



Kernow Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association

APRIL 2010

Grand Photo Competition



This month's crisp fiver went to Sara Waller for her photo of a lovely day at Sennen, with Hubby Nigel in the air and Graham A about to take to it.

Flying on the North Coast? An IMPORTANT reminder:
The first pilot flying at Perranporth, St Agnes or Chapel Porth must always
contact the Air Traffic Controller at Perranporth Airfield.
Telephone number 01872 552266

Chairman's Chat

The next KHPA meeting will be held at 8.00 pm Tuesday 11 May 2010 at the Clinton Social Club, Redruth.

The xc coaching trip to South Wales was a big success with 20 KHPA members attending. The weather could have been better but nevertheless everybody got to fly. Two pilots got away, and some new pilots experienced inland thermals for the first time. Late Saturday afternoon on the landing field in front of the Blorenge at Abergavenny, saw many Cornish faces with huge smiles across them. Many congratulations to all the pilots involved and especially to the KHPA coaches without whom the trip would not have happened. We are planning to do another xc trip on 8/9 May which will have been

completed by the time of the next meeting. Bragging rights will go to those who cut the umbilical cord.

Graham Phipps is going to give a talk about the use of flying instruments at the next meeting which is another strand in the knowledge base that the successful cross country pilot needs to have.

Lastly, if you have a nomination for the award of this year's Steve Penaluna Trophy, please let me or Secretary Tim know. We will vote on the nominations at the next meeting. The criterion for the Trophy is that it goes to a pilot whose exceptional attitude is recognised by their flying peers.

Be careful with those spring thermals. Fly actively and keep the canopy above your head.

Mark Woodhams

Kernow hits South Wales!

Three different perspectives on a very successful coaching weekend away

No.1 from Graham Austin

The Wales trip was excellent, with lots of help and tips from Pete Coad and Graham May.

The first day at the Blorenge was a hot and very light affair, waiting patiently for a bit of wind to lift us straight to cloud base, as Pete, on his paraglider, had demonstrated was possible. I took off, expecting to fly straight down to the bottom landing field, but to my surprise I picked a small thermal which took me back level with take off. After losing that one, I took a slow glide to Abergavenny, where the bottom landing field was, and did what I thought was not a bad landing, only to be told by Mr. Coad that it didn't resemble the landing technique we had talked about hours before (lots of speed, light wind, big flair!)

Day 2. Off to another site called Pontlottyn. This time plenty of wind, so a hanger only day. Graham, Chris and I all rigged our gliders and prepared to take off. Graham went first to see what conditions were like. I followed him soon after, with Chris just behind. This felt a real challenge, with lively conditions to cope with, but slowly gaining height.

Within 20 minutes I was following Graham round in circles going up and up! And just as I thought we were on our way to cloud base... nothing! Down we came, flying back to the hill. Another 10 minutes later I found myself going up alone, away from the safety of the hill, slowly climbing up to 2000 ft and flying over the valley behind, where I'd been told not to fly into. Then another valley passed below me and another. There's no going back now, I thought. Then suddenly I had lost the thermal, and slowly coming down I looked to find a good landing place. Merthyr Tydfil was coming up with some nice football fields on the outskirts, so I aimed for them. On final approach I flew low over a housing estate with lift popping off everywhere, so I needed all my concentration to keep it together and not under or over shoot the football fields. Fly in fast, I thought, with a good flair, but I ran into a bit of rotor at the back of the field and landed (not one of my best). But no broken bones or bent hanglider.

So to sum up the weekend: lots of flying, meals down the local pub and a beer or two, and lots of helpful encouragement from Pete and Graham. I look forward the next one.

No.2 from Chris Whittaker

So for those of you that missed the trip, the KHPA Hangers (3) & Dangers (15) met as arranged in the Waitrose car park, Abergavenny, at 9.45am on Saturday 10 Apr for the vital business of breakfast. That done & after Coady ensured the BCC round was held somewhere else, we set off 1,500ft up to the top of the Bloreng. After leaving the cars and a short carry to the top, we arrived to very little wind & few thermals.

We all know the drill - rig the gliders then hang wait.

The Hangers watched with interest as Coady went up, up and away on his paraglider. Our attention then switched to the antics of the KHPA Dangers, as there always seemed to be something involving a carried duvet going on. At 3pm, after watching a couple of local Hangers go straight to the bottom, we decided it was time to follow as there seemed little prospect of an improvement in the conditions. Me first, and after flying straight through one thermal shortly after takeoff, went without further lift straight to the very scenic landing field in a park beside the river. Very nice, and all very good, until I unclipped to see the two Grahams getting the best of the day in some late lift. Bugger; missed a half chance there.

The camp site at Crickhowell was pleasant and cheap, but more importantly Coady managed to get all of us booked in for a pub meal at very short notice (tip, have the lamb joint), and just to put the icing on the cake, he then negotiated an excellent price for breakfast and even got the pub to open an hour early!

The next day dawned beautifully, but the wind reports were not so good. After breakfast the Hangers set off with some optimistic Dangers for the oddly named ridge at Pontlottyn.

We arrived and rigged in 18-25mph gusting winds and flat overcast conditions. The Dangers drove off to try their luck on the West Country moors while the Hangers got ready to launch with the clouds breaking up. The two Grahams went ahead this time and then I followed with a positive take off and right turn down the ridge to join the others. About 1/3 of the way along and some good news, the left wing went up! Vaguely remembering something said in a Portreath hall, I waited for the lift to decrease before turning towards it. That

was the end of the theory, as Daisy hadn't covered the conditions on this day, and what was happening next. My glider was all over the place, turned to the left and right, up 200ft and then down 300, all the time flying at speed to keep control authority. And then the glider just stalled, went quiet as the nose dropped, and everything started all over again. In hindsight it's a small surprise that I was still trying to follow Coady's instructions from the ground over the radio, obediently turning when told to follow birds I couldn't see and wasn't really looking for. After 15-20 minutes (I don't know) of swinging all over my control frame, I realised the option to top land was there, as my height and position were perfect and it seemed a reasonable thing to do in these conditions, so I did! Turns out we had taken off in to "out of phase wave" which is a term I don't understand beyond my new experience that it is as rough as "wave" is reputed to be smooth. Two good points I'll take away from this flight are that I didn't panic, and I actively kept flying the glider while I worked out what was going on. I never did work out what was going on, lift, sink and turbulence were everywhere but without any pattern at all.

The two Grahams stuck it out and got away cross country to Merthyr, congratulations to them both but particularly to Graham Austin on his first XC. Obviously I was jealous to have missed out for the second day, and beat myself up about it for a while. Also, for a while I felt it was letting Coady down to still be on the hill when clearly XC flights were available. However, after a short reflection it was clear that, as I was rusty (only flown once this year) and the conditions would have tested me on any day, this wasn't the time for my first XC. But I'd flown two new sites, made my own decisions, sharpened up and learned loads in the air and on the ground. Most importantly, I was going home fit and well, with my equipment in good condition, after a fun and very sociable weekend.

It has to be said I'm very glad of experiencing that flight at Pontlottyn but if hang gliding was like that every time, I'd stop doing it! Hopefully we'll all be back there soon.

Thanks once again to the coaches for taking the time and trouble to guide us in Wales.

And finally, from Steve Dredge

Re the Wales trip...only thing I've heard is that my colleagues in the South Wales Police are investigating a barn fire at a remote farmhouse at the bottom of the Bloreng! A suspect was seen to limp away, whilst flicking the V's, and shouting "Best twenty quid I've ever spent Taffy!!" The suspect is described as a "spritely" male in his 80's, with a twinkle in his eye. Anyone we know?????

Coaching Weekend

Pete Coad has announced that the next weekend will be in South Wales again, hopefully on the weekend of 8th-9th May. As before, ring Pete for confirmation on the Thursday night.

Kernow Cross Country League 2010

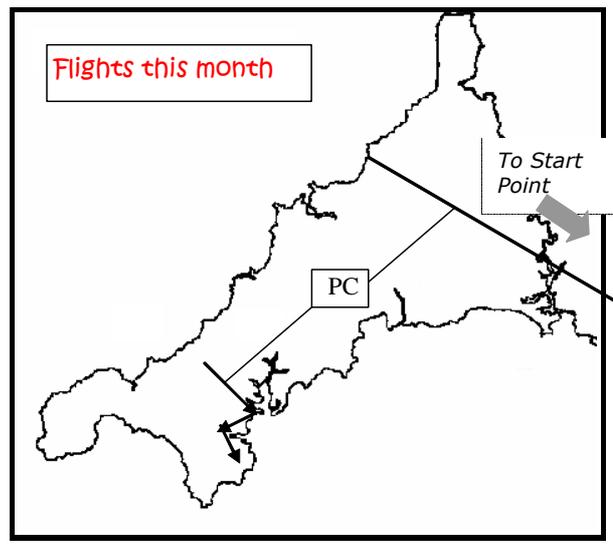
Well, both leagues are becoming one-horse races now! The up-and-coming Pete Coad being the only one to be out flying, it seems. A fantastic flight on his hang glider from High Cliff to Start Point over Easter eclipsed all other entries in that league, then a very interesting and technical zig-zag from Carn Brea to St Keverne via Falmouth and Constantine on his paraglider strengthened his unassailability in the poncing table. Which prompts me to clarify that in the National leagues, flights via two waypoints count as open XCs, so they do in ours, too! Who will challenge the supremacy of our resurgent hero?

KHPA Paragliding Cross Country League 2010

	Name	Team	total (m)
1	Pete Coad	Bulls	37.65

KHPA Hang gliding Cross Country League 2010

	Name	Team	Total (m)
1	Pete Coad	Bulls	52.97
2	Tim Jones	Bears	13.76
3	Graham May	Weasels	12.51
4	Graham Phipps	Weasels	11.95



IMPORTANT REMINDER!

Club meeting nights are now on the second TUESDAY of each month. May's meeting will be in the "nice" room at the Clinton Club on Tuesday 11th May

Minutes for the meeting of the Kernow Hang gliding and Paragliding Association held at the Clinton Social Club on Tuesday 13th April 2010

Welcome Chairman welcomed the 19 members attending and opened the meeting at 8.10

Apologies Bill N, (Taking wife shopping!!) Chris W, (collecting family from train)

Monthly photo comp' won by Sara W.

Minutes of the last meeting Proposed by Pete Coad, seconded by Graham May

Matters arising

Draft letter concerning BCC. Chairman Mark said the letter had been sent to Skywings and would be in the April issue. He said that there had been a round of the BCC in Wales the previous weekend, coinciding with the Kernow excursion, but there had only seemed to be a handful of pilots, and there was no conflict, site wise.

Mark also brought attention to the SERA proposals, copies of which most BHPA members should have received, although it seemed many had not. Mark said they were very draconian measures, which would severely restrict most sport aviation in Europe, and most organisations concerned, including the BHPA, were up in arms about it. There seemed an almost deliberately short consultation period, which had now expired, and a show of hands revealed only three members had responded. Mark said he would watch developments, but many people felt common sense would prevail, and any legislation would be very different, and less restrictive than the proposals.

Mark also reminded members that the Steve Penaluna Trophy is traditionally awarded in May, and asked all members to consider their proposals for recipients, and let either him or secretary Tim know before the next meeting.

Pete Coad reported on the coaching sessions held since the last meeting. He said he was thrilled by the interest shown, and numbers attending the Saturday session in Portreath, and he said the weekend trip to South Wales was a resounding success, with everyone flying, and many gaining new experiences, including a first cross country. He said it was the largest number of Kernow members going away together that he could remember!

He said he hoped to organise another trip, probably to South Wales again, possibly over the first weekend of May.

Chairman Mark thanked Pete, Mark Butler and Graham May for all their efforts.

The proposal, by Steve Macilduff, for KHPA to buy a Go-pro helmet camera, or similar, and possibly GPS units for members to borrow was discussed, and suggestions for other types of camera were made. It was agreed that Graham Phipps, Dave Stevens and others would bring in a selection of cameras for inspection, and a vote would be taken on the proposal at the next meeting.

Regular reports

Competitions Steve Hawken said there was nothing in the offing paragliding-wise. Pete Coad said the hang gliding Open Series started in South Wales over the early May bank holiday weekend.

Club Flying: There had been quite a lot of flying, much of it at Carbis Bay. There had also been an epic day over Easter at High Cliff, where it was slightly too strong for paragliders, but some fun was had on hang gliders, with Pete Coad making a short excursion of 50 odd miles to Start Point.

CHAPS training: Graham reported seven days on the hill and seven days towing this month, so a pretty busy month, with one student getting to hang gliding CPC tow rating within a week, and Nigel W achieving his paragliding hill rating.

Incidents: Ray M had an interesting meeting with a Welsh farmer after accurately landing his paraglider astraddle an electric fence! He suffered a gashed leg, but thankfully his dancing is unaffected!

Tim discovered the importance of reading conditions in wavy conditions at Carbis Bay, when his glider failed to lift off on attempting to launch, resulting in a broken upright, muddy knees and dented pride.

Other business

Steve Macilduff showed a relatively cheap cycle GPS that he and Raymond had both bought, that could download tracklogs to Google Earth and Google Maps, which looked very interesting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05

KHPA contact details

If any details are wrong, or missing, please let Tim Jones know.

Mike Abbott	01736 798598	07866 170632	Lee Knight	01209 831748	
Fiona Austin	01805 622560	07947 410882	Graham Koller	01736 711017	07814 133536
Graham Austin	01805 622560	07946 706558	David Langley	01566 781503	07968 975857
James Bull	01752 851773	07734 294858	Peter Lazenby	01872 279718	07838 154994
Mark Butler	01209 822363	07971 795559	Manuel Lira	01326 319161	07866 367310
Patrick Buxton	01872 274667	07887 841813	Graham May	01209 843380	07989 231386
Mike Cleford	01736 710376	07973 177459	Stephen Mcilduff	01872 520759	077988 253608
Pete Coad	01209 716522	07977 841117	Raymond Mickleburgh	01872 863006	07773 027263
Peter Crockford	01326 376550		Bill Northcott	01579 340465	07547 126489
Stephen Dredge	01208 851442	07772 192111	Jeremy Ovens		07846 073316
Ray Duggan	01752 691718	07590 011447	Tony Peach	01902 757003	07525 867007
Paul Dunstan	01209 217304	07979 328159	Alan Phipps	01872 273839	
Nigel Eagle	01637 880546		Graham Phipps	01209 842877	07785 593559
Mark Finch			Kaz Phipps	01209 842877	07970 228294
Allan Fowler			Martin Shrosbree		07974 427958
Glen Fowler	01326 374938		Christiane Squibbs	01884 820836	07971 287958
Mark Fowler	01209 719819	07919 522897	Dave Stevens		07772 549076
Dean Fullwood	01326 311237		Wanda Summers	01736 762991	07919 613361
Steve Hawken	01872 571582	07841 780418	Kevin Taylor	01326 374412	07775 994640
Barry Hobbins	01326 318143		Roger Treneer	01736 368407	07974 493424
Paul Howse	01326 574498	07749 890061	Ron Vercesi	01736 361555	08180 115501
Steve Hunt			Sarah Waller	01736 786615	
Alan James		07929 132006	Nigel Waller	01736 786615	
Gay Jones	01326 574498	07812 710883	Richard Welsh		07753 825630
Martin Jones	01736 871246		Chris Whittaker	01209 860401	08701 715748
Tim Jones	01209 832234	07795 482351	Jeffrey Wood	01736 793298	07748 813358
Michel Kerhoas	01326 374726	07767 887834	Mark Woodhams	01326 378555	
Alan Knight	01209 831748		John Woollams	01637 879281	07972 196872
			Charlie Zahra	01872 222945	07712 785020