



## **BMAA News 04/05/2020**

Dear BMAA Member

Hello everyone. On behalf of the Directors and Staff of the BMAA I hope that this newsletter finds you well and managing to cope with the difficult conditions that we all find ourselves in.

### **Council elections and AGM Proposals**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of May we announced the results of the Council elections and the Postponed AGM Proposals.

Of the three candidates standing for the two available places on the Board of the BMAA, the Council, Rob Hughes the current Chairman was re-elected and Eddie McCallum was elected. Thanks to Doug Coppin for also standing. The full results with details of the number of votes cast is published on the BMAA website and can be viewed using the following link.

[https://www.bmaa.org/files/BMAA\\_Council\\_Election\\_2020\\_-\\_Results.pdf](https://www.bmaa.org/files/BMAA_Council_Election_2020_-_Results.pdf)

Because the AGM was postponed there were three proposals put to the membership by ballot that would normally have been put to an AGM. The proposals were to appoint the auditors for 2019-2020, to accept the 2018-2019 accounts and to increase the membership fee by £2. All three proposals were passed. The full results with details can be viewed using the following link.

[https://www.bmaa.org/files/BMAA\\_Postponed\\_AGM\\_Proposals\\_2020\\_-\\_Results.pdf](https://www.bmaa.org/files/BMAA_Postponed_AGM_Proposals_2020_-_Results.pdf)

### **Flying**

Little has changed on the flying front since last week. We expect that there may be some relaxation of current movement restrictions imposed by the UK Government in next week's announcement by the Prime Minister scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> May. We shall have to wait and see what he has to say. We have a Council meeting that day and if there is any news that might affect the way we are working at the moment we can take action immediately.

### **CAA extensions**

On April the 15<sup>th</sup> the CAA published details of how the validity of pilot licences, instructor certificates and examiner authorities can be extended if the current situation prevents them being revalidated in the normal way. We have published guidelines for instructors and examiners who will be conducting the briefings referred to in the CAA document. The guidelines have been emailed to all the instructors that subscribe to our mailing list and can also be found on the BMAA website at the following link. <https://www.bmaa.org/information-library/pilot-licensing/pilot-licensing---instructors-and-examiners/ors4-1378>

We suggest that if you will need to take advantage of an extension, that is your particular validity has or will expire between 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020, you should contact an instructor or examiner as appropriate and make arrangements to receive the briefing sooner rather than later to help avoid a bottleneck in availability.

### **Student's exams extensions**

I have been in discussion with the CAA and asked that the 24-month validity of examinations that have already been taken and passed by students for the NPPL Microlight class rating which may expire due to training being closed at the moment, have their validity period extended. I believe that this extension is shortly to be published by the CAA and that the validity of such exams will be extended until 18 March 2021. I will confirm this when I can.

### **Getting back to flying**

There is a general view that following the long lay-off that many pilots will have had before flying again then their pilot skills will be rusty, and as a result there may be more accidents than we might expect in a normal year. It is also likely that due to furlough there may be less air traffic control capacity than usual and so access to airspace and other assistance may be less available than might normally be expected. We are going to be working with the CAA and others to provide guidance for consideration to help prepare pilots when at last we can start flying again. GASCo has already developed an online guide that helps focus the mind on returning to flying which will be released in a week or so. When it is, we will publish it to all members so you can make use of it yourself.

### **Meet the BMAA**

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May I held a Q&A session with members using the ZOOM website. Although announced in last week's newsletter I was surprised so few members joined in, although those that did seemed to welcome the opportunity to exchange views. I plan to hold another session next week on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 1900hrs. If you would like to join in please visit the page link below and complete the form. I will send the Zoom page link a day or so before the meeting.

<https://www.bmaa.org/information-library/member-s-q-a>

### **Finally**

I hope that you find these newsletters useful. We will try to keep you up to date with any news as it happens. We also share it on:

Facebook [ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BMAA1/?ref=bookmarks> ]

The BMAA website [[www.bmaa.org](http://www.bmaa.org)]

The BMAA Forum [<https://forums.bmaa.org>]

Twitter[ <https://twitter.com/BMAAUK> ]

and of course, through both *Microlight Flying* magazine and the electronic newsletter *eMF*

Stay safe.

Geoff Weighell

CE BMAA