



Aberdeen And District Soarers

Newsletter No. 61

Hillcrest
Disblair
Newmachar

January 1996

FROM THE CHAIR.

Best wishes to all our members and I hope you had a good enjoyable festive season, I hope this year will be kind to us all, thermals will be abundant and Calder Park will be warm with 5 knot winds the order of the day. I bless the day I joined A.D.S. and I am indebted to a few of our stalwart members who have gone out of their way to get me airborne, no name, no pack drill in case I embarrass you all, I appreciate it and say Many, Many Thanks lads.

Davie Davidson.

Norrie's Bit

Welcome to the first newsletter of this year, I do not know what material Bill has gathered to make up a full issue, but we felt that as a committee we should at least let everyone know what is going to happen this year.

For anyone who does not know yet your new committee, (The Gang of Three, or The Good, The Bad and the Ugly) are,

DAVIE DAVIDSON, CHAIRMAN, Tel. 01224 692922

TOM BARTLETT, SECRETARY, Tel. 01224 898945

NORRIE KERR, TREASURER, Tel. 01224 249600

Unfortunately due to pressures of work, hospitalisations and the festive season it has been almost impossible to sit down as a committee at the same time and get everything sorted out, but we are getting there. Thanks must go to Mike Pirie for agreeing to keep on accepting membership fees until we can get a computer system organised. Anyone out there who have still not paid their fees please get them in to Mike now or this will be the last newsletter you receive.

Among the things that will be happening this year are, A discreet notice board to be erected at Calder Park for information purposes, but available to any member to announce anything or leave messages. This will probably be on or near the fence inside the field near the car park. How this will survive vandals etc. I do not know but we will wait and see.

Tuesday Night League to be set up, a fun competition(s) to be run once a month and the results tabulated for a trophy at the end of the year, possibly a Mini Glider League if enough interest is shown. One Thermal Comp./ Fly In (with a back up date) and two Slope Fly Ins to be organised. The Flyline to be kept updated more often as most people at the A.G.M. seemed to think it was a good thing to have. There follows a list of all the relevant Scottish soaring dates I have at present, including our own which I have highlighted.

Tuesday 13th. of February is the annual Bring and Buy Sale to be held in the British Legion Social Club, Bon Accord Terrace, Aberdeen. (a couple of doors up from the fishing tackle shop.) So get the junk (Sorry saleable items) looked out and come along with your wallets and you never know what treasure you may go home with.

Diary Dates

24/03/96	F3F & 60 Pylon SAA	Bishop Hill	F3F League
31/03/96	International Postal SAA	Various Venues	
07/04/96	Slope Test Day SAA	East Lomond	
14/04/96	F3F & 60" Pylon SAA	Bishop Hill	F3f League
21/04/96	Open & 100s	Avondale Model Club	Barcs League
05/05/96	Slope Fly In	ADS Phone In	
12/05/96	Open & 100s SAA	Glencraig	Barcs League
19/05/96	F3f & 60" Pylon SAA	Bishop Hill	F3f League
26/05/96	Radioglide BARCS	Venue T.B.A.	
01/06/96	Thermal Fly In ADS	Hazelhead Or Calder Park	
02/06/96	Open & 100s ADS	Hazelhead Or Calder Park	Barcs League
15/06/96	Scottish Slope Soaring Nationals	Bishop Hill	F3f League
16/06/96	Scottish Slope Soaring Nationals	Bishops Hill	F3F League
23/06/96	Boldon Open	Boldon Model Club	
30/06/96	F3b Multitask Fife Soarers	Venue T.B.A.	
07/07/96	American Thermal & H/L Fife Soarers	Venue T.B.A.	
14/07/96	Thermal Testing Day SAA	Glencraig	
21/07/96	F3f & 60" Pylon SAA	Bishop Hill	F3f League
03/08/96	Scottish Nationals SAA	Pitreavie	Barcs League
04/08/96	Scottish Nationals SAA	Pitrevie	Barcs League
05/08/96	Viking Race F.A.I.	Iceland	
06/08/96	Viking race F.A.I.	Iceland	
18/08/96	Open & 100s SAA	Glencraig	Barcs League
25/08/96	Flyin and B.B.Q.	Calder Park	
01/09/96	International Postal SAA	Various Venues	
08/09/96	Open Back Up Date ADS	Calder Park	
15/09/96	Open & 100s Linlithgow Model Club	Linlithgow	Barcs League
22/09/96	F3f & 60" Pylon SAA	Bishop Hill	F3F League
29/09/96	SLOPE FLY IN ADS	PHONE IN	
06/10/96	Slope Test Day SAA	East Lomond	
20/10/96	F3f & 60" Pylon SAA	Bishop Hill	

As you can see there is plenty of choice for any one planning a year of competition flying but remember, although it is called Competition the emphasis is on meeting other modellers with the same sort of views and having FUN and even if you are not interested in actually taking part it is worth taking the time to go along to some of them just to see what is going on. This also gives you a chance to see what else is happening outside of our little patch, me myself, I want to take a look at this 60" Pylon Racing from what I have heard it is a very simple racing class but a lot of fun for those taking part.

The above question has been surreptitiously asked at a few clandestine meetings, worried members summoned their faithful Council mole, who had such a success in infiltrating the threatened Loo Cleaners Strike Committee and reporting back to enable his masters to avert a prestige threatening operation, after all, where would Councilor Collie have spent his penny? if the Music Hall lavvie was shut on the day he got the Freedom of the City. After some painstaking research in Pubs, Model Shops, Lounge Bars, DIY Shops, Boozers, Shops that stock Model Mags (including the Girlie type) Hotels, Model Workshops, Shebeens, Flying Sites and the occasional Drinking Den he finally reported back that all was in order and we need not worry about being converted into frustrated Racing Car Driver or Boat Skippers.

He even managed to obtain personal interviews with "THE GANG" posing as a reporter for a well known Sunday Paper, asking questions on the Relativity of The Square on the Hippopotamus in the Field of Pro-Recreational Pastimes (Admittedly he did tend to start a question and answer session with the phrase, "Hey Min, Fit dae you's boys dae at the wikkend?) but luckily the three interviewees were so busy thinking about the sensational fees they would be awarded, they did not notice this slip. Here follows the unexpurgated, but heavily censored, interviews as given.

WARNING. This should not be read by the faint hearted, the squeamish or by pregnant women.

TOM BARTLETT: Secretary.

I built my first model at the age of 12 or thereabouts which was a rubber powered Lysander, those among you who have seen my building now will know why it did not fly very well. This disillusioned me until about 10 years ago when I watched a Model Flying display at the Links which rekindled my enthusiasm.

So I bought a 2 Channel outfit and a Slingsby Eagle and ended up with the same results as my first venture. Then 5 years later I decided to try again (obviously a Masochist or a glutton for punishment Ed) and went to GTI Models where I met a young lady called Pauline Kerr (now Masson) who Assured me that a

customer in the shop at the time would be able to help me out with Gliders as he knew all about them (she tells the truth now I believe) that is when I met Jim Masson who introduced me to ADS and as they say, the rest is history.

NORRIE KERR, Treasurer.

My first recollection of model aircraft seem to be some people flying on the Inverdee football pitches when I was very small this would have been sometime

between 1945 and 1950. I remember a model shop in Belmont Street that my father built for me. Several years and a lot of Veron / Keil Kraft missbuilt models later (They must have put more budding modellers off than any thing else) I was still looking for success when I discovered Control Line Combat, this was the turning point, cheap easy to build and as long as you had the power, they went round in circles fast. Most of them were fabricated from damaged parts scrapped by other members of Aberdeen Aeromodellers who used to fly at the Links near the cat and dog home. The first successful glider I had was a K.K. Nomad, a small 20" job that is still available today it flew well, if you chucked it out of the window of the clubrooms four floors up above the A.U.B.T.W. club in Union Street.

Radio Control was entered with a home made Single Channel set and a Queen Bee, more time was spent winding up escapements and trying to tune the set with specially cut plastic knitting needles, I think we got one successful flight out of about twenty. An R.C.S. Guidance System Mk 1 was purchased (£9.50 new) and some reliability was achieved. Propo gear came along and transformed the hobby overnight, eventually becoming the reliable equipment we now have. After mucking about with a 60" glider fitted with an ancient O.S. Pet I finally contacted Dave Northam and entered my first Scot Nats, with an own design glider which promptly folded its wings on its first launch, so it gave me time to look at what was then hi-tech models, Aquila's, Phoenix's, Elmira's, Mini's, only two or three fibre glass fuselages were there and I don't recall anything much over 100". I came home with a Phoenix kit, joined B.A.R.C.S. and really got hooked on thermal flying.

Now I do not seem to have the time to build what I want, or as quickly as I want due to other hobbies, I am trying to set up production line techniques to build better and faster and early results seem to be encouraging. Foam and glass materials, although I do not like using them, are here to stay, and to remain competitive means that this form of construction must be considered and luckily lends itself well to semi mass production.

DAVIE DAVIDSON, Chairman.

A potted history of Aeromodelling in Aberdeen as seen through the eyes of the mannie Davidson fin he wis a loon !! (Even Moses wasn't around then Ed.)

How fascinated I was when Frank Steele first opened his shop in Woolmanhill long before Brian Sherriffs appeared on the scene. E.S. really got things going in the city, he was very enthusiastic designing some very fine models, the year was approx. 1931. Two of his models I remember with affection were the Gull 18" span and the Greater Gull 30" span, these were the first all balsa models I had seen selling at 3/- and 6/- (for the younger reader it means shillings a money) each and their performance was superb, a built up wing with Clark Y section. (If any one is interested I still have the plan for the 18" Gull and can give you a copy). The Rubber shop had a readybuilt Tractor monoplane constructed from 1/4" square Boxwood, flat section wings, rudder and elevator covered in Oil Silk with a ready carved prop and 1/4" skein of flat Dunlop rubber, this model cost 21/- old money and flew like a brick.

Frank Steele was a foreman Sparkie with Claud Hamilton, he lived in Holburn Street and most of his flying was done in Great Southern Road, there was a fair open space in those days before the houses were built. He started a club before the war and used the football pitches at Hazelhead. After the war he used to get permission to fly at Dyce on a Sunday, it was much quieter in those Halcyon days.

TO BE CONTINUED.

STOP PRESS.

There will be a full size Glider display in the Bon Accord Centre from 25th. February to the 3rd. of March, manned by members of the Aboyne Gliding Club they have asked us if we could supply any large scale models to hang from the roof to add interest. Any offers?

Please contact Tom Bartlett.

This could be a good P.R. exercise for the club and any member is welcome to go along at any time as there will always be someone from Aboyne present.

RADIO CONTROL CHAT

This is the name of a conference, or 'echo', that you can find on various Bulletin Board Systems (BBS). To access it you need a computer with a modem. The nearest BBS that you can use to access Radio Control Chat is in Fraserburgh. This is run by Mike Henderson who, apart from running the BBS, is also heavily into model car racing. The BBS telephone number is 01346-510727. Just call up this number with your comms package and you will find yourself on the BBS. Select Radio Control Chat from the menu.

This is not the Internet, this is an E-mail system. You can use it to correspond with other modellers all over the country. There are no charges to use the BBS. All you pay are the telephone charges. If you have the right software you can even download your messages in seconds for off-line reading, writing and editing. Recently I have been corresponding with aeromodellers in the Isle of Lewis and Shropshire. Give it a try and find out for yourselves.

Got a computer but not a modem? Go ahead and get one. You will find this gives a whole new dimension to your machine which will become the centre of an interactive message and information system. Of course, you can also use the modem to 'surf the net', 'world wide web' etc, although this is not necessary to get a lot out of it. Modems come as 9,600 Kb, 14,400 Kb and 28,800 Kb. Forget the 9,600 Kb, it is outmoded. Go for 14,400 Kb as a minimum. I have seen these available for under £50, although £65 is a common shop price. These are perfectly adequate for E-mail use. If you are really keen and want to dive into the Internet, etc, you should really go for a 28,800 Kb. These cost about £160 at the moment, but will soon pay for themselves in reduced charges due to the faster data transfer rate.

Get logged on - the more people who use this, the better it will be!

Chris Harper

INDOOR SCENE

The Video Evening on the evening of December 14th again proved very popular with interesting footage of Schneider Trophy racing and early helicopter experiments. We also had a viewing of the classic Frank Spencer episode, 'The Flying Lesson'. On the same evening, Jim Ruxton and Forbes Kemp had first flights with their Pennyplanes with Jim almost getting to the ceiling on one flight.

The January 8th meeting was cancelled due to the school closures after the big freeze-up. The programme for the remainder of the indoor meetings is as follows

Monday 12th February	Indoor Glider Competition
Monday 11th March	Bring a Model
Monday 8th April	Rubber and Fun

Indoor Glider Competition - The challenge this year is to beat Bill Stark's bumper 50 second time from last year. So build 'em big and light. Those with Pennyplanes can quite easily do a conversion to non-powered flight by just fitting a plain stick fuselage or of course, just remove the propeller. A trophy will be presented to the winner.

Bring a Model - for Bring a Model, read Bring Anything (within reason!). Plans, magazines, products, anything of interest in fact.

Rubber and Fun - This will include a rubber duration competition so get your indoor fliers tuned up. The fun element includes anything that can fly, or at least make an attempt at flight. Helicopters, ornithopters, balloon power - anything goes. There will be trophies for best duration and best unorthodox.

M.A.P.