

*East of Scotland Strut of the Light Aircraft Association
May 2022 Newsletter*



Photo Aaron Murphy

Chairman's bit

Some really useable weather at last. I hope everyone is getting airborne.

It's time to put 27th May in your diaries for our Fly-in at East Fortune. Keith is going to need help in the preceding couple of days to prepare the strip. The plan will be discussed at the next meeting.

I flew to Dornoch last Sunday with which the Scottish Aeroclub have a free landing pass agreement at the moment. There was one of the local flyers who had just returned from a sortie looking for a lost climber.

No other aircraft there but dog walkers all over the runway. As I lined up I could see them restraining their dogs at the edge of the runway in preparation for my departure. I felt a slight unease I have to say but all was well as I was airborne well before I reached the first lady who was holding a huge Alsatian. She gave me a smile and a wave as I went past.

What a stunning part of the World that is.
Fly safe. *Justin*

Cover photo

Aaron Murphy took this photo of a Bearhawk, an American designed bush plane, while on a club outing to a New Zealand beach.

More on pages 7 to 10

Co-ordinator's bit

The days are getting warmer (and drier) and the weather finally seems to be co-operating with our type of flying.

I am still investigating options for us holding a Strut fly in later in the summer.

The LAA have announced that the main rally at the beginning of September will be a smaller scale event at Popham (near Basingstoke). A bit more of a trek for those coming from Scotland. They are still working towards a return to Sywell next year.

Keith Griggs is hosting LAA Scottish Tour participants at the East Fortune Strip on Friday May 27th but needs help from Strut members to prepare the area and also on the day to provide transport to/from the Museum of Flight. Please contact him if you can help out (contact details on page four).

The LAA Scottish Tour will be based at Perth for most of the event with a Meet the LAA day at Perth on the Saturday (28th)
The next Strut meeting will be at the Harrow on Monday 2nd at 2000.

In the meantime enjoy your aviation. *Iain*



The next meeting is on...

Monday 2nd May
at the Harrow Hotel
Eskbank Road, Dalkeith
at 8.00pm

**Don't forget to pay your
bargain annual £25.00
subscription**



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

LAA Scotland Tour and Strut Fly-in

The LAA's Tour of Scotland takes place from the 22nd to the 29th May.

Keith Griggs has made East Fortune East available on Friday 27th so fellow LAAers can visit the Museum of Flight and the nearby 1½ Strutter. This is a good opportunity for the Strut to help by ferrying visitors to and from the Museum and the APSS, so please come along on the day.

This is also going to be a Strut Fly-in, so all will be welcome, but PPR is necessary. Full details of that later in the Newsletter, but meantime make a note of the date.



Here is the itinerary

Sunday 22nd May Official start at Brighton an overnight stop. Evening meal and breakfast offered.

Monday 23rd Fly to Eshott, refuel/ BBQ lunch. On to Perth for first night. Evening meal in town.

Tuesday 24th Head to the west coast, on to The Isle of Skye for a fly-in at Broadford to see our ex chairman David Faulkner-Bryant. Parking limited so may split up and take turns, alternative Plockton for lunch. On to Glenforsa for night stop. Evening meal with breakfast next morning. Nearby Oban has fuel.

Wednesday 25th Weather dependent. Options; look around the Isle of Mull (village of Tobermory is here), others may wish to refuel at Oban and head up The Great Glen towards Easter airfield in the north. This is where you may need to camp out for a night, as accommodation is more restricted around here but some is available. If things get tricky weather wise, some may wish to stay over at Oban for the night and eat out in nearby restaurants and try The Great Glen on Thursday.

Thursday 26th Head back to Perth for 2-3 nights. Depending on where you/we are, the weather, you may wish to fly up The Great Glen if not done yesterday, along the north coast, or via the lowlands (if not already in the North). Evening meal in Perth.

Friday 27th May Fly to East Fortune to visit the aviation museum and see the building of a Sopwith 1½ Strutter. East of Scotland Strut will look after us. Landing fee goes to charity. Back to Perth for an evening meal in town.

Saturday 28th Perth Fly-in and Meet the LAA Day ; Free landings. A day of chatting, socialising and meeting others. Trig and Pooleys on site. BBQ and Ceilidh band in the evening.

Sunday 29th Goodbye Scotland and fly home. If you have a longer way to go, I have spoken with Brighton and Leicester Airport who will welcome us. Cafes and fuel at both venues.

If you would like to join us, or be kept informed as more things develop, please email Neil Wilson at neil.wilson@laa.uk.com

‘Welcome to Scotland’

Fly-in at East Fortune East

Friday 27 May 2022



To coincide with the LAA Round Scotland Tour Keith Griggs will open his Strip in beautiful East Lothian to welcome visitors on the tour, ***combining with an East of Scotland Strut fly-in which is open to all.***

The Aviation Preservation Society of Scotland are nearby with their nearly complete Sopwith 1½ Strutter, and a concessionary entrance fee of £10.50 to the Museum of Flight has been arranged. Just announce yourselves as LAA members for the concessionary entrance fee.

East of Scotland Strut members will ferry you to and from these places. Some food on site and you can camp overnight.

Fuel is not on site but can be collected with prior warning.

The owner of the land has waived landing fees in favour of a voluntary contribution on the day to the charity 'The Nicola Murray Centre for Ovarian Cancer Research', which deserves our full support.

PPR is essential. Please contact Keith on 07710 547338 for a briefing

Come and enjoy a great day out, then consider carrying on to the 'Meet the LAA' day at Perth the following day. Also, the Museum of Flight has a busy weekend of 'Falklands 40' talks on Sat 28 and Sun 29 May 2022 with once in a lifetime chances of meeting those involved. Soon to be announced;
<https://www.nms.ac.uk/national-museum-of-flight>

Flying in;

The only serviceable runway at East Fortune East is part of 06/24, marked in red squares in the photo alongside. Available length approximately 600x10. *Check SkyDemon for more information.*

High trees on approach to 06
Wires on rail line on approach to 24

PPR Essential. Contact Keith Griggs
07710 547 338

keithgriggs@rocketmail.com

Coming by road;

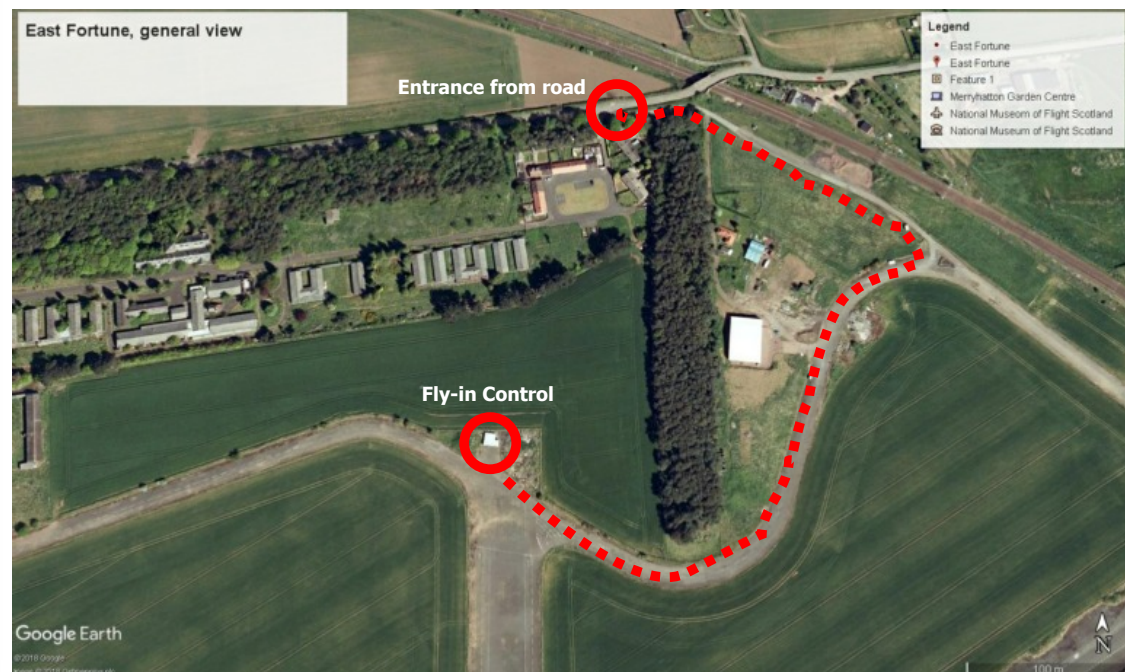
Take the A1 out of Edinburgh to Haddington. You don't want to be stuck on this new road all the way to Dunbar so take the first turn off to Haddington and move on to the A199 (the old A1).

Keep on the A199 until you reach the B1347, then turn left for the Museum of Flight.

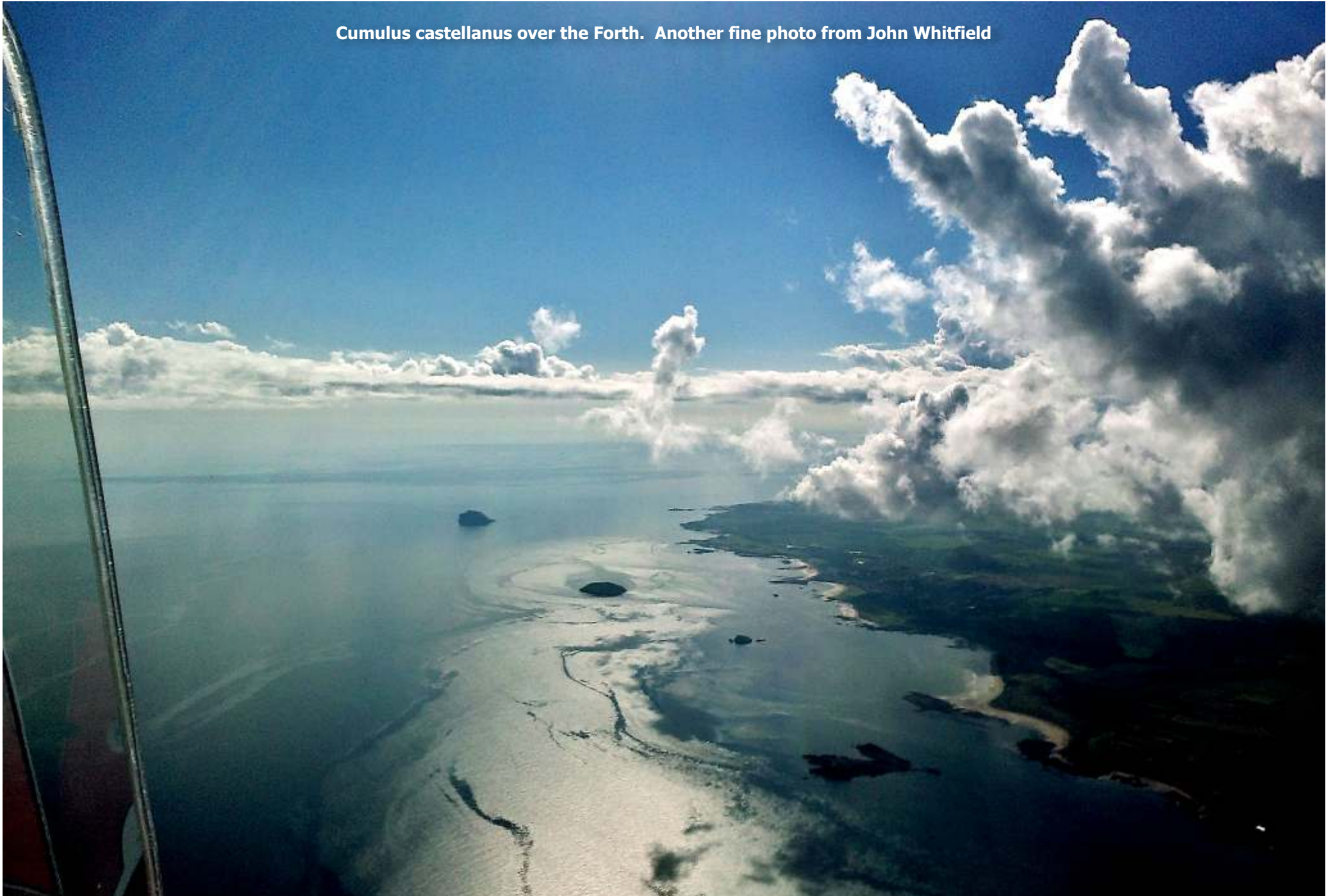
Go past the Museum entrance, carry on over the runway with the microlight school on the left until you reach a T junction.

At the junction turn right. Follow this road until you see a railway bridge. The entrance to the fly-in is on the RHS before the bridge.

There should be signposts directing you to the Fly-in Control. Stick closely to this route (marked on the top photo in yellow).



Cumulus castellanus over the Forth. Another fine photo from John Whitfield



Beach Antics in New Zealand

John Mounce writes 'thought that you may like a wee story from the South Island of NZ. Aaron Murphy is a good keen man and great photographer and these images show a beach gathering in beautiful weather as we prepare for the winter days ahead! We both thought it may appeal to you Strut readers, and Aaron has penned the following words'.

AOPANZ have been organising what they term ODFs, 'One Day Fly-Ins', as a chance for members to get together at late notice when the weather forecast promises to appeal to most fliers.

Such was the occasion back on 2 April, whereby a collection of fifteen mostly fixed wing but also with a Cabri helicopter, made the journey to picturesque Okains Bay on the northeastern edges of Banks Peninsula, South Island New Zealand.

A thorough briefing is held beforehand at a designated rendezvous spot, this time being at AOPANZ stalwart, Charlie Draper's Darfield farm, before the members departed in organised groups of four to five aircraft, following Christchurch's beachline and around the peninsula into Okains Bay.

A leisurely lunch was had at the campground next to the beach, whilst stories were told and compared before the group departed for their home bases or further afield mid afternoon. With good support and settled weather prior to our winter, they are set to become a regular fixture on people's calendars. *All photos Aaron Murphy*





Photo Aaron Murphy





LAA Grass Roots Fly-in, Popham

The LAA will be heading for the green grass of Popham Airfield in Hampshire for a new event on 2nd, 3rd, 4th September 2022.

The LAA Grass Roots Fly-In will on one hand take the Association back to its traditional roots, while continuing to offer the first chance to see some of the latest aircraft and products in the recreational aviation market.

A joint venture with Popham Airfield, the LAA Grass Roots Fly In will continue the theme of the recent LAA Rallies at Sywell, in particular as a social event bringing flyers from around the UK and Europe to meet fellow enthusiasts. The event though will be developed on a more intimate scale. The grass runways at Popham and the airfield's famed rural ambience will mean that the event will focus on the fly-in and social element as much as on a large exhibition campus.

Said LAA CEO Steve Slater: 'The LAA Grass Roots Fly In is going to be different to the LAA Rally and we're still working on plans for the continuation of a larger scale LAA event in the future. Our move from Sywell though is a great opportunity for us to focus on creating a refreshing new take on the traditional LAA calendar fixture, something both different and at the same time taking us back to our roots.'

'The LAA Grass Roots Fly In will make the most of Popham's grass runways and its reputation as one of the most friendly and enthusiastic airfields in the country, to offer members and guests alike a great weekend at the start of September'. *Best regards Steve Slater*



Photo Iain Gibson

Keith's big Charity flight

Keith Griggs has taken on a challenge this summer, to raise money for Cancer Research UK.

He looks after the electrical compliance of 76 Schools across Scotland and his employer, Amey Secure Infrastructure, has given him a week off work in which he will fly from here to Lands End, landing near wherever a donor lives and giving them a half hour local flight. The run will be organised and widely advertised by Cancer Research UK and once the pledges have been made, Keith will plan the route of his trip. The journey starts on Monday 22nd August. Watch this space for updates.



Gliding in the Canadian Rockies

Thanks to David Webb and Jim Prettyman for this. I might have run this a while back but it's a very beautiful short film about gliding and well worth watching. David was Engineering Manager and Chief Engineer of Irvin Industries, Canada and was presented with the BWO Townsend Award from the RAeS for his contribution to the design of parachutes and their successful application to high speed aircraft.

'I just came across this item which is a copy of the Canadian National Film Board Film 'Flight' and a good time in my life. It was made at my old Montreal Soaring Council gliding club back in the 60's and was done on a small budget and not shown many times. In the film, I'm flying the blue fuselage all aluminum HP11 sailplane that had just been built (from a Schreder kit) by my friend Ben Price and myself in our basements. All the other pilots were MSC members and it was a lot of fun at the time.'

<https://www.nfb.ca/film/flight/>



Subs are still due

Not paid yours yet? It's only a very modest £25.00 and it's a miserable job for Duncan having to endlessly chase people up, so if you come to the Monday meeting, please bring cash or a cheque, and if you can't make the meeting please click on this link and ask Duncan which is the easiest way to pay your subscription. duncanrobertson807@gmail.com

East Fortune's Vulcan

Ed Lyon saw this.

'You will all be familiar with the Vulcan B.2 at The Museum of Flight, East Fortune. This was one of the aircraft that completed a 'Black Buck' operation against the Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands using the 'Shrike' anti-aircraft radar missiles.

Unfortunately on the return to Ascension Island it lost its refuelling probe and diverted to Rio de Janeiro, landing with very little fuel.

Corgi have issued a model of this very aircraft but I would think the RRP of £239.99 may limit sales.'



The price of flying

From Jim Prettyman, prompted on reading the price of an ex DH new Tiger Moth in 1935.

'A new Tiger Moth cost £750 in 1935 or five times the national average annual wage. A used Tiger comes today at a price of circa £60,000 or about two times the national average annual wage .

The conclusion? Light aircraft ownership is far more affordable today than in the early years of club flying.'



1st May Carrickmore Fly-in, N Ireland

22-29 May LAA Scotland Tour

**27 May EoS Strut Fly-in
E. Fortune East**

28 May Meet the LAA day, Perth

28-29 May Glenforsa, Mull

18-19 June Easter Airfield, Summer Solstice
<https://www.easterairfield.co.uk/>
or dhmunro@me.com
or mobile 07967 715304.

9-10 July Lamb Holm

23-24 July Sollas Beach, Highlands and
Islands Strut

30-31 July Easter Airfield (contact as
above) Highlands and
Islands Strut Annual Fly-in

30 July Kilkeel, N Ireland

2-4 September Popham. LAA 'Grass Roots'
Fly-in



East of Scotland Strut Fly-in, East Fortune East, 27th May
Full details elsewhere in the Newsletter



If you have a Fly-in or event you would like publicised in the Newsletter, please drop me a line. I won't know about it unless somebody tells me.

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