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AIRSHOW

CAF FRENCH WING - BULLETIN MENSUEL - MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 20 - N°07 - June 2015

EDITORIAL

The French Wing and its members are away for their summer vacations. As a result, this issue of your monthly newsletter is shorter than usual !

The barbecue day of July 5th was a success: the atmosphere was very laid-back and relaxed and the day ended with formation flights and photo ops (similar flights already took place on June 21st). Laurent Cluzel seized the occasion: one of his splendid photos can be found in these columns, the remainder being visible on the French Wing's Facebook page.

We'll be gathering again in early August. September will be a heavy month for the Wing: airshows, fly-ins and gatherings are expected every weekend! Please note that there are several available slots for rides in our aircraft during this period, the details of which can be found in the news section.

Don't forget the visit of our friends from the CAF Swiss Wing on 20 September: we will visit the air & space museum and its reserves, thanks to Roger Robert, and then having lunch so we get to know them better.

Enjoy your reading and see you soon !

- Bertrand Brown



Photo © Jean-Pierre Touzeau



Photo © Jean-Pierre Touzeau



Photo © Jean-Pierre Touzeau

PHOTO REPORT:
FLYING LEGENDS 2015



New recruits join the French Wing

Once again, we have the pleasure of introducing new CAF French Wing members.

Antoine Szpiro is already a familiar presence at the hangar as he has often visited us at the hangar in Le Plessis-Belleville with his splendid Vans RV-6 (F-PHAT). He has finally signed his enlistment form and is now one of ours.

John Rouxel is a former naval aviation pilot student. He is now an insurance agent in Bayeux and has a great passion for history and aviation.

Jérôme Delile, from the Bordeaux region, has had many occupations but has now settled in Bayeux with his wife Marine. They run two rather unique shops, one of which showcases a Mystère IV fighter, the other being a bookshop and scale model shop in which Jérôme has fitted a de Havilland Vampire.

Welcome, Antoine, John and Jérôme ! ■

Hangar sale

For lack of finding an adequate date for our projected hangar sale, this event will be postponed to next year.

The idea was to invite sellers to leave their items at the hangar, along with the requested price and phone number (in case potential buyers need more information or want to make an offer), removing the need for sellers to stay around all day long (even though hanging around and enjoying the company is a good option!).

The remaining available dates for 2015 are during the cold season so we will be suggesting a date to host this event in 2016. ■

Summer calendar

Sunday 9 August

BBQ day at the hangar.

Sunday 6 September

Cambrai airshow, celebrating the 80th anniversary of the aeroclub and airfield. Attending aircraft include the Piper Cub (J.-Y. Cercy), Jurca (G. Avenel), Stearman (E. Bellebon) and Vans (A. & A. Szpiro).

Sunday 13 September

Our friends the Collin brothers are hosting a fly-in at Bar-sur-Seine near Troyes. We are looking for a volunteer to fly there with the J-3. Attending aircraft will include the Jurca (G. Avenel), Acroduster (F. Hébrard), PA-28 (D. Chambon & S. Memarian).

Sunday 20 September

Visit of the air & space museum and perhaps its reserves, followed by a lunch with our friends of the CAF Swiss Wing.

Saturday 26 September

Reopening of the Chièvres airbase museum in Belgium.

Volunteers for these events should get in touch with us as soon as possible. ■

Fly in a Stearman, Jurca Sirocco or Piper PA-28

Several of our pilots are offering rides in exchange for a participation in the costs : this is a chance to discover some of the aircraft you may not know, or enjoy them again if you do !

On Sunday 6 September, Eric Bellebon has an available seat in his Stearman to go to the Cambrai meeting. The participation would be of 50€ (or 100€ for the round trip). This is a great chance to fly in a Stearman at a much reduced cost!

On Sunday 13 September, there are several available rides to the Bar-sur-Seine fly-in. Dimitri and Sarah will be leaving Le Plessis in a Piper PA-28 and have two available seats. The cost of one flying hour being 70€, participation would be one quarter of that, i.e. 17.50€/hour/person. Gilles Avenel will also be flying to Bar-sur-Seine and has an available seat in Jurca Sirocco.

Feel free to contact these members directly to seize the opportunity! ■

Website

The website is still in its temporary version. All of our user accounts were lost in the April crash. To access the members-only areas of the website (containing the newsletters and members directory), please use the following credentials:

Identifiant: MembreCAFFW

Password: TempAccess2015+@

NB: these credentials must be entered exactly as they are given here.

We will be creating new individual credentials as soon as the new version of the website has been set up. ■



Can you tell what this is?

Astute observers will have recognized a very familiar fuselage, not to mention the famous logo on the fin. The difficulty lies with the forward part of the aircraft...

Here are some clues: 1/ never mind the floats, which are just an add-on; 2/ this is an official version of the aircraft and not some "homegrown" modification.

Answer: This is a Piper J-3P, i.e. a Piper J-3 Cub powered by a 50-hp 3-cylinder Lenape Papoose radial engine. Some thirty were built in the late 1930s and a few have survived to this day.

To be followed... ■



Photo Dutch Simba (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0)

Above: The 1938 Piper J-3P Cub NC21561 is based in Oregon and still flies.

Top: Piper J-3P NC20280 with floats. This aircraft was restored to its original condition and flew again as such in Maryland in 2010.

Flying Legends 2015



Photos: Jean-Pierre Touzeau & Gaël Darquet.

Duxford's annual "Flying Legends" airshow, which is organized by the Imperial War Museum and The Fighter Collection, is often regarded by enthusiasts as the world's premier warbird airshow. Indeed, how could one not fall for the remarkable collection of warbirds that is presented and the historical importance of the premises?

This year's edition of the airshow celebrated the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain, a key moment in British history that has become a national symbol for our neighbours from across the Channel. A 15-Spitfire formation was planned for the event, but only 11 could be seen together. Nevertheless, the sound of eleven Merlin and Griffon engines together more than made up for the absentees...

The Blenheim Society's newly-restored Blenheim Mk I was there, as was Hawker Hurricane Mk XII G-HURI (three Hurricanes were initially expected, including the French F-AZXR which was damaged recently in Dijon). Other novelties included the splendid P-36C N80FR, a recent arrival in Duxford, and Messerschmitt Me 109G-4 "Red 7", also recently damaged and returned to airworthiness.

Nearly all variants of the Spitfire were represented, from the Mk I to the Mk XIX, with most major variants: Mk V, IX, XIV and XVII and also Seafire LF.III. Add to

these several P-51 Mustangs, Sea Furies, a Morane-Saulnier M.S. 406, a Curtiss Hawk 75, an F8F Bearcat, a B-17 Flying Fortress, F4U Corsairs, Me 109 "Buchon", Red Bull's P-38 Lightning and B-25 Mitchell, a Fury, two Gladiators, two Nimrods, two P-40 and an F4F Wildcat... Mix all of the above in a giant "Balbo" formation, and you'll have enough memories of warbirds to hold until next year's edition of "Flying Legends". Many thanks to Jean-Pierre Touzeau for sharing his splendid pictures with us. ■

More photos by "JPT" can be found on his Facebook album:
[J.-P. Touzeau](#)



Photo © Jean-Pierre Touzeau



Photo © Gaël Darquet



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BATTLE COLOURS: BATTLE OF BRITAIN ACES

Profls: Bertrand Brown (aka Gaëtan Marie)

www.bravobravoaviation.com



F/L Geoffrey "Sammy" Allard DFC, DFM & bar was one of the greatest Battle of Britain aces, and would probably have increased his score had his unit, No 85 Squadron, not been sent North in September to rest. This Hurricane Mk I bearing an unusual camouflage pattern was one of the aircraft he used to score his 19 individual victories. He was killed in a flying accident in March 1941.

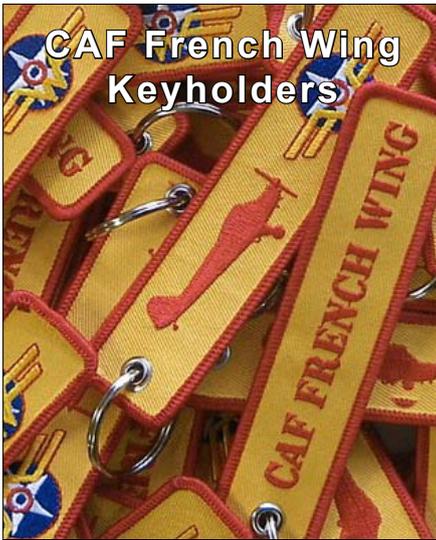


Spitfire Mk Ia X4559 of No 41 Squadron was used by S/L George «Ben» Bennions DFC, who shot down 12 German aircraft in two months. He was shot down and seriously injured on October 1, 1940. After a long period of recovery, he returned to the RAF but never flew in combat again.



Hurricane Mk I P3675 of Tangmere-based No 601 Squadron should be much better-known. Not only are its markings and decorations remarkable for a RAF aircraft in 1940, but it is also the aircraft used by the little-known 16-victory ace Michael Lister Robinson DFC, DSO. Robinson took command of the Tangmere Wing in 1942, but was killed in action on 10 April 1942 along with his wingman, the Free French pilot Maurice Choron.

NEW PX ITEM



CAF French Wing Keyholders

French Wing woven keyholders. These keyholders are of good quality and show the CAF French Wing logo and Piper Cub "Spirit of Lewis" silhouette on one side, and the CAF French Wing's name on the other side. Cost: 3€ each.

2015 FRENCH WING SUBORDINATE OFFICERS

THE FRENCH WING IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

- PX: Deputy
 - Recruiting: Officer and deputy
- Should you be interested by these jobs, please contact the French Wing!

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<i>Adams J.</i>	<i>Gouzon Roger</i>
<i>Avenel Gilles</i>	<i>Grinnel Roy</i>
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<i>Barbaud J.</i>	<i>Gritte Philippe</i>
<i>Bellebon Eric</i>	<i>Guglielmo P.</i>
<i>Bennour Zied</i>	<i>Guillaumont Stéphane</i>
<i>Bourrassier Didier</i>	<i>Guyot Antoine</i>
<i>Brown Adrian</i>	<i>Guyot Stéphanie</i>
<i>Brown Bertrand</i>	<i>Hammer Gilles</i>
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<i>Cardinal Claude</i>	<i>Hébrard Marie</i>
<i>Cardinal Didier</i>	<i>Jentel Jean-Luc</i>
<i>Cercy Jean-Yves</i>	<i>Joulain Jérôme</i>
<i>Chambon Dimitri</i>	<i>Levoye Angie</i>
<i>Clerc Jacqueline</i>	<i>Malhaire Cédric</i>
<i>Cluzel Laurent</i>	<i>Memarian Sarah</i>
<i>Cluzel Arthur</i>	<i>Miniggio Jean-Claude</i>
<i>Collin Christophe</i>	<i>Nonat Philippe</i>
<i>Collin Robert</i>	<i>Odent Romain</i>
<i>Collin Yves</i>	<i>Paquet Benoit</i>
<i>Costelle Daniel</i>	<i>Peligat Jacques</i>
<i>Courbet Fab</i>	<i>Perrin Michel</i>
<i>Courbet Nina</i>	<i>Picco Francis</i>
<i>Darquet Gaël</i>	<i>Pierre-Pierre Patrick</i>
<i>Debruyne Fred</i>	<i>Rinck Matthieu</i>
<i>Delfino Yuri</i>	<i>Robert Roger</i>
<i>Donjon Yves</i>	<i>Ruppert Marcel</i>
<i>Dubuisson Jean-Christophe</i>	<i>Seux Marc Olivier</i>
<i>Sevestre Patrick</i>	
<i>Duflot Danielle</i>	<i>Tournemine Christian</i>
<i>Duchemin Stéphane</i>	<i>Touzeau Jean-Pierre</i>
<i>Ferretti Philippe</i>	<i>Urschler Reg</i>
<i>Fleury Michel</i>	<i>Varnet Pierre</i>
<i>Fourdrain Guy</i>	<i>Vaucamp Roger</i>
<i>Gascon Claude</i>	<i>Volts William</i>
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<i>Girard Maurice</i>	

SPIRIT OF LEWIS

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