



Olympics 2012  
Airspace update  
meeting.  
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# The Booker Newsletter

**Awards Evening. 7.00pm December 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Grouse & Ale, Lane End. Details and tickets from the office. All members welcome!**

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*With the Nobel Prize for Literature and the Booker (there is another one you know) obviously distracting wordsmiths in the BGC membership we have a slimish newsletter this month. Nonetheless, Mike gives us an overview of winter activities, there are two important get-togethers in the offing –the Awards Evening and a forum on arrangements for the Olympics next year.*

*There is news of this winter's FOG briefings. Plus some feedback from one of the best BGC expeditions to Aboyne for years. Don't forget Graham's Aerobatic courses will be running throughout the winter and leading up to the hotly contested Easter Egg Comp.*

*William*

## From the CFI

This last month saw our annual pilgrimage up to Aboyne, which was very busy, with Booker members amassing around 210 hours of flying over the two weeks. My thanks go to Deeside Gliding Club for making us feel very welcome, Dave Byass for patiently sitting in the back of the Duo for a week and also to everyone that came up for making the expedition such an enjoyable experience.



Back at home October saw some surprisingly good weather and for those who were present and keen there was some good soaring, and even some modest cross country flying, to be had. The key thing is to get to the airfield early. Now that we are getting in to the winter season can we all ensure we make an extra effort to keep the gliders and tugs clean after the day's flying. I appreciate this can seem a bit of a chore but if we keep on top of it, it doesn't take very long and really is important. You may have also read recently about the work on the western end of the airfield, which is a great incentive to get rid of the trees that were getting uncomfortably large and also getting the hedge down to a sensible level. There is still more to be done and we will be doing a work party on the 5th November - you'll hopefully have seen the recent email. If you are available the club would really appreciate your help - even if you only have an hour or so. If you can't make this date please try and look after our airfield over the winter by avoiding turning the gliders on the spot when towing them back to avoid digging holes and also avoid turning the tugs in tight circles on the field.

Through the darker colder months we've got plenty going on up at the club, Bob Smith is again running his Fundamentals of Gliding (FOG) lectures starting on the 26th November at 09:30 which are great fun and open to everybody. His first lecture is one of the most important, on Airspace and the altimeter. This is of particular importance to Booker members and I suspect most of us could do with a reminder of how to use the altimeter properly. Further dates for these lectures, and the Bronze lectures, will be announced in the usual places (Forum, Online Calendar and Notice Board). Graham Saw's ever-popular aerobatic courses are also starting on the 5<sup>th</sup> November and continuing on first Saturday of the month through the winter, let the office know if you're interested.

Lastly we've got a prize-giving annual get together on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at the Grouse and Ale, which will I'm sure be a good night. I expect booking will be through the office so keep an eye open for more details shortly.

Look forward to seeing you all on the field,

Mike

## Recent Members' Achievements

*Ben Followell (cadet) First Solo*

Well done Ben!

## Club Operations During the 2012 Olympics

We will have a meeting in the clubhouse to discuss our operations during the Olympics;  
**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00 am.**

*Denis Campbell*

## Fundamentals Of Gliding (FOG) briefings

Once again, this Winter we are organising some timetabled briefings to supplement the Bronze lectures. We will fit some in before Christmas for anyone that wants to escape the pre-christmas chores. These will also act as a great warm up for the bronze lectures in January.

These lectures, or extended briefings, are aimed at club members who are learning to glide. Experience can be anything from just five or six flights up to Bronze C level. Post Bronze C pilots are also welcome to come along, and their input to any discussion would be most welcome.

These are effectively extended briefings and they supplement the briefings that are normally provided by instructors prior to performing the various air exercises in the syllabus.

Attending these briefings will provide a more grounded understanding of some aspects of gliding at Booker, and hopefully satisfy your desire to progress efficiently and safely towards a first solo and beyond.

All take place on **Saturday mornings at 09:30** in the clubhouse briefing room. Duration is about 90 minutes plus discussion.

Please note the start times, these may vary slightly on the day in order to maximise any opportunity to unpack the hangar and fly.

In fact, why not get your name down to fly on the day and turn up at **08:45** to help unpack the hangar. That way you can get the most out of the winter days, and maximise your progress towards solo.

There will be briefings in December but we did not have details before the newsletter went to press. Subjects will include daily inspections and ground handling, circuit planning and problems, badges and planning for a silver badge etc. [The Field Landing briefing will be scheduled for March 2012 a bit closer to the soaring season]. Details will be posted on the notice board and forums and over the next couple of weeks we will update the club diary on the website with details of all the winter lectures.

We will start with a lecture at the end of November.

### **Saturday Nov 26th 2011, 09:30 Airspace and the altimeter.**

An overview of Airspace and a photo guide to where it is around Booker plus an overview of how the altimeter and ASI work, altimeter settings and how these relate to airspace and cross country gliding. A few bronze questions are covered. The photos used also enable discussion about **launch failures** and some of the options around the airfield at Booker.

*Bob Smith.*

## **Aboyne 2011 –how was it for you?**

We asked a couple of the members who went to Aboyne for the first time this year to give us their impressions.

*"..... and then Mike said "don't feel offended but I think that I'd better do this landing" - my introduction to Aboyne had begun!*

*The thing about flying at Aboyne is the wind - at Booker wind is generally a distraction, at Aboyne its the wind you want, the thing that makes it so much fun. And here was definitely no shortage of wind and consequently more fun than you could shake a stick at. And so it was that on my first flight with Mike in the Duo that, after fair rocketing to 13,000 feet courtesy of the Scottish wave, and flying backwards into a cloud, (60 kts on the clock but minus 25kph groundspeed on the GPS!), I found myself on the afore-mentioned return to the aerodrome that was more akin to a cork in a waterfall than the sedate "Booker" approaches I'm used to - probably one of the most enjoyable flights I have ever done. And as a bonus the second most enjoyable one followed the very next day - an hour or so at 18,500 feet as the sun set, surrounded by billowing sun lit golden clouds and brilliant rainbows, with views of the far distant Scottish coastlines - pure magic!*

*The other thing about flying at Aboyne has little to do with flying at all - it's the enjoyment of a week or so with fellow club members, meeting flyers from other clubs and other countries, doing something different in a different place. If you haven't been before I highly recommend it."*

*Robert Turner*

*When I talked to Aboyne “old hands” I was told to take my wet weather gear, walking boots and if I was lucky I might get a days flying.*

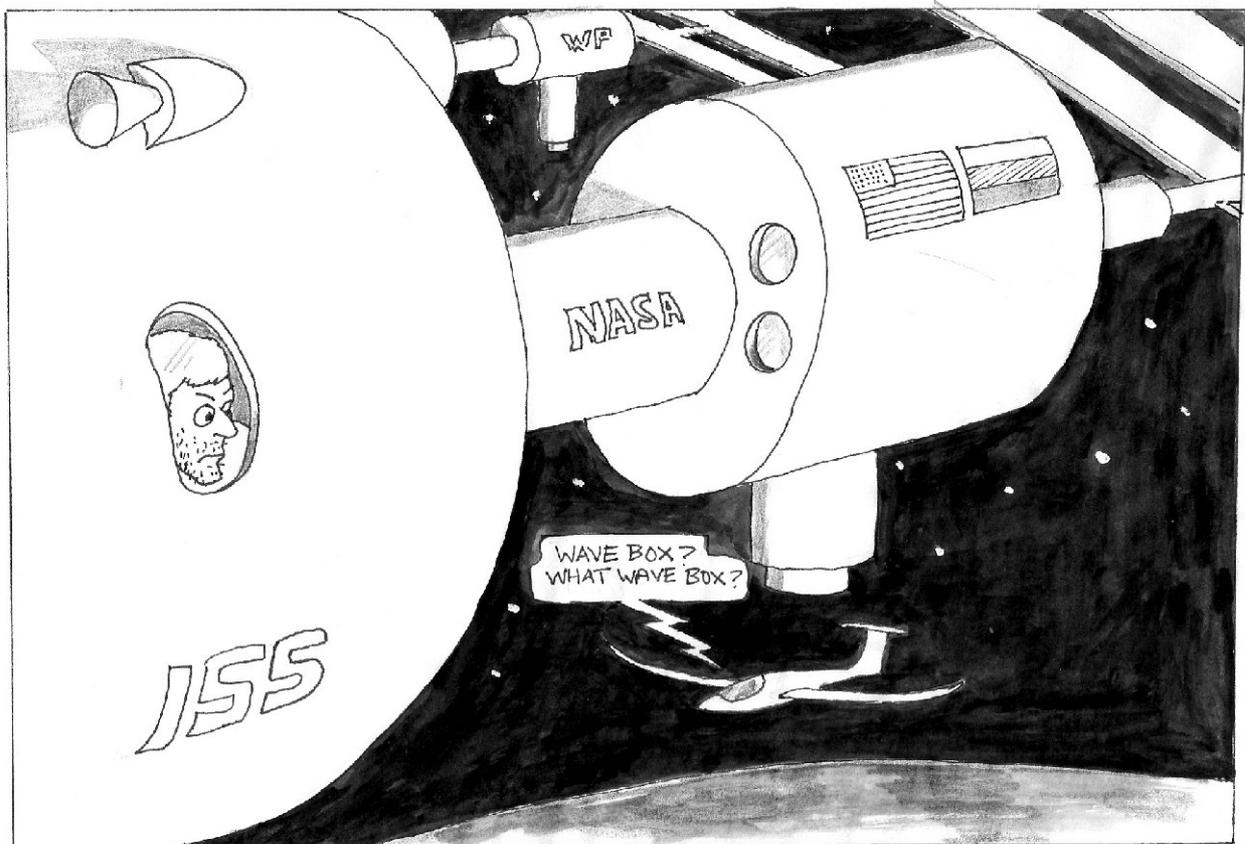
*Well on my first time to Aboyne I flew nearly every day and on the missed day walked in blazing sunshine. Thanks to Mike Collett and Dave Byass, who worked tirelessly for us novices, I had the most wonderful and totally different flying experience. On five flights we got to over 10,000 feet and were able to enjoy fantastic views of the Scottish highlands. I was able to look down on mountains which I had climbed on walking expeditions. Flying the Duo is always a satisfying experience, although I have to confess I never did master putting it down in a cross wind on a narrow tarmac runway, hopefully I will remedy this at Booker.*

*Aboyne is about much more than flying and provides a unique opportunity to get to know one’s fellow members. There is no segregation of “private” and “club”, everybody is helping rigging, moving (of which there is a considerable amount) and de-rigging all the gliders. The launch procedure is slick, whilst the recovery at the end of the runway had to be equally quick with half a dozen gliders all coming in to land at the same time. Booker earned itself the reputation of being the keenest and most helpful visiting club.*

*It was not all flying, I enjoyed evening meals in the company of fellow members, walking the countryside and poring over the photos that others had taken and are now on the blog.*

*Yes, I will be going next year and I can strongly recommend Aboyne to anybody.*

*Graham Morfey*



**NASA confirms 2011 good year for Booker at Aboyne**

## ***Last Word: give a flight for Christmas***

*Stuck for a present? Why not give a Trial Lesson? At £55 (special price for members) this is a real bargain. Just call the club and speak to Shelagh or Hilary.*

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:BookerGC_Instructors-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) and *include your membership number when applying.*

The **Booker GC website** at [www.bookergliding.co.uk](http://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.*

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

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\*\*\* 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 ([william.parker5@btinternet.com](mailto:william.parker5@btinternet.com)).

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