



Days to Booker Regionals 255

Bond Update See Page 3

The Booker Newsletter

Stay current through the winter for a flying start next year. See Winter Season Ticket Offer on Page 4. Amazing value for money!

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This month's newsletter comes from Aboyne involving EU style Brussels-to-Strasbourg convoys of artic lorries loaded with files and editorial staff, hence the rather later than usual publication date –sorry about that. Nonetheless we have a fact-packed edition with more details of the Booker Bond Scheme and this winter's season ticket offer. Elsewhere there are reports of successful outreach activities at the Henley Show and Oak Green school. More about Aboyne next month.

William

From the Chairman

We have been enjoying a variety of weather, flying and other activities here at Aboyne. It is great to see some new faces joining us for our wave expedition. We are now making our plans for next season. There have been a number of suggestions on how we can improve things for our members both at Booker and on our expeditions. If you have any suggestions and would like to be more involved with the Club please contact Richard or myself.



Wishing you safe and exciting flying

Denis

From the CFI

It's 08:30am, there's a frosty crunch under foot and morning mist is still laying low over the surrounding hills and you're strapping yourself into the front seat of the Duo Discus ready for the first flight of the day. Welcome to Aboyne, possibly the UK's greatest soaring site.

As I'm sure you're all aware we're currently mid way through our annual trip up north to fly in the Cairgorm Mountains. This year's expedition has been the most popular Aboyne trip in recent years with a significant number of club members joining us; however we still have capacity for many more.



For those who haven't yet been Aboyne is an absolute must and comes highly recommended. The expedition is open to members of all levels and abilities including those who are pre-solo. This year it was extremely pleasing to see several pre-solo pilots joining us, all of whom made significant progress towards that ultimate goal of flying solo.

I really cannot emphasise enough the importance of expeditions and just how important it is to join in. As a club we try to design three very different expeditions a year in order to open up and explore the world of gliding a little more for our members. Our expeditions have become so popular that I've personally received several notes from members of other clubs expressing interest in joining Booker expeditions, for example we've had a contingent from the Bath and North Dorset GC join us in Klippeneck and a few friends from Thame join us in Aboyne.

In 2015 we have 3 expeditions for you to join us on, listed below:

- Talgarth & Shobdon
- Klippeneck
- Aboyne

I strongly urge you to come on at least one expedition, but be quick, places fill almost instantly!

I end this month by thanking our course instructor Andrew Monk. Andrew has been instructing with us for the last two years and has contributed to the club significantly. He leaves us this month to join British Airways as he's been lucky enough to be selected as one of 10 people for the BA Future Pilot Program.

I hope you will all join me in thanking Andrew for his hard work and wishing him all the luck for the future. He's assured me that he'll be around when he can but understandably he's got several months of hard studying to do so don't expect to see him in a K13 any time soon!

I'm signing off now as there's some flying to be done in the mountains! See you back at Booker.

Richard

An update on the Booker Bond

The Club is developing a more modern and diverse fleet and is progressively improving its resources. To accelerate this development we arranged the issue of a bond by the Club to provide funds for major projects which were discussed by the committee in February.

In July, the committee approved the Bond scheme and agreed to take up Bonds themselves.

Members were invited to take up Bonds resulting in 22 members committing to a total of £44,000 being promised for the first defined projects.

The first projects selected by the Committee are for the refurbishment of the K21 (ECZ), and the refurbishment of the motor glider (G-BRWT).

The following is a summary of the Bond scheme:-

- Each Bond is worth £2,000
- The Bonds are available to any member of the Club.
- A member may form their own syndicate to fund the Bond.
- Each Bond entitles the member (or another member designated by the Bond holder), to three launches each of 2,000 ft. per year.
- The Bonds are repaid over a ten year period (Lots are drawn to identify which Bonds are repaid in any year.)
- The first Bond holders have appointed Trustees to look after the funds which have been raised.

The bond trustees will only raise funds for defined capital projects and will not have cash sitting idle. A copy of the Bond regulations is available from myself. New projects are being evaluated by the Committee and it is possible that there will be a second issue of Bonds.

If you would like to receive details when the next Bond is made available, please send an e mail to:

Graham@morfey.net

Graham

Correction

In the September edition we incorrectly put the dates as 27th June – 15th July. It should of course have read **27th June – 5th July**.

Members' achievements

Members' achievements in September and early October will be featured in the November edition.

Dates for your Diary

- Booker Regionals 27 June -5 July 2015

Keeping current this winter

What could be worse than spring arriving in 2015 and finding that you need endless check flights to get current again? Why not take advantage of the Winter Season Ticket to keep your flying skills up to the mark - and to enjoy the autumn colours, crisp sunny winter days, and maybe even snow-covered fields and hills?

Valid from 1 October to 28 February, the ticket offers 10 launches to 2,000ft plus free soaring for only £320, with additional height above 2,000ft charged at £1.20 per 100ft.

The Ticket is for solo flying and check flights, and is valid for all gliders except the Duo Discus.

Full details available from the office.

[The Committee reserves the right to amend the scheme.]

A fine day out for Booker at the Henley Show

On Saturday 13 September we made a return trip to the Henley Show, which was very different from last year - for a start it didn't rain. The sun brought out large crowds of people and we had an endless stream of small people wanting to sit in the glider. There was also a lot of genuine interest in gliding and we sold seven trial lessons - visitors seemed much more willing to part with money than has been the case in the past couple of years.

When not working on the stand, the members of the team took turns to go and take a look at the other attractions - the food tent was a particular favourite, and we came away laden with cheese, pickles and other



delicacies. The mechanically minded ogled the miniature steam traction engines which were, according to their owners, built for use as salesmen's demonstrators.

Many thanks to the club members who helped with setting up on the Friday evening and with welcoming visitors on the Saturday, events such as these are vital to raising the profile of the club and attracting new people to gliding.

Jane

Aboyne Week 1 update

The Booker expedition to Aboyne is under way as the newsletter goes to press so a full review of the trip will appear in the next edition. In the meantime week one has been a reasonable but not classic week with a bit of wave flying and some thermic days over the spectacular Grampian landscape. Some 18 club members made it to Aboyne, half of them staying at Birkelunn the log cabin that features prominently in so many Booker legends (and myths!).

The wave season at Aboyne is well supported this year with contingents from Lasham, Gransden, Camphill, the Army and a German team that came all the way from somewhere near Stuttgart towing an Arcus , crossed at Dover, drove the length of the UK, rigged, flew to Skye and half way to the Hebrides, flew back, de-rigged and drove home.

Booker goes back to School

Over the summer we received a request from Oak Green Primary School in Aylesbury to take a glider along to deliver a 'wow day' for the new term's topic- inventions, with a focus on aircraft. Jon Sugden kindly agreed to give up a day to take the ASW 19, which definitely delivered the wow factor, although a few were disappointed that it had arrived in a trailer and not flown in!

Jon gave a presentation on different types of flight, including demonstrations of the noises made by various flying machines, and then showed them round the glider. It was an excellent opportunity to introduce gliding to young people, and the school donated £200 to the cadet glider project. We are hoping to welcome school visits to the club in the future so if anyone knows a school that might be interested please let Jon know.



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

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