

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



*Photo Wallace Shackleton*

## Chairman's bit

Hi there.

*I am sorry I have been a bit out of touch for the last month what with holidays and a health scare.*

*The proposal for airspace drone North of Newcastle is quite preposterous, (see article on the next page). They say it has been looked at by experts. Experts in what? They are not named and quite obviously aviation is not their field.*

*The basic premise of their argument is that delivery of drugs from hospitals will be expedited. I fail to see that a more reliable sustainable service could not be provided by electric motorcycle. Certainly preferable to putting a barrier to North/Southbound VFR traffic.*

*Anyone flying in this area knows that on many occasions it is only flyable VFR at low level. How many flights are they proposing that such a huge area be permanently active? I would suggest that at least two or three VFR flights an hour might use this space during the day. Why can't they fly through the night?*

*A robust opposition to this proposal must be organised.*

*Fly safe,*

*Justin*

## Editor's bit

*Thanks to Tim Rayner for his Presentation at last month's meeting. Tim had been on holiday down south and came back with photographs taken at Duxford and a visit to the Shuttleworth Collection, plus the LAA's Grass Roots Rally at Popham.*

*Tim's knowledge about the technical side of what we were looking at always makes these talks fascinating as well as entertaining.*

*We had many memories of our late Co-ordinator, Iain Gibson, to talk about. We believe his ashes have now been returned from America and his brothers are deciding where and when some form of Memorial will take place and I will pass that on when I know what is happening.*

*If you are reading this and part of the large Iain Gibson diaspora but not a Strut member, drop me a line and I will make sure the message reaches you, come the time. Andrew. [andrewj.macleod46@gmail.com](mailto:andrewj.macleod46@gmail.com)*

## Cover photo

*Another immaculate photo from Wallace Shackleton, of Tim Rayner leaving Perth in his Jungmann after the recent Meet the LAA day. More of Wallace's photos on page XX*



## The next meeting is on...

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**  
**at the Harrow Hotel**  
**Eskbank Road, Dalkeith**  
**at 8.00pm**

**Nothing planned yet**



**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](https://eos-strut.org)

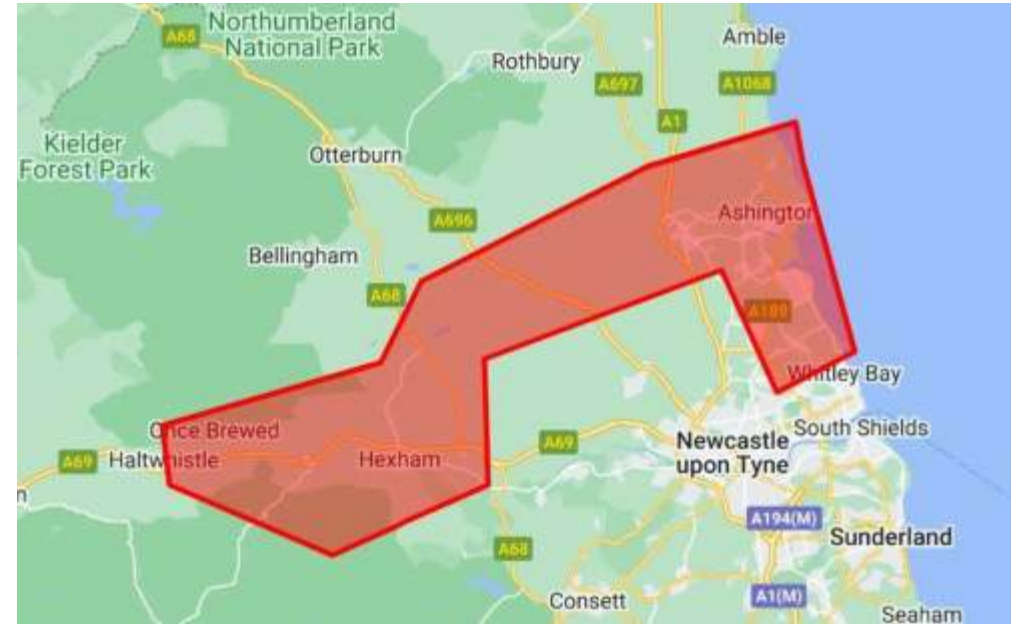
## Drone worries

There is an interesting BBC article dated 9th September and titled Northumberland NHS drone trial 'massive airspace grab'.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-tyne-66742698>

I looked this up following an East of Scotland Microlights mailing about a proposed Temporary Danger Area in the area marked on the map alongside. This will cause big problems for light aircraft travelling up and down the east coast, especially if it becomes permanent or the thin end of a very big wedge. Giving our wonderful but cash strapped NHS what is essentially free money to trial this, puts a rosy glow on drone transport in the mind of the public but the suspicion is that this is all about big business, Amazon and the like, taking over the air above our heads while disguising profit as philanthropy.

Apian <https://www.apian.aero/> has received £799,000 of public money to fund the trial, and Innovate UK, <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/innovate-uk/> oversees SBRI Healthcare <https://sbrihealthcare.co.uk/> which awarded the money. SBRI said it was aimed at 'helping improve patient care and save money while also making the NHS greener'.



## Kirriemuir

Keith Griggs went there last week and it looks like he had a good day for it.





# The Perth Airport Fly-in

1st - 3rd September 2023



This was also a 'Meet the LAA' event and thanks again to Wallace Shackleton for the great photos. Keith Griggs (above) and Tim Rayner on the cover, and more over the next two pages.







# Primary Lee Wave Rotor

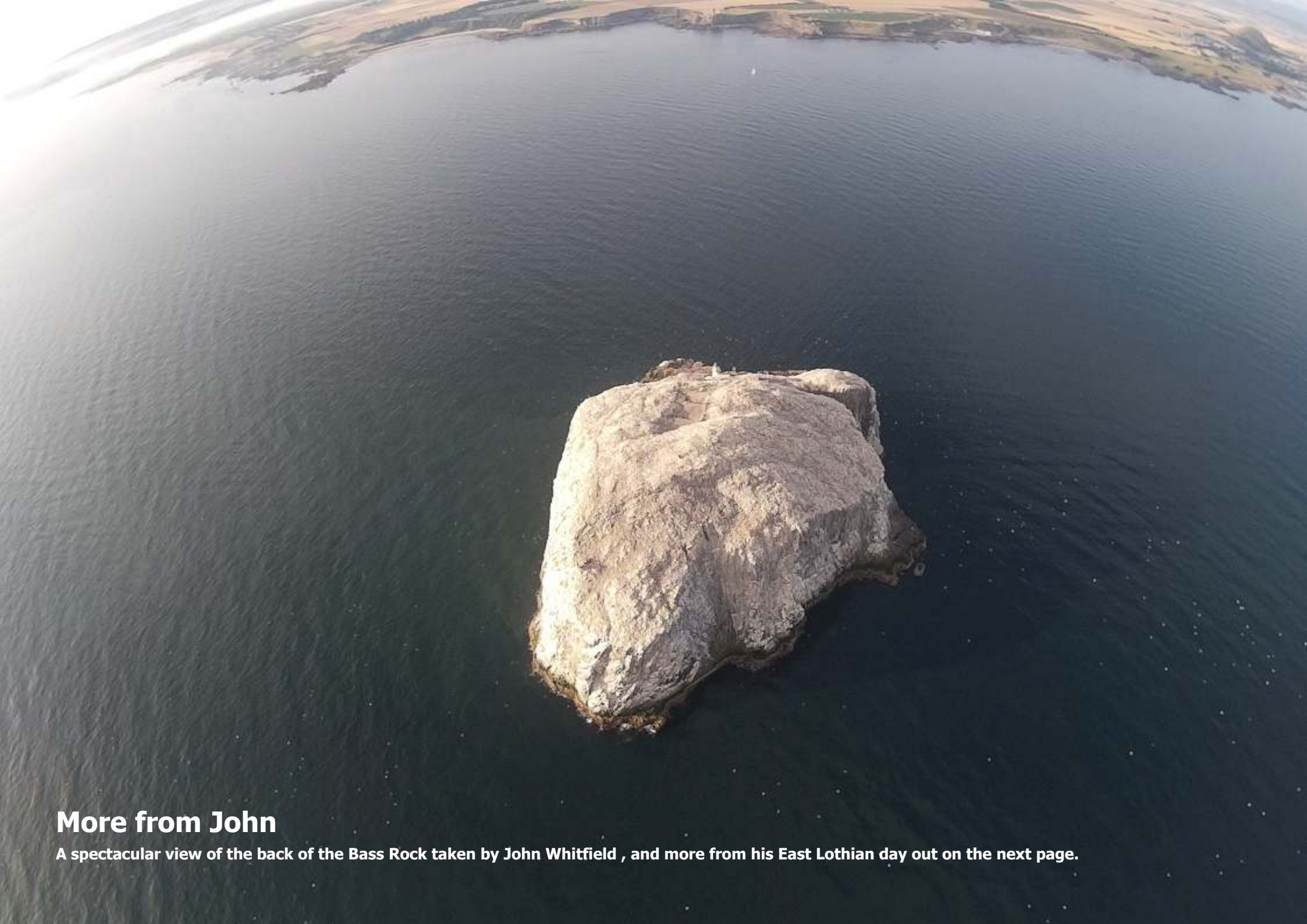
John Whitfield took these last week. He says;

'The wind was light, possibly 15 knots maximum from the Southeast at 2,000 Feet. The East end of the Lammermuir hills provided the down slope.

The Rotor dynamic effects were easily visible, (a video would have been fascinating), and even c 1,000 Feet above the clouds the turbulence was very obvious.'







## More from John

A spectacular view of the back of the Bass Rock taken by John Whitfield , and more from his East Lothian day out on the next page.



Clockwise from top left; Tantallon Castle, Newbyth Old Mansion, Whitekirk, and Craigleith Island in the foreground. All John Whitfield.





## Catching up

Jim Prettyman has a couple of things to add to last month's Newsletter. He too was watching the Red Arrows when they flew over Edinburgh Castle, but this time from Corstorphine Hill. The photo below was taken on his phone and the one below that by his friend. It shows the accompanying Hawk which went on to land at Edinburgh Airport. (Yes, I still call it Turnhouse).



Also from Jim, who enjoyed John Whitfield's photo in the last issue of what remains of Drem airfield, is this link to its wartime history.

<http://www.rafdrem.co.uk/history.html>

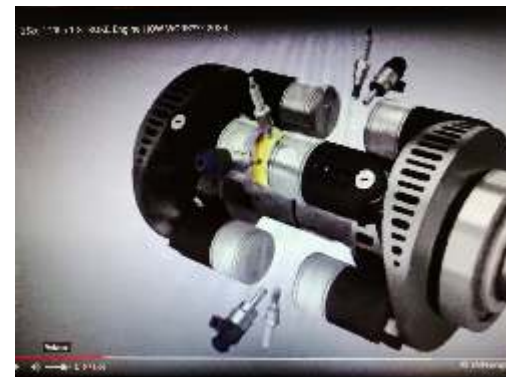
Next, Sue Oliver has told us before about how Bodmin Airfield has found itself, unexpectedly, a wildlife haven of some importance. I can't find a way of putting the document she sent into the Newsletter so here is a different link and photo. <https://flyer.co.uk/bodmin-airfields-are-environmental-heroes/>



## Finally...

A new motor that claims to be a one stroke (to catch your attention) but isn't. However it does look light and powerful but like the Wankel rotary it may have an Achilles heel. Still, watch this space.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/riverview/relatedvideo?q=one+stroke+engine&mid=A1321CE5647B65F97450A1321CE5647B65F97450&FORM=VRDGR>





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