

**TITLE:** FIRST LIFE  
**OUTLET:** FLYING MONSTERS  
**DATE:** 27 NOVEMBER 2010



THE BIGGER PICTURE

## Is it a bird? Is it a plane..?

**N**o, it's neither. It is in fact a quetzalcoatlus, and that's Sir David Attenborough sitting in a glider looking up in awe as it flies above him. "It's the biggest thing that ever flew with a wingspan of about 40ft," explains Attenborough, who is making a first foray into acting for *Flying Monsters*, his 3D documentary about pterosaurs that will be broadcast on Sky 3D on Christmas Day

— the first time he's presented a programme for a broadcaster other than the BBC. "Of course, the hulking quetzalcoatlus and its like are long extinct and this midair meeting didn't actually happen in real life. To capture the shot, Attenborough took to the air in a glider over Dorset, while the flying reptile was added in afterwards using computers and special effects.

He may be 84, but Attenborough is proud to be at the cutting edge of technology, as is fitting for a man who launched colour television in Britain when he was Controller of BBC2 in 1967. "I started with a 405-line set in black and white 60 years ago and it's very nice to end that with high-definition, colour, three-dimensional TV. It's one further step towards reality," **Claire Webb**



**ADVENTURES IN 3D**  
Main picture: David Attenborough has a great view as a quetzalcoatlus "flies" past. Left: the flying lizard looms over Sir David's glider