



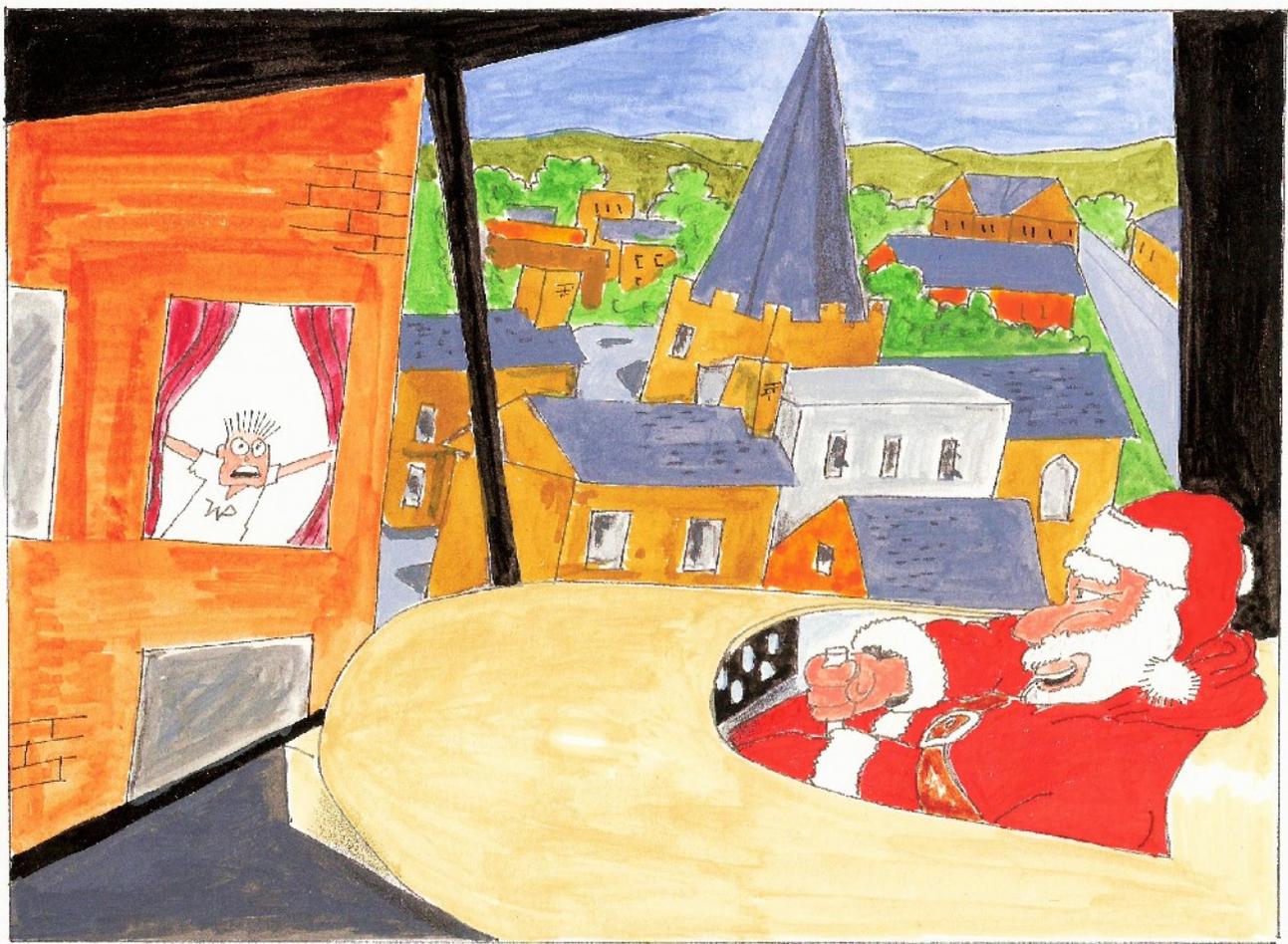
Days to Booker Regionals 200*

Who did what?
Ladder
Corner 2014
Page 6

The Booker Newsletter

Fees for 2015: with discount for subscriptions paid before the 10th January. See pages 4/5

*Someone pointed out that this number has been 'a bit out' in previous editions. However this one is correct. Wm



Visiting pilot practices tricky rooftop landings



Merry Christmas to all our members, staff and friends

This month in the Booker Newsletter...

<p><i>From the Chairman</i> <i>From the CFI</i> <i>Members' Achievements</i> <i>Dates for your diary</i> <i>Flexible opening hours</i> <i>A Taste of Talgarth</i> <i>Booker pilots in British Aeros Team</i> <i>Fees for 2015</i> <i>Planning the Booker Regionals 2015</i> <i>Ladder Corner 2014</i></p>	<p><i>This month's newsletter brings a great year's gliding to a close and looks ahead to the next. Denis reports from the BGA conference, Richard reflects on the growing success of Booker expeditions. We have a trailer for next year's Talgarth/Shobdon expedition from John Herman and ladder steward Jeremy Gilbey shows how we are doing on the BGA Ladder (it's not over until Dec 31st and Jim is hot on Denis' tail!). Many thanks to all the members who have contributed this year,</i> <i>Happy Christmas._</i> <i><u>William</u></i></p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

From the Chairman

John Otty, Graham Saw, Richard and I recently attended the BGA organisers' conference. We found it to be a very positive experience. We discussed safeguarding of our airfield with Diana King who is looking at ways the BGA can help.

We were also offered funding for the rebuilding of our Super Cub by the Phillip Wills fund, and Richard has some points to highlight on safety.

It is great news that a small group of determined volunteers are going to get MF back in the air. On the subject of volunteers there is a Whiteboard in the Clubhouse with projects that you can help complete. They are as diverse as managing the tea bar to organising the Regionals. These are essentially about overseeing a process and ensuring that the right people know how and when they can help. The only way we can develop and flourish as a Club is with the help of you the members. Please see what you can do to help. Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and looking forward to great flying next year.



Denis

Dates for your Diary

- Combined Talgarth and Shobdon expedition 28 Mar-3Apr, 4Apr-8Apr
- Klipperneck 25 May -5 June
- Booker Regionals 27 June -5 July 2015

From the CFI

It's 1630, pitch dark and raining outside. There's little gliding to be done, yet I feel far from disheartened. As 2014 draws to a close I look back at what's been another fantastic gliding year.

There's been a number of highlights for me this last year but for me the things that stick out the most are our three expeditions. Having recently returned from the BGA management conference I can honestly say that Booker's expeditions have become something of legend. So many people came to me to talk about our trips away, it amazes me that no other club does anything similar! Next year we have not only 3 amazing expeditions to look forward to, we also have the long awaited return of the Booker Regionals. Course-wise, along with our usual courses we also have visits from the Air League and the BGA Instructor Course. I think it could be a busy one!!

I'll end this month by wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



I hope you're all as excited about 2015 as I am!!

Richard

A taste of Talgarth.

Glyn and I recently had a day out at Talgarth as the wind looked promising, a light westerly. We left Booker about 6am arriving at Talgarth around 9 for breakfast at the Honey Pot cafe. Up to airfield for briefing at 10, and pull out the kit. We launched in a K13 and had about an hour on the home ridge, which was working very nicely in the breeze. Back down for a cuppa, then onto the ridge again. We noticed a large street forming out towards the west so decided to move out from the ridge and as we did so we flew into 3 kt lift, climbed to 3k and then off towards Brecon. We ran this street a few times with continuous good lift, watching gliders launching to join us. Great day!

Richard C, Graham Saw, and myself took another trip to Talgarth again last Tuesday (4th December) and had another great day flying in a stiff northerly making landings from the south over the gate entrance to the airfield-- very interesting !!!! We ran the ridge from Lord Hereford's knob, around Hay Bluff to the end of the Cat's Tail and back. Richard was rock polishing below having a great time. Good fun at a great little club. Thanks to Tony and Ann who helped us all day.

John Herman



A stunning view from Talgarth towards the Brecon Beacons with Lake Llangorse in the middle distance.



"We noticed a large street forming"

Booker pilots in aeros Worlds

Three current and former Booker pilots were part of the 7-strong British Team competing in the (powered) Intermediate World Aerobatics Championships in Mossel Bay, South Africa from 26 November to 3 December . Paul Brice, Mike Collett and Emily Collett. The weather was not ideal, with strong winds making the final days unflyable, so competitors were only scored on their first two flights, but our team did brilliantly. GB came away with a silver medal for the team, and in the individual placings Paul was 7th, Mike 9th and Emily 17th. Congratulations to all the pilots, and particularly to the Booker Three.



From The Treasurer

Most of you will know by now that I have volunteered (been press ganged) into being the new treasurer for our beloved club. I think it is a good time to take over as we have strong asset base with the (almost) new K21 due back from refurbishment in time for the new season and the motorglider will also be ready by then. I would like to thank Graham Morfey as the outgoing treasurer for many years of service and for putting in an extraordinary amount of work which I can't hope to match as I have a more than a full time job and three kids. Luckily one of them is a cadet at Booker.

My first job as treasurer is to make myself unpopular by putting the membership prices up. Thankfully inflation is low and so the committee has agreed to hold increases to be in line with inflation (approximately 3%).

Fees for 2015

As usual you can save money by paying your subscription at the current full rate before Christmas and I would encourage members to do this to help the club avoid expensive overdraft costs during the winter period.

A couple of changes to note. 1 If you pay your membership monthly by direct debit, then we will be collecting the fee over 9 months this year to bring it in line with other clubs. 2 We have withdrawn the quarterly payment facility to simplify pricing and because hardly anyone used it.

The fees for 2015/16 are as follows:

Full Flying Member

Regular rate payable by 10 th April 2015	£705
Early payment discount before 10 January 2015	£685
Paid late after 10 th April 2014	£720
Nine monthly DD payments from 10 th April 2015	£82 pm

Other Flying Members

Country	£390
Cadet	£85
Student	£120
Junior under 26	£120

In addition to the above all flying members must pay the BGA fee.

Other

Associate	£77
Temporary	£12.50 pd + VAT
	£62pw + VAT

Facilities Fees

Glider in trailer park	£350
SLMG	£1,125
Second (empty) trailer	£185
Glider in trailer park from 1 st August	£200
Glider from 1 st January to 31 st March	£14pw
Visiting gliders	£8 pd + VAT
Hangar Space	£2,900
Trailer in hangar during winter (min. 4 months)	£80pm

All annual facility fees are payable by 10th January 2014

John Otty

Ladder Corner

December 2014

Well I guess it's probably the end of the season now unless we get some more inspirational ridge days. I have added in the flights of the 3rd December from Parham by Jim White and Barry Michael in the printout of the latest ladders. I will have to now update the copies on the notice board in the club house. Only the top 6 flights for each pilot count when calculating points on the ladder. Here is the open ladder and congratulations to Denis Campbell who heads it.



	1	2	3	4	5	6	Totals
Position /Pilot							
1 Denis Campbell	2835	2299	2297	2273	2072	1643	13419
2 Jim White	2995	2326	2071	2033	1824	1784	13033
3 Geoffrey Lyons	2199	1922	1896	1834	1332	1260	10443
4 John Otty	2217	1922	1851	1589	975	828	9382
5 Robert Smith	3100	1919	1621	1117	679	561	8997
6 Alan Johnstone	2211	2032	1981	1751	0	0	7975
7 Jane Moore	1153	1075	898	873	781	737	5517
8 Stephen Williams	1740	966	949	533	464	328	4980
9 Glen Alison	1540	1456	1287	0	0	0	4283
10 Doug Hilton	1764	1332	704	0	0	0	3800
11 Richard Crockett	1919	982	0	0	0	0	2901
12 Simon Vardigans	1273	862	0	0	0	0	2135
13 Nils Wedi	1358	450	0	0	0	0	1808
14 Jon Sugden	1324	0	0	0	0	0	1324
15 Jeremy Gilbey	612	0	0	0	0	0	612
16 Barry Michael	551	0	0	0	0	0	551

The distance ladder.

In case anyone is wondering, particularly the treasurer: Jake Brattle who somehow sneaked onto this table in 9th place is a pilot from Bristol university Gliding club who flew a K6CR at Saltby and Sutton bank, and I have no idea how his figures come up on our distance ladder! Well done to Jim who has flown 20% + of our total km

Pilot	distance flown km	flights	Avge kms
1 Jim White	4369.6	19	230.00
2 Denis Campbell	3030.5	10	303.00
3 Geoffrey Lyons	2766.8	13	212.8
4 John Otty	1961.3	9	217.9
5 Robert Smith	1773.8	8	221.7
6 Alan Johnstone	1276.7	4	319.2
7 Stephen Williams	1181.6	8	147.7
8 Jane Moore	1153.6	8	144.2
9 Jake Brattle	717.7	3	239.2
10 Glen Alison	690.6	3	230.2
11 Doug Hilton	615.9	3	205.3
12 Richard Crockett	528.6	2	264.3
13 Simon Vardigans	353.0	2	176.5
14 Nils Wedi	297.9	2	148.9
15 Jon Sugden	238.6	1	238.6
16 Barry Michael	136.7	1	136.7
17 Jeremy Gilbey	131.9	1	131.9
TOTAL	21224.8	97	218.8

To date (4th Dec 2014), based on the ladder figures, a recorded 1,182,467.2 km were flown over 4896 flights with an average distance of 241.5 kms

In 2013 a total of 1,242,233.9 kms were flown in the UK over 5168 flights with an average distance of 240.4 kms

At Booker this year we flew 21224.8 kms over 97 flights with an average of 218.8 kms.

In 2013: 29,911.8 kms over 143 flights with an average distance of 209.2 kms.

In 2012: 24,151 Km were flown and 37,803 km in 2011.

This is not an accurate representation of our flights because of the handicap system we have been using this year and some flights have been recorded on the OLC rather than the BGA ladder, or not recorded at all while the BGA ladder was under attack from hackers at the height of the season.

Jeremy Gilbey

The Booker Regionals 2015 Organising Group

Planning for the Booker Regionals is now well under way with many key positions filled. But a lot remains to be done before the 27th June. Your editor (William Parker) is heading up the Organising Group which will consist of a team of half a dozen experienced members who will work out what needs doing and be looking for other club members to help get things done.

To make Booker's return to Regionals Competition a great success we are going to need an all-members effort. If you want to know what needs doing, and if you have any area of preparation that you think you can help with, please get in touch with me.

williamparker275@gmail.com

Club Communications

We use Yahoo email groups, which we encourage all members to subscribe to, in order to provide a quick way to communicate with the membership. Details are below.

Booker GC Forum – Open to all members to participate. The Forum provides the opportunity to share ideas about the Club. Send an email to: bookergc-forum-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and *include your membership number when applying.*

Booker GC Expeditions – Open to all members to participate. Send an email to: bookergc-Expeditions-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and *include your membership number when applying.*

Booker GC X-C – Targeted towards those pilots who fly cross-country or who aspire to develop their cross-country skills. Send an email to: bookergc_xc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and *include your membership number when applying.*

Booker GC Instructors – This is for Booker instructors only to easily email each other. Mainly used for swapping duty days. Send an email to: BookerGC_Instructors-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and *include your membership number when applying.*

The **Booker GC website** at www.bookergliding.co.uk has a Members Page. This contains the latest Club news snippets and links to previous newsletters, meeting minutes and several useful and informative Club documents. The Members page is accessible to everybody (not just members) but certain documents, such as committee minutes need a user i/d and password. To obtain these, go to the members page and click on the 'email Administrator' link. Don't forget to *include your membership number.*

For the latest news about what's happening check out <http://bookergc.blogspot.com/>.

*** All view expressed within the newsletter are those of the contributor and do not necessarily represent the view of the Club or committee ***

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. If you'd like to submit an article for a future edition please send it to William Parker by email at (williamparker275@gmail.com). Please note new email address

Published by Booker Gliding Club
WYCOMBE AIR PARK, MARLOW, BUCKS SL7 3DP
Office Tel: 01494 442501/529263
Booker Gliding Club Ltd, t/a Booker Gliding Centre
is a company registered in England with company number 1492733
Registered office address: Wycombe Air Park, Booker, Marlow, Bucks, SL7 3DP
VAT number: 350 4182 83

©Booker Gliding Club 2014