



Welcome to the JERSEY AERO CLUB

February 2025 members newsletter

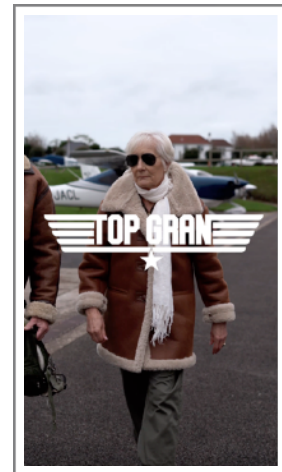
Update from FBO Skywalker ... *by Jonathan Vibert*



First 2025 flying achievement ...

Congratulations to Darrall Pullen, Jersey Aero Club committee member, who obtained his night-rating last month.

Although a quiet start to 2025, due to a number of weather systems hitting the UK, we have seen the fruits of a very positive Christmas advertising campaign. Our 'Top Gran' advert ran online and for a period on Channel 103fm, bringing in over 40 voucher enquiries in the build up to Christmas.



A number of these have proposed progressing on to obtaining PPLs, and will report on student growth later in the year.

We continue to build on this success, and a proposal is underway to look at joint marketing campaigns between Jersey Aero Club and FBO Skywalker for 2025 which will cover a range of products and services across the site.

Update from the JAC Committee... by Jonathan Vibert

PPL board

Having spent some time collating names and details of the existing PPL 'graduates' up to 2015, committee member Jonathan Vibert is working to bring the board up to end of 2024.

If you have obtained your PPL with [Jersey Aero Club](#), or one of our Training schools, please pop in to the Aero Club Flying Desk or email jv@flyortac.com with your name and year of completion.

Airfield Grass Parking - Update



Following a number of reports over the past month or two, we have been engaging with the Airport's Airside Safety Team; looking as 'root' causes (pun intended!) to the uneven areas of the grass aircraft parking, east of the club.

In the interim, Ports of Jersey have marked out white-boxed areas showing where the existing matting is installed which offers assurance to pilots of firm ground. We will work with Ports to retain these markings during any grass cuttings into the summer period.

In the medium-long term, the committee and I are engaging with Ports to look at options for more solid parking pads for local and visiting aircraft.



Ports of Jersey are surveying suitability of the ground south of the taxi lane from holding point 'Hotel' up to the grass field, with the intension of laying matting for up to 6 aircraft.

Whilst this short-term solution to parking will be managed by FBO Skywalker, a more long-term solution is being costed with the club supporting in the preparation of a business case for Ports of Jersey to make further improvements for General Aviation aircraft - both visiting and local.

Further updates will be made in the Club newsletter, and social media



Work in progress ...Photos by Jonathan Vibert

... and by Andrew Renouf

Aero Club Balcony

Earlier this month we obtained the final sign off from the structural engineers for the Balcony extension. In accordance with the constitution, all major expenditure must be approved by members. As the project was approved at the last AGM, the steel structure has now been ordered. The foundations are already in place so it is planned to start the installation in March/April.



Update ... by Eveline Hawkin

With the year well on the way now, we have been planning our 2025 events. So, subject to confirmation by Ports of Jersey, our dates are as follows:

Sunday 27th April - Our Spring Day open to those over the age of 12

Sunday 13th July - Our joint event with Wetwheels

Sunday 7th September - Our day for Young Children aged 5 to 12.

So, if you are keen to join our team either as a pilot or helper on the ground, do contact us on hello@helpingwingsjersey.org

Our other exciting news is the 2025 flying Award which we launched in January. Sponsored by PoJ and HW, the lucky recipient will be awarded 10 hours of flying training with Skywalker Flight Training.

Your story ... VIP passenger in N999F ... by Jasmine Clarke

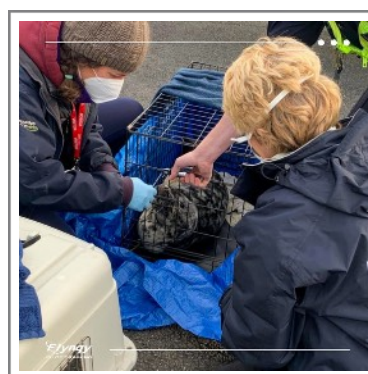
Since I moved to Jersey in July 2023, despite being an 'islander' for a relatively short time, there have been so many examples of community spirit that have made me smile and feel proud to call this beautiful island 'home'.

Donna from the British Divers Marine Life Rescue told me they'd taken a seal pup into their care. 'Whiskers' was found at Rocco Tower by a dog walker; the poor seal pup was very weak and exhausted and needed to be taken to a seal hospital in Newquay as soon as possible.



I'd never flown with an animal in the aeroplane before so I called John, also in the 9F group, to see if he'd like to come along too. As it happened, John was flying his Boeing 777 back from Bangkok that night but was happy to tag along as soon as he was back in Jersey – great! I set about doing the flight admin and everything was fixed to fly Whiskers to Newquay the following day.

We transported him in a crate (Whiskers, not John!) and he was sound asleep for the entire journey after his morning feed and exercise. Upon landing in Newquay, word had very quickly gotten around that there was a seal pup arriving in a Bonanza from Jersey and we were met on the apron by a flock of welcoming staff and kind people interested to see our little passenger. Vets from the BDMLR Cornwall Seal Hospital transferred the pup into his new transport crate and we said goodbye as he made his way off the airfield and onto the next part of his journey destined for rest, TLC and lots and lots of fish!



It is quite the luxury being able to fly around in our aeroplanes as we do, something not to be taken for granted. To use them to aid a good cause such as this was a great pleasure and John and I were delighted to give our help as is often the ethos found in the community spirit of Jersey island life.

Date for you diary ... by Mary Frawley

Showcasing General Aviation in Jersey

Jersey Aero Club to host a 2025 Open Day

Sunday 11th May 2025

We are excited to announce that Jersey Aero Club (“JAC”) will be hosting an Open Day on Sunday 11th May to create awareness about the Club, it’s facilities, and of the General Aviation (“GA”) focused independent businesses who operate from JAC.

What Can You Expect?

Aviation themed art and design competitions

We have organised two competitions that will be active in the run-up to the Open Day with the work to be displayed at the Club from April 2025.

The direct impact on the Club will be that the competition entries will be on display at the JAC premises. We hope that by displaying the art and design work will encourage parents of the students who enter the competitions, to come to the Club on the Open Day to see their children’s work on display.

Going forward we will expand on our art and design initiatives with the younger generation of potential aviators and open future competitions to schools island-wide.

..... [Watch this space!](#)

CIASL ‘Open Door’ event

CIASL, the independent engineering business who operate from Jersey Aero Club premises, have kindly agreed to host an ‘Open Door’ event.

For the ‘Open Door’ event, CIASL staff will be on hand to provide the public with guided tours of the engineering department. Demonstrations on how a wind tunnel works’ and similar interactive displays will feature during the event. [Timetable to follow.](#)

Skywalker Flight Training and Ortac participation

Skywalker Flight Training and the Ortac flight chartering businesses, both of whom operate from Jersey Aero Club premises, will display and provide information about their businesses for the Open Day. [Further details to follow.](#)

Jersey Aero Club participation

The Club itself will be represented at the Open Day by its Committee Members who will be on hand during the day to provide information on the Club, its facilities, the Club membership options, the 2025 event timetable, and General Aviation news.

[More details on the Open Day to follow.](#)

Plane spotter's corner ... A selection from Bob Sauvary's collection



**D-KINO Alpavia built Fournier RF-3
3 November 1973 Borkenberg**



**D-EKYB Cessna 170B (wreck)
19 December 1973 Egelsbach**



**D-EDPY Binder CP.301S Smaragd
30 July 1988 Moulins**



**N4067P Piper PA.23-160 Apache
3 May 1996 Jersey**



SE-INY Cessna A.185E Skywagon Floatplane
2 May 1997 Jersey



SE-IRN SAAB 91D Safir
31 May 1997 Jersey



D-EGKW Klinker K.1
28 June 1997 Koblenz



D-ERPS Pottier P.220S Koala
28 June 1997 Koblenz



OH-XKS Rans S.10 Sakota
4 July 1997 at Cranfield



G-CEJU 219993 Bell P-39Q-6 Airacobra
14 October 2007 Duxford



NR2100 Granville Gee Bee D Sportster Replica
19 September 2012 Planes of Fame Chino



N4769D Cessna 182A
September 2012 Jean Navada



G-BYNF 3349 N.A.64 Yale I
10 June 2017 Duxford



G-CIPB Messerschmitt BF.109E
24 June 2022 Biggin Hill

RAF Association ... by Stephen Ross-Gower



Later this year, in October, we are celebrating our 100th anniversary and so, we are trying to piece together more information about our local history.

What makes it special is that Jersey established the first such welfare organisation for members of the air forces in 1925, but we have very few records of those early years in particular. The present RAF Association, under the wing of the RAF, was only formed in 1946 and all Branches now form parts of that wider organisation.

So, if you have any old RAFA records of either your involvement or that of family members, please contact me on the email below:

Stephen@ross-gower.co.uk

... and finally ...

Temps passés ... by Ian Dyke



Down memory lane ..

Ian sent me this picture. I am sure I don't recognise the pilot. There has been a few suggestions on Facebook. Any definite answer ???

Really interesting to read Jasmine's flying story this month ... I am sure there are lots of still untold ones out there. Would you like to share yours ? Pictures to be sent separately please.

See you at the club ...

Eveline

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