

Pilot

Editorial

Write to Pilot, Archant Specialist, Evolution House, 2-6 Easthampstead Road, Wokingham, RG40 2EG

Editor Philip Whiteman

Tel 01189 742527

Email philip.whiteman@archant.co.uk

Assistant Editor Judith Austin

Tel 01189 742526

Email judith.austin@archant.co.uk

Designer Carine (Kitty) Thomas

Email kitty.thomas@archant.co.uk

Contributing Editors James Allan, Nick Bloom,

Bob Grimstead, Mike Jerram & Peter R March

Flight Test Editor Dave Unwin

Regular contributors Alan Brown, Colin Goodwin, Geoff Jones, Pat Malone, Don Peterson, Stephen Slater, Peter Turner & Keith Wilson

Advertising

Commercial Brand Manager Ross Arnold

Tel 01189 742510 Email ross.arnold@archant.co.uk

Advertising Manager Jennifer Bishop

Tel 01189 742518 Email jennifer.bishop@archant.co.uk

Sales Executive Natasja Douglas-Smith

Tel 0118 974 2522

Email Natasja.douglas-smith@archant.co.uk

Production

Production Coordinator Michael Godden

Tel 01603 772876 Email michael.godden@archant.co.uk

Reprographic Technician Neil Puttnam

Director of Content Bob Crawley

Commercial Director Peter Timperley

Subscriptions, binders & back issues

Write to: Pilot, Tower House, Sovereign Park, Lathkill Street, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 9EF
Visit www.subscriptionsave.co.uk or tel: +44 1858 438840.

See page 50 for the latest subscription offer

Want to sell Pilot in your club?

Contact Kay Tel 020 7429 4043

Wholesale and retail distribution If you have difficulty obtaining a copy please contact: Seymour, 86 Newman St, London, W1T 3EX. Tel 0207 429 4000

Printed in England by William Gibbons

Origination Archant Specialist

Pilot is published by Archant Specialist, a division of Archant Community Media Ltd. The entire content is © copyright, and none of it may be reproduced in any form without permission. (Permission to make a limited number of photocopies is usually given, but should be sought.) Articles for consideration are welcome. Advice to contributors is available free from Pilot's editorial office on receipt of an SAE marked 'Advice' in the top left-hand corner, or on our website or by e-mail. We take good care of material submitted, but do not accept responsibility for loss or damage, however caused.



There are now even more ways of keeping in touch with the editorial team's flying adventures and plans – follow us on Twitter and find photos and news on Facebook
twitter.com/pilot_mag
facebook.com/pilotmagazine



Well deserved accolade



TV kind, with the stress on the TV performance bit and rather less on the reality. None of us finds much to admire in pretend 'solo' flights, with GPS guidance and supporting aircraft following all the way.

The Honourable Company no doubt hopes to dodge the flak that followed earlier awards to Tracey for her supposed piloting and navigational

When you turn to 'Pilot Notes' you will find news editor Mike Jerram's pick of those receiving awards from the Honourable Company of Air Pilots (HCAP, formerly the Guild of Air Pilots and Navigators). To anyone involved in the historic aviation world, respected warbird and display pilot Charlie Brown will genuinely need no introduction – and all would applaud him being presented with the Hanna Trophy for 'an outstanding contribution to the art of display flying of historic, vintage or modern fighter or combat aircraft'.

US pilot 'Hoot' Gibson receives the Company's Award of Honour for an outstanding aviation career, encompassing combat flying in Vietnam, serving as a US Navy test pilot and flying five missions on the Space Shuttle before leaving NASA to fly airliners – oh, and he was Unlimited Champion at last year's Reno air races.

As we have reported on www.pilotweb.aero – the place to go for all the latest aviation news – a current astronaut (and a British one, at that) Tim Peake is to be presented with HCAP's Master's Medal. Not much call for his piloting abilities on the Space Station mission – these days it is of course served by Soyuz capsules and not space planes – but Tim too has had a great career in aviation and is a pilot we all respect.

Which brings us to the other 2016 recipient of an HCAP Master's Medal; Tracey Curtis-Taylor. A furious and entrenched debate has been running on the aviation forums about the merits or otherwise of her flights retracing the steps of pioneering female aviators Lady Mary Heath and, latterly Amy Johnson. In *Pilot's* view (the editorial team is in one mind about this) Tracey's flying is of the reality

abilities by presenting the new one merely for 'organising' the Amy Johnson tribute flight. HCAP's citation (not released with its award PR material nor found readily on its website, it must be said) credits Tracey with 'raising awareness of science and technology in general, and aviation in particular, amongst young women across the world' through her flying activities.

While it would be mean-spirited to try to deny that she and her sponsors have done a lot for raising awareness of aviation – indeed one of them, Boeing is both creating aerospace jobs in the UK and supporting initiatives to get young people of either sex flying (see 'Notes' p.15) – it is the absence of any true flying achievement that has us shaking our heads.

No such doubts about putative earthrounder Colin Hales, who has resumed the journey, departing from Alaska and now heading across Russia to China in his diminutive, self-built KR2 (see news story and link on www.pilotweb.aero and Colin's first-hand 'Flying Adventure' account of the journey so far, also available online). Colin has no backers and no support aircraft shadowing him – his is a 2016 piloting challenge much closer to those of the 1930s. He is very brave and probably just a little mad to attempt it. Again, the editorial team is in one mind about this – Colin; *Pilot* salutes you!

Philip Whiteman, Editor