



HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
TO YOU ALL!

JANUARY 1975

#### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I have been promising Jill Handley for some time now that I would get together something for the WINDSOCK. At last I have found five minutes to do just that.

What I shall attempt to do is to use this space each issue to keep you all informed as to my own and the committee's latest thoughts on Club matters.

I am very conscious of the fact that the committee must try at all times to make decisions based on, not only the feelings of its members, but also those of the entire club and, to ensure that the committee always knows the ideas of all of you, I would like to ask you to drop me a line whenever you have something to say. If you feel that your thoughts can best be expressed by you addressing the committee at one of its meetings, just let any one of us know and we will arrange it for you. What I am trying to say is - this is your Club; it will be run in the manner that you, the members, wish.

Sites - You received a detailed report on the sites in the last WINDSOCK - any comments anybody? As we said at the film night, we have now got the Firle site but flying can only commence there when we have the legal documents through. We will keep you informed.



HSC - is where it's at  
HSC - Accessory Shop  
HSC - Glider Repair Shop  
HSC - Radio-controlled Hang Glider School \*  
HSC - Agent in the South for Hiway and Wasp  
HSC - is a Member of the British Hang Glider Manufacturers Federation  
HSC - is a Member of the Hang Glider Manufacturers Association of America

**HAWKSWORTH**  
the Skysport Centre  
18 Coombe Terrace, Brighton, Sussex, BN2 4AD, UK.  
Telephone: 0273 693848

\*The Brian Wood International School Of Hang Gliding---Senior Instructor-----  
-----Brian Wood--U.K. & International Champion & holder of the 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ hr., record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (continued)

Mill Hill is still a problem but I must say that, if solidarity and co-operation from Club members are all that we need to succeed, then we have won. We must not lose heart. Many councillors have taken the trouble to learn about hang gliding and have decided in favour of our proposals. Neighbouring Councils are beginning to agree that hang gliding is a good sport and that any problems that exist are problems that can be solved in discussion and by organisation rather than by the use of by-laws. Many of you will have heard that the Countryside Committee of the West Sussex C.C. has decided that hang gliding "...is a sport to be investigated and encouraged." Brighton Council has adopted the same enlightened attitude. Arun Council, we hear, has decided that hang gliding is a sport to be encouraged and, to this end, is looking at its local Downland to see if there is anywhere suitable.

I have faith in the Adur D.C. coming up with the right decision ... we shall see!

As most of you will know, Martin Hunt, our newly elected sites and public relations officer has been elected as the first Chairman of the newly formed British Hang Gliding Association and therefore has sadly decided that he must resign his post with the SHGC. I would like to thank Martin for his efforts so far and assure him of our full support in his new job. I feel sure that he will carry to the new National body the feelings and desires of the fliers of the whole country.

Club House - The Club has been offered the use of a fairly large Coach House at the SUSSEX PAD pub as a club house. The pub is situated on the Old Shoreham Road, opposite the Airport and Mill Hill. There is a strong feeling amongst many members that fliers do not want this sort of facility. So that we can make a correct decision on this, would you all let us know your views. If you do want a club house, would you indicate whether you would prefer the place

to be available for use every night, once a week or once a month? As I keep saying, this is your Club; we want to run it in accordance with your wishes.

Supporters' Division - It has been suggested that we encourage the development of a Supporters' Division, Club, Association - call it what you will! The primary function of this would be to give the Club an extra source of revenue and to provide a source of willing helpers. There is a feeling that such a development would be against the wishes of the members. Please let us know what you think.

BHGA - We are very fortunate to have a new National body that is structured so as to reflect the wishes of the fliers. As with the Southern Hang Gliding Club, the new BHGA is utterly democratic and will be run without the influence of "little hitlers". I know all members of the SHGC are concerned that the sport should be kept as free as possible of restrictions and that all rules that are made should be made democratically and with the interests and the wishes of the fliers the most important criteria. I also know that Martin Hunt, Mark Woodhams, Miles Handley and Nick Regan, all southern people and all BHGA committee members are very much in agreement with my "anti little hitler" feelings so I feel confident that we have at last got a worthwhile National body (my wife says that I am always on about bodies - can't think what she means!).

That is all I have to say this issue; sorry to be a bit long-winded but I had a lot to catch up on. As I have said, please let us know if you have any worries with regard to the Club.

Hang happy...

  
Malcolm Hawksworth.

P.S Can we have volunteers please for the job of Sites & public relations officer. URGENT!!!

## REPORT ON THE BRITISH HANG GLIDING ASSOCIATION

As most of you will know, the SHGC organised a coach to Coventry for the inaugural meeting on 8 December. It had become apparent a few days before this meeting that the suggested BHGA structure as outlined in Flypaper was not going to be discussed. This worried us a great deal because we were afraid that any other deal would not give us proportional representation.

When we got to the meeting, preliminary talks revealed that the country was going to be split up into areas with one representative per area and a caretaker council formed. Although potentially dangerous, it became clear during the meeting that the SHGC was being well represented on this council and so our fears of being dictated to by someone outside the SHGC became groundless. The following people are part of the new BHGA executive and are members of your Club. Martin Hunt (Chairman), Miles Handley (Technical Safety Officer), David Tait (effectively co-Editor), Tony Fuell (co-opted for Public Relations) and Mark Woodhams (South East area representative).

Since the Coventry meeting, the BHGA council has already had its first meeting and I am happy to report that progress was rapid. Membership is simply - Flying and non-flying categories at £4 and £3.50 respectively. All BKSA membership has now run out of date, so those people should apply for BHGA membership without delay. NHGA membership will be read as membership for the BHGA until the renewal date on your NHGA membership card is reached. You should then apply immediately for BHGA membership - if you don't, you will be uninsured for third party risks, which is very dangerous. Any NHGA members who have recently paid £3 for a year's membership and are feeling guilty about the fact that the new BHGA membership is £4 should send £1 to the BHGA as a gesture of good will. BHGA membership cards, stickers, etc. and a new official magazine to replace Sailing

## STOP PRESS - M I L L H I L L

The recommendation from the Recreation Committee of the Adur District Council to ban hang gliding on Mill Hill has been rejected by a full meeting of the Adur District Council. The Council decided by a vote of 20 - 15 to refer the matter back to the Committee for further consideration. It seems likely, therefore, that we will eventually get a trial period when we can prove ourselves.

This decision was taken because 20 people are in favour of hang gliding and want to give us a chance. Also, they "have never, in years of Council work, received such a colossal mail on any subject as they have on hang gliding" (proof that a united club such as the SHGC really does work) - Thank you to all members.

There are more Councillors who will also be on our side when they fully understand the facts. From now on, therefore, EVERYONE must be on his best behaviour and all rules must be abided by. We are on our honour - let us not screw it up!

### MILL-HILL RULES

1. No flying after 14.00 on Sundays
2. No landing on top of the hill
3. No more than 3 gliders rigged at a time (derig if you are waiting for the wind)
4. One glider only in the take-off area
5. One take-off area only
6. All gliders waiting to take-off should be parked together (at least 3 glider lengths away from the take-off area or the footpath)
7. Ensure there are no members of the public about to enter the take-off area before commencing take-off. Give way to pedestrians, horses, etc.
8. No more than 3 gliders in the air at a time
9. Only those gliders capable of penetration and forward flight from the point of take-off to be flown at Mill Hill
10. Treat all other hill users with courtesy and respect at all times
11. No flying at all without third party insurance cover.

## BADGES

For those of you who were unable to attend the General Meeting on 27 November, the design marked "F" in the November Windsock was voted the winner. Sorry we couldn't make it a postal vote but that would have taken too long.

The winner was David Worth (no. 57) and our thanks go to all the other contributors, Derek Bond (55), Tony Brown (61), A Cherkas (48), Brian Gaskin (85), D Hadley (39), Frank Kemmery (72), Bill Lehan (friend), Ian Partington (60) and N de Viell (44). We also had a beautiful set of entries from the Bowthorpe Hellerman HGC (71) but unfortunately these arrived too late for consideration.

You will all be told when we have SHGC badges to sell.

## ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS SINCE 23.11.74

R T Craig-Wood	David Little
Robert Gordon	Michael Robins
Martin Hunt	R E Tanner

Associate - D D Robertson

## SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS

Please look at the date on the noseplate and, if your subscription is expiring, send the renewal without waiting for a reminder, thus saving postage.

## OVERHANGING LOADS

We have looked into the regulations for overhanging loads. If the overhang is under 6 ft, a bit of gaily coloured bunting makes you legal.

## SAFETY

PLEASE SLOW DOWN WHEN DRIVING ALONG MILL HILL. CHILDREN AND HORSES ARE REGULARLY ALSO USING THAT ROAD.

## OUR LOSS IS THEIR GAIN!

Martin Hunt has asked me to thank the Club for the honour done him in electing him to the Committee recently. He hopes his short stay before being pinched by the British Hang Gliding Association has enabled him to put in some worthwhile contributions to the Club. He wishes to announce that he is remaining a very keen flying member of the SHGC but regrets that, owing to the pressure of work on the main body, he will not be able to serve on the local committee.

## WING TIP

When ridge soaring, you can sometimes spot the presence of down-drafts and rotors by watching the angle the grass is being blown by the wind.

## DOGS

Most farmers with whom we have an understanding have requested that no dogs shall be allowed on their land. In addition, it is an obvious hazard to have a dog barking around a pilot about to take off. It distracts him and can trip up any person helping at the take-off point. If you must take your dog flying, please do keep him on his lead.

## WINDSOCK

This magazine will only appear when there is something to say - that's why there was nothing in December!

## CORRESPONDENCE, SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS, ARTICLES, ETC.

Please send to Jill Handley, Mallows, Forest Drive,  
Kingswood, Tadworth, Surrey