

WINDSOCK



May 82

Membership Map



COMMITTEE

Chairman

Dave Bluett
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Maidstone 831215

Secretary

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Brighton 553286

Sites Officer

Johnny Carr
High Banks
London Road
BURGESS HILL
Burgess Hill 42324(W)
Burgess Hill 47654(H)

Club Coach

Eddie Horsfield
149a Ecclesbourne Road
THORNTON HEATH
01-684 4772
BHGA Instructor
Observer No.383

Accident Reports/ Club Safety Officer

Vince Hallam
18b Queens Road
BRIGHTON
Brighton 609925
or 24151 Ext 171
Observer No.403

Press/P.R.O.

Peter Harris
4 Burdett Place
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Hastings 432042
&

Adrian Whitmarsh

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Horsham 55761

Treasurer/ Membership Secretary

Peter Day
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READING
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Other Members

Steve Goad
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CRAWLEY
Crawley 519056

Pete Unwin

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Ted de Jong

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SURBITON
01-790 1860

All membership,
subscription,
Windssock enquiries to
Peter Day

EDITORIAL

A funny thing happened to me at Ditchling the other weekend. There I was, sitting on the hill with a small group of other Pilot 1's watching the 10mph wind with little enthusiasm, and munching a sandwich.

Our hope was that the light North Easterly would pick up so that the possibility of "a bit of a soar" would present itself - but no such luck - instead it dropped off to nothing - zero.

Suddenly my patent wind indicator, a grimy white handkerchief tied to a convenient twig, stirred - but in the wrong direction. I dismissed it as a momentary wayward gust, and switched my attention to a prone flyer back from the hill, just managing to stay up on a small thermal.

Slowly the freak wind made its presence felt by steadily increasing - I was amazed, particularly when we had to run to our gliders and stop them blowing away by turning them round so that they faced up the hill!

I finally twigged that what we had was a bit of sea-breeze conversion, the wind having changed from steady but light NE to stronger Southerly. The effect on the circling prone-flyer was quite spectacular - suddenly he was no longer struggling to stay up - he was rising in rapid 360's, and boy was he climbing.

Quickly he was high above us, screaming round in tight 360's, until he was a couple of thousand feet above us. Without further ado he went for it, riding the air rapidly away from us to the North West. We watched him until he was out of sight, envious to a man, before packing up and going home, as even the straight top to bottom was out of the question★ PP

WINDSOCK edited and published by Philip Pask on the 1st of each month. Contributions welcome - deadline for June's issue - May 25th. Advertising space available for the ridiculously cheap rate of £5 page. SHGC members small ads free. Contributions to Philip Pask, Flat 3, 7 Addison Road, HOVE, Sussex★

BEACHY

There has been further bad publicity in the local press following the recent accident at Beachy. At April 22nd's SHGC committee meeting the problem was discussed at length, and it was generally agreed that sheer numbers of flyers at the site is the cause of much of the friction there. Various suggestions were put forward to try and find a solution, including banning visiting flyers - dismissed as being unworkable, and even closing the site completely for the summer - again dismissed for fear that this could lead to losing the site completely. The committee finally decided to carry on as we are, playing it by ear, and generally trying to encourage sensible flying there.

FIRLE

The North Easterlies have been blowing good and strong for Firle lately, with many pilots taking advantage of the conditions. Bill Newton, of Blob cartoon infamy, achieved a very fine 12 mile cross-country there recently, finally landing at Patcham. Well done Bill.

DITCHLING

The National Trust have approached the club to ask if we still fly Ditchling! On being informed that we do, they have requested a £150 fee to continue using this year. The committee are writing to them to try and get the site's top car park opened up all year round for that price, rather than stay with the present ruling where the top car park is officially closed from April to September. As the bottom landing field costs the club £240 a year it was felt that this would provide a better return for our investment. ➡

STEYNING

Free Flight and Ultra Sports, the two schools controlling Steyning Bowl are pleased to say that the site is open once again. The bad news is that the schools have found it necessary to put the site feet up to £2, to include parking and flying. The schools also have plans afoot to hold a competition there later in the year - more details when I get them.

DYKE

The Pilot 1 discouraging £10 bottom landing fine in the big field at the Dyke is still in existence. Rumours that farmer Lee has upped it to £20 are not true.

Apparently Mr Lee blew his top over the Easter weekend due to some of his sheep having miscarriages, and fine's not being paid on the spot by those who didn't make the small field behind the barn.

Thankfully, oil has been poured on the troubled waters by committee members and the fine remains at £10★

Dear Philip,

I write to express my concern about the back cover of April's Windsock where you state that in ridge soaring-"a glider or hang glider overtaking another must do so between the glider being overtaken and the hill.

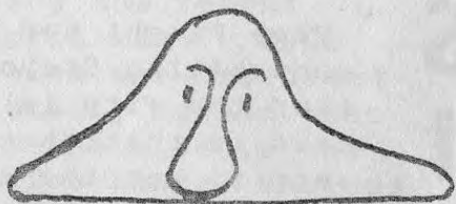
There is no must about it - air law states that-"An aircraft overtaking another shall alter course to the right, except for gliders in the United Kingdom which can overtake either side."

Vince Hallam.

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BLOB

THE GREAT WHITE
KILLER THERMAL



MY OLD FRIEND FROM IRELAND,
CUMUL O' NIMBUS, CAME
OVER TO SEE ME LAST
MONTH ---

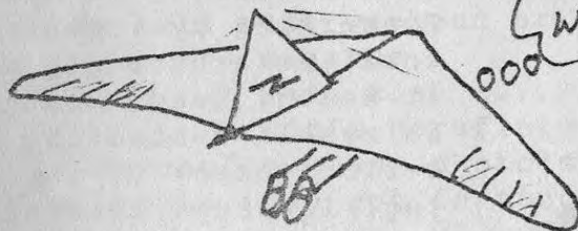


← GUINNESS
(DRAUGHT)

↓ DOWNDRAFT ↑ UPDRAFT

--- AND MADE A QUICK SNACK OF DAVE WOOLFORD

WELL YOU ALWAYS
EXPECT LIGHTNING
WITH CUMIMBS



AS THE WIND WAS NORTHERLY, DAVE CONSIDERED
THE ALTERNATIVES ---

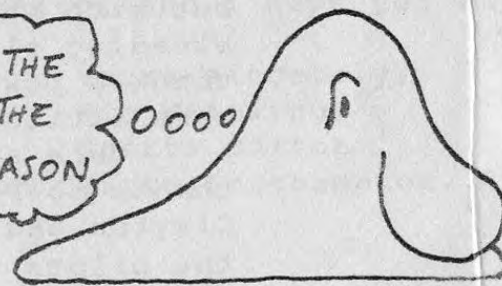


--- AND CAME DOWN BY 'CHUTE TO CONTINUE
HIS CROSS-COUNTRY IN THE STRONG WIND




BUT OF COURSE THAT'S WHY MY FRIEND CAME
OVER HERE ---

YES, IT IS THE
START OF THE
'CHUTING SEASON



AIRMAIL



Dear Editor,
Concerning my recent accidental parachute deployment at Beachy Head, resulting in myself sustaining a very serious break of the right leg. I cannot comment at the moment on this subject as it is still being investigated.

I wish to convey my warmest thanks to various members who have transported my wife from Croydon to visit me in Eastbourne Hospital. (I am now at home from 11.4.8 I will be attending Mayday Hospital in future. I have already had two operations at Eastbourne and may require a further op. yet!

On a lighter note, while in hospital a voluntary worker called round to see me and asked me to choose a hymn for Easter, so I looked down the long list and the only one I recognized was Amazing Grace, but then on the other page I saw one that looked more appropriate, it was called I'll Fly Away (just wish I could but with the weight of this bleeding plaster on my leg I think a powered job would be more fitting).

Once again particular thanks to Peter Harris, Dave Clayton and Colin Willis. All the pilots who sent some amus-

ing get well cards to me, and all the visitors. Eastbourne Hospital were terrific in every way to me, and I have even got two people who want to take up the sport. Expect to see me hobbling about the hill next weekend or very soon.

Regards,
Safe, High.....FLYING
Eddie Horsfield.

P.S. If anyone took any photo's of the parachute incident would they get in touch with me on 01-684-4772★

Dear Editor,
You mention that you may be flying in Spain this year. I have been contemplating a trip to Spain too.

Do you have any site information, and when were you planning to go. My plans revolve around going to the South in July, as some friends will be in Alicante around that time.

Good job with the newsletter!

Cheers,
Eric Atherton.

Has anyone got any current info on Spain for Eric? If so please drop a line to the Editor. PP★

Dear Mr Pask,
Thank you very much for writing in and telling us about the Southern Hang Gliding Club.

We realise the importance of hang gliding and we hope to do some coverage on this sport in the not too distant future. It is our intention to cover a wide variety of sports on our Sportshow.

Keep watching, and I hope you enjoy the programme.

Yours sincerely,
Vic Wakeling,
Sports Editor

TVS, Television Centre, Southampton, SO9 5HZ★

TV SPOT

Television South's Sportshow programme featured a ten minute slot on microlight flying on Friday April 16th, with presenter Fred Dineage being taken up in a two seater.

There was some good action flying on display, with a Sealander and what looked like a Demon unit being put through their paces.

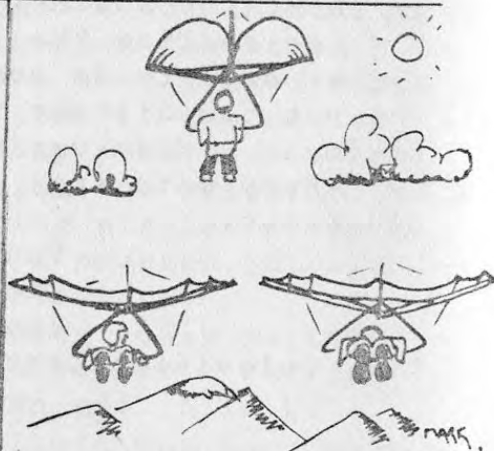
Fred Dineage mentioned that 60 new trikes and microlights were being bought in Britain each month, and the Civil Aviation Authority were looking into the microlight area!

Fred also interviewed Anne Welch about the growth of microlight flying, in her capacity as Chairman of the BMAA, and when asked, disclosed that two pilots had been killed flying them. She also passed some rather inane comments about pilots learning by their bumps.

She said that they were like little children learning by their mistakes, when they fall over they get up again. Fred Dineage replied that in this sport you don't make mistakes.

Her comment was that they certainly wouldn't make anymore! A poor spokesman for a branch of our sport!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ERIC ATHERTON who won April's competition with this caption: "This problem of finding and communicating with landing witnesses could jeopardise the Martian League."



IT WOULDN'T BUG ME NORMALLY, IT'S JUST THAT IT WAS ME WHO SHOWED HIM HOW TO TWEAK IT.

SMALLS

Hang glider to sell? Want to swop the old man woman for a Vario. Do it here absolutely free! Ads for June's Windsock to the Editor by May 25th.

FOR SALE Large 195 LIGHTNING, very little air time, good condition - £600ono. Also WASP prone harness, brand new, kept in cupboard - £400ono. Phone 3707 WADHURST.

WANTED - MINI FLOATER or similar wanted by 8 stone female Pilot 1 desperate to get back in the air. Help a lady out, will pay fair price for right glider. Phone the Editor on Brighton 202141 (Work) Cash waiting!

Due to popular incredulity at the price of tickets for the proposed Annual Dinner Dance - £10 a head, Johnny Carr has had a re-think and has found a new venue and a far more reasonable price-details below

Southern Hang Gliding Club

DISCO DANCE

SATURDAY, 29th MAY, 1982

FOX and HOUNDS
Fox Hill, Haywards Heath

8 p.m. - midnight

£4 incl. Food

ALL MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRED ON MAY 1st - RENEWALS TO PETER DAY WITHOUT DELAY - £25