

# THE AEROPLANE COLLECTION NEWS

PRESERVING AVIATION HERITAGE SINCE 1962

THE TAC NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2015

**THE TAC WEBSITE**

**[www.theaeroplanecollection.org](http://www.theaeroplanecollection.org)**



Supermarine Spitfire Replica at Sleep Aerodrome  
Pictures By Dave Arkle

## ***Work Sessions***

Take place at

HOOTON PARK  
On Wednesday and Thursday  
And Occasional Weekends

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Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February saw Colin, Dave and Jon travel up to Solway Aviation Museum to pick up our two display cabinets and the Cirrus engine.

As can be seen here the cabinets are no small items which meant hiring a Luton bodied Transit van complete with tail lift for the job.

The day was very uneventful and the weather great meaning we completed the job with time in hand for tea at Dave's.

The van was reported back at home and ready for collection which took the hire company another 24hrs to complete ! The picture is of course at Hooton Park Bldg 27 with the HPT Viva HA in the background.

The Cirrus engine also back at Hooton in Bldg 27, as can be seen here there are many ancillary bits missing from her.

Inlet manifold and carburettor, push rods, rockers and valves just to mention a few.

I wonder if Jon's mate David Burke can dig up some of these rare spares for us to complete what would be a wonderful exhibit.

Jon can you add this to your ever expanding to do list ?







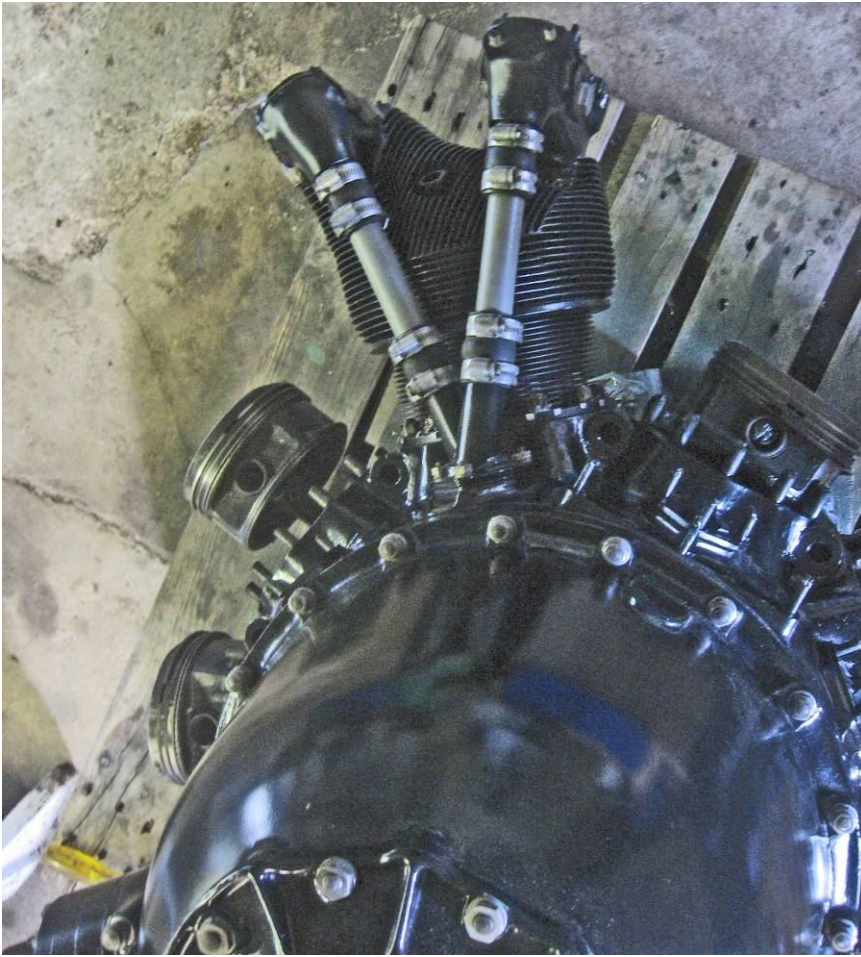
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February must be the busiest day for many years at Hooton Park, above was taken through the back window of Bldg 28 (the TAC workshop).

HPT had hired a couple of guys with digger etc to clear the front field of tree stumps of which there were many due to the combined efforts of Jon, Graham and Paul with chain saws last year. After the ripping up of the stumps they turned their attention to exposing the concrete floors of three huts and one toilet block and finally levelling most of the field.

All the time of course the Carroll guys were working on the roof of hanger one and the usual suspect volunteers were drinking tea making for a very busy looking site. I hear the field is to be grassed over to make a camping site for volunteer groups like the ATC and scouts to use.

I have watched in despair the previous six years as nature was allowed to take over the site and now In the last twelve months absolute pleasure as the site is being returned back to something like it was during its active aviation days.





### Leonides update

Stewart has been working steadily Away on putting the engine back together and on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February with a little help from Dave managed to refit the first cylinder .

The following week saw Colin doing the pushing as Stewart lined up the piston to crankcase.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> March Dave was back again to provide the motive power for cylinder number three.

She really is now starting to look the part but unfortunately we now still need to find a grit blaster to clean the remaining six cylinders.







FSM Spitfire MK. IX EN398 JE-J

These photos taken in February during a visit to check on her condition show her to be in fairly good nick. Yes she has some minor damage needing repairs and a repaint to bring her back to the condition seen on the front cover.

Paul Jolliffe is hoping to have her delivered to Hooton Park in the next couple of weeks when we will be able to assess her needs more closely.

I am sure she will be a great asset to the site and undoubtedly arouse great interest from the locals.

Thanks to Malcolm Goosey and Colin Schroeder for the photos.



Unfortunately no Merlin for this girl  
Just an empty bay and false exhaust stubs.

Hopefully Jon will have some good news regarding a Merlin engine in the near future.



Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January saw Lloyd Robinson and myself on a jolly to Eggington air field to see how Ken Fern was progressing with his Comet projects. As you can see from the first photo the fuselage of ACSP is almost complete whilst the one piece wing is slowly taking place, in the background is the fuselage of Turbulent APNZ. The lower photo is of Ken's replica Comet RCSR hanging from the roof rafters. Following lunch we headed round the corner to East Midlands Air Museum.



Some of the more recent arrivals at East Midlands.

Hiding round the back in the partly built 2<sup>nd</sup> Romney hut Percival Provost T.1 WW442. Ex Long Marston Dove 6 G-ANUW at last on the receiving end of over due TLC. Ex Bruntingthorpe VC.10 C.1K XV108 front fuselage. HS Nimrod R.1 XW664



