Terrific Tannkosh! Geoff Jones witnessed a varied mix of classics take to the air in Germany



lose to 1,000 aircraft converged on Tannheim's grass runway for

Germany's - and probably Europe's - largest fly-in on August 27-29, popularly known as 'Tannkosh' after Oshkosh, its larger US rival. Disappointing weather did nothing to quell the enthusiasm of pilots visiting the event from throughout Europe.

Both historic and modern aircraft were present in good numbers, with event organiser Verena Doldera and her team even securing a flypast from an Airbus A380. There was a significant Red Bull aviation presence, their Douglas DC-6B N99DM a particular highlight on Friday. Another popular participant was Carlo Ferrari's 1959 Beech G.18S N45CF.

An eclectic mix of classics included the Weiner Neustadt, Austria-based Polikarpov Po-2 OE-CPO flown by Hans Drobilitsch and Othmar Handl.
Walter Klocker was displaying his
Morane Saulnier MS.317 D-EZOR,
and Neumünster-based, 1937built Stinson Reliant NC18442 in
Gullwing Airlines colours was a
Tannkosh first. Five Pilatus P.3s
led by Marco Guscio provided
some excellent formation
aerobatics.



Stinson Reliant NC18442 departing for Neumünster.

Polikarpov Po-2 OE-CPO's five-cylinder, 125hp (93kW) Shvestov rattling into life. ALL GEOFF JONES

For the predominantly German crowd, hearts raced when Klaus Plasa arrived overhead in the EADS Heritage Flight's Messerschmitt Bf 109G-4 D-FWME (formerly on the UK register as G-AWHG). With its next show already confirmed for August 2011, Tannkosh just gets better and better.



At the Battle of Britain Air Display in Guernsey on September 9, the four Extra 300s of the Blades aerobatic team performed a 'first', flying in formation with Kennet Aviation's Supermarine Seafire SX336 and Douglas AD-4N Skyraider G-RADR. The Blades team is made up of former 'Red Arrows' pilots who now fly commercially from Sywell. GEOFF JONES

UK Dates

October

2-3 ROUGHAM, SUFFOLK - Ploughs to Propellors 1940s Weekend - 01359 270524 www.roughamairfield.org

3 OLD WARDEN, BEDS - Shuttleworth Autumn Air Display - 01767 627927 www.shuttleworth.org

10 DUXFORD, CAMBS - Autumn Air Show - 01223 835000 www.iwm.org.uk

Please note: All events are subject to operating conditions and can change venue, date or even be cancelled at short notice. Readers are strongly advised to contact venues wherever possible, or at least check on the airshow's website prior to departure to avoid a wasted journey.