

SkyWords – Oct 08

The Newsletter of the DHPC

Awards 2008

As we come to the end of another flying season it's time to decide who should be presented with some of the Club's silverware. It is fairly easy to decide who gets some of the trophies (i.e. Best XC from a Dales site), but others require a little more thought. You are invited to nominate individuals who you think merit an award by emailing me (mr Baxter@hotmail.co.uk) with the award title, who you think deserves the award, and why. We'll count the votes at the next committee meeting (20 Oct) and divvy up the spoils.

Northern PG Trophy	Best total distance in first year of XC
Active Edge PG Cup	Best 1 st XC
Cock of The Dales	Most enthusiastic pilot
Cockcroft Cup	Most improved pilot
Fairbrother Trophy	Pilot's pilot
Mark Sellen Trophy	Services to the club

Airwave British Clubs Challenge

HH of the Dales Club reports from the BCC finals 30 -31 August, at The Long Mynd:

The Dales team barely scraped into the finals. A combination of poor weather and strong competition meant we only just made it into the last slot to contest the BCC showdown. So we were pleased to have a reasonably flyable forecast at least for the Saturday to give us a sporting chance of a good result. The picturesque Shropshire countryside and the rolling hills of Mid Wales are ideal flying environment.

So on the Saturday we went to Gyrn Moelfre. The weather did not look promising to begin with. The fresh SSE wind and completely overcast sky with a warm humid haze did not inspire. At least there was decent ridge lift, so a task was set for an open distance with the top 4 pilots of each team scoring. We had a good team assembled under Kevin's captaincy with Tony, Ziggy, Pete, Ogi and I making up the six and Dave and Rich as backup. I took off immediately fearing it might get blown out at take off. There was easy ridge lift but weak wind-disrupted thermals were just teasing, giving no better than 500ft ATO then fizzling off. Those who tried going over the back on these thermal crumbs got drilled in the lee. Patience was the name of the game. After nearly two hours we could see that the sun was beginning to break through and the valley in front was getting warmed up. It started to release and those who caught this solitary elusive thermal got away. Fortunately for us, 4 of the Dales team caught the lift and were soon winding upwards to cloud base, at 3,500 ft AMSL. There was the first gaggle of about 3 gliders, I was on my own and a further gaggle of about 4 gliders. I found a particularly sucky bit of cloud and throttled the gas to fly out. Downwind however, was without buoyancy at all, so it was a death glide to terra firma. Kevin did particularly well on a later gaggle and found enough height to cross over to Llangollen and soared the far ridge, eventually registering 17 K, the best of the day. Tony and Ziggy along with some of the Wessex guys landed on a good field far side of the Welsh village of Glyn Ceiriog (10K). I too landed in Gly Ceiriog but, not having enough height to cross it, landed in the middle of the village football field while a game was in full pelt, to the bemusement of the assembled villagers! It was a one-thermal-wonder and with four of our team scoring points, we won the day.

Many thanks to Ken for excellent organisation. The hog roast and excellent ale rounded it off nicely. Sunday was drieh and wet with no flying possible, so all that was left to be done was the presentation of the trophies and some assortment of goodies from Airwave, the BCC's generous sponsors.

HH Tsai

See photo at: <http://www.dhpc.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f=2&t=71>

Baildon Sod

The famous Baildon Sod was held on Sunday 14 Sep. James Goldsborough was first off as the start was called. He made a good take off and flew three yards into the bracken on the other side of the fairway setting a distance that proved unbeatable. Pete Logan and Kev made the other side of the fairway, just short of the mark for joint second place. The Baildon bracken took a good beating again this year, as pilots failed to escape from its grasp and (along with the glider in some cases) disappeared from view amongst the five-foot high plants.

See photo at: <http://picasaweb.google.co.uk/paracomps/BaildonSod2008#5246307911904232770>

Club Nights

We have a visiting speaker at the next Club Night on Thu 2 Oct 08 at The Riverside Hotel in Ilkley. Ben Keayes will be talking about his experiences of Vol Bivouac in an aptly titled presentation – ‘**Four Bivouacs and a Hospital**’. Aim to get there before 8pm ‘cause the beer is cheaper then.

It's the AGM on 6 Nov. There will be no meeting in Jan (first Thu in Jan is New Year's Day) and we have provisionally booked Jocky Sanderson to talk about SIV and XC on 5 Feb so get that into your diary.

Riverside Hotel: <http://www.ilkley-riversidehotel.com/>

Pilot Exam

If you are interested in taking the Pilots' exam early next year please let Kate Rawlinson know (katerawlinson@hotmail.co.uk). We hope to get Northern Paragliding to run another revision day sometime in January. You may want to swot up using the Pilot Revision Packs available from the Club Library beforehand.

For Sale

Advance Omega 7 28 95-116kg in steel colours (the best colours and the best build quality you will see anywhere guaranteed). DHV2-3, 8th in 2007 XC league, 2nd serial glider and 9th overall in the British Championship 2008. £800. Impending comp wing forces sale, Contact John Ellison to have a try. Also Advance Impress 2 medium with speed bag (for pilot approximately 168 -187cm tall), 1 year old, immaculate condition. Cost £628 new - £450. I will help you to set up this excellent harness free of charge. This is the ultimate XC/comp harness with build quality and comfort second to none - guaranteed. 07791887693/01756748042/johnwingover@hotmail.com

If you have anything you want to buy, sell, announce or question then I am more than happy to include member's private ads in the newsletter. Send it to me at mrbaxter@hotmail.co.uk We hope to make space for commercial advertising on the website shortly...

Club Coaches

The jump from school to club can be intimidating. If you are a recently qualified CP, haven't flown a site before, haven't flown for a while and are a bit rusty, want some advice, or just need a reliable companion to fly with then please get in touch with a Club Coach. These good and trusty people have volunteered to help new pilots to our club.

Name	Available	Location	Phone
Hang Gliding Club Coaches			
Trevor Birkbeck	Various	Ripon	01765 658486
Alistair Irving	Various	Huddersfield	01484 844898
Steve Mann	Weekends	Kirby Malzeard	01765 650374
Paragliding Club Coaches			
John Ellison	Various	Gargrave	07791 887693
Noel Whittall	Various	Leeds	01132 502043
Steve Mann	Weekends	Kirby Moorside	01751 433130
Liz Addy	Weekends	Settle	01524 251682
Pete Logan	Various	Shipley	07720 425146
Peter & Sara Spillett	Weekends	Skipton	01756 760229
Tony Pickering & Zena Stevens	Various	Otley	01943 466632
Sean Ogi	Various	Howarth	01535 642304
Kevin McLoughlin	Weekends	Lancaster	07767 652233
Martin Baxter	Weekdays	Skipton	01282 841060
Ronald Green	Weekends	Hartlepool	01429 864229