

Shropshire Soaring Group



Year-round soaring from tarmac runways...

Nov 2014

Welcome!

Shropshire Soaring Group extends a warm welcome and invites you to come and enjoy the benefits of our site.

Here's some information about our group. Please feel free to call one of us if there is anything else you'd like to know. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Background

The Shropshire Soaring Group was founded in the early 1970's by a small group of instructors keen to take advantage of the wave and thermal soaring opportunities offered by Sleaf Airfield - and to get away from the regular commitment of duty rotas. That's why we don't undertake ab-initio training and the majority of our members are self authorising.

For those glider pilots who are not yet to the Silver C self authorising standard but are keen to enhance their soaring opportunities, the group has instructors who are able to help and supervise you - although we do not operate a duty rota for training purposes.

Rigging and launching from tarmac runways, the Shropshire Soaring Group operate all year round and regularly enjoy wave flights in excess of 15,000' when other clubs are closed due to unfavourable ground conditions.

We operate our own Chipmunk tug, which is hangared and serviced on site. With a pool of readily-available tug pilots, we are able to operate on any day of the week.

It is a requirement that members of the Shropshire Soaring Group are also members of the Shropshire Aero Club. This means that we are also able to utilise the excellent club facilities which not only include a fully licensed and maintained airfield but also professionally run catering which is open 7 days a week.

Getting to Sleep

By Air...

Sleep is an active GA airfield, ICAO code EGCV, and welcomes most forms of powered and non-powered aircraft.

If you plan to glide into Sleep and have not previously flown from the site, a prior briefing from a member of the Soaring Group is essential. Contact details at the end of this leaflet.

Power pilots should note that the airfield is located within the Shawbury MATZ, and prior permission by telephone is required by the Aero Club.



See the Shropshire Aero Club's web site at www.shropshireaeroclub.com for full details.

By Road...

The airfield is about 2 miles southwest of Wem, and is signposted from the B5476 Wem-Shrewsbury road.

We recommend that you contact a member of the Group before coming to the site. As a Soaring Group that does not undertake ab-initio training, we can pick and choose the days on which we fly!



Looking down runway 23, with the glider trailers in the usual rigging area on the disused runway

Gliding from Sleaf

Operating from an active powered airfield means there are some differences from operating from a typical gliding club.

Our Flying Notes describe our operational procedures and are available on request. We can also provide a short summary for cross-country pilots using Sleaf as a destination.



Looking due North, with the airfield in the sunshine

Charges

The charges at Shropshire Soaring Group are based on the principle that the fixed costs of the Tug are covered by subscription fees, and the variable costs by Launch fees.

This makes high aerotows for accessing the Welsh wave cheap by comparison with many other sites.

We operate reduced-rate membership fees for Juniors (under 26 and in full-time education), and have a Bursary provided by a generous former member to assist with the flying costs of Junior members

Charges as from October 2011	
Yearly subscription to Soaring Group	£300.00 (Juniors £60.00, Family membership £360.00)
Membership of Shropshire Aero Club	£132.00
Trailer Parking	£65.00/Year
Block Landing Fee	£65.00/Year
Launch to 2000'	£27.00
Launch to 4000'	£35.00

Two seater launches plus £4.00

Temporary membership flying in SSG glider £5. Visiting Gliders £10/flying day, including membership and facility fees – maximum period 3 months. Visiting Trailer parking £6/month.

Contacts

Chairman: John Catmur, 01691 679024
Secretary: Chris Fox, 07734 926514
CFI: Al Gillson, 01939 251152

Shropshire Aero Club: 01939 232882

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