



Newsletter

British Gliding Association

BGA Newsletter March 2008

Mode S Open Meetings. The BGA has asked a number of clubs to facilitate open meetings for all air sport pilots and the CAA regarding the plans for mode S as detailed in the current phase 2 consultation document. This is a great opportunity for our members to engage with the rulemakers, further clarify our airspace needs and to develop personal views on how to respond to the consultation. As such, the BGA urges ALL pilots to try to attend one of the meetings. The evening meetings are, subject to some detail planning, as follows: Portmoak (Scottish Gliding Union) Thursday 20th March; Lasham Thursday or Friday 3rd/4th April (date to be confirmed); Pocklington (Wolds GC) Friday 11th April. Additionally, the LAA (the new name for the PFA) are hosting a similar event for all pilots at their Turweston site during the day on Saturday 15th March. The BGA is planning to be present.

Detailed information regarding each meeting venue will be published on the BGA web site when available. Information regarding the BGA position on the mode S phase 2 consultation will also be published in due course. Details of the CAA consultation, which closes at the end of May, can be viewed at <http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=1698&pagetype=90&pageid=9307>.

RA(T)s. Please would all pilots note that areas of temporary restricted airspace, RA(T)s, are established around the UK from time to time to accommodate special events, fast jet displays, military testing programmes, etc. As we near the start of the spring, the number of RA(T)s will increase and it is critically important that these are respected. As in 2007, the BGA will provide an summary of promulgated RA(T)s on the website at <https://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/airspace/rats.php>. We will try to keep this summary up to date; however, pilots should remember that the only definitive listing is on the AIS web site at <http://www.ais.org.uk>.

FAI Lilienthal Medal Awarded to Derek Piggott. The BGA is delighted to announce that Derek Piggott has been awarded the FAI's Lilienthal Medal. The award is made to reward a particularly remarkable performance in gliding, or eminent services to the sport of gliding over a long period of time. Derek becomes only the sixth British recipient of the award, which was established in 1938.

Terminal Control North – Proposed Changes to Airspace. National Air Traffic Services (NATS) have commenced the formal consultation on proposed changes to airspace over parts of London, southern and eastern England. This airspace is called 'Terminal Control North' (TCN) and is amongst the most complex airspace in the world. You are invited to visit www.nats.co.uk/TCNconsultation where detailed information on the proposals is available, along with the full consultation document, a downloadable information DVD and an online questionnaire for submitting feedback. The consultation began on 21st February and closes on 22nd May. The BGA airspace team have had informal meetings with NATS over the last two years to highlight our concerns and put forward our ideas over this proposal and clubs in the proposed areas of change have been kept informed.

Airprox Report. The latest report of the UK Airprox Board (UKAB) has been published. It covers the 75 incidents reported by pilots and air traffic controllers between January and June 2007 that were subject to full investigation. The report is at <http://www.airproxboard.org.uk/docs/423/ukabbook18.pdf>

Child Protection Awareness Training. The next Child Protection Awareness training session has been arranged for Sunday 6th April, at Aston Down. The day will begin at 9.30am (for 10am) and will finish at 1pm. This is a certificated session which will take into account the latest up-to-date legislation and information as well as best practice for children and vulnerable adults within gliding. To book, please contact Phil Burton on 07799 831504 or 01986 895314. (Phil will also be running a workshop during the afternoon of the conference).

Women Pilots' Development Weekend. A reminder that another event (not limited to women – men can also apply!) is being held at Sutton Bank on 5/6th April. All pilots who have flown in a rated competition (regionals or nationals) and who want to improve their skills are invited. Run in conjunction with the BGA coaching operation, the weekend will offer a ground school and practical flying designed to improve competitiveness. This is a great opportunity to learn from current British team members, who will be supporting the event. There are only 25 places available so, if you want to hone your skills ready for the new competition season with BGA coaches and members of the British gliding team – still the world's number one – as well as, hopefully, enjoying some good flying in the process, contact Liz Sparrow (ebertoya@ieee.org) to book your place.

Military Civil Air Safety Day. The first Military Civil Air Safety Day (MCASD) of 2008 will take place at RAF Lossiemouth on Thursday 29th May. The aim is to promote closer ties between General Aviation Pilots and MoD Aviation, focusing on the shared use of the lower airspace. There will be a series of presentations throughout the day concerning local airspace issues, Airprox reporting and Distress & Diversion during the morning, and matters of interest to General Aviation in the afternoon. Places are limited at this very popular event, so early registration is advisable. There will be a number of 'fly-in' places available. Registration forms can be obtained from the CAA website <http://www.caa.co.uk>

Flying in the USA. A document providing useful information for pilots considering flying in the USA has been published on the BGA web site. It can be downloaded from <http://www.gliding.co.uk/forms/FlyingGlidersintheUSAFinal.pdf>.

LASORS. The 2008 edition of the CAA LASORS (Licensing, Administration, and Standardisation; Operating Requirements and Safety) is now available. LASORS brings together in one book all flight crew licensing information otherwise found in JAR-FCL, the UK ANO, AICs and the old CAPs 53/54. LASORS can be bought from the Stationery Office (<http://www.tsoshop.co.uk>) price £14.99 or downloaded from [http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/LASORS2008\(Bookmarked\).pdf](http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/LASORS2008(Bookmarked).pdf). Individual sections can also be viewed at <http://www.caa.co.uk/LASORS>

BGA Conference. Don't forget that the BGA Sporting Conference, the BGA Governance Conference, and the Annual Awards Dinner are being held this weekend at Hellidon Lakes, near Daventry. Admission to the conference is free and there will be something of interest for all glider pilots. For details, see <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/notices/conference.htm>