



Bristol & Gloucestershire Gliding Club

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What's new at Nympsfield

Latest news from the club.

See some [links to Nympsfield on youtube](#)

News Archive

Forgot what happened last year, or merely interested in the club history ? We now archive the News and Yesterday pages every three months or so. Click on the link below to download the pdf file:

- [Club News Sept08 Dec08.pdf](#)
- [Committee Notes 2008.pdf](#)
- [Yesterday Sept08 Dec08.pdf](#)

What's on Summary

A short summary of events in the next few months, details below:

- Saturday January 23rd evening talk(5:30 or 6 pm
TBC: The Alexander Technique
- Bronze C Lectures will run through 2010 - currently scheduled (with more to follow) we have:
 - Saturday 17th Jan 5:30-7:00 in the BGGC Bar (Jim Wilson): Operational Procedures - NOTAMs, Spine, Use of Radio, Emergency Procedures, Accident reporting etc.
 - Saturday 6th February 5:30-7:00 in the BGGC Bar (Alison Mulder): Meteorology Part 1
 - Saturday 20th February 5:30-7:00 in the BGGC Bar (Alison Mulder): Meteorology Part 2
 - Saturday 6th March 5:30-7:00 in the BGGC Bar (Sid Smith): Field Landings
 - Saturday 13th March 6:00-7:30 in the BGGC Bar (Russ Francis): Navigation, Air Law, Airspace & use of GPS

Updated Club History

Updated versions of the first chapters of Ken Brown's "magnum opus" on the history of the BGGC are now available on the [History](#) page. These cover the early days of the club and the first years at Nympsfield. Ken hopes to be publishing new chapters taking us into the 1960's in the near future.

Please note that the downloads are quite large, in order to preserve the picture quality, so proceed with care if you

What's New

Latest News

- [Club News](#) Dec16
- [Yesterday](#) Dec15
- [CFI's News](#) Nov04
- [Cadet News](#) Aug25
- [For Sale](#) Jul30

Competitions

- [Competitions](#) Aug31
- [Interclub](#) Nov11

Events

- [Courses](#) Mar17
- [Club Calendar](#)

Flying Conditions

- [Airspace](#) Dec11
- [Weather](#) Dec13
- [Winching](#) Aug14
- [Tug Pilots](#) Dec04
- [Equipment](#) Apr16
- [Airworthiness](#)
- [RASP](#)
- [Web cam](#)

Reports

- [Chairman](#) Oct01
- [Committee](#) Mar05

do not have broadband.

Winter 2009 Severn Skies Available

Time to take a break from Ark building - if you can keep your head above water then the latest Severn Skies is now available to read [here](#).

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at the Clubhouse on Saturday 12th December 2009 at 4pm. Download the 2008 AGM Minutes [here](#) and the AGM notice and nomination form [here](#).

Giuseppe will be doing his normal excellent Christmas Dinner after the AGM - please book with him in advance as places will be limited.

Shobdon team runs Wave Flying Survey

Do you want to climb in wave to over 10,000 feet?

Of course you do! You need to be higher than that to get Gold height, let alone Diamond height - or to go cross country confidently over cloud tops.

Do you want to install a Mode S transponder in your glider?

Of course not! It would cost of £2,000 upwards for each glider plus ongoing testing, maintenance and repair. And you will not be able to install it unless you can get an EASA approved modification for your particular make of glider.

In 2012 all gliders flying above Flight Level 100 (i.e. 10,000') will be required to have a working transponder unless the BGA can negotiate some transponder free zones (TFZs) for gliding. We need to provide the BGA with details of all flights over 10,000' out of Nympsfield over the last 5 or so years.

So please go through your log books and give me the details of any flights you have done over 10,000' since the start of 2004. Ideally I want the date, maximum height and the areas where you exceeded 10,000'. If you have a logger file for the flight you can just send me that and I will extract the details from it.

The Shobdon team would appreciate all responses by 1st October so they can send them on to the BGA by 5th October. Please don't wait until the last moment.

Phil King hopes he can send enough data to the BGA to justify a TFZ for an area bounded by Knighton in the north going clockwise to Shobdon, Hereford, Abergavenny, Brecon, Llandrindod Wells, and back to Knighton. We need a lot of flights to justify an area that large..... so please help

Thanks in anticipation - Phil King. Email replies to

King618@btconnect.com

Autumn 2009 Severn Skies Available

Oh no.... not Autumn already! Hopefully we will get a few more 300Km days before it's back to ridge running & wave. To help you enjoy the good weather that remains, the latest Severn Skies is now available to read [here](#).

BGGC Welcomes back Mike Woollard

We're pleased to to welcome Mike, a long time BGGC member, to take over the running of our mid-week operation. Here are a few words from Mike introducing himself (and a photo for those of us who are wondering what he looks like now!):



Dear BGGC member,

Just a quick note to introduce myself particularly for those who do not know me from the 1980's to 1990's when I was an active member at the club. I am Mike Woollard now in residence at Nympsfield for the remainder of the summer season as your mid week instructor and keen to do anything I can to meet your flying needs, develop and progress your training and to ensure that we all have safe fun with the flying we all love!

Since leaving Nympsfield (around 1992) I have been flying at Dunstable and Cambridge gliding clubs, running Faulkes Flying Foundation Ltd as well as getting to know Chipmunks and Tiger Moths. I have also been much involved in aerobatic training although I do much less of this these days.

If you are a mid week pilot please seek me out before you fly so that I can be aware of your needs etc. This applies to experienced and novice pilots alike. For experienced pilots, you might be needing a retrieve if you land out, and with nothing else to do in the evenings and the prospect of a free pub meal on the drive back to the club, familiarising me with the location of your trailer and car could prove most beneficial! At the very least I would like to know what your cross country plans are mid week so that I can keep track of your status at the end of the day.

My interests in flying equally apply from trial lessons to all forms of training including aerobatics and I would be happy to entertain any courses which groups would be interested in running. I am also fully capable in the motor glider for field landings, navigation experience etc so provided we can get access to a suitable motor glider please use me for any of your needs. Equally on those days when we cannot fly, I am very happy to provide whatever ground school requirements you may have either on a personal or in a group setting, or even just have a chat about how your training is progressing.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Best regards.

Mike Woollard

Nympsfield Standard Class Nationals Cancelled

With much regret we have been forced to cancel the 2009 Standard Class Nationals at Nympsfield because of lack of entrants. The BGA minimum number of entrants to run a competition is 10. Despite much pestering only 9 people have paid up and it is now one month since the deadline. We have decided that it would be unfair to these 9 entrants to delay a decision any longer so they will get their entry fee back, as we are unable to run the competition.

Sorry about this chaps but we can't hold a competition without competitors....

Please note that although the 2009 Standard Class Nationals will not be held at Nympsfield the Competition itself will run alongside the Open Class at Lasham on the original dates.

June 20/21 Kemble Airspace

Restricted airspace up to 6NM around Kemble will be in place over this period - see the [briefings](#) page for a sketch map of what this means; note that this airspace gets within local soaring range of Nympsfield.

Talk by ATC Brize Norton - 5:30 Sat 4th July

Note revised time.

By invitation on Saturday 4th July Brize Norton will send an air traffic controller to talk to us glider pilots & take questions for about 40 minutes at approx 5:30. John McWilliam is organising this with Brize - an excellent opportunity to improve our relationships and mutual understanding so please come along.

Immediately after the ATC talk Guiseppe will offer a main course of Chicken Cacciatora with saute potatoes and green beans for only £9.50, puddings will also be available as an option. Book with him in advance please.

Summer 2009 Severn Skies Available

Is 2009 going to deliver us a real summer after the last few years? Well, it's started with some good soaring weather and just to help us along the latest Severn Skies is now available to read [here](#).

Free Soaring and Beer on Evening Parties(*)

The committee have confirmed that there will be no soaring charges for evening parties this year.

So...

- Would you like to fly with the same instructor without having to wait for the one day a month they're on duty?
(The best instructors in the club fly evening parties (**).
Consistency of instruction / winch driving means evening party pilots generally go solo quicker)
- Would you like to fly with a group of friendly, supportive, like minded pilots, or offer support to others?
- Would you like to fit your flying into a time slot that doesn't take you away from family at weekends?
- Would you like to escape from family mid-week as well as weekends!?
- Would you like to catch the last thermals of the evening, or to prove that the ridge still works in nil wind?
- Do your circuits / landings require more polish?
(If you think your answer to this is NO then you probably REALLY need help!)
- Would you like to fly the club fleet but are too busy flying your own plastic toy at weekends?

...If the answer to any of the above is "Yes" then the solution is to join us on Wednesday or Friday evenings. Flying normally starts around 6pm (But can be earlier depending on availability of instructor & winchy), and finishes when we run out of light. The bar opens shortly after hangar packing.

(*) It's the soaring that's free not the beer - Free beer is normally bought **by** the pupils **for** the instructors. But you're welcome to try and negotiate

(**) In the absence of "*The best instructors in the club*" I'm normally still available.

If you would like more details contact me at kevin.neave@kneave.freeserve.co.uk , or simply turn up after 6 on Wednesday or Friday.

Cold Front Pictures

Some rather spectacular pictures of the back end of the cold front over Nympsfield on Easter Saturday. Luckily it didn't totally cut off the day for us, but for any Met. fans this is a probably the clearest edge you will ever see. Click [here](#) for pictures by Bob Page.

Celebrations - Sat April 18th.

Gill Starling and Nancy Barrett both had significant birthdays recently. There'll be a barrel of beer and some wine in the bar on Saturday, April 18th all club members are welcome to come and help celebrate/ease the pain! Also on that night Giuseppe will be doing a supper - Chicken Cacciatore and spiced rice at £6.50. He would appreciate orders in advance.

Evening Parties

Evening Parties will be starting again after Easter
 £½ Wednesdays (Starting 15th April) - Rob Hanks / Kevin Neave / Dave Ascroft Instructing.
 £½ Thursdays (Starting 15th) - Group Trial Lessons, See [Trial Lesson Groups](#) for details
 £½ Fridays (Starting 17th) - Graham; Hywel, Ali & Megan; & Kevin Instructing.

The committee hope to waive soaring charges for evening parties this year (If the accounts software will let us) so come along and get the P2s to outnumber the instructors.

2009 Grid Rota Available

Hopefully the full soaring season is getting close and we will get good enough weather to return to busy weekend launching ! We will continue to operate the "grid" system this year & the new Rota is available (Thanks to Sid) to download [here](#). As always if you have not paid your trailer rent you will not appear on the grid rota !

Spring 2009 Severn Skies Available

Cleverly timed to accompany the first Thermal XC of the year (well done Russ last weekend!) the latest Severn Skies is now available to read [here](#).

Dinner Dance

The annual dinner dance was again well attended and "The Bear" did us proud (though as usual the DJ's caused a few looks in the bar !).

Trophies were awarded on behalf of the club by Colin McEwan and Andy Davis and Colin got to give is inaugural chairman's speech

[The full list of Trophies can be found here ...](#)

Courtesy of Bernard Smythe here are a few of the more printable photos:



Richard Grey is awarded the John Parry Jones trophy for services to the club



Matt Davis gets the Malcolm Gay trophy for winning the Junior Ladder



Alison Mulder collects the Evening World trophy for the best Height Gain



Trevor Stuart collecting one of his many trophies !



.... and finally those who did all the work get their reward (as well as all of our thanks)- Ali and Stuart Lees, the organisers, being given a bouquet by the Chairman.

STOP PRESS

7th Feb: Graham's Type Conversion Talk postponed until 7pm Friday 13th Feb.

Giuseppe's food rescheduled for after Graham's talk on the 13th

Club News

Type conversion -Talk by Graham Morris -Saturday 7th Feb -6pm

Practice and Supervision.

Giuseppe will be serving food.

Red Bull Air Racing- Talk by Steve Jones - Saturday 28th February-7pm

In the hangar at Targett Aviation followed by a fork meal

and drink at the Gliding Club. There will also be an auction of the carbon fibre instrument panel removed from his 2007 Edge race plane.

All proceeds will go to County Air Ambulance. Ticket price is £15 from Targett Aviation Ltd numbers are limited, so book early. For tickets phone 01453 860861

Club History Group Talk by Doug Jones - Saturday March 7th 6pm

Entitled 'A personal recollection of gliding in the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's. Giuseppe will be serving food.

Cross Country Planning -Talk by Sid Smith- Saturday March 14th

More details to follow.

New Flying Charges - From 1st February 2009

Effective 1st Feb:

- The price for 2000ft aerotows will be REDUCED to £28! 1000ft tow will remain at £18, but the price per 100ft goes down to £1.00 from £1.10.
 - The soaring fee for the DG505 is reduced to the same price as the GROB 103, K13 and K21 at 42p per minute from 46p.
 - The LS4 will be 40p instead of 44p.
-

Saturday 10th January, Hot Air Ballooning, Don Cameron

5:30 pm in the bar

Hot Air Ballooning £12 it began in the bar at Nympsfield! A talk by one of the major figures in the UK ballooning scheme, with photo's of early experiences at Nympsfield.

Giuseppe will be making food available - watch the club notice board for details

BGGC Annual Dinner Dance - 21st February 2009

At the [Bear of Rodborough Hotel](#)

Featuring band 'Against the Grain'

7pm for 7.30 start. Finishing at 12.30

Tickets £30, B & B at the hotel, up to 20 rooms, Doubles £65, singles £37.50

To book, please contact the office by the end of January. Provide a cheque for the tickets, along with a room deposit of £10 if you want to stay overnight, your selection from the menu and details of who you'd like to sit with.

Any queries, please ask the office for Stuart Lees's email address

Menu

- Starters

- Ducks liver and foie gras parfait, toasted brioche, plum chutney
- Warm smoked salmon, pickled cucumber, curly endive, wholegrain mustard vinaigrette
- Terrine of goat's cheese, sweet potatoes, peppers, rocket, marinated artichokes
- Main Courses
 - Roasted sirloin of beef, sautéed wild mushrooms, Dauphinoise potatoes, wilted greens, thyme jus
 - Pavé of salmon, baby leeks, asparagus Veloute, ratte potatoes
 - Chestnut mushroom and rocket risotto, truffle oil, parmesan crisp
- Desserts
 - Dark and white chocolate mousse,
 - Marinated strawberry Rhubarb and apple crumble crême Anglais
 - Sticky toffee pudding, butterscotch sauce, vanilla ice cream
- Tea, Coffee and Mints

Winter 2008 Severn Skies Available

For those of you who can't wait (or merely want something to read during the AGM) the latest Severn Skies is available to read [here](#). The accompanying pictures to Jed's article on the Alps is also on the Web in the [members section](#)

History - the first years at Nympsfield

The next chapter in Ken Brown's history of Nympsfield is now available. This documents the first 5 years at our current site & has a few familiar faces in the photos (look for a steely eyed Doug Jones awaiting take off in his Skylark!). See [here](#) to download Chapter 8

Bristol LAA Wing

Why not have a look at our local Light Aircraft Association "Wing" [web page](#) (LAA is the new name for the PFA) - they hold regular meetings on Thursday evenings on aviation topics. On 10th Jan they have a special session on the use of GPS - all welcome, see [here](#) for details.

**Updated : 10:20 on
Wednesday 16th of
December 2009**

[Update?](#)

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For gliding related enquiries please **contact the office**.

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