



AOPA Awards 2007

AOPA thanks all those who responded to our request to submit proposals for the AOPA Awards 2007. Following our deliberations, and subsequent endorsement by the Executive Committee, the worthy winners and their contributions are listed below

Lennox-Boyd Trophy

Awarded to a person, club, group or organisation who has contributed significantly to the furtherance of general aviation, flight training, club flying or piloting standards. The trophy is a cup in a special presentation box that was originally given to the Association of British Aero Clubs by the late Rt Hon Alan Lennox-Boyd PC CH MP (subsequently Viscount Boyd of Merton) in 1953.

British Business and General Aviation Association (BBGA)

The BBGA is colleague association of AOPA, its members largely coming from aviation trade bodies, whereas AOPA represents aircraft owners and pilots. Flight training and engineering forms the common link between the two associations, and this has provided the basis for close cooperation on projects and campaigns in which there is a common interest. The Helios review of the proposed potentially crippling CAA charges was funded by substantial donations from BBGA and AOPA, as well as from others. The two respective CEOs work closely together on topics covered by the EASA Advisory Body, the CAA Finance Advisory Committee and, more recently, on fuel duty, security and engineering with the aim of reaching a common position on key issues affecting GA. Recently the BBGA and AOPA re-established, under the chairmanship of Charles Henry and Peter Moxham, the Flight Training Policy Group which is starting to look more deeply at the coming changes under EASA. Coordination of views is the key to future success and the BBGA has worked tirelessly with AOPA to achieve this objective, with the result that there is less 'fractional ownership' of issues, and the members of both associations are the beneficiaries. The award recognises the pivotal role played by the BBGA in furthering the interests of general aviation in the UK.

AOPA Special Award

Awarded to a pilot, controller or engineer, of other person who has made a special contribution to safety, or other areas of general aviation.

Irv Lee

Irv Lee is a Flight Instructor/Examiner based at Popham, Hampshire. He is well known for his many and varied contributions to helping pilots become better and safer pilots. He regularly holds one-day Masterclass Seminars for PPL holders at venues throughout the UK, according to demand, that have been praised by their attendees. The value of these seminars has been recognised by AOPA as providing a qualifying achievement for a pilot applying for a Wings Award. He has produced a DVD, "Irv Lee's Rust Remover for Pilots", designed to help the pilot who struggles to maintain



Irv Lee has helped hundreds of general aviation pilots increase their skills and airmanship

currency and is feeling a little rusty. Over the past 10 years he has written some 200 or more articles aimed at helping pilots improve their flying, navigational and airmanship.

Best Aerodrome

Awarded to the aerodrome that has been an outstanding place to visit, offering value for money and helpful service.

Lands End Airport

Lands End Airport has been, since 1936 and almost continuously throughout WW2, a base for passenger carrying operations to and from the Isles of Scilly to the present day. It is also a popular departure airfield for GA pilots making the 28 nm sea crossing to the islands.

Although not part of their official function, and therefore not a 'briefing', the local flying club, who man the operations desk, will provide valuable advice on booking out to all such pilots, and indeed, will invest considerable time and effort on anyone who is unsure about using the Lands End transit corridor. Whilst in the corridor, pilots remain in constant radio contact with either Lands End or St Mary's. A



Lands End takes special care of pilots on the 28-mile crossing to the Scilly Isles

visiting pilot's quote: "I left Lands End feeling I was being looked after, that someone was going the extra mile to ensure that I was safe. That's a good feeling when you're 15 miles offshore in a light single and you can't see land, fore or aft."

Customer Care

Awarded to the flying school, club or individual that has provided outstanding customer care, as recommended by students or private pilots

David Cockburn

David Cockburn is, and has been for several years, the editor of GASIL, the quarterly General Aviation Safety Information Leaflet issued by the CAA that is received by instructors, aircraft pilot/owners and subscribers. It is more substantial than a leaflet, being typically 32 pages or so in length, and it is sub-titled "The CAA Accident Prevention Leaflet", which succinctly describes its fundamental purpose. David also presents the highly regarded CAA Safety Evenings at flying clubs and schools up and down the country. By means of quite graphic examples, he delivers a strong and urgent safety message to GA pilots. He covers some 20 to 30 venues per year in the quieter autumn/winter season,



David Cockburn has delivered his Safety Evenings at scores of flying clubs

which have ranged as far afield as Inverness and Perranporth, inevitably involving a great deal of travelling. His 'customer' base is extensive and widespread. Because of the obvious contribution to safety and airmanship, attendance at one of the CAA Safety Evenings is recognised by AOPA as providing a qualifying achievement for a pilot applying for an AOPA Wings Award.

Contribution to the Community

Awarded to a person or organisation who has made an outstanding contribution to the aviation community. The trophy is a cup donated in 1997 by Flyer magazine.

Howard Clayton

Howard Clayton is currently the Deputy CFI and examiner at the Exeter Flying Club, having had a long association with the club extending

back to 1985. He started flying in 1971 as a glider pilot, eventually gaining a Silver 'C' and becoming a civilian gliding instructor for the ATC at Tangmere. This led on to gaining a PPL and an AFI rating at Goodwood prior to moving to Exeter in the late eighties followed by gaining his ATPL. He is now retired from his main business career, and so he continues to work for the Exeter Flying Club full-time, instructing, examining and carrying out the duties of Deputy CFI. In 2004, Howard was asked by the AOPA Instructor Committee if he would be prepared to spend time without recompense on producing three entirely new



Howard Clayton wrote three new question papers for the AOPA Ground Instructors Course

question papers for the newly re-vamped AOPA Ground Instructors Course. This major task he undertook gladly and, with great diligence and perseverance, produced the new question papers, earning the respect and gratitude of the Instructor Committee and enabling the course to be re-launched in 2006.

Controller of the Year

Awarded to a controller, FISO or ATC team who has or have provided especially good service to pilots.

Farnborough ATC

Farnborough Airport is situated close to the busy South West corner of the London CTA, with several GA aerodromes within a 20 nm range. This puts considerable pressure on the ATC unit to provide a service, particularly at the week-ends, coming from transiting traffic, LARS requests, and Farnborough's own increasing volume of business aviation departures and arrivals. The proximity of the above GA fields leads to many training flights in the area and pilots of varying degrees of R/T competence. Notwithstanding, the sense of humour and professionalism of the Farnborough controllers rarely fails, and a safe environment is always maintained. Despite the growth of business traffic, requests for a couple of practice ILSs at a quiet period are always treated with consideration, and, even if the apparent workload prevents a positive arrangement, a polite "give us a call when you're airborne and we'll see if we can fit one in" will often be proffered. Farnborough ATC is always willing to help, even when very busy, which can give an enormous boost to the confidence of the erstwhile amateur but competent pilot.



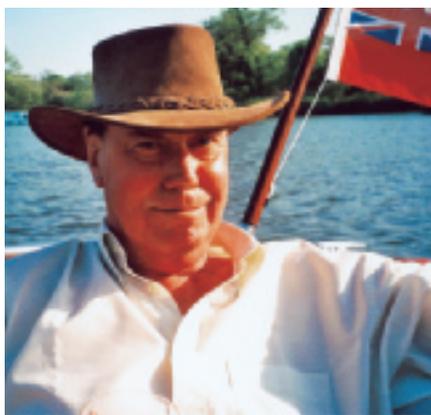
Even at the busiest times Farnborough ATC will try to accommodate GA inbound or in transit

Individual Merit

Awarded to a pilot who has made an outstanding aviation achievement.

Barry Dyke

Barry Dyke is unique in that all his working years have been devoted solely to the field of general aviation. On leaving school he served an aircraft engineering apprenticeship before moving on to flight instruction. In 1975 he became the CFI at Western Air Ltd, based at Thruxton, a position he held until very recently when ill health unfortunately forced his retirement at the far too early age of 56. His engineering background coupled with the experience gained working on and flying aircraft, many of which are now in the classic



Barry Dyke has amassed 18,000 hours, every one of them in a general aviation aircraft

or vintage category, has created a pilot who is both sympathetic to his machine and deeply aware of safety issues. With the above, and a logbook that contains more than 18,000 hours and not a single one gained on the flight deck of an airliner, Barry has built up a rare wealth of experience and knowledge, thereby becoming well known and gaining the respect of the local aviation community and enabling him to instil airmanship and safety into a great many students who have gained their wings at Thruxton over the past years.

Instructor of the Year

Awarded to an instructor who has made a special contribution to the training of student pilots for the PPL or NPPL, or to private pilots for added qualifications.

Carol Cooper

Carol Cooper is a career instructor with over 12,000 hours of teaching, and CFI at Andrewsfield. She is a FIC examiner on both single and multi-engined aircraft and undertakes all levels of GA flight instruction. To precis some quotes from her testimonial: "Carol is the most effective and personable instructor/examiner I have ever had the pleasure to be taught/tested by. As a professional pilot, I have met and endured many trainers both in GA and the airline community – all of them could learn from Carol. Her teaching style is non-threatening, enjoyable and tremendously informative. She has an encyclopaedic knowledge of her trade and has the gift of making any test a learning experience. In my personal experience she will always go that extra mile in helping others to achieve their goals, be it help with study, provision of documentation, or simply travelling all over Southern Britain to fit in training with available aircraft and weather. Carol is simply a one woman centre of excellence."



Instructor and examiner Carol Cooper is described as 'a one-woman centre of excellence'

Friend of AOPA

Awarded to a person or persons who has or have made a special contribution towards the work of AOPA.

David Tang

David Tang is both a fixed and rotary wing pilot with a genuine love and enthusiasm for flying. In recognition of his help in promoting service career opportunities to ethnic minorities, he has been rewarded by flights with the Red Arrows and the Royal Navy. As an ardent supporter of AOPA, David organised and paid for the stand at the first General Aviation Expo to be held in China in 2006 which enabled, not only the promotion of GA, but of IAOPA as well, thus establishing a presence for GA and AOPA in this important and rapidly developing part of the world. ■

Helicopter and fixed-wing pilot David Tang is keen to expand AOPA both in the UK and in China

