Soaring Lemonade.

Particularly early in the morning before the thermals have begun to organise themselves we may find that the thermals low down are as good as impossible to core. It may be the case that we can't even get one solid turn in lift. The reason for this is that the thermal bubbles are too small to work suitably well. If we could see them they would probably look something like the bubbles of lemonade. Just imagine trying to soar these, the bubbles will pass you before you have perhaps even made one turn. The solution to this problem is as follows.

Be prepared to work the glider and your arms hard. As you run into the lift turn the glider hard to the side that the wing is pushed up. I mean hard, at least 45° of bank, may be more, hold it there for as long as the lift is present. As soon as the lift goes flatten the turn out into a searching turn, perhaps about 20° giving minimal sink in the area of no lift. As soon as the next bubble appears, stick it in the turn again. Keep up with this process and you will probably find that as you gain height that the small bubbles begin to group together and become bigger, thus allowing you to take longer turns in them, the turns will become smoother with height and you are away. Make your flying decisive, don't turn if there is no lift and turn as soon as you find lift.

Whilst conditions remain like this it is wise to fly slowly between thermals keeping high and not getting into the bubbly stuff.

