

Website: <http://www.laahighlandstrut.org.uk>, Newsletter email: [laahighlandstrutnews@outlook.com](mailto:laahighlandstrutnews@outlook.com)

Strut meeting on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023, 7:30pm, at Highland Aviation, Inverness Airport.

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**FROM THE CHAIR – January 2023, by Nigel Campbell**

**RENEWAL OF DORNOCH LANDING CARD AND STRUT / CLUB MEMBERSHIP**

We ask that the Dornoch Landing Card renewal and Strut Membership be paid not later than the last day of February 2023. We also ask that members consider making payment at their earliest convenience preferably by BANK TRANSFER to reduce the administration required (see renewal info on page 5). I ask when payment is made please send an E mail to [janimar.50@btinternet.com](mailto:janimar.50@btinternet.com) as I maintain the Strut records, this makes life easier.

Just a reminder as I am sure all are aware we established a fairer system a couple of years ago where each Landing Card payment relates to an aircraft registration instead of individual members. For clarity all owners or operators associated with each aircraft registration must be a fully paid-up member of our Strut/ Club for any aircraft registration to qualify to receive a Landing Card.

**ANNE STEPS DOWN**

Anne Poole steps down as our Strut's dedicated caterer after so many years. All our members shall sure miss our fellow pilot, Anne's beautifully made sandwiches and specialist home-made cakes. In fact we were all spoiled at every one of our 6 Strut meetings per year over many years. Anne has done a great service for all our club members and always without complaint even having to tidy up after all us "gannets" having swept through is not the simplest of challenges. Accordingly, we all thank Anne and look forward to her continued attendance at our Strut meetings.

**HIGHLAND AVIATION "GYROCOPTERS" FEATURED ON "TAKING OFF" ON YOUTUBE CHANNEL**

The US based 'Taking Off' on YouTube Channel focuses on aviation for pilots and enthusiasts.



The presenters and crew spent a day with HA back in May 2022 and filmed a number of flights. HA flight instructors were on hand to fly with them and guide them around the spectacular local area. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hy7MGk3pbcM&t=1s&ab\\_channel=TakingOff](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hy7MGk3pbcM&t=1s&ab_channel=TakingOff)

## From the chair continued...

### INVERNESS AIRSPACE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Apart from an update already transmitted earlier this month that was received from Tom Hardie, Programme Manager, General Aviation Alliance, the status remains as before as previously reported. Nothing has changed in that the issue is no longer a talking point for now as all seems to remain closed out as far as the CAA official records are concerned. Be assured the Light Aircraft Association (LAA), General Aviation Alliance (GAA) as well as a gathering of all the other numerous flying organisations are maintaining a constant vigilance on a daily basis throughout the UK endeavouring to protect our free airspace whether it is against further expansion of existing or new demands by airfield operators.

### YOUR STRUT/CLUB NEEDS YOU - POSITIONS TO BE FILLED

The below positions are up for "grabs" (except as I suggest below) and therefore we ask that our members step up to the plate to reinvigorate and improve our Strut/Clubs outlook. The only requirement is that those interested are LAA members. Any individual is able to join the LAA for a modest sum.

POSITION	2021 - 2022	2022-2023	
Chairman	Nigel Campbell		
Vice Chairman	Duncan Sutherland		
Strut Coordinator	Brian Spence		
Safety Officer	Darren MacLeod		
Newsletter Editor	Paul Wayman		
Treasurer	Alister Sutherland	No Change recommended	
Airspace & Interface	Paul Jenkins	No Change recommended	

Only with commitment and enthusiasm can such new blood continue to maintain and hopefully add a few members maintaining the history of our Strut that was started by a few committed enthusiasts in 1973.

### REAL LIFE MAVERICK FIGHTER ACE AND WW2'S MADDEST LAD (PART 1 & 2)

I came across these two videos by accident when surfing YouTube that proclaim the life and achievements of Hans Joachim Marseille, German fighter pilot extraordinaire. Initially I thought it was going to be another one of these "damp squib" presentations but I was pleasantly surprised where this non-conforming free spirit did as he pleased with his finger in the air to all authority no matter what level. Some excellent war-time shots are shown providing good entertainment and are well worth a view. All those participating in war sure have given their all with millions and millions suffering the ultimate sacrifice.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWYfcgyHAK&ab\\_channel=AnimarchyHistory](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWYfcgyHAK&ab_channel=AnimarchyHistory)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKVvWr0m7H4&ab\\_channel=AnimarchyHistory](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKVvWr0m7H4&ab_channel=AnimarchyHistory)

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### CAA Electronic Conspicuity Rebate



The CAA scheme to provide £250 rebate on electronic conspicuity devices, such as the SkyEcho ADS-B Transceiver, comes to an end on 31<sup>st</sup> March. So there is still time to make a saving if you are considering one of these. You can find out all about it here:

<https://www.caa.co.uk/general-aviation/aircraft-ownership-and-maintenance/electronic-conspicuity-devices/>

## E-KUB Electric Aircraft

This video from The Light Aircraft Company gives an update on the development and flight testing of the E-KUB, the first all British designed and built electric conventional aircraft, by the test pilot, Dr Guy Gratton. Very interesting and well worth a watch.



Interview  
ELECTRIC AEROPLANE  
4K  
FRANCIS MOBBERLEY FILMS


### Electric Aeroplane - E-KUB Interview with Dr. Guy Gratton - 4K

Subscribe for more updates and further flight testing. For more information please head to The Light Aircraft Company's website via the link provided below...

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

[https://youtu.be/ZzRtyaIWQ\\_w](https://youtu.be/ZzRtyaIWQ_w)

Link to The Light Aircraft Company website:



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## Fly-in Diary 2023

### Easter Airfield

Spring Fly-in – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April  
Summer Fly-in – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June  
LAA Highland & Islands Strut Fly-in - Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July

### Sollas

LAA Highlands & Islands Strut Sollas Beach Landing Fly-in – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June

### Lamb Holm

Lamb Holm Fly-in, Orkney – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> & Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

### Perth

Scottish Aero Club Annual Fly-in - Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August

Please email details of any fly-ins or events you know of to: [laahighlandstrutnews@outlook.com](mailto:laahighlandstrutnews@outlook.com)

## Easter News

From David Edes

It's been relatively quiet at Easter so far this year, the weather hasn't been particularly good. Our biggest concern at the moment is the current Biodigester planning application next door on the old Fearn Aerodrome. So far 214 letters of objection and only 1 for, who happens to be a Highland Council building control officer who has given us problems in the past with Hangar building warrants/competition certificates. The CAA Airfield advisory team sent in a very strong recommendation against the plant. Acorn investments have countered this with a very poor response by York Aviation consultancy.

We have set the dates for our fly ins.

**Spring fly in - Sunday 30th April**

**Summer fly in - Saturday 24th June**

Sadly this will now clash with the Sollas weekend. David Munro is going to offer wash down facilities for people, leaving Sollas if they wish to drop in to clean/hose down their aircraft before they head south.

Anyone who wishes to visit Easter regularly can benefit from an annual landing card. Details on the website: <https://www.easterairfield.co.uk/landing-fees>

## Request to Pilots and Users of Easter

### HELP SAFEGUARD EASTER AIRFIELD

Planning Application - 22/05178/FUL HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Since 2007, we have been steadily evolving into a destination of choice for General Aviation in Scotland and the Highlands. Our client base has extended to include several types of stakeholder from based aircraft, visiting private operators, flight training organisations and commercial operations serving the Highlands economy. Over the years we have added additional hangarage and runway length to continue to demonstrate our ability to thrive as a significant contributor to Aviation in the region.

There is however, a significant threat to continued safe operation of the airfield in the shape of a development of an Anaerobic Digestion plant to be located just 40 metres from the 24/06 runway. This plant is planned to have:

- Gas venting and flaring, explosive atmospheric conditions
- Rising Thermal plumes
- Large digestion tanks, flaring towers
- Significant bodies of water
- Difficult to maintain material detritus

These are important considerations for users of the airfield, especially as they impact low approach and critical phases of flight. In particular:

- Dynamic flaring could pose a sudden distraction to pilots, particularly in low light conditions.
- Rising heat (thermal plumes) causing flight turbulence at low levels and low speed
- We always work to reduce the wildlife impact on our airfield, but the bodies of water, detritus and frankly the smell, will attract birdlife, waterfowl, invertebrates and birds of prey. These significantly increase bird strike risk for the users of our airfield.

So, we are hoping that our General Aviation users are able to help oppose this development with a robust, considered response to what is now a full planning application. If you can help, please click the link below where you can find full details and click 'Make a Comment' to give your considered comments.

We don't have many airfield in Scotland. Please help remove this threat from Easter.

<https://wam.highland.gov.uk/wam/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=RKS7H2IHFQM00>

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## Highland Strut membership renewal for 2023:

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Treasurer's Address:- Alister Sutherland, 'Kylarrick', Lower Bogrow, Edderton, Tain, Ross-shire, IV19 1LT.



07836 662660

### January 2023

We have once again been able to maintain membership to the paltry level of only £5:00 for the year. Subscriptions due by 28<sup>th</sup> February.

To maintain your membership, please complete and return this form with payment to the treasurer at the address shown above. Cheques should be made payable to **'The Highland Strut'**.

Payments may also be made by BACS. Sort Code: **83-27-35**, Account No: **00665726**, Account Name: **Highlands & Islands Strut of the LAA**

Please use your name or other suitable ID (e.g. Aircraft reg for landing card) in the reference field. Payees' must send an E mail to **janimar.50@btinternet.com** confirming details of the payment made. This is to ensure your payment is recorded accurately against individual members.

Alternatively, come along to the next meeting and pay in person, but please complete the details below which will form the basis of our membership list.

Name:

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LAA

BMA

Address:

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BGA

LAA Membership No.: -----

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Email address: -----

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Telephone: -----

Postcode:

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Mobile: -----