



Get Set For  
ABOYNE  
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# The Booker Newsletter

**Bronze Course – 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September. Round off the season with that important badge!**

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*The banner picture above taken by Bob Smith captures the magic of an evening decent over Aboyne. To share the magic get your name down in the office now. In this issue Jane Moore gives some tips on getting a badge at Aboyne we have pictures by Linden Porter from the post-stadium barbecue party, a new course format for the winter based on two long weekends and a call for volunteers to help out at the Henley Show later this month. This season may be drawing to a close but for a great season next year come fly and stay current through the winter. Thanks to all contributors.*

*William*

## Fellow Booker members,

Despite a fickle summer weatherwise we are doing quite well. Bolstered by our recent triumph over the "stadium" affair, your committee has been working hard to secure the ongoing future and tenure of the club. The Olympic Airspace issue is receding as I write and will likely end up as something we can manage our way around for a month. Indeed it might create the opportunity to have an 'away' camp and a bit of fun flying from somewhere else. In the meantime Denis and his team are still pushing.



It was wonderful to see such a good turnout at our Summer Barbeque. In particular, it was great to see a large number of GASP members and local residents there wishing us well. We are privileged to have such good support in our local community. My thanks go to Sally Longstaff for taking on the task and to everyone who rallied round to help organise a really enjoyable evening. Yet another example of how resourceful Booker members are. Thank you everyone.

We've seen a few members having a go at competitions. Will Ellis once again showing his winning ways, Shack Roberts and Richard Crocket keeping the side up in the 15M and Open Class and our editor pulling off an outstanding performance in the Gransden Regionals. Talking of competition pilots, it's good to see Tim Scott back in the air in his shiny new ASG29 after his hip injury. Congratulations to our very own CFI, Mike Collett for sheer grit

and determination in completing his Instrument Rating despite all the setbacks including someone crashing the aircraft he was using.

The next major event is the Aboyne trip. If you haven't yet experienced the joy of mountain wave flying then you are in for a treat. Not only that, but the beauty of the Dee Valley and the surrounding mountains is quite unique, such that we all enjoy returning there whenever we can. Add some good company and some fine restaurants and pubs, lots of fresh air and exercise and you will be well set up to withstand the dark winter nights until it's time to soar again.

See you at the launch point.

Geoff

## From the CFI

The soaring season seems to be coming to an end but don't despair just yet because September can provide some good opportunities and we've had one silver distance already this month. Failing that, we've got our annual trip to Aboyne which shouldn't be missed. It's a great chance to learn to fly somewhere vastly different to Booker and experience one of the other fantastic aspects that our sport has to offer. If you're not sure about how we run this trip please ask myself, Jane Moore or Dave Byass, otherwise just let the office know when you're planning to come.



Last month saw lots of activity and it's great to see so many achieving Bronze and Silver legs. Particular mention goes to Stuart Whitehouse for completing all of his Bronze in record time, Jon Sugden for finally getting his Bronze GFT out of the way, Paul Wigginton for getting his 50km flight after quite a few eventful attempts.....and finally Ali Elliott for completing her first solo. We also have a new motorglider instructor in the form of Doug Hilton. Apologies in advance to anyone I've missed out.

Away from the club there has been a plethora of competitions through August, with a number of Booker pilots involved. Congratulations to them all especially to our esteemed editor (William Parker) for his sterling performance in the Grandsen Regionals, coming third overall and winning a day.

Finally, don't forget we've got a Bronze Week coming up. This is a great way to accelerate your training from solo to bronze and beyond. Please let the office know if you would like to attend.

See you at the launchpoint,

Mike

## Olympics update

The Olympic airspace restrictions are being finalised and we have achieved some further minor concessions. We now need to formulate a plan for how we operate for the period 14<sup>th</sup> July to 15<sup>th</sup> August next year. There are several options and we would like to discuss these with you. One suggestion was to run a series of consultations in the Clubhouse later in the month. These could be on a weekend after flying with some liquid refreshment and perhaps a takeaway. We will publish dates on the forum later.

Denis Campbell

## Recent Members' Achievements

James Giles	First Solo
Ali Elliot	First Solo
Nikolas von Merveldt	First solo
John Lambie	First flight in the Pegase
Paul Wigginton	First 50k

Congratulations to all these members and their instructors.

## Winter weekends

We have re-packaged our 5 day course for the winter to run over two long weekends (Fri-Sun). **For £595 the course will offer 28,000ft of aerotow plus briefings and an hour in the motor glider, as well as 3 months club membership.** Any student completing the course will therefore be able to continue flying at member rates and should be in a good position to go solo at the start of the 2012 season. And the courses will also provide member instructors with the opportunity to improve their skills by delivering briefings and ground school. The new courses will be running from October to March 2012. Please help the club by promoting this course to our visitors and other contacts.

## Booker goes to the Henley Show

The Sales & Marketing Team will be setting up their stall at the Henley Show on **Saturday 10 September at Greenlands Farm, Hambleden**. We will be taking a Junior as well as our usual publicity materials. We have found that displaying a real glider is an excellent way to promote gliding, which is the most invisible of sports. We need a few more helping hands - to set up on the Friday and to help on the Saturday by talking to visitors about our sport. If you have some spare hours, let the office know or speak to Jane Moore or Chris Collett.

Jane Moore

## Aim High at Aboyne



*Picture by Denis Campbell*

The cross country season is drawing to a close and with it hopes of 100s, 300s and 500s. But now is the time to plan for those height claims you need for your silver, gold or diamond. Unless you fancy climbing in a cu nim you need wave, and Aboyne is the ideal place to find it. The airfield remarkably well placed to access wave in practically any wind direction except easterly, and you don't have to tow miles to get into it.

Wave can be confusing to start with, but if you haven't tried it before, expert tuition from Mike and Dave will soon sort you out. We mostly tow to around 3000ft to get above the convection and into the wave, after that it's up to you. Most important is to open the brakes after coming off tow to break the climb and put a notch on the barograph trace. And remember the height of your low point so you know when you've reached your goal. Then you need to find the strong lift - it won't be the same along the length of the wave bar, so short beats or figures of 8 in the good bits is the way to climb fast. Silver height will take you to over 6,000ft, Gold to around 13,000ft. Diamond height usually requires the opening of the Wave Box, the upper airspace above FL195, because you'll probably need to get to 20,000ft or more, depending on your low point.



*Picture by Glyn Read*

Of course Aboyne isn't just about badge hunting, it's also possible to go cross country in wave, a different skill to thermal x-c. And whatever you do, the views are fantastic. If you would like more information, take a look at the flyers over the tea bar and on the notice board. For a snapshot of the expedition type 'Booker Aboyne' into YouTube. For advice on any aspect of the expedition, ask Mike Collett or Jane Moore. And make sure you secure your place by putting your name on the list in the office.

*Jane Moore*

## Model show at Gransden



One evening during the Gransden Regionals Ali McHinchy, the world champion model aerobatics pilot (a member at Cambridge GC) brought along seven huge radio controlled models which he flew with breathtaking skill. Top left and right is Ali's jet powered Fox which performed astonishing low level hesitation rolls. The beautiful yellow scale model with the camera on the cockpit was unable to fly because the wind was too strong. A prop driven Polish model with a six or seven foot wingspan did a series of ultra low, 'hanging on the prop' maneuvers which seemed so improbable that the audience broke up with laughter. The red and yellow jet aircraft flew along the flight line about twenty yards out and thirty feet up at a reputed 240 knots (competitors were advised to move their gliders to the other end of the airfield!).

*William Parker*

## The Post-Stadium Booker Bar-b-Q



The members of GASP turned out in force for this evening event at the airfield. Brilliantly organised, great food and a wonderful air display by Graham Saw made this a special evening for all those who attended.

Various members of GASP also took to the air over the weekend, taking advantage of the special offer made by the gliding club and all those I spoke to had thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

I hope we can make this an annual event for those living in the area as it 'opened the doors' to the airfield to many who have probably shied away from it in the past.



Giving the community a chance to come and see what's going on and to feel included is not only great for promoting gliding but helps protect our airfield – should we ever need to do so again!

On behalf of GASP I would like to thank everyone involved for a great evening and weekend.

Linden Porter

## 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.*

**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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