



WAYPOINT>

The Priory Farm Aviators' Newsletter – September 2021

Monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday at 7.30 PM.
Summer venue (May to Sept): Priory Farm; Winter venue (Oct to April): Various

Website: WWW.FlyPFA.co.uk

Chairperson: John Fielding

johnfielding001@gmail.com

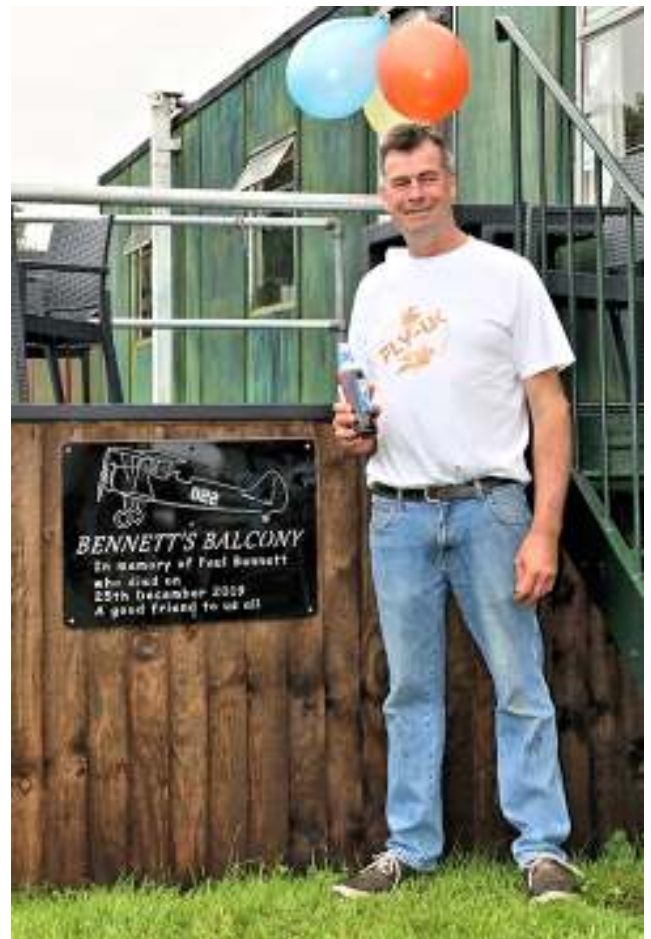
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This **Wednesday, 1 September** will be your last chance for a while to sample the delights of self-catering on the Priory Farm BBQ, for as of October, we go into Winter mode.

Brightening the dark nights which lie ahead, it can be disclosed that preparations are being made for a **Christmas Social** to be held in the Gliding Club in **Wednesday 1 December**. New management has taken over the canteen at NGC, and they appear keen to have us as guests. See Committee minutes, below. More information shortly, but keep 1 December free!

We did, of course, slip in an extra BBQ on 22 August, for the formal opening of the new Hut veranda, which was declared operational by the leading light in its conception and manufacture, Simon Stoodley. Dodging the sometimes heavy rain, Simon also unveiled a plaque dedicating the feature to Paul Bennett, who was so often to be found ensconced on the previous structure, dispensing wisdom and humour in ample measure.



Cheers, Paul! Simon Stoodley raises a beer in tribute to Paul Bennett to whose memory the new veranda is dedicated. Just visible is one of the new chairs which complement Simon's handiwork

WELCOME two new members of Priory Farm Aviators:

Keith Gernett and **Michael Gibbs**

the second of whom receives a further mention in the 'Hangar Door' section, opposite.



Minutes of the Committee Meeting

held at Priory Farm: 4th August 2021

Present: Alan McNeal, Bob Sage, John Fielding, Mik Horn, Paul Jackson

Apologies: Bill Scott, John Barker, Richard Flagg

1. Alan pointed out that the previous meeting, 2nd June, did not have enough committee members present (four) to provide a quorum. The five members present at today's meeting voted to adopt all measures decided at the previous meeting.

2. Flying day and barbecue. Covid and weather has meant a number of false starts in 2021 but the committee agreed that Sunday 22nd August would be a good day for a Flying Day & Barbecue. It is hoped that Simon Stoodley would be on hand to 'open' the new balcony. John would send out the message on Facebook and Mailchimp e-mail.

3. Membership. Bob explained that there were a few members who still hadn't paid their membership, 8 months into the year! To date, 62 members have paid.

4. Painting of wood surfaces of club hut. Bob would ask his son, Johnny to paint the benches. Bob pointed out that there was a green mould on the hut that needed treating before repainting. John agreed to bring in some mould remover so that Alan could spray the hut exterior. He would also buy some more clear varnish if required.

5. Donation to East Anglian Air Ambulance. The committee discussed and agreed to give £2,000 from the club funds. Bob gave John information on making donations to the charity.

6. Christmas Dinner: Wednesday 1st December. Bob has met the new club secretary and the new caterer at the Norfolk Gliding Club. They have agreed to cater for the PFA Christmas dinner and that the price would be approximately £19.50 per head.

7. Electrical work. John would be meeting the electrician at the club hut on 24th August at 8am to talk through the jobs that will hopefully be completed that day.

8. Fly-out. A date was discussed for a club fly-out. Sunday 29th August was agreed upon. The destination may be Stow Maries and/or Monewden. John would check with Stow Maries to see if this was possible.

Footnote: Indeed, five PFA aircraft flew the epic, 18 mile journey to Monewden, where on a cloudy, breezy (almost down the runway) day, a good time was had by all.



No sooner had the pixels dried on the previous newsletter than, as promised therein, our

second Chilton DW1A, G-CDXU hove into view, flown by owner Michael Gibbs. Two days later, at the 4 August BBQ, Michael treated the assembled members to an impromptu couple of flypasts.



Michael Gibbs' Chilton is blue; Chris Barnes' is red; at Felthorpe, G-JUJU is black. On 29 August, the trio flew to Brighton to take part in a meet of aircraft powered by Czech-built Walter engines



Sue and Steve Foreman have made good progress with their Zenair 601 since it was featured in the February *Waypoint*. It has now been painted and assembled at Priory Farm and is being prepared for its maiden flight (Bob Sage)



The arrival of David Hunter's Skyranger Nynja G-FIDO has already been mentioned. Here's a picture to prove it

Paul Coman advises that his stock of 'dead' balloons in the workshop has been whittled down to four: G-BUYD, G-BNMX, G-JINI and G-TADS. However, Bob tells us that three more envelopes (G-BZRZ, G-CCSG and G-OBUN) are outside, awaiting disposal—feel free to take one away!

If the weather on Wednesday is suitable, BBQers might be treated to an inflation by one of the serviceable gasbags.

Last month's correspondence on the yellow 'Canadian' Auster prompted this follow-up from owner, Adrian Hall-Carpenter:

All the comments on my latest Auster have been very interesting, and thanks to all those who commented.

The truth of the matter is that 'PG has been poorly (or misguidedly?) maintained. I flew it back with three days' Permit left, because I don't think it would see a renewal without significant work.

2 hours 45 mins from Dunkeswell to Priors Farm holding up the port wing—my arm ached by the time I got back. It has virtually no brakes, and a cruise prop that is so coarse it takes forever to get airborne.

No wonder no one wanted to buy it. However the engine is good and will be kept for a spare, and the rest of the aeroplane will be dismantled and stored. And the registration document has it as a "JIN" no slashes, dashes or dots!

Thanks for the update, Adrian. That probably explains why there was no rush to get it hangared.



Late news just in, is that the wings were removed over the weekend and have been placed in private storage. The fuselage will follow shortly.

In addition, the miniMAX once owned by John Barker, G-MYDF, stored for years in an un-airworthy state, has also been dismantled in the last few days, prior to removal from the premises.



That SINKING Feeling . . .

Recent improvements in the Club Hut include a new 'geyser' (water heater) above the sink in the kitchen.

Members are requested to turn it off, at the end of the day using the labelled wall switch to the right of the heater.

Other new additions are three new movement-activated floodlights and a wall-mounted fan heater.



Hot water on tap again. Last one out of the Hut, please remember to switch it off

