



Newsletter

British Gliding Association

BGA Newsletter January 2005

Child Protection Awareness Training. Latest dates and venues for the BGA's Child Protection Awareness training have now been announced, as follows: Aston Down Saturday 12th March; Husbands Bosworth Saturday 9th April. The training runs from 10am to 1pm, with registration from 9.15am. Please book as well in advance as possible, as there are limitations on numbers. 2 free places are offered per club, thereafter £10.00 per head. Please book with Phil Burton by Email philburtond100@aol.com or by telephone 01986 895314.

BGA Club Marketing Seminars. A reminder that spaces are still available for the next round of Club Marketing Seminars, designed to help BGA clubs formulate and carry out an effective marketing plan. Dates and venues are as follows: Midland GC (Long Mynd) – Sat 22 January; Soaring Centre (Husbands Bosworth) – Sun 23 January; Bath & Wilts GC (The Park) – Sat 5 February. The seminars start at 10am and run through to 4.15pm. Please book your place with Keith Auchterlonie (keith@gliding.co.uk), tel 01334 828830.

Car Insurance Whilst Towing. Further to a notice in the last BGA Newsletter, we have now been informed that Norwich Union do not place a restriction on trailer length. Similarly, Admiral will now provide cover for trailers, but may not necessarily recover trailers over 23ft long following an accident. The message remains the same, however – always make sure that your own policy will provide essential cover when towing a glider trailer.

Gliders Needed for Junior Team. The British Junior Team which is competing at the World Junior Championships (being held at Husbands Bosworth in August) desperately need to beg, borrow – or maybe even steal – two gliders for their Standard Class competitors. If you can help with the offer of a loan of a suitable machine (ideally an LS8), please contact Gerry Holden (GVHOLDEN@aol.com or telephone 01489 583214). With your help, the team can maybe make it three golds in a row for the UK.

Older Aircraft Care. It is not only the BGA that is concerned that ageing aircraft are treated with extra TLC. Some practical solutions for US operators of older light aircraft are at <http://www.faa.gov/certification/aircraft/aceAgingBestPractices.pdf>

Churchill Awards. Once again, we shall be providing Churchill Awards throughout 2005. These will be £200 each for the first 20 young pilots achieving the Bronze Badge before their 18th birthday. The recipients will receive a cheque payable to the gliding club of their choice to be set against their future flying fees. Applications in writing please to the BGA office

Radiotelephony Manual. Amendment 1 to the 15th edition of CAP413 (Radiotelephony Manual) is now available for download from the CAA web site. See <http://www.caa.co.uk/publications/publicationdetails.asp?id=247>

GASIL. The latest edition of GASIL, the General Aviation Safety Leaflet, has now been published and is available on the CAA web site at http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/srg_gad_gasil4of2004.pdf

LASORS. The 2005 edition of LASORS (Licensing; Administration; Standardisation; Operating Requirements and Safety) is now available from the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). It features essential educational safety information aimed specifically at the General Aviation community. LASORS 2005 includes information from authoritative source documents such as the Air Navigation Order and JAR-FCL; details of pilot licensing requirements (including NPPL); a full set of CAA Safety Sense Leaflets and guidance on differences training. LASORS 2005 costs £11.50 from high street bookshops (ISBN 1904862098) or the Stationary Office <http://www.tso.co.uk/bookshop/bookstore.asp?DI=543169>. Alternatively, you can download a copy free of charge from the CAA web site <http://www.caa.co.uk/publications/publicationdetails.asp?id=1591>

Powered Pilot Licence Validity. The CAA have expressed concern that some pilots may be flying illegally, not necessarily through intent but, rather, through ignorance of the latest requirements. All powered pilots are recommended to check their licence and rating validity. The necessary information is provided in LASORS (see above) and AIC 78/2002 (White 64) available at <http://www.ais.org.uk/aes/pubs/aip/pdf/aic/4W064.PDF>.

Doncaster Sheffield Robin Hood Airport. The first restricted airspace around this new airport – the former RAF Finningley – was established on 3 January. Full details are in AIC 108/2004 (Yellow 156) available at <http://www.ais.org.uk/aes/pubs/aip/pdf/aic/4Y156.PDF>. (Registration & login required). In time, we expect that Class D airspace will be assigned. Until then, we suggest that all glider pilots flying through the Doncaster area and who have a radio licence call ATC (128.775 Mhz, callsign 'Doncaster Tower') for a FIS/ATZ penetration to give the controllers some idea of the volume of traffic using the open FIR around RHA. ATC are very keen to provide a service for traffic in the Finningley area.

SafetyCom. Further to the announcement of the new SafetyCom frequency, the CAA have issued a reminder that instructions regarding the use of the SafetyCom frequency are available in CAP413, the Radiotelephony Manual (chapter 4, page 30). CAP413 is available at <http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/CAP413.PDF>

GETMET. The CAA/Met Office publication, GetMet, which provides details of the Met Office's services for general aviation has moved to a two yearly production cycle. As such, there will be no 2005 edition of the publication and pilots are advised that the 2004 edition remains current. There is expected to be a 2006 edition.

GASCo Flight Safety Seminar. The GASCo 2005 flight safety seminar will be held at Farnborough on 24 February. The theme for the day will be 'Staying in Control.' More details can be found at http://www.gasco.org.uk/pages/events_summary.asp?i_ToolbarID=1&i_PageID=52

IGC Approved Flight Recorder Technical Specification. The new version of the Technical Specification for IGC-approved GNSS flight recorders has been published on the IGC web site, together with the Amendment List 7. See http://www.fai.org/gliding/gnss/tech_spec_gnss.asp

Medication, Alcohol and Flying. AIC 99/2004 (Pink72) provides useful guidance and information about the effects that various, even minor, medical conditions and a range of commonly used drugs may have on your ability to fly. It is well worth a read and can be found at <http://www.ais.org.uk/aes/pubs/aip/pdf/aic/4P072.PDF>

Delore and Fossett Set New World Record. New Zealander Terry Delore and American multi-millionaire adventurer Steve Fossett have broken the world outright straight-line soaring distance record with an epic flight of 15 hours along the Andes. Fossett and Delore landed their ASH-25 north of Mendoza late on December 4th after covering 2193km, adding 16.5km to the record set last year by Germany's Klaus Ohlmann, also in Argentina.

NASA Funding for Buoyancy Glider. NASA has awarded \$75,000 to Dr Craig Woolsey of Virginia Tech to validate the concept of a buoyancy glider. The glider would fly through thick, soupy atmospheres - such as those on Venus (sulphuric acid) and Titan (methane) - by expanding and contracting to increase or decrease buoyancy, causing the aircraft to go up and down. Shifting weights inside the fuselage would regulate horizontal movement. More details at http://www.nasa.gov/centers/goddard/news/topstory/2004/0930niac_phase1.html

VFR Charts. The following charts will be published in the near future:

1:500,000

S England & Wales, edition 31 – 17 March 2005

N England & N Ireland, edition 28 – 12 May 2005

Scotland, edition 23 – 9th June 2005 (NB Changed Info)

1:250,000

Central England & Wales, edition 6 – 14 April 2005

England East, edition 6 – 9 June 2005

England South, edition 9 – 17 Feb 2005

FAI / IGC Northern Hemisphere Gliding Weeks. As part of the FAI Centenary, glider pilots in the Northern Hemisphere will be invited to track their kilometers flown between 25 June and 10 July 2005. All flights will be tracked with the support of the On Line Contest (OLC), the highly successful world on-line gliding competition. More details will be provided later this month on the IGC website (<http://www.fai.org/gliding>). The total number of kilometers flown will be tallied and reported in October 2005, at the official celebration of the FAI Centenary in Paris. FAI Centenary diplomas will be awarded to the pilots from each hemisphere who have made the longest flight in any of the FAI classes of gliders.

AGM and Conference. A reminder that the BGA AGM and Conference will be held on 5th March at Eastwood Hall near Nottingham. Full details and a booking form can be downloaded from the BGA website - <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/notices/conference.htm>.