



**Vintage Gliding Club National Rally 2019**  
**25<sup>TH</sup> May – 1st June 2019**



**Yorkshire Gliding Club**

**Sutton Bank**

## Welcome to the National Vintage Rally 2019

It gives us great pleasure to welcome the 2019 VGC National Rally back to Sutton Bank, the home of gliding in the north. We were privileged to host the 2012 event and are pleased to extend to you a proper "Yorkshire" welcome.

Yorkshire Gliding Club has a rich history stretching back to the early thirties. We now know that aviation was committed at Sutton much earlier than we first thought. Erik Addyman flew from the top of Sutton Bank in 1909. He was from Harrogate, a pioneer from the beginning of aviation being associated with the Wright brothers, Bleriot, Cody and many others. So flying in our vintage machines will continue the link to the earliest days.

This welcome pack summarises what you can expect during the 2019 VGC National Rally week. Of necessity there are a few "do's and don'ts" primarily aimed at keeping everyone safe whilst having a good time. Please enjoy what is on offer – we have plenty of ground events planned as well as flying ones. If there is anything we have missed or that concerns you let us or the ladies in the office know. We will do our best to sort things out.

I will be your host for the week ably assisted by a team consisting of Jerry & Margo Henderson Newton, Nora van G, Chris Booker, Bob Beck, and Josephine and Vicky in the office with Andy our CFI in charge of the airfield. We have an interesting program of events lined up for your entertainment. These are listed in the enclosed literature.

When the weather makes it safe to do so FLY. Your gliders need to feel the rush of air over their wings! Enjoy the delights of soaring flight as it was many years ago and pay homage to the designers and pilots from earlier years who made all this possible.

Visiting pilots are urged to check out our Standard Operating Procedures on the Visitors page of our website. The advice and information there will help ensure that our precious old gliders (and their equally precious pilots!) enjoy an enjoyable and incident free week

Lastly, and most importantly, please FLY SAFELY. Make sure that you and your gliders are still in great shape at the end of the rally to go on to other things. There will be a lot of gliders in the air, not all vintage machines, especially when our ridges are working. Please be vigilant and KEEP A GOOD LOOKOUT all the time.

We all look forward to a great, memorable, safe and enjoyable week.

*Phil Lazenby*

**DATES:** Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019, inclusive.

**VENUE:** Yorkshire Gliding Club Ltd  
Sutton Bank,  
Thirsk,  
North Yorkshire YO7 2EY;  
Telephone: 01845 597237  
Email:- enquiry@ygc.co.uk

## **COMPETITION OFFICERS**

RALLY ORGANISER	Phil Lazenby
CFI	Andy Parish
CLUB SECRETARY	Josephine Runciman Vicky Lane (w/ends)
TASK SETTER	Phil Lazenby
MET FORECASTING	Andy Parish
TUG MASTER	John Tayler/Bob Beck
WINCH MASTER	Mike Brown
CATERING	Liz and Team

**BOOKING IN:** Pilots should book in at the Club office. You will need to complete a membership form, confirm you have a valid medical. and provide an imprint of your debit/credit card.

**ENTRY FEE:** £10 per day which includes temp membership of Yorkshire Gliding Club, caravan and camping pitches and trailer parking.

**LAUNCH FEES:** Winch £10.00. Aerotow £27.00 to 2,000ft

**PRIZE GIVING:** Daily awards will be presented at each briefing.

**SITE FACILITIES** There will be ample space for tent, trailer, and caravan parking. The Clubhouse also offers modern toilets/showers. Unfortunately all the accommodation at the club has already been taken, however there is plenty of local accommodation.

**CATERING:** Breakfasts, sandwiches, drinks, sweets and light meals will be available during the day. There will be several evening events featuring food and entertainment. The Clubhouse has a bar which is opened after flying has finished for the day.

### **RALLY PROGRAM**

Saturday 25th May, 9.30am Rally opening in the workshop

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May, Evening Dinner in the Club house. Tickets only - book at the office

Saturday 1st June, 7.30pm End of Rally Party in the bar.

Briefing will be at 9.30 daily in the workshop,

There will be various social events throughout the week. Details of these will be given at morning briefings.

## **VISITORS**

If you are bringing family members or inexperienced crew members on to the site, please ensure that they are briefed regarding active areas of the airfield. We have a video briefing package available at the club to assist in this.

Club members and visiting pilots must make every effort to prevent non-flying visitors from putting themselves and others in dangerous situations.

## **TRAILERS**

Visitors with glider trailers are requested to call at the office for advice on trailer parking, rigging areas, and overnight parking for rigged gliders. All trailers must be securely picketed against strong winds even during the summer months.

## **AIRFIELD**

The airfield has public rights of way around almost its entire boundary, including a stretch of public highway.

A light aircraft club operates from BAGBY airfield approximately 2NM West South West of Sutton Bank and may be used with care by gliders up to 20m span. If you intend to land at Bagby a call to BAGBY RADIO on 123.255 will be appreciated.

The radio frequency in use at Sutton Bank is 118.685. With other gliding clubs using the same frequency nearby, it is essential to preface all calls with the call sign 'Sutton Base'.

To the North of the airfield is an area known as "The Gallops". In recent years a large professional stable has been developed with up to 300 race horses on site. Whilst the safety of your flight is paramount, we ask you to avoid flying low over this area in gliders or tugs unless absolutely necessary. Standard YGC circuit patterns are briefed every morning at 09:30 where any questions or concerns regarding this matter can be discussed. If you are unable to attend the briefing it is essential that you talk to the Duty Instructor before flying.

## **HILL SOARING**

The Western ridge at Sutton Bank provides exciting and challenging flying. The ridge soaring rules contained in the BGA Laws and Rules should be adhered to. In addition, when crossing the ridge on circuit a vigilant lookout is essential.

On occasions when ridge soaring the lift will be strong enough to reach cloud base quite easily. Flying very close to cloud base is an extremely hazardous practice at any time, but when ridge soaring the number of aircraft you are likely to encounter will increase

the risk dramatically. Good airmanship and common sense will help to preserve yours and other people's safety.

If the hill lift begins to drop off it's advisable to leave the ridge in plenty of time and be familiar with the YGC massed landing procedure.

## **CLUB AIRCRAFT**

Visiting pilots who wish to fly YGC club gliders must have a satisfactory type conversion, check flight or briefing according to their experience, the prevailing conditions and launching methods.

## **AIRSPACE**

The Vale of York is an Area of Intense flying Activity. To the North West is RAF Leeming. To the south is RAF Linton on Ouse. RAF Topcliffe is just SW of Thirsk. All these airfields have the usual ATZ and MATZ. Details of the busiest areas are in the YGC SOPS.

Intrepid vintage pilots exploring further afield need to plan their flight in conjunction with the latest edition of the Northern air chart (available from the office). Durham/Tees airport to the north is the nearest Class D area. Commercial traffic out of this airport is infrequent and the controllers there are usually helpful if a request to enter their zone is made. For those of you who are more ambitious Doncaster class D to the south infringes on most x/c attempts in that direction.

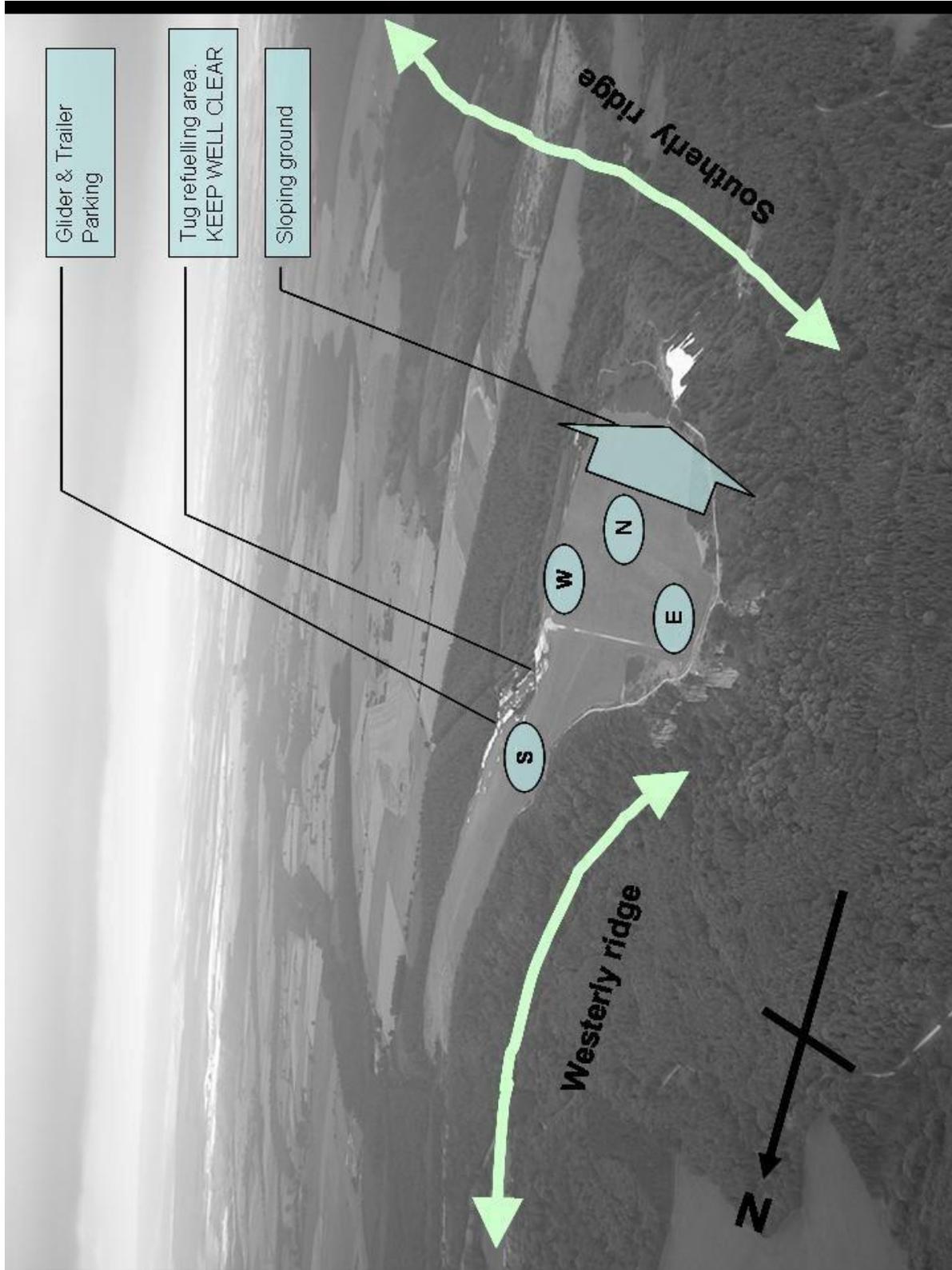
In recent times vintage gliders have reached more than 10000ft and covered impressive distances in the wave. Should such conditions be forecast the CFI will detail the additional considerations in these circumstances at the morning briefing.

## **MAP AND NOTES**

The following pages show an aerial photograph of the airfield. The following notes explain the detail on the second photograph:

- N, S, E, W, indicates the **normal** launch points for each wind direction. Please keep clear of the refueling area
- Note the public footpath that runs along the edge of the ridge and airfield boundary and a public road along the boundary of the airfield on the westerly approach.
- The ground slopes away from the Northerly launch point towards the south (White Horse). Caution is required when landing across this slope towards the west. It is preferable to land beyond this area if landing to the north.

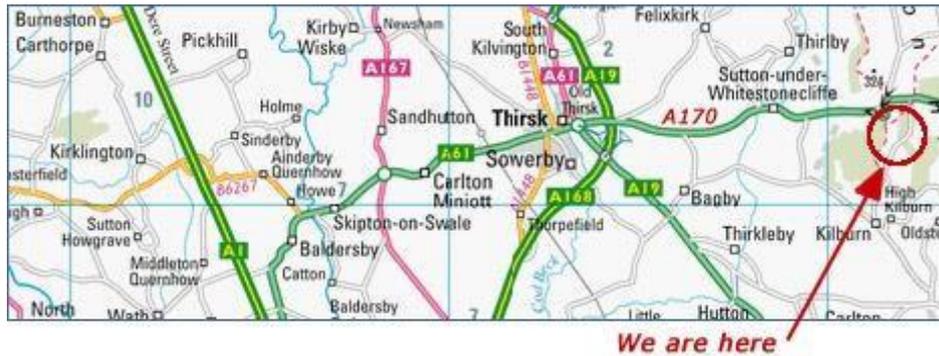
Gliders and trailers may be parked in the area marked along the north/south runway.



## HOW TO FIND THE SITE AND ACCESS

The Yorkshire Gliding Club is situated approx 6 miles from Thirsk on the A170 towards Scarborough. It is easy to find - the airfield is immediately above the White Horse that can be seen for miles around. By road we're signposted from the A170 about half a mile down the road from the top of the big hill (Sutton Bank itself).

Once on the A170 after Thirsk there are signs prohibiting caravans on the Sutton Bank hill. Glider trailers are permitted but the hill is steep!! If in doubt that your car can make it (usually OK unless you have to stop for other people!) then follow caravan diversion signs to Helmsley and join the A170 to approach YGC from the east. DO NOT try and come up the White Horse bank via Kilburn Village

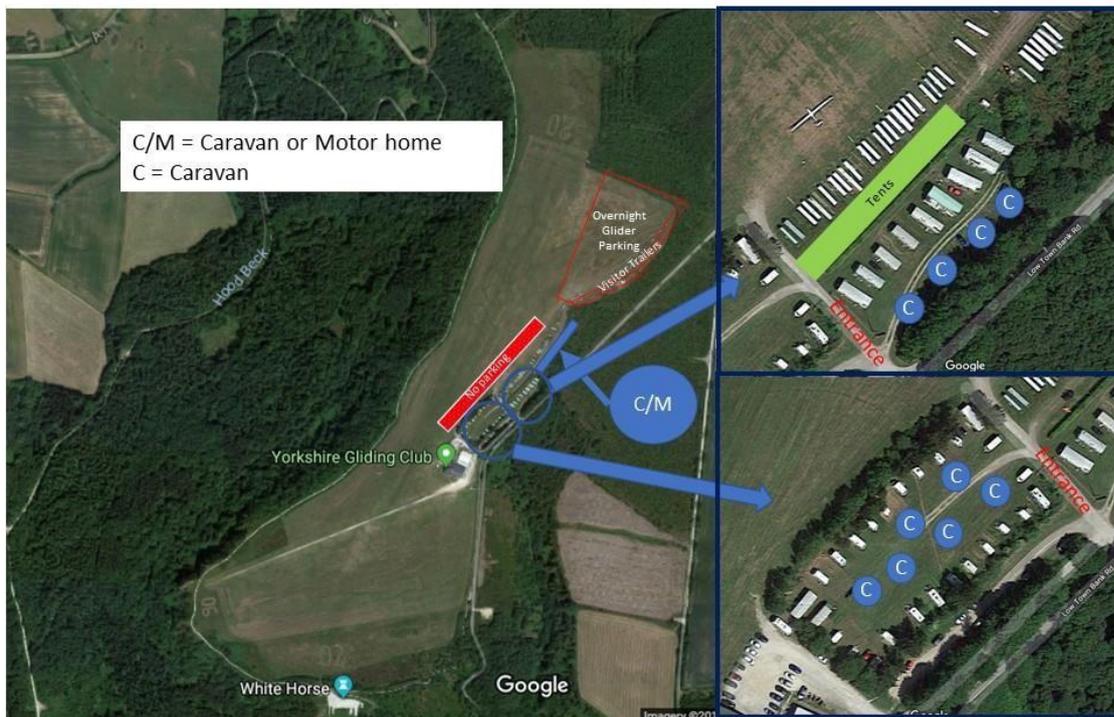


### Find us by air:-

Sutton Bank: 54.13.728N 001.12.580W

2 Grass runways: 06/24- 500m & 02/20 – 1000m

Local frequency: 129.980



## HISTORY OF YORKSHIRE GLIDING CLUB

There have been many distinguished names associated with the Yorkshire Gliding Club. Phillip Wills, former world champion, and Fred Slingsby, founder of Slingsby Aviation, were two key members who initially negotiated the lease of the land at Sutton Bank. Norman Sharpe also had a profound influence on the development of the club.

On 20th April 1934, the British Gliding Association recognised the 'venture' and the Yorkshire Gliding Club was formed. In 1937 another distinguished aviator, Amy Johnson, joined the YGC before departing to become famous for her power flying exploits around the world. Aircraft flown at this time include the Scud 2, Hols de Taufel and Dickson Primary. The club winch of the time was a Rolls Royce Silver Ghost, bought for £50 and converted for another £50!

In 1938 a horse 'Major' was acquired to retrieve gliders and the winch wire! This proved successful until a Kite1 hit 'Major' on its landing run. Thereafter when he heard the whistle of wind in the wires of a landing glider the horse would gallop away - sensible horse! Flying from Sutton Bank, Lt Dean Drummond experimented with two-way radio in a Kite1. He later became famous in the Arnhem landings during World War II. By 1939, Slingsby Sailplanes Ltd were offering new gliders from the princely sum of £99. A Kirby Kite1 cost £159! Sadly the outbreak of war ended gliding in the UK for its duration.

The early post-war years were very difficult for the club. Much of the early infrastructure had disappeared and few of the pre-war membership returned. Some of the key benefactors in the early years continued to offer financial support. By 1947 the club had acquired its first open cockpit side by side T21 trainer from Slingsby's. This model proved to be a superb training machine and T21's saw service well into the Sixties. A syndicate owned T21 still flies from the airfield today, a tribute to the design.

In 1956 Henryk Doctor was appointed Chief Flying Instructor. Henryk had a distinguished war service flying Mosquito's. His dry sense of humour and unique training methods drew great respect from club members throughout his years as Chief Flying Instructor.

In the early Sixties the club made significant progress encouraged by the vision and financial help of Eric Reed, chairman of the club at that time. The unique circular clubhouse that still serves us well replaced the ageing wooden structure and plans for the continued development and growth of the club were implemented.

Today those plans have resulted in the Yorkshire Gliding Club becoming one of the most recognised clubs in the country. Pilots travel from other clubs throughout Great Britain and Europe to fly at our site and experience the thermals from its stunning location, its twelve mile long ridge and the lee-wave lift generated in westerly winds over the Pennines. This wave lift regularly allows pilots to reach heights of c20,000ft and the club record stands at over 30,000ft.

The club has arguably one of the most modern fibreglass fleets consisting of four two-seat training gliders and five single-seat gliders. These gliders cater for experienced pilots looking to fly significant x/country tasks and also provide enjoyable soaring in the local area. The uniquely shaped circular clubhouse boasts an Office, Restaurant, Member's kitchen, Lecture Room, Dormitories, Toilet & Showers, Lounge and Bar (only open after flying). The club operates seven days a week and employs resident Flying staff Instructors.

YORKSHIRE GLIDING CLUB

From Humble Beginnings to a Centre of Gliding Excellence



## LOCAL AMENITIES

**THIRSK** Six miles west of Sutton Bank, Thirsk is a delightful market town and home to the James Herriot museum. Market day is on Monday and Saturdays. Supermarkets are situated on the outskirts of the town near the racecourse.

**HELMSLEY** Situated eight miles to the east is Helmsley, a popular market town with a range of interesting shops, cafes and two very good delicatessens. Well worth a visit is Duncombe Park and Helmsley Castle. For the gardeners the walled garden at the back of the castle is a must.

**PICKERING** A little further afield, fourteen miles from Sutton Bank, Pickering boasts a range of very good individual shops, a local museum and is also the end of the line for the North York Moors railway. The engine sheds are at Grosmont where a number of renovation projects can be seen and the line has been extended this year to Whitby.

**TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES** in Thirsk, Helmsley and at the North Yorkshire Moors visitors centre at the top of Sutton Bank. Leaflets and telephone numbers of local restaurants are available at the YGC office.

## SPORTS

**Golf** 18 hole courses at Thirsk, Northallerton, Kirkbymoorside

**Swimming** Thirsk, Northallerton and an open air pool at Helmsley

**Walking** The footpath round the airfield is part of the Cleveland Way; we are also close to the Coast to Coast walk and the Lyke Wyke walk.

**Cycling** plenty of cycle tracks, bring you mountain bike or hire from the visitors centre.

**Horse Riding** stables at Boltby and Helmsley

## **PLACES TO VISIT**

North Yorkshire has more National Trust and English Heritage properties than any other county; a full list is available at the Club House. It's pretty good for pubs too,

York, a Roman city, has a variety of museums, a magnificent Minster, the Jorvik Viking Centre and the National Railway museum.

Further afield enjoy a day at Whitby home of Captain Cook and the inspiration for Bram Stokers, Dracula.

Kilburn, the village at the bottom of White Horse Bank has an excellent museum to the 'Mouseman' plus a very good café for afternoon tea.

Flamingo Land Theme Park & Zoo - Kirkby Misperton. Family friendly offers lots of rides & attractions for children & adults with rollercoaster's, wild animals, flamingos, range of food & drink outlets. Parking.

Eden Camp a Modern History Theme Museum, Malton, North Yorkshire. one of the largest and most comprehensive museums covering British military and social history from 1914 onwards.