



Cloudbopper News

Issue Number 96

May 2017

Welcome to your May Newsletter.

Greetings fellow Aviators, and welcome to the May edition of your favourite Newsletter. Not the world's largest journal but once again bang up to date with all that is happening in our world of hopping.



first outing for G-UHOP with its new owner.

For your Pleasure this month we have:

- The Annual Brian Bolland Meet
- New Balloons / Second hand Sales updated.
- Update on my Cameron O-31 build
- The Solo Record Flight Update. The entries continue to trickle in.
- Interesting photos
- Cameron Stock O-31 For Sale.

Please send to me your items for inclusion in future editions of the newsletter to the email address below. Without any more waiting, let's get into the newsletter.

Steve Roake- Editor. Steve.roake33@gmail.com

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For Sale

Bargain

Cameron Stock

O-31.

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1, Ed Speak- Guinness World records !

Well forgive me for not being too impressed with the Guinness world record people. They obviously have a job to do in creating and collating the world records that go into the book that they produce , but to a slightly naive newcomer to this world it seems that they are just a money pit. You have a choice it seems; the first option is you can pay around £6000 for one of their very efficient colleagues to witness the event or you can collate all the relevant information yourself and then get hit for a big wedge to establish the new record. Win Win for Guinness and that's without the royalties of selling the book. This means besides having to find a load of unexpected cash and it looks like I'm going to be very busy proving to Guinness that we have achieved what we say we have done. With great thanks and respect to Ian Sharpe, fortuitously we have his guidance with the cross channel record, we will have a smoother path than we could possibly imagine. Whilst what we will have to prove will be arduous and labour intensive on my part, you guys will need to do your bit and so I ask you to read the update section this month and you will have a clear indicator of what I will require back from you as evidence after the solo record flight.

It will all be worth it when we smash the current unofficial standings.

They say no pain, no gain. So let's go into this the best equipped we can and then wait for our magnificent achievement to be truly recognised by those who can ratify our magnificent act.

Please Read the bit in the update section

Steve Roake.

2, Essential Extras – Alas empty again!

Unfortunately, I have nothing with which to fill this section of the newsletter for this month, so until I do it will remain empty.

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3,Features Section

The Brian Bolland Experimental Balloon and Airship Meet 2017

Deep into the rolling valleys of Vermont, way up into the hills , a single carridgeway road winds its way through some lush forrest land in valleys punctuated by lakes in the bottom and small individual houses carved into the clearings with immaculate gardens spread around the dwellings. This meandering road to nowhere in particular eventually arrives at a small habitation with a solitary garage and store upon a crossroads and you know you are close to the action. You have arrived in Post Mills. A real kind of nothing out of the ordinary place with a lovely church set alongside a lake next to a manicured grass airfield, with the exception of a few starange additions such as a dinosour and a piano to play once you have landed.

Nothing can prepare you for the meeting of Brian Bolland and his now once again annual Balloon and experimental airship meet. This mighty oak of a man greets you with warm welcoming youd expect and then opens his airfield , home and hanger to all who attend what is arguably the finest gathering of home builders anywhere in the world. I say once again, because for a while it didn't happen , and without Brian, there simply isnt this gathering. The list of things to do when you grace this place is immense , nothing can prepare you for the sights you will see when you enter his hanger. You have to sign the wall, and you have to meander amongst the artifacts he has created and collected over the years and you end up feeling part of the biggest family in the world .

I wanted to post to you here a report from this years event but my requests went unanswered. I know for a fact that this year the god of burners Paola Bonnano and the lovely Nicky attended (what a meeting of minds that must have been). So unfortunately all I have for you is my personal memories of what it is like from my visit previously, and some pictures from the flying this time around with a report of which balloons attended .



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As ever the event is all about flying and talking turkey to like minded individuals who come in every way possible from Rv's to aerial arrivals (some with hopper onboard). As the tune says , " it doesn't matter which way you get here , get here if you can ".

Weather this time around appeared to be quite good, with plenty of flying.



all of these great photos are by Jim Rogers

One of the things I liked about the event is its "go do whatever you want" ethos and the launchfield becomes a massive collective of people moving from one balloon to the next admiring the creative works of the owner pilots.

Where everyone stays is anyone's guess, because its that kind

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of place where you honestly don't know where people hang out. Clearly some stay in cabins on Brian's field, some camp amongst the RV's and I'm sure some simply kip in their vehicles. On the occasion of my visit we were some 15 mins down the road in a neighbouring village.



Should you choose to fly away from the airfield, most of the surrounding area is covered in lush forrest which covers the hills right down to the lakes in the valleys . In one direction is a lovely lake you fly over of some size, but what you do, is choose somebodys dwelling and land on their garden and expect a warm welcome from folk who all know Brian and his antics. To give some idea of the popularity of the event and the numbers of pilots who entered and flew, here taken from another site is a log of what flew on the Sunday morning and the authors unique take on what he missed out on seeing.

Home build fly out at Brian Boland's airfield Sunday morning.

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C-GEGM	Homebuild	AX5 42K-001	
?	Scrap Palace	think it is a Boland?	
N3QX	Homebuild	37K16	01
N14GY	Homebuild	Geostat	006
N56HZ	Lavoie MT	56K-126	004
N73KX	Sproul K	73K-24	S-002
N103VT	Schilling	S-32R	6325
N106EL	Homebuild	ELS-69K	001-2016
N108MM	Homebuild	54C	2-2011
N148CB	Cameron V-77		341
N207LB	LBL35A		5285
N225JC	Homebuildd		LS-25
N529JN	Homebuild	54K	001-2011
N703ZA	Homebuild	Patostat	CYB-003
N827SG	Homebuild	Saanto 54K	001-2015
N922LD	Homebuild	S-70	L-001
N925JJ	Homebuild	54K	069
N960CB	Homebuild	2075	101
N970CB	Homebuild	1666	101
N1053K	Homebuild	Voyager 1	RS001
N2407W	Boland	World Cruiser	130
N3130B	Homebuild	Zirpolostat 56	001
N3136D	Homebuild	48-16	001
N4233Y	Homebuuild		RK34
N4310M	Homebuild	60-12	010798001
N5589B	Boland	Spam	12
N5589B	Boland		12F
N7812C	Homebuild	TNK1	001
N9029Q	Boland	Rover	A-2
N9040A	Adams	LD-S	022
N9147Y	Homebuild	Bearship	1
N45061	Cameron	M-34	6364

There were also 2 not registered 3 I cannot identify along with most of Brian's 100+ envelopes in his museum, there are Cameron's, Piccard's, Aerostar's, some with label's like " Fantasy 56,000 Yellow Bird" or "Boland Inverted Pyramid" I am afraid that most will never be identified as he will not give a list of what is in there.

Now I would say that's a pretty impressive log by a spotter when you consider that firstly in the experimental category some balloons don't need to have a N registration and secondly even better when you realise how god dammed small American registrations are. All I would like to say about the whole event , as a hopper pilot , it is a must go to event at least once in your life and secondly I promise, I will return in future years for more fun amongst great friends.

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Noah Forden is such a dude – and yes it did arrive in that plane!

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If anyone ever asks you why do we do this thing? Just show them these kind of photos and ask them when in the middle of winter , whilst beavering away at their work do you fancy some of this ? Expect a positive answer .

My thanks to Jim Rogers for allowing me to raid his photo page on facebook , should anyone want to post a factual account of what actually happened this year , ill post it next month .

Steve Roake- jealous as always .

On behalf of all who benefitted, thanks once again to Brian and his family for hosting this unique annual event, it is truly one of a kind and definitely a bucket list thing for Hopper enthusiasts worldwide.

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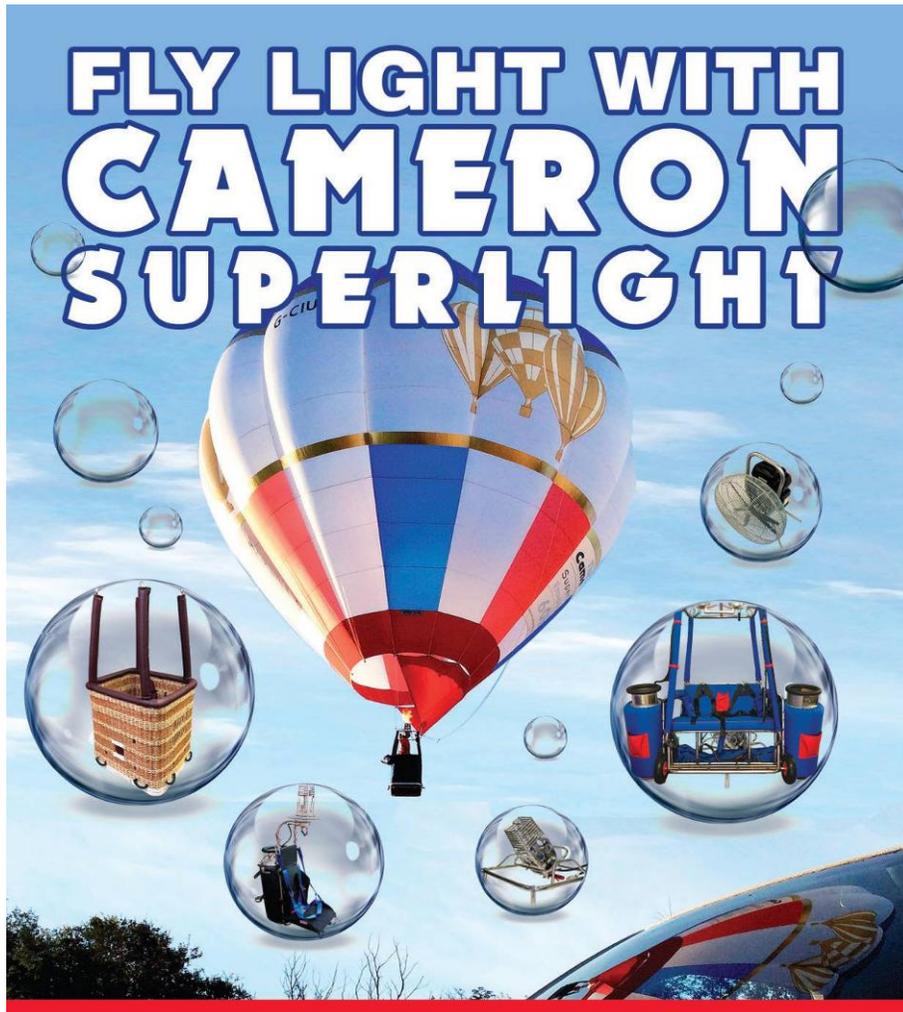


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Solo Record Flight –Progress report Number 5 by Steve Roake.

Update number Five of the Cameron Balloons Sponsored Solo Record flight. **Entries still trickle in for the Solo Record Flight with my list of known participants totalling 48 , lets hope this tallies with the MAB organisers cleared entrants list. There are two things that are important to speak about this month with regard to the event .**

Firstly an email went out to all participants of the Mondial Air Balloons festival telling you that because of heightened security measures following on from the atrocities in Europe, the organisers need a list of all crew members attending with their details by **20th June.**

IF you fail to do this , you will not get in to the event !

Secondly and ,more specifically to do with our Solo Record Flight, In order to satisfy Guinness and Get our record flight verified we will be persuing the path of **providing evidence** to back up our claim. Therefore in next months newsletter I will include a **landing form** for you to all download which will have specific items required to be filled in by you all and returned to me please after the flight .

This form will have details for you to fill in with take off point and time , landing place and time , grid coordinates for both , a witness signature , a notification saying that upon this date you took part in the solo record flight to be signed by yourselves and to compliment this form **you will need to provide evidence of the entry of the said flight with photo copies of the log in the balloon logbook and in your own pilot logbook .**

This is the level of detail Guinness requires to verify the record flight .

Any video evidence will also be greatly received by myself showing as many participants as possible please. Even better would be if the video has the date and time showing on it. The more data we have to verify, the easier it will be to get the record established, and collectively we can all help this happen.



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Thanks in advance for both your patience and your assistance in achieving this once in a lifetime achievement. I believe there are possibilities of gifts coming to all the participants.

5, Homebuilding Section-

A temporary lull appears to have descended over this section recently. Builders taking stock perhaps – or just a breather . More when I have it for you.

5, Interesting Photos.



Just a teaser photo for you. G-CJWY Cameron O-31 has been test inflated, seen here with Temporary scoop and clearly showing my choice of clear view windows. Delivery is scheduled for three week's time.

Final weight is 32kgs. Photo with thanks Craig Moore of Balloons Ltd.

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6. New Allocations This Month / Changes of Ownership

After a series of months with continuous new allocations added to the register there is nothing new to all this month. This doesn't mean there is nothing coming as indeed I know of a new Ultramagic due to appear in the UK soon, it just hasn't been registered yet. We shall await its registration.

Second Hand Movements

This month has seen the sale of G-UHOP UM H-31B to a delighted Adrian Brown from Roysden Herts. This in turn freed up G-BZBT his older Cam H-34 which has also found a new home abroad whilst remaining on the UK register. Both balloons are a testament to selling at the right price and both deals were done very quickly and I'm delighted to say that G-UHOP has already been flown now twice with the name of "Muffin".

7. Gallery Pages –

Your Editor's choice of new and interesting hoppers and duo's active in the world of ballooning or good themed photos.



This slightly grainy Photo was from the recent Cotswolds Airpark (Kemble) Balloon festival and Featured Derek Maltby's first flight in G-CJRK his Cameron O-31. The Superlight balloon got even lighter when certain Items of his kit got dropped during the flight LOL.

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Advertisement

031 : STOCK

1 of 3 CAMERON BALLOONS



V19.146(A)	Fabric Colours Used:	SUPERLIGHT	
Artwork: NONE			
August 2016			
Designer: BLK	Scoop / Nomex : <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YELLOW	Load Tape Colour: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black	

This visual is for guidance purposes only. Because of the limitations of graphic representation, colour scheme and artwork will be defined by the final order document.

Pretty stock hopper from Cameron's

Unbelievably still on a special offer deal from Cameron Balloons, is this Lovely stock hopper which is on a special price of £7800 using the discount code "Facebook Deal 01". Contact Cameron Balloons in Bristol to secure this beautiful beast and enjoy the saving over list price. **Amazed it hasn't sold yet- Ed!**

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8, Manufacturer / Event News / Industry News

Initial reports returning from the Little and large meet talk of a rain affected event. I understand flights took place over Thursday and Friday evenings with a Friday am flight also possible . Hopefully a full report in June's Newsletter.

Membership Numbers Exceed the Magic 1000 mark.

As strongly predicted a significant milestone was reached during May. Facebook subscribers exceeded the 1000 mark and personally I'm delighted that you guys /ladies choose to subscribe to the only fully focussed Hopper site on the internet. Since starting in 2004 this portal has grown from strength to strength and will evolve to become whatever we want it to be. I'm always open to suggestions as to how to improve the offerings and contrary to popular myth I am not 100% blinkered in favour of Cameron Balloons since I have become their Brand ambassador. All of the manufacturers have always had access from me to promote their wares here and will continue to do so. Submissions will always be included if offered to me **without Bias.**

So with thanks to those who pushed us over the threshold we currently stand at a membership total of 1027, which is marvellous.

And so that was the "compact " May edition of the Newsletter, hope you all enjoyed it. **Fly Safe people ... Steve Roake.**

All articles for inclusion in future issues will be gratefully received by your Editor. Please forward them to steve.roake33@gmail.com and feedback good, bad or indifferent is always welcome. Views aired by contributors may not be those of the Editor.

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