



The Baragwanath Barometer

Editor's Note

Okay, so somewhere along the lines a few of the 'young bucks' were asked to try and revive our airfield's newsletter with some good humour, some entertaining articles, and some powerful pictures.

I'm not sure that we have lived up to all of those high expectations, but hopefully, our first issue will be something that is at the very least entertaining to read.

Special thanks must go to the contributors, and particularly Noel Otten who provided some fantastic stuff. I was particularly chuffed to see the Tiger coming along nicely, we'll look forward to seeing her fly again soon.

If you have any anecdotes, photographs or gossip which might be nice to include here, please could you pass it along to cwatson@stithian.com.

Other than that, enjoy the read!

Courtney Watson



Chairman's Message

The past few weekends have not been conducive to pleasant flying conditions...windy and cold. But that will soon change. Summer is only a few short weeks away. I am looking forward to seeing and meeting with all of you out at the airfield. Please feel free to stick your head in at the "Toy Box" and say hello. I have been busy, with the help of Mike McAuley and John Howse, getting all the toys in airworthy condition and ready to play with. There are some interesting fly-aways coming up. I also had a call from Brian Zeederberg today, (19th Aug). He sends his best wishes to all at JLPC. He expects to be back in South Africa during October.



The 2008 JLPC Committee: Ian Popplewell (Vice Chairman), Dave Gill, Alan Evan-Hanes, Richard Bickel, Johan Maritz, Bill Holden, Bob Hay (Treasurer), Denise Paterson (Secretary), Selwyn Marx. Not in picture, Noel Otten, (Chairman - took the photograph), Mike McAuley, Mike Gill.



Club House News

Members Refreshments:

Mike Gill has stocked the fridge in the Clubhouse with cool drinks. These may be purchased from Peet Taljaard.



A braai on a Sunday is never a bad idea...



John Reeder in his Pitts S1 formatting on a Cessna 140 (who said speed differentials were a problem!)

Tools for Peet

Have you any hand tools you no longer need? If so, please donate them to the club. They will make Peet's life a lot easier.

Sport Aerobatic Club

The S A C have removed their display cabinets and posters from the clubhouse. They decided to move their club to Rand Airport. They thanked the JLPC for hosting the SAC at Baragee for 25 years. JLPC requested that SAC organise an aerobatic contest at Baragee. The Warren Percy Memorial Trophy shall be reinstated for this contest. The clubhouse now needs some furniture. If any member has any display cabinets they no longer need, please could you donate them to the club.

Hangar Repairs

I regret to report that this project has stalled. All the materials have been purchased, but the person contracted to do the job has failed us. I am looking for someone else to undertake the work. (Noel Otten)



Chris van Hoof is taken for a ride to Zebula Lodge by his Partenavia.



Another Tiger!

Progress on Tiger Moth ZS-CDJ (owned by Noel Otten) as of August 2008 is coming along nicely, clearly! We all hope to see her take to the skies soon, which will make three tigers housed at Baragee.



Some fabric work



Before (July)...



And after (August)...

Time's gone by

I was going through some old photographs that Dad had stashed away and came up with a couple of Baragwanath (or Syfferfontein back then) and surrounds. There was some interesting activity going on. I'm not going to ramble on about the photos because you know the old mantra about a picture being worth a thousand words...



Another tiger at Krugersdorp - A pity about the water stain.



I can't make out all the aeries, but after the yellow kombi, C150; Tiger Moth; Pitts S1; two Chipmunks

What to do with scrap engines?

Noel sent some photographs taken at Sun n Fun in Florida, USA, which really had me tickled pink! If you've got piles of junk lying around, how converting them into tables?



Where is this?

You might have noticed that this newsletter has used quite a lot of Tiger Moth orientated content because, well, that's what I fly and that's what I've got the most photographs of. But, here's an

interesting one. Try and decipher roughly when this photograph was taken and where. Yes, it is of Dad's tiger before the blue and yellow colour scheme, but the aeroplanes in the foreground echo of places like Old Rhinebeck and Shuttleworth!



Congratulations

Chris van Hoof managed to coax his Cozy to a new altitude record of 28 197 ft ASL. This momentous feat was achieved in the vicinity of FALI on Saturday 26 July. Chris commented that the aircraft was still climbing at that altitude, but with an outside temperature of -24.5°C , he thought that he would descend to warmer climates. So, what a superb effort, our congratulations, Chris!



Chris in his record-breaking Cozy

A Novel Idea?

With quite a lot of flying activity around Baragee at the moment, I thought that it might be nice to put together a calendar for 2009, devoting each of our aircraft for each month. It's always nice to see your aerie in print, so how about it? If you'd like to be included, please email a picture of your pride and joy, together with a caption and we will judge the best photos for the calendar. Obviously flying pics are preferable, but feel free to send anything along. The deadline for entries is 1st December.

Johannesburg Light Plane Club
(an incorporated association not for gain)

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Aviation humour

It seems the FAA has a unique device for testing the strength of windshields on airplanes. The device is a gun that launches a dead chicken at a plane's windshield at approximately the speed the plane flies. The theory is that if the windshield doesn't crack from the carcass impact, it'll survive a real collision with a bird during flight. It seems the British were very interested in this and wanted to test a windshield on a brand new, speedy locomotive they're developing. They borrowed the FAA's chicken launcher, loaded the chicken and fired. The ballistic chicken shattered the windshield, went through the engineer's chair, broke an instrument panel and embedded itself in the back wall of the engine cab. The British were stunned and asked the FAA to recheck the test to see if everything was done correctly. The FAA reviewed the test thoroughly and had one recommendation: "Use a thawed chicken."



It took me a while to get a conversion on to the Tiger

And some final words

I am planning to put together another Poker Run with Bara as the starting point, which will be based on the same format as last year's event. It will take place sometime in late October, but details will be up on email soon for all of those who might be interested in joining in. So, until the next issue, happy landings...