

GHC News Update May 2020

It's time to update you as the Lasham lockdown has eased and you no longer need LGS permission to visit the airfield on a daily basis. Solo flying via aerotow restarted on Saturday 16th May, no winch launching at the moment. GHC gliders couldn't immediately fly as they weren't suitably equipped to meet all of the new local airspace requirements - FLARM, moving map, and a radio.

The GHC CoM has decided that we'll have 2 gliders insured to fly at the same time to begin with, one single seater and one two-seater. The two-seater is the YS 53, the "Beast" which should only be flown one-up until further notice. The FLARM is operative, and the GHC have a couple of hand-held radios if you don't have one yourself. A Kobo with XC Soar has just been fitted to meet the moving map requirement so now the "Beast" is flyable – thanks to Daren Kershaw and Julian Ben-David for their work on fitting FLARM and the Kobo/XC Soar. If you're not comfortable with the new equipment it's suggested you get a briefing. The single seater will be the recently acquired Skylark 2. This needs a CofA which is nearly completed at the time of writing. Also the airspace avionics needs to be fitted. We're expecting to have the Skylark flyable by the middle of June – check to see it has a valid CofA placard in the cockpit or speak to a GHC CoM member. Getting more GHC gliders available for flying will be dependent on the demand we see. If we have people clamouring to fly then we'll certainly get more gliders insured and suitably equipped to meet the local airspace electronic requirements.

Please note under the current circumstances the pilot should undertake a limited disinfect using sanitising cleaning cloths or a gel once they've finished flying the glider for the day. This should be all the surfaces in the cockpit they've touched with their hands + the wing tips and tail handles. That this has been done should be recorded in the DI book – "Sanitised" with time completed. The next pilot to fly, whether on the same day or another, should only fly if they're sure this has been done. If they have doubts they should do it themselves before flying even if it means repeating the operation.

All of this is of course a pain but they're sensible precautions to deal with the unlikely but possible scenario of one of our members flying the glider when they are asymptomatic – they have the coronavirus but have no symptoms.

OK, time to finish this update with much better news! For those of you who have visited the GHC site in recent times you'll know the construction of the workshop has been progressing very well. Lowthers should have finished their work by the time you read this news update which then passes progressing the project to us at the GHC! The services are already installed thanks to work by a number of our Lasham based members led by Richard Moyse and Gary Pullen – very many thanks to them! Next on the project plan is the floor and the doors.



(Taken by Gary Pullen on the 29th May)

Glyn Bradney, 1st June