



Scottish Airsports Club Lanzarote Picture Special



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Forthcoming Events

March(ish)

Spring! The new season! But don't wait till then to get some flying in.

6th/7th March

B.H.P.A. coaching course at the Thornhill Village Hall. Saturday 9.30 - 16.45. Sunday 9.15 - 16.15. Cost £20. Contact Donald MacKenzie if you want to attend.

Lanzarote Picture Special

This year's trip to Lanzarote was as successful as ever. After all, you can't beat 7 flying days out of 7! Highlights of the trip were as follows:

Flying Highlights

- Andy and Donald flew a great XC flight across the island on the second last day. Full details in a separate report. (I'm still waiting, Andy!)
- Big Al was coming in to land over the bottom landing field at around 200 feet on his ultra-high performance Discovery hot-ship when he caught a thermal, took it all the way back up to the hill and top landed. Disco Fever!
- Big thermals! My vario peaked at 1600ft/min and I got over 1100ft/min on the averager several times.
- My longest flight was 1 hour 50 mins - almost double my previous best. I only landed because I was totally knackered!
- Rob flew a total of over 12 hours.
- Chic proved that flying wires have a lifetime of at least a decade and several hundred hours. Changing them any sooner is obviously a waste of money. Colour scheme fashions don't last nearly as long, though.

Crashing Highlights

- One broken tip wand and two twisted ankles (one each) after a difficult landing at the end of Andy & Donald's XC flight.
- Grazed knees for Al after just missing the parked cars on a misjudged dual top landing.
- Grazed legs for Tim after a duffed up landing wearing only shorts.
- One broken upright for Rob.
- No broken uprights for Donald this holiday, although Gary claimed to have spotted him straightening one while no-one was looking after a poor landing.
- A careless coach almost hit Tim. The reckless driver ignored the low-flying hanggliders sign on the road next to the landing field.



The hill viewed from Henry's villa



Rigging on the top of the hill



Take off from my glider



Donald above take-off



Disco Fever hits the air!



Al about to strap the delectable Zoe into his special front and rear entry dual harness. Her Mum was quite nice too!

Injury Gallery



Al's knees after landing with Zoe. Luckily Zoe was on top at the time.



Donald, use a different razor for your legs next time!



Tim's leg after landing with shorts on. There's not much grass on Lanzarote.

Glider Security in Lanzarote

After an unfortunate incident in which a glider stored at Henry's Villa was flown by someone other than the owner with only implied permission, Henry has understandably had to take steps to ensure this can never happen again. All gliders in his garage have now been stripped down to their individual components, and each part has been buried at a separate location across the island. Clues to the whereabouts of each part have been sealed in a Safety Deposit box located at a Swiss Bank. The clues have been written so that only the true owner will know the answer and so be able to locate each part. Let's just hope this puts an end to the matter.

Tug Update

We have secured a 5-year interest free loan from the B.H.P.A. for £11,000 for a second hand Quantum 912 tug. We hope to be able to secure one from Pegasus/Mainair for around £15,000 including all the extras for towing. For this reason we need all aerotow members to ensure that their monthly subscription standing order/direct debit is increased to £25/month in time for the April payment. Obviously this is a substantial increase, but it's no more than your average mobile phone contract and it will mean that the loan can be comfortably paid off during the 5-year period. The new tug will give the club the following benefits:

- a) We will have a modern, reliable and powerful tug that we can rely on for many years to come.
- b) We will be able to safely tow dual gliders
- c) We will therefore be able to train new members and introduce complete beginners to the sport.
- d) Quicker tows for existing members.
- e) We will be able to tow light sailplanes.

We also need all those who have pledged money to Andy for the new tug to come up with the goods by the end of March. Don't give your money to Andy - he'll just spend it on car repairs/insurance. Please send a cheque to our Treasurer Scott McMeekin at:

10 Birchwood Gardens
Bellsquarry
Livingston
EH54 9JR

Thanks for your continued support of the Scottish Aerotow Club. We hope you'll agree it's worth it, and we hope to see as many as possible using the club facilities this season.

Aerotowing Successes

Congratulations to both Tim and Willie on their aerotowing successes on the last day of February. Tim (only qualified CP last year cracked it on just his second attempt and went all the way up to 2700 feet on his Discovery. (Disco Inferno!) Willie had done a little aerotowing at Wallaby before, but this was not only his first aerotow flight in Scotland, but also his first flight on his Scandal XK high performance topless glider. Although he didn't have quite the same level of success as Tim on his Discovery, Willie made good progress on his much less forgiving machine. Well done both of you.

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