

Airspace

Inverness Airport ACP. Thanks to everybody who responded to the latest Farnborough airspace consultation. The consultation about another disproportionate airspace 'grab' – this time at Inverness airport – closes this weekend, 6th November. Some of the airspace sought (a mixture of Class D, E and TMZ) is very close to Feshiebridge and would severely impact the east side route up to the north of Scotland for cross-country flights. Please consider responding if you have an interest in flying in the Scottish Highlands. Full details are in the consultation document at http://www.hial.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Issue3_1-HIAL-ACP-Additional-Consultation-Document.pdf. Note that the chart shown in the Executive Summary only shows some of the proposed new airspace – the full chart is not shown until page 20! The BGA and others have been engaged on this for some time and have, of course, submitted responses. Your response may be the one which sways the final decision on this matter. Thank you for taking the time to respond.

Removal of Restricted Airspace. On a more positive note, the CAA has started to deliver on its intention to reduce some unnecessary areas of restricted airspace by permanently removing the Prohibited/Restricted Area designations around five former nuclear facilities, freeing up more Class G. The change came into force on Monday 10th October and follows the decommissioning of the nuclear plants - Harwell, Bradwell, Chapelcross, Trawsfynydd and Winfrith. The NOTAM detail is available at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/?p=27479>

BGA

Club Management Conference - Saturday, 12th November. The provisional agenda has been published and circulated to clubs and delegates (see <https://members.gliding.co.uk/mgmt-conference> for full details). To date we have 142 club delegates from 42 clubs and the day will be our busiest yet. The topics are wide-ranging and based partly on your requests and areas that we've been working on. Treasurers will, as usual, be looking at various financial management issues, led by Paul Jessop. The CFIs will be led by Mike Fox. Gordon MacDonald, the BGA CTO, is running an update and briefing session for club technical officers and inspectors. Dave Latimer will be running the Club Management part of the conference. As well as the important news items and updates on safety we will be sharing some of the good practices and initiatives from member clubs and participation groups.

The Juniors Conference. Led by the UK Junior Gliding team, this will run as part of the Club Management Conference. The event is about the gliding for juniors which takes place at gliding clubs. It is for juniors who glide at gliding clubs and also for the non-junior-aged people who support, oversee and organise these activities. Juniors are infiltrating every aspect of British gliding, energising and inspiring the entire sport. We all know that there is a lot going on across the country, and this conference is to give time to reflect and discuss what works well, what could be improved and to consider the future possibilities. If your club hasn't yet booked in a juniors representative, please do so as soon as possible.

Instructor Coach Seminar. We will be running a seminar aimed at senior instructors who are currently, or who wish to begin, coaching instructors towards the B module. The seminar will be at Dunstable on Sunday 5th February. More details are on the BGA web site at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/courses/bga-instructor-coach-seminar/>. Bookings should be made with Debbie Carr in the BGA office - debbie@gliding.co.uk or 0116 289 2956.

Assistant Instructor Courses. Due to high demand we have added additional the following BGA Assistant Instructor modules to the BGA course calendar: A Module - 5th/6th November; C Module - 19th/20th November. Both courses will be held at London GC, Dunstable. More details are at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/courses/bga-assistant-instructor-courses/>. Bookings via Debbie Carr, details as above.

EASA FI and Examiner Refresher Seminars. A two day FI(S) refresher seminar has been scheduled for 14/15th January at Ruforth. Bookings as above.

2017 BGA Conference. The 2017 conference, exhibition and dinner will be held the Nottingham Belfry Hotel on Saturday 25th February. Tickets for the Gala Awards Dinner are now available online. Please book soon to avoid disappointment. Details of the event plus information about hotel bookings, as well as lunch and dinner reservations, are on the conference web page at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/conference>

Sailplane and Gliding

New Web Site. The new S&G web site is now up and running. There are classic articles available for download, details of the current edition, and areas where you can subscribe and manage your subscription. The site also provides a permanent online home for the Wally Kahn / Peter Redshaw library which provides a unique and fascinating resource to anybody interested in gliding throughout the years. The library contains back issues of Sailplane & Gliding and its predecessor magazines up to 2009 and copies of all gliding books from Wally's collection which are either out of copyright or for which the copyright holders have granted permission. The site is at <https://www.sailplaneandgliding.co.uk>

Regulatory

Carriage of Documents. The CAA has confirmed the requirements for the carriage of documents for aircraft operating under Part-NCO (note that gliders are exempt from these requirements). The detail can be found in CAA information Notice IN-2016/093 available at <http://publicapps.caa.co.uk/docs/33/InformationNotice2016093.pdf>

Competitions and Cross-Country

2017 Nationals. Dates and venues for the 2017 Nationals have now been confirmed. The full 2017 calendar is:

Club/18m Classes: 17th-25th June, Husbands Bosworth

15m/Open Classes: 22nd-30th July, Aston Down

20m Multi-Seat/Standard Classes: 12th-20th August, Tibenham

Juniors: 19th-27th August, venue TBA

Note the change of venue and dates for the 18m class which will now run concurrently with the Club Class at Husbands Bosworth 2017 with competitor limits set at 40 pilots for the Club Class and 25 pilots for the 18m Class. Details of other competitions in 2017 are on the Competitions page of the BGA web site at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/competitions/>

Trophy Nominations. As we approach the year-end close of the BGA Ladder, the BGA Competitions Committee invites pilots who believe they have completed a flight qualifying for a BGA trophy to apply. Some trophies are automatically selected from the BGA Ladder, but there are always some flights that are hidden within larger flights. The committee also seeks nominations for the Phil Lever Trophy (most promising junior pilot) and the John Hands Trophy (awarded for outstanding support for the organising or running of competitions). The complete set of rules can be found at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/library/bga/bga-trophy-rules/> and <http://www.bgaladder.co.uk/Rules.asp>. The current trophy holders are at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/competitions/bga-trophy-winners/>. Please send applications to compscommittee@gliding.co.uk

Notable Flights. Pilots flying in the hills made some great flights in October (and on the first two days of November). 500k+ flights were achieved by Alastair Mutch (628.3km at 125.9km/h and 561.4km at 125.0km/h), Sant Cervantes (579.4km at 100.3km/h and 502.0km at 110.6km/h), Roy Wilson (530.9km at 113.5km/h), Roy Garden (523.4km at 88.2km/h and 518.4km at 88.9km/h) and John Williams (536.2km at 124.3km/h). Too many flights reaching over 20,000ft were recorded to list here but the biggest height gains were logged by Jordan Richards (20316ft - max 23790ft), Mark Lawrence-Jones (19693ft - max 21785ft), and Nigel Mallendar (19189ft - max 22594ft). Special mention must be made of Zoe Mallam's height gain of 17703ft. If ratified, this will represent the youngest ever diamond badge claim in the UK at just 16 years and 6 months. Full details of all these flights and more are on the BGA Ladder site at <https://www.bgaladder.co.uk>.

General

Rotax Engine Thefts. There has been a spate of thefts of Rotax engines around the UK. At the end of September, 20 engines had been stolen this year including 5 in September alone. The thieves are organised and will not hesitate to remove engines from aircraft. Owners should be aware of the risk and are advised to take appropriate steps to safeguard their engines.

RAeS GA Conference. The Royal Aeronautical Society is holding its annual General Aviation Conference this month. Entitled 'Advanced Design of Light Aircraft', the event takes place at the Society's headquarters on 14th November. BGA club members can take advantage of a reduced attendance fee of £66, a discount of nearly 40% on the standard fee. Full details and online registration are at <http://www.aerosociety.com/Events/Event-List/2486/Advanced-Design-of-Light-Aircraft>

Aerobility Ball. The annual Aerobility Ball will take place this year on 26th November at the Sofitel Hotel at Heathrow Terminal 5. All profits from the ball go to help the work of Aerobility in making flying available to people with disabilities. Tickets, which cost £120 and include a champagne reception and a gourmet three course meal with complimentary wine and beer during dinner, are available at <http://www.aviatorsball.co.uk/>