

## December 1999

### Christmas Party

To be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December. A full day of activities for everyone, including; dual dawn launches, pylon race, children's Christmas party, a visit from Santa (BYO gifts for him to hand out,) and a "visit" from the Toowoomba War Birds. For those unable to fit in the daytime activities come and share the evening with us over Christmas dinner - Adults \$12/children (under12) \$6. Enter the prize draws for a weekend at the historic Maleny Lodge, Myer gift voucher and "Champions of the Wave" video. There are limited tickets available so order yours now (\$5 per ticket) or take your chances on the day. Contact Shane Andersen by 8<sup>th</sup> December if you are attending the dinner or to order your prize draw tickets (ph 3345 2437 or e-mail [shanea@powerup.com.au](mailto:shanea@powerup.com.au).) For information on the dual dawn launches and pylon race contact Peter Bell on 4663 7133.

### Website Update

The club website continues to attract visitors worldwide with a number of enquiries from Singapore about our "learn to soar" courses as well as two prospective clients planning TIF's on 5<sup>th</sup> December. A recent "visitor" from Hong Kong purchased a TIF and is planning to take it in January. The next week or so will see the 10,000<sup>th</sup> visitor to the site. For those without Internet access here's one comment left in our guestbook: "*As webmaster for my soaring club here in Canada, I would like to comment that this is one of the very best web sites I have ever seen for a soaring club. Excellent work. I would love to come visit (and fly) your club. (Bob Ledger, Central Ontario Soaring Association.)*" Major changes are in store for the website in the next month with a change of address being the first. We have applied for the domain name [www.ddsc.org.au](http://www.ddsc.org.au) which will be easier to remember (and type) than our current one. One of the advantages of the website is to provide a rapid line of communication to members about club information and to update immediately and often. This is not possible with monthly newsletters or telephone contact. It can still be done by fax (if the facility is available) but this is expensive, slower and more invasive. For those without Internet access, e-mail provides the same link. Approximately 50 members now have e-mail access and the list is growing. For those interested you may consider using Telstra Easymail. Visit your local Telstra Shop or contact Telstra on 1800 429 444 for your free Easymail start up kit.

### Members' Business Directory

We are considering developing a members' business directory on the website. The concept is to facilitate commerce between members. If you run your own business you can place an advertisement with a link to your commercial home page. If you don't have a website you can have a small text advertisement. If interested, contact Shane Andersen.

### Scouts/Guides

There will be no more Scout flights until February (not counting Tony and Dieter frantically making up for lost time with their personal flying.) 2000 will be a *big* year with the Scouts for DDSC.

### Statistics

Trevor Bange would appreciate a listing of all private hours and launches flown by DDSC members at the recent comps. We are chasing a utilisation record and would prefer to work with facts rather than estimates.

### Flying

Another very good month but only the stalwarts turned out last weekend. We had a visit from the Toowoomba Air League on the Sunday and this kept things alive. Club flying for November totalled 150 hours which keeps us well ahead of the targetted 125 hours and in front of last year's record by a comfortable margin. Aircraft times were: GRI - 39, IUR - 37, XOW - 28, WQX - 24, GMV - 20, GXV - 7. Daily records were shattered on the Scout days of 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> with club times on each day in excess of 30 hours. WQX broke the individual record with 7:28 on the Sunday - you can't go wrong with an 8:30 start!

### Individual Flights

David McManus 4:05, 5:28, 3:46 - XOW, Dudley Waters 3:51, 3:30, 3:43, 5:42, 5:00, 4:15, 1:35 - XHC, Heinz Zehnder - 4:19, 2:50 - XC, Peter Holmes 3:36, 2:52, 3:57 - BB, Ron Brecknell 2:51 - XOW, Bob Ward 3:13, 2:46, 4:02, 4:27 - BW, Chris Aniftos 2:10, 5:36, 1:43 - MV 3:18, 1:11 - XOW 5:03 - XV 2:29 - IUR, Steve Harris 2:00, 3:20 - WQR (new partner in this aircraft) Owen Jones 2:53 - MV, Andrew Georgeson 2:47, 4:20 - AG, Peter Griffiths and Lars Zehnder 3:50, - XY, Shane Andersen 2:27 - RI, John Geddes 4:36 (ASK14) Dennis McCaffrey 5:39 - GH, Allan Latemore 3:32 - WQR, Lars Zehnder 3:56, 4:16 - XC, Paul Owens 2:14 - XV, David Thomson 2:03 - XOW, John Moore 5:03, 4:10 - LR, Peter Hastings 4:20 - MV, Richard Hoskings 5:01 - FQR, Allan Latemore and Alex Russell 3:25 - IUR (Chinchilla and return) Michael

Codling 3:22 - XOW, Dieter Gerschwitz and Michael Pearce - 2:58 - WQX, Peter Griffiths 3:56 - XY, Tony Cavanna 3:30 - MV 1:03 - XOW, David Griffin 2:23 - FQR, Shane Andersen and Robert Dull 1:03 - RI, Terry Mosler and Alex Russell 1:16 - IUR, Alex Russell 1:00 - IUR, Ralph Henderson 1:09 - KO. (The times just over 1 hour are shown in recognition of the difficult conditions on the last weekend.)

### **Welcome Back**

David Burrell (former member).

### **New Members**

Jim Somerville, Mark Kentwell, John and Peter Ralph and Andrew Luhrs.

### **Congratulations**

Craig Finn and Rick Nothard for first solos. Alf and Sonia Garrone for a memorable flight in QX. Alex Russell for passing the 1,000 hour milestone in gliders.

### **Thanks**

To Michael Codling for installing the avionics in WQX.

### **Flying Week**

Club single seaters are still available for the 5 days Mon 13<sup>th</sup> to Fri 17<sup>th</sup> December. Two seaters are booked. Contact Peter Bell if you are interested.

### **Hangarage**

The proposed "private owners" hangar is in limbo. It has now been decided to extend the main club hangar by building an annexe on the southern side. This will accommodate the tug and two gliders.

### **Runway**

The proposal to purchase the McCaffrey land for the northern runway widening is with Jondaryan Shire Council for approval. Another "stone pick" is to be organised using funds donated by John Moore and other members. Thanks, guys.

### **Youth Scholarship Program**

GFA have offered a \$500 subsidy as the basis of a scholarship for each club.

### **Warwick Christmas Regatta**

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December. Contact Ivor Harris 3378 1717.

### **Credit Card Facilities**

A basic credit card system is being set up for TIF flights. This will not be an online system.

### **Airworthiness**

QX avionics fitted and divebrakes painted red. B40 electric audio/vario fitted to Cirrus.

### **Documentary Film**

An exciting prospect has developed as a result of our outstanding Internet website. Arctic Jungle Films Inc of Canada, the producers of "Exploring Horizons" documentaries, are coming to DDSC next October. This will be a tremendous opportunity but will require a lot of effort on our part. I'm sure that we shall be more than up to it. We are in constant communication with Arctic Jungle who are busy with post-production work on their latest effort which is due to air in March next year.