Newsletter Rotary





A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT KRIS

"Preus*" and happy: that was the feeling we, the entire board of IFFR Benelux, had after our annual fly-in in Genk last May. The weekend was a great success and received so many praise words. It is not only the organization, but certainly the participation of an enthusiastic group of friends that made this weekend a success. Even at the International Rotary Convention in Houston, people were talking about our fly-in. So as they say in French: "les absents ont eu tort". At the same time, we have set a very high standard so we have started working on our fly-in in 2023. We keep you posted...

IFFR Benelux was present in Utrecht at the Rotary Festival, organised by Rotary Nederland with an attractive stand to promote our section. Meanwhile, several members represented our section at various meetings throughout Europe, I am once more PREUS that they met and will meet friends at these gatherings.

In the coming weeks, I will setup a Whatsapp group to be a able to make it much easier to get toghether during the flying season.

Meanwhile KEEP FLYING & safe travels !

Happy landings Kris, your president.

* (West Flemish for proud)



A hearty dose of adventure, a touch of culture and a lot of fun: that was our IFFR Benelux fly-in in brief

The international group with members from IFFR UK, Switzerland, Germany, Norway, Denmark and of course the Benelux was immediately in good spirits. With a few last minute registrations and changes due to Corona, there were still 45 people in the group.

On Friday 27 May, after all the aeroplanes had found a parking space, the group left for C-Mine to visit the former mine site. Accompanied by 2 guides, former miners, we started exploring the machine rooms and technical areas of the mine. The mine shafts themselves can no longer be visited. They are filled with groundwater.



But not to worry: there was so much beauty to be seen, and the stories and anecdotes of the guides more than made up for this. Moreover, we were also privileged to take a look behind the scenes of the power station. Normally, this part of the building remains closed to the public, but an exception was made for IFFR Benelux. With a limited company, the visit was extended with a shortened visit to the C-Mine experience, where one could experience life 'underground' with beautiful video material and VR almost at first hand. Day 1 was over and ended with a delicious BBQ at the hotel.

The programme for Saturday was packed. And we have to admit: Kris, Ingrid and Maurice were a bit stressed out about the day... Would everything go smoothly ... without 'accidents'? That is why a safety briefing was held



on Friday evening. And thanks to the help of Louis de Funès, the message was quickly clear to everyone: driving a 'goat' is not for the faint-hearted.

On Saturday, the group headed back to C-Mine to visit the Piet Stockmans Studio, a place for craft production for porcelain in lim-



ited series using special techniques, and to make room for experimentation. They designed installations, interior objects and exclusive tableware for top restaurants. We'll visit the exhibition 'The Archief' where we discover Piet Stockmans' entire oeuvre.

For the lunch we went to Droneport at Brustum (Sint-Truiden), the former military airport where we were not only welcomed with a delicious lunch. As icing on the cake and thanks to Chris Goossens

and Yves Geernaert, the doors of the brand new hangar were opened where we could discover a nice collection of old and new aircraft. As you can imagine, it was not easy to get everyone back on the bus in time for our next activity of the day.

It was time to leave for Heers, where 12 "goats" or 2CVs were ready to leave for a road trip to 'Brouwerij Wilderen'. What an experience: everyone had immediately chosen their favourite car and off they went. 12 cars in a row... and after only 10 minutes they had already lost their way. Oops, this is a dead-end street: every car had back in the narrow road... No sinecure as it turned out: the whole neighbourhood was watching and laughing. After an hour







of 'bumping' along the narrow Limburg country roads, the 2CVs arrived drop by drop in Wilderen. Only smiling faces, great fun, so hard work ... everyone was thirsty. Only 1 "goat" had gone missing...and had fortunately returned to Heers in time.

YBD -02

Now quickly back to the hotel for a quick shower and make-over to be ready for the gala dinner. And as we do in Belgium, a good party is concluded with a hearty dance and, as a bonus, a nice karaoke number "Take me home, country Roads", not by John Denver but by our very own treasurer Maurice Tax.

Maybe his performance-act could be the beginning of another IFFR Benelux tradition...Let's discover it next year during our Fly-In in Seppe.

Curious to see more photos? Just go to our website: www.iffrbenelux.online.

Flash-back

IFFR FLY IN EDQM 8-10 JULY 2022 Huub van Heur, Past President IFFR Benelux

On Thursday 7 July, together with my grandson Mylo, I left for Hof in Germany, some 603 km from home in Heythuysen. This fly-in was organised by Rotary Club Hof Bayern, of which two Rotarians are also IFFR mem-



bers. We chose this type of aircraft: Mercedes 180 CLA. As this type is a low-flyer, we were on time at airport Hof Plauen EDQM on 8 July.

The select group consisted of 12 participants including Mylo, Angus Clark, his wife Alisma and Past World President Feroz Wadia. Ger-

man IFFR President Christian Denke was also present with his wife Gudrun.

In the afternoon, a city walk through the centre of Hof was on the programme. This town is characterised by

RENO AIR RACES

Nathalie Chudiak

On 29 June, a very interesting presentation was given by Tim O'Brien, organised by Penelope Cornwall, section leader SW Americas. The presentation had already been



postponed once due to online issues but better luck this time and we had a great time!

Tim O'Brien is a highly experienced and respected photographer of aviation, railway and wildlife subjects. He lives in

California and specialises in telephoto lens photography, aiming for close-up action shots. He has been taking photos for 39 years, including one of the pylons for the Reno National Air Races Championships as well as photos for other media and air shows on the West Coast. The presentation was a nice intro for the IFFR Fly/Drivein to the Reno Air Races from 22-25 September this year.

Tim showed some beautiful photos of the aeroplanes he had taken at the Air Races in recent years. This was surrounded by a lot of information about the Races themselves and about the technical aspects of his photography



its Lutheran character with many churches. Friday evening we had a nice dinner, as the pictures show. Before



dinner, we were treated to a lecture by Günter Wetzel (IFFR member Germany/Austria). He took off with a hydrogen-filled balloon to Fl 290 in Augsburg in 1979 and broke the German altitude record at the time. The preparation was interesting, but the flight lasted only three quarters of an hour and the landing was 80 km from the take-off site.

On Saturday morning, we drove to the Deutsch -Deutsch Museum in...

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and the aircraft. As for the Reno Air Races, there are six main classes (and a separate seventh) in which one can compete.

- 1. Biplane
- 2. Formula I
- 3. Sport en Super Sport
- 4. AT-6
- 5. Jet
- 6. Unlimited
- 7. Stall drag

A number of very spectacular photos of each Class were shown with the accompanying details and stories. It was a struggle to make a selection as they were all equally beautiful.

The 27-strong audience, with the well-known number of 'foreign' participants, watched the presentation breathlessly and many questions were asked about the rules of the competition, the technique of the pilots and the equipment of the aircraft.

Unfortunately, it would be going too far to describe this in detail in this article. In simple terms: a start is *Dead.marg.online*.

made with a leadplane...



Fly Alaska Nathalie Chudiak



On 30 March 2022, Section Leader SW Americas Penelope Cornwall organised a zoom meeting with IFFR member Al Clayton from Anchorage, Alaska, speaking about his life, work, hobbies and flying in Alaska. Some 40 participants enjoyed his illustrated story.

Al was born and raised in Alaska. As a teenager, he was once allowed to fly in a Super Cub and that was the beginning of his pursuit of wings. He trained in Oregon to earn enough money to buy them. His wife Beth gave him a logbook for Christmas 1993, not realising that this \$10 booklet was a "money gobbling monster"...



Spring is in the Air Ingrid Witvrouwen

With that motto, IFFR Benelux kicked off the new flying season on 20 March. During a festive lunch at our home base EBZW Huub van Heur handed over the presidency to Kris De Keyser (RC Aarschot). Kris was pinned on the president's epaulettes by DG 2140 Bart Purnal and DG Leny Goijer (D 1550).

Arie Buijtendijk, Huub van Heur and Nathalie Chudiak



received, as outgoing board members, the Paul Harris recognition for their years of commitment to IFFR Benelux. At the same time, several new board members were appointed: Maurice Tax as treasurer, Ingrid Witvrouwen as secretary and Yves Geernaert continues his task as webmaster and stockmaster.

During his speech Kris announced that he wants to work on the further expansion of the circle of friends by attracting new mem-

bers and by organising activities. During the event there was also a moment of remembrance to remember some of the friends who had passed away recently. Al now has four planes: a Cessna 180, 182, 170B and an experimental Super Cub. He pays for the fuel with earnings from his private law practice representing private individuals and companies since 1992.

Al is something of a jack-of-all-trades in terms of positions: he is a member of the Pioneers of Alaska, the Alaska Airmen Association, the Alaska Aviation Safety Foundation, the Lake Hood Pilots Association, the Seaplane Pilots Association, the IFFR, AOPA, RAF (Recreational Aviation Foundation) and EAA. He is president of the Dairy Airpark Homeowners Association who own an

airstrip on the west...

Lead more online www.iffrbenelux.online/flashback



"Ladies it's time to fly" Vanessa Moerman & Guido Bouckaert

On 20 January '22 Zara Rutherford achieved her world record, amid great public interest, at my home-based airport of Kortrijk-Wevelgem.

"At age 19, she became the youngest female pilot to fly solo around the world and the first person to complete a circumnavigation in a microlight aircraft after a five-month journey which began in Kortrijk, Belgium, on 18 August 2021, and ended on 20 January 2022' says Wikipedia about Zara.

This achievement is close to my heart. I myself have already promoted my 'ladies, it's time to fly' campaign several times. I have also been organ-



ising Rotary Kruishoutem's STEM project 'Science and Technology' for a number of years. With this initiative, we try to convince young people to choose a technical-scientific track in order to help our companies find enough qualified technical staff...

Read more online www.iffrbenelux.online/flashback

YVES GEERNAERT, SHOPKEEPER & WEBMASTER IFFR BENELUX

IFFR Webshop

Below is an overview/price list of all IFFR items available in our webshop. Besides a whole range of items with the new logo, we are still selling out material with the previous logo. These could well become real collector's items. You can order by creating a profile on our website iffrbenelux.online and then placing the order. Because we want to be sensible with our budget, there will be no more stock of these items. Therefore, only after the payment for your order has arrived, will your order be processed. For this reason, it can sometimes take a while before your order is delivered in full.

AVAILABLE WITH NEW LOGO

- Polo Gents Blue 25,20 €
- Polo Ladies Blue 25,20 €
- Polo Gents White 25,20 €
- Polo Ladies White 25,20 €
- Polo kids White 14,00 €
- Jacket Gents 55,00 €
- Jacket Ladies 55,00 €
- Softshell Gents 59,00 €
- Softshell Ladies 59,00 €
- Hoodie Gents navy blue 55,00 €
- Hoodie Dames navy blue 55,00 €
- Shirt IFFR Man White long sleeve
- Shirt IFFR Man White short sleeve
- Shirt IFFR Ladies White 3/4 sleeve
- Safety jacket IFFR € 15
- Pin IFFR (old logo) 5,00 € (limited stock)

ON SALES WITH OLD LOGO

- Shirt IFFR 45,00 € 22,50 €
- Tie IFFR 19,50 € 9,75 €
- Magnifier 25,00 € 12,50 €
- Dutch tile 25,00 € 12,50 €
- Cap IFFR 20,00 € 10,00 €
- Safety jacket 15,00 € 7,50 €



IFFR Benelux was present at the Rotary Festival 2022 in Utrecht, the Netherlands



One of Rotary International's strategic objectives is to attract new members. Continued growth as a fellowship is also what Kris, as the new president of IFFR Benelux, is striving for with his team. So a delegation of the board went to Utrecht to introduce IFFR Benelux to all Rotarians present at this unique event.

Our stand attracted a lot of attention. Oh I didn't know you existed, what do you do exactly? Are you like the flying doctors? Can I also become a member? are some of the many questions we received. This great initiative of Rotary Netherlands may certainly be followed in Belgium and Luxembourg. We will certainly be there too.

New IFFR friends

Dirk Witvrouwen

Ever since I was a child, I grew up among planes, more specifically model planes. And it is also somewhat genetically determined with a father who also had a very great interest in aviation and technology. Undoubtedly, this is why my interest in aviation has continued to grow. The flying of an aeroplane, but most of all I am interested in the aircraft itself: the technique and the developments. As a teenager it was my dream to be admitted to the air cadets. Unfortunately, I was too late to sign up (pre-in-

ternet era): it turned out I was a few months too old. So I dreamed of training as an airline pilot, but my parents were not keen on that either.

That's why I changed my focus and through static modelling, and later remote-controlled planes, I expanded my interest in aviation and knowledge about planes. If you ask me, the most beautiful machines are those built between the two world wars, and older. Of course the WWII warbirds are also impressive machines that I can fully enjoy. Fortunately, there are many people and organisations around the world who keep these aircraft airworthy. With some friends I try to attend one or two airshows / FlyIn's every year. Duxford - Flying Legends and the Shuttle-worth - Racing Days are about the favourites, although the Hahnweide FlyIn in Germany might be number one.

For the time being, I am not aiming to become a pilot in the classical sense. In August this year (2022), there is a gliding camp at Zwartberg in our agenda (together with my sister), who knows, the virus might bite... I got to know IFFR through my father Gust Witvrouwen. Later, thanks to my sister Ingrid, Egide Van Dingenen and Kris De Keyser, I also applied for membership. I am not a carrier pilot, but hopefully I have been able to make it clear that I am interested in aviation.





I am a psychologist who started to work in the real estate business about 25 years ago, I started flying in 2012 looking for new adventurous adventures. I've been trained in Alaska (tundra wheels and sea plane rating) in 2015 where I've been baptized "Lady Bush Pilot"!

In 2015, I purchased a Piper Super Cub and started organizing flying rallies. In 2018-2019, I flew from Belgium to and back South Africa, solo with my Super Cub.In 2020 I purchased a C180. Supporting a Congolese NGO fighting against children malnutrition in Kivu, I flew to Congo last November with my godson and his girlfriend who made a study about it for their university.

February 22, I flew from Congo to Benin via Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, Angola, Gabon, Cameroun with my friend Gino. May 22, I crossed the Sahara, solo and I am back in Antwerp where my airplanes are based.

I intend to start a Round The World Tour next December via the South Atlantic with my C180.

More info on my website : www.ladybushpilot.com



AGENDA **FLY-IN EUROPE**

26-28 August - IFFR Fly-In Switzerland - Bern

NEW IFFR Whatsapp-Group

If you're interested to be invited to become a member of the IFFR Whatsapp-group. We are organising meet & greets on 'the spot' depending on the weather conditions and who's available. Please contact Kris De Keyser to join the IFFR Whatapp-group.

The idea is simple: to be able to quickly organise a meet & greet on the spot, when the weather is fine and we feel like it is time for a flight.

MEET & GREETS

During the weekend of August 13-14, IFFR Benelux will be present at the 37th Old Timer Fly-In at Schaffen airfield (EBDT)! This event takes place from Friday, the 12th of August 2022 until Sunday evening, the 14th of August.

Amateur-built and certain historic aircraft registered in European - Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) member states no longer require- a permit to over fly Belgian territory for 30 days in a calendar year.

Before landing and take-off at the EBDT airfield, it is mandatory to consult the airfield information on the "pilot briefing" page of the Fly-In Website (flyin.dac. be/pilots.html) and register that you have read and understood this briefing.

IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS FOR IFFR ACTIVITIES

All suggestion for activities to be organised by IFFR Benelux are welcome. Please do not hesitate to send an email to info@iffrbenelux.online or directly to our president Kris via president@iffrbeneluxonline.

Aviation humor

Warren and his wife Joy went to the local Air Show every year, and every year Joy would say, "Warren, I'd like to ride in that helicopter." Warren always replied, "I know Joy, but that helicopter ride is fifty quid, and fifty quid is fifty quid"

One year Warren and Joy went to the Show, and Joy said, "Warren, I'm 85 years old. If I don't ride that helicopter, I might never get another chance" To this, Warren replied, "Joy that helicopter is fifty quid, and fifty quid is fifty quid"

The pilot overheard the couple and said, "Folks I'll make you a deal. I will take the both of you for a ride. If you can stay quiet for the entire ride and not say a word, I will not charge you. But if you say one word, it's fifty quid". Warren and Joy agreed and up they went. The pilot did all kinds of fancy manoeuvres, but not a word was heard. He did his daredevil tricks over, and over again, but still not a word.

When they landed, the pilot turned to Warren and said, "By golly, I did everything I could to get you to yell out, but you didn't. I'm impressed!" Warren replied, "Well, to tell you the truth, I almost said something when Joy fell out, but you know, fifty quid is fifty quid".

Source: https://letterpile.com/

COLOFON

International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians section Benelux

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Board

- Kris De Keyser, President ► ►
- Huub van Heur, Past president ►
 - Maurice Tax, Treasurer
- Yves Geernaert, Webmaster
- Ingrid Witvrouwen, Secretary

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