

At Calais, the French Channel port, is a pilot with an old-fashioned looking plane; --- so old-fashioned that it's ~~not~~ a big surprise when it takes off.

Forty-six years ago --- on July 25th 1909 --- the newsreel cameras were filming a similar event; --- the same thing with one big difference. For this was the first time ^{an} ~~a~~ aeroplane had ever flown the English Channel; and the pilot was Louis Blériot.

Now this modern Blériot comes in over the cliffs of Dover --- just as his famous compatriot did in 1909. The 1955 version of the plane is a home-made replica of the original. Its flying speed is no more than about forty miles an hour.....but owing to regulations, this plane was not able to land in the same spot as Blériot's.

Congratulations were in order for the pilot; --- who made the flight partly in a spirit of fun --- and partly to pay tribute to one of the greatest pioneers of flight. His name is Jean Salis.

Among those who offered congratulations was the Minister of Fuel, Mr. Jeffrey Lloyd & they finished up with cheers in two languages.