



Newsletter

British Gliding Association

BGA Newsletter January 2007

Vacancy for National Coach. The BGA invites applications for the remunerated position of BGA National Gliding Coach. The key role of the National Gliding Coach is to provide leadership within a devolved structure which will encompass all levels of instructor training together with the development of a structured development pathway from first flight to world class performance. Full details are available at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/documents/ncjobad.pdf>. Applications, with a CV, should be marked as confidential and sent to Pete Stratten at the BGA Office (pete@gliding.co.uk). Closing date for applications is 16th February 2007.

Mode S Consultation Response. The CAA has published a summary of the more than 3100 responses received. The summaries, which show widespread opposition to the CAA's proposals, can be viewed at <http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?categoryid=810&pagetype=90&pageid=4601>

UK Glider Airworthiness Requirements. The unavoidable and ongoing European legal situation that is pushing the BGA towards regulated glider certification is developing quite quickly. The BGA will be hosting a visit by an EASA Airworthiness Review Team this month to enable EASA to consider how they might grandfather BGA gliders to enable them to be issued with EASA Cs of A. Meanwhile, following discussion with the DfT and CAA during mid December, the DfT agreed that they will seek to extend the exemption from EASA regulation for the post 2003 BGA glider fleet. It is now expected that the exemption will be extended during January to enable the transition between September 2007 and September 2008 of pre and post 2003 EASA gliders. Further information will be made available once EASA have completed their review and, subsequently, the transition process has been detailed between the BGA and the CAA. Please monitor the website for the latest news.

Financial Administration Committee. At its December meeting, the BGA Executive Committee decided to create a separate Financial Administration Committee. Initially this will have three members – the BGA Treasurer, Chief Executive and Secretary – but the Executive Committee would like to appoint another member who can bring additional background and expertise to the committee. This person will have either a business or accountancy background. If you would like to contribute to this critical aspect of BGA operations, please would you contact the BGA Treasurer, John Birch - johnbirch@furneux.com

BGA Conference. A reminder that the 2007 BGA Conference, AGM and Awards Ceremony and Dinner takes place on Saturday 10th March at a new venue – the Helidon Lakes Hotel & Country Club, near Daventry. Details and on line booking are on the BGA web site at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/notices/conference.htm>

Charges for Air Navigation Services. European Commission regulation EC1794/2006 laying down a common charging scheme for air navigation services was published on 6th December. It states that all flights in aircraft with a maximum take off weight of less than 2 tonnes are exempted from en route charges for air navigation services. Europe Air Sports has worked hard over the last two years to achieve this excellent result.

AIS Info – Gliding Sites. NATS have informed us that they have added details of gliding sites to their operational database. This will enable clubs and members to prepare briefings using the unique indicator for their particular site. The code is based on the BGA trigraph, e.g. Lleweni Parc is XLPC and Aboyne is XABO. Pilots wishing to use the facility need to register on the AIS website <http://www.ais.org.uk>. To access these additional airfields they need to register for the 'Worldwide' service. Existing users who wish to change from Domestic to Worldwide service should email a request to aissupervisor@nats.co.uk. More information, including the list of gliding sites, is on the BGA web site at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/airspace>.

Threat to Airfields. We highlighted (February and April 2006) the threat to airfields from proposed changes to planning policy which would, if accepted, see the whole of an airfield being classed as brownfield land and, therefore, be vulnerable to development. Despite assurances to the contrary, the recently published Planning Policy Statement, PPS3 – Housing, still holds this threat. The BGA is liaising with the GAAC and other air sports to develop an appropriate high level response. At this stage the BGA is not asking clubs or individuals to make their own representations

Funding from the Club's Perspective. A number of clubs have recently contacted the BGA Development Team to discuss projects that they are working on. Given the challenges that the project process places on volunteers, the Development Team would like to put clubs in touch with one another so that they can ask questions, share experiences and provide mutual support. If you have experience (current, successful or otherwise) in this area and would like to be part of such a group, please email the BGA Development Officer, Alison Randle (alison@gliding.co.uk)

Women's Development Weekend. After the success of last year's event, another women pilots' development weekend has been arranged - at Nympsfield on 14/15 April. Pilots of all abilities and experience are welcome – even if you have not flown x-country or in comps yet. Bring your own glider, but there will also be a number of two-seater places available (list to date is a DG505, a Nimbus3DT and a Duo). The weekend will include a mix of flying and ground events/lectures. More details will be circulated nearer the time. More information from Liz Sparrow (ebertoya@iee.org)

LASORS. A new edition of the CAA LASORS (Licensing, Administration, and Standardisation; Operating Requirements and Safety) is now available. LASORS brings together in one book all the flight crew licensing information otherwise found in JAR-FCL, the UK ANO, AICs and the old CAPs 53/54. LASORS can be purchased from the Stationery Office (<http://www.tsoshop.co.uk>) price £13.99 or downloaded from http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/LASORS_07.pdf. Individual sections can also be viewed at <http://www.caa.co.uk/LASORS>

BGA Club Marketing Seminars. A few places are still available for the Club Marketing Seminar which is being held at Lasham on Saturday 3rd February (the Husbands Bosworth seminar is fully subscribed). If any club marketing official would like to attend, please contact keith@gliding.co.uk

European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation Youth Committee. ENGSO represents the voluntary sports sector at European level and is the main link for the CCPR with other European sports bodies and the European Commission. As the UK representative organisation, the CCPR is seeking a volunteer or professional from a UK sporting body to stand for election. Committee members should expect to travel abroad up to four times a year (sometimes at weekends) and to engage in the work programme of ENGSO Youth. There are 9 people in total on the Committee and the Royal Aero Club would like air sports to be represented. Anybody aged between 18 and 35 who is interested in this high profile role should contact the Royal Aero Club Secretary, Diana King, for more details (secretary@royalaeroclub.org).

Royal Aero Club Newsletter. The RAeC Autumn Newsletter is now available at <http://www.royalaeroclub.org/news06y.pdf>.

Eurocontrol Sporting and Recreational Aviation Conference. All of the presentations given at the recent Eurocontrol conference, including that of Europe Air Sports President Sir John Allison, are now available at http://www.eurocontrol.int/eatm/public/event/011206_eas.html.

Europe Air Sports Newsletter. The latest EAS Newsletter is now available at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/documents/easnewsletterdec06.doc>. This provides a useful update on regulatory issues that EAS is engaged in on our behalf.

CAA General Aviation Conference. The presentations from the General Aviation Conference are now available on the at www.caa.co.uk/gaconference