

FORMATION FLYOVER

by David Walker

Due to the death of club member John Russell it was agreed that a Formation Flyover would take place after his funeral service on Friday 18th November.

On Wednesday evening prior to the service a prebrief was undertaken and then a practice flight. Any wind that had been evident during the day had almost gone by this time in the early evening.

Friday 18 November however dawned windy and remained that way all day. Those involved in the planned flyover gathered at the aerodrome and it was accepted that conditions were OK for the event. About 2.50pm saw us airborne and forming nicely despite the "lumpy" conditions. In the air it seemed that we were quite wobbly but those on the ground assured us afterwards that the formation looked and went well.



Adjacent to the church and on command, the right wing aircraft (# 3) broke away to the right, a moment later, again on command, the rear two aircraft (# 4 and # 5) moved left to be in line with the lead aircraft (# 1) and the left wing aircraft (# 2). Soon after, the command was given for each aircraft to break away in turn to the right, with about a three second gap between each departure. After that it was "make your own way home" but the reality was that it was a landing of # 1 to # 5 in sequence.

The event went well and we hope John would have been pleased.

