

*East of Scotland Strut of the Light Aircraft Association
December 2023 Newsletter*



Photo Wallace Shackleton

Chairman's bit

Hi All, Permit looming again. However not much to do this time but small delays over the years have moved my Permit from early Spring to December. It is not the most conducive weather to working outside at the moment so perhaps I should leave it until the New Year.

There is a meeting scheduled with the Museum of Flight to discuss the possibilities of a joint Fly-in with them. As Tim says I am not sure they fully understand what is involved but we should explore the possibilities. We did have a few successes in the early days having it on their side of East Fortune.

We are seriously looking for talks to cheer up our winter meetings, any suggestions? There are a few irons in the fire but if you have any ideas let us know. In the meantime, fly-safe. Justin

January meeting

We often skip the January meeting but that decision has still to be taken this coming Monday. Meantime, just in case, keep an eye out for updates.

Cover photo

Tim Rayner swings the prop for Neil Geddes in his SE5a replica (alongside). Photo taken by Wallace Shackleton at the Perth airshow this summer.

Editor's bit

End of the year coming up so not a bad time to catch up with some housework. Firstly, the Newsletter has been going for some time now and it is available for free to anyone who is interested in it. It costs nothing to add you to the mailing list and of course, the more people who read it the more likely I will be to receive information or photos which are the lifeblood of something like this. So never feel shy about passing something on.

If you receive this from a third party, consider getting your own copy by sending in your email address to me.

andrewj.macleod46@gmail.com

Similarly, if you no longer wish to receive your copy please let me know and I will take you off the mailing list.

Finally, if you live in our generously proportioned catchment area, come along to one of our meetings.



The next meeting is on...

Monday 4th December
at the Harrow Hotel
Eskbank Road, Dalkeith
at 8.00pm

**Nothing planned
so far**



About the Light Aircraft Association:
<https://www.lightaircraftassociation.co.uk>

With a history extending over 70 years, the UK Light Aircraft Association promotes safe and economical operation of sports and recreational aircraft. Representing the aviation interests of around 8,000 recreational pilots, amateur-builders and enthusiast members, the LAA oversees the operation of more than 2,500 light aircraft and the build of another 1,700, whilst providing sector-leading consultation and advocacy in aviation-related regulatory matters both in UK and Europe.

**This newsletter can also be viewed on
the Strut website:**
eos-strut.org

Strutter news

Some interesting updates from the APSS are that the Sopwith 1½ Strutter that they have been building for 23 years is now (I think) cleared for flight.

The BBC put out a thoughtfully produced item about 'Sophie' featured in their programme 'Our Story' on Radio Scotland a couple of weeks ago and you can hear it by following this link.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001snbr?partner=uk.co.bbc&origin=share-mobile>

Tim Rayner will conduct the first flights to establish the performance characteristics. Further down the line when it is cleared for flying it is hoped that Ellie Carter will be a regular pilot.

Ellie is a remarkable and accomplished young aviator (look up her achievements on Google) and Mike Harper of APSS says 'Ellie has been building hours in a Tiger Moth as we've had some feedback that the Strutter is similar. She also has her IMC and Aerobatics qualifications. Ellie is studying aeronautics and astronautics at university and I've no doubt she'll be an astronaut in the future.

Here's a link to the Kickstarter fundraiser raising money for a superb documentary about APSS and Ellie. I hope you can share it in the Newsletter too. If they manage to make it it will be a very inspirational film.

Also, you'll see the small farmers field she operates her Piper Cub from, a challenge for most PPL's.'

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/453296716/ellie-and-the-time-machine>



David Johnstone went to California

And met some firefighters, including this magnificent Martin Mars.
More photos on the next two pages, and hopefully a Presentation
to the Strut early next year.





All photos David Johnstone





News from Sue Oliver

NATIONAL YOUNG AVIATORS YEAR 2024



YES – LAA **Y**outh & **E**ducation **S**upport – invites all Struts, Flying Schools & Clubs, Groups and Airfields to join us for our launch of flying as many young people as we can in **2024**. We will collectively around the UK make a concerted effort, starting on Jan 1st 2024 and majoring on the month of July for the main thrust by everyone involved, to reach the target of **2024** young people flown in the year. To register your interest each organisation, coordinator, manager or pilot must contact: secretary@yesflyers.org.uk and then register the numbers flown with **YES** (email above).

Remember the **TARGET** is to fly **2024** youngsters making the year 2024 the **Big One**.

I can almost guarantee that once you have experienced the joy of introducing young souls to the world of aviation you will never look back. It is simply a life changing experience to be able to pass on your skills and experience to 'tomorrow's adults.'

Membership to **YES** is actually free and we as a national group endeavour to point youngsters in an aeronautical direction whether they wish to fly an aircraft, become an engineer or to be a part of the numerous support roles to keep aircraft in the air.

YES works with industry, airlines and teams up with LAA Struts (Clubs), Youth Organisations, Airfields and Charities using our member's aeronautical skills and knowledge to bring about life changing opportunities. To be found under the canopy of **YES** are regional charities and groups that have been beavering away for some years and making a difference in their own areas of operation. Examples are the Cornwall based charity FOG – Feet Off the Ground and The Joystick Club from White Waltham. Our members are 'small pockets of enthusiasm' spread all over the UK and it is now time for you to bring along your own brand of enthusiasm and knowledge and join us all at **YES** for the **National Young Aviators Year**.



2024 is going to be a **BIG** year for us and it could also be a **BIG** year for you too!

Pete White

www.yesflyers.org.uk

Out and about

Mike Wood is not just a builder and flyer but also makes very good movies. Here he describes techniques involved in working with perspex for his MiniSport's new canopy. Also, look at his other videos clustered around this one.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0i-xXxzMtU8&t=1000s>



Next, Keith and Ed flew over to Fife on November 11th and saw this spectacular bit of artwork.



Later I helped Keith retrieve the Strut's tent. Dress code for the day was 'smart casual'.



Finally, this magnificent Pilatus flew into East Fortune East and Keith says it landed and took off in a shorter distance than his Emeraude.

East of Scotland Strut contacts

Chairman; Justin Kennedy

6 Cammo Walk, Edinburgh EH4 8AN Tel 0131 339 8304 / 07798 661 985
justin@systemwise.co.uk

Co-ordinator, Secretary and LAA Inspector: Tim Rayner

3 Fowler Street, Tranent EH33 1BU Tel 0187 561 3352 / 0779 515 3392
hipe@btinternet.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary; Duncan Robertson

17 Cramond Avenue, Edinburgh EH4 6PP Tel 0131 312 7857
duncanrobertson807@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Andrew Macleod

102 Gilmore Place, Edinburgh EH3 9PL Tel 0131 228 2774
andrewj.macleod46@gmail.com

Safety Officer: Steven Borthwick

73 Galbraith Crescent, Larbert, Falkirk FK5 4AZ
Tel 07707 856 680 / 01324 555 056
borthwick4@hotmail.com

Committee Member without Portfolio: Ed Lyon

14 Craigielaw Park, Aberlady EH32 0PR Tel 01875 870 117
edlyon@hotmail.co.uk