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Our Paragliding Trips Calendar for 2000 (and beyond) is now ready, kicking straight off with an April jaunt to Tolo in **GREECE**, which should give the participants a "flying start" for the coming season, and shake a few winter cobwebs away (call now, we may still have a couple of places). September 16-23 sees us in the **FRENCH ALPS**, getting some high Alpine flying in Chamonix... just the thing to round off the English season. We'll be back in **GREECE** on October 14-21 to grab a little more flying fun! Beautiful scenery, historical sites, great flying, and fun activities if the weather is lousy. (ask for a colour brochure). Look out **LANZAROTE** - we're back in December for our Annual Event; it should follow the usual ripsnorting pattern of guided flying on this beautiful island, with soaring sites to fuel your dreams. **SOUTHERN SPAIN**: - we'll be returning to Hotel California early February 2001.

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March 2000

WINDSOCK

The Journal of the Southern Hang Gliding Club

SHGC 2000 AGM To be held on Saturday 18th March

at the
Clair Hall
Perrymount Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
Start time 7.30 pm

If you have any proposals for the AGM please
pass them to a committee member ASAP

Inside – Committee Reports for AGM
PG Coaching News
Summary of Committee Meeting
Marshalling Rota

ONLINE? - Join the SHGC Mailing List and
Discussion Group - details on the SHGC web
pages, at : www.shgc.demon.co.uk

THE SHGC COMMITTEE

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Chief PG Coach	Trevor McLoughlin	07747 628903	tjmcl@six.co.uk
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Competitions HG	Ozzi Haines	01273 418293	
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Steve Brewer	01403 710739
Adam Goodsell	01273 730782
Jerry Hansen	01273 461783
Jim Hardiman	0181 311 0683
John Lancaster	01273813482
Dave Lewis	01273 589787
Michael Lockerbie	0181 690 3638
Jon Munro	01793852483
Barry Philpott	01444 482225
Simon Oliphant	0171 476 5490
Mandy Sharpe	01273 589787
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Martin Brady	01444 233346
Will Greenwood	01273 477388
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Chairman's Letter

With the new flying season rapidly approaching, now is the time for those of you who have not been flying during the winter months, to dust down your hang gliders / para gliders, harnesses etc, and perhaps get them serviced by the dealer. It will almost certainly be worthwhile getting your reserve parachute repacked, either by yourself or by a qualified re packer. It is also worth pointing out that for those of you who did become couch potatoes during the winter months, that maybe your flying skills will have become a little rusty. So gently does it for the first few flights. No wingovers, stall turns etc. See you all at the AGM. *Paul*

Election Of Committee Members

All members of the committee are willing to endure another year of torture, with the exception of the club's treasurer Peter Day, who, after 25 years of service has decided to retire and pass the purse strings over to Martin Brady. Martin has been Peter's understudy for the past year and upon his election to club treasurer, assuming that no one else is willing to throw their hat into the ring, the committee post of treasurer's assistant will be null and void.

Should any of you, the members, wish to be elected for any of the committee positions, listed below, please get yourselves proposed and seconded either on the night or before hand in writing to any of the current committee members.

<u>Committee Position</u>	<u>Currently Held By</u>
Chairman	Paul Coidan
Secretary	Brian Brunswick
Treasurer	Peter Day
Membership Secretary	Sean Howes
Safety Officer	Dave Massie
Site Officer & Aero towing	Will Greenwood
Site Fee Collector	Sue Brooks
Chief HG Coach	Ozzie Haines
Chief PG Coach	Trevor McLoughlin
Airspace Officer	Michel Carnet
Competitions Officer HG	Ozzie Haines
Competitions Officer PG	John Lancaster
Social Secretary	Stewart Swanton

Marshalling Rota

18/03/00	PG		923	Andrew Balcomb	
18/03/00	PG		803	Christophe Sutehall	0181 330 5350
18/03/00	B		116	Ron Richardson	01342 893340
19/03/00	PG		821	Tom Taylor	01323 832 785
19/03/00	PG		111	Howard Rhind	0171 585 2445
19/03/00	HG		89	Dennis Childs	0171 639 8286
25/03/00	PG		1182	Dave Lewis	01273 589787
25/03/00	PG		1181	Mandy Sharpe	01273 589787
25/03/00	B		1187	Spyros Spyrou	0181 440 0994
26/03/00	HG		1219	David Drake	0181 508 0411
26/03/00	PG		1217	Neil Williams	01483 725232
26/03/00	PG		1210	Peter Robinson	01442 252533
1-Apr-00	HG	P2	493	Alastair Auld	01483 417087
1-Apr-00	PG	CP	1417	Paul Cropley	
1-Apr-00	PG	CP	897	David Parkinson	01903 502542
2-Apr-00	B	P CP	632	Rowan Gilpin	01444 242239
2-Apr-00	PG	P	417	Jerry Hansen	01273 461783
2-Apr-00	PG	CP	1107	John Ellison	01206 241166
8-Apr-00	HG	CP(H)	1019	Graham Simons	01903 783830
8-Apr-00	PG	CP	961	Robert Brown	01892 663338
8-Apr-00	PG	CP	334	Peter Unwin	01737 823517
9-Apr-00	B	CP(H)	817	Martin Cook	
9-Apr-00	PG	CP	1073	David Smith	01273 504373
9-Apr-00	PG		1416	Alan Jackson	01903 203554
15-Apr-00	PG	CP	1095	Kevin Short	0973 452780
15-Apr-00	PG	CP	1089	Mike Parfitt	0181 876 6479
16-Apr-00	PG	CP	1092	Nicola Robinson	0181 896 0680
16-Apr-00	PG	P	1090	Andrew Ellison	01206 241113
16-Apr-00	HG	P	1093	Paul Smith	0181 946 1519
22-Apr-00	PG	CP	1038	Paul Ward	01273 749955
22-Apr-00	PG	CP	1056	Jessica Townshend	01306 712394
22-Apr-00	HG	AP	1055	John Vernon	0181 423 5649
23-Apr-00	PG	CP	1109	William Yarman	01903 755831
23-Apr-00	B	P	1106	Harry Greene	0171 482 4927
23-Apr-00	PG	CP	1108	Diana Riordan	01403 891683
29-Apr-00	PG	CP	1119	Kevin Oversby	01273 773389
29-Apr-00	HG	CP	1120	Justin Sanders	01483 213003
29-Apr-00	PG	CP	1117	Alicia Thomas	?
30-Apr-00	PG	CP	1116	Christopher Stevens	01372 373756
30-Apr-00	PG	CP	1155	Richard King	01206 298045
30-Apr-00	HG	P	1167	Richard Toyne	0171 737 0459
6-May-00	PG	CP	1157	Alan Cardosa	0181 551 2311
6-May-00	HG	CP	1171	Jonathan Sherman	01403 217735
6-May-00	PG	CP	1176	Nigel Pickett	01883 348489
7-May-00	HG	CP	1247	Steven Puckey	01322 402752
7-May-00	PG	CP	1293	Bela Patel	0181 527 5243
7-May-00	PG	AP	1290	Ali Maddock	0181 3413383
13-May-00	HG	CP	1206	Robert Peck	0171 207 7289
13-May-00	PG	CP	1238	Hugh Waghorn	01892 652560
13-May-00	PG	CP	1255	Simon Steel	0973 904980

Summary of March Committee Meeting

from Brian Brunswick

Laminated warning signs for Dyke wanted by NT now ready, will be in cupboard.

Committee members putting resumes into Windsock.

AGM, everyone get ready, make sure info in Windsock etc.

New sites guide draft finally converted to PC format, everybody assigned a site to check out.

Negotiations with Eastbourne council will mean several new rules at site.

Next Christmas do already being planned, various possible dates discussed.

Southern interclub competition planned, as well as combined league.

Airspace news starting to hot up again, lots for Windsock

National women's training weekend to be held on club sites, we want to get good publicity.

Can we make relationship with paramotorers more inclusive?

(They are infiltrating committee!) Everybody seemed in favour, while cautioning that noise on free flying sites was of course unacceptable.

AGM REPORT from BRIAN BRUNSWICK, SECRETARY

The Secretary's Job

This consists mainly of minuting every meeting. (Come to the AGM if you want to see the full minutes) It also consists of picking up any stray tasks that can't be assigned to other posts. However, with our current excellent committee, these are practically non-existent, and so it's really an easy life. Special thanks should go to Paul, who takes on a lot of the sundry letter writing that becomes necessary.

Coaching

By Trevor McLoughlin

Well, there's not a lot to report this month. We've had a few good days flying, so the weather hasn't been too bad has it? We've had people get away from the Dyke on more than a couple of occasions, so things are looking up.

No one has got back to me concerning PLFs so I assume everyone's is perfect, but I have had a few calls with regards my ground handling comments. A couple of people found it a revelation that they could simply step under their wing and make it so much simpler, so they took the trouble to phone me and say thank you. However, some people still have trouble. I was on the Dyke a couple of Fridays ago and spotted at least two people fighting against their wing in an attempt to control it. I couldn't help them on this occasion as I had students with me. But if you see beginners doing this, please do them a favour by mentioning it to them. They will appreciate it – honest.

Lectures

There are still a few places left if you want to get in at the last minute for these, but be quick. I won't be able to take more than another four or five.

Remember, you must have completed all your tasks in the syllabus for Pilot before you can take your exam. These are all pretty straightforward; I posted details in last April's Windsock, but if you don't have that to hand talk to me on the 23rd.

For those of you not attending the lectures, but want to just take your exam, do get in touch. I shall be ordering the papers from the BHPA on the 24th of March.

See you there.....

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AGM - Report from Chief Paragliding Coach

Well, if you still want me as your Chief Coach, I'm quite willing to stand again this year. Of course I will gladly let anyone else take over if they are willing to take the job on.

I don't have much to report really except to say that there are nearly twenty people enrolled for the new series of lectures starting at the end of the month. Hopefully, later this year they will join the people that 'get away' regularly and leave more room on the hills for soarers.

I managed to get thirty people rated to 'pilot' last year; I shall try to improve on that this year.

Also, I shall try once again this year to get club coaches to meet once a month to air their views and to meet with new pilots.

I also want to get at least one of our coaches (I've got one in mind) a senior coach rating this year. Anyway, I'll see you at the AGM.

Trevor McLoughlin

SITES OFFICER / AEROTOWING AGM REPORT

As Sites Officer for SHGC, I have helped ensure that all the club sites remain open to members, and with the help of others clamped down on the "free-loaders" who try and fly OUR Sites.

I have liased with other committee members on the site agreements for Beachy Head as well as The Dyke and Mount Caburn. We hope these agreements will help ensure the continued use of the SHGC Sites.

Finally I would like to thank the rest of the committee for their work and support.

AEROTOWING GROUP:

The group is now in it's 3rd year with the membership around the 30 mark. We will have returned the initial loan back to the Club by April this year and then will be generating an annual income. The equipment has been kept to a high standard thanks to the work of the members and towing has been available (weather permitting !!!) throughout the year.

The group is looking forward to this year's season and hoping to improve on the current XC record of 159.40km (d).

Will Greenwood

Safety Officer's Report 1999

Last year has been a reasonable year safety-wise, if only for the reason that it wasn't a very good one for flying. Let's hope that this year, so far very good, is not one with a high accident rate.

However, this year's report sounds just like last year's - the same old things are happening on our sites.

On the paragliding side, my major concern remains overcrowding, especially at Devil's Dyke, and Mount Caburn. Too many times I have landed, uncomfortable at the overcrowding, only to see inexperienced pilots launching into the melee. Please, think before you take off into a crowd, consider that *you* may be the problem. Flying in such conditions just isn't worth the chance of an accident.

On the hang-gliding side, it's the usual problem of taking off and landing too slowly. Before anyone comments, I'm as guilty of the latter as anyone.

The other problem is the tendency of too many pilots to buy a new hot ship before they're ready for it. While watching 10 hour pilots fly off the hill on the latest topless glider is entertaining for the public, it's not for me - wondering if I have to fill in another form - or for the pilot concerned, who has just set his flying career back. The advantage of having 600 flying hours experience is that I realise how little 100 hours is....

May I finally put in a plea to be informed of any accident, however trivial you think it might be. I'd rather hear about an incident 10 times than not at all. If you see or witness an accident, please let me know. Fill in an accident form if required. I have a plentiful supply of BHPA accident forms if you're short of one.

Have a good, and safe, year's flying.

Dave Massie Safety Officer

Parachute repacking

The committee is somewhat divided over the issue of parachute repacking events. Other clubs, for instance, Thames Valley have organised elaborate affairs, complete with slides from which to launch yourself while throwing your 'chute. This has been considered here, until suitable venues became unavailable.

Some committee members have expressed concern about the liability issues regarding members who pack their own parachutes, especially when registered packers, recognised by the BHPA, exist to pack them.

In the past, Southern Club repacks have been on a 'do-it yourself' basis. Personally, I would rather see that than no repack at all. I personally pack mine, and have never had a problem throwing it at the following repack. What does everyone think? I'd like to know the demand for a) a pack-it - yourself event, and b) something more elaborate. (In either case, you could throw your 'chute at a repack event, and take it around to a registered repacker). Please let me, or any committee member know.

Dave Massie Safety Officer.



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Chairman's Annual Report

Ho Hum another year in the life of the Southern Hang Gliding Club comes to an end and it's time for me to write my annual report. What exactly have I done this year for the club? Bugger all I hear you cry. Close but not quite true.

What is the job of chairman? This is a difficult one to answer quickly as the chairman is actively involved in all aspects of the running of the club, and consequently has to wear a number of different hats. Of course there is always the daunting task of having to write the monthly chairman's letter which most times is an enjoyable task. However, very occasionally it can be a complete pain in the arse. But only when the creative juices dry up. I have enjoyed my time being you club chairman over the past year and have been actively involved in the decision making that is required to ensure the successful running of one of the largest Hang Gliding and Paragliding clubs in Great Britain. We of course have had some daunting challenges throughout the year but these have not been insurmountable. We have also had some very enjoyable challenges during the year. Two that spring to mind being the 25th anniversary celebrations and the annual dinner and dance. I am happy to carry on as your club chairman for another year as long as you are happy to have me.

BELOW: Johnny Carr "Ghostbusting" at Devil's Dyke...



AGM REPORT from the Membership Secretary -

Sean Howes

This is probably the most demanding job on the committee (at this time of year).

The job involves many duties, these are, keeping a database of all the club members, banking of membership fee's sending out site guides and stickers to new and renewing members, organising of the marshalling rota and sending the guide / reminder to the members.



It has been a good year in all, but I do find myself being asked by other members on the hill, who is / should be marshalling today? You few naughty members that don't turn up for your marshalling duties (you know who you are !!) spoil it for the rest of us. Next time please do your duty for the club and the other members.

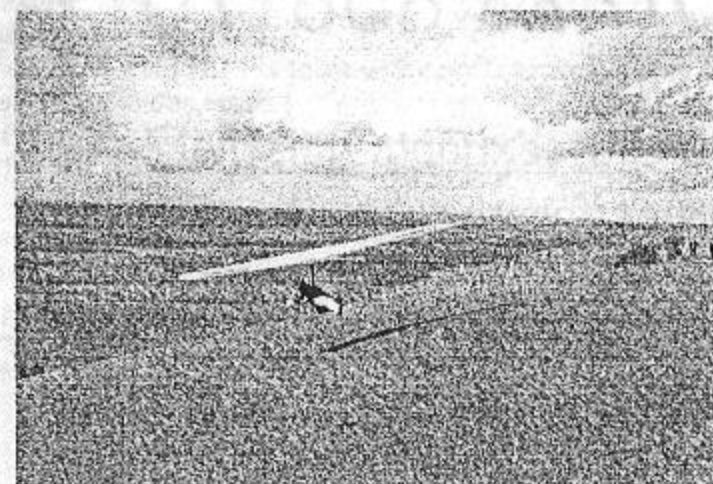
Club memberships taken from club database 5 March 2000

Members from		Members	Total	HG	PG	Both	NR
Air works	12	1999-00	480	107	332	39	
Free Flight	3	*1998-99	470	118	314	38	125
Green dragons	3	*1997-98	469	109	322	38	116
Purple Haze	5	*1996-97	455	113	295	47	110
Sky Systems	29	*1995-96	384	93	249	42	73
Sussex Hg Pg	31	*1994-95	388	96	251	41	125
Form from the Net	12						

NR = Non renewal

*xxxx-xx data taken from last membership sec (Dave Mathews)

Below; more Ghostbusting with JC...



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Airspace News *by Michel Carnet*

There are plans by Brighton & Hove/Worthing Council to make Shoreham Airport more commercial with scheduled flights. This may mean an increase in the Controlled Airspace which may restrict our flying. Steyning Bowl, Truleigh Hill and maybe even the Dyke could be at risk. I am following this up with the bodies concerned, together with the Southdown Gliding Club, the BHPA and the BGA. Watch this space!

Airspace maps:

The new 1:500,000 chart "Southern England & Wales", edition 26, is expected late March 2000.

The new 1:250,000 chart "England South", edition 4, is expected late April 2000.

Significant NOTAMS:

► **April 1-2:** PFA Flying for Fun Roadshow, Headcorn (Kent). Events run 1000-1700, telephone 01273 461616. Because of Gatwick TMA, many small aircraft will fly along the Downs to and from Headcorn.

► **August 17-20:** Airshow. Shoreham Airport. 01273 296900. Air display with jets and fly-in. Also many air movements on Friday 16th and Monday 21st. Truleigh Hill and Steyning Bowl to be avoided. The Dyke is also quite close.

► **September 2-3:** Airshow at Eastbourne. Also many air movements on Fri. 1st and Mon. 2nd. Beachy Head and High Over out of the question. Firle is borderline with caution.

Paragliding XC League: Anytime in Sussex - Positions as on 01/03/2000									Total
1	Michel Carnet	Ozone Electron L	32.7	32.4	32.1	21.3	15.0	6.9	140.4
2	Simon Smith	Gin Bonanza	21.1	17.5	11.4				50.0
3	Paul Andon	Apco Open	21.0	11.7					32.7
4	David Newns	Edel Open	12.0						12.0
4	Mark Watts	Gin Open	12.0						12.0
6									0.0
7									0.0
8									0.0

The **cross country season** has arrived and the XC league is now in full swing.

There are three paragliding tables:

- The Martini; Anywhere, Anytime.
- The Sussex; Anytime.
- The Sussex; Weekends.

There is also a new combined HG/PG table with handicap for Sussex Weekend flights: See Oz Haines article elsewhere in this issue.

The rules of the Club's PG XC League are the same as of the National PG XC League, with one exception: There is no minimum distance for straight flights.

Those rules were last printed in April '99 Skywings and are printed on the back of the entry form printed elsewhere in this Windsock.

Any future rules introduced by the BHPA Comps panel will be applicable to the Club XC League.

Michel Carnet

Paragliding XC League Entry Form

Pilot name:

Phone (home):

Address:

Phone (work):

Postcode:

Fax:

Email:

Date of flight:

Duration of Flight:

Launch method (please tick) Hill: Tow: Winch: Paramotor: Dual:

Paraglider Make:

Model:

Size:

Paraglider/harness Class (please tick) Serial Class: Open Class:

Launch site:

OS Co-ordinates

Launch witness details:

Launch site:

Landing point

Landing point:

Landing witness details:

Optional

Optional

Start point (if different from launch):

Start point:

Turnpoint #1:

Turnpoint #1:

Turnpoint #2:

Turnpoint #2:

Finish point (if different from landing):

Finish point:

Distance claimed in km:

Please send your photographic evidence with this form (all items labelled, named and dated) to Sky Systems Ltd, 66 Woodbourne Avenue, Brighton BN1 8EJ. or fax on 01273 566330. Declaration: I certify that the details given are correct and accurate. Signed and dated:

	A	B	1	2	3	4	5	6
OS Co-ordinates								
Launch site:								
Landing point:								
Optional								
Start point:								
Turnpoint #1:								
Turnpoint #2:								
Finish point:								
Distance claimed in km:				X 2 ?				X 3 ?

Rules of the SHGC Paragliding XC League 2000

All flights must be flown on a paraglider between November 1st 1999 and 31st October 2000. Pilots must **personally** submit their flight details within one calendar month..

The XC League is open to all classes of paragliders. There will be an overall winner as well as a Serial Class winner. Open Class paraglider models are displayed as "Open".

When more than one paraglider is used, the wing with the most distance is listed. Dual gliders are allowed but only the pilot in command scores.

Only a pilot's six best flights will count. They can be Open Distances, Out & Returns or Triangles. Open Distance flights may have up to two photographed turnpoints and are measured around the course. Minimum distance is 15 km for all flights with turnpoints.

More than one entry may be possible from a single flight, as long as each entry has its separate complete sequence of photographic start/turn/finish points, but on the same film.

Completed Out & Return flights score double the flight distance when the majority of the flight is out of ridge lift.

Completed Triangle flights score three times the flight distance as long as they conform to the FAI 28% rule (the shortest leg of the triangle must be at least 28% of the total distance). However, a completed Triangle flight which fails the 28% rule scores double the flight distance when the majority of the flight is out of ridge lift.

Photographed Start and Finish points may be different to the actual Launch and Landing points, but then distance is only measured from the Start point to the Finish point.

Take off and landing witnesses are recommended, if not essential, in order to prove a flight when challenged. When claiming photographic turnpoints, the launch site and the landing point **MUST** also be photographed (from the air or on the ground). Witnesses are **NOT** allowed for turnpoints. It is the pilot's responsibility to provide photographic evidence of turnpoints in the form of either prints with negatives or slides.

Turnpoints must be specific ground features, precisely described on the entry form, photographed within the correct FAI sectors. It is recommended to obtain the FAI Sporting Code Section 7 from the BHPA office to ensure full understanding of photographic turnpoint sectors.

Ordnance Survey co-ordinates in the form "AB123456" are required for the launch/start points, the turnpoints and the landing/finish points (**nothing else will do!**). When reading OS co-ordinates from GPS, ensure the Datum is set to "OS grid" or "British grid", rather than the default "WGS84".

All flights must comply with current airspace regulations and restrictions.

Cheating and poor airmanship may lead to disqualification with publicity.

A New League for the SHGC

A new League will be introduced this year to try and find the best overall pilots in the Club.

In order that we even up Hang Gliders and Paragliders, we have put into place a handicap system whereby the distance flown is multiplied by your chosen crafts "bonus".

It works like this; if a Class II Hang Glider, Class I Hang Glider, Open Class Paraglider or Serial Class Paraglider all take off at the same place and later land at the same place, the Serial Class Paraglider would score the most points.

Handicaps are as follows:

- 1 kilometer flown by Class II Hang Glider 2 points
- 1 kilometer flown by Class I Hang Glider 3 points
- 1 kilometer flown by Open Class Paraglider 5 points
- 1 kilometer flown by Serial Class Paraglider 6 points

As an example, if you fly 25km on an Open Class Paraglider, you will score 125 points.

If you flew 30km on a Class II Hang Glider you will score 60 points.

All scores will be taken from the Sussex and Weekend Leagues only, and will include Triangle Flights, Defined Flights, Out and Returns, etc.

Any comments, improvements, abuse etc. please direct at:

Ozzie Haines : 01273 418293

NOTICEBOARD

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Paramotor DK GT + Humming Wing; 1998 Quality + reliability, Includes all kit required to fly immediately, -Radio, GPS, Helmets, Suits, Varios, reserve, F.F. Harness, OIRO £4,500; Rod 01865 881763 (3)

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Davron 804 vario, new longer life battery, version 3 software, ASI, Barograph, £250. Jerry -01273 461783. 0973 460168

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APCO FUTURA 28, Yellow, 75-90kg ACPUL Performance, under 12 hours, as good as a brand new glider. Also, Charley Reserve Large; Kevlar Backplate; APCO full-face Helmet. 07887 60 59 58 email.brian@usa.net

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NOVA X-RAY 26, red. Hardly used. £1999 (£2249 retail). 01273 556695

METAMORFOSI 16-gore "classic" paragliding reserve. Good nick. £199. 01273 556695

POD II hang gliding harness, small. £150. call 01273 556695

SOLAR WINGS Typhoon S4 180 White mylar L/E. All blue wing. Very low airtime, excellent condition - stored indoors. £400. SOLAR WINGS cocoon harness with 24' parachute - good condition £100. Dave 01243 574190.

AIRWAVE K2 .C of A, low airtime, lovely handling, stored indoors. 2 spare uprights. £600. 0208 874 9522

ADVANCE SIGMA 4. Large, 32 hours, as new; 2 tone blue ("wave") with Rap harness, large Profly reserve, vario, instrument panel, new Charly helmet with radio attachment. £2,300 the lot. Mel, 01730 821544

WINDSOCK

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