A few words from President Ern

I hope all our members had an enjoyable festive season to welcome in the new millennium.

In Australia many of our members’ flying has been curtailed by an unfortunate avgas contamination, which has grounded nearly 5000 aircraft. Hopefully this situation will improve before the coming New Zealand and Australian fly-ins. Many of our members from as far away as Europe and the United States have registered to attend the International Festival of Rotary Recreational Fellowships to be held in New Zealand in March this year. The hospitable local New Zealand IFFR Section has planned two (2) weeks of flying, fellowship and fun.

As a result of the questionnaire on flying on Rotary service, over 430 replies were received and Phil Yoder, Chairman of the North Central American Region has done an excellent job in compiling this information into a report for submission to the R I Board meeting this month. Thanks to Phil and R I Vice President Abe Gordon for championing this presentation and all those members who returned the questionnaire.

This submission highlights many of the humanitarian Rotary projects our members have taken part in the past and plan for the future. A copy of this report is available on the IFFR web page, www.iffr.org

World IFFR Secretary, Tom is in the process of compiling the 2000-2001 Membership Directory and I ask all members to check their entry in the current Directory. There have been many changes of addresses, misspelling and wrongly listed E-Mails, so please inform Tom of any inaccuracies in your listing.

For those members planning to attend the R I Convention in Buenos Aires, it is important to register with Sam and Elena Bishop, who are organising the IFFR activities.

Safe flying and may you have tail winds.

Ern Dawes  (IFFR World President)

NEWS FLASH

"I am pleased to be able to tell you that this morning the RI Board changed the RI travel policy so that the use of private aircraft is now included.

Helicopters remain totally excluded, as do microlights, but water-alinghting aircraft are included.

I am glad to have been able to help.

Noel Fryer"

NOTE FROM SAM  Re–PRIVATE AIRCRAFT POLICY

"Brian, several years ago, you started this quest to rid ourselves of this degenerate RI policy. You wouldn't let it alone. You would not accept it.

Phil, you finished it off. You nailed it.

We owe you both a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Sam"
BERGAMO FLY-IN – 28th to 30th April
Preliminary Program
Friday 28th Participants arrive at the Airport of Bergamo Orio al Serio, by airplane or car.
Welcome in the local Aero Club, then transfer to the Radisson Hotel close to the airport.
In the late afternoon transfer to the ancient upper town of Bergamo for a Welcome dinner. Saturday 29th Meeting at the airport in the early morning
Transfer by plane to Venezia/S.Nicolò to visit of the centre of Venice by motor-boat. Return to Bergamo in late afternoon.
Evening gala dinner with the members of local Rotary Clubs.
In the case of bad weather, tour of the Garda Lake by coach.
Sunday 30th Visit to the base of the 3rd Sqn of the Army Air Force at the airport, followed by a farewell lunch.
It will be possible for people not going back home until the next day, 1st May, to visit the important monuments and museums of Bergamo.
Of course it will be possible to join the Fly-in at any time. Special group rates are being negotiated both for the hotel accommodation, and the airport landing fees and services.
Final program will be available at the end of March.
For further details refer to:- Paolo Moschini , Travel Agency “La Vita è un Sogno”, Via Borgo Canale 5, 24100 Bergamo,
etl. +39035402844, fax +39035262566 E-Mail: costanzaadastra@tin.it
** ITALY
MEMBERSHIP 49
Section Chairman Cesare CARDANI
Alberata 403, SEGRATE MILANO DUE (MI-2) 20090, ITALY
tel 39 (2) 669 0906 (H); fax 39 (2) 239 94034
E-Mail = cardani@aero.polimi.it
** GERMANY & AUSTRIA
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Lillenweg 8, 25541 Brunsbuttel, Germany
Ph. 49 (4852) 7731 (H); 49 (4852) 813207 (B);
Fx 49 (4852) 816146
** SCANDINAVIA
MEMBERSHIP 119
Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland
Section Chairman Kjell AKERMAN
2, Chr. Lehns Vaenge, DK-5270 ODENSE N, DENMARK
tel 45 6597 8737 (H); fax 45 6618 6292
The Annual General meeting will be held on 4th to 6th August 2000 at Haugesund Norway. Accommodation has been arranged at Hotel Rica Maritim.
Friday night will be devoted to fellowship for the early arrivals.
Saturday program will include a scenic flight over the western Norway, followed by a gala dinner at night.
Sunday program will include a fishing trip for those staying over.
** SWITZERLAND
MEMBERSHIP 31
Section Chairman Marc BONNET
19, chemin Charles Georg, 1209 GENEVA , SWITZERLAND
tel 41 (22) 734 3627 (H); fax 41 (22) 341 2603
** UNITED KINGDOM
MEMBERSHIP 101
England, Wales, Scotland, Eire, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands
Section Chairman Ives BRANSON
59 Yew Tree Road, SOUTHBORO,
TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT TN4 0
tel & fax 44 (1892) 529 914
PLANES AND SHIPS AND TRAINS . . . .
We try to plan the Programme of events so that different parts of the country are visited each year. In recent years we have met in places as far apart as Brecon and Blackpool, Glasgow and Norwich. This time it is the turn of York (see below), a beautiful and interesting city which we have not yet visited. The Railway Museum and the Yorvik Museum alone would justify a weekend there.
SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU SQUAWK
By courtesy of IFFR member Stuart Hyde we have the opportunity of seeing the LONDON A.T.C. CENTRE in action on either of two dates. It is a fascinating experience and if you would like to take part please contact Stuart direct (ph/fax +44 1628 810967) as numbers are strictly limited to ten for each visit and names and car registration numbers MUST be given for security reasons. He will then confirm details of the assembly point etc. As replies will be handled in order of receipt an early response is necessary. DON’T MISS THIS ONE
UK SPRING MEETING – April 2000
Weekend 8th & 9th April at York, using Elvington Airfield. DON’T DELAY - the hotel will only keep the rooms until 29th February, and York is busy with visitors all year round. Book your room direct and register with Malcolm Barnard so that we know to expect you. (E-Mail = malcom@barnard.force9.co.uk)
BACKWARDS AND FORWARDS

In spite of the overall decline in membership of Rotary, and an increasingly hostile attitude to General Aviation both by professional bodies and the general public, the membership of the UK Section has remained constant at around 100, representing 7% of the membership of IFFR worldwide. There are 29 Rotary Districts within our remit and we can claim at least one member in every District. We have published a Section Bulletin on a regular basis for the past 20 years, have provided two of the fourteen IFFR World Presidents, and instigated both the major fund raising schemes supported by IFFR, namely the sponsored flights in aid of PolioPlus in 1987 and the Mission Aviation Fellowship Appeal in 1996.

While our members are predominantly VFR private pilots, having either the sea or the Continent on all sides they fly to attend IFFR events abroad so frequently, that their passports are as essential as their aircraft documents. Over the past ten years hardly a meeting abroad has been held which has not seen some UK Section members present. Sometimes the visitors even outnumber the hosts, and the post-R.I. Convention Fly-Rounds are particularly popular.

Now what can we look forward to in the next 100 years? Just as email and fax have revolutionised communication between members, will the expansion of low cost commercial flights demanding more and more space in the air and on the ground, relentless pressure from both official and ecological bodies, and the spiralling cost of ownership and operation of private aircraft spell the end of the private pilot?

Will the declining numbers of younger businessmen and women joining Rotary reduce our membership below a viable level? Will the spread of cheap and easy communication which eliminates the need for face-to-face contact coupled with the demand for federalisation within many of the countries which comprise Europe result in the absorption of the national Sections into one European unit?

You may think that absurd, but take a look at the title of our Section, which we call the ‘United Kingdom’ Section. What unites it? Each of the component parts now has its own form of government, the Euro may shortly replace all the different bank notes now in circulation here, the Scots and the Welsh have more affinity to the French and the Bretons than to their English neighbours.

Even the monarchy is under threat. The House of Lords is disenfranchised and if the Queen or her successor is replaced by a President we shall be neither ‘United’ nor a ‘Kingdom’. Progress is inevitable and is usually for the best. It is too easy to drift along in the same old fashion, and new blood often provides both the ideas and the dynamism needed to put them into effect. I shall be retiring as European Vice President in June to make way for a younger man who will be able to build on the framework he inherits to ensure that whatever is in store, IFFR will continue to prosper and offer a way in which those who have responsibilities of both aviation and service through Rotary can also enjoy the fellowship which they provide.

John D. Ritchie

My membership in Rotary started fifty-three years ago in 1946, but close contact and intimate knowledge of Rotary goes back to 1933. After qualifying in Pharmacy, I joined the Volunteer Reserve of the Royal Air Force to become a pilot and in 1941 was sent to Alabama USA, before the USA entered the war. The aircraft used in the USAAC in those times were the Boeing Stearman PT17, the Vultee Valiant BT13, and the North American AT6 Texan. For those going on to multi-engines, the advanced training was on the AT8, the Crane.

I joined the Herts and Essex Aero Club at Broxbourne Herts, which later moved to Stapleford Tawney in Essex. Involved in pharmacy seven days a week I spent quite a lot of any spare time I had in the air and took up aerial photography which I did for about 20 years. In the 1950’s we flew as a family, Effie and our three children, to places round the coast of Southern England from Yarmouth round to Weston Super Mare via Lands End, without radio or modern aids like VOR, ADF, DME or ILS.

I bow to the evidence that IFFR started in 1965, but I have always had a feeling that I was in touch with Ed Kennell before that date. Searching through my flying log-book I did make a note that the First UK Official Fly-in of Rotarians was to Ipswich on 21 October 1965. I had three Rotarian passengers, and I remember being met and driven to Rotary Lunch in a Rolls Royce.

There is an entry of a Fly-in of Rotarians to Redhill on 15th May 1966 with a lunch with the Rotary Club of Crawley, at the Gatwick Manor Hotel. We had more than one Fly-in to Stapleford Tawney Airfield, but I have no dates. There were Fly-ins to Rearsby in Leicester, and Blackbushe to go to the Rotary Club of Ascot. I vaguely remember Fly-ins to attend Rotary Clubs in Brighton, and Worthing.

It was difficult in those early days as I did not have a secretary. I recall the tedious task of writing about one thousand letters in longhand to the Presidents of all the Rotary Clubs in RIBI telling them about the IFFR, and I think I had a list of about 200 prospective members. I remember flying over to Cologne on 30th September 1968, to meet Dr Gunter Neufang who owned a newspaper and the only German Aero Magazine at that time, ‘The Deutcher Aerokurriner’. We flew on to Gelsenkirchen to stay in his home, and I enlisted him as the first German member of the IFFR. I also flew to Denmark to persuade Kjell Akerman to join IFFR. I think he was about the first member for Scandinavia.

The late Rotarian Ted Darlow who was residing in the US sometime in the sixties was given the IFFR membership No.63. I originally knew Ted as a very good CF1 in the Herts & Essex Aero Club. I remember he had a Fly-in to the Wimbledon Club, and he gave a talk on the IFFR to the Rotarians after lunch.

I have been a flag-waver for IFFR, for thirty or more years, visiting Rotary Clubs round the world, wearing the badge and the IFFR tie, which has created a lot of interest. With my long connection with No. 234 Squadron RAF (now finally disbanded in 1994) and spending holidays here and in Australia with my ex-wartime colleagues, my involvement with IFFR was not as full as it might have been and the brilliant organisation that exists in the UK today, could possibly have materialised much earlier. Anyway, I am proud to have been associated and involved with the beginning of IFFR.
Madame Jacqueline Recullet
Those members who have attended the events of the French Section of IFFR will regret to learn of the death of Jacqueline Recullet, the beloved wife of Jean Recullet, following serious injuries in a road accident. Jean who was the President of the French Section for many years was always supported by his wife on these occasions and many members will have happy memories of weekends spent in their company. Our sincere sympathies go out to Jean in his grievous loss.

** IBERIA
Portugal, Spain
MEMBERSHIP 25
Section Chairman Victor MEREO
Adriano 6, TARRAGONA, SPAIN
tel 34 (77) 232 433 (H); fax 34 (77) 224 468
E-Mail = ?

TARRAGONA FLY-IN
The Iberian section annual general meeting and fly-in was held at Tarragona in Spain, near Baralona, on the 1st to 3rd October 1999. The fly-in and fellowship was organised by Victor Merelo, and the fly-in airport was Reus.

ROUNTY FELLOWSHIPS WEB-SITE
Luis is maintaining the web-site with all the information about Rotary Recreational and Vocational Fellowships. Links are also provided to the Fellowships individual web-sites. There are over 40 recreational fellowships, and many Rotarians are members of more than one fellowship. However, there are still many Rotarians who know nothing of the enjoyment, the exchange of Rotary information, and the extension of their recreational interests. A recent addition to the recreational fellowships is “Rotary Heritage and History”.

And then there are the Vocational fellowships, which bring together Rotarians in similar professions from all over the world. The opportunities for fun, fellowship, and service are unbounded, and it is our responsibility to expound the benefits to our club members, by participating in District Conference programs, and by inviting club members to join us in our activities. It is very rewarding to take non flying club members as crew to an IFFR fly-in. We can now also invite the District Governor to join us as crew!

The web-site is: www.angelfire.com/ri/fellowship
Any updates of details for inclusion, can be sent to Luis at E-Mail = lh Henriques@mail.telepac.pt

** BENELUX
Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg
MEMBERSHIP 75
Section Chairman Stan JERMIATKA
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tel 31 (118) 562 326 (H); fax 31 (118) 562 349

** FRANCE
Section Chairman Jean-François RAPIN
11, rue Blanqui, BOURGES 18000, FRANCE
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E-Mail = seic@dactyl-buro.fr

** AMERICAS - SOUTH WEST
Arizona California Nevada Utah Colorado NewMexico Hawaii
MEMBERSHIP 200
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5162 W Riviera Ave., BANNING, CA 92220, USA
tel 1 (909) 845 7773 (H); fax 1 (909) 845 5463
E-Mail = bertv2@juno.com
Assistant Marilyn McCASKLEY
E-Mail = marilyn@sprinmail.com

Hank and Penny have completed their tour of Australia, visiting most of the major area in the Southern half. They flew into remote areas, sometimes landing on dirt strips with no buildings or communications. They used all means of travel including light aircraft, commercial aircraft, train, 4 wheel drive,

** AMERICAS - NORTH EAST
Ontario Quebec Kentucky Virginia Delaware Pennsylvania NewJersey NewYork Rhode Islands Connecticut Maine Vermont New Hampshire Maryland Massachusetts West Virginia New Brunswick
MEMBERSHIP 139
Section Chairman Dan NALVEN
PO Box 698, TARRYTOWN, NY 10591, USA
tel & fax 1 (814) 631 7746 (H)
E-Mail = N6467X@aol.com

** AMERICAS - SOUTH CENTRAL
Kansas Missouri Arkansas Louisiana Texas Oklahoma Mexico
MEMBERSHIP 86
Section Chairman Mike PINSON
1134 Cedar Oak, HARKER HEIGHTS, TX 76543, USA
tel 1 (817) 698 3373 (H); fax 1 (817) 698 2442
E-Mail = mpinson@juno.net

** AMERICAS - NORTH CENTRAL
Saskatchewan Manitoba North Dakota South Dakota Michigan Indiana Ohio Minnesota Wisconsin Nebraska Iowa Illinois
MEMBERSHIP 110
Section Chairman Phil YODER
2498 Danvers Court, COLUMBUS OH 43220-2822 USA
tel 1 (614) 457 2498 (H); fax 1 (614) 224 4445
E-Mail = Phil@icom-multimedia.com

Phil has been fully occupied with compiling all the questionnaires into the report for RI to consider allowing the use of private aircraft for RI business.
FELLOWSHIP FESTIVAL

The International Festival of Rotary Recreational Fellowships will be held at Auckland on 10th to 18th March 2000 to celebrate “Rotary’s best kept secret”. New Zealand IFFR members have arranged a two week program of flying events to coincide with the festival. The first week will concentrate on the North Island, with scenic views of the Kauri Coast attractions, sightseeing of Northland and the Bay of Islands, visits to Great Barrier Island, agricultural visits, and aviation displays. The second week will involve a round trip of the South Island, with overnight stays at Nelson, Franz Josef Glacier, Te Anau (near Milford Sound), Queenstown, and Timaru.

Full details, including available aircraft for hire, can be found on the NZ IFFR web site at www.premi-air.co.nz/iffrzn.htm.

Registration can be undertaken “on line”, or registration forms may be obtained from:-

The IFFR Festival Secretary, 697B Runciman Road, RD 2, Drury, AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND.
Phone 64 9 294-8748; fax 64 9 294-8749
E-Mail = tuhinmata@iprolink.co.nz

AUSTRALASIAN/EAST ASIA REGION
MEMBERSHIP 299

Vice President Malcolm McCULLEN
128 Johnston Street, CASTLEMAINE VIC 3450 AUSTRALIA
Phone (3) 5470 5044; fax (3) 5472 4989
E-Mail = malphyll@netcon.net.au

** JAPAN
MEMBERSHIP 33

Section Chairman Takayoshi YAMAMOTO
3603-7 Tomitsuka-Cho, HAMAMATSU-CITY, SHIZOUKA 432, JAPAN
Phone (53) 473 5300; fax (53) 442 0890

** NEW ZEALAND
MEMBERSHIP 35

Section Chairman Keith MITCHELL
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Phone (3) 614 7504; fax (3) 614 7544
E-Mail = keith.mitchell@thigroup.co.nz

ASHBURTON FLY-IN

The fly-in to Ashburton on the 17th to 19th September 1999 was attended by 32 members and partners in 8 aircraft from all over New Zealand. On Saturday, a bus tour was organised of the local farming industry, including a beef company that export to Japan, and a deer farm. After a tour of the aviation museum, the visitors were treated to an evening of fellowship with the Rotary Club of Ashburton.
AFRICAN REGION
MEMBERSHIP 22
Vice President Cris POTGIETER
8 Knightbridge Gardens, Parel Vale Road,
SOMERSET WEST 7129, SOUTH AFRICA
tel & fax 27 (826) 523 645 (H)

** SOUTH AFRICA
MEMBERSHIP 17
Section Chairman Peter GIBBS
4 Tulip Rd., Heather Park, GEORGE 6530, SOUTH AFRICA
tel 27 (448) 707 587 (H); fax 27 (448) 708 596
E-Mail = pmg@sccr.co.za

INTERNET

As noted in Ern’s column, the World Directory is in the process of update, so if you have an E-Mail address that has not been included in the past, notify Tom so that we can ensure the E-Mail list is as comprehensive as possible. Our success in having the restrictions of flying for RI Business removed, was in no small part due to an active E-Mail communication.

SUMMARY of FUTURE FLY-INS
(check with relevant Section Chairman for details)
MARCH 10-18 Auckland - New Zealand
MARCH 31- APRIL 2 Caloundra - Queensland - Australia
MARCH/APRIL Hamilton - Ontario – Canada
APRIL 8-9 York – England
APRIL 28-30 Bergamo - Italy
MAY 27- JUNE 4 Salzburg – Austria
JUNE Oporto - Portugal (Iberian Section meeting)
JUNE 8-15 post convention fly-in - Buenos Aires Argentina
AUGUST 4-6 Haugesund - Norway
SEPTEMBER Berlin-Tempelhof - Germany
OCTOBER 27-29 Narooma - NSW - Australia
?? 2001 Aland - Finland

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NAME__________________________________________________________________________________________________
ADDRESS_____________________________________________________________________________________________

Send completed order and check to:-
Tom SUROWKA 4660 Ocean Blvd., D-1, SARASOTA, FLORIDA 34242, USA
phone 1 (941) 346 0141  fax 1 (941) 346 5077  E-Mail = surowka@iffr.org

I F F R (International) LIFE MEMBERSHIP

LIFE MEMBERSHIP in IFFR may be issued to a current IFFR member upon payment of 15 times IFFR’s annual international dues. International IFFR Life Membership does not confer Regional or Section life membership. Continuing membership in your local IFFR SECTION requires separate arrangements directly with that section.

IFFR Member ________________________________ IFFR No __________________ Date ______________

MEMBERSHIP FEE = US$300.00
PAYMENT by CHECK ☐ OR IFFR is authorised to charge my account VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐
Name on card ______________________________ Signature _________________________ AMOUNT_______________
NUMBER _________________________________ expiry date __________

PLEASE COMPLETE and RETURN TO:-
Tom SUROWKA 4660 Ocean Blvd., D-1, SARASOTA, FLORIDA 34242, USA
phone 1 (941) 346 0141  fax 1 (941) 346 5077  E-Mail = Tomsurowka@aol.com
New Millenium IFFR Annual Meeting
& Argentine Fly About
PRELIMINARY INTEREST SHEET

If you have already filled out this form, you don’t need to do it again!

We are attempting to finalize the plans for Buenos Aires as quickly as possible. In order to do so, we need to know how many people have interest in the activities. So far we have over 20 people planning on the fly-away.

If you will please fill out the below listed form, we will keep you advised, preferably by e-mail, and, of course, through the Newsletters. You will get it FIRST if you fill out this form and you have an e-mail address available. This is NOT a commitment, the registration form will be forthcoming in the next few weeks..

I/we expect to attend:

_____ Dinner Dance Sunday, 4th June: 1900 hrs (estimate $60 each)

_____ Annual Meeting Monday 5th June: 1500 hrs (no charge)

FLY ABOUT

Yes _____ No _____ If yes, please answer questions below:

Thursday, 8th June

Fly Away Begins!!! (Flight times based upon 110 kt airplane).

(1 hr) B.A. - Junin Fly In to Estancia
1200 - 1800 Asado (Argentine Barbecue)
1800 - 1930 Fly to Parana

Fri., 9th June
Parana Aero Club Reception, city tour, etc.

Sat., 10th June
Parana to Iguazu Falls, fuel/lunch stop enroute

Sun., 11th June
Foz do Iguazu (Brazilian side accommodations)

Mon., 12th June
Foz do Iguazu

Tues., 13th June
Iguazu to Concordia (Reception, tours)

Wed., 14th June
Concordia, tours, fishing trips, etc.

Thur., 15th June
Concordia to Martin Garcia Island
Good bye lunch.

(1 1/4 hr) Martin Garcia to Don Torcuato a/p, Buenos Aires

Aircraft preference. Please indicate order of preference, 1, 2 and 3.

_____ Fly with an Argentine private pilot in their airplane & pay gas, etc.

_____ Rent a single engine aircraft with co-pilot (cost $100 per night) Cost range $90 - $160/hour wet.

_____ Ditto, but a twin, estimate $240 per hour.

_____ Would like to share the cost of a King Air, Metro II, or Seneca II, price range $570 - $870 each

_____ I will bring my own airplane!

NAME _____________________________________________ Number of persons _______
Address________________________________________________________________________________________
E-Mail __________________________ General Coordinators
(PREFERRED means of written communications) Sam & Elena BISHOP
3203 Fairway Drive
Soquel, CA 95073
Day Phone (       ) _________________
Eve Phone (       ) _________________
Fax (       ) _________________
E-Mail = sambishop@totlcom.com
ph day 1 (831) 728-5000 ext. 2204
ph eve 1 (831) 476-6451
fax 1 (831) 728-8228