

Why a Wiki?

Keeping information in a Wiki has many advantages:

- The entire Pilot's Information Wiki can be searched, for example for 'airspace';
- You are always presented with the latest version of a page. A paper document can show its date of printing / when it was last updated, but **there is no way of knowing if it has been altered since without checking the online source** - especially important for the [Airfield Manual](#). This is not possible if the definitive source is a Word document on someone's PC;
- Wikis have built in version control, so:
 - There is a [Recent Changes](#) link at the top of each page which will show all recent changes to the whole Wiki;
 - You can see the history of all changes to pages;
 - It's easy to compare versions of a page to see what has changed, and who made the changes;
 - if anyone editing a page wants to, they can easily roll back changes;
- Presentation of the [Airfield Manual](#) on a table or phone is far better than with PDFs;
- Additionally PDFs generated by DokuWiki include a QR code for the page, which makes it easy to quickly find it online and see if it's been updated;
- Editing pages is relatively easy with the [Visual Editor](#) (though not as easy as using your favourite WP program);
- Wikis encourage a top-down approach to organising information - you can make a link to a page before the page itself is created. These links appear in RED.
- It's easy to reorganise information and rename pages. The Wiki software can create redirects which seamlessly take you from the old page address to the new one.
- Information - text and media - can be organised in '[namespaces](#)', rather than having one big pile of links. Divide and conquer!
- The software we are using [DokuWiki](#) is widely used. As a consequence:
 - There is a mass of information and help available, both official and unofficial.
 - It's relatively easy to build a test website to 'learn the wrinkles' - this is what Sally has done.
 - It was also easy to install the software on our Web Server.
- It's possible to limit administration rights (and hence editing) to a small group of users, which has been done.

From:

<https://pilots.scottishglidingcentre.co.uk/> - **Portmoak Pilot's Information and Airfield Manual**

Permanent link:

https://pilots.scottishglidingcentre.co.uk/benefits_of_a_wiki

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