



Newsletter

British Gliding Association

BGA Newsletter September 2009

Safety

See and Avoid. Recent events have reinforced the importance of keeping a good look-out. The CAA has published a Flight Operations Communication (FODCOM) about this - <http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/20090817FOD200927SeeAndAvoid.pdf>. This refers to a Safety Sense leaflet, written for GA pilots. This recommended reading is at http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/ga_srg_09webSSL13.pdf

AAIB Thanks. Following their request for logger traces and other information after the tragic collision near Didcot in June, the AAIB has asked us to publish the following:

“Thank you for broadcasting our request for information to the gliding community regarding this sad accident. We had a very positive response and are most grateful to all those glider pilots volunteering information. As with many of the accidents we investigate, the cause is never straightforward and the 'solution' even less so. The result of this investigation will be published in due course when the report will be available on our website www.aaib.gov.uk for all to see. In the meantime I wish to reassure you and your colleagues that it is always our intention to improve safety for all airspace users, regardless of type flown”.

GPS Jamming Trials. The MOD has announced a series of GPS jamming trials. The first will be around the Sennybridge training area (D203 in mid-Wales) from 7 to 18 September. There will be another over the sea south of Cornwall on 9/10 September, and finally another in East Sussex on 14/15 October.

GASIL. The latest edition of the CAA General Aviation Safety Information Leaflet (GASIL) is available at http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/srg_gasil07of2009.pdf

Regulatory

End of Interim ARC Renewal Process. The interim process for BGA ARC renewals has come to an end and the BGA CAMO can now only accept renewed Airworthiness Review Certificates (ARC) from authorised BGA inspectors who are also ARC signatories. To find a BGA ARC signatory please visit the Airworthiness Contacts page on the BGA web site - <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/technical/contacts.htm>.

Use of Gliding Frequencies. The CAA allocates a number of frequencies to gliding and principally to communicate with gliders in the UK. The use of these is determined by the BGA. Pilots are reminded that 129.975 is to be used as a common glider field frequency within 10 NM of gliding sites that do not have their own allocated frequency, up to a height of 3000ft. Use of this frequency is intended to improve situational awareness around gliding sites, leaving other frequencies for starting, lead & follow, in-flight reporting, etc. If you are unsure about correct use of gliding frequencies, details are in BGA Laws & Rules under Recommended Practice 34.

BGA

Junior Gliding Role. The BGA is seeking a Junior Gliding Development Officer for approx one year to be involved in all areas of BGA Junior Gliding development. This is a flexible, part-time post (around 20 hours per week). For details and an application form, see <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/news.htm#JGDO>. Applications close on 11 September.

Chief Engineer / ARC Signatory Seminar. We have a limited number of spaces on a Chief Engineer / ARC Signatory training seminar on 6 September at Lasham. Current BGA inspectors who have not previously attended and where there is a clear geographical shortage of ARC signatories may apply to attend. Please contact the CTO at cto@gliding.co.uk with your name, inspector number and reason you wish to attend. The limited spaces will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Assistant Instructor Course. Due to cancellations we now have one place available on each of I/C11 (12 – 20 Sept, Lasham) and I/C12 (26 Sept - 4 Oct, Gransden Lodge). Please contact Debbie at the BGA office for more details (debbie@gliding.co.uk).

BGA Junior Strategy – Mini Conference. Husbands Bosworth Saturday 10th October 2009. Find out what's been happening, come and tell us what your club's been doing, and discover opportunities for your club to get involved.

A Badge Claims. A new application form for Gliding Certificates with the A Badge endorsement is available at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/forms/abadgeclaim.pdf>. From 1st October, applications will only be accepted on the new form. Please would clubs destroy older copies of these forms and, ideally, ensure that they always download the latest version of all BGA forms from the web site as required.

2010 BGA Conference and AGM. Our conference, AGM and annual dinner will be held on 20th March at the Barcelo Daventry Hotel. There will be something for everybody – put the date in your diary now.

Visitors at the 15M Nationals. Emma McClarkin MEP opened the 15m national championships at Aston Down. During her visit, Emma, a Conservative MEP for the East Midlands, met competitors, flew the BGA simulator and discussed a number of topical issues with David Roberts, Chairman of the Royal Aero Club and Pete Stratten, BGA CEO. Later during the same competition, Sallie Barker of the Central Council for Physical Recreation spent some time meeting competitors and watched the grid. The CCPR and the BGA are working together on a number of BGA development projects.

BingoLotto. BingoLotto launches on Sunday 13 September on Virgin 1 at 7pm. The show, hosted by Ulrika Jonsson, combines live bingo games with the thrill of a lottery draw. By buying a £2 gamecard at any Tesco store, you not only get the chance to win one of the big cash and other prizes, you will be helping gliding. 20% of all revenues will go to good causes, with the main beneficiaries being members of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and of the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR), including the BGA.

Competitions

FAI Sporting Code. An update to this comes into effect on October 1st. You can download a copy from http://www.fai.org/gliding/sporting_code