

Booker Gliding Club

Newsletter

September
2019

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2020

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Fly a piece of history - 14th September

On Saturday 14th September – weather permitting of course – you could have a flight at Booker in a Miles Magister or a De Haviland Tiger Moth at Booker. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, contact the office as soon as possible, as only a limited number of slots are available.



A Tiger Moth – not the De Haviland variety

The actual Miles Magister

WHISPERING WARDROBE RALLY

21st / 22nd September



Once again Booker will be showcasing a selection of colourful vintage gliders, both in the air and on the ground, a snapshot of the history of our sport. To round off the day there will be an evening barbeque on the Saturday, contact the office if you will be attending.

All welcome, come along and join in the fun.



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Members' achievements

Steve Williams (Ventus HA) says:

So far during this 'poor season' I have:

1. Flown my first 500k....didn't count as a Diamond as I declared one to many turn points...don't care! Great task set by Nils.
2. Flown my fastest task.....Didcot - Bicester at 96kph.....I am guessing still too slow for Tim.
3. Had my highest day position in a Regionals...second place...just beaten by Jim who has subsequently won a day at the 15m Nationals!
4. Stayed as top OLC* pilot at Booker...cheated a bit by starting the season in Australia.
5. Landed out the furthest from my take-off airfield...112km from Klippeneck...thanks again to Denis who came to get me.



What I like about gliding is that with a bit of effort you can carry on achieving.

Steve

*OLC = *OnLine Contest*: click [here](#). A great way to record your flights and compete against fellow members, very easy – just upload your trace.

Miros Kidon – First solo

Miros did a handful of flights about 10 years ago at Kent GC but did not take it further. Then last August Bank Holiday he was driving past Booker and happened to see a glider. He dropped in to the club and bought a Trial Lesson. From this he progressed through our range of courses and eventually to a Get Your Solo – which he did on the day after the 2019 August Bank Holiday. He enjoyed it so much that he did a second solo later the same day and a couple more later in the week.



Emily Collett



We are very sad to announce that Emily lost her life on Saturday 24th August teaching aerobatics in her Pitts. Emily came to Booker as a tug pilot, joined the club and started learning aerobatics. She moved to power and in 2016 was British advanced national champion. The following year she became the first female member of the Great War Display Team. Emily was married to our former CFI Mike Collett and together they ran Ultimate Aerobatics at White Waltham. The thoughts of all the members who knew her are with Mike and her father in law Chris.

From the CFI

As the 2019 soaring season draws to a close it's a good time to reflect on the past year, all that we have achieved, and importantly what we have to look forward to.

The year started with an extremely successful Lleweni Parc expedition which saw a number of members having a fantastic time flying on the 30km long ridge which runs south from the coast. Some were even lucky enough to contact wave and soar several kilometres over the sea, a unique experience.

During April we had our Instructor Training Week devoted to the club's excellent team of instructors, training people in new skills and teaching a number of members how to be instructors. We now have a very strong instructing team made up of 16 Full Rated Instructors, 5 Assistant Rated Instructors and 17 Basic Instructors. During the week we also gained approval from the BGA to run full instructor courses and also Flight Instructor Seminars, the first of which is being run in November.



June saw the ever popular Klippeneck expedition once again take a large number of pilots to experience the excellent soaring conditions found along the Schwäbische Alb and over the Black Forest. Although we did not have what I would describe as a 'classic' year we still managed 13 days flying and on two days had a spectacular 9,000ft cloud base.

In July we held the Booker Regionals. After 5 days of excellent and at times challenging competition flying, Denis Campbell was crowned champion with Jim White a close second and Jan McCoshim and Dave Byass in third place. One of our newest members, Howard Joseph, flew the club ASW19 319 during the week for his first competition and on day 4 flew the 320km task at 96.75kph, a remarkable achievement!

At the beginning of August George Darby left us to start his new job as a lecturer at Oxford Brookes University and we were joined by Sam and Kevin. We had an extremely busy month with 4 weeks of intensive training via the Air League and a number of 5-day courses. In fact, we conducted 427 training flights which kept the instructing team on their toes.

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Aboyne expedition 2019 – all welcome, any level



We are heading north to Deeside Gliding Club for two weeks from 12th October. If you haven't yet been, you are in for the most incredible gliding experience. Aboyne is perfectly placed to take advantage of a type of lift called wave, a simply magical form of lift rarely found in Southern England but common in the Cairngorm mountains, hence the reason for our visit. If conditions are

favourable you will find that climbs of 10,000ft to 20,000ft are achievable and with luck you will return with a Gold or even Diamond height.

We have also booked Birkellun, a stunning Norwegian log cabin, for the second week. Catering for us this year will be Fiona Luck, a Master Chef finalist, so those staying will be in for superb cuisine.

The expedition is open to pilots of all levels including pre-solo.

Expedition places and Birkellun rooms are allocated first come first served so get your name on the list now. Like all expeditions we will be asking for a non-refundable £60 deposit to secure your place.



Birkellun

September 2019

<http://bookergc.blogspot.com/> and <https://www.facebook.com/bookerglidingclub>

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

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. If you would like to submit an article for a future edition please send it to Jane Moore at jxmoore@gmail.com

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