



NEWSLETTER

New Year 2010

Welcome to the New Year edition after a 3-month interlude. That said there has been winter flying to report from the hardy few. However as we start the 2010 there are club formalities to attend to at the AGM on the 28th January which I ask as many as possible attend to ratify any decisions taken.

October Meeting minutes

Apologies from Paul C.

John Chick's Air Ambulance Raffle

The 3rd raffle was held to raise funds for the local air ambulances with 2 bottles of wine being won.

November – Curry night.

Gordon arranged for a meal on the Friday 27th Nov with a good turnout.



Junior prospective members came along, but probably only interested in the curry.

Condors Xmas Night Dinner

8 SD members had declared they were going on the 19th December. We await their reports on Thursday.

Club Radios

Mark N reported these were not working correctly and asked for assistance to repair them.

Reserves

Mark C mentioned media reports and recommended reading on the PG forum. This indicated that many people fly with reserves that will descend faster than recommended. General advice was to base the size on 75% max.loading.

Robin Mills gave advice from his skydiving days when he tested reserves. He warned against oversized reserves, as they can be slower to deploy. If flying low over Dartmoor it may be better to have a smaller reserve for quick deployment, compared to Alpine flyers who fly with plenty of height.

Flying reports at the meeting

Maker – pilots (new members especially) are reminded that the Navy has war games every Thursday that involves frequent flights over or near the Maker site, so best avoided.

Strete - Mark N reported his first flying extended lunch-break by arranging 2 appointments either side of the site and snatching an hour's flying, along with several other pilots.

King Tor XC – Matt casually mentioned he'd been at King Tor that morning and managed an XC to Two Bridges with a very narrow window to get away.

Olu Deniz – Mark & Julie described impressive displays at the Air Games which they attended this year. Around 500 pilots were visiting with over 60 in the air at a time. There were very cheap deals available to get there, but the hotels start to close at the end of October. M&J will give more details at the January meeting.

Matt's XC talk

Gave a very interesting talk on local XC techniques. Compared to Alpine conditions we need to use different techniques as we have less height to play with and need to use more thermal markers etc.

GPS update

Alan H gave his now annual update on GPS techniques. This is still very useful to those of us who have yet to acquire one.

Other News

Kernow 2010 Frostbite Comp

Kernow plan to hold the frostbite on the **30/31 Jan**, hope that fits in with you guys as its always a pleasure to thrash to pants of you. If you give Pete a call {01209716522} on Thursday 28 after 7 to confirm that would be great. Big prizes this year as we have secured a sponsorship deal with Kas and Graham at CHAPS. Kernow are also holding their annual bash in Falmouth on Friday 29th, all are welcome, for details ring Kas 01209842877.

Flying News

We had a very wet autumn, so reports were interesting to receive.

31st October Jim wrote:

Well a worthy journey , good day had at Freathy today, a good turn out with Dougal joining the camper clan flying 830 in the morn if I heard correct , a bit breezy at times and a vertical landing on bar as the wind decided to pick up while i was flying, a good second flight as the wind calmed a bit with Matt, Dougal, Mike C and a few others, not forgetting those on the stiffys.

laterz ,,, jim

20th November Alan wrote:

Despite the lashing rain and howling winds, some flying has been done! A few optimists turned up at Freathy. Needless to say it was blowing about 30mph at midday, but there laid out behind take-off was a beautiful brand spanking new fresh-from-the-maker Moyes Malibu. For those not intimate with the Moyes range, this is a lightweight "floater" - a low performance HG with exposed cross-tubes, designed for wafting around in PG type winds rather than howling gales. The proud owner turned out to be ex-SD member from many moons ago Colin Graham. Colin has added the Malibu to his toy-box so that he can carry it up the hills and join in the fun being had by the PGs at his local sites around the lakes.

By 2:30ish the wind had dropped to around 24mph, so the intrepid Colin leapt into the air under his wafftywing and proceeded to chuck it about in a very carefree fashion. I was impressed! Needless to say Mike Connatty and I had to join in the fun to uphold the honour of S Dev! The flying was very pleasant... I did the run up to the Monkey Sanctuary before turning back to get home before the sun went down.

So for once it was a lucky day for the optimists! Nice to get feet off the ground amongst all this foul weather!

4th December Dougie wrote:

Eventually some Paraglidable weather and a nice early morning flight at Polhaun with Tom and the occasional sea thermal.

11th December Bob wrote:

Mick Boarer and I went to Strete this morning. Wind was strong and off to the east, but just about flyable. Mick launched half way down the hill just as I arrived and slowly got to the first house on the point, with some good height over the sea. 20 mins later when I was launching the white horses had increased and the wind was at 45 degs to hill. I launched with a Mitsos A and c's half down the hill and struggled to get above the hill for 15 mins or so, working hard the little bits of lift and cautious as I didn't want to be hoovered up and blown back. When I did get a little height I noticed Mick had landed? I figured it wasn't ok so flew to. Plenty of wind even at beach level as I touched down. Definitely a 'go for the c's landing'. Mick said it had got too strong, but there wasn't lift so he'd landed. He'd had 40 mins I think? Not the best of flying, but a bit of fun and good to get off the ground after such a break.

1st January Robin Mogridge wrote:

Four of us, Paul, Malc, Robin Mills and myself were at King Tor yesterday. Initially not enough wind but about oneish it picked up and we managed to fly sporadically for an hour or so, just about staying up at times, but never more than 50 ft above T/O. Unfortunately it was off to the north so there was a crowd on that short little beat. Fortunately foresighted Paul and myself had parked down the front near the landing field (I'd forgotten what a tiring climb up that was) so around threeish we all flew down and retired to a very crowded Warren House for a well-earned pint!

2nd January '... new SD bloke Andy' wrote:

What a day! A massive thank you to all those [present] for making my second time flying with the club such a great experience (first time was a top to bottom at Cox Tor yesterday!). Also thanks to the guy who helped me getting off of the ground in the first place! I'm so chuffed with the height gain! It recon's I got to 550 m with the beach at -36 m, which I make to be about 1920 feet ASL - Quite pleased with that! Thanks again to all for their help & advice

Bob also wrote:

Worth the two and a half hour drive to Woolacombe today. No less than 10 South Devon crew flying out of maybe 15 at the site. Wind light when we got there but soon picked up to quite strong making launching interesting. Mark and Julie S, Alan Hughes, a new SD bloke Andy, Andy and Simon Holt, Mick Boarer, Jim McD, Annie? and ME! Over 1000 feet above take off possible with lovely sea thermals. 1600 feet ASL? I think Alan and Julie may have had more even height. Beautiful first flight for 2010

17th January, Editor wrote:

What a turnout with over 20 members on T/O and cars double parked. Shame the wind was not reliable enough for the 5 or 6 HGs that turned up, although the dual skill pilots managed PG flights. It was my first flight since September, so only had 2 short hops, but saw 15 pilots up at one point!



AGM Agenda

Officer's reports - including Safety officers (3 accidents).

Treasurer's Report

Agree this year's subscriptions

Donations such as to the air ambulance (Devon and /or Cornwall)

Election of officers

Agree events for coming meetings.

Possible need for new venue, future meetings.

Other Agenda Items

First Aid course - Terry Clarke has offered an Emergency First Aid Response 3 hour course. We need to decide whether to go ahead, a venue, numbers and whether certificates etc will be required.

Agree date and venue for Repack, if we want one.

Future Events

Mark N has secured a talk by Richard Whitmarsh at the February meeting. He is Chief Paramedic with the Cornwall Air Ambulance and also took part in the Lands End to John O'Groats Paramotoring expedition.

AGM Meeting is on Thursday 28th January at the London Inn, South Brent, at 8:00pm

Mark & Julie will present a short video of the Olu Deniz Air Games 2009 and also of flying Sunday 17th Jan at Freathy.

Appendix 1

XC League results for 2009

2009

<u>Dougal Martin</u>	Niviuk Takoo / Artic	21.4	21.4	22.7	19.1	37.2	12.2	134
<u>Rob Mogridge</u>	Aspen 2	26	20.8	21.6	33.2	21.5	27.1	150.2
<u>Chris Smith</u>	WW t2	32.6						32.6
<u>Karl Sweeney</u>	U2	32.43						32.43
<u>Martin Foley</u>	Gradient Aspen	22.2	33.7	20.7				76.6
<u>Bob Moore</u>	Firebird Grid	19.54	14.4	12.4				46.34
<u>Mark Canvin</u>	Gradient Aspen	11.8						11.8
<u>Mat Allott</u>	Skywalk Cayenne	5.1	16.1	36.5	42.2	6.8	12.9	119.6
<u>Geoff Brook</u>	Talon	20	31	32.5				83.5
<u>Bill Arkle</u>	Moyes Xtralite	5.8	9.5					15.3
							Total	656.03
							Av	20.50

2008

<u>Bill Arkle</u>	Moyes Xtralite	8	10	16.00				34
<u>Dougal Martin</u>	Airwave sport PG	7.65	3.5	3.5	2.8	15.9		33.35
<u>Bob Moore</u>	FireBird Grid	7.65	9.88	7.7	7.3			32.53
<u>Mark Canvin</u>	Skywalk Chili	2.82						2.82
<u>Paul Coiffi</u>	Niviuk Artik	4.00	9.00					13
	Airsystems							
<u>Tim Pilling</u>	Skyamsen	4.2						4.2
<u>Alan Kaye</u>	Ozone Vulcan	17.8						17.8
<u>Martin Foley</u>	Gradient Aspen	89.47	11.0	32.1				132.57
<u>Robi Mogridge</u>	Gradient Aspen 2	13.6	11					24.6
							Total	287.85
							Av	13.08

Despite the weather this year, the number of entered flights was up by over 50%, and the average flight distance was also up by 57% on the previous year.

The total distance flown was also up by over 225%!

These may only be numbers on a spreadsheet, but proof none the least that quite a few pilots took the risk and went 'over the back'.

I don't see the need for any changes to the XC League format for this year, unless anyone has any ideas? If so it can always be discussed at the AGM.

Ashley_R

Appendix 2

2009 Committee Members:

Chairman	Mark Stapleton
Secretary	Mark Ansell
Treasurer	Julie Stapleton
Membership Secretary	Bill Arkle
Club Contact & Coach	Bob Moore
HG Safety Officer	Mark Nicol
PG Safety Officer	Paul Cioffi
Sites Officer (Dartmoor & East)	Robin Mogridge
Sites Officer (West)	Karl Sweeney
Club Webmaster	Ashley Ryall
HG Comps Officer	Karl Sweeney
PG Comps Officer	Mark Canvin
XC League compiler	Ashley Ryall
Social Secretary	Gordon White
Club Librarian	Matt Allott
Newsletter Editor	Mark Ansell

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