

APSS News

No 4, April 2009

Newsletter of the Aviation Preservation Society of Scotland

APSS is registered as a Charity in Scotland SC033307

Member of the British Aviation Preservation Council

Yes, I know what you are saying - "Long time no hear" - and you are right. We have been out of Newsletter touch in the expectation that Fortune Teller 16 would have been with us by now but there are still production difficulties with it hence this Newsletter to prove that, yes, we are still here!

What's happening ? (see overleaf for some pictures)

Inevitably things go a little quiet over Christmas and New Year but we have been back to work since mid-January, although the weather has been a challenge some days. We are now housed in all of Building 32 after we were required to make a sudden evacuation from our previous quarters in B27 as the National Museum wished to refurbish it for future display use. We now have a mess-room in B32 adjacent to the Sopwith 1½ Strutter work bays.

Talking of the APSS Strutter, the complex and skilled work on this major project continues, with the beginnings of the fuselage now on a jig awaiting the intricate sternpost at one end and a decision about the choice of engine at the other. This important choice of course decides the design of the front bulkhead area of the fuselage and needs to be made soon.

Work on the Bolingbroke is proceeding well. The front fuselage was of complex shape to improve pilot visibility and the APSS team are working at the moment on repairing and then re-glazing that area.

Work on the Anson ceased when Ian Hutchison had to withdraw on health grounds but it is hoped to restart in a couple of weeks.

The DH Comet and the BAC 111 are open to the public and both have been worked up by APSS volunteers prior to the Museum summer season.

The Radio and Radar Section is alive and well and enjoying the prospect of Building 22 being open to the public this year after being closed through 2008. The Strutter in B32 should also be open to the public again.

Newsletter 3 told you of APSS participation in the Vulcan to the Sky Appeal which included a fund-raising drive (literally) in which 3 members of that Trust drove to all 15 surviving Vulcans in 24 hours starting at East Fortune, albeit outside the gates. The Trust was successful in raising the required £1million and it is hoped that XH558 will display from June 2009. The NMoF display is on July 25th. Keep checking to see if XH558 can be there.

On 25th and 26th of this month APSS will have a display at the Scottish National Scale Model Show in Perth. It will feature some of the hand-crafted models of the late Bob Wilson, models of the Ferranti Flying Unit by Bob Thomson and general display information about APSS and the Strutter project.

The APSS Slingsby T53 glider continues to operate at Portmoak. 2008 was difficult due to poor weather conditions. Hopefully 2009 will be better. Any APSS member can arrange a flight in it. Email or phone for details

Subscriptions for the current year

Our 2009-2010 year started on 1st April and we hope you will continue your essential support for APSS and its projects by rejoining at the current subscription rate of £15. Thank you if you have rejoined already. I hope to hear from everyone else soon by post to the address below. **Many thanks.**

Web site and other contacts

Our website <http://www.apss.org.uk> has been much updated with an Events section etc. Keep checking it for news if you have internet access. If you don't you can probably log on to the APSS site through your local library.

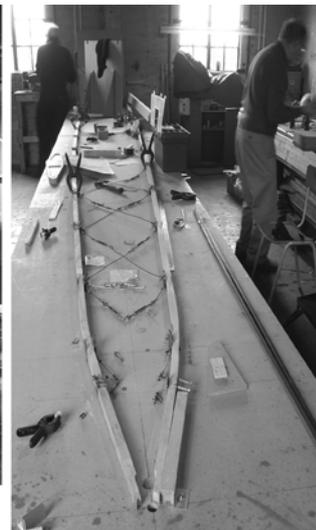
With all good wishes

Brian Wilson

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Bolingbroke



Strutter ->

Anson prior to covering



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