

Club Bulletin 207

February 2016



Published monthly. Aimed mainly at club contacts/secretaries. Covers administrative topics and news from the Executive Council. General interest items are repeated in Skywings magazine for all members.

BHPA

1: Courses

Club Coach Courses

6th - 7th February 2016

Flylight Hang Gliding Club Contact: Sean Westrope
Tel 07799 718 436 sean.westrope@icloud.com

5th - 6th March 2016

Lanarkshire & Lothian SC Contact: Nicky Atkinson
Tel 07935 938 976 nickysi@hotmail.com

19th - 20th March 2016

Northumbria Club Contact: Alistair Guthrie
Tel 07859 935 159 alistair.guthrie@gmail.com

Trainers Conference

23rd - 24th February 2016

Open to all BHPA Instructors

Instructor / Senior Coach Course

12th - 14th April 2016

This will run only if we have sufficient numbers.

EPSL Course

Date TBC Contact: Stephanie Blankley
stephanie-blankley@bhpa.co.uk

For more information contact:

*Stephanie Blankley, 0116 289 4316
stephanie-blankley@bhpa.co.uk*

2: National Trust Sites

Back in December 1998, John Clarke, the BHPA Sites Officer, negotiated a joint agreement with the National Trust (NT). It encouraged flying at NT properties and provided guidelines on how best to manage flying activities. In the year 2000 these guiding principles and good practices were lifted by the NT into its very own document 'Recreational Activities and National Trust Properties'.

Following a question at the last AGM and various flying issues at NT sites, for the best part of a year I have been trying to validate these principles with the NT. Eventually I managed to get a response from a 'grown up'. He explained that NT has gone through a process of de-centralisation and that they no longer consider either of the documents to be valid. Any decision to allow (or deny) flying at a NT property now rests entirely with their local team. This means that we cannot expect similar decisions, rules or costs at different NT properties. (In a separate piece of work I have been collating the fees for flying at various NT sites. From what I have so far, I can report that fees vary between £50 and £400pa.)

I argued that local NT teams, who have little experience of flying, might be tempted, through ignorance and fear of the unknown, to refuse flying activity on 'safety grounds' rather than trust the views of the club. He assured me that the safety case presented by a BHPA Club or School would be respected, and that anyone who is refused permission to fly is entitled to know the reasons for that refusal.

A retrograde step from my perspective, but a dead end all the same.

For more information contact:

*Martin Baxter, 01937 586 628,
martin-baxter@bhpa.co.uk*

3: AGM

The 2016 BHPA AGM will take place at the Belfry Hotel, Nottingham, on Saturday February 27th in tandem with the BGA's AGM and trade exhibition. To include:

- Election of Officers to BHPA Executive Committee
- Officers' reports to AGM
- Presentation of BHPA Merit Awards
- Members' discussion forum

4: Club Visits

Would you like to learn more about the BHPA? Have your questions answered? Learn more about where the money from your subscriptions go?

Marc Asquith, Chairman, Martin Baxter, Sites Officer and other Exec members as well as our Technical Officers are all available to give talks at club meetings.

For more information contact:

*Michelle Lanman, 0116 289 4316
michelle-lanman@bhpa.co.uk*

5: Schools Admin

Please ensure you are using the current documents for examinations and Student Training Books etc. Please use the link below to

http://www.bhpa.co.uk/pdf/BHPA_printed_versioned_documents_list.pdf

