



Our best 2 months for achievement see P. 3

The Booker Newsletter

From October 27th the office is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. Please note the clubhouse remains open

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With so many contributors up at Aboyne this issue is coming out a bit late –sorry about that. We have a really impressive list of members achievements in August and September and another interesting Winter Season Ticket offer. We end up this month with a bit about EASA licensing for glider pilots and an all too true cartoon. Next month we'll have the full story from Aboyne –what are those aerial shots of pies and cakes all about? As ever, many thanks to the contributors
William

From the Chairman

Dear Fellow Booker Members,

I write these notes at Aboyne, where the club's annual expedition to the famous wave soaring site in Royal Deeside is well under way. This trip is a fixture in the Club's calendar and it is just one of the ways we put into action our mission statement to offer a wide range of gliding opportunities to our members.

The weather has been delightful so far, not ideal wave weather but some wave soaring has been had to 11000ft with plenty of material for the blog. Everyone is making best use of the opportunities on offer to learn about the skills of wave flying.

Next year we will have a new event in the expedition calendar in addition to our usual favourites. This will be an expedition to Le Blanc in central France where they enjoy excellent cross country soaring in the surrounding flatlands. This will give everyone a chance to enjoy unfettered cross country flying no matter what their level. It is a lovely venue for family and friends too.

Gliding expeditions not only bring us together but they enable us all to benefit from the help



and support of our fellow members, a vital component for successful gliding and for the success of our club. It is also an ideal way to meet other glider pilots and to compare and contrast how we operate.

Whilst writing I would like to take the opportunity to compliment the sales and marketing , office and instruction teams for the excellent recent growth in course participation. We focus on courses as one of the best way of introducing new members and as the key strategy in growing the club. The good work that went into the restructuring of the website was followed by very focused marketing at specific venues. The excellent follow up to subsequent enquiries from the office team and the instruction team has resulted in a marked upturn in sales of courses.

We can all play a part by making newcomers welcome and helping to ensure they enjoy their experience at Booker.

See you at the launch point.

Geoff

From the DCFI

September has brought us some long awaited good weather which it has been refreshing to see so many of you taking advantage of it. There have been many achievements ranging from first solos, type conversions, completions of Silver Distance flights and many significant cross countries. These are only possible through thorough training, consolidation of the learning points, commitment, currency and applying them all in a sensible and 'airmanship' like fashion. Whilst we need to keep these points in mind, we must not forget that we do all this for fun and there are many ways to do this. Over the coming months we will be looking at ways to continue injecting some of this – Graham Saw's aerobatics courses, dual towing or formation flying, soaring whenever the weather allows. The reintroduction of the Winter Season ticket is an excellent way to ensure you can remain current and have a session in a 2 seater with one of the instructors. Use the trip with an instructor to hone up your skills on some aspect of your flying you want to improve or perhaps haven't practiced for some time – it can only make you a better pilot.

I'm writing this whilst up at Aboyne where we have been enjoying some warm and mostly calm conditions but still offering some superb wave flights and great camaraderie – the clubs expeditions are again another way to broaden your flying skills and have a good time. Keep watching the notice board/newsletters for details of our upcoming expeditions to Talgarth and France in 2013.

Many of the flights at Aboyne result in relatively late landings into the setting sun, this highlights the need to have a clean canopy. If the run of good weather carries on into October you may be faced with the same problem at Booker – always ensure the canopy is clean before you take off and if it isn't clean it before you do. Also I mentioned in the last newsletter about the relatively soft surface of the airfield, can you all please make the effort to not turn the gliders on the spot and avoid digging holes into the airfield both around the launch point and when retrieving gliders off the airfield – some of the holes can be quite painful if you run through them and we can all do our bit to help with a little effort.

See you at the launch point.

Safe flying

Doug

Our best two months of achievements

In August and September members took advantage of the good flying weather to pull off the best haul of achievements since anyone can remember. Eighteen members clocked up Over 25 badges, legs, conversions and exam passes in these two months.

Unfortunately last month the email detailing most of these achievements vanished in the editor's computer system. Apologies to all those members whose efforts went unrecorded. And here to set the record straight is the full list.

It's testament to the continuing vigour of Booker Gliding Club and brings another generation of pilots into the sensational world of cross-country flying. Many thanks to all those unsung heroes who make BGC a 'can do' club and congratulations to all these members and their instructors.

Ist Solos

Hakan Gokalp
Carl Bauer

John Townsend
Daniel Pollard

Filip Livancic
Andy Tobias

Ist and 2nd Bronze Legs

Carl Bauer
Craig Cairns

Ben Followel

Peter Richards

Bronze written test passed

Craig Cairns

Brian O'Sullivan

Bronze gft passed

Peter Richards

Brian O'Sullivan

5 Hours

Jeremy Gilbey
Stuart Whitehouse

John Hubberstey

John Sugden

Silver Distance

John Hubberstey

Silver Badge

Jon Sugden

Bronze gft passed

Peter Richards

Brian O'Sullivan

300 K

Simon McCracken

Single seater conversions

Hakan Gokalp
Carl Bauer
Zeljko Livancic

Simon Vardigans
Peter Richards

Chris Arnold
Brian O'Sullivan

Aerobatics Comp Winner

Guy Trees. 1st in Beginners Class at Saltby Aerobatics Nationals

Stay Current Buy A Season Ticket

The STAY CURRENT Season Ticket scheme offers members a package of discounted launches as an aid to keeping current over the winter.

The scheme applies to all club gliders except the Duo Discus 315.

The Committee reserves the right to amend or withdraw the Season Ticket scheme.

SEASON TICKET FROM 1 OCTOBER 2012

The ticket entitles the member to:

- 10 launches to 2000ft
- free soaring

Tows above 2000ft charged at £1.10 per 100ft.

For two-seater flying, the ticket may only be used by P1.

VALIDITY

Tickets are valid from 1 October 2012 to 28 February 2013.

Launches not taken by 28 February will be forfeited and the balance outstanding will be a contribution to club funds.

The ticket is non-transferable.

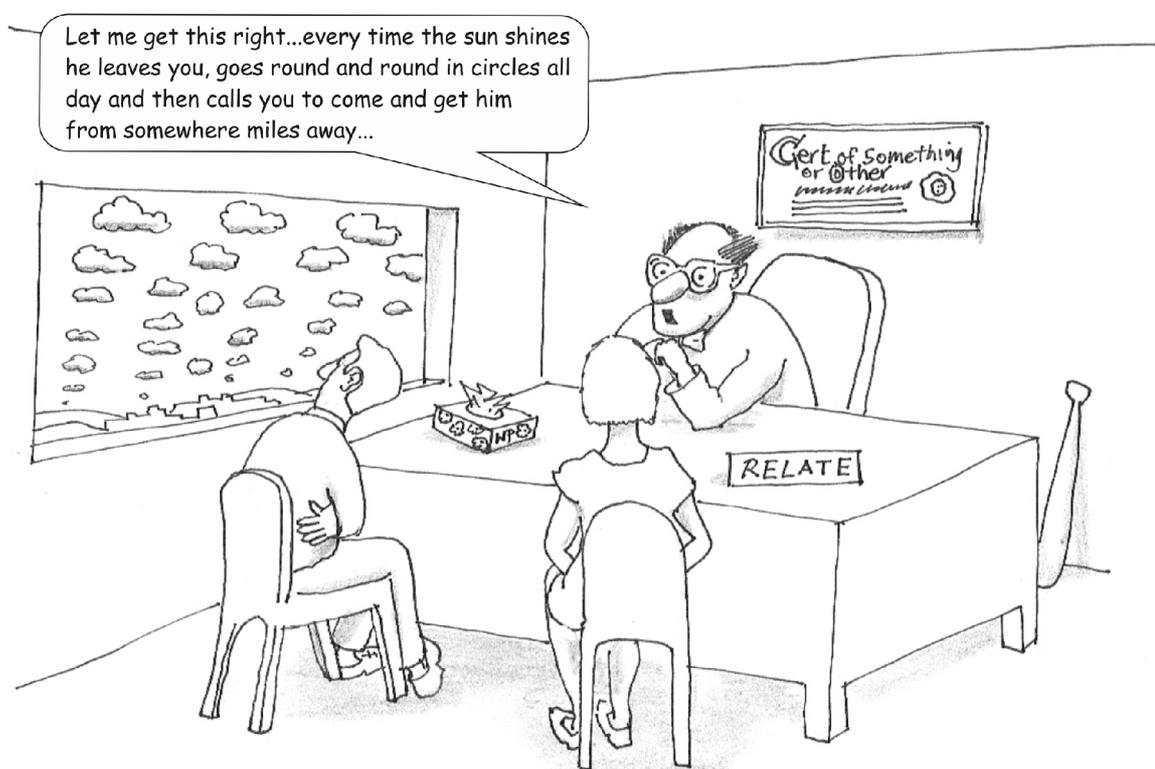
PRICE

The ticket costs £295, payable in cash or by debit card. It may not be charged to a flying account.

Graham Morfey

Winter glider trailer storage

Once again Winter Trailer Storage will be available in the club hangers. The price this year will be £71 a month for a minimum of 3 months which is payable to the office.



EASA Pilot Licensing

Is that a groan we hear from the back? Like it or not it's going to happen so we might as well understand it so that we're prepared for it when the time comes in April 2015. The current issue of S & G has a pretty good explanation of the license types that will be available, how they will work and how we will transition from our current ratings to the new scheme.

Basically there will be two types of licence – Sailplane Pilots Licence – the SPL, and the Light Aircraft Pilots Licence for Sailplanes - the LAPL (S).

The SPL will be valid worldwide whereas the LAPL (S) will be valid anywhere in Europe. The precise difference between these two licenses and the privileges they confer isn't yet clear since they both rely on qualification criteria similar to our Bronze. In both cases the license will be limited to the launch method used at the time of qualification and other launch methods can be added subject to appropriate training.

To transition to the new licensing will be by means of a conversion report for submission to the BGA/CAA which will show our current qualifications and ratings. That report will be ready for use by the end of 2012 according to the CAA and the BGA. You can find out more about the progress of the Licensing scheme in the current Oct/Nov issue of S & G and on the BGA website.

William P

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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