

Dear Member

As a result of the decisions made at the Solent Aviation Societies AGM this year, we will be ceasing production of the magazine in printed format.

The present 5 year contract on the Societies print machine runs out soon, for a variety of reasons which have been apparent to the committee for a number of years the renewal of this contract is not a viable option.

It is a case of simple maths, the membership of the Society has been steadily decreasing over the last few years and reached a point some time ago where the membership subscriptions no longer covers the cost of producing the magazine in it's present format and printing process.

For the above reasons and the fact that the production of a paper magazine has become increasingly difficult for those involved, the committee has come to the conclusion that the only viable option is to switch to a completely digital format. This will necessitate changes that have implications on the way the Society operates.

This course of action was put before the Society at the AGM for approval, where it was unanimously accepted.

The basic changes to the Society are set out below; the detailed set up of the digital magazine remains flexible as we gauge the response to it and the practical day to day operations.

Phil Butler  
Chairman Solent Aviation Society

#### CHANGES TO THE SOLENT AVIATION SOCIETY TO IMPLIMENT A CHANGE TO A DIGITAL MAGAZINE

1. The meetings would continue as they do at present, with the entry charge and raffle covering the cost of room hire. Cost of guest speakers and other expenses to be met from main funds.
2. Fly-ins and the sales stand to continue as is.
3. The Magazine; This is to become a digital magazine, split into several sections and incorporated within the Societies web site as detailed below. This will not only reduce production cost to a viable level but will also reduce the work load of the production team (Don & Doreen) to an acceptable amount.

Basic set up of new digital magazine

- a. No paper version. The society will not print paper copies; we will not have the facilities to do large print runs following the termination of the present print machine contract.
  - b. The bulk of the reports will be in a “live” format on a forum section linked to our web site accessible by the society members to upload their reports directly.
  - c. Certain selected locations (local) and reports (to be decided) to be in a report format uploaded by section editors or at committee level and downloadable in .pdf format (if reqd)
  - d. Airfields abroad and other reports to be articles with the emphasis on photo links on the web.
4. Subscriptions to be restructured;

All renewals in January, renewal at a new rate for digital membership, the new membership rate to be set £2 per year to cover membership administration costs.

Existing subs renewals to be abandoned and all existing memberships to run till the end of this year.

#### Targets

August 2010 – Test format of the new digital Osprey online

October 2010 – New digital Osprey online

January 2011 – Full digital society