



NEWSLETTER

MAY 2009

Well what to make of it all. Although the determined few have found flyable days, I get the impression that May has been largely blown out, or becalmed. I certainly failed to take off, despite turning up at sites with other pilots parawaiting. I should add however that the Stiffies have been able to take advantage when the Floppies have sought shelter, and I was treated to a parade of take-offs and landings at Freathy earlier in the month.

April Meeting

Another very good turnout with 30 members attending.

New faces included:

Martin – considering taking up PG;

Father & son, Ian and Ed learning PG with Phippsey;

Brian from Salcombe – PG with Andy Shaw (Brian works in London during the week);

Bob Shirley – PG rejoining;

and Blue Ramsey – only because he never comes to club nights, but long time member from Okehampton.

Strete Licence

This licence is coming up for renewal in June. However the owner is looking for £5m insurance cover (BHPA cover is only £2m). This can be covered by each pilot taking out £30 extra insurance, which seems unlikely.

Discussed whether BHPA could intervene. Robin volunteered to speak to the landowner and also the BHPA to seek a resolution.

BCC

The National Park Authority (Alison) has shown no major objections to hosting a round of the BCC. However we have been asked to avoid the bird-nesting season (June) on Dartmoor.

11 PGs and 2 HGs went to Widgery as an event, but the wind failed them and Kernow won the impromptu 'longest glide' task.

We have still to organise a good local event, and concern was expressed over the difficulty of getting to 'up country' events – they fill up very quickly and transport is an issue.

T-Shirts

An embroidered logo was passed round. Paul has ordered a few garments and will bring them to the next club night [confirmed this week].

Turkey Trip

26 members/partners + 6 Condors were planning to be off to Olu Deniz. We hope for holiday snaps and feedback at the next meeting.

Club Radios

Mark N reminded members that these are available if people want one for BCC rounds or trips abroad.

Flying Reports

April 19th, Dougie, Geoff and Robin recounted XCs from King Tor. This was Dougie's UK first getting to Yelverton. Geoff (HG) crossed the Tamar and Robin made Princetown.

Paid up Membership

Julie reported 60 paid up members so far in 2009, which is looking good. [This has now reached 69 with more overdues expected soon].

Club Coaches

Ashley is still looking for Mugshots and general contacts.

Yahoo Groups

New members are advised to contact the moderator Bob (bob.sdhpclub@virgin.net) to get onto the Yahoo Group mail list. This is useful for regular chit-chat on flying activities and other gossip.

NCI Froward Point

Andy recommended www.nci-frowardpoint.org.uk/weather.htm for real time reports for Strete and Beesands. However it's subsequently found to be out of action all month due to "thunderstorm damage"

Other News

Flying News

Dougie's Blog

I suggest that Dougie and Julie's excellent blog at dougieandjulie.blogspot.com summarises all the flyable days we've had. He's becoming a master of the art.

Next Meeting is on Thursday 28th May at the London Inn, South Brent, 8:00pm, **If any members have photos / videos they'd like to show [of recent flying] please bring them along as well.**

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