

February 2016



SKYWRITINGS

Newsletter of the *Kent Strut*



Achtung! Vorsprung durch technik

Meetings—AGM Gary Smith

AMG's are never very exciting so we decided to get it over with fairly briskly (Thursday 28th Jan) and lay on some entertainment for the remainder of the evening. A strut member (Ian Park) was trying to source information on second world war "doodlebugs" and by chance made contact with an most knowledgeable gentleman in this field. Mr Terry C Treadwell has spent many hours researching German WWII flying machines, in particular jet and rocket powered aircraft and in order to share his discoveries has written a splendid book. Excellent speaker material we thought. We made contact and he loved the idea but was too "puffed out" to make his way from Bournemouth for the evening. However he kindly provide a CD containing all of the photographs from the book and said we were welcome to run a slide show for ourselves instead. My commentary was factual but brief and luckily people from the floor chipped in to help me along. The 130 slides showed how advanced the Germans had become



Nigel Read - Editor

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25th February Meeting

Mikes's Marvellous Quiz

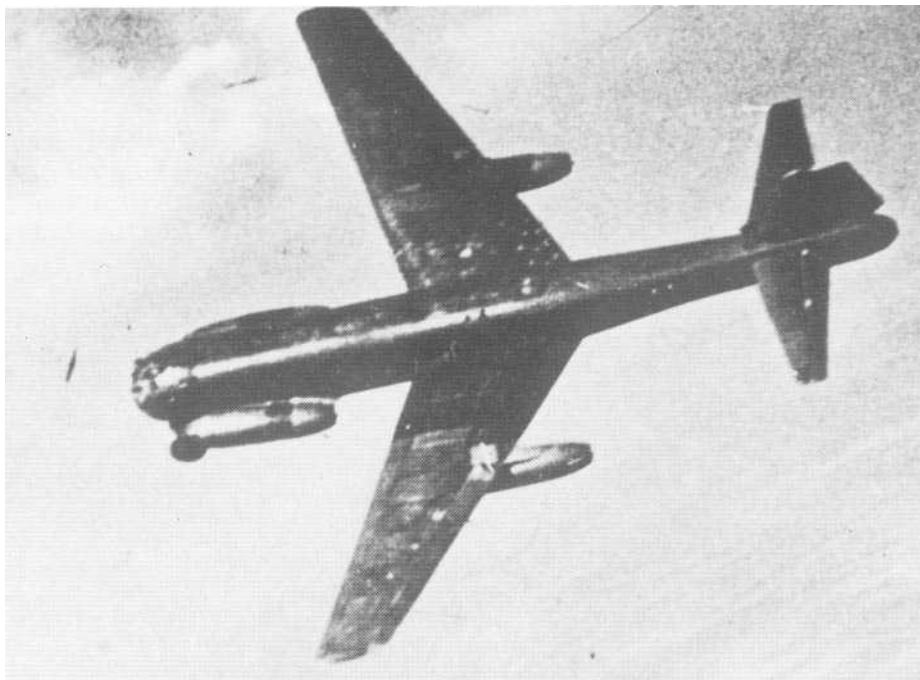
Cobtree Manor Golf Club, ME14 3AZ 20:00hrs

www.laakentstrut.org.uk

with their jet and rocket aircraft program, grossly outnumbering Frank Whittles humble offering 10:1. The commentary was only meant to be a taster but if you are interested in the book it can be sourced on line (from a well known book selling website) :- Rocket and Jet Aircraft of the Third Reich by Terry C Treadwell, ISBN 978-0-7524-6109-0.

The Existing committee remained as it was except for Simon Pratt standing down and Uttam Chakravorty joining us. Other members also expressed an interest in joining the committee.

Photo selection from the book :-



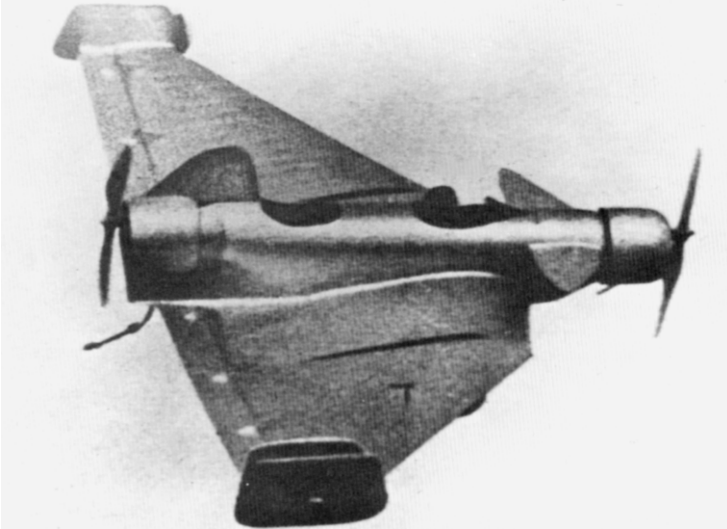
Junkers Ju287

Not flying backwards! I seem to remember from my K13 days, the swept forward design reduces tip stalling, amongst other things. Maybe it's just the aeronautical version of dazzle paint schemes on ships.

New Members

Emily and Johannes Woodard from Biggin Hill

Alan Mayhew from Rochester



Gerhard Feisler Delta IV



Horton Flying Wing

The August 2012 Skywritings had an article on this aircraft!



Apparently a full size replica has been constructed of this stealth design, which was 30 years ahead of it's time.

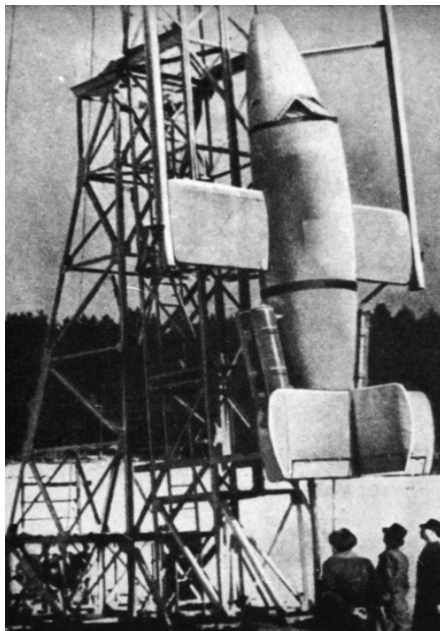
The full-scale replica of the Ho 2-29 bomber made with materials available in the 40's



Campini Caproni (2nd ever flying jet)



Lockheed XFV-1 VTOL aircraft



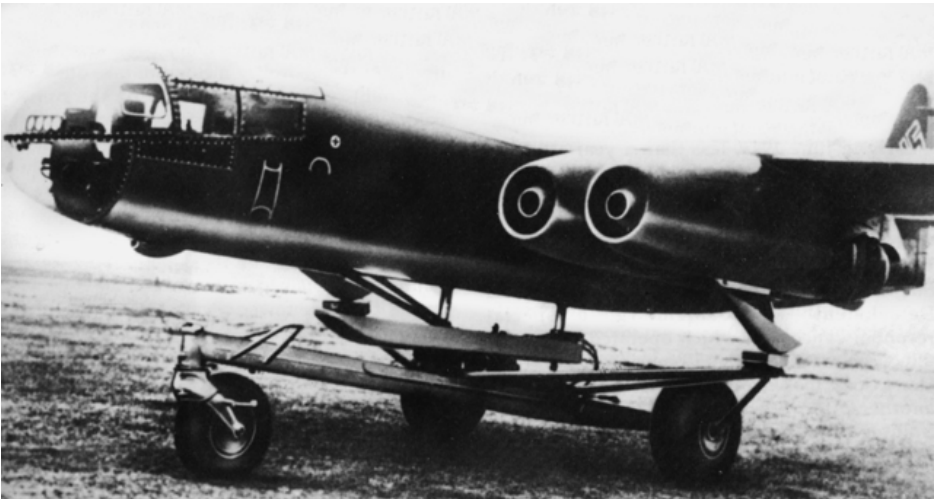
Bachem BA349 "Natter"



Feisler FI 103R - became the doodlebug



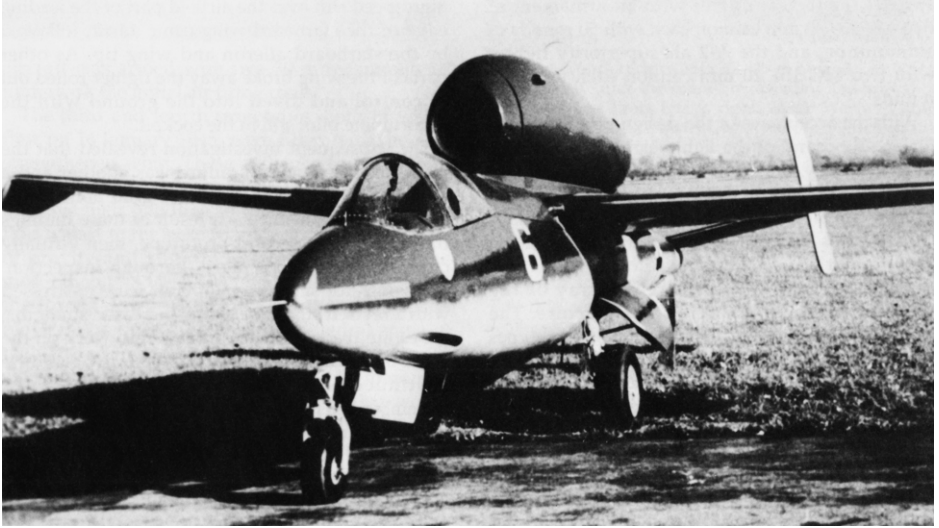
Me 163 Komet



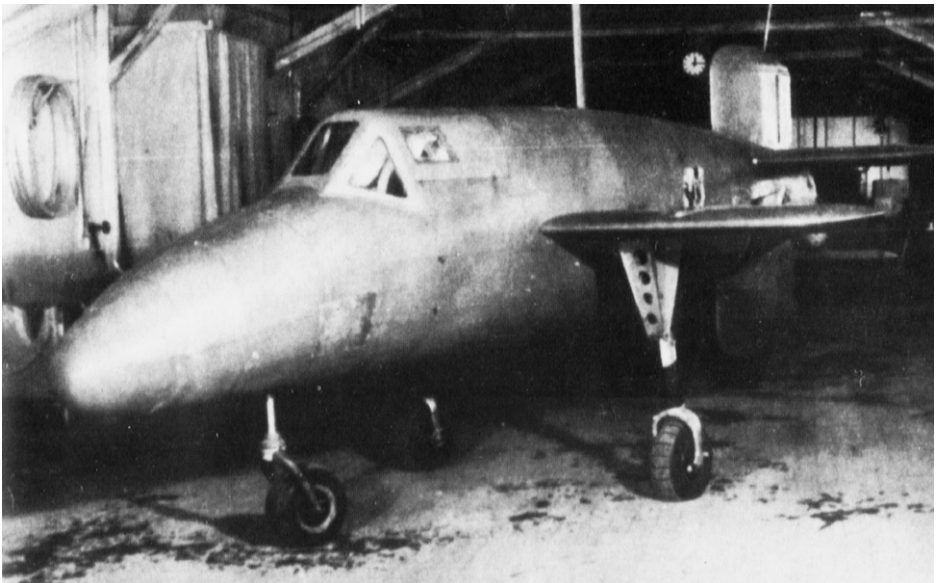
Arado AR234

New frequency monitoring code for Oxford (from 1st March)

4517 on 127.75MHz



Heinkel HE162



Bachem BA349



ME262

AGM cont..

Other items from the AGM, Gary was awarded the Phil Banyard Trophy, colloquially know as the “Strut Screw”. Brian Hope fills in the background:- The Phil Banyard Trophy is an interpretation of Da Vinci’s proposal for a flying Machine presumably influenced by Archimedes screw. The trophy was made by one of our earliest Strut members. Phil was a mechanical engineer and had worked in the motor trade. He didn’t fly but was enthusiastic about aviation and joined the Southern Aviation Society, the forerunner of the Mid Kent Strut, now the Kent Strut.

Phil donated the trophy in the late nineteen eighties and it became the annual award for those who were considered to have given good service to the running or support of the Strut.

Sadly Phil died about twenty years ago but his trophy serves as a reminder of a much loved past member.



*da Vinci's 'helicopter'
Before the Germans thought of it*

Next Meeting

One again it falls on Mike Negus to organise his popular quiz. No entry fee for members and spouse but great prizes! The quizmasters decision is final (even if he’s wrong).

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www.solleysicecream.co.uk



The "Strut Screw"

Dates for your Diary

25th February Quiz night

31st March Strut Talk

28th April Strut Talk

26th May Strut Talk

25th June Cross Channel LAA Fly-out

30th June Ripple BBQ and fly-in

(or visit the new tea rooms at Ripple sooner, PPR from Steve Solley)