



# Newsletter

British Gliding Association

## BGA Newsletter February 2009

**BGA Courses.** The schedule for Assistant Instructor Courses in 2009 has been published at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/bgacourses.htm>. These will take place at clubs around the country. Courses should be booked via the BGA office – you are recommended to make your reservations ASAP to secure your choice of location. BGA coaching at locally organised club soaring and cross country courses can be arranged on an as available basis. Please initially contact the National Coach – [mike@gliding.co.uk](mailto:mike@gliding.co.uk). BGA Motor Glider Instructor Rating courses and CAA SLMG Flying Instructor courses can be organised for pilots wishing to gain those ratings. Details are available at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/instructors/motorgliding.htm>

**BGA Chief Engineer Training.** The first round of BGA Chief Engineer/ ARC Signatory training has now been arranged. This training assists BGA inspectors to upgrade to Chief Engineer status, thus becoming ARC signatories. Details are at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/technical/news.htm>

**Marketing Seminars.** Dates for the 2009 BGA marketing seminars are Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February (Husbands Bosworth) and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February (Lasham). The seminars are designed for club marketing officers and other committee members who are involved in promoting the sport and/or interfacing with your local media. More details are at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/clubmanagement>. To book a place, please Email [keith@gliding.co.uk](mailto:keith@gliding.co.uk) by Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

**Airspace Safety.** The safety risks of a glider flying where it ought not to be should be a concern for all of us. We can only imagine the outcome of a mid air collision while a glider is infringing any kind of controlled airspace. Failing to navigate accurately taking into consideration the latest restricted airspace information is hazardous to all airspace users and demonstrates poor airmanship as well as a lack of respect for other aviators. The BGA has recently written to all CFIs on this subject and we will be publishing additional advice for all pilots during 2009 – please watch out for this.

**NPA 2008-17.** The BGA has further developed its draft response to the current consultation regarding pilot licensing. The latest change to our views concerns the proposed removal of our current privileges which allow us to fly near and in cloud. Full details are at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/nppl/futurelicensing.htm>. The closing date for this important consultation is 28<sup>th</sup> February. Given the great significance of these EASA proposals to us, we are asking all pilots to consider them and respond with their own views. .

**NPA 2008-22.** This consultation refers to pilot training. The BGA plans to respond to EASA and our response will detail why a number of the proposals that apply to gliding are disproportionate or unnecessary, and will offer alternatives. Our view is

that the BGA should continue to be an approved training organisation that will absorb much of the responsibility and overhead for compliance management and standards, thus allowing BGA clubs and their fundamentally volunteer operations to continue to deliver high quality training at minimum cost and with minimum bureaucracy. We are working closely with fellow EGU members to ensure a cohesive and effective response from the gliding community.

**NPA 2009-02.** EASA has published the documentation relating to NPA 2009-02, its consultation about proposals concerning operations. The BGA is engaged with and planning to respond to this. The EASA consultation documents are available at <http://hub.easa.europa.eu/crt/docs>

**TMZ Proposals.** The BGA, in anticipation of responding to a future consultation regarding the proposed Stansted TMZ (Transponder Mandatory Zone), will be working with experts from local clubs to assess the potential impact and with a wider group to monitor developments regarding further TMZ proposals. Any TMZ application should follow the established Airspace Change Proposal process, which involves the BGA and other stakeholders. Any club that becomes aware of a TMZ proposal and is unsure whether the BGA is engaged can contact the BGA Airspace Committee via the BGA office ([pete@gliding.co.uk](mailto:pete@gliding.co.uk)). Details of the Stansted TMZ proposals are at [http://www.nats.co.uk/text/252/stansted\\_tmz.html](http://www.nats.co.uk/text/252/stansted_tmz.html)

**Latest Conference News.** The programme for the BGA conference on 7<sup>th</sup> March has been published. You can see this, together with details of how to book for what promises to be another great gliding themed week-end, at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/notices/conference.htm>

**Maintenance Processes.** The BGA has published a new guidance leaflet (AMP2-11) for BGA inspectors and glider owners on how to carry out an airworthiness review and renew an ARC. Leaflet AMP2-1 has been updated to explain and detail permitted pilot/owner maintenance tasks. The two leaflets can be found at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/technical/ampmanual/2-11.pdf> and <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/technical/ampmanual/2-1.pdf> respectively. There is a new Part M section on the BGA website which provides links to these and other important information about the new maintenance and airworthiness process - see <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/technical/part-m.htm>

**BGA Waypoint List.** Amendment List 12 to the BGA Waypoint List will be finalised in mid March. With under two months to go, would CFIs and task setters review the list to see if they would like any new points added (or any existing ones deleted, perhaps due to airspace changes.) Please look not only at points in your local area, but also those useful in cross-country flying from your site. The list serves the whole BGA community. If you or your club thinks that a new point could be useful, then ask for it. As long as it is not very close to an existing BGA point, or near sensitive airspace, it will be considered. The existing list can be accessed at: <http://www.spsys.demon.co.uk/turningpoints.htm>. More information about requesting changes is at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/documents/waypoints2009.pdf>

**GAPAN Scholarships.** The Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators (GAPAN) has a range of scholarships available for 2009. These include at least 6 PPL scholarships and various flying instructor and other bursaries. Full details and application forms are available at <http://www.gapan.org/careers/scholarships/schols09.htm>

**Southdown GC.** Southdown GC completed the purchase of their site at Parham on 9<sup>th</sup> January. The purchase had been a long-term objective of the club for many

years. The club was unable to attract grant aid for the purchase and had to raise much of the cash needed from their members via donations, interest-free loans and life memberships. They secured significant Gift Aid by virtue of their registration as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) and were supported by the BGA and the Philip Wills Memorial Fund.

**Tom Bradbury.** Tom Bradbury, who will be remembered for his hugely influential textbook for soaring pilots, Meteorology and Flight, and for his seminal S&G articles, died in late January at the age of 85. Tom was an internationally renowned meteorologist, whose services to the sport were recognised by the award of the FAI Paul Tissandier Diploma, as well as a BGA diploma and life membership of his club, Bristol & Glos GC.

**Nene Valley GC.** After retirement of the current post-holder in June, Nene Valley GC will be without a CFI. So far, attempts to find a replacement have been unsuccessful and the club is appealing to Full Cat instructors in the area to consider helping out, even for a short period. If anybody is able to help, please would they contact [secretary@nvgc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nvgc.org.uk)

**University Gliding Clubs.** We have recently updated the list of university gliding clubs at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/findaclub/university.htm>. We would be grateful if university clubs could check this and let Dick Poole ([AeroRJP@aol.com](mailto:AeroRJP@aol.com)) know of any changes, additions or deletions.

**Funding Sport in the Community.** Sport England has announced details of their new investment programmes. From April, they will be accepting applications for the four funding streams, together worth £45m pa. £30m of this will be awarded in grants of over £10,000 to projects which meet the criteria within specific themed funding rounds. However, £7m will be distributed as smaller grants (max £10,000) to support sport in the communities. Further details will be announced in due course, but you can read the new Sport England funding strategy document at [http://www.sportengland.org/sport\\_england\\_funding\\_strategy\\_20090106.pdf](http://www.sportengland.org/sport_england_funding_strategy_20090106.pdf)