

**Dales Hang Gliding &
Paragliding Club**



**NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2006**

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WINGS, OR SHOULD THAT BE WINDS OF CHANGE?

Editors note....

Well, here we go, the first newsletter from your new Editor, Ian Sadler. A little bit about me - I've been in the club about 15 years I think, and fly a floppy - or at least it's been known - but I've had a year out with injury. Believe it or not, not para related, but pram related—nuff said. My motivation for offering to publish the newsletter was a) to put something back into the club, and b) I couldn't think of a better way to get to know everyone again. People come, people go and it's difficult to keep track of everyone. I work away from home a lot so miss a lot of club nights too.

I'll cover off the minutes of the AGM later on, but on the subject of people coming and going, Trevor has decided to step down as Chairman. So a big thank you goes out to Trevor for steering the club throughout that time.

The first meeting of the new Committee was held w/d 27th November. There is a strong will and motivation to really try and make the club "work" for the members, and to try and do more for all pilots at whatever stage of their flying career they may be at—just out of school, or pushing for an extra 10k on a cross country flight.

As always, to a large extent, a lot of what can be done is down to **you**, the members—particularly in my job as newsletter. Each one of us has a unique experience, good or bad, every time we get the glider out of the bag. So please jot them down and mail them to me at dhpc.news@yahoo.com. Don't be afraid to tell other pilots about the bad days when it all went wrong, as well as the good days when it all came together. We can all learn from both. I aim to publish on the weekend prior to club night—to give everyone a bit of a kick in the butt to attend, but articles submitted will get used—if you have something to say that's time sensitive, then 15th of the month is a loose copy deadline.

Ian Sadler

INBOUND CHAIRMAN'S CHAT.....

Hi,

My name is John Ellison and I am your new DHPC Committee Chairman.

First off a bit about myself. I'm 39, been flying on and off for 8 years but really started seriously in 2002 when I moved to Gargrave in the foot of the Dales. This is my third year on the committee, previously in the roles of Social Secretary and Chief Club Coach. I love flying XC and competition, finished 8th in the British Championship this year, 12th in the XC league, ranked 10th in the UK, part of this years successful Bleriot Cup Team and selected for the British Squad for 2007. I fly an Advance Omega 7 competition wing.

I follow in the footsteps of Trevor Birkbeck who was an excellent Chairman from 12 BC right up till November's AGM. Unfortunately Trevor's work commitments meant he was not able to fulfill the Chairman's role and decided to stand down. This left a very large gap to be filled and I hope I am up to the job.

Right, straight to business!

Over the last couple of years the club activities have started to wane, with three main areas that have been identified by the committee as needing attention;

1. Club Website
2. Club Newsletter / Magazine
3. Club Nights

These three areas have been addressed as follows.

1. **Jake Herbert** has joined the Committee as Website Officer and is taking control of the website. One of his aims is to make it easier to update by the non computer geniuses like myself!
2. **Ian Sadler** has joined the Committee as Newsletter Editor. Ian will be developing the newsletter with the aim of distributing a newsletter every month.
3. **Club Nights** have been arranged by the committee and are advertised well in advance.

So you should start to see the changes in place soon.

The future looks bright and the club wants YOU to join in with it!

Why not come to the Club Nights? Many of the committee members are available to discuss any issues you have. There are some fascinating evenings arranged for your entertainment and advertised here and on the website. The lovely Liz, our bubbly Librarian will be there with a vast collection of all the latest titles of books, video's and DVD's for members to borrow **free of charge**.

You could also buy the new Chairman a beer, I know I will.....

Any comments/suggestions please contact me johnwingover@hotmail.com

!!See you at club night!! John

OUTBOUND CHAIRMAN'S CHAT—Greetings from Semerwater, Dales

Friday the 14th July and I'm as keen as mustard to get some miles in from a Dales site – I'd been working in the Borders the day before and the sky there was just to dream about, 5 to 6000 ft cloudbase for hour after hour – had to have been a 100 mile day!

Off I went to Semer and met Neil Cruikshank for a chat at the road – “Perfect for hangies, bit too windy for the PG's and, although a couple had gone over the back earlier, they didn't get far”. Met Mike Sunter at the wall and he volunteered to help me up the hill with my glider, an offer I couldn't refuse – what a hero.

Rigging on take-off and up strolls Ian Miskin and John Miller, both paragliding though Ian was keen to get hang gliding again when his leg was fully recovered from ligament damage. Chatted to them about the fact that Liz and I were out to dinner that night at Digby Rolf's with Nick and Lyn Pain and that if I went over the back, the brownie points might take a bit of a nose dive. Ian lobbed me off and, although there was one PG soaring now, I started to go down – Jeez, here goes my reputation!

After a few beats below the lower take-off, the Gods were kind and I got up OK; there seemed to be plenty of lift about so I started heading out from the ridge and hooked a climb which developed into a tasty 5 up though, typical with high pressure, the climb rate diminishes as cloud base is approached – now at 4 grand, I had to decide whether to risk the BP's and be late for dinner. After 1 second pondering over this no brainer, I set off over Hawes and found that there was lift everywhere.

The flight showed all the signs of being a very easy XC – just popping from cloud to cloud. After The Moorcock Inn, Baugh Fell looks substantial to cross – you wouldn't want to land in the middle of that with a hang glider – but, no worries, still lift everywhere so I sailed on to The Howgills. Worked climbs at the edge but it was a bit thin so moved over into the middle of the hills where the lift was better – the last climb off The Howgills was a lee-sider, a tasty 5 up to start with.

Crossed the M6 and now came to the decision time – all the clouds were continuing downwind over the Lake District and Ian Miskin's comment “Have you got your bucket and spade with you?” was fair, as the coast was on. However, I could kiss goodbye to the evening appointment if I crossed The Lakes so I turned right and headed North along the west side of the M6, where there were very few clouds, eventually landing North of Shap. 45k of fun.

Liz was still at work so I rung Digby and he set off to get me – 2nd hero of the day – we even went by Semer to collect my car and still got in for dinner by 2000 hrs. Great afternoon's flying.

Trevor Birkbeck

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

BHPA

Date	Course	Venue	Contact	Tel No.s	Info
January 20-21	BHPA Club Coach	TBC	George Cayley Andy Berzins	01964 535436	Nothing added
February 24—26	BHPA Instructors	Lilleshall		0116 261 1322	Tony Mitchell
March 10-11	BHPA Club Coach	Suffolk Floaters Hang Gliding Club	Phil Chettleburgh	01603 483985 Or 07747 885677	Paras welcome on course too!
March 24-25	BHPA Club Coach	Lanarkshire & Lothian Soaring Club	Sean Figgitt	01294 551403 or 07765 884225	Nothing added

MET OFFICE TRAINING

Met. for Aviators (2 days)

Course details

Met. for Aviators is designed to broaden and enhance the pilot's knowledge of aviation weather, particularly in relation to low-level route planning and safety. The course is aimed at light-aircraft pilots of all levels of competency and covers topics such as basic meteorological theory and the interpretation of met. charts.

Current list of course dates

FUTURE COURSES

Course Title	When	Where
Met. for Aviators (2 days)	11-12 December 2006	Met Office College, Exeter
Met. for Aviators (2 days)	22-23 January 2007	Met Office College, Exeter
Met. for Aviators (2 days)	12-13 February 2007	Met Office College, Exeter

We can also arrange extra dates on request for group bookings (more than 10 people) at the Met Office College in Exeter or at a location to suit your group - please contact us at met4aviators@metoffice.gov.uk for more information.

The cost of this two day course is just £249 +VAT.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

Met. for Gliders (2 days)

Course details

Met. for Gliders is designed to broaden and enhance the glider pilot's knowledge of aviation weather, particularly in relation to low-level route planning and safety. The course is aimed at glider, hang glider and paraglider pilots of all levels of competency with an interest in meteorology, or to help delegates prepare for the meteorological elements of the BGA Bronze 'C' badge by covering the topics listed in the Met. for gliders syllabus.

Current list of course dates

Course Title	When	Where
Met. for Gliders (2 days)	12-13 March 2007	Met Office College, Exeter

These courses are run at the Met Office College in Exeter - please contact us at met4aviators@metoffice.gov.uk for more information.

'I came to this course with many years of interest in weather and instructing in gliding. I found this course very useful.' Source: G Booth, Met For Gliders, December 2005

Full details can be found here:

http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/training/ct_aviation.html#gliders

If anyone ever does a course—at home or abroad—drop me a line—give it a review.

dhpc.news@yahoo.com

Or just out of school? Let us have your experiences—useful for enquiries for people wanting to get into the sport.

{{{{GENERAL NEWS}}}}

GOOGLE GROUPS

Just in case anyone hasn't been contacted by Pete, our Smartgroups Group is now defunct and we are going to try Googlegroups for a while. I must admit I've not had chance to delve into it myself yet, or to sort out my preferences, so any feedback from members about this option would be appreciated.

Remember— dhpc.news@yahoo.com

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## **GOING FLYING—THINKING AHEAD TO NEXT YEAR**

Some thoughts from OGI.....

Hello all,

The committee of the Dales Club discussed at the last meeting how we could develop a system of informing people where you were intending to go flying today.

There are no firm ideas as yet but you know the form, especially during the week when we get some better weather. You have checked the weather forecast, packed your gear, sorted the sarnies and have a couple of options of where to head for. For safety reasons you don't really want to fly alone, but you don't know where everyone else will be.

What we need to do is to devise some sort of mechanism for notifying others of our intent. We all accept that on site things may change, but if we can get something sorted out it will be a starting point for members old and new, to find some company.

It may be possible that the Google Group works for this, but any other ideas will be welcomed. To cover:-

- where you are heading
- rough time?
- maybe Wendy reading?

The objective is to provide something simple and effective that doesn't become a chore i.e. you don't want to be writing a bible as nice fluffy little clouds are floating past you window. Ideas for discussion to the web site or to dhpc.news@yahoo.com !!!

OGI

## ***THE DHPC WEB SITE***

<http://www.dhpc.org.uk/>

Is much improved and being maintained much more frequently. If you have anything you would like to publish or have comments about it, please contact Jake—[jake@facewest.co.uk](mailto:jake@facewest.co.uk) or give him a bell on 07974261554.

Instructions as to how to add your own posts are on the site too. Hopefully it will become a much more interactive resource.

**!!Congratulations!!**

...are in order—quick news update....

John Ellison, Jake Herbert and Chris Fountain were travelling down to the Birmingham show on Saturday 2nd December and meeting up with Dean Crosby.

There were trophies to be collected!

**Dean Crosby**—winner of National XC league trophy!

**Jake Herbert**—3rd in National XC league trophy!!

**Dean, Jake & Chris**—representing **Dales** as the Winning Club in the XC league.

More plus pictures in the **next** edition of **Skywords**.



## **Last but not least...**

## **!!!Your Text Here!!!**

Yes, that's right, you too can have an article, picture, rant, rave, etc. in Skywords by sending articles to me, Ian Sadler at [dhpc.news@yahoo.com](mailto:dhpc.news@yahoo.com).

I'm not overly worried about format but Word or RTF documents are fine, as is basic text. Been abroad? How did you get there? Where did you stay? Did you have a guide? What were the plusses and minuses? No article too small!!

Pictures, if you can do it at 72 dpi but I'd rather have material than not, and I can manipulate images if required.

**!!!IT IS YOUR CLUB SO GET TYPING!!**



# Lizzy the Librarian's corner....

# !!!!!!NEW STUFF!!

The DHPC library is available FREE to club members at the club nights. Come along and you can dip into Liz the Librarians 's bulging box of goodies (...steady ) and borrow one of the following titles:-

## DVDs—JUST IN!

**PERFORMANCE FLYING** - Jockey & the Ozone team on XC, SIV and Acro.

**PARAGLIDING, LEARNING TO FLY** - speaks for its self?

## Other new titles;

Rad Aviation - Paramotors; Go Further - Gin Paragliders

Flying the Nasca Lines - Gin Paragliders; Ozone - Ozone paragliders and more

Nova Dynamic Decisions - Paraglider safety characteristics

The Race - Robbie Wittall v a climber ( no contest!! )

X Alps - See Aidan Toase ( who will be visiting the club )

East Wind - directional flatulence? oops sorry, its about flying bicycles!

Red Bull Vertigo I & II - Acro at its best; Gin Gangster - Gin Paragliders

Vol Bivouac - flying and fly camping!

## BOOKS... including

Denis Pagan 's excellent ' **Secrets of Champions** ' and ' **Performance Flying** ' .



**YOUR club needs YOU!!!**

**COMMITTEE VACANCY**

The **SOUTHERN SITES OFFICER's** role is vacant. Sean is only filling in, sorting out the farmers for Xmas etc.—it's a crucial role so talk to John Ellison, Pete Logan or Sean to see what's involved. **PLEASE!**

The small print...FREE T & Biccies to be had at meetings.....

# CLUB NIGHT - 7th December



Steve Elkins of Bird Man of Bognor fame will be giving a talk on his exploits.

See you at the Riverside Inn Ilkley 8-8.30pm on the 7th December.

## GET INVOLVED

## More on TROPHIES.....



We're looking for nominations for four of the trophies that get handed out at the Annual Dinner Dance.

<http://dhpc.wordpress.com/2006/11/22/annual-dinner-dance/>

Obviously the committee can't know everyone or what they've been up to and can sometimes be too senile to remember anyway.

So if you've know someone you think has earned any of the trophies below reply to me ( [contacts@dhpc.org.uk](mailto:contacts@dhpc.org.uk) ) with who and why you think they deserve it.

- COCK OF THE DALES- most enthusiastic pilot
- COCKCROFT CUP- most improved pilot
- FAIRBROTHER TROPHY- pilots pilot
- MARK SELLEN TROPHY- services to club

## NOMINATIONS REQUIRED

Peter Logan

## SITES NEWS—No XC From Staggs or Nappa

Just a reminder....

Due to grouse shooting the club has agreed that there will be no XC flying over the back of Nappa Scar of Staggs Fell from August 1st- December 31st

Thanks.



proudly presents  
 The Annual Dinner Dance  
 on  
**SATURDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2007**  
 at



Set in magnificent countryside close to the market town of Skipton 'Gateway to the Dales' and not far from Pendle Hill.....

The Tempest Arms is a fine country pub offering all you would expect and a little bit more.... After the superb successes of the last two years we will be returning to the Tempest Arms. After the last two excellent events there are many happy people who can vouch for the quality of food and service at this excellent establishment.

We will be dining in THE PICKHILL BARN which can easily accommodate up to 70 and have the option of an annex for late bookers – so book early to be in the thick of the action as numbers usually well exceed this!!

**MENU**

**The Warm Up Act**

**MUSHROOM AND STILTON CASSEROLE**

Button mushrooms cooked in a light creamy sauce of Stilton and port

**A WARM SALAD**

Crispy bacon sauté potatoes served with crisp salad oatcakes and fruit chutney

**The Main Show**

**LAMB THINGY ME BOB**

The one and only famous joint of lamb born at the Tempest served on the bone topped with a real gravy of mint and redcurrant

**SALMON BLUSH**

Fillet of salmon served on a pool of sun blushed tomato sauce enhanced with basil

**The Encore**

**A STICKY TOFFEE MERINGUE**

Crisp meringue loads of cream and warm runny caramel

**OPEN LATTICE APPLE PIE**

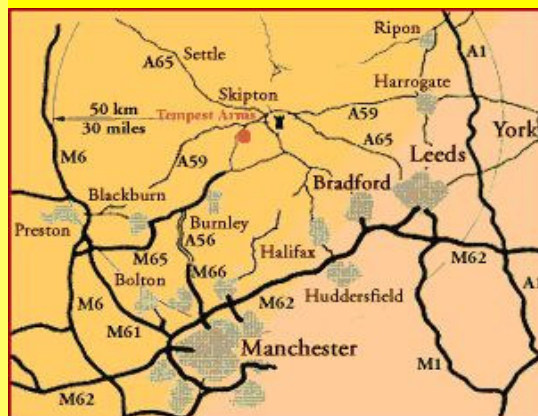
Served warm with ice cream

**The Drive Home**

**FILTER COFFEE**

With mint chocolate

**Arrive 7.30 for Dinner at 8**



**Tickets £25 including raffle!!**

**From: Tony Pickering**

**Tel: 01943 466632**

**Mb: 07740459888**

**e: anthony paul pickering@hotmail.co.uk**

**Further details and directions at:**

**<http://www.dhpc.org.uk/>**



## !!!!!!NOW AVAILABLE!!!!!! Dales 2007 Calendar

The Limited Edition DHPC calendar 2007 is now ready to purchase!

12 pages, 1 per month, each with a winning photo from the club photograph competition earlier this year, this must have item has now finished its first print run and is ready to purchase for the paltry sum of **£7.50**.

### **ALL PROCEEDS OF THE SALES WILL GO TO CHARITY**

Calendar's will be available to buy at the AGM or can be ordered from:

**Tony Pickering**

07740 459 888

01943 466632

Postage is 65p extra.

## **DALES CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—SUMMARY**

The full report from the AGM can be found on the web site. If you were unable to attend, you missed a night of great debate, challenging conversation and intellect only rivalled by that other Thursday night regularity, "Question Time". The key points:

- After presiding over the club since dinosaurs roamed the earth, Trevor Birkbeck stepped down as Chairman; John Ellison was duly elected.
- Dales was top in the paragliding club XC league with two pilots in the top 3
- Ian Sadler elected as Newsletter Editor, Craig Richardson stepped down.
- Membership at 180 was slightly down and made up of 142 paradanglers, 18 slightly more rigid floaters, 16 bi, and 4 not owning up!
- Tony Pickering continues to cook the books to perfection and as a result the club made a large donation to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.
- We also sold a few sites guides...the purchasers are still roaming the Dales looking for a way out as it's out of date. Updates will be posted on the web and it is hoped a new hard copy will also be produced. Up to now we have been pirating the Ordnance Survey Maps but Jake's done the honourable thing and contacted the OS. We'll pay. It's not that much.
- Liz reported the library was active and functioning; like most women asked for more housekeeping in order to facilitate increased rummaging around in her portable drawers.
- A motion was carried, hot and steaming, that the club would give a subsidy to BCC competing pilots travelling 120 miles to competitions—discretionary, a close run thing carried 7 to 6. Danglers and those more rigid welcome to apply.
- HG Competition Secretary is now Trevor Birkbeck
- PG Competition Secretary is Kevin Mcloughlin and Sean Ogi, partners.....?
- Website Officer will be Jake Herbert
- Safety will be Mick Bolton
- BP cup and Championships may visit this year, volunteers may be needed
- SOUTHERN SITES OFFICER POST IS VACANT—PLEASE APPLY

## AROUND THE CLUBS

As we do tend to be migratory beasts, in 2007 I'll try and liaise with other clubs and mention any points about sites etc. that are worth noting. At the AGM the issue was raised of a Dales Pilot Visiting Parlick and being challenged for membership. According to Pennine's handbook, and ours, we have a reciprocal arrangement with Pennine for most sites, and Cumbria too. The main problem is that these arrangements have not been formalised. The Committee will aim to address this.

In the meantime, North West Wales are holding a parachute repack. If you can't make ours and want to give it a go here are the details, as far as I can see there's nothing to say it's members only and organisers usually welcome support:

### North Wales Hang Gliding and Paragliding Club

Emergency Parachute Repack – 10.00am, Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2007  
Broughton Wings Sports and Social Club, Airbus UK, Broughton, Chester

Application Form: I wish to apply for a place on this Repack

Name .....

BHPA Memb. No

Full postal address ...

.. Postcode

Telephone .....

..... Signed

I enclose payment of the £10.00 fee (cheques payable to NWHGPC, please). Please send this Application to:

**J. Hazzard, Mill Cottage, Mill Road, Bronington, WHITCHURCH SY13 3HJ**

Confirmation of a place on this Repack will be sent to you, with joining instructions.

# ADVERTISING

Commercial advertisers please contact:

**Tony Pickering**

Tp 01943 466632 or Mb 07740459888

e: [anthonypaulpickering@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:anthonypaulpickering@hotmail.co.uk)

There is no advertising this month, and I've published the above out of sheer goodness of heart—mainly because all too often our reserves are what we lean against or sit on—with few thoughts as to what it's meant for.

But, from the next edition, Members Smalls (as in ads) will be back. If you've anything you'd like to flog, other than your husband, wife, girlfriend, boyfriend or combinations with a stiff piece of cane (steady) please get ads to me at [dhpc.news@yahoo.com](mailto:dhpc.news@yahoo.com) with, believe it or not "Advertising in the subject header.

**Next publication date 29th December....or thereabouts....**

**and finally.....**

**THE END**