



SILVER CITY ASSOCIATION

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SILVER CITY NEWSLETTER 2010

Greetings 'Citizens' from Sally, Paul and Keith after a second cold winter; at least it's comforting to see the daylight hours are increasing now and that means spring is just round the corner. I am pleased and amazed that we are still getting new members (ex-staff who did not know of the Association) and also adding to our list of enthusiastic Associate Members – welcome to you all. As many of you know from the reunion last year, we invited our colleagues from Air Ferry and Invicta; I am delighted to say that the feedback we had has been very positive and we will be welcoming them again this year. Details further on in the Newsletter. We will do our best to get the E mails right this year. Our thanks to 'Nobby' Hall for agreeing to be the subject of this year's Profile.

2009 REUNION REPORT – SATURDAY, 11th JULY 2009

A slightly overcast but pleasant day, we were a little apprehensive about how the day would work - it being the first time we had linked up with our friends from Manston and although there was no good reason why it would not work – you never know. However, people seemed to be arriving in droves within minutes of each other and temporarily we had more bottoms than seats but with the help of the airport staff we rounded up more furniture and solved the problem. At least we are pre-warned for this year. The attendance was around 130 – brilliant. The room was soon buzzing with conversation and an 'Exit Poll' revealed that everyone thought it was a really good afternoon with a great atmosphere. The caterers did us proud and a number of people thought it was the best ever; good quality, plenty of it and no queues.

Apologies were received from: Dave Flett, Liz & Sue Bryan, Val Sanders, Robin Brodie-James, Tony Good, Alan Offer, Cliff Melhuish, and Pete Adams.

The donated raffle prizes were excellent again for which we thank you all; it was good to see so many people leaving clutching a bottle or two. An oasis among the bottles was a lovely raspberry pavlova made by Tricia Pearson. Substantial prizes were given by Audrey Kennard and John Cooper. Apart from the raffle donations, we received a most generous and welcome donation of £100 from Rosemary Allen and a breathtaking gift from Steve Hogarth of £350 for our website fund. We would like to record our sincere thanks to Steve for the support he has given the Association over the last few years and we were so pleased to welcome him to the reunion.

Thanks for the success of the reunion to Sally, Paul, Gill Rowell (our stalwart door lady), Frances Shilling and the caterers. Thanks also to Malcolm Finnis for handling the Manston group. There were some suggestions regarding a colour-coded ident system to denote the person's company - we are looking into it, but it is not as easy as it might seem. In summary it was a great afternoon enjoyed by all.

B170 FREIGHTER NEWS

Nil further to report - sounds like a tech log entry!

SOLENT SKY MUSEUM (SOUTHAMPTON)

Still no word of their expansion – the bulk of our collection is still resident there although all our photograph albums are now at Worthing with Keith. We will be discussing the future display of our material with the museum's MD. Just to reiterate, viewing of our items must be arranged through Keith.

CDs, CARDS, PRINTS AND BOOKS

We have some stock of the 'Crossing in Style' cards priced at £1 each, £5 for 6 and £10 for 15. There is a limited number of the large prints at £15 each or £30 signed by SCA pilots. Thanks to everyone who has bought a copy of the twin CD talking book 'The Silver City Story'. We still can supply these at the special members' price of £5.00. For anyone interested in seeing the Freighter operating in Canada there is a double disc colour DVD available showing some most remarkable footage – details from Keith.

At last we have a book! 'Silver City Airways' is based around the CDs but has more text and around 170 illustrations. A flyer with details of the book and availability is enclosed or attached with your newsletter. As the publisher has funded the product we are not able to do any 'special' offers, but we have kept the price below £15.00 which we think is still good value – highly recommended, so watch for the reviews in the aviation press. Paul Ross and Ken Honey made great contributions to the book's production.

PHOTOGRAPHS

We have had a lot of photographs to deal with in the last year but they are all now in a refurbished set of photograph albums or on disc. We have just received 950 pictures from a French Silver City collector – phew!

WEBSITE

Great news – by the time you receive your newsletter OUR website will be on line at www.silvercityairways.com. It is in its basic form at the moment but it will be added to all the time. Credit for this achievement must go to Paul Ross who took on the project and has produced it 'on time and on budget'. You have read in the Newsletter that Steve Hogarth made us a wonderful donation – in fact it was to go towards the cost of the website. Paul has managed to have the website created and updated for four years for £350, a great price and exactly what Steve gave us. Accordingly, we have decided that the website will show that it has been sponsored by Steve Hogarth

THE AIRPORT

Nothing further – the planning application hearing is due at any time. We have made ourselves known to the new MD - Air Vice-Marshal Cliff Spink.

DEPARTURE LOUNGE

Sadly we lost Jim Howgego, Doug Whybrow and Bill Hogben during the year. Our condolences to their families and to any other members who have lost loved ones we are not aware of.

2010 REUNION - LYDD AIRPORT, SATURDAY 17th JULY (12.30-17.30)

The reunion once again will be held in the main lounge. There will be a cold buffet and bar; the entrance fee at the door will be £9.00 per person. Just turn up with your wives, husbands, partners or friends. If you would like to donate a raffle prize please bring it with you. Once again our sincere thanks for your support for the Association either by coming or by letter/E mail. We look forward to seeing you in July.

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