



# LFC Newsletter

The Newsletter of the Limerick Flying Club

[www.limerickflyingclub.com](http://www.limerickflyingclub.com)

Aug 2012

## The Annual Fly-in Approaches...

By Tony Khan

This is a call to arms. By the time you read this there will be less than 3 weeks to go to the annual fly-in, which will take place on the weekend of 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> August. Plans have been proceeding at a pace and most of the admin and technical aspects are falling into place nicely. I am hoping to have a bigger and better event than last year but I will need YOUR help! Hopefully it will be a day to cater for everyone's tastes with lots of flying, food and also static displays on the ground. There will also be amenities to keep the younger ones occupied too. This is an event which should showcase our club and that you as a member can feel proud to participate.

I did say I need your help. If you would like to help out I will be holding a meeting in the clubhouse on **Tuesday the 7th of August**. You will hear all the plans for the weekend and you will also get yourself a job! The weekend will not happen without your help so please if you can, do give us a hand. We would appreciate all the help and time that you may be able to spare during the week leading up to the 18/19 as there are many preparations to be put in place before the weekend itself. Many thanks and hope to see as many of you as possible.

We all know that there are tough times out there and it is obvious that flying is down in the club. This is an opportunity for all of us to invite our family, friends, neighbours, colleagues and anybody else you like to come along for the day to see what Limerick Flying Club is all about. Who knows we may even gain a few new members? I promise that I will do my best to make sure that we put our best foot forward. I won't divulge too much what the plans for the weekend are, suffice to say that the main day will be on Saturday 18th, lots of flying planned and the BBQ will be in the hangar that night with the usual presentations. As I said please

feel free to bring along as many people as you can and this applies especially to the BBQ. All I would say is if you could give me an approximate idea of numbers you intend to bring along for the night as that would be most helpful for my planning but I would encourage you to bring along as many as possible. It is planned to charge €20 for the BBQ in the hangar to cover costs but I think from last year's standard it is cheap at twice the price!

## Visitors to the club...

By S N Walsh

On Sunday evening 22<sup>nd</sup> June about 1600, long after the club had stopped operations for that day George Campion called in to say hello. He took his first flight in Coonagh in 1953, and he thinks the aircraft was an Auster. It was great that a couple of us were still on the field to meet him. On that day also there was a group of scouts from America with their leader, all of whom had hoped to get a short flight. However the weather was deemed 'unflyable' by the staff on duty. The weather conditions looked very good although there was a crosswind which at times gusted to about 15 Kts, but most of the time the mean wind was in the order of 8 Kts. We all agreed that if we still had Rallyes or even a Cessna 150 there would be no question of not flying on the day. We would have to consider the benefit of having training aircraft that have such severe limitations in the normal Irish climate. Yes they are economical and they are new, but the whole idea is to be able to fly.

However though in fairness when an impromptu group like that arrives in they may be able to get a flight, but it was always and will always be on a 'best effort' arrangement at the time. We do not therefore have to be in any way upset about that group not getting into the air.

Last week we had a visit from David Imbusch who is of course a very regular visitor to the club. It is always great to see you David.



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## Some turbulence...

On 14<sup>th</sup> June at about 2015, well inside the legal VFR operating daylight limits, there was an exchange of views, which at least one member described as 'heated'. The entire operation took place in the presence of a French visitor, who was a guest of one of the people involved. The members were at both ends of the spectrum, one very senior and the other fairly new but holds a PPL. Apparently the senior member suggested that some club rules were being broken by a PPL attempting to fly without the clearance of an Instructor.

Although there is nothing wrong with a concerned member ensuring that no club rules are being breached, however it appears that neither of the members were fully aware of all of the provisions of the club rules and the operating procedures. Both of those documents are published on our Website for many years and also both are available in hard copy in the club. It is the duty of members to make themselves aware of the contents of the documents. If such were done it would have been clear to both that there is no requirement for a PPL, who is current on checkout, to have to obtain Instructor clearance before a flight.

The encounter led to a somewhat lively debate on [members@limerickflyingclub.com](mailto:members@limerickflyingclub.com) but in the end both parties agreed to let the matter rest quietly and not to cause any further ill-feelings.

## 40 years later and still eager...

Pictures by Mark Burkley



Our esteemed CFI, Brendan Beegan is pictured here preparing to take off for his flight to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his first departure from terra firma. Best wishes Brendan and hope you continue to enjoy your flying, and provide the very valuable flight instruction at the club for some years to come.

## And you think nothing changes...

The runway and the general environment of the field have improved quite a lot in the past 40 years. The picture on the left was from the seat of an approaching Aztec. It needed a lot of skill to get that machine in and stopped! However a pilot who done most of his early flying in Coonagh never had any problems with it. The pilot in question later was the supremo and chief pilot of Shannon Executive Aviation. He has now passed on for some years, RIP.



28 Approach in 1970s



Much better in 2011

### Articles

The LFC Newsletter is published monthly, in the first week of the month. All articles, letters, etc. must reach the Editor at least two days before distribution. All club members, and non-members who are interested in our club, or flying, are invited to publish articles. Please submit your article by email to [newscoonagh@gmail.com](mailto:newscoonagh@gmail.com) or in person or by post. They may on any subject you wish, information, gossip, fun, logistics, or anything else.

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