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AIRSHOW

CAF FRENCH WING - BULLETIN MENSUEL - MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
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The French Wing's main event for the month of May was of course our annual fly-in on Sunday the 17th, the preparation of which took us kept us busy for most of the of the month.

Our various events and meetings during the winter period gave us a chance to organize ourselves for the airshow season. Various tasks were taken up by our volunteers, whose efforts made our fly-in a true success.

We stopped accepting guests for our lunch when we reached the figure of 130 participants!

The weather was splendid and we were able to host a splendid collection of classic aircraft and warbirds at Le Plessis-Belleville airfield.

This year, to celebrate the 70th anniversary of VE-Day, we invited our members and guests to dress in wartime clothing, and several military vehicles groups were present with their preserved vehicles and suitably-dressed re-enactors. Laurent Cluzel prepared a musical background that brought us right back to 1945.

There were several beautiful flight demonstrations, and the crew members of the various aircraft present were available to show their mounts to visitors.

I would like to seize the occasion to thank all of our members who did their best to ensure our fly-in was a success.

We have received a lot of very positive feedback by email or

on Facebook. We must do just as well next year, if not better, as our fly-in is now becoming quite popular !

- Stéphane Duchemin



Photo © Jean-Pierre Touzeau



Photo © Philippe Cluzel

SPECIAL REPORT :
CAF FRENCH WING FLY-IN 2015



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Photo Bertrand Brown



New members for the French Wing

**THIS CONTENT IS
FOR MEMBERS ONLY**

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Newsletter and website

As you might have noticed, the April issue of our newsletter was "different". Your humble servant was unable to do it due to personal problems, and Stéphane Duchemin was kind enough to make a last-minute newsletter, despite very short delays and technical difficulties.

Regarding the website, it was necessary to transfer it to a new server. Part of the data was lost during the transfer and, for the same reasons as for the newsletter, I was only able to restore a temporary version of the website. This will soon be replaced by a better one. ■

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Article: Bertrand Brown. Photos: Laurent Cluzel, Jean-Pierre Touzeau, Jacques Bellanger.

View more of Laurent's and Jean-Pierre's photos of the fly-in on Flickr:

[L. Cluzel](#)

[J.-P. Touzeau](#)

and Jacques' on his website:

[Spotting Beauvais](#)

It is said that a photo is worth a thousand words. For this reason, this issue only includes a brief written description of our fly-in, followed by a selection of the superb photos taken by Laurent Cluzel, Jean-Pierre Touzeau and Jacques Bellanger.

The 2015 edition of our fly-in was a great success, thanks to the efforts of the many French Wing volunteers who gathered into various teams to deal with security, service, cooking, sales, preparation and decoration... Without them, the fly-in would not have been possible and we wish to thank them for their fine service.

Perfect weather and Laurent Cluzel's retro musical atmosphere gave us great expectations for the day. While the final preparations were taken care of, our guests began to arrive - some of them in uniforms or 1940s outfits. A splendid Stearman buzzed the hangar, soon to be fol-

lowed by many other vehicles and airplanes: three DHC Chipmunk, four Stearman, a Yak-18T, a Hatz biplane, two Piper Cubs, an Aero 3, a Bücker Jungmann, a Christen Eagle, a T-6 "Texan", a Staggerwing, a Norvigie, a Waco, a Jodel, a Cessna 195 and a Sirocco... As far as ground vehicles were concerned, the alignment of jeeps, trucks, Kübelwagen and Ford Vedette extended to the neighbouring hangar.

The "Spirit of Lewis" was up in the air early and flew all day long, totalling 10 flights in 4 hours!

This is the atmosphere in which our 130 guests were able to enjoy the French Wing's complimentary apéritif and barbecue. Many visitors, who had not booked or simply showed up, had lunch next door at our friend Valérie's snack.

Good times always pass quickly, and the hangar's surroundings began to clear up at the end of the afternoon. However, the day wasn't quite over yet. A final flight was planned, so that aerial photos of the Norvigie (which is now flying again) could be taken.

Our fly-in was a great success, thanks to the dedication and hard work of our members. We have received great feedback and thank-you notes by email or via Facebook, and we must make sure to keep up the good work and do as well, if not better, next year ! ■





© LAURENT CLUZEL - 2015

Photo © Jean-Pierre Touzeau



Photo © Jean-Pierre Touzeau

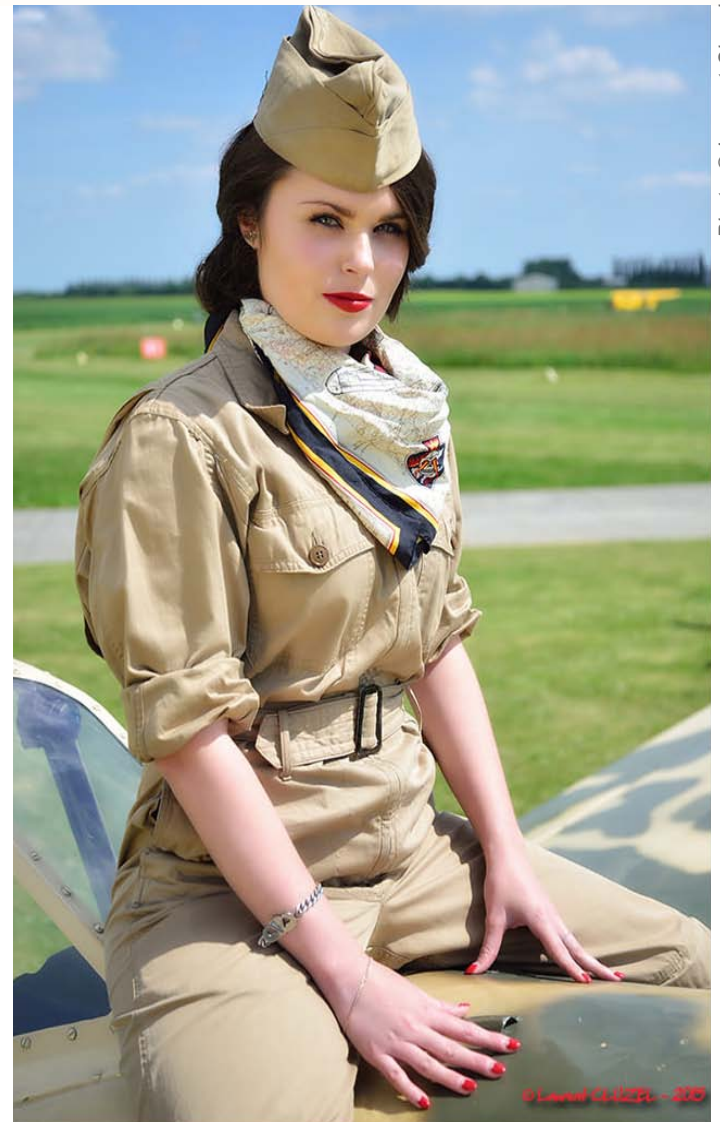


Photo © Laurent Cluzel

© Laurent Cluzel - 2009

Photo © Jean-Pierre Touzeau



Photo © Jean-Pierre Touzeau



Photo © Jean-Pierre Touzeau



Photo © Laurent Cluzel



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Photo © Laurent Cluzel

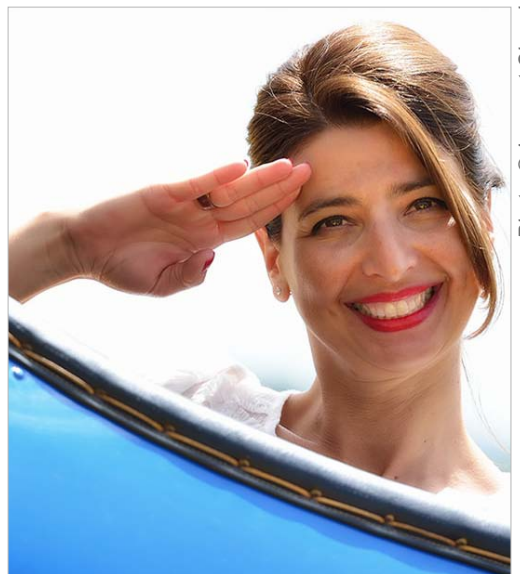


Photo © Jean-Pierre Touzeau



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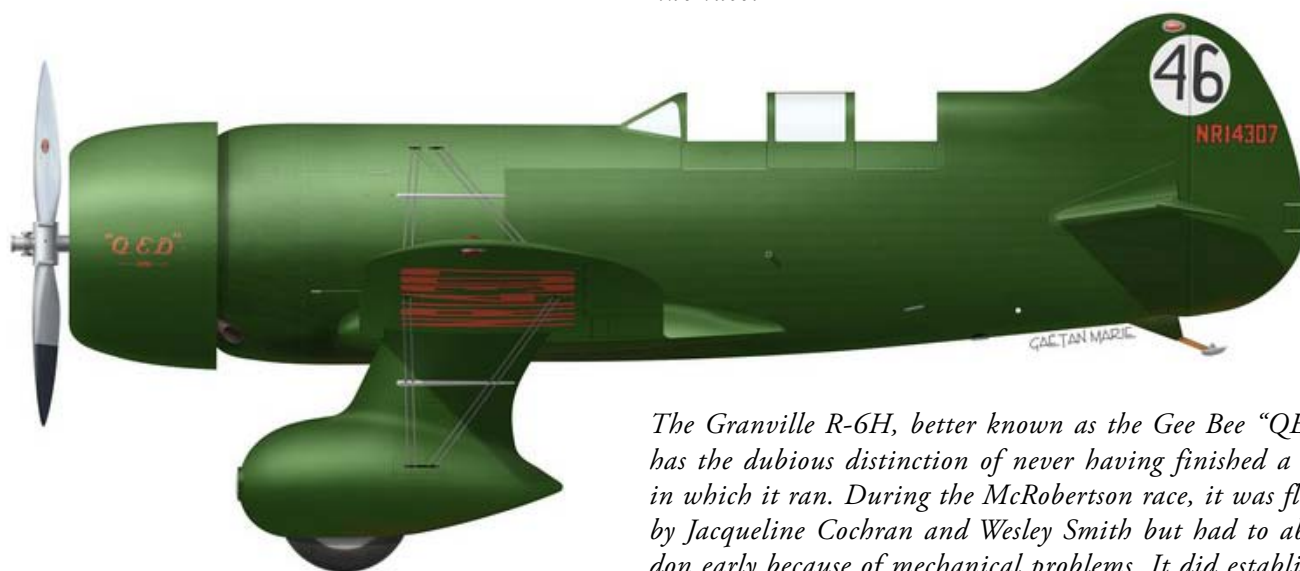
BATTLE COLOURS: RACERS

Profil: Bertrand Brown (aka Gaëtan Marie)

www.bravobravoaviation.com



«Black Magic» was flown by Jim & Amy Mollison and was one of the three DH.88 Comet entered in the October 1934 McRobertson race from London to Melbourne. The Mollisons immediately took the lead but had to abandon at mid-race because of mechanical problems, leaving Campbell and Black's Comet «Grosvenor House» win the race.



The Granville R-6H, better known as the Gee Bee «QED», has the dubious distinction of never having finished a race in which it ran. During the McRobertson race, it was flown by Jacqueline Cochran and Wesley Smith but had to abandon early because of mechanical problems. It did establish a few speed records, notably at the hands of Francisco Sarabia in 1939.



P-51D Mustang «Sierra Sue» served in the US 9th Air Force in 1945, the Swedish air force in 1947 and Nicaraguan air force in 1954. It came home to the US in the 1970s and participated in various races. It was heavily modified as a racer in 1973. Returned to stock condition, it flew for a long time with a double US/Swedish identity: «Sierra Sue II» and «Gul Kalle». It was completely restored by Aircorps Aviation and flew again in September 2014.



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