



# Kraut Koerant

## Newsletter of the Cape Gliding Club

### Jan – Feb 2022

**Chairman's thoughts.** In spite of the threat of Omicron and the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave to our gliding activities for a second successive season, we have had a bumper season with a lot of activity and events. There were the National Championships in Welkom in December, our foreign visitors, and the Cape Gauntlet in January

It seemed that our international visitors were all going to cancel their travel plans to Worcester but fortunately Omicron didn't turn out as bad as expected and so a lot of visitors arrived in defiance of any further threats of lockdown. In the end we had a fair turnout, a lot more than last season and probably as many as pre lockdown numbers. Due to the expectation of receiving fewer visitors this season many of the club's plans for improving the club's offering for visitors, were shelved. However, judging by the number of queries for this past season, we are possibly going to have double the number of visitors for next season – we need to be ready.

Nationals in December in Welkom for 18m & Open class and Sports Class was a great success with over 20 entrants. The weather was very wet with low cloud bases and a lot of thunderstorms. We all had a lot of fun and did get in enough days of flying to get a competition result and a SA Team selected to go to Hungary and Australia for the upcoming World Championships.

Then in the last week in January the Cape Gliding Club hosted the Cape Gauntlet WCR 2022. There were 3 classes, Open and 18m, 15m, and Club classes. We had 24 entrants, slightly less than the previous year but we had one less class too. Running a competition of this size requires a huge effort by a lot of club members. We ran the same format as the previous year due to lockdown restrictions. Fortunately, we were able to do most of our socialising outside in the new, larger braai area

(which I think has proved to be a huge success) and which resulted in no known Covid transmissions amongst contestants. I must thank everyone who helped make this event such a great success, including the helpers on the ground and all the pilots who took part. The Winners were: Open Class – Dolf Pretorius; 15m Class – Findlay Smith; Club Class – Colin Sindle.

Having mentioned the new braai area, I do need to thank Nicky Oberhofer and Rob Tiffin on behalf of the club, for the donations they made towards the cost of its construction. Also thanks to Jac Snyman for doing the design. The reason for the expansion was because of the increasing number of visitors the clubhouse was becoming too congested. I think it has already proved itself to be a great success. Thanks guys.

Unfortunately, the safety of gliding was brought into question with the loss of a visiting pilot in the Swellendam mountains at the beginning of Feb this year. Though a foreign visitor and not a well-known CGC club member he was indeed a part of the larger, worldwide gliding family and so a friend of us all. Our condolences to his wife, family, friends, and fellow club members who knew and loved him most. The loss of a pilot is a very tragic and rare event and causes us all to question ourselves, our safety ethic, what went wrong and how each of us can learn from this. We and our families will all have experienced some doubt and concern, which is only natural but hopefully it will make us all the more safety conscious. Rest well my friend and fly high. *Peter Farrell.*

**Editorial Comment.** It was with great sadness and shock that we learnt of the fatal accident of one of our visitors. At this stage it is unclear what precisely happened to cause this experienced pilot to crash.



The club has been very active in the last months – the regional contest being as always a highlight of the activities of the early part of the year – the contest is covered and results presented below. Our foreign visitors enjoyed an excellent season and a great deal of good flying was achieved. A number of flights longer than 1000 km and many above 700 km were enjoyed. Hopefully they will return for the next season. Student training has resumed after the holiday break and we look forward to some new solo pilots in the next months. Looking ahead we have a beginners course scheduled to start in April. The format of these courses has evolved over the years from a 5 day aero tow only course to the current format of 2 days basic flying in the Falke followed by a day of aero tows and a day of winching. Over the years a large number of course members have joined the club and the courses are always enjoyed by all involved. We must also remember that there is a substantial amount of work that goes into setting up the courses – Ari does all the back ground hard work organising course participants and all the club organisation. The next course will run from Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> of April. Contact Ari for details.

Rene Lans sets out details of the Bateleur competition on WeGlide. WeGlide is a relative new comer on the electronic flight recording area and is similar in concept to the original On Line Contest. (The OLC).

Brad Jackson was one of the Soaring season visitors from the USA. He flew Nicky’s Ventus and did a lot of flying including in the “Gauntlet”. He has made a donation to the club of €430 with special thanks for the hospitality and friendship from the club.

“Brad would like the Club members to know he appreciates the warm welcomes he receives each year.”

You are always welcome Brad.

**Regional Competition – The Cape Gauntlet.** The regional competition (The Cape Gauntlet) was run over a week and attracted a good turn out. The competitors had a great time and the competition was once again a

great success. The weather was a little unusual for Worcester with a massive thunderstorm one afternoon. Apart from a lightening strike starting a grass fire on the nearby mountains the storm damaged some transformers leaving the airfield without power for around 24 hours.



*Fire on Keeromsberg. Photo Mike Pascoe*

### Club Class

Plc	Pilot	Glider	Club	Score
1	Sindle & Grobler	Janus B	CC	2704
2	K Mitchell	J 400	CGC	2493
3	I Forbes	LS3A	CGC	2300
4	Groenewald /Wozniak	Astir CS	CGC	2010
5	N Oberhausen	Cirrus	CGC	1905
6	B Jackson	Venus 2cm	Minden	1550
7	Oslo/Redi	Duo Disco		851



Pilots delivery Service Photo M Pascoe

5	S Olivier	JS1	CGC	3586
6	M Holliday	ASW27	MGC	3301
7	L Hardman	JS1	MGC	3271
8	P Farrell	JS1	CGC	2811
9	R Tiffin	JS1	CGC	2040

### 15 M Class

Plc	Pilot	Glider	Club	Score
1	F Smith	Ventus B	CGC	3758
2	R Lans	Ventus B	CGC	3468
3	P Carstens	LS4	CGC	3194
4	W Mosehuus	Mosquito	CGC	1195
5	G Cinquin	LS7	MGC	816



Photo Juliana Tamsen

The refurbished braai and out door area saw the fun of the competition continuing into the night



Waiting Photo Mike Pascoe.

**Announcements** There will be an *El Mirador* wave camp later this year. The camp will run from the 06 August to the 14 August of 2022. This camp has been run for many years and provides an opportunity for ridge and wave flying in the spectacular setting of the Drakensberg Mountains including opportunities to obtain the elusive Diamond height (5000 metres height gain). Anyone interested should contact Martin Lessle ( 011 326 0568 or cell 082 442 5584 or by e Mail [glidingsa@telkomsa.net](mailto:glidingsa@telkomsa.net)) or Hannes Scharf 082 551 2592 or Martin Scharf 083 627 9055.

### Open Class

Plc	Pilot	Glider	Club	Score
1	D Pretorius	JS1	CGC	4019
2	A Spielmann	JS3 18m	SG Lagern	3983
3	L Goudriaan	ASG 32	CGC	3773
4	Coutts & Bennet	Arcus M	MGC	3676

**The Gauteng regionals** are scheduled for April – details are as follows:--  
 Gauteng Regional Championships - 24 – 30 April 2022 at Magalies Gliding Club, Orient Airfield. Entries are now open at <https://gliderank.com> Classes: - Club, 15m, Open. Early Registration fees apply for registration before 1 April 2022.



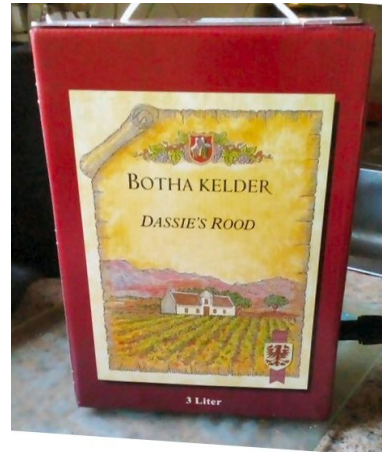
Dates: Official Practice: Saturday, 23 April  
Competition: days 24-30 April Prizegiving: 30  
April 2022 @ 19:00

*A ship is always safe at shore but that is not  
what it's built for. Albert Einstein*

**Otto Tonges** was prominent as a member of the club for some years. He was always willing to help where he could and many people benefited from his kindness. In his early days at Worcester he did a great deal of flying. Rob Kakabeeke has put the following together to outline some of Otto's activities at the club and in South Africa.

Otto has stopped flying and is leaving us. He still has a house in Somerset West so maybe he will pop in sometime.

He had a big influence on the activities at the club over the last 29 years. He was one of the first Germans who saw the great opportunities here. Not only for gliding but also other terrains. He wanted to move his business to SA but alas his colleagues did not agree. He is and was enthusiastic about SA products like "Dassies Rood" and "Mrs Ball's Chutney" and many a container was filled with these items and exported to Europe. (Ed's note – For those as ignorant as your editor a picture of the Dassies Rood).



*Photo Rob Kakabeeke*

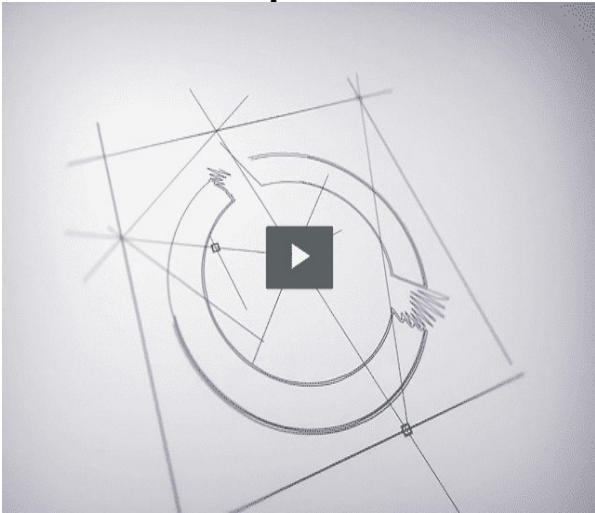
Originally he owned hangar B12 now Wally and Durr's and liked Ed as crew. Otto had studied for some years in Holland so he speaks the language and understands the culture. Ed used to prepare Nasi Goreng, a Dutch/Indonesian dish for them and Otto enjoyed it greatly. The other Dutchman here had less time so the Puschers were enlisted for crewing and further assistance. Otto had much experience with the German gliding scene. So any problem, refer it to him, he would assist and a solution would be found. Alwin Guntert came to Worcester every year to do the airworthiness inspection for his DG500. At that time there were another two DG500 here so if there were any problems Alwin would fix them or guide owners on how to fix them. I was alone flying my DG400 in Parys and felt very lonely there since no expert help was anywhere available there and I was pretty sure this guy at FAWC was the guy to help me. Together with Peter How they were the link to the German glider manufacturers. The Jonker Sailplanes were started with a fuselage imported by Otto for the prototype JS 1.

We see the result of his vision today in an influx of his countrymen. It is not only the great gliding weather but also the proximity of the Cape, something which is lacking when in Kuruman.

Otto was one of the early birds who saw the soaring potential of FAWC. Now a legion of Germans come and enjoy the Cape facilities.  
*Rob Kakabeeke.*



## The Bateleur Cup



that were off the beaten track. It is also possible to do some basic flight analysis, see weather overlays and pre-declare tasks which will earn you more points.

In the end we compete against each other, mainly for the kudos involved with doing a specific flight or the combination of flights over the season. There will be prizes for the winners of each competition class and for the most inspiring flight of the year. The inter-club rivalry will hopefully also give us a boost and inspire you to go that extra mile.

The season runs from the beginning of October to the end of September every year. The rules of the contest are on the *WeGlide* platform. Go to <https://www.weglide.org>, register, and take your part in the future of South African Soaring.

Support the Bateleur Cup, support South African Gliding

What exactly is the Bateleur Cup? Check out this Video <https://vimeo.com/682527494>

In short, it is a year long informal soaring competition for members of South African Gliding Clubs.

The aim of the competition is to promote gliding in South Africa and to inspire you to fly more and to be more adventurous. Soaring is mostly an individual sport, but by connecting with others, we can gain inspiration from each other.

The Bateleur Cup is hosted on the *WeGlide* online platform, they were gracious enough to create and run the competition for us.

*WeGlide* is a new style flight ladder, where you can upload your flights, create flight stories and see the flights of your friends. Everything is nicely organised for easy access, by pilot, aircraft, class, club and even airfield.

It is possible to see a heat map of all the flights in a certain area over a specified time period, thereby clearly highlighting exceptional voyages



*Rene Lans*

The first rule of intelligent tinkering is to save all the parts. Ehrlich's Rule