



# NEWSLETTER

## APRIL 2009

A mixed bag this month with some good flying early in the month (although personally I've been stuck with work and family commitments, and not been out much). However things seem to have dampened down a bit this past week giving time for Pilot studies and concerns that summer hasn't yet arrived.

### March Meeting

It might have been a record turnout with 33 members attending for Graham's lecture. 2 new faces were:

Robin Mills – HG and PG.

Phil Sambles – HG Hill converting.

### Repack 2009

The annual Repack went ahead on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March. 30 pilots went along and thanks went to Andy Farrow for tuition and Gordon White for organising the event. Andy commented that the standard of chutes and packing has improved from last year.

### Airwave Club Challenge

Mark C reported that the event at Cox Tor (see March Newsletter) was not a formal round of the BCC, although it had been thoroughly enjoyed, with Dougie making 1200' ATO.

### Wessex BCC Round

The Bell Hill event (also see March Newsletter) had been a very good day. A cold front had cleared the inversion in the morning, although it had re-established in the afternoon. Around 30 pilots were flying and our team learnt a few lessons about when to commit to get away.

Matt suggested that others could join in future events, even if not team members. It would give an opportunity to fly at sites we don't usually get to. Rounds are only called a week before, with the final planned to be in late August at the Long Mynd.

For future rounds the Competition Officers are:

PG = Mark Canvin (mark.canvin@homecall.co.uk)

HG = Karl Sweeney (adamsbeck@hotmail.co.uk)

### T-Shirts

Paul Cioffi's designs were circulated at the meeting again, but there was no consensus. Some more designs have been added to the website with a view to a possible vote.

Andy F said he ordered around 50 last time and advised that you need more L and XL sizes.

There was also discussion on printed or embroidered logos.

### Cross Country Lecture

Graham Phipps gave an absorbing talk on XC flying, including competitions, and some tips on how he gets ahead as well as pitfalls to beware of.

Graham's website is still [www.flychaps.co.uk](http://www.flychaps.co.uk). His plan to rename as 'Cloudbase' was thwarted when someone else had just registered the name around the time Graham was setting his up. Instead he is renaming the school 'Cloud9'.

### Whitsand Weather Station

Ashley reported that the Cliff Top Café were "up for it" and that he is still testing a Demo station.

Martin/Mike Reed's system is having software problems. They have done a risk assessment and the height of the mast may be an issue (Martin does like to buzz local residents on his HG).

### Flying Reports

Talk revolved around a recent incident with power lines and pilots were again reminded to keep aware of possible hazards. There are lines near take off at Struddick, Strete, Rame Church as well as the car park at Sourton/Corn Ridge.

### Future Events

Alan Hughes will be showing the Red Bull Speed Run DVD at the April meeting.

We hope to have Graham back later in the year to talk on Powered HG/PG flying.

## **Other News**

Pilot Lectures – these finally took place last weekend (25<sup>th</sup> April) and we should have feedback at the next Club Night.

### Struddick

Pilots are reminded that when flying at Struddick to give the Monkey Sanctuary a wide berth. This is more prominent than ever at the moment as they have 2 very stressed animals who are self harming when they see us.

The Monkey Sanctuary very much enjoys seeing us fly but would appreciate a bit of space.

### **Flying News**

Well another good month for the year. Since the last meeting we've had plenty of reports:

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March: Freathy

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March: Freathy, Struddick and Looe run.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April: Belstone and Labrador Bay

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>: Cox Tor

Friday 10<sup>th</sup>: Perran

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>: Freathy

Monday 13<sup>th</sup>: Freathy and Struddick.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>: Maker

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>: King Tor epic

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>: Sourton

Friday 24<sup>th</sup>: Labrador Bay

A pretty good result for 4 weeks (39% flyable days!), and that's just the one's on Yahoo Groups.

Ashley has published comparison tables for the league – note top table is last year's, 2009 is below it.

## Fun XC league results so far ...

### XC League 2008

### all flights in KM's

Pilot	Glider	Flight 1-6					Total
<u>Bill Arkle</u>	Moyes Xtralite	8.00	10.00	16.00			34.00
<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				13.00
<u>Tim Pilling</u>	Airsystems Skyamsen	4.2					4.2
<u>Alan Kaye</u>	Ozone Vulcan	17.8					17.8
<b><u>Martin Foley</u></b>	<b>Gradient Aspen</b>	<b>89.47</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>32.1</b>			<b>132.57</b>
<u>Robin Mogridge</u>	Gradient Aspen 2	13.6	11				24.6
						Total	287.85

Last year was probably not a good year for flying in general, let alone going XC, but this year is looking far better ....

### XC League 2009

### all flights in KM's

Pilot	Glider	Flight 1-6					Total
<b><u>Dougal Martin</u></b>	<b>Niviuk Takoo / Artic</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>22.7</b>			<b>65.5</b>
<u>Rob Mogridge</u>	Aspen 2	13.8	20.8	15.2	16.2		56.0
<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					22.2
<u>Bob Moore</u>	Firebird Grid	19.54	14.4	12.4			46.34
<u>Mark Canvin</u>	Gradient Aspen	22.2					11.8
<u>Mat Allott</u>	Skywalk Cayenne	5.1					5.1
<u>Geoff Brook</u>	Talon	20.0	31.0				51.0
						Total	276.63

Already we have almost caught up on last years XC miles and its only the end of April !

I realise we are now scoring the total out & return distance, but even so Martin Foley's 89km flight in '08 should offset that somewhat.

Keep the XC's coming. Ashley

### Dougie's Blog

I would also like to recommend Dougie and Julie's excellent blog at [dougieandjulie.blogspot.com](http://dougieandjulie.blogspot.com) for some excellent reports.

### **Adverts**

Firebird Eagle for sale if any body is interested in your club, it's a mid range DHV 2 in as new condition with about 35 hours on it. It's still Firebird's top DHV 2 glider at around £2600 + new. Mine is a medium at 75 to 100 kgs and is a good safe XC wing, I'm asking £700ono which is a snip

Martyn Howes [I think Bob has contact details]

**Next Meeting** is on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April at the London Inn, South Brent, 8:00pm, with Alan's DVD as mentioned above.

**If any other members have videos they'd like to show [of recent flying] please bring them along as well.**

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