



20



56



32



44



40



12



88

# CONTENTS Issue No 8

## 3 EDITOR'S LETTER

## 6 AIR CORRESPONDENCE

### 12 DAVID LOCKSPEISER

We pay tribute to the former Hawker test pilot and aircraft designer, who died in March 2014

### 20 FLYING THE PUCARÁ

Ben Dunnell talks to the pilots tasked with evaluating an Argentinian IA-58 Pucará captured during the Falklands War

### 32 THE FOUR-WINGED FARRAGO

Using previously unpublished documents and photographs, Michael H. Goodall details the evolution of Noel Pemberton Billing's World War One quadraplane "Battle Planes"

### 40 LÖWENGESCHWADER'S BIG BANG

Marking the 75th anniversary of Germany's 1939 invasion of Poland, Alexander Steenbeck reveals how Luftwaffe bomber unit KG 26 lost an entire *Staffel* with no enemy contact at all

### 44 EXERCISE SHIKSHA

Doug Gordon recounts the little-known 1963 Nato operation in India in which Javelins, Super Sabres, Gnats and Hunters defended India's major cities against "enemy" Canberras

### 56 ECHOES FROM DAWN SKIES: PART THREE

Our serialisation of British pioneer F.W. Merriam's long-lost manuscript of memories from his contemporaries continues: John Lankester Parker recalls his difficult early flying days

### 66 MERLIN MAGIC AT FARNBOROUGH

In 1962 photographer Kenneth Brookes captured some magnificent images of Merlin-powered "old boys" at Farnborough — we publish them here for the first time

### 68 PLAN H: AMERICA'S UNBUILT SPYPLANES Pt 1

Dr David Baker introduces a series on the USA's ambitious Cold War spyplane projects with the contribution of British engineer Randolph Rae and his hydrogen-power concept

### 76 THE AEROPLANE THAT FLIES ITSELF

Richard T. Riding tells the full story of the Chrislea Aircraft Co, from the pre-war Airguard to the Ace, Super Ace and Skyjeep series. If it hadn't been for *that* control system . . .

### 88 DISTANT THUNDER

Warren E. Thompson profiles the 27th Fighter Escort Wing's operations with F-84E Thunderjets in Korea during 1950–51

### 98 BEFORE & AFTER

Arvo Vercamer and Roger Tisdale detail the markings of the 1914 Schneider Trophy-winning Sopwith Hydro-Seaplane

### 100 THE UGLY TRUTH?

An unusual collection of wartime photographs of American fighters being delivered to Liverpool docks prompts Philip Jarrett to wonder why they were all marked as "UGLY"

### 108 CAPITAL GAINS: OSLO-FORNEBU 1934–40

Rob Mulder celebrates the opening of Oslo's Fornebu airport 75 years ago with the story of its pre-war development

### 120 ARMCHAIR AVIATION

### 125 LOST & FOUND

### 126 WHO NEEDS A PILOT?

In January 1960 Royal Danish Air Force Hunter 47-415 landed back at its base at Skrydstrup. Nothing unusual in that. Except that its pilot was dangling from a parachute several miles away, as Niels Helmsø-Larsen relates

### 130 OFF THE BEATEN TRACK