

BEAUFORT SCALE - A GUIDE FOR SLOPE-SOARERS

<i>Scale</i>	<i>Knots</i>	<i>Description 1 (Met Office)</i>	<i>Description 2 (Coarse Sailing)</i>	<i>Description 3 (Coarse Sloping)</i>	<i>Advice</i>
0	Less than 1	Calm	Cigarette smoke gets in your eyes	Found after a long drive having left home in perfect conditions (see Force 3)	Chuck glider trimming day
1	1 to 3	Light air	Wet finger feels cold	Moves your hair slightly	Light floaters only. Or go to the aerotow site
2	4 to 6	Light breeze	Public houses close one window	Makes your antenna flag move but drops as soon as the Rx is switched on	Just getting flyable for vintage slope-soarers
3	7 to 10	Gentle breeze	Public houses close 2 windows	Perfect wind but onto the wrong hill	Drive to a better slope and lets do some real flying
4	11 to 16	Moderate breeze	Beer froth blows off	Presence of antenna flag becomes obtrusive	Where's the ballast? - time to rock and roll
5	17 to 21	Fresh breeze	Pub garden drinkers return to bar	Blows your hat off	Soarers need more lead. PSS models stay up
6	22 to 27	Strong breeze	Elderly customers have difficulty in leaving pub	You need ski goggles	PSS and 'kippers' take over the slope. Peg down 'parked' models
7	28 to 33	Moderate gale	Pub door cannot be opened against wind	Flag departs downwind and antenna bends over head	You need balls of steel and planes to match - but still flyable
8	34 to 40	Fresh gale	Pub sign blows down	Body held up while leaning over slope edge	Peg down the flight box too. Better to stay at home
9	41 to 47	Strong gale	Remaining pedestrians struck by falling signs	Small farm animals blown up slope	Watch "Stormchasers" as distraction from sounds of destruction outside
10	48 +	Storm	Remaining signs knocked over by flying pedestrians	Downwind fence starts to sieve large bovines from airflow	Look up 'Building Surveyors' in Yellow pages

N.B. The Beaufort scale goes on to Force 12 but this is only of interest to insurance loss-adjusters and television programme makers. Unless they are attention-seekers, sailors who survive these conditions won't want to talk about their near-religious experiences (believe me !).

Remember - Monthly Club meetings now on the second THURSDAY.

Contributions Wanted

Short articles wanted on any modelling associated topics: Have you got a pet gripe which if fixed by someone would make the world a better place? How that last kit went together (or not). Hints and Tips - How to make that special 'gizmo'. "I learned about flying from that" articles (i.e. I cocked up and am prepared to let others know so they might avoid a similarly expensive catastrophe.) See your name in print and think of all the extra kudos to be gained from being seen as a 'putter-in' to our hobby.

Preferred formats: Typed articles with normal spacing. Short pieces I am quite happy with hand-written script as long as it is clearly legible. Email contributions are preferred as .txt or .rtf, or 'Word' with minimum formatting ('Save As' text or rich text format will significantly reduce file size and transfer time). Please submit **Graphics** as separate files and **NOT** embedded in a word-processed document.

Contributions to this Newsletter should be sent direct to:- Mike Spencer, Handling Squadron, Building 418, Boscombe Down, Salisbury, SP4 OJE. Or to <spikespencer@talk21.com>