

CLUB NEWS/UPCOMING EVENTS

much excitement, before we were lead through to a magnificent Dining hall with two long tables bedecked with fiery in our honor.

After the sumptuous meal, the traditional guest speaker, on this occasion the military historian Are-Jan van Hees, rose to give us his talk, and what a fantastic lecture he gave! He is a historian par excellence with several weighty books to his name. He was able to hold the whole assembly spellbound with his extraordinary account of the glider regiments and their activities in the Netherlands during the latter stages of the Second World War. To say that his lecture was based on comprehensive meticulous research is an understatement, and cannot give a true reflection of the authority with which he spoke. His books were on sale, and your fortunate recourer of this evening's events even managed to win one, gratis, at the Raffle which followed. Undeserved, but giving me the opportunity to study at leisure the stories of

the parachute supply sorties and troop glider landings during the Arnhem Market Garden operation in September 1944. Truly a phenomenally detailed research exercise which involves the reader in learning so much about the logistics and outstanding bravery of the Allied Air Forces, whose paratroopers (20,190) and airborne glider troops (13,781) were carried to Arnhem by the 2,613 gliders that were involved.

Sadly the traditional Prize-giving event was rather low key as none of the trophy recipients were able to attend. Nevertheless arrangements were underway to inform those who were successful and whom had been named at the Dinner.

All in all it was a wonderful memorable Dinner for which, once again we are very indebted to the Dutch, specifically Jan and Martijn, for organising it so well against all the odds. Thank you from us all!

Bojan Andrejaj

Vintage Glider Club International Rally 2022



The airfield of Celje in Slovenia

Welcome to Celje and the 2022 Vintage Glider Club International Rally. The 49th VGC meeting will take place on 1.8.2022 - 13.8.2022 organized by Aeroklub Celje.

In 2022, Aeroklub Celje is celebrating its 95th anniversary. The beginnings of the club were marked by a lack of knowledge and financial resources, but with great enthusiasm of the club members. They organized aviation events, became actively involved in the construction of gliders, and gained much-needed experience in aviation skills.

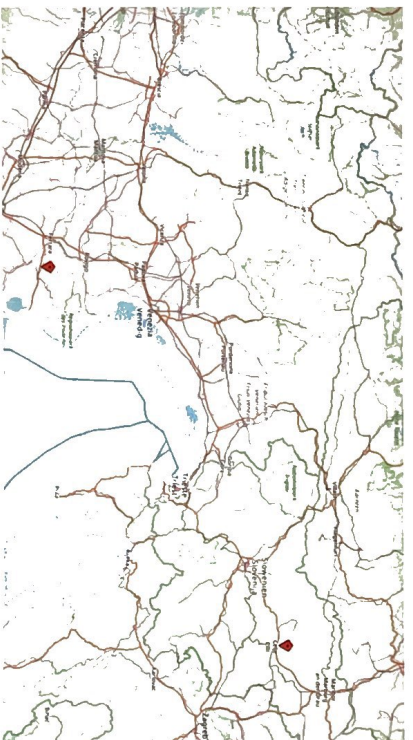
During World War II, operations ceased, and immediately after the war, operations were restarted. As early as 1950, diligent members of the club, with the help of local communities, built a hangar in the current area, which further expanded the activities that developed in the direction of motor flying, gliding, and parachuting. Economic activity was organized on the club's premises, where the members of the club obtained much-needed funds for

the operation and development of the club through voluntary work. Parachuting has died over time but sailing has developed strongly so that today we are one of the leading clubs in Slovenia.

Today, we have a very well-developed school for glider pilots. The conditions for gliding in the vicinity of Celje are solid. The thermal conditions are better on the nearby hills than in the valley. Since the start on the winch offers us fewer opportunities to connect to the thermals, we use air towing as the primary way. The winch start is used mainly during the initial schooling. Thermal conditions on good days allow flights over 500km. Southwest winds allow for ridge soaring at nearby Kungunda, where it is also the starting point for wave soaring. The weather in early August is usually stable with temperatures up to 33 degrees Celsius. With a cold front passage, storms with strong winds, hail, and heavy rain are also possible.

Aeroklub Celje is a modern and developed aviation center. The

UPCOMING EVENTS

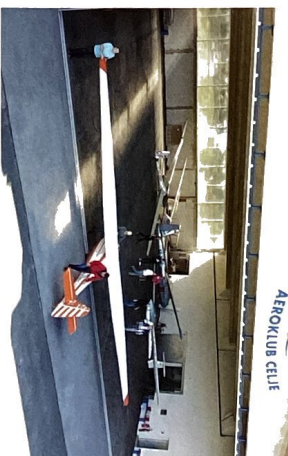


Ferrara in Italy and Celje in Slovenia welcome us to the Rendezvous and International Rally 2022. The driving distance between Ferrara and Celje is about 260 miles / 420 km.

members are owners of gliders and motor planes including three hangars. Many motor, glider, and ultralight aircraft are also privately owned. The grass runway is owned by the local community under the management of the club. The club generates most of the revenue itself. We have extensive experience in organizing aviation competitions and events.

Celje Airport is located on the western edge of the city of Celje near the motorway exit. The city center is a 15-minute bike ride away. In the immediate vicinity are a food store and a very good restaurant. There will be two winches (each with two drums), the main one and one for reserve. Four towing aircraft will be available. We will prepare a sufficient number of places for camping. There will be over 50 seats for gliders in three hangars. You will be able to refresh yourself in the club buffet, and a tent will be available for social events.

Slovenia is a small country with plenty of historical and natural resources. Participation on the event offers you a unique opportunity to get to know the natural beauties of Slovenia. Visit one of the many museums and enjoy excellent food and drink. Members of Aeroklub Celje are looking forward to your arrival. After two cancellations of the VGC International Rally, the organization is a special challenge for us. We will do our best to run the event safely and well organized so that you will remember the experience for our good organization and hospitality.



Hangar of Aeroklub Celje

Video presentation of Aeroklub Celje: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmZ9Y2W4r0o&t=655>

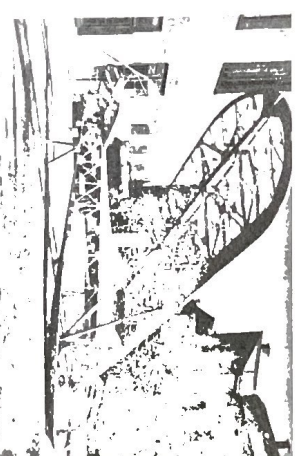
Website of event: <http://vgrallycelje2022.com/>

WELCOME

Bojan Andrejaj
President of Aeroklub Celje



The first Ziegling aircraft made in Celje, called Celjan, flew back in 1931.



INA II, club-made and Slovenian constructed by Ing. Knežl flew for the first time on January 1, 1941.