



BNAPS News November 2012

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Saywell International Signs Up as a BNAPS Supporters Club Corporate Member

BNAPS is pleased to announce that leading aircraft parts stockist and supplier, and the holder of what is probably the largest stock of B-N parts in the World, has become a corporate member of the BNAPS Supporters Club.

Following a recent visit to Saywell International's UK base at Worthing, BNAPS Trust Chairman expressed his thanks to Saywell's Managing Director Peter Saywell "The interest shown by the company in BNAPS gives a major boost to our efforts. We are privileged to be given the opportunity to benefit from Saywell's unrivalled knowledge and experience in the aircraft parts business."

BN-1F Print Launch & Signing Proves a Great Success



Ivan Berryman and Peter Gatrell ready to sign the BN-1F prints.



This "might have been" print shows the 20 seat BN-4 design dating from 1969 from a GA drawing by former B-N employee and BNAPS Supporter Jon Orme.

On 10 November the prints of two of Ivan Berryman's paintings of the first Britten-Norman aircraft, BN-1F G-ALZE, were launched. The event was a joint effort by Ivan, BNAPS and The Propeller Inn.

Peter Gatrell, as B-N's first employee with responsibility for the construction of the BN-1F's wooden structure and most of the metal parts, had kindly agreed to sign each print sold. Ivan has made a generous offer in that each print sold will make a significant contribution to BNAPS funds for the restoration of Islander G-AVCN.

Later in the day Peter met up with B-N's second employee Dave Williams and talked over old times.

Also on show was a selection of original paintings by Ivan of B-N's "might have beens". These were design schemes that had appeared from time to time but did not get off the drawing board, including the Twin Nymph, the BN-4 Mainlander and the counter insurgency Turbine Defender, sometimes referred to as the Mosquito.

Thanks go to Peter Gatrell, Ivan and his colleague Ernie, John Kenyon and Rita Edgcumbe, who ran the BNAPS sales stand, and to Helen and Dave and staff at the Propeller Inn.

Fly My Sky, North Island New Zealand - Ready Made Airline Up for Sale



Fly My Sky's Islander Fleet

Recent contact with Fly My Sky owner Robyn McKenzie revealed that he is planning to retire and his airline will be put up for sale as a going concern. Fly My Sky is a long established Islander operator serving the Great Barrier Islands off the east coast of New Zealand's North Island and is based at Auckland Airport. There are four Islanders in the present fleet: ZK- DLA (c/n 2131), ZK-PIY (c/n 344), ZK-PIZ (c/n 2012) and ZK-SFK (c/n 236).

PinoyAir Trislanders Sighted at Manila Airport –

Reports have been received from BNAPS Supporters Club member David Dixon of three B-N Trislanders parked at Manila Airport in PinoyAir colours. These are believed to be from the LyddAir fleet.

The Trislanders have been there for about a year and it is not known when PinoyAir is likely to start operations.



News from Island Airways, Lake Michigan – Long standing Islander operator Island Airways announced on 24 September, 2012, that Beaver Island EMS and Island Airways had signed a one-year agreement for the provision of fixed wing air medical transport services for Beaver Island. Beaver Island EMS is a small rural ambulance service that is supported by the St. James and Peaine Townships. This agreement is the culmination of several years of hard work by all parties involved. In July 2012, Island Airways was issued FAA operation specification A024 – Air ambulance operations.

Islander G-ATCT Picture – Can You Help? Were You There?



This picture arrived courtesy of Ivan Berryman and shows the BN-2 prototype G-ATCT at Bembridge alongside the old fuel pumps and receiving some attention by the ground crew. This may have been prior to departing for the Paris Air Show in early June 1965. Can anyone identify the people in the picture and the precise date.

In the Islander Mk III picture published in the September issue of BNAPS News Roger Young has identified two of the people. He says that Trevor Hutchings is on the left and Mick Groves is on the right. The central figure is believed to be Taffy Lloyd.

VCN Progress Reviewed at BNAPS Meeting on 16 October

At a well attended meeting on Tuesday 16 October the main events and progress associated with the restoration of VCN were presented. After a brief introduction to the project's origins, the presentation concentrated on the period from the initial survey in March 2010 through the move off the B-N site in July 2010, all the building works at the East Wight Workshop and the work on the fuselage up to the end of September 2012. If anyone would like to receive a copy of the progress review by e mail (file size approx. 2.7Mb) please contact Bob Wealthy at www.solentaeromarine@hotmail.com

Progress Update to mid November 2012



De-corroding in progress



View of under-floor frame structure



Belly skin after removal



View of "cleaned up" frame section

Malcolm Shaylor joined the restoration team on 24 October and set to work de-corroding parts of the fuselage skin.

Following completion of the basic structural work to repair the side and top skins of the rear fuselage and removal of the temporary floor section, temporary braces had been fitted across the wing attachment strong points to enable the fuselage to be turned onto its starboard side without distorting the structure.

With about 6 people involved the fuselage was laid on its side and with some concrete blocks provided by Iain Young the whole fuselage support frame was raised to a suitable working height.

Initial inspection had shown some corrosion in the under floor frames, but all would be revealed when the 12 foot x 4 foot belly skin panel was removed. The skin was successfully detached in one piece and can be re-used after attention to some dents and patches of relatively light corrosion.

Some of the under floor frames showed varying degrees of corrosion with one frame having a small crack in its edge. However, all the under floor structure is salvageable. Two frame sections that had been removed during earlier work on the project will be reinstated.

Work has started to establish representative instrument panel configurations, both main panel and eyebrow panel, to enable the sourcing of components, refurbishment and build to go ahead.

A throttle quadrant mechanism, donated by Saywell International, has been delivered and after inspection and cleaning will be re-assembled. Control levers are being sought and as the outside casing is missing this may have to be fabricated to suit to enable the complete throttle box assembly to be re-built.

Copies of the missing parts list compiled by Guy Palmer have been sent to Saywell International and Isles of Scilly Skybus for review.

New Book "The Last Grand Adventure in British Aviation" by Derek Kay, available from BNAPS

Derek Kay has kindly offered BNAPS a special price for copies of his book. The first batch of books has now been ordered and should arrive by the first week of December.

Books supplied by BNAPS will include an insert signed by Derek Kay and are priced at £9.00 from BNAPS, that is 99p off the list price. Add £1.50 for UK p&p. Each sale will contribute to BNAPS fund raising. Please make cheques payable to BNAPS Ltd.

If you have not made a reservation then please contact Rita Edgcumbe at m_edgcumbe@yahoo.com.uk or Bob Wealthy on 01329 315561 and arrangements will be made for you to receive your copy.

Aircraft Enthusiasts' Fair & Model Show, Museum of Army Flying, Middle Wallop - Sunday 25 November 2012 10am - 4pm

BNAPS will be attending this event with a sales stand, if you can come along then we will see you there. Admission charge includes entry to the museum.

More BNAPS Supporters Club Members Needed

If any BNAPS Supporters Club member knows of anyone who would be interested in joining please pass on contact details to our BNAPS Membership Secretary, Rita Edgcumbe. The principal aims of the BNAPS Supporters Club are "to assist BNAPS to preserve the history and aircraft of Britten-Norman through member donations and to provide assistance with the day-to-day operations of the charity" - anyone with an interest in local aviation heritage is welcome.

As a point of clarification, whilst BNAPS has contact with B-N Group from time to time, as a charitable trust BNAPS is a completely independent organisation.

Forthcoming BNAPS Events

BNAPS Social Evenings will be held at the Propeller Inn unless otherwise stated, please arrive by 19:00 for a start at 19:30.

12 December 2012 - A social get together is planned for BNAPS Supporters Club members and guests on Wednesday for the Propeller Inn "Curry Night". Meet up in the bar at 18.45 for 19.00. If you plan to come along please contact BNAPS on 01329 315561 by 5 December and the required table space will be reserved.

22 January 2013 - Iain Young will be giving a talk about his test flying experience titled "Flight Testing the A400M Engine Test Bed Hercules"

26 March 2013 - BNAPS Social Evening - details to be advised in BNAPS News for January 2013

If anyone is willing to give a talk or presentation, generally on an aviation related topic, that would be of interest to BNAPS members and visitors then please contact Bob Wealthy on 01329 315561 or any of the BNAPS Trustees.

BNAPS Trust

BNAPS is a Registered Charity, No. 1100735, set up to "preserve the history and aircraft of Britten-Norman with the support of members' subscriptions, sponsorship and donations"

BNAPS registered address is:

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Trustees are Peter Graham, Bob Wilson, Guy Palmer and Bob Wealthy.

Peter Graham is chairman of the board of trustees.

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