

Glider Day 5th Oct 2014

Once again we few, we lucky few, gathered in the lovely Belrose morning sun (and boy, it was a really sunny day!) to battle the elements for the prestigious trophies.

There were the standard two events run by CD Dave Pound, Electric and Thermal Glider and we started with the Electric to allow for the world to warm up and produce a bunch of thermals so helpful in the pure glider event.

Electric Glider has a 5 minute (300 seconds = 300 points) target flight with seconds over and under being deducted. The motor time used is also deducted but a bonus of 10, 20 or 30 points can be added for a spot landing.

Round 1 and Mike Minty was first up with his Maxie and produced a near perfect flight of 4'49" plus a 30 point landing from a 20 second motor run - total 309 points. Not to be outdone Dave Foster went up for a 5'04" flight with his Spectra and another perfect spot but took 36 seconds of motor run to do it - 290 points. Grant Neill and his Radian was next up for a 4'55" flight, another perfect landing but a 34 second motor run - 291 points. Walter Metzger, seen here preparing to launch his Radian, over-ran on the time for a 5:17" but made up for it with only a 25" motor run and a perfect spot landing - 292 points. Last up in this round was Col



"I

really am going to cut off the nose and fit a new motor" Buckley and his Sky Cloud. It was noticeably slower on the climb and while clocking 5'05" took 41" of motor and then missed out on spot points - 254 points. And that was it! Only 5 competitors! OK, some like Clive and Dave were away on holiday, Stan Begg actually called in sick but where were the rest of you?

Round 2 saw Mike fluff his landing (should have given a 1 sec motor burst right at the end!) for 283 points, Dave was consistent with a 287 while Grant found some nice lift where the BFB guys were burning off for 304. Walter missed some landing points for 288 and Col had a much better flight for 291 points.

Round 3 showed flight times between 5'01" (Col) and 5'13" (Walter) and everyone getting some spot landing points (there's really no excuse for not getting them since with a motor you can always "go round"!).

Adding all the points up gave

Mike - 884; Grant - 869; Dave - 858; Walter - 842; Col - 778

And so to the **Thermal Glider** event, now down to 4 entrants as Walter only had his Radian. Round 1 again saw Mike up first with his Bird of Time and while he managed to find some lift drifted too far down wind and couldn't get back to the spot for 4'47" - 287 points. Dave and his Gentle Lady had a pre-mature ping-off the bungee and could only pick up an 86" flight but made it back to the spot - 96 points. Grant has an ARF Bird of Time copy and which is actually electric powered but he strapped the prop blades down! I is heavy, a kilo more than Mikes and it showed it as it struggled up on the bungee (BTW, the bungee pulls at just under 10lbs force) He managed a 3'32" but with a good landing got 232 points.



Col with his Sensitive Lady (apparently a modified G Lady!) is up and away helped by Grant for a not very happy 2'57" and no landing points - 177 points.

Not a very promising start to the Thermal event - mainly cos we couldn't find any! There was clearly some rising warm air from the burn-off but it was a lot further away than Dave Pound reckoned ("Go on, over the ridge" was his constant cry!)



Round 2 was dismal, Mike only managed 147 points despite a respectable landing, Dave at least managed 184 with Grant launching here again while Grant himself only got 86 and damaged his tail on landing and couldn't fly in Round 3! And then Col stepped up off he went, boldly going where etc. etc. and found the magic lift. This was more like it and back to earth for a 4'56" flight plus landing points - 314 points!



Round 3
and the

pressure is on! Mike did a sad 2'55", Dave did an excellent 5'15" could Col pull another bunny out of the bush? He only managed 2'32" with no landing points - shock horror! But when they were all added up we had



Col - 643; Mike - 629; Dave - 575; Grant - 318



and if that weren't enough, not only had he won the Thermal event but also **Mort's Mug** for the best single Thermal Glider flight. Here he is desperately trying to find the beer in the bottom of the trophy!

So Dave Pound handed out the trophies, everyone had a great day Just a shame there weren't more there to enjoy it!

Mike Minty

PS Col's score for the Mug was 95% of a possible maximum! Don't forget to ask Col all about it oh, don't bother, he'll tell you anyway!