

*East of Scotland Strut of the Light Aircraft Association  
March 2020 Newsletter*



## Chairman's bit

The storms rolling in off the Atlantic have been pretty much continuous. I have tried hard to get airborne but each time the weather window closes.

Thanks must go to Alberto for his excellent presentation at our last Strut meeting. It was a fascinating tale of his work in Zambia to bring medical attention in the bush where there is none. I was up at Perth and apparently Mike Ashmole's Maule is now off to Zambia to help the flying doctors. Great aircraft for the job.

We have undertaken as a Strut to lay on a Fly-in at East Fortune as an adjunct to the LAA Scottish tour. We will be one of the offerings, they are using Perth as the base. I do hope as many members as can will come along and help at East Fortune.

Roll on the good weather please. AGM next meeting. Fly safe, if at all. *Justin*

## Cover photo

Piper Colt making landing in a gusty wind at last year's Sywell rally, taken by Iain Gibson.

## The Strut's new website

If you haven't looked at it recently you will be pleasantly surprised by the smart new website that Colin Lourie has created; [eos-strut.org](http://eos-strut.org)

## Co-ordinator's bit

Thanks to all who came to the last meeting for Alberto's presentation.

The next meeting is our AGM at the Harrow at 2000 on Monday Second of March. If you would like anything raised please let Justin or myself know. We would also like to see some new blood coming onto the Committee, probably initially as an Ordinary member. Again more information from Justin or myself.

Other business will include support for the LAA Round Scotland Rally in May and our own Fly in at possibly a new venue.

It has been wet, windy and cold recently which has probably curtailed our aviation activities. The clocks change to BST at the end of March so hopefully the weather will start to co operate.

Enjoy your aviation. *Iain*



## The next meeting is on

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

**This is our AGM, so important.**

**Please make every effort to come**



**About the Light Aircraft Association:**  
[www.laa.uk.com](http://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](http://eos-strut.org)

# The Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the East of Scotland Strut of the Light Aircraft Association will be held at the Harrow Hotel, Eskbank Road, Dalkeith at 8.00pm on Monday 2nd of March 2020. Please make every effort to attend this important event.

## Provisional agenda

This can be added to if you have any points you want to bring up. Please contact Iain Gibson, Justin Kennedy or Duncan Robertson beforehand.

**Accounts**  
**Subscriptions**  
**Election of Office Bearers**  
**Fly-ins or Doths**  
**Other events**  
**Dirleton update**  
**Presentation of awards**  
**Any other Business**

## Election of Office Bearers

If you would like to be an Office Bearer of the Strut in any capacity, please put yourself forward.

## Chairman

The function is to provide guidance and direction to the rest of the Committee and oversee that their functions are carried out correctly.

The Chairman also has an additional casting vote where a committee vote is deadlocked. **This position must be held by a full LAA member.** Justin Kennedy is prepared to continue in this position.

**At the AGM you must nominate a new Chairman or re-elect Justin Kennedy.**

## Secretary and Co-ordinator

The Secretary/Co-ordinator's function is to arrange Strut meetings and events in conjunction with other committee members as required and act as main point of contact for the Strut. **This position must be held by a full LAA member.** Iain Gibson is prepared to continue in this position.

**At the AGM you may nominate a new Secretary/Co-ordinator or re-elect Iain Gibson.**

## Treasurer

The function of Treasurer is to record and oversee the financial position of the Strut, provide a budget as required to the Committee and identify any areas of concern. **This position must be held by a full LAA member.** Duncan Robertson is prepared to continue in this position.

**At the AGM you may nominate a new Treasurer or re-elect Duncan Robertson.**

## Membership Secretary

The function is to maintain a record of Strut members, to liaise with the Treasurer and Newsletter Editor, and to identify opportunities for recruiting new members. Duncan Robertson is prepared to continue in this position.

**At the AGM you may nominate a new Membership Secretary or re-elect Duncan Robertson.**

## Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter Editor's function is to produce and distribute the monthly Strut Newsletter. Andrew Macleod is prepared to continue in this position.

**At the AGM you may nominate a new Newsletter Editor or re-elect Andrew Macleod.**

## Safety Officer

The function of the Safety Officer is to ensure that Strut events comply with LAA procedures and provide Risk Assessments as required. **This position must be held by a full LAA member.** The position must be held by a current LAA member to enable us to hold events under the auspices of the LAA. The postholder will be supported by other Strut members. Steven Borthwick is prepared to continue in this position.

**At the AGM you may nominate a new Safety Officer or re-elect Steven Borthwick.**

## Committee Member 1

The position of a Committee Member without Portfolio is to add breadth and balance to the Committee's discussions. As positions fall vacant more members of the Strut will be familiar with what goes on and feel confident about taking on those duties in the future. Ed Lyon is prepared to continue in this position.

**At the AGM you may nominate a new Committee Member or re-elect Ed Lyon**

## Committee Member 2

As above, but please consider putting yourself forward for this new post.

## The Strut's newest member

A big welcome from the Strut to Ahmed Rehan. Ahmed was born in Sudan but has lived in Edinburgh for 30 years.

In 2016 he was working towards his PPL at Perth, hoping to become an airline pilot and even managing to make it to the final interview stage with Flybe, Easyjet and BA.

Sadly he did not quite manage to clear this last hurdle but Ahmed intends to carry on as a recreational pilot and work at building up his several businesses.

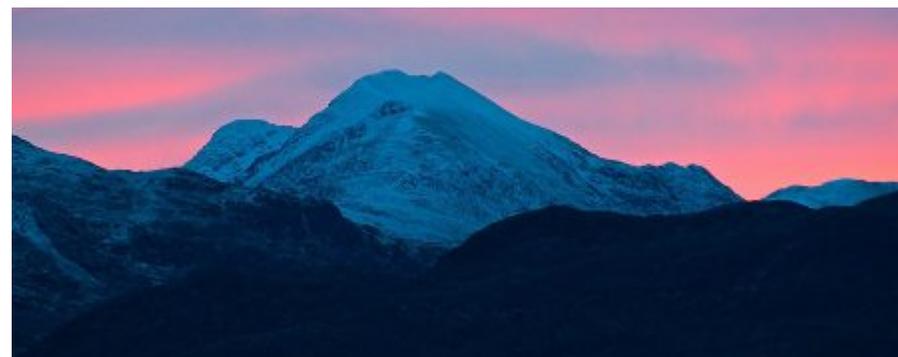


## Events

Wallace Shackleton has started collecting information on where to visit this year. Please add events to this calendar when you hear of anything. More about the East of Scotland Strut's contributions and dates after the AGM.

Date/From	Date/To	Location	Details Website
11/04/2020	12/04/2020	Easter fly-in	<a href="https://www.easterairfield.co.uk/events/">https://www.easterairfield.co.uk/events/</a>
25/04/2020	26/04/2020	Dumfries	Cockpits North weekend, Facebook
29/05/2020	31/05/2020	Perth	fly-in, LAA Scottish Tour
21/06/2020	22/06/2020	Easter	Summer Solstice fly-in <a href="https://www.easterairfield.co.uk/events/">https://www.easterairfield.co.uk/events/</a>
27/06/2020	28/06/2020	Lamb Holm	fly-in
04/09/2020	06/09/2020	Prestwick?Ayr	Scottish Int Airshow <a href="http://www.tsia.scot/">http://www.tsia.scot/</a>
06/09/2020	06/09/2020	Kirkbride	fly-in
06/09/2020	06/09/2020	Dumfries	Wing & Wheels Day, Facebook

## LAA Scottish Tour 2020



Don't forget, the LAA Scottish Tour will be based at Perth from the 25th to 31st May, setting off for places including the Great Glen, Glenforsa, Plockton, Isle of Skye, Wick, Easter and many more airfields. Our Strut will be hosting a visit to East Fortune on the first Monday so help out with that and also feel free to join the tour. More later...

## More aerial battles over the Forth

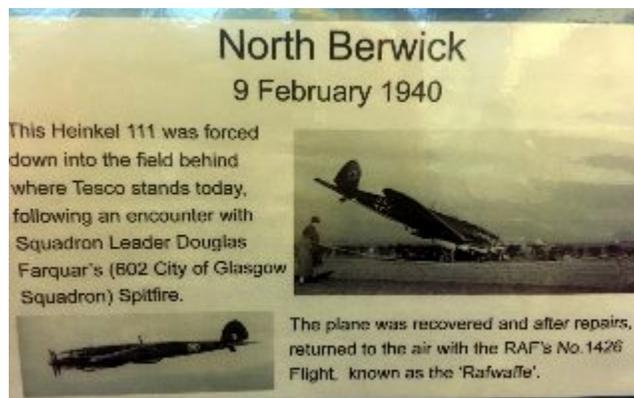
Ed Lyon came across the story of how this came to grief in what is now a Tesco car park. Full story, and what happened afterwards, on the next page.



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Further to my article in the July Newsletter about the first attack on Rosyth and the ships in the Forth I came across this small exhibition in Longniddry Library about later raids.

I thought I had seen most of the pictures taken during these raids but I had never seen this one of the Heinkel 111 crash landed in what is now the site of Tesco on the east side of North Berwick. Interested to see it was made airworthy and test flown by the RAF. You can just make out the Bass Rock in the distance on the original picture. *Ed Lyon*



## The 'Rafwaffe'



As Ed pointed out, this 111 went to 1426 Flight, nicknamed 'The Rafwaffe', where it joined other captured enemy aircraft and was made flyable again and its performance tested. The following article and video explain;

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/No.\\_1426\\_Flight\\_RAF](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/No._1426_Flight_RAF)

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=rafwaffe&view=detail&mid=E1E11B3C45CA3577C5E2E1E11B3C45CA3577C5E2&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Drafwaffe%26FORM%3DHDRSC3>



## Poddy McPodface, Poddy the Second and the Flying Poddsman

I saw this in the window of a University building just off George Square. It is being developed by Edinburgh students from many disciplines, it is long enough to hold a human size dummy and it was the first of three prototypes built over three successive years to run at high speed in Elon Musk's Hyperloop test track in California.

This was in competition with those of research teams from around the world and the aim is to develop a virtually frictionless high speed transport running at airliner speeds but in a land based tube. Edinburgh to London is a possible first route, covering the journey in 50 minutes. The carriage will, of course, be bigger with normal seats. <https://hyp-ed.com/>



## More about the Blackfly

*From David Webb via Jim Prettyman comes a new video showing how this innovative, but apparently very practical, electric transport is coming on.*

'My computer guru sent me this latest video of the Blackfly which looks and has flying attitudes different from other aircraft. This is a unique design which been around for some time now and, although it looks a bit weird on first sight, it appears to be a very practical fixed wing electric aircraft with the multiple props apparently used as the only flying controls needed. It is supposed to be easy to fly but the inclusion of an automatic parachute device may be because the power out gliding and control characteristics might be tricky. Anyway I think this is worth watching?!'



<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=blackfly+plane&&view=detail&mid=B537BE9AD788F0CD2239B537BE9AD788F0CD2239&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dblackfly%2Bplane%26FORM%3DHDRSC3>

## Landing an A320 when you're not a pilot

I remember a film I saw in the 1950s where both pilots ate the same dodgy fish before setting off across the Atlantic and a passenger had to take over when they fell ill. This video takes up the idea and in real life a teenage girl with no flying experience makes a safe landing (in a simulator) under the guidance of an instructor. I'm not sure how well it would have worked if he had been on the ground and couldn't see her mistakes as she made them, but it's an interesting and vaguely hypnotic film.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iI0Sw4eS1TE>



## Butter fingers

This is oldish news but it's the first time I had come across it. Pity the poor technician working on an F16 who accidentally set off its Vulcan cannon and destroyed another F16 on the other side of the airfield. Still, nice to know it works.

<https://theaviationist.com/2018/10/14/f-16-completely-destroyed-by-another-f-16-after-mechanic-accidentally-fires-cannon-on-the-ground-in-belgium/>



## (Nuff said)



## To cheer us up...

Ted Grossmith sent us this fine collection of photographs showing good parenting out there in the wild.

<https://deltavan1.wordpress.com/2017/04/06/fantastic-pictures-parenting-in-the-wilderness/>





In a talk at the V&A museum, Paul Merton recalled: "Parsons was at the Edinburgh Festival and someone was talking to him about Richard Pryor, telling Parsons how funny he was but also all about his crack binges, setting himself on fire, going completely off the rails etc." Merton said: "Parsons stood there listening in absolute disbelief. About an hour later, he was overheard saying to someone else: 'Have you heard what's happened to Richard Briers? He's gone completely mad!'"



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