THE FLYING FARMERS ASSOCIATION LTD.

CHRISTMAS 1979 - NEWSLETTER

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

The Chairman and Committee wish all members a Happy Christmas, and prosperous New Year. Let us hope that by the end of 1980, farmers and agriculture in general will be in a more optimistic mood than appears to be the case at the time of writing this Newsletter.

THE RASE CONFERENCE, THE A.G.M., AND THE ANNUAL DINNER - 16th JANUARY 1980.

All members will have received preliminary details of the above events in our Newsletter which was distributed in early November. Here now are further details.

(i) The Conference.

For all those members who have indicated their intention to attend, and as many other members as I have copies for, I enclose a conference programme and booking application form. If you wish to come to the Conference, and a booking form is not enclosed, ring the R.A.S.E. at Coventry (0203) 56151 and you will be sent one.

Please note that, as a member of one of the sponsoring organisations, you get tickets for the Conference at a reduced price. The full cost is £23.00, but the reduced price for F.F.A. MEMBERS IS £16.00.

Please make every effort to get to the conference - we would like to see as many members present as possible. The afternoon session on "Aerial Photography - for the Amateur and the Professional", which will be given by a speaker from the ADAS Aerial Photography unit at Cambridge, looks as if it will be of particular interest to many of our members. In addition, I hope to be giving full details of the new I.M.C. rating as part of my lecture in the morning.

(ii) The A.G.M.

Provided that the accountants have finished the 1978/79 accounts in time, the A.G.M. will take place immediately after the RASE conference ends, in the conference room.

Formal notice of the A.G.M. is attached to this newsletter.

(iii) The First Annual Dinner.

The Annual Dinner will take place after the RASE Conference on 16th January at the Regent Hotel, Leamington, Warwickshire.

Please note the following details:

(i) There is a large Hotel Carpark, and cars may be parked in the street in front of the Hotel.

(ii) Meet in the Hotel Bar at 1930 for 2000.

(iii) Dress - lounge suits.

(iv) Accommodation is at present available for the night - so please book your room as soon as you receive this letter. The Manager has assured me that, if the Regent becomes fully booked, he will make every effort to book alternate accommodation nearby.

(v) Costs : The dinner will cost £8.00, excluding wine and other drinks. For those believed to be staying overnight, a hotel tariff is enclosed. Briefly, single room with bath is £18.50, and double with bath £28.00.

(vi) The Hotel telephone number is : Leamington (0926) 27231.

(vii) Tickets for the annual Dinner must be obtained by returning the enclosed booking form to me.

/2.....

COMMITTEE MEETING , 21st NOVEMBER.

(i) Perhaps the most important decision, as far as Members are concerned, taken at the Committee meeting, was to appoint an "Events Secretary".

Bart Woodall, already a Committee Member, has accepted this job. He will have overall responsibility for the Association's annual programme, although he will sometimes delegate to other members the organisation of local events in their area.

Bart's address and telephone number are :

B.J.C. Woodall.
Rushett Farm,
Chessington.
Surrey.

Telephone - Epsom (03727) 22702.

Bart will be glad to hear from any member who has suggestions for visits, either locally in their own area, or elsewhere in U.K. Bart has seen and analysed the questionnaires which some members returned last winter.

(ii) The provisional events programme for 1980 will be as follows:

April	-	lecture by NATS is being arranged at HURN.
May	-	visit to County Tractors at Fleet, Hants (land at BLACKBUSHE).
June 19	-	(but date may be adjusted) visit to prominent cereal grower Mr. Peter Lippiatt, Chipping Sodbury, Glos.
July	-	3 day (2 night) visit to Brittany, to include visit to Sambron factory (rough terrain trucks) and local farms and co-operatives.

Preparations for all the above events are now in the pipeline, and full details will be circulated as soon as available.

Members may wish to note the dates of the following RASE events, some or all of which they may wish to fly to:

Date	Event	Venue
19/20 March	Spring Potato	N.A.C.
23/24 April	National Pig Fair	N.A.C.
30 Apr/1 May	Muck 80	N.A.C.
10/11 June	Wheat 80	Sacrewell Farm, Peterborough.
30 June/3 July	Royal Show	
30 July	Sheep 80	Three Counties, Malvern.
30/31 July	Fruit Focus	Writtle College, Chelmsford.
17/18 Sept.	Dairy Event	N.A.C.

(iii) The Committee are conscious that the events planned for 1980 are, so far, mainly in the southern half of the country. We are anxious not to forget our members elsewhere, especially in Scotland and the North, and we would like to hear from members in those areas who would be prepared to serve on the Committee - which does not meet very often, for geographical reasons- or perhaps act as local "liaison" officers.

Any volunteers are asked to contact myself (hon. Secretary) or Bart Woodall, especially if you have suggestions for a visit in your area for 1980.

A MESSAGE FROM GAMTA.

I have recently been in correspondence with the Chief Executive of the General Aviation Manufacturers and Traders Association,Mr. A.B.J. Forman, about various matters unconnected with our Association. As a result, I have learned that GAMTA have produced a directory of members and Overseas Associates indexed so that customers such as the Flying Farmers can refer to any specific supply or service.

/3.....

The Directory lists 89 GAMTA member companies, including manufacturers, aircraft sales and brokerage companies, maintenance and overhaul organisations, avionic suppliers and services, aircraft spares and equipment.

Companies give details of addresses and telephone numbers, names of Directors and key staff personnel. It also includes a brief outline of the activities and capabilities of these companies.

Theis Directory is available free on request from GAMTA, 26, High Street, Brill, Aylesbury, Bucks.

GAMTA also say that there are still stocks of the General Aviation Airfields Map of Europe for anybody who requires them. They also have available the General Aviation Year Planner Chart at £1.75 inclusive of VAT.

FINALLY.

My sincere apologies for landing this newsletter in amongst your Christmas post.

But PLEASE - take immediate action on the following four things:

1. Send off the yellow form to book your RASE conference ticket - or ring 0203 56151 to ask for a form. Try to bring someone interested in aviation with you as a guest.

2. Ring the Regent Hotel, Leamington, and book a room for the Dinner, if you need to stay overnight.

3. Send your application form (enclosed) for a Dinner ticket, together with a cheque for £8.00, to me, by return. I have to let the Hotel know numbers immediately after the New Year. If necessary, ring me at 056 881 351 - but - my secretary does not get back from holiday until 3rd January.

4. If you want transport to and from Coventry Airport for the Conference and/or Dinner, let me know on the enclosed form, and I will organise something.