

Hi again

After all the emails recently, I must apologise for yet another one, but timing dictated that this needed to be sent out immediately..

It is with great sadness that I have to advise of the death of one of Biggin Hill Airport's original personalities, Betty Porter.

Betty, who was married to David Porter for over 59 years (David owned one of Biggin Hill most well known flying clubs of the pre-jet era, Flairavia), was actually associated with the airport for longer than most of us oldies, having been a regular at the airport back in the RAF days prior to 1959. A really pleasant, friendly, and charming lady, Betty died last Sunday after fighting a difficult illness for over a year. She is survived by husband David, and her children, Charles, Elizabeth, and Kim.

The family has lived for many years now in the North East of England, and her funeral will be held at 2:15pm on Tuesday 19th July at the Darlington Crematorium. David has advised that anyone in that area who knew the family would be most welcome to attend, but it is appreciated that most will be unable to be there. For those of us living in the South, David hopes to arrange a memorial service in Biggin Hill or the local area in a few weeks time, and I will make sure everyone is notified in due course, once these details are known.

Our thoughts are with David and the family at this difficult time.

On a lighter note, I must thank everyone for the letters of support for the Airport's Olympics proposals. I am really gratified for the remarkable response so quickly. The airport has expressed their thanks for all that you are doing to help them. But please don't be complacent - if you haven't yet done anything, please draw down one of the standard letters, or the leaflet with the tear off strip, or write your own letter, and send in your support. (There is also now a full webpage on the subject at <http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk/olympics.html>).

I know some people at the airfield have expressed concern about the adverse effect of the Olympics on their flying businesses during this period. Please don't blame the airport management for airspace restrictions and procedures that the UK government is forcing on everyone - Biggin Hill Airport just happens to be under the restricted airspace, but it didn't create it or request it. They are a victim in all this too! All we are asking you to do is give them help to take financial advantage of a situation that has been forced upon them by geographic location. More importantly, to stop the very vocal anti-airport lobby from using this to gain unstoppable momentum. So please show your support of the airport, even if you are worried about the effect of the enforced airspace restrictions on your own businesses.....

Thanks again for your help.

John Willis
Biggin Hill Airport Users Database