



GUERNSEY FRIENDS OF AIR SEARCH

NEWSLETTER - 2004

NEWS UPDATE

Since our last newsletter the Air Search aircraft has been called upon to assist over 20 times (The full list of operations appears at the end of this letter).

In September Air Search took part in a search for 3 divers missing to the east of Sark, who were successfully located by the crew and quickly rescued by a boat. This was a most graphic demonstration of the value of the Service and the rescued divers have made very clear their appreciation of the way in which Air Search responded. They remarked on the professionalism of the way in which the search was carried out, reiterating comments that we have frequently received from other quarters.



Not every search has such a rewarding outcome, but the knowledge that the Service is available when required and that the job will be well done is of immense value to the Search and Rescue authorities.

During the year we have replaced one engine in the aircraft, the previous one having reached the end of its permitted overhaul life.

The replacement for the second engine is now in Oxford, awaiting shipment to Guernsey, and will be fitted within the next six months. The total cost of these replacements has been about £50,000 and has been fully covered by donations. We now have engines which should be good for 15 years.

HANGAR EVENINGS

A number of groups have attended presentations held at the Air Search hangar, where they have been able to meet the crew and view the aircraft and its equipment. This year groups have included Bank Social Clubs, Boat owners, Scouts, Guides, Women's Institutes, Ladies Groups and St John's Ambulance. These evenings have been well received and produced real benefits, not only through donations and sponsorship but also in providing people who are willing to assist at our other events, such as making cakes or helping serve teas at our Open Garden.

These evenings normally start about 6.30pm and last for about one and half to two hours. **If you know of any group (of about 15 people) which may be interested in viewing the aircraft, do please contact us.**

FUND RAISING EVENTS HELD IN 2004

March 2004 saw the completion of the new airport terminal. The airport authorities held an Open Weekend for the general public to view the new facilities. Air Search was given the opportunity to exhibit our goods and information leaflets. As this event was just before Easter we held a very successful Easter Bunny and Easter egg raffle.

In June we held one of our main Fund Raising events, our **Open Garden** held in conjunction with Floral Guernsey. The beautiful gardens at Le Manior owned by John and Ann-Marie Webb were made available to us and once again we were honoured with the presence of our patron, His Excellency The Lieutenant-Governor and Lady Foley. The dairy assisted with free dairy produce. Delicious cakes were provided by various Ladies Groups, Friends and Family. The weather was in our favour once again, which made for a very pleasant and profitable day. We raised over £2600 from Teas, Cakes and Admission Fees.

July events were hit by rain. We attended the Family Fun Day, held by Kings Church. The wind and rain damped the spirits of all but a hardy few. For protection we used a tent (See Picture) that gave us much needed shelter from the elements.



Also in July we had a table in the Round Table Harbour Carnival's charities tent. Again the rain kept the crowds away.

In August we attended the West Show, where we sold our Goods and Raffle tickets. Unfortunately our helpers had to brave the winds and rain showers. The poor weather on the Wednesday especially meant that the takings were somewhat down on previous years.

We were offered a pitch at a Medieval Fayre, held at Sausmarez Manor for the 800 years celebrations. The event was run by the Knights of Avalon. They really made the event special with their enthusiasm and superb costumes.



The weather was sunny (for a change). We again used the tent (this time to shelter from the sun) - all helpers on the stalls had to be dressed in medieval costume.

In September we opened our hangar to the Air Rally competitors. They were welcomed to the island by Mr. Laurie Morgan, Chief Minister of the Guernsey States.



We were again on hand to sell our stock and raffle tickets

In October, our main focus was on selling our raffle tickets for the Grand Draw due to be held on 3rd November 2004. This we did at Checkers and Safeway.

Draw Tickets

The Air Search 2004 draw will be held on **3rd November** in the Yacht Club at 8pm

This Year, **1st prize** is a **Return Flight for two persons on any Aurigny route** (donated by Aurigny Air Services). Other prizes include a **Jump It battery charger** (donated by Aladdin's Cave), **Sunday Lunch** (donated by Duke of Richmond Hotel), **Sunday Lunch** (donated by Sarnia Hotel Group), **DVD Player, Cuddly Toy** and many other prizes.

Enclosed with this Newsletter are 10 Prize draw tickets, which we would be grateful if you are able to sell to aid our funds. This annual draw represents an important source of funds for Air Search.

Counterfoils and payments should be returned to the address below to arrive no later than MONDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2004: -

**Mike Quarrington,
Champ du Pretre, Les Traudes, St Martins, Guernsey, GY4 6LR.**

Items for Sale

We have in stock the items listed below

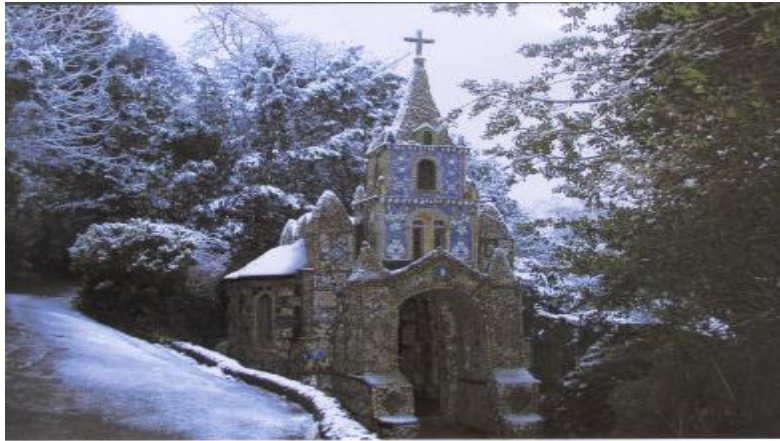
Sweat Shirts	£16.00
Polo Shirts	£ 9.00
Ties (two styles)	£ 5.00 or £ 8.00
Islander Broaches/Tie-pins	£ 5.00
Air Search Teddies	£ 6.00

We also have available a few copy prints of a lovely painting of St Peter Port Harbour donated to the Friends by local artist Sheila Noble at only £10.00 each.

Should you require any of the above items please contact Reg Noble on Tel. 238622.

Christmas Cards

New for 2004 we have a Christmas card, featuring a magnificent photograph by Beverley Foulds of **Les Vauxbelets Chapel in the snow**. These cards are available either blank inside to allow for a personalised greeting, or already printed with “ Seasons Greetings”. Cards are 50p each, with a discount of 5% for orders over 100 or 10%, for orders of 500 or over.



We also still have in stock, cards featuring the Gerald Palmer painting of the Islander outside the hangar.

Should you require any of the above please contact Reg Noble on Tel. 238622 or Julyan Gardener-Wheeler on Tel. 266188.

Website

If you have not yet seen our web site it is well worth a visit. It can be found at:
www.ci-airsearch.com

CO-OP Shopping

Air Search, have a Co-op dividend share number. All you have to do is quote 83322 when you shop.

Events 2005

In 2005 Channel Island Air Search will be 25 years old. Events are in the planning stage to celebrate this occasion.

Supporters

The Committee of the Guernsey Friends of Air Search would like to thank everyone who has supported the organisation in one way or another over the last year. This support takes many different forms but is essential for the on-going provision of the service. Sadly, as we all know, few things go down in price and operating an aircraft is certainly not one of them. On top of the operating cost of keeping the aircraft flying, there are regular maintenance costs to be borne. The total cost of providing the service is about £60,000 per year, excluding such items as the recent engine replacement.

The Friends of Air Search have a small committee, but together with our helpers, we try to cover as many events as possible during the year. If you feel you can help in any way, please contact one of the committee members.

2004 Committee		Contact numbers
Julyan Gardener-Wheeler	President	266188
Mike Quarrinton	Treasurer	239448
Ian Larby		238060
Reg Noble		238622
Julie Watson		720881
Ralph Burridge	Alderney	822297
Tony Ventress	Sark	832248
Richard Corcoran		
Russell Clark		
Roger Morgan		

Subscriptions

If you have not already paid your subscription, a reminder is enclosed with this Newsletter. If you have paid by Bankers order, would you please take a few moments to check that it is for the correct amount £ 10.00.

**CHANNEL ISLANDS AIR SEARCH - To Fly, To Save
Support the Friends to Support Them**