

TVSF on the Lley April 2022

Scotland - (my navigation has let me down again!)



Above: The Eurofox, of which the Scottish Gliding Centre have two, was busy all week

Middle: on aerotow behind the Eurofox

Right: waving to the crew in the Accro 3. Incidentally, the pilot of the Accro was also the pilot of the Ximango

my sister and I visited various bits of the coast, the three bridges over the Firth of Forth, ate haggis flavoured scotch egg (curious), etc, etc. However, on the last day I was there I had a flight in a Ximango (Argentinian for hawk). This was the last design of Rene Fournier, has retracting wheels, and a glide similar to the ASK 21.

We basically flew a large circuit of the area for two hours, reached 4000 feet, but came down asap as it was cold at that height.

I had an excellent week before Wales at the Scottish Gliding Centre, which is sited next to Loch Leven, about 20 miles north of Edinburgh. On the Sunday I had a flight in a Perkoz, with an aerotow to 1500 feet, then an hour thermalling up to 4200, just under the cloud base.

On the way back down we were tracked by an Accro 3 glider, and I managed to take an air to air picture or two.

The highlight for me was that I flew the glider back to the field, but on the way felt the left wing lift, turned towards

it, and picked up a 6 knot thermal. It did not last many turns however as it was rather bumpy, and chunked me out of the centre!!

During the week



Left: part of the very large Scottish Gliding Centre site - it is huge, and has two very large hills for sloping, one on each side.

Bottom left: the Ximango powered glider, with a Junior landing in the background.

Bottom right: view of the mountains from the Ximango



It was a good weeks holiday, and on Saturday I set off south for North Wales.



Above: Lake District hills from just off the M6. Right: Peter Woods on patrol with the pudding menu

fed up being on the A487, so turned south onto another road, number of which I can't for the life of me remember. Crickey, what an amazing road it turned out to be. Very wild and desolate in places, but not much traffic and a good surface. I was still able to stop at mine and Trev's favourite petrol station on the outskirts of Penrhyn-deudraeth. I arrived at Cim Farm around 5 o'clock. Dinner was at the Sun and Peter Woods held up the pudding menu for us!



So finally, I was on my way in the right direction for Abersoch. I had a fab drive down through Scottish hills (little traffic here), then past the Lakes where I stopped for a bite to eat and coffee. I pulled off on a very minor road, hoping it would be quiet, only to find it as busy as the motorway!! Still, the view of the snow-capped hills was worth it. When Snowdonia finally came into view the highest mountains were similarly snow-capped. I was soon



Riccardo's flying shoe hops past! Another curious model from the French design bureau



Sunday

Superb day, bright and sunny, with light to moderate winds from the west, so Annies all day. For me this was one of the best days as the light to moderate winds allowed everyone to fly something.



Several first flights were achieved, plus one first and possibly the last flight of a 3-D printed glider. All I can say is that it has a long way to go for successful aviation!!

Even the CBA crew and Ricardo turned up, eventually.



Day of the deltas?? Above Martin's Voodoo flew really well. Middle: Glyn's little very light delta eventually flew, once the wind increased from zero to 5 mph. Far right: the gorse was in full flower on Annies



Left: Trev plays with Angela - does Mrs T know about her??



Monday

Wet and rather damp start to Monday. Low and claggy cloud shrouded the hills and the rain confirmed that it was not worth going out in the morning.

Just as well for me as I had a bright idea at 10.30 the night before, and by 12.30 I had completely reprogrammed my



Above: when Graham says it is windy, it really is windy!



Middle: the strength of the wind nearly blew Peter's wig off!

Right: Graham launching Glyn's large, heavy sloper that coped well with the wind

treated the air the way we would all like to treat a certain megalomaniac!!

Cooking was at Cim, as the Sun had very thoughtlessly give their chef two days



Glyn might only be an old roofer, but he can still tile a pizza anytime!!! Err, surely the gaps will let in the weather, Glyn??

off!!). However, whilst Trev and I had roast chicken, roast rosemary and garlic potatoes, and broccoli, Graham and Martin had baked sea bream new pots and greens, others indulged in much less healthy things like curry and sausages, or just pizza! The house smelled rather like a restaurant.

CBA crew turned up an indulged in some Gulping and Ricky flew his pristine Magnus.



Alien DLG flying wing. However, my brain was stuck in gear for an hour or so after so had real trouble getting off to sleep.

At Annies around 1300 the 30 plus breeze was on the slope and the lift was booming. The wings screamed all the after-noon, as TVSF



*Top: CBA Crew arriving, eventually!
Above: Terry cooking breakfast!
Middle: John with enough lunch for everyone
Right: Graham practices aerobics with a seagull*



Yet another quacking good day! Annies is the best slope?



Stormbird

Tuesday

I can't remember what happend on Tuesday, as I did not make any notes, and a lot has happened since then. Sorry Chaps, pics only from here for a day or so - I hear a club-wide sigh of relief!

Right: A rare sight Graham sleeping during the day!. But he recovered to launch John Barrow's Phase 5, which dealt with the conditions very well, and Trev's mighty Fox which did not notice the conditions!



Graham heaving the mighty Fox. It actually makes him look small in the centre picture



John B with the backdrop of Garn Fadrin, (I spell it differently each time, but don't think I will ever tire of the magnificent view).



Above: Glynn needs landing practice, and some cyano! Right: it must be tea time, here comes Richardo!

My new owner forgot to make notes so I can't say anything, except quack



Wednesday

Failed again to make any notes, but it was my last day, and I was thinking about the journey on Thursday to home and then on Friday to Buckminster for the weekend of spot landings and Junior 60 pylon racing fun and frolics. (Deep breath here!)

Now I see the pictures I realise there were several highlights during the day. Before anyone says it, I know this is going to appear in the wrong order, but food and stomach rules here.



Glynn's mighty Banofi Pie, before the hungry hoards attacked and ate it alive!



Above: the ingredients for Graham's gargantuan feast. Right: the hoards scoffing said feast. No pudding pics, I was too busy scoffing



Above: Trev flew his F3F jobbie, and (right) GS launched Trev's Fox (just). He said afterwards that he was on the limit!



Probably the greatest highlight was Glynn's Banofi Pies. Oh yes there were two of them, and they were all consumed!

Second, and I have to put this second cos otherwise Graham won't talk to me again, was the main course of chicken wrapped in parma ham, with tagliatelle and an excellent sauce. Serioulsy though it was delicious, and the party atmosphere made it even better.

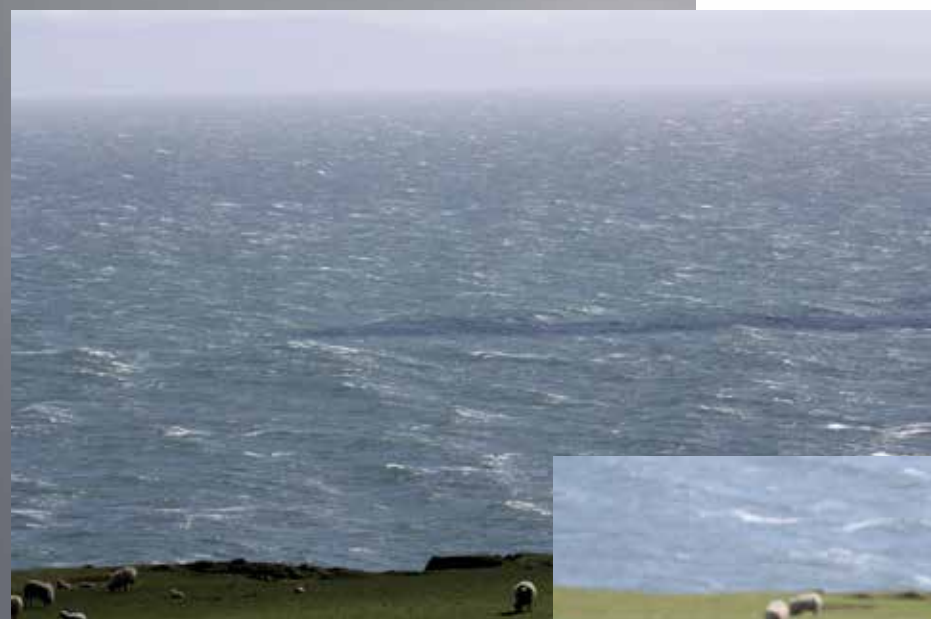
Sloping during the day, and this was the third highlight for me, was on the east side of Ceiriad. T'was another strong

wind day with Graham's wind measurer saying 30 plus mph. Strangely, the flying was good, although one had to be careful not to be blown back into the slope, but the landings were amazing. The slope lift did not seem to break away from the slope in the landing area, so landings could be made with little flap/brakes to slow the models down, the wind did all that - very unusual, and, and, and, even better there was almost no turbulence!

I found my goggles became misted up with salt after each session, which initially I put down to mist in the air. For me this was a supreb end to the sloping week in Wales.



Graham's Windwatch says it all



Middle right wind was strong so cover was essential, (who was that?)

Above: the sea looked mean and unforgiving, but the sheep looked contented and plump and

MINT SAUCE!



Thursday, Friday, Saturday (by Graham Stallard)

Thursday

There was no rush to go flying as the wind was NW 50 mph gusting 60 mph. The wind did abate a bit by 2pm when it was 36mph with an air temp of 12°C but wind chill 1°C. I went flying off NT but I was the only one. Lethargy had set in at Cim by then. I only lasted 40 mins before I was too cold, packing up and heading

back to Cim. On the way back I past the late shift (Richard, Paul, Andy and Spencer). By the time I got back to Cim the wind had dropped another 10mph. I almost went back but



Spencer's mighty Alpina strutting its stuff



needed to warm up. Visit to sun for an evening meal concluding with cards.

Friday

Better day although Northly forecast. Turns out Terry and John Barrow headed home. I went to the Coast Guard on my own. The brunch bunch elected to wait until 3pm when their forecast gave a NW. Trevor finally found the Coast Guard flying his Gulp. I flew the Slip. Great fun side slip landing on the top. Roger arrived to do my prize giving but elected not to fly. Brian Gowland turned up with Geoff. They flew a Phase 6 successfully. Then later on a couple of other locals flew. The wind did back to NNW which made the whole face work. Great fun. On my own by 3pm so packed up and went back via Rhiw. Took a walk

Quotes of the week
Tony
Sticky toffee pud at the Sun on Friday with cream, custard and iced cream - yes all three!!!

from the carpark to the top to see what the signs said etc. The track and general area have not been in better nick in the last decade. Most of the grass had been 'sheep' mowed. When I got back as you might expect those that flew at the NT



Coast Guard Station is a great slope with unparalleled and amazing views



were saying how good it was with a NNW. Flyable maybe, but definitely better landing options. The conclusion of the day and Saturday morning all ran to the usual rhythm.

Saturday

We were greeted by snow on the tops as Trevor and I travel over the top and along the Tanat Valley. Most enjoyable trip yet again.





Yes you guessed
it - quacking
good shots here
Peter.



Peter Woods shots of my Top Model Discus 2. Great machine for an excellent price, and lovely to fly. Goes well on aerotow as well.



Richard launching my Discus



Some more
quacking good
photos. Sorry
repeating myself,
but I am only a
duck



Above: John Barrow's beautiful built-up Fafnir-like glider. Middle left: Richard's French shoe. Middle right: John B launching a pointy sloper. Below: 2 x mug shots of 2 x mugs!

