



Newsletter

British Gliding Association

BGA Newsletter January 2008

C of A for Newly Imported Gliders. As part of continuing BGA efforts to minimise the disruption to UK glider owners during the transition to the EASA airworthiness regime, we have reached agreement with the CAA that newly imported EASA gliders can be issued with a BGA C of A, valid until 28th September 2008, which will be transitioned into an EASA C of A with ARC (valid for 1 year) by the existing BGA transition process. The application for a BGA C of A complete with the EASA C of A transition application must be made via the BGA. Full details of this process will be available on the BGA website very soon. Note that this applies to both new and second hand newly imported EASA gliders, including self-sustainers.

Annex II Changes. We have been advised that the following aircraft types have been removed from the Annex II list - Scheibe Bergfalke (all variants), Spatz and L-Spatz, SZD 9 bis Bocian 1D and 1E. These types are now considered EASA aircraft and are subject to CAA registration and EASA CofA transition. The transition must be completed by 28/9/2008.

Letters of Agreement Updated. The Letters of Agreement page on the BGA website has been updated and now contains details of LOAs covering Luton TMA access (London GC), LTCA access during competitions (Lasham, Booker and Husbands Bosworth), and Lyneham and Brize Norton class D access during competitions (any host club). You can check these and all other current LOAs at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/airspace/loas.htm>

SGU FLARM Report. The Scottish Gliding Union has published a report of its FLARM trial, which ran from February to October of this year. As many BGA members will be interested in the trial findings, the report has been made available at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/safety/sguflarmreport.pdf>. The BGA's position is to support efforts that will develop potential users' understanding of all the operational implications of FLARM use.

Assistant Instructors Courses. The 2007 decision to run Assistant Instructors courses at different sites around the country has proven popular and we will be expanding the number of sites at which courses will be held in 2008. 11 courses will be take place between April and September 2008. An initial list, together with details of how to book is at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/bgacourses.htm>; further dates and venues will be added as they are confirmed.

CAA MGIR Groundschool. The annual BGA run ground school for the CAA Motor Glider Instructor Rating will be held at Husbands Bosworth between January 25th and 28th. The ground school is followed by 2 day/s 4 hours flying elements, arranged on an individual basis. More details from the BGA SRE(SLMG), Andy Miller - andy@asmiller.freeserve.co.uk

Marketing & Critical News Seminars. Places are still available for the seminars at Lasham on Sunday 3rd February (Club Marketing) and Saturday 16th February (Critical News Management). For more details, including how to book, see

<http://www.gliding.co.uk/clubmanagement>. The seminars being held at Husbands Bosworth are now fully subscribed.

Accountancy Assistance. The BGA Treasurer is looking for some assistance with the process of streamlining our central accounting processes. If there is a volunteer with an accountancy background, practical knowledge of accounting software, and who lives within a reasonable distance of the Leicester office (not vital), who would be prepared to give advice on this specific issue and a small amount of hands on time, please contact John Birch at johnbirch@furneux.com

GP08 Results. Congratulations to Steve Jones and Pete Harvey who finished 4th and 10th respectively at the FAI World Grand Prix Gliding Championships, which took place at Omarama in New Zealand just before Christmas. Steve led for much of the championship and went into the fifth and final day just one point behind New Zealand pilot Ben Flewett. Pete made up for a slow start by winning the final race but neither could match the eventual winner, Sebastian Kawa from Poland.

Alcohol Free Zone. The CAA reminds us that the common sense law relating to alcohol and aviation applies to everybody involved in operating or controlling aircraft – not just to pilots.

Sporting Code Update. The FAI have published an update to Annex A of the Sporting Code. As well as being the source of rules for world and continental soaring championships, Annex A also includes the updated IGC handicap list. You can download the document at http://www.fai.org/gliding/sporting_code/sc3a

Airfield Security. The recent theft and subsequent damage to a glider from an airfield in the south of England should serve as a reminder that, unfortunately, our aircraft are not immune to risk from third parties whilst on the ground. Glider owners and all club members are advised to take all necessary steps to secure the safety of gliders and trailers and to remain vigilant to any suspicious activities on and around the airfield.

Met Course. Lasham is running its Advanced Met for Glider Pilots course again this year. The two day practical course is designed to meet the specific needs of active glider pilots who want to take their understanding of soaring weather further. The cost is £89 and dates for 2008 are 19/20 January and 9/10 February. More details at <http://www.lasham.org.uk/learning/met.asp> Please note that this course assumes a reasonable level of meteorological knowledge, and is unsuitable for anyone who has not yet passed the bronze theory paper or equivalent.

GASIL. The latest edition of GASIL, the CAA General Aviation Safety Information Leaflet is available at http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/srg_gad_gasil4of2007.pdf

EAS Newsletter. The latest Europe Air Sports newsletter is available on their website at <http://www.europe-airsports.fai.org/node/357#attachments>

FAI Young Artists Contest. The 2008 FAI Young Artists contest focuses on the theme of Aviation Stamps. Young people are invited to design their own aviation stamp to express in a painting their aviation experience, their dreams for flying, to evoke the excitement of flight or celebrate aviation achievements in their country. Full details are at http://www.fai.org/education/young_artists_contest/rules

BGA Conference. A reminder to get the date of the BGA conference into your new diaries. It will be held on 8 March at Hellidon Lakes Golf & Country Club, near Daventry (the same venue as last year). The format of the event will be different to previous years and we are confident that there will be something for everyone. More details will follow shortly.