

## General

**BGA Executive Committee.** Following approval by the membership at the 17 Feb AGM, the BGA Executive Committee is confirmed as; Andy Perkins (Chairman), Bill Brittain, Nick Bowers, Richard Brickwood, Bill Craig, Lisa Humphries, Dave Latimer, George Metcalfe (Vice Chairman), and Tony Smith.

**GDPR.** The EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into force during May 2018. We are advised that the GDPR aims to give people more control over how their personal data is used, and to give businesses a simpler, clearer legal environment in which to operate by making data protection law identical throughout the single market. BGA Development Officer Alison Randle is developing guidance for clubs. Meanwhile, more information is available at <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/>

**Exhibitions.** Our awesome volunteer BGA PR team will be attending a select number of major exhibitions this year with the simulator. These guys do a great job of raising the profile of gliding at public events and there is always a queue to try out the simulator. If you have some spare time, love gliding and are interested in getting involved in exhibitions as a BGA volunteer, please do get in touch with Chris Pollard via the BGA Office.

**Marketing Officer.** The BGA Marketing Officer is Rachel Edwards. [rachel@gliding.co.uk](mailto:rachel@gliding.co.uk)

**EASA Pilot Licensing.** Pilots of EASA aeroplanes are reminded of the requirement to hold an EASA licence by 8 April 2018. Aeroplane pilot licence conversion is completed through the CAA. Tug pilots who convert are reminded to include sailplane towing as a licence privilege. Sailplane pilots are exempt from the requirement until 2020. We are still waiting for formal confirmation of detail via the CAA. Pilots of non-EASA aircraft are of course unaffected by EASA licensing requirements. <https://www.caa.co.uk/General-aviation/Pilot-licences/Convert/Converting-to-an-EASA-licence-from-a-UK-national-or-JAR-licence/>

**Recency Requirements.** Part FCL LAPL(S)/SPL holders are reminded that if they choose to use LAPL(S)/SPL licence privileges, they are of course required to comply with the associated requirements including rolling recency. <https://members.gliding.co.uk/library/lawsrules/guidance-spl-lapls-holders/>

**GA Airspace Fighting Fund.** General Aviation including gliding is facing an unprecedented threat from the growth of restricted airspace. We have to work ever closer together within GA to push back against unreasonable demands for airspace, as well as demand that the regulator frees up unused controlled airspace for the public good. Although much of the work is carried out by volunteers, inevitably there can be significant costs. A trust fund is being put together to receive donations. More details are available at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/ga-airspace-fighting-fund/>

## Funding

**Royal Aero Club Trust Bursaries.** The Royal Aero Club Trust, as part of its Flying for Youth program administers a Bursary Scheme for young people. The scheme includes flying

bursaries/grants for those wishing to advance from one recognised level of air sport to the next higher level and wish to upgrade their existing qualifications, as well as advanced Bursaries to enable well qualified air sports persons enter international or national competitions or other prestigious events or to advance their existing qualifications to a higher level to the benefit of the sport (eg to gain an instructor qualification).

Applicants for these grants must hold British Citizenship and be permanently resident in UK and aged 14-21 years (Advanced) Bursary - 24 years). Applications for 2018 bursaries are now available and can be downloaded via links on this page. Closing dates for applications will be 31st March 2018. <http://www.royalaeroclubtrust.org/bursaries>

## Safety

**Avoiding Mid-air Collisions.** The UK Airprox Board short video about avoiding mid-air collisions is at <https://www.airproxboard.org.uk/Topical-issues-and-themes/Collision-Avoidance/>

**BGA Safety Briefings.** BGA safety briefings provide helpful risk management information for pilots covering a number of hot topics and presented in an easily absorbed format.  
<https://members.gliding.co.uk/library/safety-briefings/>

**2017 Accident Review.** The 2017 accident review has been published and is essential reading for glider pilots of all experience levels. A number of hard copies will be sent to each club during March. All pilots are urged to read through the leaflet on the BGA member website at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/library/safety/2017-accident-review/>

**Trial Lessons / Introductory Flights.** A trial lesson is a paid-for first or early instructional flight. An introductory flight is a paid-for gliding experience flight. Clubs and pilots must minimise risk during introductory flights and trial lessons as well as during other passenger flying. Clear guidance on how to minimise the risk during trial lessons and introductory flights is provided in the BGA's Managing Flying Risk publication on the BGA member website.  
<https://members.gliding.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2015/04/Managing-Flying-Risk-v8.pdf>

## Competitions, Cross-Country & Aerobatics

**FAI Competition Licences.** Just a reminder that FAI Licences are no longer issued in hard copy. The validity of your own FAI licence can be checked by entering your email address into the FAI website at <http://old.fai.org/about-fai/fai-sporting-licences>. An automated email is then sent to you by the FAI containing a link to your licence ID. The Competition Licence application process remains unchanged.

**2018 Competition Dates.** Dates and venues for next year's championships are listed on the BGA member website at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/competitions/>

**Junior National Gliding Championships and two-seat coaching.** The Junior National Gliding Championships and two-seat coaching will take place at Lasham from 18-26 August 2018. For more details and entries, please refer to <http://nationals.juniorgliding.co.uk/>

## Instructing and Training

**FI(S) refresher Seminars.** LAPL(S)/SPL licence holders with FI(S) certificates who choose to maintain the validity of their FI(S) certificate are reminded that the FI(S) revalidation requirement includes an FI(S) refresher seminar that can be completed at any time during the three year validity period. FI(S) certificate holders will continue to be reminded of revalidation due dates via email. <https://members.gliding.co.uk/library/laws-rules/guidance-spl-lapls-holders/>

The latest FI(S) Refresher Seminars will be posted on our website at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/courses/easa-fi-and-examiner-refresher-seminar/>

**BGA Assistant Instructor Courses.** A number of BGA Assistant Instructor course modules are being held throughout 2018. Full details including dates and venues are available on the BGA member website. Bookings can be made by contacting Debbie Carr at the BGA office [debbie@gliding.co.uk](mailto:debbie@gliding.co.uk) or call 0116 289 2956. <https://members.gliding.co.uk/courses/bga-assistant-instructor-courses/>

**Instructor Resources.** The BGA Instructors Manual, demonstration videos, audio files and flight exercise reference cards that can be downloaded onto a phone, etc, are available at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/pilot-resources-flying-training/instructors/instructor-resources/>

## Airspace

**Oxford Airport and RAF Brize Norton Airspace Change Consultations.** As previously reported, Oxford and Brize Norton have published their individual airspace change proposals. There is no doubt that these two disproportionate airspace change proposals pose a very significant threat to the viability of gliding and other recreational aviation in and through the area, and will significantly increase risk for the majority of airspace users operating outside of the proposed airspace. The consultations close at 5pm on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Information to help pilots complete their own submission to the consultation will be available from mid-March. Please be prepared to respond. You can read more at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/representation-and-consultations/oxford-and-raf-brize-norton-acps/>

**8.33 Data.** The CAA intends to provide updates of airfield frequencies as they convert to 8.33 kHz frequencies during 2018. The first version of a supplement will be published during mid-February along with a NOTAM and will be updated on a weekly basis. An initial version is available under 'Updates' on the CAA's 8.33 webpage. <http://www.caa.co.uk/General-aviation/Aircraft-ownership-and-maintenance/8-33-kHz-radios/>

**Hawarden Frequency Change.** Hawarden airfield and RMZ has announced its 2018 8.33 kHz frequency change. <http://www.hawardenaerodrome.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Hawarden-Airport-Frequency-Changes-2018.pdf>

## Airworthiness

**Courses and Seminars.** The latest available BGA airworthiness courses and seminars are detailed on the BGA member website at <https://members.gliding.co.uk/courses/>

**BGA Inspector Course.** There will be an inspector refresher course including human factors that is aimed at both existing and new inspectors on 17th March 2018 at the Devon & Somerset GC from 0930-1700. To book a place, please contact Debbie on 0116 289 2986 or email [debbie@gliding.co.uk](mailto:debbie@gliding.co.uk).

**Transponder Maintenance.** A new BGA AMP has been published describing Transponder Maintenance that replaces BGA inspection 052-08 and BGA airworthiness form 284.  
<https://members.gliding.co.uk/library/amp-manual/transponder-maintenance/>

## Staying in Touch!

**BGA Social Media.** As well as following your own clubs social media output, you can also follow BGA via Facebook – *BritishGlidingAssociation*, Twitter - @BritishGliding, and Instagram – *discovergliding*

**Email News.** If you are reading this on a club noticeboard or by using a link from social media or a club email, why not sign up (free of charge) for BGA news to be sent direct to your email account via the BGA's online account management system, E-services? As well as news subscriptions, E-services allows you to maintain your contact information, renew other subscriptions and make a number of applications.

If you haven't received login details, you can access E-services by going to <https://members.gliding.co.uk/eservices/forgot-password> and entering the email address that you believe the BGA holds for you. If there is a match, you'll receive an email with temporary password with which you can access the system. If not, please contact the BGA office.

Or if it's easier for you, simply contact the BGA office by email or telephone 0116 2892956 providing a few details and we'll do it for you.

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