



Newsletter

British Gliding Association

BGA Newsletter June 2007

Temporary Restricted Airspace. As part of our efforts to ensure that no glider pilot enters areas of Temporary Restricted Airspace – RA(T)s – we have enhanced the airspace section of the BGA web site to provide an at-a-glance calendar summarising all areas affected by RA(T)s on any given day. The calendar links through to the relevant Aeronautical Information Circulars that provide definitive details of the RA(T). Bookmark this link now and use it regularly:

<http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/airspace/rats.php>. Hopefully this will prove a useful aid to the safety of all but it is not a substitute for checking NOTAMs before every flight.

Other RA(T)s. The CAA has announced that it will be establishing additional temporary airspace restrictions covering areas of south east London and Kent during the UK leg of the Tour de France 2007 on 8 July and for the Royal International Air Tattoo at Fairford between 10th and 15th July. At the time of writing, the relevant AICs have not been published. However, <http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/14/PN2707TourDeFrance.pdf> shows the Tour de France restricted areas and the times of activation.

Low Flying. All pilots are reminded of the advice recently issued by the BGA about the approach and landing phase of flight. If you are not current on this advice, please review it at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/safety/bulletins/pilot-briefing-guidance.htm>

British Team Manager. The British Gliding Team Manager, Brian Spreckley, intends to step down from this voluntary role during 2007. If you feel that you are able to contribute to the continuing success of the British Gliding Team in this voluntary leadership role by maintaining the focus on excellence and continuing to develop our strong competitive philosophy, we would really like to hear from you. Please forward a brief CV including covering letter headed 'Team Manager' to Russell Cheetham, Chairman of the BGA Competitions and Awards Committee At the BGA office. Alternatively, Email via pete@gliding.co.uk

Team Sponsorship Manager. The British Gliding Team will also shortly require the assistance of a Sponsorship Manager. If you have the appropriate experience, skills and time available to join the British Team in this important voluntary role, please let us know. Please forward a brief CV including covering letter headed 'Sponsorship Manager' to Russell Cheetham (details above).

Juniors Entries. The Junior Championships entry list is now available. If you have not entered yet, you can still apply. If you have entered in previous years, apply online at <https://www.gliding.co.uk/bgashop/applications/juniors/step1.php>. If you have not entered before, you need to print out the form at

www.gliding.co.uk/forms/juniorsentry.pdf, get sponsor (preferably your CFI) to sign it, and post the completed form to the BGA.

Motor Glider Information on Web Site. The Tugging section of the BGA web site has been expanded to include information about motor glider operations (and has been renamed 'Power Flying' in the process). The first item to be added is the first edition of the BGA Motor Glider Handbook – see

<http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/documents/mghandbooked1.pdf>. MG pilots (and others interested in this area) can also now subscribe to receive Email alerts related to this subject at <https://gliding.co.uk/subscriptions>

BGA Gold Medal for David Roberts. David Roberts, the BGA's immediate past Chairman has been awarded the Association's Gold Medal. David, who began gliding in 1969 and was first elected to the BGA Executive Committee in 1998, has overseen many new BGA initiatives. He has led and continues to lead the UK's team in numerous meetings with EASA and other bodies seeking to secure from EASA and from the CAA the freedom for sporting and recreational aviation to govern itself without undue red tape and European interference. You can read the citation for the award at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/documents/drcitation.pdf>. The award was presented to David by the current BGA Chairman, Patrick Naegeli at a private ceremony on 18th May.

Air League Awards. The Air League made awards to David Roberts and to Leigh Wells at their Annual Reception on May 22nd. HRH The Duke of Edinburgh presented David with the League's Jeffrey Quill Medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the development of air-mindedness in Britain's youth and for his continuing work in the European regulatory sphere. Leigh Wells, winner of the Standard Class at last year's world championships, was presented with a framed scroll for his outstanding contribution to gliding and aviation and for his personal contribution in representing the UK in international gliding competitions.

GPS Jamming Trials. GPS jamming trials will be held on behalf of the MOD on 7 and 8 June, near Portreath in Cornwall. Predictions show that the affected area will cover a 6nm radius from the transmitter site. More details are in AIC 49/2007 (Pink 117) available at <http://www.ais.org.uk/aes/pubs/aip/pdf/aic/4P117.PDF>

VFR Chart Amendment News-feed. The CAA has added a internet-based news-feed facility to the VFR Charting section its website in order to simplify the task of updating CAA VFR charts. This service provides information on all chart amendments. Subscribers can choose to receive the latest information either by Email or via RSS feeds. To subscribe to this free service please go to www.caa.co.uk/subscriptions.

Badge Claims. Although any point can be used as a turnpoint when submitting a badge claim with logger evidence, it would greatly help the BGA Badge Secretary if pilots planning badge flights could try to only use official BGA turnpoints as this makes checking claims much easier. If you do use a point that is not on the official BGA list, you must include its latitude and longitude in the declaration. The BGA turnpoint list is at <http://www.spsys.demon.co.uk/turningpoints.htm>

Credits Towards the Issue of BGA Instructor Ratings. Holders of any non-BGA, but BGA recognised, gliding instructor rating must be tested by a BGA approved examiner prior to the issue of an equivalent BGA instructor rating. The pilot must hold a BGA GPL and, following a test by a BGA examiner, must submit a

completed BGA instructor form 1 to the BGA office along with a photocopy of the pilot's existing instructor rating.

Club Good Practice Awards. Share your club's good practices by posting details of systems, ideas or projects (small or large) that have delivered results for you on our website. Submit details by 15th July to be considered for the BGA Club Good Practice Sharing and Best Practices Awards and the chance to win either a free place on an instructors course for one of your members or a week's use of the BGA's Duo Discus X for your club (subject to availability). For more details and to register your entry, go to

<http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/clubmanagement/best-practice.htm>. The closing date for this year's awards is 15th July 2007.

BGA Instructor Course. Places are still available on the following BGA Instructors Course:- Bicester, 23rd June – 1st July (IC8) For more details please contact debbie@gliding.co.uk

Vintage Gliding on TV. The VGC Rally at Southdown GC has had some great TV publicity with both BBC South Today and Meridian Tonight featuring the event. The BBC clip is no longer available on line, but the Meridian clip is and is really worth watching with some great archive footage. You can view (until Thursday 7th) at <http://www.itvlocal.com/meridian/news/?void=70660>

World Air Games. The FAI has announced that Turin has been chosen to host the World Air Games 2009. The Games will be held from the 7th to 13th June 2009. The World Air Games is the biggest gathering of air sports in the world and brings together World Champions and top competitors in ten different air sport disciplines, including gliding.

Met Courses. The next two Lasham organised Advanced Met for Soaring Pilots courses will be held on 13/14 October and 10/11 November. More details, including prices and how to book are at <http://www.lasham.org.uk/learning/met.asp>

Smoking Ban. From 1 July, smoking will be outlawed in virtually all enclosed public spaces and workplaces in England. Failure to display no-smoking signs could result in a fixed penalty notice of £200. Managers of smoke-free premises and vehicles will have legal responsibilities to prevent people from smoking, with a fine of up to £2,500 for failure to do so. Guides for organisations, as well as signs (which premises will be required to display), can be found at www.smokefreenengland.co.uk.

Guild of Aviation Artists. The Guild's 2007 exhibition will be held at the Mall Galleries, London between 23rd and 29th July 2007. More details are at <http://www.gava.org.uk>