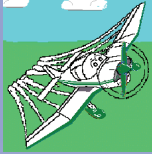


September 2020



# SKYWRITINGS

Newsletter of the *Kent Strut*



Light Aircraft Association

## Editors mutterings

With holiday Season there seems to be not much happening that anyone wants to write about. No Rally to look forward to either. I'm not sharing my holiday snaps from two weeks in Turkey, although it was hot, veggie food, yoga and running. The airports, Gatwick and Dalaman weren't exactly empty, neither was the EasyJet aircraft with everyone suitably masked up but it was nice to get away from dismal news.

Returning though to potential further lockdowns and restrictions on numbers meeting. Keeping around 2000' from infected people still seems like a good idea. Hopefully there will still be places to go if numbers remain legal.



Nigel Read - Editor

On which note next Sunday should be Steve's breakfast fly-in but check first in case of changes or restrictions on numbers or staggered arrivals etc.

Ron Armitage has been busy writing a book of tales from his many years of Flying and Gliding. His memory must be better than mine.

Ron has also provided some notes on the celebration of Richard Warriner's life.

Mike has put together a quiz for an internet meeting this Thursday while we sort out some speakers for the remaining meetings this year. Has anyone joined the LAA virtual pub meet? I did once but keep forgetting!

September 24th Meeting  
Quiz by Video Conferencing.  
8pm. Details follow by email

[www.laakentstrut.org.uk](http://www.laakentstrut.org.uk)

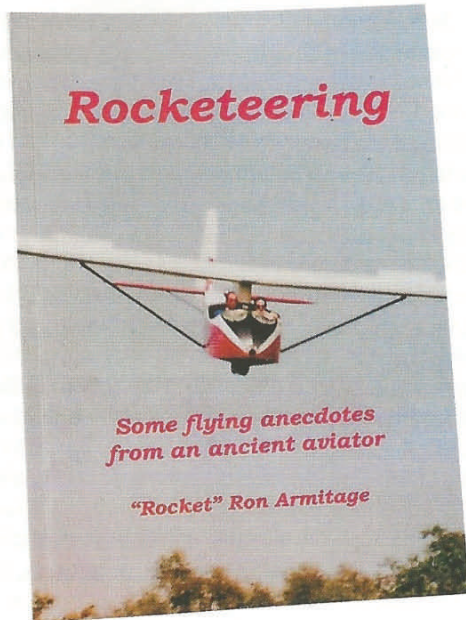
**Ron's Book** Ron Armitage

**W**hilst the fogies amongst us were banged up at home by Government decree, I thought I might use some of the time to write a little book. The editor of 'Pilot' magazine was kind enough to read it and produced the attached, which I have taken directly from the September issue. It explains how to get a copy and I look forward to the rush!!

## 'Rocket' Ron's entertaining yarns

**Rocketeering - Some flying anecdotes from an ancient aviator by 'Rocket' Ron Armitage, available from the author at Holly Tree Cottage, Waldershare Road, Ashley, Dover, Kent CT15 5JA £5 plus £1.50 p & p**

I am glad 'Rocket' Ron Armitage sent *Pilot* a copy of his self-published book and that he took 'the liberty of signing it', because it is a very entertaining and amusing read. Essentially a collection of vignettes from the author's long career in aviation, much of it spent as a gliding instructor, it comes across as a series of bar room tales of the best kind – the ones that are both genuinely witty and substantially true – the kind of thing you want to dip in to and savour, rather than being in too much of a hurry to arrive at the end (it's not a long book). Any profits go to volunteer organisation Air Search, for which Rocket Ron is the Training Officer. **PW**



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The cover is adorned by a photograph of a Slingsby T.21b landing with the spoilers out. Originally silver and Dayglow in the mid 60' this was a later colour scheme. Known in Air Cadet circles as a Sedbergh or 'Barge'

**Richard Warriner** Ron Armitage

Many thanks are due to Jamie Freeman and the Aero Legends team for the use of Headcorn Aerodrome's 'Scramble Hut' on 24<sup>th</sup> August.

Over the course of the day it was a pleasure to meet so many of Richard's friends, many of whom had been able to fly in as the weather was much kinder than had been anticipated. Caz and Dave Ridley had put together a wonderful collection of photographs provided by Richard's partner, Nic Orchard, chronicling his life, and these were shown throughout the day, helping so much with the 'social distancing' requirements.

Headcorn-based pilots provided a memorial flypast, which turned into a 'missing man' formation when Chris Jesson pulled up and away to perform an aerobatic display which was exceptional, even by his own exacting standards.



I know Nic would like to thank all those who supported her in this little celebration of Richard's life. You know who you are.



A little short this month, if you have any interesting stories to tell, places to go lets have them.

[www.solleysicecream.co.uk](http://www.solleysicecream.co.uk)

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