

Glider Day February 2014

The 9th of Feb saw Col Buckley first to the field at about 8.00am to find he had left the battery of his electric glider at home! Mike Minty was there a few minutes later but no help with the battery, but George Kaley arrived with a spare! They were soon joined by Robert Kaley, son Freddie of course and Walter Metzger and Grant Neill And that was all! CD Dave Pound had room for at least 10 on his score sheets but NO ONE ELSE SHOWED UP! It was a beautiful sunny day, morning breeze, fun to be had, trophies to be won..... so where were you?



Ah well, Dave ran Round 1 of Electric first and Mike was first up with his large Graupner Maxie Fli.

Now remember that Electric Glider target is a 5 minute flight, a spot landing (max points 30) with the minimum motor run time you can manage deducted from the total so the Max = $300 + 30 - \text{about } 15 = \text{approx. } 315$ points, so when Mike turned in a 302 point first flight it was

clearly going to be tough to beat!

Of course not if you are Robert! He took his Radian Pro straight up for a+3sec flight, a perfect spot landing (right) giving a 311 flight!! George (below) wasn't quite so good despite a perfect 5 min flight he used up a valuable 40



secs of motor run for 270 while Walter managed 290. Col went up but couldn't find the lift and his resulting 49 secs of motor run left him with only 243 points. Grant had another Radian with a Graupner prop fitted that went up far better than the prop supplied with the kit to clock a useful 280 points.

Dave then decided to run **Round 1 of the Thermal Glider** (only 4 entrants) as the forecast



was strong wind by lunch time. Mike was again first up with his Bird of Time launched by Col for a near perfect 5:01 time and a score of 314. Robert, with his huge "Glidomatic", shown here turning for landing, came down a bit short to make 295 which Col just eclipsed with 299. Grant had a Discus HLG (you know, chuck it hard by a wing tip) with a hook taped on the fuselage that went up like a rocket but

didn't have the glide for only 166 points. Here it is with Robert launching.



We then decided to continue with the **Thermal for Round 2**. There seemed to be a lot of lift around but not always easy to find. Mike found it and couldn't get down quick enough for 5:13 resulting in a 297 score. Robert couldn't find it (and with a plane that size he needs it!) for a 200 flight while Col picked up 249 (seen here going up launched by Grant) and Grant 199.

Round 3 Thermal had masses of lift, Mike had spoilers up for the last minute of his flight for a time of 5:17 but he stuffed the landing for a total of 283. Robert suffered even more for only 83 points but Col managed a very nice 5:11 flight for 289 points. Grant had a second go as we stuffed up the timing but could only get 158 points.



Back to Round 2 of the Electric saw Mike get off with a respectable 294 only to see Robert rush past him with a 312 from a 15 sec motor run and a perfect spot landing (those Radian Pro flaps certainly help!). George did a lovely 302 with only 1 sec out on the time from

a tiny 7 sec motor run!! Walter produced 290 Colin 230 and Grant a 302 - only 2 secs out on the time!

Round 3 Electric and Mike couldn't find the lift needing 26 secs to manage a 286 flight. Robert put in another cracker, 2 secs out on time, a perfect spot and only 16 secs of motor. Walter (check out his smart "personalised stripes") did a great 5:03 flight but needed 38 secs of motor run to give 274 while Col needed 46 secs to reach 246. Grant had a good flight from 13 secs motor to give 294 from a "within 5m" spot landing.



Dave got out his counting sticks and the results were

Electric Glider

1st Robert 935* 2nd Mike 892 3rd George 877 4th Grant 876

*That was 311 + 312 + 312 = Consistency!



Thermal Glider

1st Mike 894 2nd Colin 837 3rd Robert 578 4th Grant 523



Smiles & trophies! Thanks to Dave our CD, we all had a good time, enjoyable competition and a determination to be there next time - why not join us? You don't need a complex or expensive model, note that 4 of the 6 electrics were simple ARF Radians.

And the good news - the wind held off!



Oh, and there was one spectator!

