



Newsletter

British Gliding Association

BGA Newsletter January 2004

National Gliding Week. A new item on the gliding calendar, National Gliding Week will be held between 19th and 27th June 2004. National Gliding Week will be a focus which will enable the BGA and all clubs to co-ordinate marketing activities with the intention of raising the public profile of our sport and bring potential new members into clubs. The BGA will be seeking as much national publicity as possible and we hope that all clubs will get involved by running events of interest to the public during the week. Clubs have been sent initial information – if you would like more details or would like to discuss your participation, please contact Keith Auchterlonie – keith@gliding.co.uk or 01334 828830.

NotamPlot. NotamPlot is a software application that downloads and plots NOTAMs on a UK map. This makes determining which NOTAMs are relevant to a flight much easier than manually looking through a raw text bulletin. We are informed that a new version of NotamPlot will be released early this year, which will use approved NOTAM data sourced from AvBrief directly from AIS. This is a significant step towards providing pilots with a straightforward way of ensuring that they are properly briefed before each flight. A download will be available from 15th January from the NotamPlot web site and will also be on the cover disc of the February issue of Flyer magazine. For more details, see www.notamplot.flyer.co.uk and www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/airspace/gps.htm

NPPL SLMG - ICAO Compliant with JAR Medical. Holders of the NPPL SLMG rating who wish to fly UK registered SLMG's outside the UK can now apply to have their licence endorsed as ICAO compliant providing they have a JAR Class 2 or JAR Class 1 medical certificate. Please apply directly to Flight Crew Licensing at the Safety Regulation Group, Gatwick, not to the NPLG Ltd or to the BGA.

Royal Aero Club Awards. We are delighted to announce that the RAeC have honoured British glider pilots with some of their most prestigious awards, as follows: Britannia Trophy (for the most meritorious performance in aviation during the year) - Andy Davis; Prince of Wales Cup (for the most meritorious team performance in aviation during the year) - the British Senior and Junior Gliding teams; RAeC Silver Medal (for outstanding achievement in aviation during the year, principally as a pilot) - Jez Hood; The Old and Bold Trophy (awarded to a person over 65 who flies, or has recently ceased flying, and who has been conspicuously involved in aviation for their work, initiative, devotion or in other ways) - Derek Piggott; Certificate of Merit (for those who have served the cause of aviation in general or sporting aviation in particular by their work, devotion or initiative) - Max Bacon. These awards come at the end of a superb season for British gliding and the BGA sends its congratulations to the winners.



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Gliders Wanted for Hire or Swop. Gliders are urgently sought by the organisers for competitors at the 2005 World Junior Championships and for the 2004 Midland Regionals to which Junior pilots from around the world will be invited, as a training event. Pilots may wish to hire a glider, or they may be prepared to do a glider swap, whereby they offer the use of a glider in their home country for a couple of weeks in exchange for the UK glider hire. Pilots that are likely to be interested are those from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, USA, Canada, Japan, China and South America – an opportunity for you to fly overseas without having to hire a glider yourselves. Further information is available on the BGA web site at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/newsarchives/hireorswap.htm> or contact gliderhire@worldgliding2005.com

Club Marketing Seminars. A series of seminars have been arranged for club publicity officers. These cover a range of topics, from identifying your market and messages, analysis of your market strengths and weaknesses, how to reach your market, and working with the media. Seminars are being held at Sutton Bank (13 Feb), Husbands Bosworth (14 Feb) and Bicester (16 Feb). Future dates and venues will be arranged for later in the year. To book a place, contact Keith Auchterlonie - keith@gliding.co.uk or 01334 828830.

Motor Glider Workshops. There are still places available at two of these workshops – Parham, 30 January and Nympsfield, 15 February. For more information, see the December newsletter. Bookings should be made with Jim Hammerton on 07710 871039 or cto@gliding.co.uk

Royal Aeronautical Society. The BGA has been approved as a corporate partner of the Royal Aeronautical Society. This provides the association with a number of benefits including access to their library and free entry to lectures. If any club member wishes to avail themselves of this, please would they contact Barry Rolfe at the BGA office in the first instance.

BGA Medical Records System. There is an error in the current release of the system in that the function to send a support email does not work. This will be corrected in the next version of the software but, for the moment, you can send email support requests manually to Support@IdealMicrosystems.com

More Records for Fossett. Fossett and co-pilot Terry Delore broke another 3 world gliding records (open class) in the Andes on 13th December, including completing the first ever 1500km triangle. In a remarkable 6 week 2003 season in Argentina, Fossett and Delore have set a total of 6 new world records in their ASH25 - including the first 2000 km Out and Return glider flight. Teaming up just 13 months ago, the pair has now set 9 of the 18 Speed and Distance world records for the Open / Unlimited class.