands, **Simon Barlow** from the Hazel Grove R.C. who flies from Barton, **Bill Chaffey** of the Sherborne R.C. who flies from Compton Abbas, **Graham Claybourn** of the Doncaster St. Leger Club who flies from Willow Farm, **Peter Jude** of the Skegness R.C. who flies from Humberside, **John McClean** of the Londonderry R.C. who flies from Eglinton in Northern Ireland, and an old member who has just rejoined, **John Waters** of the Wadhurst R.C. who flies from Biggin Hill

**U.K. SECTION IFFR**  
**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Holiday Inn, Cambridge, Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2004 at 9.00 am.

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Chairman's report
3. Secretary/Treasurer's Report
4. Approval of Accounts for 2003 and annual subscription - see Accounts below
5. Election of Officers
6. Guidelines for IFFR Events
7. Proposals for future program

Nominations have been received for the following offices:

Chairman John Bowden, Immediate Past Chairman Ian Kerr, Vice-Chairman Rodney Spokes, Secretary/Treasurer/Editor John Ritchie, Michael Pudney as Officer without Portfolio. Feroz Wadia, Past Chairman 1995-98 will become European Vice-President from July 2004 and an ex-officio member of the Committee

If you are unable to attend the AGM but wish to submit nominations for office or invitations for future IFFR events please send them to the Secretary by post to John D. Ritchie, 84 Broadway, Letchworth, Herts SG6 3PH or by email to [john@ritchieiffr.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:john@ritchieiffr.freeserve.co.uk) as soon as reasonably possible.

John D. Ritchie  
Hon. Secretary

**IFFR (UK) LIMITED**

**The Annual General Meeting will follow the conclusion of the above meeting**

**AGENDA**

1. To receive and consider the Report of the Directors
2. To elect Directors and Secretary
3. To transact the other ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting

By Order of the Board,  
John Bowden  
Secretary

**Want to be taken for a ride ?**

Ron Wright who flies a PA28 from Panshanger near Hertford is looking for a co-pilot experienced in RT and navigation procedures abroad and with a Garmin to accompany him to some of the European events listed above. He offers free travel in exchange for your skills. Phone him on 01438-880-581 or fax to 01438-880-562. With no airport passenger tax that is even cheaper than Easyjet or Ryanair!

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF FLYING ROTARIANS  
UNITED KINGDOM SECTION

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT : JANUARY-DECEMBER 2003

<u>Income</u>	
Subscriptions for 2003	1,970.00
Subs for new members for 2004	75.00
Sales of badges & ties	45.00
Bank interest	20.32
Surplus on Brooklands meeting	20.00
Le Quesne Memorial Donations	360.00
Brooklands Meeting deposit	<u>250.00</u>
Total income	2,740.32
<u>Expenditure</u>	
International Subscriptions	1,009.45
Bulletins (4) Printing & postage	232.57
Badge holders & photo frame	71.87
Bottlang VFR Guide Europe	109.13
Meeting expenses: Waterford	24.00
Deposit for Bletchley Park Meeting	50.00
Secretarial expenses	41.34
General Aviation Awareness Campaign	225.00
Le Quesne Memorial Fund	410.00
Balance to Le Quesne Memorial Fund	6.25
Brooklands Meeting deposit	250.00
Badge refund	<u>5.00</u>
Total expenditure	<u>2,434.61</u>
Net income less expenditure	305.71
	(2002 = -£473)

GRAEME LE QUESNE MEMORIAL FUND

Donations received	410.00
Balance from IFFR funds	<u>6.25</u>
Engraving materials	58.70
Donation EU500 to Portuguese Aero Club	<u>357.55</u>
	416.25

BALANCE SHEET 31st DECEMBER 2003

Funds at LloydsTSB Bank - Treasurers Account	
Bank Balance at 31.12.03	2,337.68
Less International subs due (\$90 @ 1.65)	<u>54.55</u>
Net assets (excluding stock of ties & badges)	2,283.13

\* \* \* \* \*

BUDGET 2004

Income :	90 Subscription renewals @ £20	1,800.00
	4 New member Subscriptions @ £25	<u>100.00</u>
		1,900.00
Expenditure :	International subscriptions	
	90 x \$15 @ \$1.65=£1	818.00
	4 x \$25 @ \$1.65=£1	61.00
	G.A.A.C donation	225.00
	Bulletins etc	300.00
	Bottlang subscription	110.00
	Secretarial expenses	<u>40.00</u>
	Reserve	346.00
		<u>1,900.00</u>

John D. Ritchie

R.J.Harrison

Honorary Treasurer

Honorary Examiner

## **VISIT TO BLETCHLEY PARK - WEDNESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2004**

We have arranged a one-day visit to Bletchley Park (Station X) the now famous home of the secret code breakers during World War II. Regarded as the birthplace of modern computing and communications, Bletchley Park is now a heritage site and museum run by a charitable trust. Occupied by the Intelligence Services during the war years it was a site of supreme importance to the Allies and the place where the German Enigma code was successfully broken.

During our guided tour we will see working examples of an Enigma and other coding & decoding machines plus a replica of the "Turing Bombe" and a reconstructed working model of the Colossus, the world's first programmable electronic computer

Arrangements will follow the same pattern as last year's Brooklands visit, assembling in the bar in the Mansion between 11.30 and 12.00 noon, followed by a Finger Buffet with the guided tour starting as close to 13.30 as possible, and ending by 16.00.

Bletchley Park is near Milton Keynes and all attending will be supplied with a brochure incorporating a route map. There is ample parking space by the Mansion. The total cost of the tour including lunch will be £25. Please do not send any money at this stage but send the following form to Brian McGraw at 58 Glenfield Drive, Great Doddington, Wellingborough, NN29 7TE [brian@mcgraw.FSbusiness.co.uk](mailto:brian@mcgraw.FSbusiness.co.uk) IFFR has paid a deposit to secure the booking so an early response from members interested would be appreciated.

For those wishing to come by air it will be possible - just! Cranfield Airfield is about 11 cross-country miles away but the organisers are working on plans to provide transport from Cranfield to Bletchley Park and back. To help with this it is essential that any members wishing to fly in should advise their intentions as soon as possible.

### **REGISTRATION FORM- BLETCHLEY PARK**

Name:

Address:

Phone number : Home

Mobile

Rotary Club

Names & Addresses of any accompanying non-IFFR guests

Travel by road or by air ?

If by air make your own arrangements with Cranfield Airfield ATC 01234-754761

To assist the organiser it is an IFFR requirement that those attending provide the name and phone number (STD or mobile) of the person to be notified in the event of any difficulty or delay in departure, whether you travel by road or air.

Name of person to be notified

Phone number:

## **GUIDE LINES for organising an IFFR Fly-In**

These guidelines are not mandatory and have no legal effect but are in place to assist with the provision of a satisfactory venue, accommodation, and programme required for a successful Fly-In. It is also intended that appropriate information and briefings will be made available to assist pilots with planning their flying activities in a safe manner, without leaving our IFFR organisation, personnel, Rotary Clubs, Rotary Districts or RIBI open to litigation. A full copy of the GuideLines is available to any member wishing to host or arrange such an event on application to the Secretary John D. Ritchie, phone 01462-684941 or by email john @ritchieiffr.freemove.co.uk

### **You can fly without a licence !**

**S**o you have failed your medical and feel like cutting your throat! For so many pilots the loss of ones medical spells the end of flying, but it need not be so. Naturally if you are the sole owner of an aircraft you will feel like chucking it all away and taking up sailing or motor racing, but if you are the member of a group or a flying club you may be able to have the best of all worlds. After years of pushing and pulling the pole much of the novelty of actual flying will have gone but for those accustomed to touring abroad half the pleasure is the planning of the trip.

Four years ago I like so many other geriatric pilots failed to meet the unnecessarily demanding standards imposed upon us by the JAR/FCL system, introduced to facilitate the universal employment of professional pilots across Europe and now imposed upon General Aviation. However I retained my share in the group aircraft, all the other three members being fully employed and with little time to spare for planning and even less experience of the involved procedures that affect VFR flight in Europe. In consequence they are only too delighted to have someone able and willing to keep the records and accounts for the aircraft, maintain the Bottlang and current charts, and advise on the easiest way of making a flight into many of the major European airports without falling foul of the authorities whether ATC or governmental. In exchange I get a regular ride in the front seat, the use of the radio (I know who should be called on what frequency and when if I have planned the route) and am able to make many trips that would not otherwise be possible without a PPL.

A similar situation applies to many flying clubs. There are plenty of newly qualified pilots keen to sample flying on the continent but reluctant to do so alone. They worry about the procedures and language problems that you have already overcome. If you let it be known that you are willing to share your expertise and make some contribution to the costs you may find that you are soon back in the air. It may not be the cheapest method of getting around, but sure beats the queues at Heathrow & Stansted. If you reach that situation give my remedy a moment's thought before taking up bowls.

### **BATTLE OF BRITAIN MEMORIAL**

As you may have read elsewhere a fund is being raised to provide a suitable memorial to commemorate those that flew and died during the Battle of Britain. A member of Rodney Spokes Rotary Club is one of the "Few" still surviving. For details of the fund please contact Rodney at 155 Scraftoft Lane Leicester LE5 2FF Tel 0116-241-4301

## SAY SOMETHING

The veteran Sergeant Major was supervising the nervous young corporal drilling a squad of new recruits on a cliff top parade ground. As they marched inexorably towards the cliff edge the corporal froze as he realised that he had forgotten the command to turn them back. In despair he looked to the Sergeant Major who simply replied "Well corporal, Say Something - if it is only Goodbye!".

What relevance is this to IFFR ? Well, the summer programme is coming up, and if you have told the Organiser that you will be attending an event and are prevented at the last minute from getting there, whether by the weather, a technical problem, even Grandma's funeral, or en route Say Something to the Organiser. He can then stop worrying about what has happened to you. It may be for your own safety as well as being a matter of common courtesy. That is why we ask for details of those to be notified in case of emergency.

.....

## SEE WHY I JUST CAN'T WAIT UNTIL I'M EIGHTY !

### WING WALKING TOM

Prize for the year for the most enterprising IFFR member must surely go to Tom Lackey. A member of the Solihull St Alphege Club Tom has completed eight wing walks and has plans for two more. Remarkable enough but even more so when you consider Tom is 83!! He has done them all in aid of various children's charities and through sponsorship has literally raised thousands of pounds. For the flights he wears a double layer of underclothing – thermal long johns he confesses - his IFFR sweatshirt and a flying suit. He wears no head gear but wonders why the pilot wears a crash helmet! A member of the 'Aerosuperbatics Club', he completed his latest walk at the old Royal Flying Corps airfield at Rencombe, Gloucestershire. This one was particularly special as he ended up doing a double roll while perched on the wing!

Dangerous though the stunts may be Tom reckons that he encounters more grief on terra firma. At a turf cutting ceremony for a children's hospice Tom was invited to cut the ribbon – he cut his finger instead! Visiting a radio studio to talk of his exploits he entered a lift when all the lights went out – he spent the next five minutes oscillating between floors. Tom's efforts were recently recognized when he won the Midlands final of the Hi-Q Local Heroes competition. He is hopeful that he will make an entry in the Guinness Book of Records – will he be the first IFFR member to achieve that distinction?

\*\*\*\*\*

**E**xcuses, Excuses - So you have been too busy, lost your diary, or just plain forgot. This is your last chance to book for our prestigious Annual Meeting at Cambridge on 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> May. Full details of the programme and costing were included in the New Year Bulletin a copy of which was sent to you and can still be made available if you really mean to attend. Phone Ian Kerr on 01569-764989 or email him at [iankerr@ifb.co.uk](mailto:iankerr@ifb.co.uk)

## *Up with the Birds in India*

Contributed by Peter Gibby

With my flying experience limited to flying solo in a paraglider 700 ft above the South Downs I felt something of a fraud when proposed for membership of IFFR by our Vice-Chairman, John Bowden who is member of my Rotary Club. However I was pleased to be able to make a flight on my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and was amazed, having told only one fellow Rotarian of my plan, to find the Club President and half the Club with their wives had arrived to cheer me on. They even produced a bottle of champagne, but having a couple of flights arranged for the afternoon I felt obliged to decline.

Since then I have flown from Blorange, (a 1,500 ft take off) above Abergavenny, and from Hay Bluff and Tallybont Hill Fort. Then our gliding instructor arranged for a party to make a gliding trip to India in the autumn and agreed to take me even though I had explained that I had only ever soared and never come across a thermal but had encountered strange turbulence at times

We flew to Delhi where we changed to a German twin turboprop. We had understood that the party would fly in one aircraft and the gliders would follow in another. I think that there may have been only one aircraft, as at first they refused to take both pilots & gliders, but eventually having drained off half the fuel we departed with all the gliders in the rear of the plane, which worried me a little. After a spectacular flight to Shimla we took on more fuel and continued on to Kangra airstrip from where we were taken by van to our holiday accommodation.

The next day we examined our landing site near a Buddhist temple of the Dalai Lama in a village called Bir in the Kangra valley, Himachal Pradesh. Then up to our take-off point via 14 miles of twists and turns that took nearly an hour in low gear. When my turn came I took off and was told by radio to fly towards the circling birds and then turn, harder and harder, and found I was shooting up. Now I knew what "turbulence" was! The birds were eagles, griffon vultures, and buzzards that were interested in us but fortunately didn't fancy us for lunch.

On the fourth day I got up to 8,000 ft and next day tried for 10,000 and got to 11,135 ft, which was now my top score. Happily all my landings were in the landing field but some of the more adventurous pilots did some away landings and had interesting experiences from the kind and lovely local people. Those that landed among the trees were fined a dozen bottles of beer that went down well at the end of the day.

Now I feel a little less shy about wearing my IFFR badge as it was all done without an engine and there was no 'going around' for another go!

-----  
From: "Ives Branson" <ives@branson.flyer.co.uk>  
I've come across some information that is important for anyone intending to fly in Australia. This has to do with new security measures. Straight conversion of ICAO licenses to a CASA Australian licence on production of a valid medical has now ceased. Further information on Australian security can be found on:  
[http://www.dotars.gov.au/transecfact\\_sheet6.aspx](http://www.dotars.gov.au/transecfact_sheet6.aspx)  
Further info on getting an Australian special license:  
<http://www.caa.co.uk/srg/licensing/fcl/whatsnew.asp?groupid=626>  
[http://www.casa.gov.au/avreg/fcl\\_lic/overbr.htm](http://www.casa.gov.au/avreg/fcl_lic/overbr.htm)

## **A CELEBRATION**

Alisma and Angus Clark invite you to join them on the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> / 11<sup>th</sup> July 2004 to celebrate the beginning of Angus's two year term as World President of IFFR.

### **PROGRAMME**

#### **Saturday July 10**

1000 to 1200 Arrive Sheffield Airport - EGSY. (Note: bookings for all landings and for customs / police clearance must made in advance with Angus)

1200 to 1530 A choice of two experiences:

**A scientific experience** – a visit to the MAGNA science adventure centre. ([www.visitmagna.co.uk](http://www.visitmagna.co.uk)). Described as the foremost centre of its kind in the UK if not Europe it sets out Sheffield's special place in the world of steel making and much more

**A shopping experience** – a visit to Meadowhall ([www.meadowhall.co.uk](http://www.meadowhall.co.uk)) – one of the largest shopping malls in Europe. All the major UK retailers are represented here with department stores and specialist boutiques. There will be a £10 shopping voucher to help you on your way if you register for shopping in advance.

Lunch facilities are available at both locations.

1530 Transfer to hotel or home host

1800 Leave hotel for a reception at our home followed by an informal evening in our Village Hall with a buffet meal and dancing to a band of Rotarian musicians.

#### **Sunday July 11**

930 Leave hotel for a guided tour of England's premier country house

– Chatsworth ([www.chatsworth-house.co.uk](http://www.chatsworth-house.co.uk)) – with its magnificent interior and furnishings set in the midst of the picturesque Peak District. This will be preceded by a visit to a local village to view the "Well Dressings". These are unique to this part of England and at their simplest can be described as "the art of decorating springs and wells with pictures made of growing things." The results are stunning. For those who may have visited Chatsworth before there will be the option of visiting historic Haddon Hall (please advise Haddon Hall on registration if required).

Lunch facilities are available at both locations.

1300 Return to Sheffield Airport

#### **Accommodation:**

A special rate has been agreed for both Friday and Saturday nights with the Sheffield Park Hotel (formerly the Sheffield Moat House) of £60 per twin bedded room per night including English Breakfast. Four single rooms are also available at £50 per night. The rates include full use of the hotel's excellent leisure facilities.

Accommodation should be booked direct with the hotel. IFFR or Flying Rotarians should be mentioned at time of booking to get the preferential rate. Phone: (0)114 282 9988 Fax: (0)114 237 8140 Home hosting by Rotarians from our respective Clubs has been offered for a limited number of participants. Enquiries should be made with Angus and Alisma.

oooooooooooooooooooo

Oshkosh Rotary Club  
P.O. Box 785  
Oshkosh, WI 54903

**EAA Fly-In**  
**July 29 – August 4**

The Oshkosh Rotary Club makes housing available at the homes of our Rotarians and all the proceeds benefit our Rotary projects.

We charge \$50.00 per person.

Amenities include:

- Free transportation to the EAA grounds
- Light breakfast
- The security of knowing that you are staying in the home of a fellow Rotarian

To reserve lodging please contact Carol Williams, Housing Chairperson, Oshkosh Rotary Club

- Phone: 001 (920) 233-3033
- Fax: 001 (920) 233-3056
- E-mail: [willie1910@msn.com](mailto:willie1910@msn.com)
- By Mail: Oshkosh Rotary Club, P.O. Box 785, Oshkosh, WI 54903-0785

Please share this information with your friends and visit us at our website:

[www.oshkoshrotary.org](http://www.oshkoshrotary.org)