

# Booker Gliding Club Newsletter



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*This month is always a bit of a silly season with the soaring season drawing to a close, the Aboyne expedition still in progress and plans for the winter still in the melting pot. Nevertheless we have an update on the Cadet Scheme from Bob Smith and a neat account of XC flying in the Duo from Will Hilton. There are four achievements by members in training and an historical footnote about what sounds like the first Lunak to perform in England – strangely enough at Gatwick Airport!*

William Parker

## From the Chairman

I was just about to award everybody in the club with a pat on the back for no damage to club kit in September –which is still just true because it wasn't until October 4th that the Junior picked up a touch of trailer rash! Nevertheless let's keep up our improving record of care for the kit. Don't forget that keeping current through the winter will help you to make a flying start to the season in 2010. Try to fly at least once a month and take advantage of opportunities to soar the Chinnor ridge, have a go at aerobatics with Graham Saw, get a group together to learn winch launching at any of the nearby winch sites and complete instructor renewals in good time. We will organize the occasional trip to Parham too, to soar the South Downs, if we get some northerlies. I'm writing this from Aboyne where the first week enjoyed 5 wavy days with two smashing high wave days on the two Sundays. Denis flew a 500K, Chris Collett got his Gold Height and Craig, an early solo pilot on his first expedition, is discovering the whole new dimension that wave flying offers. At whatever your level of experience keep an eye open for next year's expedition plans. These outings are some of the best fun in gliding and we plan to introduce one or two new venues next season. If you have any suggestions for expeditions let us know.



Full credit to the team for exceeding last year's launch total and to Dave Byass for organizing the workshop and keeping us going over the last couple of months. By the way, we are hoping to be able to announce the appointment of an engineer for the workshop soon. Let's hope we get some tail end 'Indian summer' soaring in October. See you at the launchpoint.

Stop press; just heard that Emily Todd has won another aerobatic competition, well done Emily!  
 Geoff.

Geoff Tabbner

## Cadet Scheme Update.

This season has been a stunningly good one for the cadets; too many first solos and bronze badges to list here, but I will do so in the next newsletter. You will find elsewhere Mike Gatfield's write up on the Juniors expedition to the Junior Championships, many thanks must go to Jon Gatfield for organising this and providing an opportunity for the cadets to taste some real cross country flying. Hopefully we will have a similar expedition next year, although it is possible that a number of our cadets will actually be competing in single seaters.

We currently have six cadets at solo standard or beyond, and the scheme is fully subscribed. If any club members have young sons or daughters who might be interested in joining the scheme in the next couple of years please ensure that you register an interest as early as possible.

There is an end of season cadet meeting and Sunday Brunch in mid November. If any club members have any thoughts or comments about how the scheme could be improved, or tasks for our cadets to carry out around the club over the winter months, then please let me know.

[bob@soarable.com](mailto:bob@soarable.com)

*Bob Smith*

*There is an annual Junior Gliding Championships for pilots up to 26 years old. This year a number of Booker cadets took part in the competition which was held at Dunstable between 22 and 30 August 2009. Our own Cadet Mike Gatfield sent this report.*

## Cadets on tour – Juniors cross country training

While Will Ellis and our mighty CFI were busy wiping the floor at the Juniors, the Booker cadets were also at Dunstable getting a glimpse into the murky world of competition flying. Four cadets flew different days over the course of the competition and received expert instruction from the back seat of the club Duo Discus. With loads being learned from the benefits of dolphining to the joys of landing out, everyone seems to have come back with a lot of positive experiences which will no doubt mean a lot of cross country activity next year!

The Juniors have already been confirmed as being held at Bicester next year and in the words of the terminator: we'll be back!



*Many thanks are owed to the BGA, Pete Stratten, Mike Fox and the instructors: Andy Perkins, Jon Gatfield, Doug Hilton and Dave Byass*

## Welcome

To Nick Parrott, Alan Veal and Bill Winthrop, new full members of the club.

## Members' achievements in September

- **Tom Woolf**      **1<sup>st</sup> Solo**
- **Stuart Lacey**    **1<sup>st</sup> Solo**
- **John Lambie**    **1<sup>st</sup> Solo**
- **Raphael Au**     **1<sup>st</sup> flight on type - Pegasus**
- **Sanjay Goel**     **1<sup>st</sup> flight on type - K18**

## Booker goes to the show

On a sunny Saturday in September we took Junior HNK to Henley County Show to drum up interest in gliding amongst the farming set. This was a first for us, as our previous excursions to Henley have been to the Market Square, so we were uncertain how it would go. But it turned out to be a very successful event, in fact we were so busy with visitors that we had no time to visit all the other attractions and stands. The final score was 7 Intro plus courses. The day was good fun for those volunteers who came along to lend a hand. Thanks go to the following:

David Humphreys for helping to polish HNK and take it along to set up the stand on the Friday.

And the salesmen:

Richard Clark

Symeon Economou

Chris Collett

*Jane Moore*

## 60 years ago...

The programme for an event called the Daily Express Air Pageant, which took place at Gatwick in July 1949, recently turned up in a charity shop. Apart from a flying programme that included Meteor IVs, Vampires, F80 Shooting Stars, 3 Sunderland Flying Boats, 6 Lincolns, 5 Hastings and 9 USAF Superfortresses, plus the perilous-looking prone-piloted Wee Bee 'air scooter', there was a demonstration of aerobatics in the new Lunak glider!

### EVENT 8

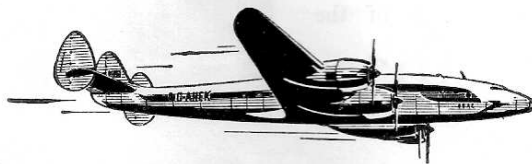
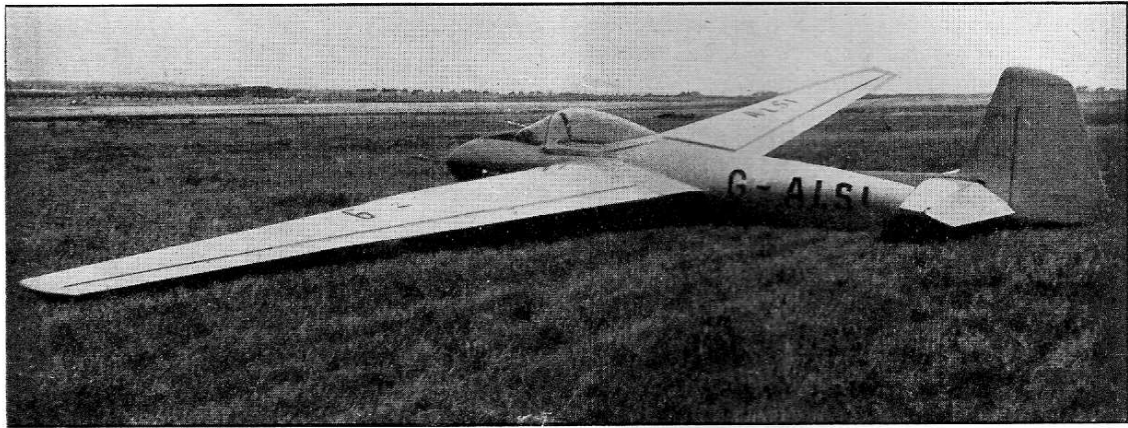
## GLIDER AEROBATICS by L. C. Marmol

Twenty-eight year old Ladislav Marmol, is holder of the British Endurance gliding record set up three months ago when he soared in the air for 33 hours 5 minutes over the downs at Dunstable.

He is using a new Lunak Glider specially sent over from Czechoslovakia, his home country. He will be towed by a light plane to a height of 3,500 feet. On release his glider will perform new engine-

less aerobatics, including left and right spins, slow rolls, stalling turns, rolls off the top of a loop, and inverted loops. The inverted loop is the most spectacular, consisting of a somersault made with the nose of the glider coming down towards the ground.

Marmol, who comes from Moravia in Czechoslovakia, now lives with his wife in Southend.



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Right off hand one has to say that's a pretty spiffing advert too!

## 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-ubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:bookergc_xc-ubscribe@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.*

**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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Registered office address: Wycombe Air Park, Booker, Marlow, Bucks, SL7 3DP  
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