



LAA International Air Rally and Exhibition 2019

Rally Chairman, **Brian Hope** says it's the best aviation show in town – packed with fun, friendship, entertainment and, of course, aircraft of all shapes and sizes. Come and have a great weekend!

Only a month to go now before Sywell once again welcomes us to their superb aerodrome near Northampton for our annual International Air Rally. We hope you are planning to come because we believe the LAA Rally is the friendliest and most interesting event of the UK flying season. You can come by road or air (see air arrivals details below), and you can stay for just a day or stay for the long weekend, the choice is yours; what you must do though is come, because the Rally is what our Association is all about – fun, affordable flying and

Above An overhead of last year's event gives an idea of how busy the Rally gets over the weekend.

friendship. Let's take a look at what's in store over the Rally weekend of August 30/31/September 1.

The Exhibition

As I write this in mid-July, we are already up on exhibitor bookings compared to the same period on any of our previous Sywell Rallies and it's looking to be the biggest exhibition since the Rally was reinstated in 2009. The outside area is already pretty well sold out and we will likely have to expand it a little to accommodate late bookers. Inside space is also down to the last handful of units, but again we have the flexibility to extend our



marquees if required. So, if you are a trader or an association who would like the opportunity to promote yourselves and your products and services to the largest actively engaged recreational flying audience in the UK, check out the Rally exhibitor pages our website (www.laa.uk.com) and get in touch with LAA HQ on 01280 846786 to discover just how affordable it is to exhibit with us. If you want to come, we will get in you!

Like many of our exhibitors who have been coming back year after year, you will then discover that the Rally is not just a great place to do business, but also has a wonderfully warm and cheery atmosphere because everybody comes to have fun, to meet old friends and to make new ones.

So much on display

Whether it's the latest kit aircraft, engines, props, avionics or pilot supplies, there will be a wide range of equipment to see, try and buy. We are delighted that Garmin will this year be hosting their own stand rather than sharing space with Adams Aviation, although they are once again jointly sponsoring Speakers' Corner. Garmin have on display Manuel Queiroz's Van's RV-6, which readers will recall received a panel upgrade demonstrating a Garmin themed Night/IFR Permit capable fit. Garmin and Adams experts will be on hand throughout the event to offer advice on meeting your panel and avionics requirements, whether you have a day VFR single seater or a Night/IFR four-seat transcontinental tourer. They'll have plenty of competition though because the likes of LX Avionics, Icom, Avmap, uAvionix, PilotAware etc., will also be tempting you with their wares.

Transair Pilot Supplies have this year sponsored the Exhibition arch, over the doorway of Marquee A, our thanks to them, and they once again have their extensive range of pilot supplies, everything from a chart to a new ANR headset. AFE and Flightstore can also meet your pilot supplies requirements so you'll certainly have plenty of choice. And remember, if you're buying new equipment, there's no better way than to handle it, feel how the knobs work, ask those awkward questions and to translate those dimensions from numbers into seeing its physical size. LAS, who sponsor the Homebuilder Marquee, have a veritable feast of maintenance parts, many at bargain prices especially for the show. Our thanks go out to them and all our other sponsors for their much-appreciated support.

New types

Several new types are promised for this year's event, including the KFA Safari and Explorer bush planes being brought in by Graham Smith of Sprite Aviation.

Above left The exhibition is currently growing year on year and is the place to research and buy your aviation parts and services.

Above right Linley Hill Aero have a Rotec water-cooled Jabiru conversion on show this year.

Right The 140hp Rotax 915iS. See it on the CFS stand

Below Come and meet the LAA in person, many of our staff are on hand to answer your queries and talk aeroplanes.



There should also be a Jungmann and Jungmeister from Polish company Air Res, and possibly the Shock Cub, another purposeful off-airfield design that is being processed through LAA Engineering for UK builders. We also have a wide selection of aircraft kit suppliers, Bristell, Zenair, Lambert, TLAC, Eurofox and more, and CFS will be there with their range of Rotax engines, including of course the 140HP 915iS, which is taking the kit market by storm. Kevin Hyam of Linley Hill Aero is the man to see about Jabiru and Camit engines and has a selection of specialist parts for these antipodean engines, including a water-cooled head conversion from Rotec Aerosport.

For the first time we also welcome Nicholson McLaren, Continental and Lycoming engine specialists.

All the big names in recreational aviation will be at the show, and there will undoubtedly be deals to be done.

The LAA Stand

The Association stand will be in Marquee A and will feature our book and clothing sales, membership, representatives from the Engineering team throughout the show for those technical queries, PCS Coaches for those training issues, and Martin Ferid for touring talk.

The ladies from Air Courtage will also be present to discuss your aircraft, pilot and project insurance



requirements, offering schemes specifically tailored for LAA members.

Aircraft Inspection with GASCo

GASCo has, for many years, hosted an aircraft daily inspection competition and over the past couple of years our LAA engineers have arranged an ad hoc masterclass on this very important topic. This year we are formalising it rather more and continuing airworthiness engineer, Jerry Parr, will be hosting the class by the GASCo aircraft each day at noon. Come along and see how the experts do a daily D.I., you never know what useful tips you might pick up.

Homebuilders

Having already mentioned the Homebuilder Marquee, expertly put together by Dudley Pattison and his team, with plenty of interest. There will be a part completed RV-7, the work of Andy Phillips of Andair, his fourth RV build. Elsewhere in the exhibition, Andy's son Owen, who now runs the business, will be able to offer assistance with Andair's range of superb fuel system components. Also featured are an Isaacs Fury, Menestrel, Flitzer, a school's Air Camper and more. Plus, PilotAware will be offering advice on electronic conspicuity and Kevin Dilks can answer queries about Woodcomp propellers and four-stroke Rotax engines.

Demos, and a chance to try your hand, include aircraft metalwork and woodwork, and the ever-popular propeller making, plus just outside the tent, fabric covering courtesy of Aircraft Coverings, the UK agents for the popular Poly Fiber system. TLAC are also at the event with their 'no paint required' Oratex fabric covering system.

Flea market

This year, for the first time, The Flea Market will be sited in a separate tent, situated next to Marquee A alongside. This is closer to the visitor entrance than in the past which should allow easier access for those carrying parts from the car park.

So, if you have any old parts or tools that you no longer require, why not bring them along to sell? We charge a £1 sign in fee and a 10% commission on sales, and the tables are always buzzing with people looking for that elusive instrument, magneto or set of plans. Bargains galore or an opportunity to exchange unwanted items for cash, it fulfils both requirements!

Speakers' Corner

The Adams Aviation and Garmin sponsored Speakers' Corner is a standalone marquee between the visitor entrance and Marquee A

Hosted by LAA Engineer Malcolm McBride and back by popular demand for the 2019 LAA Rally, the Speakers' Corner tent is again sponsored by our friends at Garmin and Adams Aviation.

It will be filled to the brim with interesting and informative content and shouldn't be missed. It's early days, so the full line-up hasn't been finally arranged, but we've managed to put together a series of one hour talks that include subjects as *Going Foreign* with Martin Ferid, *A Garmin product launch* with Garmin's Ben Smith, an explanation about the recent announcement that the LAA and the BMAA are aiming to work in closer cooperation – this feature is called *The Way Ahead. A Consultation* and includes a Q & A session.



Top The popular Homebuilder marquee houses an array of projects and demonstrations for the budding aircraft builder.

Above Plenty of bargains to be had at the Flea Market and a new location this year.

Also confirmed is an interesting talk by Clive Davidson about converting to a different type; Clive has flown many types during his interesting career, from warbirds to microlights.

And don't miss Wg.Cdr.Chris Pote's fascinating tale of his flight to New Zealand in his EuroFox.

If you're one of the many 'SkyDemon' users, then bring your tablets to follow an interactive session with Sky Demon's very own Rob Hart on some of the app's many useful, but maybe unknown to you, features.

We've quite a few other speakers lined-up so don't miss out: before you set off for the Rally, be sure to look at the Speakers' Corner Timetable – it's available online from the LAA website.

The aircraft park

One of the key benefits of the Rally is access to the aircraft park where, given decent weather, around 1,000 visiting aircraft are expected. This year sees the 90th anniversary of Pietenpol Air Camper and the Pietenpol Club intend getting a strong line up of examples to the show.

For those contemplating building or buying an aircraft, learning to fly or simply getting to know more about recreational flying, the opportunity to walk amongst such an array of aircraft and talk to their owners is as manna from heaven.

You can learn more from the people who really know what they are talking about than in days of trawling the internet. Access to the aircraft park is free with your

admission ticket if you are an LAA, BMAA or BRA member. Non-members can gain access for a £10 per day additional charge, passes being available at the Airside Passes tent near Marquee A, the first exhibition marquee.

Food, drink and entertainment

There's a restaurant in the Aviator Hotel, a café on the aerodrome, catering on the exhibition site, and food available in Hangar 1 during the evening – so you won't go hungry!

There are two bars, one in the Aviator and another in Hangar 1 – so you won't go thirsty either!

On Friday evening in Hangar One we will be entertained by Perfect Vintage, an experienced duo who sing songs from the 1940s, 50s & 60s. And on Saturday it's time to really let your hair down with PommyGranites, a highly regarded local rock cover band. Come and dance the night away and enjoy a drink with friends old and new.

Rally trophies

The Association has a number of superb trophies in its gift for aircraft attending our annual Rally. The broad categories are Plans built, Kit built, Vintage, Classic (factory and homebuilt), Gyros and Replicas, plus a number of type categories such as Europas, Jodels, Moths, Austers, RVs, Fabric Pipers etc.

We rely on you, the builders and owners, to register your aircraft for judging, either online before arrival, or at the booking in tent by the airside access gate. Further details at <https://tinyurl.com/yc8k6kpo>.

The awards will be presented at the LAA Annual General Meeting to be held later this year.

THE REALLY IMPORTANT BIT!

Arrivals by air

As I explained last month, the Rally has come under even closer scrutiny by the CAA. We look forward to welcoming you to the event but it is imperative that as a visiting pilot

YOU BOOK A SLOT AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE AIC.

Those instructions tell you to join via the Pitsford Hold so please do not join downwind, long final, or by any other invented scheme other than as published. Adequately space yourself behind aircraft in front and only leave the hold to join the circuit when it is safe to do so.

I'm sorry to keep going on about it but problems in previous years have led to the CAA requiring changes, and those changes may well become more of an imposition next year if we have a repeat performance of the poor airmanship shown by a very small number of people – they may have a licence but they don't deserve to be called pilots.

The AIC is (Yellow) Y 098/2019 and is downloadable from the LAA website at www.LAA.uk.com click on the link in NEWS, it is also on Sywell's website: www.sywellaerodrome.co.uk/bookings.php as well as the NATS website via www.nats-uk.ead-it.com/public/index.php.html

Booking a Slot

The slot booking website (the Sywell email address above) is scheduled to open on 1 August. As well as Friday, Saturday and Sunday, you will be able to book



Above You won't see such a variety of homebuilts other than at Oshkosh, and you can spend hours chatting to their owners.

Right The PommyGranites

Below right Phil Cozens with the winner's spoils for his superb Comper Swift replica.



a slot to arrive on Thursday afternoon from 1400 to 1800 local, when traffic is quieter. However, the Rally does not officially open until 0930 local on Friday morning. However, camping, food and facilities will be available.

PLEASE ONLY BOOK THE SLOT YOU ARE GOING TO USE.

Sounds obvious but we know many extra bookings are made 'just in case' you can't make an earlier one. This robs another member of using that booking so please don't do it. If you have missed your slot due to weather or a technical issue Sywell allow a very reasonable amount of leeway.

● **IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO USE A PRE-BOOKED SLOT PLEASE CANCEL IT ONLINE SO A FELLOW MEMBER CAN USE IT.**

SkyDemon and aide memoire

This year we have introduced two ideas that we hope will help pilots flying into the event. The first is an aide memoire, an A5 heavyweight paper sheet with the

essential details and drawing of the joining and circuit procedures for the two runways, 03 and 21, one on each side. This is not an alternative to the AIC, it is a useful easily handled memory jogger which you should have found it in this magazine.

If you haven't, then you can download and print a copy from the LAA website.

The second aid is a downloadable (from the LAA website) SkyDemon routing of the Pitsford hold and circuit we have put together with the help of SkyDemon. They (one for each runway) are downloadable onto your iPad or Android tablet or phone, and the website includes instructions how to very easily do it.

Unfortunately, it isn't possible to add either of these routes directly to your inbound route, but you can extend the inward leg to the holding pattern back to a point on your inbound route. For instance, coming up from the south you could fly your route up to say, Bedford, then switch routes to pick up the downloadable route for whichever runway is in use, having previously extended its inbound leg to the hold down to Bedford.

● PLEASE REMEMBER: TABLETS ARE GREAT BUT NOTHING BEATS THE MARK ONE EYEBALL FOR LOOKING OUT FOR TRAFFIC!

Arrivals by road

Sywell Aerodrome is within reasonable striking distance of the A45 between Northampton and Wellingborough. It is well signposted as 'Sywell Aerodrome' and the postcode NN6 0BN will take you there on your satnav. There are also directions on the Sywell Aerodrome website at www.sywellaerodrome.co.uk. Free car parking is available directly opposite the airfield entrance, and there is a dedicated disabled parking area on the airfield itself.

Camping

There is a campsite with hot and cold water, showers and regularly serviced toilets in the same area as the car park, so why not take advantage and spend a night or two under the stars?

Our friends from the Andover Strut, who organise the site, will be delighted to see you.

You can reserve space in advance via the LAA online shop for the discounted price of £25 (£35 if paying on the day).

This fee covers a single unit from Thursday August 29 till Monday September 2, or part thereof.

Rally opening times

- Friday: 9.30 am to 5 pm
- Saturday: 9.30 am to 5 pm
- Sunday: 9.30 am to 4 pm

Admission charges

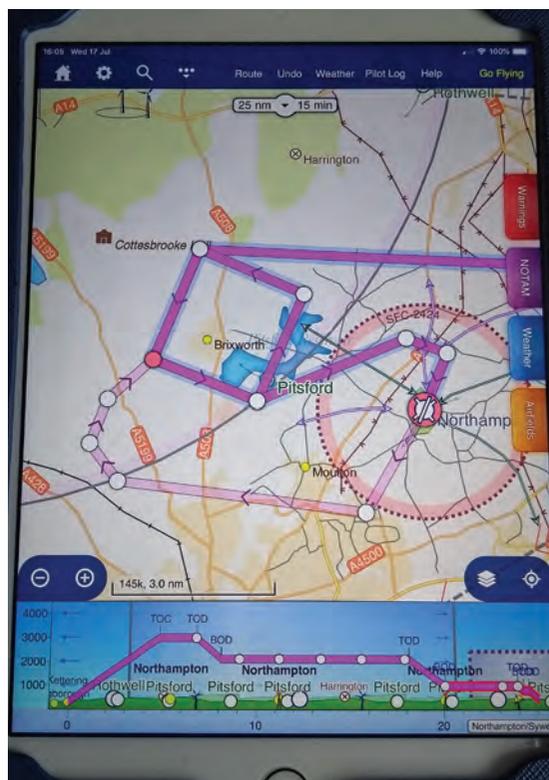
Members of LAA, BMAA and BRA: £6 covers all three days and airside access (please ensure you bring your current membership card as there is no facility to check whether you are a member at the pay desk).

Non-Members: £12 covers all three days, but not airside access.

Non-Members airside access: £10 per day, available from the Airside Passes tent near Marquee A.

Visiting aircraft: landing fee is £10 (singles) which also gets the pilot and those on board into the event for the duration of the time the aircraft is at Sywell.

Right Downloadable hold and circuit routings are available for SkyDemon equipped tablets and phones but keep a very good lookout! Note, this is an early trial routing not the actual download, which has minor changes. The pink line is the overshoot and rejoin.



Our sponsors. Many thanks for their support



All the information you need to plan your visit to the Rally is available on the LAA website at <https://tinyurl.com/y2xxzf9d>

We look forward to welcoming you to the LAA Rally and hope you have a very enjoyable visit. ■