



Kernow Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association

JULY 2007

Dune bashing at Praa Sands



Paul Howse surfing at Praa Sands!

Cabin fever does terrible things to people! On the fateful day of July 1st it drove two normally sane individuals to take an old Clubman, on a blown out day, to Praa Sands!

Amazingly, not only did our heroes (Paul Howse and Phippsy) survive the flying, they actually enjoyed it, and agreed that they should do it again sometime!

Pictures by Gay Jones



Paul commits aviation



Phippsy escapes after launching Paul



Some gulls playing spook the hangy (or is it a mad hangy playing spook the gulls?)

British Open Series 2007 Round Two: the saga continues

The Yorkshire Dales was to be the setting for round two over the late May Bank Holiday. With a poor forecast there was a lot of debate as to whether to go or not. Pat B and Steve H opted out whilst I decided to go, based on the premise that the Saturday whilst not looking epic would probably count in the overall series, and as current leader I could not afford to miss it and should any of the other days prove flyable that would be a bonus.

Leaving Cornwall on the Friday afternoon I picked up Craig Dolwin in Bristol and Al Mole just north of it- he had kindly offered to drive retrieve, so making life easier all round (allegedly). It's a long way to the Dales and each year I forget just how long. Still, 8½ hours later we arrived in the Hardraw campsite, safe and sound. After a quick tent pitching it was into the Green Dragon just in time to miss last orders.

Saturday dawned a little breezy but bright with just the odd shower. After the customary breakfast in the Wensleydale Pantry we headed to the briefing, where there was a surprisingly high number of pilots, with only a few of the regulars missing. The forecast was delivered, and promised a good day to start with before conditions deteriorated as time went by. Cloudbase was forecast at around 5000' and a moderate westerly breeze, so the ever convenient Wether Fell was the place to be.

As we rigged, the sky was looking good and several free flyers enjoyed the conditions along with some Paragliders, who bobbed up and down in the improving thermals. The task was set as a 128k race to goal by the coast, which reflected the positive attitude on the hill. By the time the window opened at 12.00 the first of the paragliders were approaching cloudbase and on their way over the back. Phaffing around cost me about 10 minutes before I launched, which resulted in me being in the lower half of the climb which was to see the first gaggle leave the hill. A mistake I was to regret. As the start gate opened at 12.30, the first gliders shot off down wind some 500' over my head, leaving me to climb with the lower pilots before we could follow into the moors. Heading downwind it quickly became apparent that things were not so good and gliders spread out searching for lift. The lead gliders got a good climb and those high enough joined them to make good progress, whilst the lower pilots found themselves struggling over high ground with the prospect of a long walk out. I was one of these. Finding a weak climb with three others I slowly worked my way to safety with one other, leaving the other two to claw their way to a landing where there was a road. Leaving the high ground, I was again in trouble as the lead gaggle sped on its way under a good sky. With Airspace approaching the option of drifting down wind in bits and bobs was not on and a good climb was needed. Justin Needham came in above me as I worked broken lift, and pulled away vertically. Below me, long grass in a field

was moving in a near perfect circle indicating a thermal, whilst above me Justin did pretty much the same, but all I could find was weak broken lift.

Justin, with his extra height, moved off a little and found better lift to which I moved and fortunately quickly centered, putting me on my way back to base at 4,700', where I joined up with three other gliders. A good spell followed, with us knocking off nearly 20k at cloudbase in pretty much a straight line before things slowed as we reached Sutton Bank. Here we split up, with the other guys pushing on on track whilst I headed north to a better looking sky. This paid off, and as we moved into a heavily shadowed area I was able to look down from base as they struggled down low. Picking my way slowly towards goal it was now clear that this was not a race but a matter of staying airborne. 40k from goal and a sea breeze front had pushed inland, and whilst it was useable, it was going perpendicular to track, so sooner or later it had to be flown into. Entering at cloudbase I was amazed at how rough it was, with the glider twisting and turning at will. A few k into it there was a climb, but whilst strong it was broken and taking me in the wrong direction, as the drift was now 10 mph from the east. After making 600' it disappeared as quickly as it had appeared and I pushed towards goal, hoping for another. It was not to be, the air smoothed out at about 300' above the ground, making the landing a pleasant one, at 31k short of goal.

Everyone who got within 50k of goal had pretty much the same experience, although the earlier gliders didn't hit the front until about 20k from goal. Grant Crossingham won the day with an excellent flight putting him just 7k short. I pitched in 8th which was the cost of phaffing. Something I won't forget.

Turning my phone on, I was greeted with a text from Al, advising that he wouldn't be able to pick us up as he had broken his leg! It turned out that whilst attempting to land, he overshot his chosen field and failed to see the adjacent power cables, which flicked him upside down, causing a rapid return to earth. Other than the leg and a few cuts he was fine, a lucky escape. Unfortunately no sooner had the air ambulance whisked Al away, than a Paraglider impacted on the top of the hill following a collapse, resulting in the pilot having a very heavy impact. The land ambulance was just leaving Al's field so was on site within minutes and the pilot was again air lifted away. Sadly he later died of his injuries.

Sunday and Monday were both blown out so once again it was a one day comp, which leaves me still leading the overall series but only by the smallest of margins. Due to the lack of tasks an additional meet will now be held in S E Wales over the weekend of 7-8 July with the 14-15 as a back up.

Graham Phipps

(Read Graham's next exciting installment in next month's bulletin!)

The Mere bash

The Avon Club would like to invite you to our annual Mere Bash party in a field! With no Blorenge, Homegrown or Wessex bash this year, we're pulling out all the stops to have THE party of the summer.

It's a pretty relaxed affair, big marquee, live music to jump around to, ludicrously cheap beer, bouncy castle for the kids, BBQ, belly dancing, and bags of flying of course. There's even a trophy for the furthest flight of the day, handicapped to include hangies and comp wings.

The event kicks off on Saturday 1st September, any time from midday. Get your tent up in time for the BBQ, the band kick off around 9:00 and

play till midnight, and then the party goes on till the wee small hours around the campfire or whoever's taking house DJ duties.

Tickets for all this fun are only £10 in advance, £15 on the door. £10!! You can't ask for more than that, and so all we ask is that you do send us a cheque in advance so we can pay for the beer, band and of course porta-loos!

To get your tickets, please drop me an email, and send a cheque to:

Richard Zaltzman – Avon HGPG
36 Beauchamp Road
Bishopston
Bristol
BS7 8LQ

More aerotowing (This time in Holland)



Tug and Hangy taking off

At the beginning of May, Paul and I drove to NE Holland for a week of aerotow training. The weather reduced this to three days, giving us time to explore a country we had not visited before.



Our Jolly Green Tug

Despite being truly flat, Holland was not boring: it seems so different in its landscape, architecture, culture and food. A very interesting place to visit was Bourtagne: a Dutch style fortification, with earth ramparts and water filled ditches. It was built in the 1550s, and has been added to through various campaigns until its last use in the 1850s.



Bourtange from the air

The event was hosted by a microlight club, who made us extremely welcome, allowing us the use of their campsite, showers and clubhouse and being very relaxed about protocol and the practicalities of sharing the airstrip.



Water tower at Bleriot Plage in Normandy

Kernow Cross Country League to July 23rd 2007

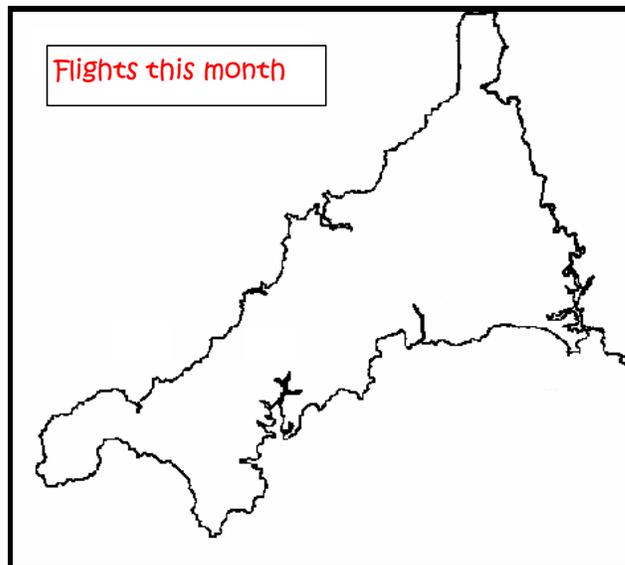
How boring! Nothing to report, but then that's hardly surprising considering the weather we've had. Here's to some decent weather for the rest of the summer!

KHPA Hang gliding Cross Country League 2007

Position	Name	Team	Total
1	Barry Green	Bears	19.77
2	Tim Jones	Rhinos	17.47
3	Steve Hawken	Lions	14.81
4	Roger Green	Bears	11.34
5	Graham Phipps	Weasels	5.78
6	Chris Whittaker	Rhinos	3.26

KHPA Paragliding Cross Country League 2007

Position	Name	Team	Total
1	Jon Trewartha	Lions	18.24
2	Al James	Bears	17.62
3	Pete Coad	Bulls	17.03



Report from Turkey...

By Mark Ashton Smith

Here are a couple of events that you might want to know about in Olu Deniz if you're thinking of having a flying holiday there this summer.

❖ Belcekiz Beach Acro Games - 8th - 12th August.

This acro competition is open to ALL pilots. All levels. All schools. Come and learn a few tricks, help make a world record, or come just to party. With entry to this competition you will receive free camping at the Sugar Beach, by the beautiful blue lagoon www.thesugarbeachclub.com, free transportation to Babadag, free food during competition days and beach parties. The competition runs alongside an International Beauty Competition, combining press coverage

and parties:-) The scenery in Olu Deniz will be absolutely amazing!!

We are attempting a world record!! We've made it before, but we want it to be official. 400+ pilots in the air launching from Babadag, landing on Belcekiz Beach.

We can also arrange airport transfers and hotel accommodation for non competitors, contact us for details.

For more information check out this link:
<http://www.bbacrogames.com/>

Note - you don't have to compete in acro to come along to this event!! It is basically a big party...

❖ **8th Olu Deniz International Airgames. 17th - 21st October**

<http://www.babadag.com/en/index.php>

Mark and Annie can help with cheap accommodation in Olu Deniz for either of these events.

Olu Deniz is a great place to practice SIV (spirals, B-lines, asymmetrics, stalls, etc), acro (wing-overs, SATS, helicopters, etc), thermalling and XC.

Whatever you want to work on, at your own pace.

(See picture of Mark AS recovering from scary dynamic full stall over the sea last Saturday!)

Hope to see you out there...



Mark AS

Minutes for the meeting of the Kernow Hang gliding and Paragliding Association held at the Clinton Social Club on Monday 9 July

Welcome Chairman Dave welcomed the 21 members attending and opened the meeting at twenty past eight.

Apologies Old Al is in Australia. Manuel, Phil Austen & Mark B all sent apologies.

Minutes of the last meeting were read & signed

Matters arising

- Sec to contact Martyn Jones re sounding out land owner about signs on gates for Sennen Cove and Gwenvor.
- Sec still to contact Roger Full re placing old sign from the gate at Carbis on a post.

Regular reports

CHAPS training Graham had 6 days on the hill and one in the tow field. AD achieved his HG hill endorsement. Dougal Martin, Dave Beard and Raymond M all achieved PG hill endorsements.

Look out for the guys on the hill with red ribbons and lend them a hand!

Competitions Graham went to Wales to an extra comp in the British Open. On Saturday a 178k task with turnpoint was set from Merthyr and 3 actually made it into goal. Graham was 5th in the task with 110k, Pete & Steve both made around 50k. On the Sunday a 78k race to goal was set & Graham was first in with only one other pilot making it. Pete & Little Al both made nearly 50k on the second task. The British Open finals is set for mid Wales from Jul 21 for 5 days.

Club Flying Not much reported this month, “nothing spectacular”.

Incidents John T picked up an injury while towing.

Other business

Summer BBQ set for the first Tuesday in Aug with Wednesday at Nick & Paula’s as reserve day (thank you Nick & Paula). The location for the Tuesday would be the best site for the flying conditions.

The Steve Penaluna trophy is to be awarded at the August meeting, nominations to the chairman before then please.

Mark AS is asking for somebody with sufficient knowledge and enthusiasm to take over the website from him.

There being no further business the meeting closed at nine o’clock.