

Safety

Military Civil Aviation Safety Day. RAF Halton is hosting a Military Civil Air Safety Day on Thursday 3rd November. The theme of the day will be the prevention of mid-air collisions and infringements – both very pertinent to the RAF Halton area which is surrounded by some of the busiest airspace in the UK. There will be a full programme of safety-related presentations, static exhibitions and the opportunity to see at first hand some of the activities that take place at Halton. GASCo will process all registrations for the event and act as the point of contact - please do not contact Halton directly. The closing date for all applications is Friday 14th October. More details are at <http://www.gasco.org.uk/news/general/news.aspx?p=1037697>

Airprox. The annual Airprox Board's magazine has been published (available at <http://www.airproxboard.org.uk/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=4294970139>) and provides interesting reading for all pilots. In this issue, there is a feature article devoted to gliding sites which, among other things, reinforces the advice given earlier (August 2016 Newsletter) to make sure your 'all clear above and behind' check is thorough – and please LISTEN for any unexpected aircraft noise too. You may well hear that low flying helicopter before you see it.

Airspace

TAG Farnborough. We highlighted in the last newsletter that TAG Farnborough Airport has now decided that it wishes to control more lower airspace than identified in its 2014 consultation. As a result, TAG Farnborough has begun an additional consultation to the proposal submitted to the CAA in July 2015 that "will be limited in scope and area". The additional proposal would have a devastating impact on Southdown GC by effectively cutting off that site to gliders returning from the west. Lasham gliders and others flying in the south east will have similar problems. The proposal will also result in significant levels of new noise pollution for villages and towns under revised flightpaths. Details, with diagrams of the proposed additional airspace and its impact on the wider proposed airspace (option 36) are on the TAG Farnborough website at <https://www.consultation.tagfarnborough.com/>.

The BGA will, of course, be responding to the new consultation. However, if very few responses are submitted, TAG Farnborough will be able to report that there is very little objection. We strongly recommend that pilots who fly in the south east also respond to the consultation, which is open until 2nd November. More background is on our TAG Farnborough ACP page at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/airspace/tagfarnborough-acp/>.

Military Exercises. Exercise Joint Warrior will take place between Saturday 8th and Friday 21st October. Intense aerial activity will take place, predominantly in Scotland (including the Western Isles, North-West Approaches and the Borders), North Wales, North-East England (including Spadeadam EWTR) and over the North Sea. Aircraft will engage in high-energy combat manoeuvres and may be unable to comply with the Rules of the Air. Details will be NOTAMed and more details are in AIC Yellow 076/2016 available on the NATS site at <http://www.nats-uk.ead-it.com>. Also a reminder that the Royal Navy is hosting a large scale demonstration of the latest unmanned system technologies, including air, surface and sub-surface vehicles and

sensors from 3rd to 21st October. There will be a series of Temporary Danger Areas covering parts of the west coast of Scotland and Outer Hebrides. In addition to AIC Yellow 074/2016 (available as above), and NOTAM, the Royal Navy has links to other information at <http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/uw16>.

BGA

Club Management Conference including Treasurers' Forum, CFI Forum, Technical Workshop, and the inaugural Juniors Conference. Are you involved in managing a gliding club? Then this event on Saturday 12th November at Highgate House, Northamptonshire is for you! Informative, useful and relevant to chairmen, managers, treasurers, CFIs, technical officers, and anyone involved in running junior gliding activities or university gliding clubs. Details and booking forms are available at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/club-development/26112-2/>

Club Maintainer Courses. There is a series of Club Maintainer courses running over the next few months. This is part of an initiative to support those involved in helping to maintain gliders at their club. It's also an ideal step for anyone planning to become a BGA inspector. The course aims to give more knowledge (especially about the unavoidable paperwork) and confidence at a practical level whilst building experience performing permitted pilot/owner maintenance. On completion of the course, maintainers will be able to work in compliance with the legal pilot/owners maintenance framework and be able to judge themselves if they have the relevant skills to perform all pilot/owner maintenance tasks. Details of venues and dates are at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/airworthiness-2/courses/>

Regulatory

Grant Aid for 8.33kHz Radio Equipage. The CAA previously announced that EU funding has been secured to assist GA aircraft owners with the equipage of 8.33kHz radios. Details are at <https://www.caa.co.uk/General-aviation/Aircraft-ownership-and-maintenance/8-33-kHz-radios/>. The CAA has now advised us that claims will be accepted covering equipage from 16th February 2016 through to 31st December 2017. As the total funding available is fixed, the CAA is urging people to go ahead with equipage sooner rather than wait. Whilst the exact criteria are still to be defined, we know that all claims will need to be backed-up with dated receipts and serial number of the radio system. So hang onto the paperwork. As soon as we know more, we'll advise through the normal channels.

Competitions and Cross-Country

Inter-Club League Final. The re-arranged final of the 2016 inter-Club League was held at Husbands Bosworth over the August bank holiday weekend. Unfortunately, perhaps because of the late change of date and venue, only three qualifying clubs were able to participate. After a scrub on the Saturday, the contest was decided on the Sunday with hosts, the Gliding Centre, winning for the second consecutive year. Essex & Suffolk GC were second with Wyvern GC third.

Notable Flights. A bit of island hopping was enjoyed last month. German visitors Christof Maul and Thomas Seiler went over the sea to Skye during a 532km flight from Aboyne in their Arcus. However, this was just an appetizer before an epic flight 4 days later which took them all the way to the west coast of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides. Wow!

General

Liz's Wing Walk. Liz Pike from the BGA office survived her wing walk last week to raise funds for the Caroline Trust. Thanks to her generous sponsors... and to those who are still planning to contribute! There are lots of young pilots who need the support.

<https://mydonate.bt.com/events/carolinetrust/338411>

Flyer Live! Exhibition. The BGA will be exhibiting at the Flyer Live! Exhibition, which will be held at Telford on the 2nd and 3rd December. This is the biggest UK aviation event held indoors and, as well as the trade stands, there is a programme of seminars covering a range of aviation topics. Tickets on the door cost £12.50 (under 18s accompanied by an adult get in free).

However, BGA club members can benefit from a concessionary rate of £6 when booked online in advance (plus booking fee). Details of the show and online ticket purchase are at

<http://www.flyerlive.co.uk>