



**AGM date:
Saturday
March 22nd**

The Booker Newsletter

**BOOKER HANDICAPPED DISTANCE
TASK COMP 19TH-27TH APRIL See page 4**

From the DCFI
Changes to operating procedures
Annual General Meeting Venue and Time
XC Coaching with Jim in the Duo
Dates for your diary
Klippeneck Expedition
Booker Handicapped Distance Task Comp
More Wx related cartoonery
Advert for share in A6

This is a slim edition but nonetheless well packed with good stuff. Richard is away so Doug has stepped in with some advice on getting current ready for the XC season, there are Bronze Course dates, reminders about Klippeneck and our HDT Competition in April. Spring is in the air so it's time to finish the fettling and come flying. Fingers crossed for a great season ahead.
William

From the DCFI

It's that time of year when glider pilots emerge from hibernation eager to get their feet off the ground with high hopes for a great soaring season ahead. With our Talgarth expedition just over a fortnight away and our first Handicapped Distance Task competition for 2014 coming up next month, it's a good time to get current again and maybe take a flight with an instructor to refresh the skills you may not have practiced for a while, such as spin recovery and managing an abbreviated circuit. The latter is a particularly useful thing to do before heading off cross country. Moreover, coping with an abbreviated circuit is very much part of field selection and land out circuit planning. The best way to hone your skills in that department is to take a trip out over the plain and choose a few fields from the motor glider. It will make you safer and boost your confidence for XC flying.



Of course an encouraging number of pilots have taken up the winter ticket offer and maintained good currency throughout the winter and well done to them. As a matter of interest, the new EASA license will require all pilots to have at least two instructional flights every year which makes a lot of sense for all the above reasons. New maps for the 2014 season will be out soon so take the time check them out and remind yourselves of the airspace around us and with the season coming on and skies getting

busier, ensure your lookout is up to the exemplary standard we have come to expect from BGC members.

One immediate operating detail that's relevant at the moment is the state of the airfield surface (no it's not just my usual mantra about turning gliders on the wheel and boring a hole in the ground-- everybody has become very good about turning in wide circles!), this is about avoiding the marshes that have appeared in various places notably in the usual 24 launch point area near the bus and about 100 metres out from when we normally leave the apron and tow out onto the grass. On occasions stranded buggies have made some ruts that will be a nuisance when they harden in the summer. So please recce the ground ahead of towing out and find a relatively dry path. The surface is improving but we need a prolonged dry spell to get back to normal.

Don't forget to come to the AGM on March 22nd if you possibly can. And remember the best way to support the club and improve your performance is to come up and fly! See you at the launchpoint.

Doug

Changes to our Operating Procedures

This is a reminder that we have agreed some changes in our operating procedures with the airfield management.

- Gliders returning to Booker from the north and north west should plan to cross the power circuit at a height of not less than 1600 feet (this has been increased from 1400). If you are likely to make all or part of your transition to the glider side significantly below that height please call Wycombe Tower on 126.55 to request permission.
- Gliders landing on runway 240 are asked to plan to touch down not less than 100 metres west of the taxiway if possible.

AGM –Saturday 22 March

The club's Annual General Meeting will take place on Saturday 22 March at Booker Memorial Hall, HP12 4QS at 6.00pm. Please attend if you can. The Committee needs the support of the members to review the big decisions and to hear their opinions. The AGM is your opportunity to have your say, hear how the club is doing and to discuss what will be happening in 2014.

XC coaching with Jim in the Duo

Jim is offering coaching flights in the Duo (P2 pays). Places are limited so if you have an eye to improving your cross country performance this is your chance to see how it's done with one of our top XC pilots. There's a list in the office –but it's filling up fast.

Dates for your Diary

- Bronze Course 7-11 April
- Easter Egg Cup Aerobatics comp 19-21 April
- Handicapped Distance Task Comp 26 April -4 May
- Kilppeneck Germany 7-22 June (see below)



Mrs Bloggs wondered if the bad weather and Blogg's recent conversion might be connected

Reminder 1: Expedition to Klippeneck, Germany 7th – 22nd June, 2014

Between the 7th & 22nd June Booker Gliding Club will be visiting Klippeneck Gliding Club situated in the town of Denkingen, 65km South West of Stuttgart and 600 miles drive from Booker. The expedition is open to pilots of all levels so please add your name to the list in the office if you are interested.

Reminder 2 :Handicapped Distance Task Competition at Booker 19th -27th April 2014

Come and join us for the 2nd year of the Booker Handicapped Distance Task competition (formerly the HCGP). Each day starts with a full met and task briefing at 10 am unless otherwise announced. The competition will be run on an informal basis, however there will be day prizes for winners and notable events! The Duo Discus (315) will be available during the week for those who wish to progress their cross country skills.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE

For sale Half share in Ventus 2B (A9) Offered to Booker pilots only

- Year: 1995: 1967 hours; 671 launches. Cobra trailer, Competition ready
- Winter instruments, Becker 4201 radio, Mountain High oxygen gear & cylinder, bug wipers.
- Cambridge 302 (Electric vario / flight computer / IGC logger) & Cambridge 303 (Nav screen)
- Swiss Flarm (IGC logger) with flarm radar on separate screen
- Twin mounted HP Ipaq's 3900's (one for SeeYou and one for flarm radar)
- Tow out gear / water equipment / parachute.
New all weather covers (optional, not included in price)



Price: GBP 21,000 for half share

This is a limited time offer to Booker pilots. At the end of the season the glider will be sold on the open market where similar gliders are/ have been on the market for GBP 50,000 and above (=GBP 25,000 for half share). Although A9 doesn't require a re-finish as yet the offer price would allow a refinish to be done, resulting in a brand new glider for the same price as others on the market which have not been re-finished.

Contact: Shack at shack.roberts@sasol.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