



Newsletter

British Gliding Association

BGA Newsletter January 2003

Everybody at the BGA wishes all glider pilots a happy new year. Whatever your gliding ambitions are for 2003, we wish you every success.

2003 Course Programme. The BGA course programme for 2003 has now been published and copies have been circulated to all club CFIs. A number of the soaring courses planned have, as yet, no venue assigned and clubs are invited to apply to host these. These courses are great fun and an ideal way to provide your members with cross country soaring training without the need to travel. Clubs wishing to host a soaring course should apply to the BGA office, in writing or email (colin@gliding.co.uk) no later than 17th January. A full copy of the course programme is on the BGA web site, www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/bgacourses.htm

Ann Welch Memorial Service. The memorial service for Ann Welch will be held at Lasham Airfield on March 7th around midday. Final details, when available, will be posted on the BGA web site.

K13 Rudder Adjustment. The Safety Committee have made a recommendation that, on gliders with a K13 type rudder adjustment, it should be standard practice that the adjustment is always carried out by the pilot from outside the cockpit. This follows investigation of the recent accident at Camphill, when the pilot safely baled out after thinking that he had lost rudder control. The pre-flight adjustment had been made by a helper from outside the glider and this did not allow a visual check that the stop was properly engaged.

Bill Scull Safety Diploma Award. The BGA Executive is delighted to announce that the Diploma will be awarded to Dr Tony Segal for his contribution to gliding safety. The presentation will be made at the AGM.

Rule 5 Consultation. The BGA has responded to the CAA consultation over proposed changes to the UK Low Flying Regulations (Rule 5). The BGA generally supports the wishes of the CAA to simplify the regulation, but has recommended a number of changes to the proposed amendment in order to avoid unnecessary restriction of flight. The BGA response has been coordinated by Terry Slater, following discussion with and input from the gliding movement.



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BGA DG500 for Sale. The BGA DG500/22 Elan, registration number '97' is for sale. The glider was new in January 1993 and has logged approximately 3,800 hours. '97' is fully equipped including a trailer. It can be viewed at Bicester. For more details, contact Barry Rolfe at the BGA office on 0116 253 1051 or email barry@gliding.co.uk. Offers of around £30,000 are invited.

Gliding Records. The FAI has received the following record claims from Pamela Kurstjens-Hawkins in the Feminine Open Class: Straight distance to a goal – 965.3km, free distance – 1078.7km, and free distance using up to three turnpoints – 1042.55km. The records (subject to verification) were all achieved on a single flight in a Nimbus 4T from Kingaroy Airfield in Australia on January 5th. The BGA sends its congratulations.

National Coach Appointment. The BGA is delighted to announce that it has re-appointed Dave Bullock as National Coach for the current year.

BGA AGM and Conference. A reminder that this year's AGM and conference will be held on 22nd February at Eastwood Hall near Nottingham. Full details of the agenda and speakers (and a booking form) are available on the BGA web site at www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/notices/conference.htm. You are advised to make a booking soon if you want to attend the post conference dinner or if you wish overnight accommodation at the specially discounted rate.

Newsletter Deadlines. The BGA Newsletter exists to get news information out to clubs, individual glider pilots and other interested parties in a speedy manner. We are always pleased to include suitable items. The deadline for inclusion in any issue is the Monday preceding the first Wednesday in any month. Items for consideration should be kept brief (a paragraph is best) and sent to keith@gliding.co.uk