

# Glider Day 2012

Now was that a comp, or was that a comp! Yep, it was a comp, a great one, a beautiful day, perfect weather and a turnout obviously not put off by hot-shots or fear of failure. We had everything from 3m span to a "sawn-off" Easystar!

The day started cool and humid with fears (soon proved wrong) that lift might be in short supply so it was decided to do **Round 1 of Electric Glider** while waiting for some warm air for the Thermal Guys. We had 16, read that again, sixteen entrants in EG (10 of whom also entered TG) and here they are.



Doug Radford was soon up and at 'em with his Spectra (more of that later) rapidly followed by David Foster, Tom Sparkes and Col Buckley who managed a very respectable 4:55 (against a 5:00 target) but it was John Channon who showed what real EG is about. Up like a proverbial rocket in 10 secs flat (the previous group had averaged about 30 secs motor run) he cruised around finding lift for a 4:58 and a 20 point landing - 308 total - the one to beat. Vince Payne went up, found lots of lift and couldn't get down in less than 5:52!! Peter Wyss flew his tiny Merlin (again! The little red one above, when you gonna get a real glider Peter) but it was David Menzies and his Spirit who sorted things out - 5:00 exactly! From a 25 sec motor run and a 50pt landing (much to the cheers of the crowd) to produce 325 points! Could anyone beat that? Steve McMahon had a bloody good go - 5:03 from 24 secs AND another 50 pt landing - 323 points - whoa!



Mike M gives his Maxie the heave ho!

Andrew Yu was next up borrowing Stan's Radian (see Addendum) and turned in a 5.08 from 19 secs and a 30 pointer to give 303. George Kaley was next up for a 287 pointer but the prize for determination must go to junior Chris Polis and his "modified" Easystar (see 2<sup>nd</sup> from the left in the front row of the picture). The modification was a crash that ripped off most of one wing tip so Dad Harry just chopped off the other one so Chris

could keep flying! The result is technically a glider rather reminiscent of a V1. He flew it to a 4:48 and a 20 point landing but we won't talk about the motor run except to say it takes a lot to keep an Easystar with no wings in the air! See you next year Chris! Rob Kaley was another who couldn't get down in time with and finished up 5 points behind his Dad as a result. Jody Redfern was next followed by Mike minty and Stan finished the round flying HIS Radian but missing Andrew's score by 15 points!

And so to **Round 1 of Thermal Glider** and by now a lot of lift and these happy entrants. It's

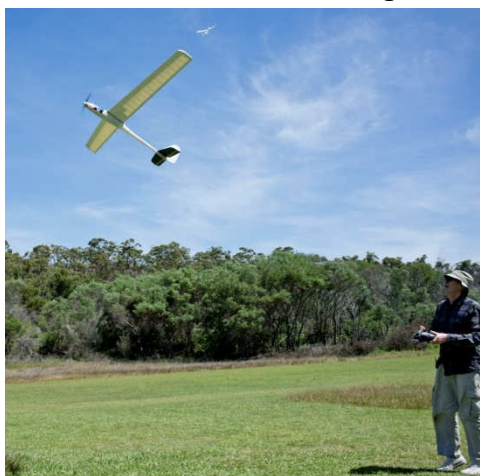


interesting to see that at least 7 of the 10 entries were more than 10 years old with Doug's ex Mike M's Hi Fli that has got to be 30+ years old. We had a few Premature "ping-offs" the bungee giving flight times under 3 mins but it was good to see people like Jody picking up the reins after about 20 years of non-glidering and newbies like Col B realising what fun TG is. The "stars" of the first round

were David M, his HOB 2T, with a 4:57 and another 50 point landing (347 out of a max 350), Steve M, his First, with 4:56 but no landing points, Stan B, his ancient Albatross, with 5:08 but also missing the spot, Mike M, his re-furbished Aquila with 5:04 and 30 pts and also Roert Kaley seen here with his huge "Glider O Matic" that lumbered into the sky on the new club bungee (good job we got that one!) for a 4:38 and 20 LPs (that's Landing Points from now on).



**Round 2 of the EG** saw a general improvement in scores with 8 pilots getting over 300 points and



John & Andrew picking up the highest scores that round with 318 each. Doug had a rather aerobatic flight which culminated with the wing collapsing under the strain and a large hole in the ground (see Web Site Crashes - sorry Doug). Vince had a prop fly off on launch which chopped his aerial - no more flying for him! Chris Polis didn't get a chance to try his missile again as they had to leave but I'm sure we will see him again. Steve managed a 295 despite having one wing tip fold on him. Landings included two 50s from Andrew & Mike. Grandpa Kaley gets another one away.

**Round 2 of TG** also saw a general improvement (except for David, shown in launch mode here, &



Steve who were not flying to their usual standard) though John C managed to pick up a tree on his flight and Mike got the highest score that round with a 324. Stan missed out on LPs and realised again how useful spoilers would be, it's hard to get a TG to drop in the right place without them especially with a breeze blowing down the field that lifts you up when you least expect or want it, that's right eh Col?

**Round 3 of EG** had a close battle going, 3 with over 600 points and 3 more over 580 - who could do what? Well 4 got 50 LPs and that always helps, only one failed to get any. Flight times were hot from 4:47 to 5:14 (remember seconds over and under count negative) but Andrew claimed the highest with 333 (here getting a good launch from Stan) with Robert only 10 points behind. Steve found his rapidly repaired wing tip soon flapping in the breeze but to the delight and



cheers of the crowd flew on to get 282 points (some suggested he should chop the other one off as well!).

Round 3 of TG had 3 people in the running, David, Mike & Stan with the real challenge - could M&S beat Ds 347 pointer for the Mort's Mug? Lift was good but not as good as R2, with 4 very close to the magic 5:00 but not David - he had to leave early at the almost certain cost of First Prize. One problem with TG is the retrieval of the bungee each flight but fortunately we had help this year from the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Kaley - Freddie was keen!



The points were added, checked and the results declared:-

#### Electric

1<sup>st</sup> Andrew "Birthday Boy" Yu

2<sup>nd</sup> John Channon

3<sup>rd</sup> David Menzies

4<sup>th</sup> Rob Kaley

#### Thermal

1<sup>st</sup> Mike Minty

2<sup>nd</sup> Stan Begg

3<sup>rd</sup> Rob Kaley

4<sup>th</sup> John Channon

**Morts Mug (best single TG flight) David Menzies 347 Out of 350**

But what about Aero-Tow I hear you ask, well, perhaps we had better not go there. Suffice to say that after this we were a bit short in the tug department, which is a shame as Rob Kaley had built and brought an interesting **SCALE** model especially for the occasion!



Finally thanks to all who helped make it a great day especially Julie for the soss sizzle and cakes (to celebrate Andrew's Birthday) and her assistant Grant Furzer. Let's hope for another great one next year.

**Addendum.** If anyone still harbours worries about "cheapies" versus "hot shots" in the EG section note that the winner was a foamie Radian where the only mod was to upgrade the motor & prop. Here is what Stan put in -

**1 x Brushless outrunner 37mm dia 5mm dia shaft P/no KDA36-16M \$28.46**

**1 x 40A speedie P/No TZ-40A \$18.22**

**1 x 45mm dia Spinner P/No FS45-5.0 \$6.60**

**1 x pair 11x8 prop blades P/No TGS11x8F \$4.68**

**Total \$57.96 from Hobbyking**

And just add a 1350 mah 3S LiPo and you have a potential winner!

And if that's not enough to get you fired up for next year, look at this, Glider Day at it's silent best! Thanks for the pic Rob.

