THE FLYING FARMERS ASSOCIATION LTD.

NEWSLETTER - MARCH 1980

YOUR SPRING PROGRAMME.

1. THURSDAY 10th APRIL.

On Thursday 10th April there will be a presentation to our members by the National Air Traffic Services. This presentation will take place at 1400 hrs. on 10th April at C.A.A. House, (Kemble St. entrance), Kingsway, LONDON. The nearest Underground station is Holborn (Piccadilly and Central lines).

The presentation will be entitled "Air Traffic Services to Off Route Traffic", and will consist of a series of talks by officers who have as part of their responsibilities:

Radar advisory services in Lower Airspace.
Military Air Traffic Zones.
Civil Aircraft Notification Procedures.
Distress and Diversion section.

This should be a most interesting presentation, and members are urged to make every effort to attend if at all possible.

URGENT - if you wish to attend this presentation, YOU MUST TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTION (AS SOON AS POSSIBLE), AND NOT LATER THAN MONDAY 31 MARCH:

We have to let NATS know how many people are coming, and the names of those attending. Therefore please fill in the attached tear-off slip, and post it to Bart Woodall (address on the slip).

If you wish to fly as close as possible to this meeting, you can fly either to Elstree, or to Bart Woodall's strip (Epsom area), where Bon McClelland (Elstree) or Bart will make onward transport arrangements. BUT - you must let Bob or Bart know in advance - and you must be ready to leave either airstrip by 1200 local. Telephone no's are:

Bob McClelland - 09273 72390
Bart Woodall - 03727 22702
03727 41976 (emergencies only)

Members may bring one guest with them to the N.A.T.S. presentation.

PLEASE FILL IN THE FORM - AND POST IT NOW - FIRST CLASS POST !!

2. WEDNESDAY 14 MAY OR THURSDAY 15 MAY.

The Directors of County Commercial Cars Ltd. (makers of County tractors) have very kindly invited members of the Association to visit their factory on Wednesday 14th May, or if weather does not permit on that day, Thursday 15th May. The invitation is for a 1200 collection by bus from Blackbushe, followed by lunch as their guests, followed by a tour of the factory. Back at Blackbushe by 1630.

Obviously, we must let County know in advance the numbers attending, and therefore you are asked to indicate your intentions on the tear-off slip for the N.A.T.S. visit, and to confirm your intention by completing a second tear-off slip (or postcard), which will be sent to you with a further Newsletter at the end of April. Numbers may have to be limited for this visit.

3. THE REST OF THE PROGRAMME.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to hold the A.G.M. at Stoneleigh on 16th January, because the accounts were not ready. Nor will it be possible to hold the A.G.M. at the N.A.T.S. meeting in April - because our Chairman cannot be present.

Therefore, we are now considering holding the A.G.M. at Wheat 80 in June. This will be confirmed in the April Newsletter.

The programme of visits for the rest of the summer is as follows:

10 - 11 June.	R.A.S.E. event "Wheat 80". Fly-in to either Sibson or Connington (to be confirmed). Transport to Sacrewell Farm provided.
19 June.	F.F.A. event. Visit to Peter Lippiatt, prominent Cotswold cereals grower. Fly-in probably to Badminton (to be confirmed).
25 June.	F.F.A. event. Visit to Hunday Herd of cattle, Northumberland. May be combined with visit to open-cast coal mine.
30 June - 3 July.	Royal Show, Stoneleigh.
mid to late July.	Visit to Sambron (rough terrain trucks) factory in Brittany - and local farming programme. At least 2 nights abroad.
August and September.	No plans as yet - any suggestions to Bart Woodall (03727 22702).

4. THE R.A.S.E. CONFERENCE, 16th JANUARY 1980, AND OUR FIRST ANNUAL DINNER.

The general opinion of those who attended the R.A.S.E. Conference on Aircraft in Agriculture on 16th January was that it was a great success. Some 90 delegates attended, including a fair number of our own members.

Speakers were Ray Peel (on aerial contracting); Allan Hooper, head of the Aerial Photography unit of A.D.A.S., who gave an absolutely fascinating talk, well illustrated by slides; and F.F.A. members Dick Walgate, John Williams-Wynne (whose paper was read for him in his absence through illness by Bart Woodall), and your Hon. Secretary. Unfortunately much of what I said about the new PPL and IMC syllabi now appears to be under further review - particularly the timing of introduction.

That evening, we held our first Annual Dinner. 31 members and their wives attended, and were given an excellent dinner and well looked after by the Manager and staff of the Regent Hotel, Leamington - to whom I have written the Association's thanks.

Mike Cuttell organised an excellent after-dinner speaker for us, Ray Goodwin. Ray, who works as a senior dairy herdsman in Gloucestershire, appears to spend every second of his spare time recording the sounds of wildlife - and gave us a fascinating and very amusing "illustrated" talk. Thank you Ray - and thank you Mike for bringing him along.

5. SUBSCRIPTIONS.

During 1979, we have run into considerable difficulty in correctly identifying subscriptions received from members. This problem has been largely caused by the incompetance of our bank. However, much hard work by our Treasurer, Tony Poulson, helped by the Bank (keen to rectify their mistake), have now almost resolved our problems.

However, we still have a problem with a few members, and those members will find a letter accompanying this newsletter which asks them to clarify their subscription status for 1979 and 1980.

I would be most grateful if you could return the answers to these letters, to myself or Tony, as applicable on the letter, as soon as possible, in order that we can finalise the up-to-date membership list which is now in draft form.

6. MAP OF MEMBERS' STRIPS.

We have now decided to finalise our map by photo-copying a Danger Area map, on which Members' strips will be overprinted.

I shall be writing to a few members shortly asking them to confirm certain details of their strips - and I would once again ask that members reply to my letter as quickly as possible - in order that you may all receive the final product as soon as possible.

7. THE END.

That's all for this newsletter (it's too late at night for more), but another newsletter will appear in late April.

PLEASE, PLEASE - may I have some contributions from members for newsletters ? No matter how short or long - aviation, farming, or any other subject will be considered.

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DON'T FORGET - SEND OFF THE SLIP NOW TO BART, CONFIRMING YOUR ATTENDANCE AT N.A.T.S. ON 10th APRIL.

TO: B.J.C. WOODALL ESQ.,
RUSHETT FARM,
CHESSINGTON,
SURREY. KT9 2NO.

TEL: 03727 22702
" 03727 41976 - (emergency on 10/4/80 only)

FROM .....
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N.A.T.S. PRESENTATION - 10th APRIL 1980

(Please delete where applicable)

1. I will/will not attend the N.A.T.S. presentation at C.A.A. House on 10th April.
2. I will bring 1 / 0 guest with me.
3. My guest's name will be .....
4. Transport. May arrangements will be:
   (a) wholly independant.
   (b) fly to Bart Woodall's strip (Epsom) with ..... (total) persons on board.
   (c) fly to ELSTREE with ..... (total) persons on board.
5. County Tractors. I hope to/cannot attend this visit. If I do:
   (i) I can/cannot come on 14 May.
   (ii) I can/cannot come on 15 May.

PLEASE POST SOONEST - 1st CLASS POST