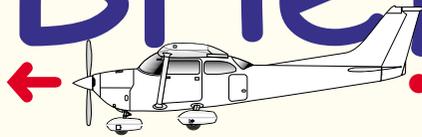


Briefings



Airspace changes

The CAA has expanded Class D airspace around London City and Luton Airports to provide more protection for commercial flights. The moves follow a consultation with groups like AOPA as well as local government and environmental bodies.

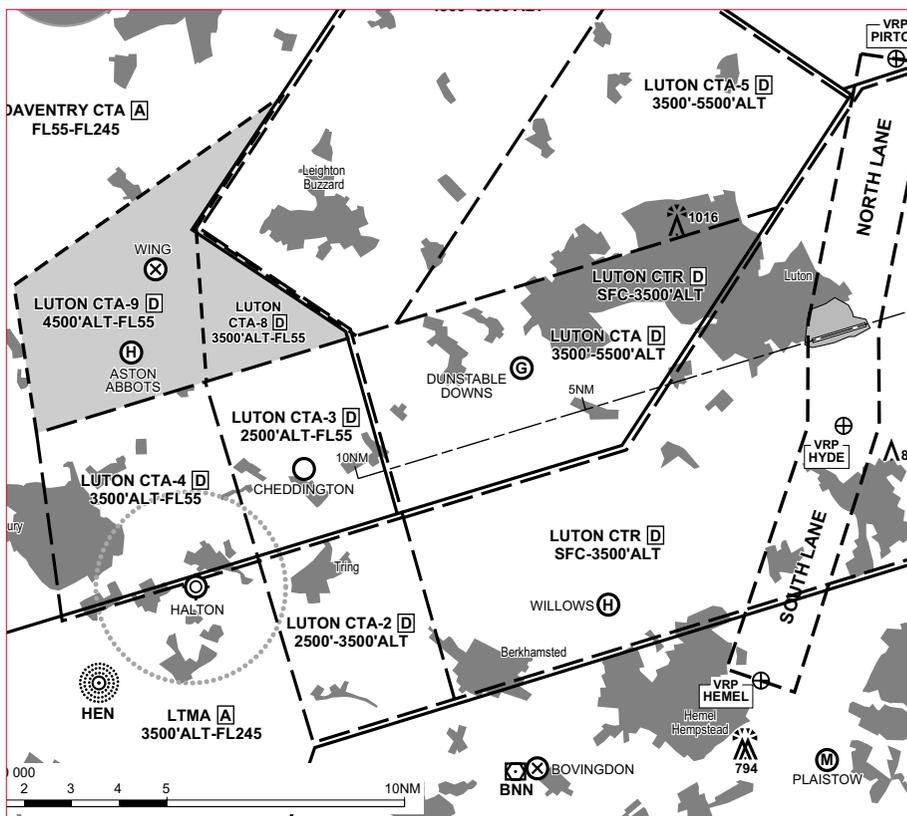
Although an option to increase the size of the London City Zone was considered by NATS, who sponsored the LCY airspace change, the proposal was modified to establish a new CTA following the consultation. The new area begins at 1,500 feet and ends at the base of the London TMA, 2,500 feet. Existing departure or arrival routes and procedures remain unchanged.

The change, which is effective from April

13th, was incorporated in the Edition 32 half-mil, published in mid-March.

At Luton, two new CTAs have been added on the north west edge of the existing area. One has a base at 3,500 feet, the other at 4,500 feet. The changes will permit a northerly approach to the easterly runway at London Luton for aircraft arriving via the LOREL terminal hold and avoid having arriving and departing aircraft sharing the same airspace south west of the airport.

The half mil will not be updated to incorporate the Luton changes until February 2007 at the earliest. The changes take effect from May 11th 2006.



Channel Islands rallies

As if you needed them, two perfect excuses to fly to the Channel Islands fall in May and September this year.

Jersey and Guernsey are holding international air rallies, and if you haven't been to either before, you're in for a treat. Both are well organised, fun events which will test your aviation skills as well as showing you a good time in a uniquely friendly aviation environment.

The Jersey International Air Rally runs from Friday 26th to Sunday 28th May, and this year AOPA's Channel Islands Regional Chairman Charles Strasser is guest of honour. Charles, a pilot for 50 years, first flew in the Jersey rally in 1957, and is an indefatigable fighter for the rights of aviators in the islands. You can download an application form at www.jerseyaeroclub.com.

The Guernsey Aero Club's International Air Rally runs from September 8th to 10th. Once again it's a fantastic weekend in an environment in which flyers are welcome and fuel is cheap.

For full details see their website, www.guernseyaeroclub.com, or call 01481 265267.

Adams expands

Biggin Hill based AOPA corporate member Adams Aviation has amalgamated with local pilot supplies company The Flying Shop as it continues its expansion in the UK and Europe.

The two companies have combined their websites and facilities under the banner of The Flying Shop. Adams has particular expertise in the field of avionics and headsets, safety equipment, GPS and instruments, while The Flying Shop has concentrated on charts, books, clothing, stationery and gifts – so they're a good fit. The combined website will be available on both Adams' and The Flying Shop's phone numbers and web addresses.

Adams, one of the longest-established aviation supply companies in the UK, has been operating since 1968 and has a purpose-built distribution headquarters in Hunter House at Biggin Hill. It has customers all over the world and is particularly strong in Europe, employing French, German, Italian, Polish, Spanish and Swedish staff to cope with demand.

Robinson record

The Robinson Helicopter Company has officially become the top-selling civil helicopter manufacturer ever, with its 806 helicopters manufactured during 2005 topping the previous record, set by Bell in 1980, by 26 machines.

RHC's deliveries comprised 563 four-seat R44s and 243 two-seat R22s – one of them the 4,000th R22 manufactured. Frank Robinson says: "I am pleased with our accomplishments in 2005. I hope 2006 will be as good as, or better than last year."

