



NEWSLETTER

NEW YEAR 2008

Welcome to the 1st newsletter of 2008. It's a quiet time of year, but still some activities going on.

November Meeting

26 people attended including new faces Ron and Harry (sorry didn't get surnames) who have had day-tasters with Innes,

Bottles for Farmers

Robin, Karl and Martin volunteered to organise the distribution of Christmas gifts to farmer site owners as usual. A box of chocolate biscuits was also proposed for the Rame Head CG station staff.

AGM notice

Members were reminded that the January meeting will be the Annual General Meeting when committee members are appointed. Not only would we like a good turnout for this, but it is a chance for enthusiasts to offer their services to the club for the various roles. A reminder of the positions up for election and the current 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	Adrian Bishop
Sites Officer (Dartmoor & East)	Robin Mogridge
Sites Officer (West)	Karl Sweeney
Club Webmaster	Ashley Ryall
HG Comps Officer	Colin Jones
PG Comps Officer	position vacant (no suitable candidates present)
Fun League compiler	Mark Canvin
Social Secretary	Gordon White
Club Librarian	Mark Nicol
Newsletter Editor	Mark Ansell

All positions are open to competition, although it was made clear last year that Mark Stapleton would stand down as Chairman this year, so let's have some candidates on the night (or even declare your interest on yahoo group mail).

February meeting and curry night

This is the meeting (28th Feb) when we arrange a curry meal and trophies are awarded where applicable. This will be hosted by the London Inn, as usual, with a proposed £5 / head charge. Numbers will be limited to 26 – 30. More details nearer the time, but we will need to know who's coming and how many are vegetarian.

Website payments.

The PAYPAL system is being set up by Ashley (Webmaster). Julie (accountant) will be e-mailed when people pay, and will contact Bill (membership secretary) and me (secretary) to ensure stickers etc. are sent.

Radios

It had been proposed to get conversion packs to allow the club radios to take standard alkaline/rechargeable batteries. There were some difficulties sourcing these, but Tim Pilling offered to check some websites he knows.

Condors Bash

There was a final call for people going to the annual Xmas party in Sidmouth [which went very well by all accounts]. Photos were circulated on the yahoo group mail.

Pilot Lectures

There was also a reminder of Pilot lectures again hosted by the Condors. [These have subsequently been arranged over the Yahoo Group mail when bad weather prevailed].

Winter Competition

Karl asked about organising an event liasing with the Kernow Club (see below).

Video Presentation

Bob Moore showed his recording of the BBC Scotland X-Alps challenge following Ulrich Jessop's gruelling progress.

Other News

Met Office Visit

As mentioned in the November Newsletter, Gordon has arranged a visit to the Met Office on Friday 25th January 2008. The evening will commence at 7.30pm prompt and will include a presentation by Met Office Staff showing what they do for Aviation and some of the products that they offer followed by an opportunity for them to hear from ourselves - the free flying community about what we actually want from the Met Office. This will be followed by a tour, after which we will adjourn to a local pub where anyone wishing to purchase food can do so and anyone who doesn't can just have a drink and a chat. There will be a small charge of approximately £1.50 per person attending to cover the cost of tea/coffee/biscuits during the evening. This will be payable upon arrival. Further details including directions, parking, etc will be forwarded to those attending nearer the time [those attending should have received these details by now. If not then contact Gordon].

Kernow Annual Frostbite Comp' 2008

Graham Phipps e-mailed us:

This year the proposed dates are January 26th/27th when I am advised the weather will be perfect. The Frostbite is a fun comp' with tasks suitable for all levels of pilots which include spot landings, ridge races and XC's weather permitting. Flying generally takes place from stunning coastal sites which can offer super soaring and the legendary sea thermals which can get you to cloudbase and across the county.

The Saturday evening normally turns into a good social event with yet a few more "tasks". Sites are generally suitable for all pilot levels although some do not have bottom landings so may not be.

Accommodation is easily available and some local pilots can help out on a first come first served basis.

So come along and join in the fun, check with Pete Coad on Thursday 24th Jan on 01209 716522 or 07977841117.

BHPA Club Coach Course February 9th/10th 2008

The Kernow Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association are hosting a Club Coach course on the above dates. The event is sponsored by Carnmoggas Holiday Park (www.carmoggas.com) where the course will be held. This means that fee's for the course are only £15.00 per persons which includes not only the course BHPA fee (normally £30) but also lunch, refreshments and an evening buffet on the Saturday night!! On site accommodation is also available at reduced rates so making for a good social event as well as a quality course which is a benefit not only to those wishing to become coaches but also to others in their own flying.

Numbers are limited to a maximum of 30 so please book your place asap with myself. It's too good an offer to miss.

Graham Phipps (Phippsy). Cornwall Hang Gliding & Paragliding Services
www.flychaps.co.uk 01209842877 / 07785593559

Club Cross Country League

There has been some enthusiastic correspondence with regard to setting up a competition for 2008. Ideas have been flying around the ether and hopefully these can be firmed up at the next club meeting, or at least developed to everyone's satisfaction. It's time we had some initiatives in this area, and thanks to Ashley for kicking it off.

Other Flying News

I have been surprised by the amount of flying that people have got in over the last 2 months when the weather seems to have regularly blown hard, or rains have descended. Is it me, or is this more than usual, or maybe it's the power of e-mail to tell everyone?

Just fly safely so you can enjoy the better weather when it comes.

At least Bill sent me some photos from New Years Day at Struddick [and Seaton and Looe]:



AGM Meeting - Our next meeting will be held on the Thursday 31st January at the London Inn, South Brent, 8:00pm, as usual. Look forward to seeing you there.

Mark Ansell, Newsletter Editor, SOUTH DEVON HANG GLIDING AND PARAGLIDING CLUB
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