



SILVER CITY ASSOCIATION

President: Mr. K. Dagwell, 31 Exmoor Drive, Salvington, Worthing, West Sussex BN13 2PJ (01903 261514)

Chairman: Mr. P. Ross FRGS, 20 Fishery Road, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP1 1ND (01442 267160)

Secretary: Mrs. S. Maycock, 14 Prescott House, Rolfe Lane, New Romney, Kent TN28 8JR (01797 366346)

SILVER CITY NEWSLETTER 2013

Every year we seem to be sending our greetings to Citizens after yet another cold winter – and this year is no different! However, we hope you have all been managing to keep warm and are looking forward to this year's Reunion. Our colleagues from Air Ferry and Invicta will be joining us again in July.

Paul would like to thank everyone who sent him their e-mail address so that we can save some money on the cost of distributing the Newsletter. This came to £90 last year. If you have sent us your e-mail address, please make sure you let us know of any changes.

2012 REUNION REPORT – SATURDAY, 14th JULY

It was dull and windy for most of the day but the rain held off until the end of the afternoon. Once again, things got off to a slow start but we finished with a total of eighty-two people in attendance, including fifteen of our friends from Invicta and Air Ferry. The quality of the food was up to its usual standard and the caterers were thanked for another excellent buffet.

The proceeds from the raffle, together with sales of greetings cards and other merchandise, gave us a profit of £495.00 towards Association funds. Thanks to everyone who donated a raffle prize; as we say every year, it's the income from the raffle that keeps the Association going.

After lunch, Paul welcomed everyone and remarked that it was fifty years since Silver City had ceased to exist as a separate company. Despite that, the Association continued to go from strength to strength and interest in Silver City was as strong as ever; the website was generating enquiries about the company from all over the world. One offshoot from the website was the discovery of a roll of film about the Silver Arrow service which had been found on the Council rubbish dump at New Romney. Council officials had found our website, contacted Sally and we had now had the film copied onto DVD.

Paul felt that the Association was really something special and so much of that was down to Keith. There had been a very generous response to the collection for a gift to mark Keith's many years of service to the Association and Keith and Liz had put the money towards a very fine wall clock. Paul then presented Keith with an engraved plaque to go inside the clock, together with a gift voucher for Liz.

There was no news about the airport's expansion plans. The results of the enquiry were apparently on the desk of Eric Pickles, the Secretary of State, and Paul thought that a decision was unlikely pending the outcome of the wider review of airport capacity in the south-east.

Paul said that costs for the Reunion continued to go up and we would have to think very carefully about the price and venue for the 2013 gathering. It was only through Sally's efforts that it had been possible to keep the price of the buffet down to its current level and the price of the 2013 event might have to go up. (Following further hard work by Sally, we are pleased

to say that we have been able to keep the price down to £10 again this year, although we will be looking at other options for 2014.)

Paul said he was delighted that Taffy Powell's son Wyndham and his wife Linda had been able to attend this year. Wyndham then spoke about his memories of his father and Silver City and the effects of its operations on family life and concluded by congratulating all those who had worked for the company during its existence and Keith for keeping the Association going for so many years.

Paul ended by thanking Sally, Keith, Rae Bark, Frances Shilling, Sally Baldock and Gill Rowell for their help in making the day possible.

DEPARTURE LOUNGE

Since the last Newsletter, we have received news of the passing of Maurice Blackman, Mrs Van Buren, Mrs Boardman, Eric Kellaway, Wilf Pearson, Violet Bavin, Ossie Weisz, George Gurr, Peter Stone and Ted Maycock. Our sincere condolences go to their families and to any other members who have lost loved ones.

LYMPNE AERO CLASSIC

The second Lympne Aero Classic event is going to be held on 6th/7th July. It's understood that the Skyways Association has helped with the production of a mock-up Skyways reception desk for the exhibition's entrance lobby.

'GARRY HALLIDAY' BBC TV SERIES

Do you remember this Saturday afternoon children's TV series from 1959-62? It starred Terence Longdon as the pilot and owner of the 'Halliday Charter Company' with Terence Alexander as his co-pilot Bill Dodds - later replaced by Bill Kerr (the Australian one!) as co-pilot Eddie Robbins. It seems that only one of the original fifty episodes survives in the BBC archives. Silver City were heavily involved in the filming – so were you there when the cameras rolled?

'BLIND SPOT'

Silver City were also involved in this 1958 feature film, starring Robert MacKenzie, Gordon Jackson, John Le Mesurier and a very young Michael Caine, and there are various scenes with Silver City and Air Kruise aircraft at Blackbushe. Described as a "classic British crime drama", it has now been re-mastered and released on DVD by Renown Pictures Ltd.

CARDS, PRINTS AND BOOKS

We still have some cards and prints of 'Crossing in Style'; cards are £1 each or £5 for six and £10 for 15. The large prints are £15 each or £30 signed by some SCA pilots. (Contact Keith for details.)

CAN YOU HELP?

Mr J Beesley of Blackwater, Surrey, is a Citizen who would love to come to the Annual Reunion but has no means of transport. Can you help – on a cost-sharing basis? If so, please get in touch and we'll pass on your contact details.

2013 REUNION – LYDD AIRPORT, SATURDAY, 13th JULY (12.30 – 17.30)

The reunion will once again be held in the main lounge where there will be a cold buffet and bar; the entrance fee will again be £10 per person. As usual, 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 continued support either by coming or by e-mail and letter. We look forward to seeing you in July.

Keith Dagwell (President) keith.dagwell@ntlworld.com
 Paul Ross (Chairman) pross@dsl.pipex.com
 Sally Maycock (Secretary) whitewash22@hotmail.co.uk