

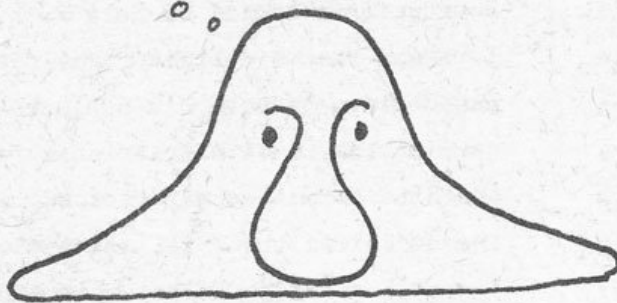


SOUTHERN
HANG
GLIDING
CLUB

JULY '81

This month: the return of:-

NEWTONS ARE
A FORCE TO BE
RECKONED WITH!



BLOB

(by Bill
Newton)

THE GREAT WHITE
KILLER THERMAL

(See centre pages)

Edited and produced by: Tony Fuell, 74 Eldred Avenue, Brighton

WINDS  **CK**

'Magazine of the Southern Hang Gliding Club'

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BEACHY HEAD: MORE BYELAW TROUBLE

SHGC faces considerable problems with yet another council over hang gliding from publicly-owned land, this time at Beachy Head. After considering the Mill Hill situation, Eastbourne Council's Health and Public Protection Subcommittee decided recently to recommend that the Council should withdraw its 1977 application for a byelaw, and seek a new one on the same lines as that applying to Mill Hill. The matter is to be considered by the full Council at its meeting on August 3rd, and the Club is already taking action to drum up support.

An Action Committee has been formed, and is seeking help from Club members to do all the things necessary to mobilise public opinion - circulating letters to Councillors, collecting signatures on petitions, etcetera. The Action Committee is being co-ordinated by Ralph Winser and Vince Hallam, AND THEY URGENTLY NEED VOLUNTEERS! If you can help in any way at all, contact them as soon as possible to volunteer your services. Their addresses are:-

Ralph Winser
Flat 3, 26 Grassington Rd
Eastbourne Tel: 643207

and:-

Vince Hallam
18b Queen's Rd
Brighton Tel: 609925

Apart from direct lobbying of Council members, the most important action will be the collection of signatures from

local residents against the byelaw - this will take a lot of time and effort, and will require the support of every member of the Club. Arrangements are in hand to set up a beachfront display of gliders and petition forms; the local news media have to be contacted; there is a mountain of work to be done.

How will you feel, if this time next year we've lost Beachy Head, and you didn't lift a finger to stop it?

SHGC SOCIALS

SHGC had originally booked the Fox and Hounds for a social on July 29th, but it seems that a certain royal personage has decided to have his nuptials that day, and so, full of patriotic fervour, the SHGC Committee has decided to CANCEL the social on the 29th, and put on a much bigger and better occasion on AUGUST 26th. As well as a bunch of very fine hang-gliding films, there will be a FREE parachute packing session, and Vince Hallam has promised to give a training lecture on stall avoidance. So DON'T FORGET : Not the Royal Wedding , but DO COME on August 26th! Venue is the Fox and Hounds pub, Haywards Heath: details from Paul Coidan, see address on back page.

HASTINGS COASTGUARD OPEN DAYSITES NEWS

Quite a lot of SHGC members KNOW that there's a site at Hastings, but so far, not all that many people have actually flown it. Which is a pity, because it is really quite pleasant, taking SSE through SSW winds on a cliff site about the size of Newhaven. Hang gliding in Hastings seems to be inextricably tied to town festivals: and what a change to see a town Council which is right behind the sport all the way!

Anyway, those of you who have'nt yet had a go at Hastings Cliffs should put the weekend of August 29 in their diaries, 'cos the Coastguards are having an Open Day, and the local hang gliderists have been asked to put on a display for the public : free flying if the wind is on the cliffs, static and/or powered flying if it is'nt. Other attractions include a Disco, bands and what I'd better describe euphemistically as... refreshments (served in brown bottles, I hope).

Don't forget : August 29th, in Hastings, details from organiser Peter Harris, 4 Burdett Place Hastings, Tel: 432042.



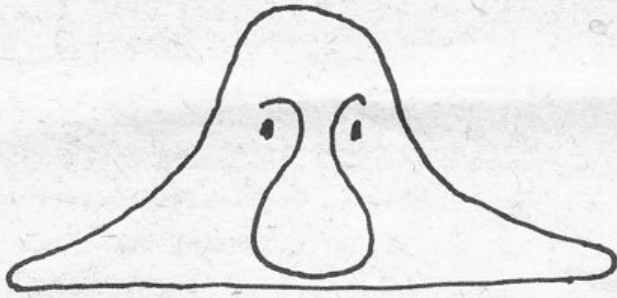
Mill Hill : all is not lost.....

SHGC has taken legal advice over the possibility of defending any further prosecutions brought against people for flying at Mill Hill. According to our solicitor, while it would depend very much on the individual circumstances of the case , he feels that it might well be possible to mount a successful defence, and thereby overturn the current version of the byelaw. With this in mind the SHGC Committee say that while they are not actually ENCOURAGING you to go and fly there, and reminding you that if you DO get caught, you're quite likely to end up in dock, there is a possibility that the Club would be prepared to help with your defence.... Anyone who does get reported, and thereafter recieves a summons, should contact the Secretary as soon as possible.

In the meantime, the tips passed on by those flyers who are continuing to defy the ban are:- (i) Don't take off if the police are around - it is'nt an offence to have a glider there, only to fly it- and (ii), if the police arrive while you are flying, either stay up until they're gone , or land in the field at the bottom. But de-rig before crossing the fence, please!

Ditchling : Unprecedented progress here: there's a real possiblity that not only will we tie up an arrangement with the landowner, but also the National Trust seem prepared to compromise on the use

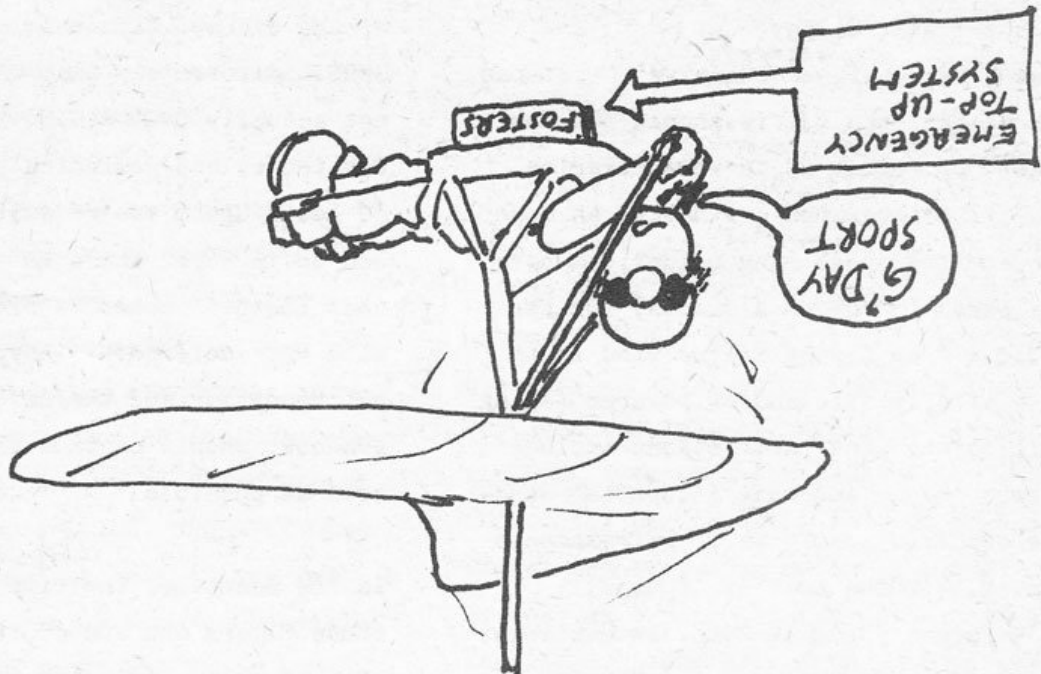
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BLOB

THE GREAT WHITE
KILLER THERMAL

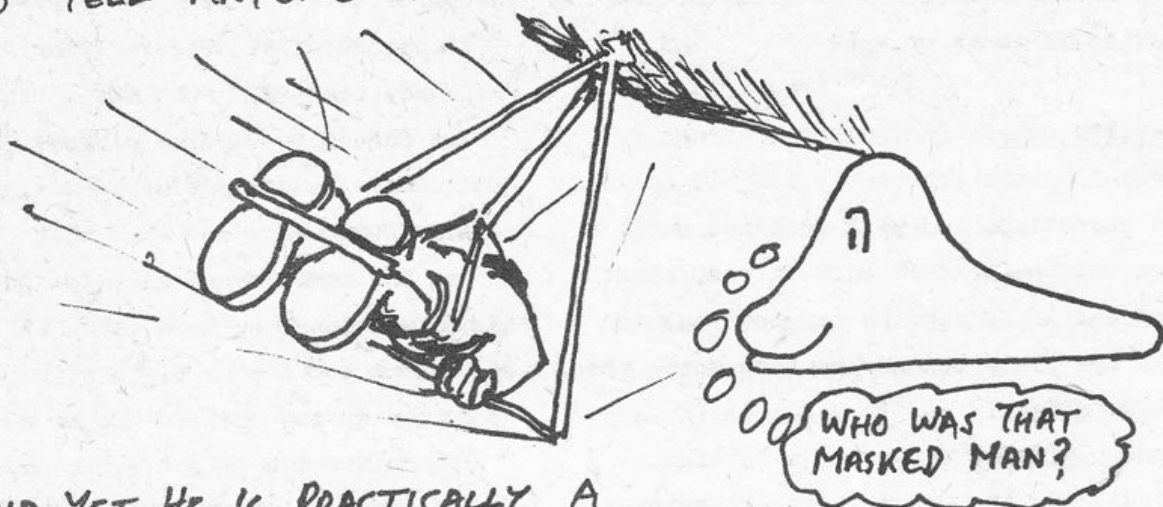
FOR THIS MONTHS STRIP I AM INDEBTED TO MIKE ROBERTSON, JUST RETURNED FROM AUSTRALIA, MIKE INFORMS ME OF A NEW FORM OF HANG GLIDING COMPETITION.



APPARENTLY, THE IDEA IS TO RACE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE HILL AT FULL DIVE, AND EACH RUN IS TIMED ON A STOP WATCH. THIS HAS GOOD SPECTATOR APPEAL AS THEY CAN TIME EACH RUN FOR THEMSELVES AS IT HAPPENS.



THE MAN WHO REALLY SHINES AT THIS IS A PERSON SO MODEST AND SELF EFFACING THAT HE HAS YET TO TELL ANYONE HIS NAME.



AND YET HE IS PRACTICALLY A SPIRITUAL LEADER OF THIS NEW HANG GLIDING SPORT. SPECTATORS COME FROM MILES AROUND JUST TO TIME HIS HIGH SPEED RUNS TO THE BOTTOM. YOU MAY HAVE HEARD THE SONG THAT THE FANS SING ABOUT THIS MAN:

"TIME MEEK HANG GURU DOWN SPORT,
TIME MEEK HANG GURU DOWN ----"



LAGER WASN'T BORN IN AUSTRALIA, BUT DID IT HAVE FOSTER PARENTS?

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of their land to the west of the car park which has been the cause of much of the aggro in the past. Things are at a very delicate stage just right now, so please be patient and don't fly that site until all the loose ends are tied up.....

Firle: Members are reminded that they should not use the top car park during the summer months. Also, the site and the car park must NOT be used for camping either in tents or vans.

Devil's Dyke : The system of fines for crop-landings (currently £10) is still in operation, and will continue until the bottom field is back in use, about the end of August. We can continue to use the field behind the barn until then. This is fairly easily makeable for a modern glider, flown prone in light winds, but the recent Northerlies have caught out one or two quite experienced people who encountered sudden and devastating sink while flying the NE face, and could'nt quite get all the way. So, if you think you're going down, it's better to commit early, and get over the road with a bit to spare, rather than hang on and face an expensive crop-landing.

All other sites: as per the Guide

NOTABLE FLIGHTS

Johnny Carr, SHGC's XC veteran did it again on June 21st. Setting off in a different direction to his previous epic, Johnny utilised the moderate NNE winds to fly from Devil's Dyke to the village of Harting, which lies at the foot of the Downs north of Portsmouth - a straight line distance of about 34 miles, and comfortably smashing his previous Club XC record of 27 miles. Flying his Comet, Johnny took off quite late in the day, and was forced to utilise ridge-lift, patchy thermals, and areas of zero-sink to make the flight - he reckoned that it was by far the most technically-demanding XC he has yet done. He said later that each time he got into a tight situation, lift turned up and enabled him to continue. Otherwise, the flight would have ended far short of where it did. Johnny has promised us all a full write-up of the flight - I've heard him tell the story, and it's really well worth listening to! On the same day Michel Carnet and Lester Cruse reached Littlehampton on the South Coast from the Dyke, an achievement which would have had us all in ecstasy last year. This year, barely a mention, sorry chaps (pay your subs, and I promise I'll mention you both again!)

SHGC GRAND CHARITY HANG GLIDING
EVENT : SOUTH DOWNS, 26/27 SEPT

GETTA HEAD : GETTA BADGE!

As reported in last month's WINDSOCK, SHGC is arranging a charity event to take place on the last weekend in September. The charity which will benefit from our fund-raising activities will be the Stoke Mandeville Appeal: something which has a particular interest for hang glider pilots, in this, the International Year of the Disabled. So start lining up your sponsors NOW : an entry form will be sent to you in next month's magazine. All pilots taking part will receive a Certificate of Achievement, and trophies will be presented to the most deserving fund raisers. We hope that the news media will cover the event, too, thereby giving us a welcome change from the usual catalogue of accidents... Incidentally, more volunteers are needed to help make this a really successful and worthwhile as well as an enjoyable event. Non-flying members, wives, accompanying friends, here's your chance: Contact Peter Harris (0424) 432042, or Tony Fuell (0273) 502952 and leave your name.

ACCIDENTS: NEW REPORT FORMS OUT

Don't forget : report your accident! Ring Vince Hallam (0273) 609925, and he will send you one of the new-style report forms. Make sure it doesn't happen to someone else - report it!

Super danglers need identification! Getta SHGC badge on your jeans and amaze your friends! Stick one on your car, and confound traffic wardens! Get your money in the post today...☺.

CLOTH BADGES : £1.00
PLASTIC : 50p (Windscreen or helmet type)

Send SAE and money to:-
Peter Day,
112 Cotswold Way, Tilehurst
Reading.

Badges carry the authentic SHGC bog-rog anachronism, very historic, yellow on black, super smart.

SHGC MEMBERSHIP

Club membership continues to look a bit pale by comparison with our former glory but we're up to 152; 37 new members this year. Welcome to everyone who's joined since last time - sorry about the dodgy photos in the last issue, and I'll list your names when I've got a bit more space!

SMALL ADS

Learn to hang glide with Vince Hallam's Sussex College of Hang Gliding. Spares, sales service on popular makes of gliders. Good Superscorpions welcomed in p-ex for Lightning, Demons, etc. 18b Queen's Rd Brighton, Tel: (0273) 609925, or 24151 (ext 171 - 24 hrs)

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THE COMMITTEE

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Chairman	Tom Knight 10 Spring Gardens Washington West Sussex Ashington 892770	Press/PRO	Peter Harris 4 Burdett Place Hastings Sussex Hastings 432042
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also...

Secretary (Work)	Paul Coidan 18 Kents Rd Haywards Heath Burgess Hill 47311		Jeannie Knight (see Tom's address, above)
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OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Treasurer/Membership Secretary*	Peter Day 112 Cotswold Way Tilehurst Reading Reading 21481		Graham Slater 22 Albany Villas Hove Sussex Brighton 25534
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Sites Officer	Dave Bluett 17 Concord Close Paddock Wood Tonbridge Kent Paddock Wood 4240		Geoff Snelgrove 42 Mount Park Ave South Croydon Surrey (01) 668 6615
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Club Coach/ATC	Eddie Horsfield 149a Ecclesbourne Rd, Thornton Heath Surrey (01) 684 4772	(work)	Steve Goad 18 Ember Wood Maiden Lane Crawley Sussex Reigate 42950
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Accident Reports	Vince Hallam 18b Queen's Rd Brighton Sussex (0273) 609925 24151 Ex 171		Peter Banks 13 Deepdene Ave Dorking Surrey Dorking 81282
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