

On-Track Trophy 2009

Contest Director's (CD) Report

Addressing the future of British aerobatics, the sages of BAeA concluded the best inflow might flow via enthusiastic instructors. Thus it was that a few years ago an informal relationship was established with On-Track Aviation at Wellesbourne Mountford, recognised as one of the market leaders in professional training.



Instructors (Third L to R) Adrian Read (Silver Medal), Keith Lanyon (Bronze Medal), Ian Harvey-George (Gold Medal)

Its principal is hyper-active showman Alan Newton, with associates including Mark Young, his wife Faith and obligatory airfield black Labrador which is not called Nigger (ne Molly).



Advanced Pilot - David Jenkins

same programme was repeated but without the initial "play-away" rehearsal and, whilst it was never intended to be a contest, scores were compared such that at the evening barbecue Alan (Newton) presented some awards.

Day three, Friday: asked for a one line forecast of the day's weather, Alan N played the safe "same as yesterday"; he was nearly right, for it was not till a little later that cloud rose to the 2,800ish feet required by BAeA rules. Yes, cloud base viewed from the ground is VERY deceptive, and its rise on a warm day is almost imperceptible, typically occurring just when one stops looking, as in a lunch break ... as happened on Friday!

Thus flying commenced at 12.30ish with eight Advanced pilots completing the "Q" programme in just 90 minutes, followed by five Beginners doing their sequence in about 45 minutes, the day finishing fairly expeditiously at

The event is targeted at instructors to entice them into aerobatics. Such enticement starts with a seminar given by aerobatics guru Alan Cassidy on the first evening (Wednesday). This was the third time (at least) that I have heard it, but it is never any less riveting. Emphasis is put on "the discipline" of contest aerobatics (as opposed to the indiscipline of hooliganising), and the transition in the pilots mind so that he magically creates an image of himself as seen from the ground (as opposed to the view from the cockpit).

The following morning provided the opportunity for novice aero pilots to secure a lively aeroplane, with its guardian angel, and practice what he had learned, initially away from the field then overhead before a BAeA judge who scored and then analysed the performance. In the afternoon the



Edge 360



Extra EA 300L

1700 after the ensuing Advanced Unknown.

Paul Tomlinson had fared so well in the Known that even his falling to third in the unknown did not prevent his finishing first overall... but only just, a meagre 1.09 percentage points separating the top three - all over 75%.

Awards were presented by On-Track officer Stephanie Wall, which included the On-Track Trophy. The Beginners event is - as is regularly stressed - not a contest, more an assessment, but scores for each flight are calculated and therefore compared, so it is felt appropriate to recognize such achievement with a token award: on this occasion it was presented to an absent but reportedly tearfully joyful Adrian Read in his Decathlon.

At Wellesbourne

appreciation is due to even more facilitators than usual: Mick is the airfield principal but also proved himself an ace barbecue'ist, not only delivering the furniture but preparing the meal: Frankie and Jonny in the tower fully appreciated our needs and directing op's accordingly, and the cafe proved its quality by remaining perpetually busy. On-Track meanwhile provided more than one might of a host airfield.

BAeA personnel were headed by Chairman and seminar leader Alan Cassidy, and judging and admin were executed flawlessly by Mr and Mrs British Aerobatics Nick and Jen Buckenham. It was good too to see the many visitors included Steve Greens parents from nearby Birmingham. New judging assistants included renowned hotelier Denis Woodhams, and Alison Hughes who had quit her grocery shop to assist Lynn Westnage ("What's a stilton?"... "No no, not stilton, stall turn")!

Eric Marsh
Contest Director (CD)



Advanced (L to R) Gary Ferriman (Silver Medal), Paul Tomlinson (On-Track Trophy Winner, Gold Medal), Eddie Goggins (Bronze Medal)

Results for the Instructors Event

Held at Wellesbourne Mountfield Airfield, 21st May 2009

Rank	Pilot	Aeroplane	Registration	Known #1	Ranked by scores	
					Totals	O/all %
1	Ian Harvey-George	Decathlon	G-IZZZ	776.12	776.12	76.09
2	Adrian Read	Decathlon	G-IZZZ	749.90	749.90	73.52
3	Keith Lanyon	Pitts S-2A	G-ODDS	737.55	737.55	72.31
4	Chris Gowers	Extra 200	G-EEEE	737.24	737.24	72.28
5	Alex Flynn	Pitts S-2A	G-SKNT	736.21	736.21	72.18
6	Roger Andrews	Robin 2160i	G-WAVT	659.38	659.38	64.65

Contest Director: Eric Marsh. Contest Chief Judge: Nick Buckenham. Scoring Director: Jen Buckenham. Judges: Nick Buckenham, Phil Atley. Judges Assistants: Andra Matthews, David Jenkins, Alex Flynn.

Results for the On-Track Beginners Event

Wellesbourne Mountfield Airfield, 22nd May 2009

Rank	Pilot	Aeroplane	Registration	Known #1	Ranked by scores	
					Totals	O/all %
1	Adrian Read	Decathlon	G-IZZZ	600.60	600.60	78.00
2	Chris Sills	Extra 300L	G-IJMI	595.92	595.92	77.39
3	James Lewis	Bulldog	G-CBEH	516.23	516.23	67.04
4	Simon Longstaff	Extra 230	G-XTRA	466.19	466.19	60.54
5	Laura Russell	Extra 300L	G-IJMI	439.20	439.20	57.04

Results for the Advanced level On-Track Trophy

Wellesbourne Mountfield Airfield, 22nd May 2009

Rank	Pilot	Aeroplane	Registration	Known #1	Unk'n #1	Ranked by scores	
						Totals	O/all %
1	Paul Tomlinson	Edge-360	G-ZVKO	2208.96	2462.37	4671.33	76.45
2	Gary Ferriman	Extra-230	G-ROMP	2189.27	2478.33	4667.60	76.39
3	Eddie Goggins	Extra-300L	G-IJMI	2127.83	2476.76	4604.58	75.36
4	Simon Johnson	Pitts S-1T	N-666BM	2158.48	2247.72	4406.21	72.11
5	Alex Smith	Edge 360	G-CDDP	1897.06	2326.00	4223.06	69.12
6	David Jenkins	Laser Z200	G-LAZA	2013.54	2202.95	4216.49	69.01
7	Cas Smith	Pitts S-2A	G-ICAS	1806.86	2089.88	3896.74	63.78
8	Randal Hockey	Extra-300L	G-JOKR	1804.58	2037.42	3842.00	62.88

Contest Director: Eric Marsh. Contest Chief Judge: Nick Buckenham. Scoring Director: Jen Buckenham. Judges: Nick Buckenham, Steve Green, Alan Cassidy, Howard Fawkes, Lynne Westnage. Judges Assistants: Phil Atley, Chris Sills, Lynne Westnage, Denis Woodhams, Howard Fawkes, Alison Hughes, Adrian Read, Ian Harvey-George, Graham Hill, Nigel Arthur.