

East of Scotland Strut of the Light Aircraft Association
January 2022 Newsletter



Photo John Whitfield

Chairman's bit

I do hope everyone managed to salvage a reasonable Christmas. I feel as though the extra weight I have put on over Christmas will result in longer take-off and landing runs. Happy New year to all and I hope we can stage a few events in 2022. Keep safe. *Justin*

Skywise

Alex McClintock was sent this. He's not sure how widely it was distributed so you may already have seen it. It's a new online magazine put out by the CAA and might just be a one-off.

<https://content.yudu.com/web/fiqy/0A44afa/flyingheritagenov21/html/index.html?origin=reader>

Hyperloop

It's not a definite yet but we are hoping to have a Presentation at the February meeting by Edinburgh University's Hyperloop team. They are in competition to develop this futuristic transportation system. More news next month.

LAA Scottish Tour 2022

Once again Keith Griggs has made his East Fortune East airstrip and facilities available to visitors on their Round Scotland tour in May of next year, so that they can fly in to visit the Museum of Flight.

Hopefully many Strut members will turn up again to help out and enjoy the day. More information nearer the time.

Co-ordinator's bit

I hope you all had a good Christmas and a Happy New Year. Now that the days are getting longer we should be able to indulge our aviation interest so I hope the weather in the new year is a bit better than it has been recently.

The January meeting at the Harrow has been cancelled so the next one will be in February (assuming COVID permits). As always we are looking for presentations at meetings so if you know someone or would like to do one yourself let me know.

In the meantime keep safe and enjoy your aviation.

Iain

Cover photo

A glorious image taken by John Whitfield over East Lothian in mid December. There is more from John on pages 4 and 5.



The next meeting is on...

**Monday 7th February
at the Harrow Hotel
Eskbank Road, Dalkeith
at 8.00pm**

**Please note, there will
be NO meeting in
January**



About the Light Aircraft Association:
www.laa.uk.com

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

Cub with a history for sale

This J3F-50 was built in America in 1939 and served as a trainer during WW2. We're not quite sure when it was imported into Britain. Originally it had a Continental A65 engine, then a Franklin, and now it has an even more powerful C85.

Scottish Borders farmer Andrew Bathgate has owned G-AGAT for 15 years but feels it's time to pass it on. It's a docile, basic aeroplane with few instruments and needs an 'Armstrong' hand start. It also needs some maintenance carried out to bring it back to Permit standard.

This would suit someone who wants to do some hands on jobs but who will end up with an aircraft with character and history. Price will be in the region of £18,000 to £24,000 depending on how much work the purchaser wants to put in themselves. Contact Andrew Bathgate on 07803 580 890 or asbathgate@gmail.com
The two photographs below are current and the one beneath them was taken in 2004 by Steve Blood.

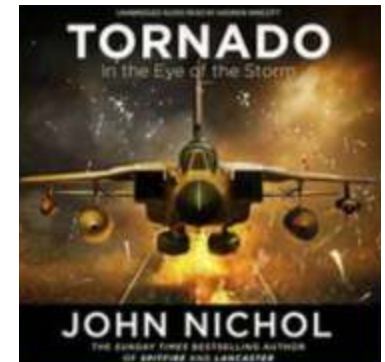


Photo Steve Blood

'Tornado, In the Eye of the Storm'

Thanks to John Whitfield for these two items. Think back to January 17th 1991, when Operation Desert Storm started. RAF pilot John Peters and navigator John Nichol were in the first wave to remove Saddam Hussein from Kuwait when their Tornado was shot down by a hand held SAM. They were quickly captured and spent over 40 days being brutally beaten and tortured before release when the allies had won the war.

John Nichol has written a book about the experience, 'Tornado, In the Eye of the Storm', and in this video he is interviewed and gives an interesting but harrowing account of the experience. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvYMU60Uec>



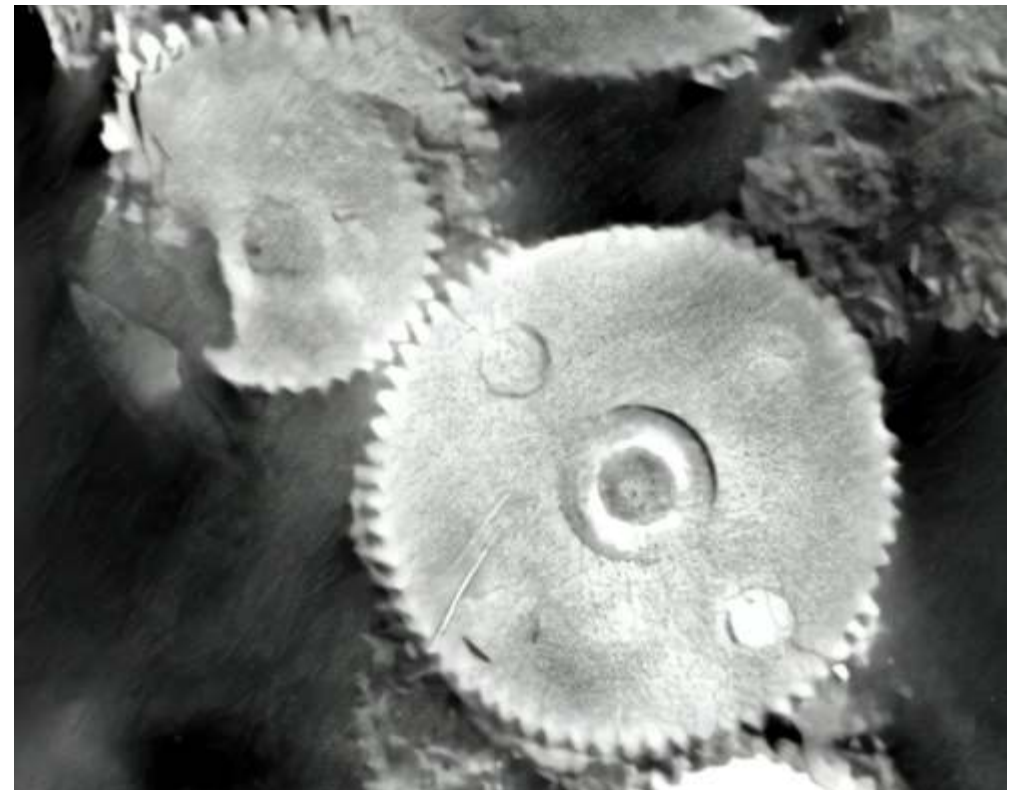
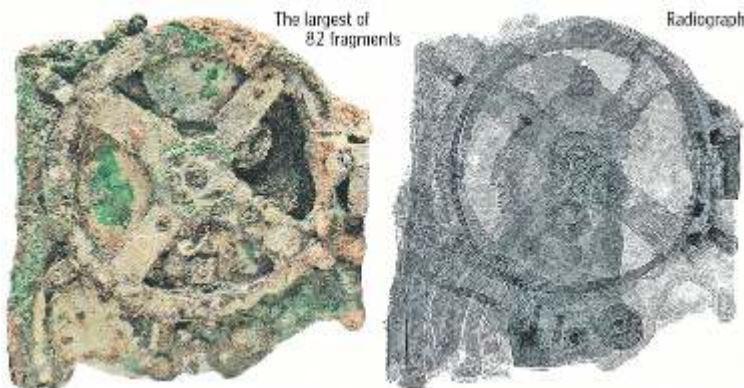
Antikythera

Another contribution from John is this BBC film about unravelling the mysteries of a mechanical device that went down with a Roman ship off the coast of Antikythera in Greece, more than 2,000 years ago.

It was discovered on the sea bed in the early 20th century as a solidified lump but it was not until 1972 that the contents of its interior could begin to be seen using radiography. Despite being in fragments, with many pieces missing, some wonderful detective work took place and you will enjoy the fascinating process of discovery in this nearly hour long programme.

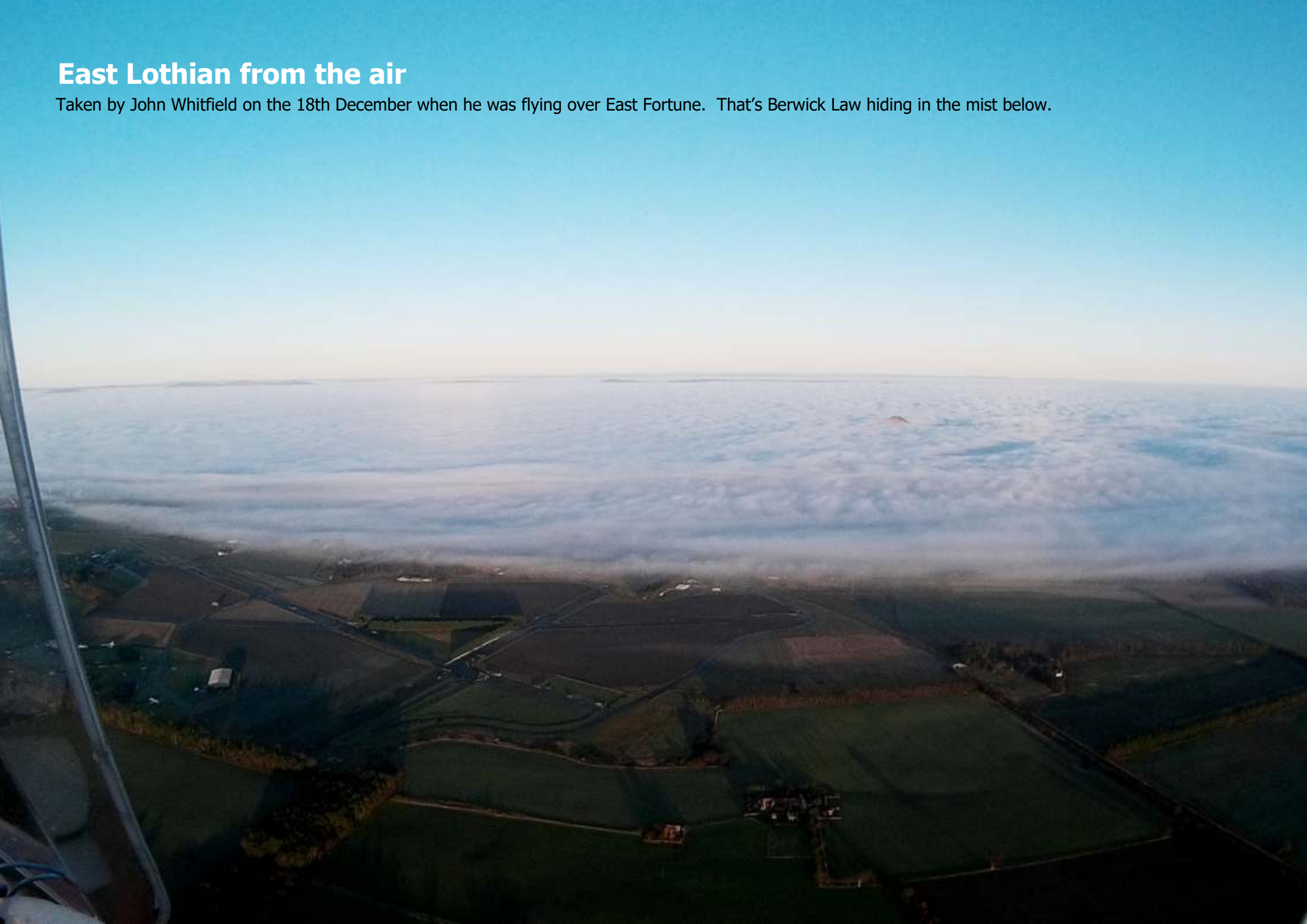
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q124C7W0WYA>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antikythera_mechanism



East Lothian from the air

Taken by John Whitfield on the 18th December when he was flying over East Fortune. That's Berwick Law hiding in the mist below.



British Rail's Spaceship

Unbelievably, British Rail filed a patent for such a thing in the 1970s. There is an explanation why at the end of the video.

Tony Schonfeld, who provides many of the left of field items in the Newsletter, found this and adds 'Jago Hazzard posts YouTube vids regularly on transport in London - with an emphasis on the quirky history of trains, tubes etc. They are well worth watching. I'm addicted to his short videos with his self-deprecating humour.'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DgrMT2OPeFY>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Rail_flying_saucer



Electric van



Remember these? It's a Morris J type van from the 1950s and was a rather clever, space saving design. Now there is a modern electric van on its way which takes many design cues from the old classic (though to be honest I don't like its styling half as much). Thanks to Tony again for this. <https://morris-commercial.com/>



The Dynasphere

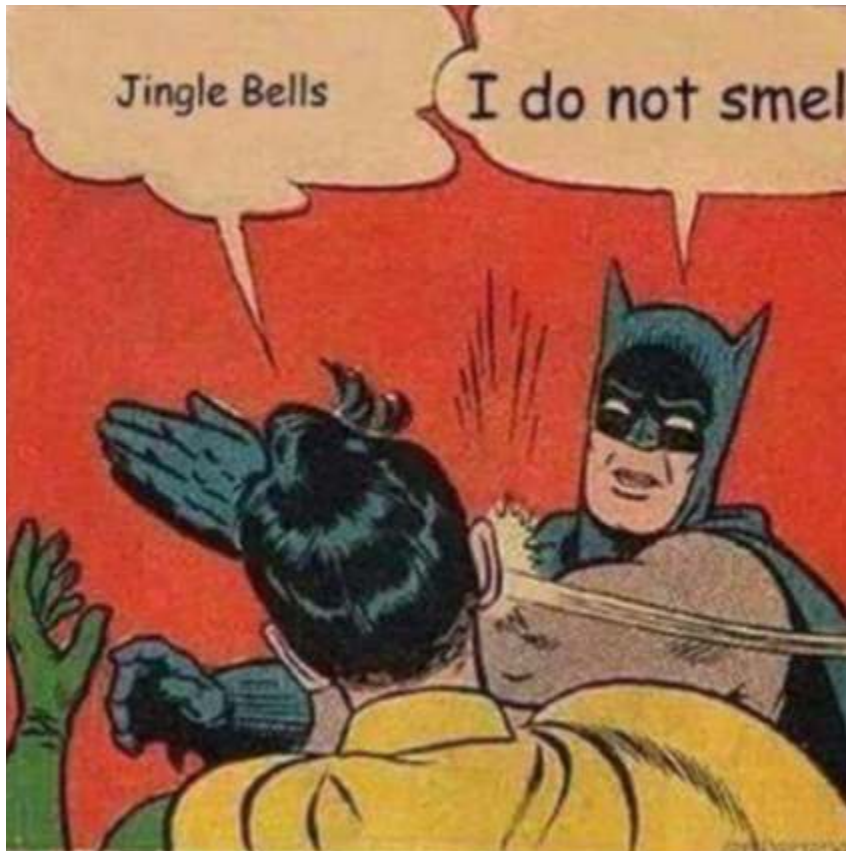
I'm not sure I want one of these, though it's apparently inspired by a Leonardo da Vinci sketch. It's a monowheel electric vehicle from 1932 which could travel at up to 25 mph.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dynasphere>

There are some other monowheels in this link plus a video of the Dynasphere in action.

<https://gajitz.com/wheel-of-misfortune-historic-failure-of-the-monowheel/>





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