



Newsletter

British Gliding Association

BGA Newsletter
May 2009

Safety

Charts - 1. The BGA would like to remind pilots of the need when operating beyond the circuit to fly with a current and appropriate VFR chart. We recommend that, where available, pilots buy the latest VFR chart from their gliding club. If that option is unavailable, a list of CAA recommended stockists as well as updates that effect published versions of charts is available at <http://www.caa.co.uk/charts>. Pilots are also reminded of the need to update airspace software in use in GPS driven moving map devices. Further advice regarding use of GPS is available at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/airspace/gps.htm>

Charts - 2. The new Northern England and Northern Ireland 1:500,000 VFR chart (edition 32) will be available on 4 June from the usual stockists.

Regulatory

Glider Transition Update. The exemption allowing EASA gliders to fly on a BGA C of A has been extended to 28 September 2009. The conditions have, however, been revised. Only EASA gliders that are CAA registered and with a transition pack accepted by the BGA prior to 1 May 2009 may continue to operate on the renewed BGA C of A. Any transitioning gliders for which transition packs were received and accepted after 30th April will **not** be issued with a BGA C of A and cannot fly until the transition process has been completed and the CAA has issued the EASA C of A and ARC.

BGA

BGA Chief Engineer/ ARC Signatory Training. Two further seminars have been arranged – at Lasham on 8 May and Husbands Bosworth on 15 May. These will be the last two seminars in the current round. Full details are at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/technical/documents/chief-engineer-training-booking-2009.doc>

Instructor Courses. As a result of cancellations, we have two places available on Assistant Instructor courses, as follows: 9-17 May at Portmoak and 15-26 June (weekdays only) at RAFGSA Halton. For more information and to book these last few places for 2009, contact Debbie Carr at the BGA office: debbie@gliding.co.uk

Office Opening Hours. With effect from Tuesday 5th May 2009, the BGA Office will be open for business from 8am until 4pm Monday to Friday.

Club Best Practice Awards. Those who attended the recent Chairmen's Conference will know that an award, in the form of a free place on an BGA instructors course, was presented to Highland Gliding Club, with second prizes of bottles of bubbly to the Ulster and Cambridge Clubs. Awards are made for ideas practised and tested at member clubs and recommended as capable of being introduced for the benefit of members at other BGA clubs. Further applications are now invited and full details appear on the Good Practice Sharing page of the BGA web site: <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/clubmanagement/best-practice.htm>

BGA Chairmen's Conference and Treasurers' Forum (November 2009). The date and venue for the next event is Saturday 14th November at Woodside, Kenilworth. The day is likely to follow the usual format. Please put the date in your diaries and we'll let you have details about the event, agenda and how to book later in the year. If you have suggestions for topics or feedback from previous events, please email alison@gliding.co.uk

Club Management

Funding Opportunity. Sport England's £10million Rural Communities themed round of funding opened on 24th April and will close on 30th June. It aims to help people access sports in rural locations, support continued access to sport and develop talent in rural areas. You can find further information at http://funding.sportengland.org/funding_programmes/rural_communities1.aspx

General Funding Assistance. For information and support with project planning and funding applications contact Alison Randle - alison@gliding.co.uk. There is also a post containing more details together with suggestions for projects on the Club Chairmen's Forum www.gliding.co.uk/forums If you are a Club Chairman but do not currently have access to the forum, please contact Alison.

General

New EAS President. David Roberts, a past Chairman of the BGA and an active glider pilot, has been appointed as the President of Europe Air Sports, to succeed Sir John Allison. Europe Air Sports is an association of the European National Aero Clubs and European Air Sports Unions, whose objective is to co-ordinate and represent the views of these bodies concerning regulatory matters in Europe. As such, it represents some 700,000 sport and recreational airspace users.

RAeS Lecture. The Royal Aeronautical Society is hosting a lecture by Yves Rossy on the 26th May. Many will remember Yves from his jet-wing flight across the English Channel in September 2008. The lecture will describe the 10-year wing development programme and the many technical and other preparations before going on to describe the actual flight. There is no charge to attend, but you should reserve your place by Emailing conference@aerosociety.com. More details at <http://www.aerosociety.com/conference/PDFs/GAGMay09.pdf>.