

# Private Flying & Club News



**CINQUE PORTS FLYING CLUB.**—The hours flown by the Club aeroplanes for the week ended October 17 were 19 hr. and 30 min. Lt. Com. Gubbins flew in his own machine to the Midlands on October 10. Owing to the foggy weather round London he was unable to return until October 14. On that day also Mr. Law arrived in his Westland Widgeon III, G-EBRN. Lt. Com. Gubbins has become hon. secretary to the Club, in succession to Mr. Drake, who has resigned owing to taking up an appointment in the Far East. The Club are deeply indebted to Mr. Drake for all the work he has done, and wish him success in his new appointment.

**HANWORTH CLUB.**—A special Demonstration Clay Pigeon Shoot, arranged by and under the Rules of the Clay Pigeon Shooting Association, will be held at the London Air Park on Wednesday, November 4. The programme will be:—12 noon, practice. Event No. 1—1.0 o'clock: 25 Bird Special Demonstration Shoot by Britain's leading clay pigeon shots, including the 1931 British Champion and International Team Captain, Mr. C. Lucas. Event No. 2: 10 Bird "Tyros" Competition, restricted to those who have never won a prize at a clay pigeon shooting meeting. Entrance fee, 1s. 6d. Special prize open to members of N.F.S. Clubs. Event No. 3: 5 Pairs Double Rise—Scratch. Entrance fee, 2s. 6d. Three prizes for each event. Competitions at Crossing Birds and Handicap by Distance, time permitting.

It is hoped that the clay pigeon trap will be available for the use of members on the following Saturday, November 7.

As noted elsewhere in this issue, arrangements have been made for the Focke Wulf Ente (the "Tail First Machine") to be demonstrated at Hanworth.

The dates provisionally arranged for this demonstration are from Friday, October 30, to Monday, November 2.

**AT BROOKLANDS.**—Flying at Brooklands is not showing the statistical decline which has hitherto been a melancholy feature of aviation in winter. The Sales Department has sold three machines for immediate delivery and two for delivery in January. The Repairs Department has been working overtime, and turned out five machines in the week, which is two above the summer average. On the instructional side the "dawn patrol" referred to in last week's notes, together with the 20 per cent. bonus on winter flying rates, continues to maintain activities. In spite of mist, 44 hours of flying were carried out, and six new pupils joined the School, including two ladies. Mr. Holbeach made a successful first solo, and Messrs. Vaughan and Piper obtained their "A" Licences. The Blind Flying Course is also going to prove a popular feature, and 25 pupils are already down for tuition.

**FAIRING A "MOTH."**—Mr. Ralph Kenyon, of Newtonville, Mass., U.S.A., writing to the de Havilland Co., claims marked improvements in the performance of an English "Moth" he has streamlined-up. Having built a false bottom to the fuselage, and faired all strut fittings, all landing gear fittings, the petrol tank into the wings, the wings into the fuselage, the headrest into the fin, bridged the gaps in the ailerons, elevators and rudder, and constructed a detachable front cockpit cover and windshield, he has obtained a top speed of 134 m.p.h. and a cruising speed of 120 m.p.h. The take-off and stalling speeds, he says, were not noticeably impaired, but the gliding ratio was increased. The accompanying illustration shows an American "Moth" thus treated.

**THE PHILLIPS AND POWIS School of Flying** held a dance at their clubhouse on Woodley Aerodrome last Saturday night, October 24. This proved an even greater success than had been expected. The new wireless installation was particularly valuable as it provided excellent music without taking up any space on the floor, a virtue not possessed by musicians who are actually present in the flesh. Nearly a hundred guests attended, but owing to the arrangements the club at no time appeared overcrowded. It was altogether a most enjoyable evening, and those responsible are to be congratulated.

**THE NEW YORKSHIRE COUNTY AVIATION CLUB.**—Sherburn-in-Elmet is now the headquarters of the new Yorkshire County Aviation Club.

Formed only some three weeks ago, this venture shows much promise, and it is worthy of success if only for saving Sherburn aerodrome from returning to agricultural land, and every pilot flying north will agree that it is far too good and useful a landing ground to be lost.

The owner of the land is Mr. Harry Hey, well known to pageant visitors, and the hangars and clubhouse belong to the firm of Burnetts, the railway wagon builders. These two have generously given the new club an excellent start by refusing to accept any rent whatsoever for the first twelve months. The Blackburn Aeroplane Co. are providing two or three specially streamlined "Bluebirds," and Capt. Downer of that firm is taking up residence there as full-time instructor. Apart from his qualifications as an instructor, Capt. Downer is well known as a particularly sound navigator, and will be remembered as navigator for Capt. Courtney's Atlantic attempt.

The new club has already enrolled over a hundred members, including many well-known members of the original Yorkshire Aeroplane Club, who will find Sherburn a useful second string to Yeadon. Mr. Arthur Senior, of "Hayfield," Shadwell, near Leeds, is the Hon. Sec., Col. Emsley, a prominent North Country polo player, is chairman of the committee, and any visiting pilot may be assured of a true Yorkshire welcome.

**BRISTOL AND WESSEX AEROPLANE CLUB.**—One of the snags of the new Bristol Airport so frequently quoted is that of inaccessibility owing to the tortuous nature of the approaching roads. We are glad to hear that the new arterial road linking the north part of the Aerodrome with the town is making good progress. The finish of this should further the aims of the Airport Committee, namely the establishment of manufacturers and other works around it, for naturally manufacturers cannot be expected to consider the site until the transport of their goods by means of heavy lorries is a convenient and easy matter. The road is expected to be opened early next year.

