

# TEXEL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT NEWSLETTER

## INTRODUCTION

It gives us pleasure to send you an update from Texel International Airport. The newsletter is published twice annually.

The 2009 flying year notched up 28.423 movements. This was the busiest year, measured in aircraft movements, since 1997. We are delighted that Texel still proves to be a popular destination for flight schools and recreational pilots. Texel also regularly receives various types of inspection, environmental and police flights. We shall continue to do our best to remain an attractive airfield for (general) aviation in The Netherlands and surrounding areas. Once again a big thank you for your support!

The aviation noise zone of Texel Airport runs from 1st April until 31st March. From the latest statistics it has become evident that Texel (despite increased movements) has remained within allowable parameters. Since 1st April the "meter" has been returned to zero as far as noise is concerned and we can continue to fly with a clear conscience. In other words... you are welcome to visit the green grass of Texel.

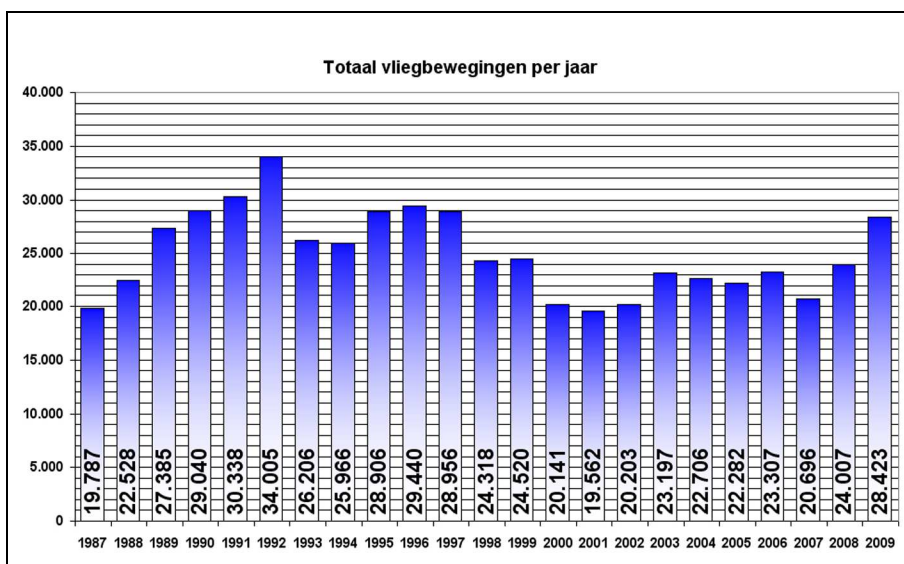


Figure 1: Yearly summary of movements.

## 10th TEXEL AIRSHOW POSTPONED UNTIL 30-7-2011

4 March 2010: After extensive consultation the organisers of the Texel Airshow have taken the decision to postpone the show for one year. As well as the current economical situation the primary reason is the temporary closure of the Den Helder Airport.



At the beginning of March it was definitively announced that Den Helder will be closed for three months for a major runway renovation. This work would coincide with the planned Texel Airshow on 31st July 2010. The availability of Den Helder Airport is crucial as an alternate airport in case of any calamity. The organisers are not prepared to compromise on any issues concerning safety and regard postponement of the show as the only available option.



As a result of this it has been decided to hold the Texel Airshow on **Saturday 30th July 2011**. The organisers hope that all of you who have been looking forward to the show this year will understand the need to take this difficult decision. We shall immediately and enthusiastically begin with preparations for the show in 2011. For more information, and if you are interested in sponsoring of our spectacular Texel Airshow, please visit [www.texelairshow.nl](http://www.texelairshow.nl).

#### **APRIL-FOOL'S JOKE: "MOLE ON TEXEL AIRPORT"**

On Monday 29 March 2010 the Dutch Police Aviation Service made a visit to Texel International Airport. From the new police helicopter, a Eurocopter EC135, the observer reported several mole hills on the southeast side of the airfield. As moles do not inhabit the island the Airport Manager at first didn't take the comment seriously. The observer insisted that there were mole hills there and so Airport Manager Mike de Bruijn decided to go and take a look. The new police helicopters are equipped with advanced surveillance equipment which provides detailed images of interesting objects.

On arrival it was clear that there were indeed several mole hills, and also various tunnels were visible. The Airport Manager took several photos and called ex-forester Jaap van Lenten to confirm that they were indeed looking at mole hills. He arrived at the airfield straight away and could say with certainty that it was the work of a mole. Removing the sand from one of the mole hills revealed the entrance to a tunnel. See photos.



The pranging question is where this mole came from. One possibility is that the mole was carried with a delivery of earth which was recently imported by a Texel company to be used on various parts of the airfield.



The Airport is currently looking at ways to catch the mole to prevent the animal from doing any more damage to our green airfield. This is especially important as our peak season and that of the parachutists is just beginning.

**Latest news from Wednesday 31 March:** The mole will attempt to catch a flight to the mainland on Thursday and intends to start searching for a mate. It's no fun alone! Texel Airport breathes a sigh of relief that the most beautiful grass runway in Europe is no longer in danger of attack by moles.

**Postscript:** The above press statement was published in newspapers on Texel and in Den Helder. Even the TV showed the news, which resulted in concerned citizens calling the airport and that the mole was the subject of conversation for several days.

#### **TOUCH & GO'S ARE STILL CHEAP AT TEXEL!**

From 1st January 2010 touch & go's cost **€4,00** each (!). In the summer weekends (April till September) touch & go's are **€7,50** each, because traffic in that period considered to cause more noise nuisance than on weekdays. For aircraft in the noise categories 1 and 2 (the least quiet aircraft) there is a noise surcharge. In case of subsequent landings on the same day the noise surcharge increases progressively. This has been introduced in order to prevent the permitted noise thresholds from becoming used up before the year ends. Of course, everybody is still welcome to visit Texel in every type of aircraft. We are an airfield, and at airfields it is the idea that people should be flying!

Even aircraft above 6000 kg (DC-3's, Dornier 228's), Jets (Citations, L39's), and all types of twins and helicopters are more than welcome on Texel!

Our main runway 22-04 has been constructed with a layer of lava stone chippings with the green grass top layer above it. This ensures a flat, smooth runway with good



drainage and the runway will retain it's strength for a long period! We can therefore continue to use the runway even during the longer wet periods. During the previous winter the Coast Guard Dornier 228 was able to visit Texel a couple of times and had no problems making touch and go's.

Operators of the heavier types are advised to contact the Airport Manager in advance for the latest runway state information.

The following table summarises the touch & go and landing fees for the summer 2010 period (prices include 19% VAT). There is NO weekend surcharge from 1st October until 31st December, making touch and go's attractive for the whole week during the winter period.

<b>TEXEL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT</b>		
MTOW < 1.500 KG	Monday to Friday	Weekend & Holidays
Touch & Go's:	€ 4,00	€ 7,50
1 <sup>st</sup> landing:	€ 14,00	€ 17,50

MTOW < 2.000 KG	Monday to Friday	Weekend & Holidays
Touch & Go's:	€ 8,00	€ 11,50
1 <sup>st</sup> landing:	€ 26,75	€ 30,25

*Charges applicable only to aircraft in noise categories 3 to 8, but incl. VAT*

**FRIENDSHIP IS PART OF OUR BUSINESS!**

→ [WWW.TEXELAIRPORT.NL](http://WWW.TEXELAIRPORT.NL) → [WWW.TEXELAIRSHOW.NL](http://WWW.TEXELAIRSHOW.NL) → 0222-311267 → [INFO@TEXELAIRPORT.NL](mailto:INFO@TEXELAIRPORT.NL) →

*1) Charges applicable only to aircraft in noise categories 3 to 8, but incl. VAT*

For information regarding other charges, such as heavier weight categories or noise categories 1 or 2 please contact us on: +31 222-311267. We appreciate being informed of your plans in advance.

And remember.. Texel doesn't cause your tyres to wear!



## TEXEL AIRPORT REPLACES FIRE TENDER

Since 8th December 2009 Texel Airport has a new fire tender. It is an IVECO (left on the photo) which was offered for sale by Jürgen Schwartz Fire Trucks in Germany. The tender has a capacity of 2000 litres and so together with the Mercedes (centre) Texel Airport has a fire-fighting capacity of 3000 litres. The Range Rover (right) with a foam capacity of 900 litres became surplus to requirements and has been sold to Ameland airfield.

As a result Texel meets RFF4 (Rescue Fire Fighting) requirements. This encompasses aircraft with a maximum fuselage length of 24 meter, such as the Dakota and the Catalina. In order to strictly meet RFF4 requirements Texel Airport must ensure extra manpower is available. For this reason these aircraft types must receive permission in advance.

Texel Airport meets standard RFF3 with the current tenders and available manpower. This means that aircraft with a length from 12 to 18 metres have no problem visiting Texel. This includes amongst others: Cessna 208B, Beech King Air 200 and 300, Dornier 228, Pilatus PC-12 and the various Citations.



From left to right: New IVECO (2000 ltr), Mercedes (1000 ltr) and the Range Rover which has already been disposed of.



Dakota PH-DDZ (Photo: Tjalle den Ouden). King Air 300, PH-ACE.

## AVIATION & WAR MUSEUM TEXEL

In 1988 the Texel Aviation Museum Foundation came into existence, partly through the efforts of Airport Manager Ed de Bruijn. When the Gliding Club announced the need for new accommodation in 1995 the possibility of creating a museum in their old hangar was taken up with enthusiasm. Historian Gelein Jansen became involved in the project and made the necessary arrangements for the founding of a museum. As a result a group of enthusiastic volunteers completed the entire museum within one month, in April 1996. On 17th May 1996 the doors of the museum were first opened to the public, and since then the museum has attracted about 15,000 visitors each year.

The hangar, however, soon proved to be inadequate to house the growing museum collection...

As well as an exhibition featuring the air war during World War II, attention was given to the Georgian Uprising of the same period. Due to expanding exhibitions and the resulting space constraints for the aviation exhibits the museum was extended in 2001. But not only the space was becoming too small, the name of the museum no longer fitted the content. As a result the museum decided to change the name and logo in 2006 into... **"Aviation & War Museum Texel"**.

The museum on Texel is open from Tuesday till Sunday from 11.00 until 17.00. In the winter period (beginning after the half term holiday, up until the end of March) the museum is closed.

Entrance prices:      Adults                              € 3,00  
                                 Childeren (4-14 yrs) € 2,00  
                                 Group discount        On request from 12 persons

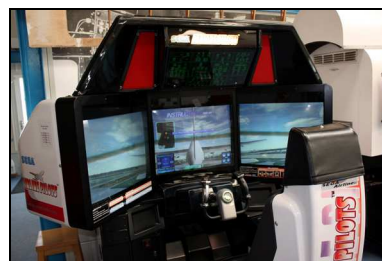
For guided tours please contact the museum directly: +31 222-311689 or [info@lomt.nl](mailto:info@lomt.nl).



The cockpit section of a Fokker S-13.



The PH-COR which made an illegal flight from the beach at Wijk aan Zee.



The museum houses a number of models, such as "Airbase 'De Mok' on the southernmost point of Texel anno 1939" and "The Texel - De Vlijt Airfield anno 1939". In addition the museum has a link trainer in the collection.

For more information (Dutch only) see [www.lomt.nl](http://www.lomt.nl).



### SPECIAL VISITORS AND OTHER TITBITS

In the months gone by there have been a number of special visitors to Texel International Airport! Here is a selection:



On 2nd November 2009 we were treated to a fly-by of the NH90. This new helicopter will be the replacement for the Lynx.

Right: Despite the wet period, this King Air had no problem making three landings at Texel Airport on 4th November 2009.



21-11-2009: This self-built Lancair PH-GVH made it's first 'cross country' (just the way it should be!) to Texel. Of course we were ready with the camera to record this historic event.

Right: In recent years the porpoise population in the North Sea has been observed and counted using Partenavias. At the end of November a P68B from Ravenair in Liverpool was used.



The 18th and 19th December 2009 were the first days of the winter when flying could take place with snow on the ground. The PH-LBR (left) landed during a snow shower. The next day it was beautiful weather and the PH-JAS (right) took off with parachutists on board for a 'snow drop'.



On 19th December (photo left from Flying Focus) there was a shallow layer of snow which gave no problems for taking off or landing. A couple of weeks later, on 3rd January 2010, Texel Airport was covered with about 20cm of snow and flying with fixed-wing aircraft was just about impossible (photo right from Ton Zegers). It gave us some lovely winter shots!



Left: Take-off of PH-FLI on a snow-cleared runway and on the right two police helicopters which came to refuel on 11<sup>th</sup> January.



Three Cirrus SR22's: PH-DVD, N262MD and N211TM.



The A139 is a new police helicopter. On 20th Nov. there was room in the schedule for a quick photo session. Right: The Pitts of Wings over Holland with a new yellow paint job.



New to The Netherlands is the I-ARAM, a Bolkow BO.207. On Queens Day we lured the G-AKHP, a Miles M65 Gemini 1A dating from 1947, to Texel. Much newer is the N3975C, a Piper PA-46 with a turbine engine.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> DUTCH LIGHT AIRCRAFT FLY-IN

From 17th until 19th September 2010 Texel Airport will for the second time organise the Dutch Light Aircraft Fly-in. In 2009 we welcomed more than 200 aircraft and about 360 people. This year everybody is again warmly invited to attend.

The fly-in is an initiative of the Dutch Europe and RV builders and is supported by NVAV, KNVvL powered flight division and AOPA.

Just as in 2009 participants may once again camp 'under the wing' of their own aircraft. Toilet facilities and hot showers will be provided.

The organisers also invite aviation related companies to show their wares on a display for a reasonable fee. In addition the organisers intend to invite a number of speakers to give talks which are of interest to General Aviation. The organising committee is also in search of sponsors to finance this unique event, in order to keep costs to visitors as low as possible.

For more information visit [www.flyin.nl](http://www.flyin.nl). You may register and request information regarding stands and sponsoring via the website.



*Photos of the successful fly-in of 2009.*

## PHOTOS ON [WWW.TEXELAIRPORT.NL](http://WWW.TEXELAIRPORT.NL)

All aircraft which have visited Texel since June 2003 can be found (with photo!) on our website [www.texelairport.nl](http://www.texelairport.nl) under the link "Visitors". Is your aeroplane missing? Come and visit us soon and we shall record the event on photo. Of course you can request the photo to be sent to you in high resolution by email.

## CIRCUIT ALTITUDE THE ENTIRE YEAR AT 1000 ft

A reminder: At Texel the circuit altitude is 1000 ft all year round.

The special weekend routes are to be used from van 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010 in the weekends and on recognised holidays.

The procedures can be found on [www.texelairport.nl](http://www.texelairport.nl) under "Pilot Information".





### FUEL FROM AIR BP

BP is Texel Airport's fuel supplier and sells at the BP recommended selling price. The current prices can be found on our website [www.texelairport.nl](http://www.texelairport.nl) under "Pilot Information" and then "Landing Fees".

The BP-carnet can no longer be used for payment, but of course both Avgas 100LL and Jet A1 are available at Texel. Payment is possible using cash, debit card with a pin code or credit card (VISA or Eurocard). It is also possible to open a fuel account with us.



### AIRPORT RESTAURANT

The airport restaurant is open, just like the airport itself, daily all year round. The restaurant can be reached directly on: +31 222 311313.

### AIRPORT HOTEL TEXEL

The luxurious Airport Hotel Texel is a four star accommodation and achieves consistently high ratings on various websites. It's fabulous suites and super service have earned the hotel many recommendations. See [www.airporthoteltexel.nl](http://www.airporthoteltexel.nl).

Pilots who arrive at Texel by air receive a "pilot's discount" at the Airport Hotel and may park their aircraft directly in front of the hotel.

For reservations please contact the hotel directly on: +31 222 311233 or by email: [info@airporthoteltexel.com](mailto:info@airporthoteltexel.com).



### FOR YOUR DIARY: THINGS TO DO ON TEXEL

If you are looking for an excuse to visit Texel here are a few tips regarding events in the coming year:

- 19 June 2010 Race around Texel: The world's largest Catamaran race with parties on the beach featuring well-known artists (with Nick & Simon on 16 June), see [www.roundtexel.com](http://www.roundtexel.com)
- 10 July 2010 Island Samba, see [www.islandsamba.nl](http://www.islandsamba.nl)
- 10-12 Sept 2010 Culinary Texel, see [www.texelculinair.nl](http://www.texelculinair.nl)
- 17-19 Sept 2010 2nd Dutch Light Aircraft Fly-in, see [www.flyin.nl](http://www.flyin.nl)
- 8-10 Oct 2010 Texel Blues Festival, see [www.texelblues.nl](http://www.texelblues.nl)
- 30 July 2011 Texel Airshow, see [www.texelairshow.nl](http://www.texelairshow.nl)



For more tips visit the Texel Tourist Board website: [www.texel.net](http://www.texel.net)

Of course both you and your aircraft can stay overnight on Texel. We will be happy to help you find suitable accommodation. Maybe we can even find a spot in the hangar for your plane!



## TEXEL, MORE THAN JUST AN AIRFIELD...

Most pilots come to Texel for a cup of coffee and apple pie with whipped cream. But there is so much more to do on the island. At the Texel Parachute Centre it is possible to make a tandem jump the whole year round. The Airport Office offers bicycles for hire in cooperation with Van der Linden. Texel has an extensive network of cycle routes. Of course you will receive a Texel cycling map. If cycling is too energetic for you they even have electric bikes or a "solex" for hire. Ask about the possibilities!

Ecomare is THE seal conservation centre of Holland and the Beachcomber's museum is definitely worth a visit! "The Slufter" is a perfect navigation point to find the airfield. This marvellous nature area is just 2 kilometres from the airfield and is a lovely place to feel the breeze or take a rest.

### Some tips:

- Visit Ecomare in De Koog, see [www.ecomare.nl](http://www.ecomare.nl).
- The Beachcomber's museum between De Koog and Den Burg, see [www.juttersflora.nl](http://www.juttersflora.nl).
- A round of golf in the Texel dunes at "De Texelse" golflinks just 5 km from Texel Airport, see [www.detexelse.nl](http://www.detexelse.nl).
- See the lambs at various farms which are open to visitors, such as the sheep farm De Noordkroon: [www.noordkroon.nl](http://www.noordkroon.nl).
- Take in some sun on a Texel beach (we have 30 km of sandy beaches). About 20 minutes by bike from the airfield.
- Or just cycle through the woods, the dunes, the colourful bulb fields and stop for a fish lunch in the yachting and fishing harbour of Texel in Oudeschild.



### AND FINALLY

If you do **not** want to receive our newsletter any more please send us an email at [info@texelairport.nl](mailto:info@texelairport.nl) and we will remove you from our mailing list.

You are always welcome at Europe's greenest airfield!

Happy landings and see you soon at Texel.

Ed and Mike de Bruijn

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