

March 2000

The club continues to progress with the introduction of CMN to the flight line, a successful "Flyaway Weekend" at Oakey and another month's club hours ahead of target.

Thanks

To Chris Aniftos for all the work he has put in over the last few months. This includes the back steps to the bunkhouse, the front steps to the clubhouse, the glazing in the clubhouse. Roly Sundell, Russell Bennett, Trevor Hamley and Murray Knight donated chairs. (These were put to good use at Oakey.) The "chair-o-thon" was a bit of a fizzer but we can leave the line open (for late entries.) Robert Bradley affixed registration letters to the noses of the 2 Puchacz.

Welcome

George Brown flew at the weekend. Roger Carter (one of our northern members) is over from the UK for a couple of months. His local number is 3284 3290, if anyone would like to contact him. Don Hamley and Michael Liddle are 2/3 through a 3 weekend course. Don is from Toowoomba and Michael from Gympie SC. They seem to be getting plenty of flying. Roger Lavers came up from Byron Gliding Club and flew the Cirrus. Brian Wager had an hour in RI with Barry Elphick. Roger Lavers has joined the club.

Marketing and Promotion

George Lee appeared on a Dalby Community Radio programme and promoted gliding and DDSC. The Oakey weekend went ahead, 500 DDSC business cards were printed and some are available at the clubhouse (a small number will be sent out to each member with the April "CHAOTIC".) A temporary brochure is with us courtesy of Shane Andersen and Murray. Four advertisements for the hire of CMN, the Oakey weekend and the club in general, were placed in "The Courier Mail", the "Oakey Champion" and the "All Arms Despatch" military newspaper. Posters and flyers were sent around the AAC site promoting the weekend. The club brochure is in the final stages of design and should be printed by the 3rd week in March. Members will receive copies in April.

Oakey Flyaway Weekend

This was a new concept for the club, made possible by the second tug, a "spare" two-seater, voluntary hard work and some outside help. 23 flights were made by the Grob over 2 days at Oakey whilst the C182 took care of some of the overflow passengers. Some local civilians were carried but the majority were from the military, comprising: air traffic control, aircrew, flight crew, RSAF, army fire service as well as the museum. Thanks to Shane Andersen, Chrissie and Anthony Wetherspoon, Trevor Bange, Des Baartz, Des Cramer and Murray. Other encouragement and support came from Captain Dick Blunt AAC, Major R Ravin RSAF, Barry and Helen Bawden of the Flypast Museum of Army Aviation.

Flying

The total reported last month was incorrect (due to a combination of a

computer crash and finger trouble.) The real figure was 206 hours (not 240.) Just to set the record straight on records: (1) Dec 98 @ 231 (2) Mar 96 @ 210 (3) Dec 86 @ 207 (4) Jan 00 @ 206 (5) Jan 99 @ 204. So we still haven't broken away, dramatically, from where we've been before. February's club flying was 144 hours which brings us up to about 100 ahead of our annual (new record) target. This was made up of: IUR-34, XOW-31, GRI-22, GMV-21, GQX-20 and GXV-15. SWR did 109 tows and CMN 92. The last weekend (and Oakey) could not have been handled by one tug. Private hours totalled 194. Club aircraft utilisation is improving, sometimes at the expense of member fulfilment. We need to fly more days of the week and it was good to see that a couple of Fridays were flown in February. If you can do this, please make the effort, as it takes some of the pressure off the weekends.

Notable flights

Ralph Henderson KO 4.14, 5.02, 5.04, 4.22, John Buchanan B1 4.43, 4.05, Dudley Waters XHC 3.22, 4.39, 6.23, 5.45, 5.14, 3.56, 4.42, 4.59, 5.17, Brett Buchanan B1 5.27, Peter Griffiths and Lars Zehnder XY 4.05, 3.54, Tony Cavanna MV 4.02, 2.54, XV 3.08, Peter Griffiths XY 5.09, Roly Sundell GZO 4.38, 4.13, 3.26, Chris Aniftos and Allan Latemore IUR 3.52, John Geddes ASK14, 3.05, Ron Brecknell XOW 3.19, 2.41, Alf and Sylvia Garrone QX 2.10, Andrew Georgeson AG 3.52, 2.46, John Moore LR 3.45, 3.08, Allan Latemore WQR 2.18, 3.32, 2.46, Chris Aniftos XOW 4.10, 5.05, MV 4.17, 2.30, 3.13, Michael Codling and Shane Andersen IUR 4.28, Denis Lambert XOW 5.32, Shane Andersen XV 3.50, IUR 2.47, Roger Lavers XV 2.46, 3.05, Peter Griffiths and Allan Latemore XY 2.25, David McManus XOW 4.44, 5.18, Shane McCaffrey RG 4.10, Owen Jones EC 5.14, Jenny Thompson AW 2.09. George Lee flew 24.5 hours in 7 launches and peeled off another 750 km triangle. (Gets boring, doesn't it?) Dudley outlanded at Kingaroy on the last weekend, got a relight and went down again at Bell. We need more, strategically placed, gliding clubs.

Treasurer

Club subscriptions of \$140 are due on 1st April and will appear on next month's statements. Added to the subs will be the GST component for 9 months (\$10.50.) Therefore the debit amount will be actually \$150.50. Fees and charges are being reviewed as the 1st July approaches. Get as much flying as you can before then.

President

DDSC, in conjunction with QSA, is pleased to announce that a Youth Soaring Scholarship scheme will commence mid-year. This will assist ab-initio training at minimal cost and the value is likely to be at least \$500 each. For youth between ages 15-20, it is open to anyone, male or female, but is not a "prize." An important principle is that recipients contribute to their own training costs. It is intended for young people with a genuine interest in flying. This is an exciting development for the club and should generate a lot of interest in the local area. Applicants must demonstrate an aptitude for flying and will be required to undergo a number of TIF's, at their own cost, before commencing a special ab-initio course run exclusively for the scholarship winners. We shall be sending information packs to all secondary schools in

the Darling Downs as well as Oakey AAC, Scouts Air Activity Centre, Air Training Corps, DDAC, etc. Youth soaring scholarships are not common in Australia and DDSC is again at the leading edge of the gliding movement. Both QSA and GFA are very interested in seeing how we go with this scheme. Once again, our website has been a great asset and through it we have gathered information and data on how similar schemes work overseas.

Bange's Annual Clifton Fly-In

Sat 11 and Sun 12 (for gliders.) Bange Airfield, 6km west of Clifton on the Clifton-Leyburn Road. Field length 3000ft, east-west, elevation 1500', all circuits to the south due to proximity of 600' agl hill just to the north. Local frequency 123.45. Visiting gliders will get a \$10 relight. Volunteers to date: Kevin Senz, Trevor Hamley, Murray Knight, Mark Robertson, Rick Nothard, Shane Andersen, Tony Barker, David McManus, Trevor Bange. Details on the website.

Scouts/Guides

Few bookings from April through September. October is full and Tony Barker is about to promote again.

CFI

There is a pylon race on Saturday 4th March. Check your logbooks for your annual flight check from now on. Make sure you take a check ride before the expiry date shown on last year's sticker. David McManus is looking to take the LS7 to Kingaroy for the Easter Comps and rumour has it that Mike Codling has his eye on the Cirrus. Use *your* tug's radio call sign on release, not the glider call sign. (For obvious reasons when two tugs are operating.)

Extra Club Affairs (no, not extra marital):

- Weekend course - Michael Liddle and Don Hamley - nearly complete.
- Gold Coast Rotary Group - Michael Perry will bring 10 people around 1.30 PM Saturday 18th for flights, BBQ and bunkhouse stayover. Some will take "deluxe" flights. Able to run over into early AM Sunday. Due Rimfire Winery at 11.30 AM Sunday.
- Easter 5 day course - Kathryn and Bill Adams.
- Caboolture GC - Thursday 2nd - Sunday 5th March. Nimbus 2 et al.
- Caboolture GC+ visiting UK pilots - 11 pilots from 17th to 28th April (across Easter) - Peter Bell is liaising with CGC.
- Colin and David Adam - one week in May (tba.)
- Articjungle promotions (Canada) - documentary - "Exploring Horizons" "2001" - tentative.
- RAFGSA expedition - the Royal Air Force GSA has approached us - 10 pilots for 3 weeks from Mon 27th Nov to Fri 15th Dec - leave the place to us on weekends - under negotiation by RAFGSA with DDSC and with southern operators.

QSA Comps

The Easter Comps look like being at Kingaroy commencing 22nd April. Contact Neil Dunn or Hank Kauffmann. The State Comps are tentatively at Warwick late September/early October. Contact Michael O'Brien.

Committee

At the meeting on 12th February- Jondaryan Shire Council approached re road signage (again); northern runway land acquisition progressing; Des Cramer to construct better trolleys for hangaring club gliders; Joining fees increased to \$75 and annual subs to \$140. TIF's now \$70 and \$90 with \$5 surcharge for credit cards.

Airworthiness

Grob varios to be upgraded. Both Puch's to have external trim - colour-coordinated with their respective upholstery. ASI's in QX and RI rear seats to be removed and have "bugs" repositioned. Remember, the ones in the rear seats are 10kts too slow! *Hornet*: water ballast bags are to be fitted, interior was painted and control surface seals fitted. Winglets have been made and will be fitted ASAP. *LS7*: Replacarded, pilot weights now set at 66kg to 115kg. *Cirrus*: Sound condition, suggest B40 vario be used as the primary thermalling reference. *Workshop*: Basic tools have been purchased with spanners, methylated spirits, turps and tapes in locked cupboard. Instructors and senior personnel have keys.

Tug Master

Detailing of 182's finish will soon be attended to. Please complete paperwork at end of each day's operations. CMN has a steerable nose wheel and does not require braking in order to turn. Save the brakes for the landing rollout. Try to operate one tug to the north side of the airfield and the other to the south.

Hangar

A "DIY" annexe/extension is being built on the southern side of the main hangar, between the workshop and the western face. This will require a *lot* of voluntary input ("work") to complete. It will accommodate 1 tug and 4 gliders so is a necessary and worthwhile project. Please contact Des Cramer, Owen Jones, Shane McCaffrey or Dudley if you can contribute.

Weather Station

Michael Codling is keen to purchase and install an electronic weather monitoring and recording station. It covers temperature, humidity, rainfall, wind velocity, chill factor and more. When combined with a camera and the Internet it could provide real-time remote access to what is happening and has happened at DDSC. This could help Toowoomba, Brisbane and other "out of town" members make more objective decisions about whether (or not) to travel to the airfield. It would also build up records over time and has software which extrapolates data into forecasts. Michael has lent the club a computer to assist this project. If you are willing to contribute, financially or otherwise, please contact Mike - Mcodling@bigpond.com . (10 X \$50, or 50 X \$10 and we are on our way.) With the GST coming, an unfulfilled round trip from Brisbane will be an even more serious waste of time and money.

Threats

Toowoomba City Council has re-applied for an MBZ (mandatory broadcast zone) which will encompass our airfield. This, if passed, will mean that every DDSC air movement will have to be broadcast on the MBZ (not glider)

frequency. Radios will have to be re-tuned during each flight cycle. This will NOT be a glider “chat” channel! There is a public meeting at Toowoomba Airport at 12.30 PM, Wednesday 8th March. This will be followed by lunch. *The club needs you to be there.* A number of externally-originated opportunities are now being threatened by a lack of resources within the club and/or a lack of commitment by members. These include: Caboolture GC/UK “camp”, RAFGSA expedition and the “Exploring Horizons” documentary visit from Canada. These approaches have come about only because of our website and our professional presentation and reputation. These have taken years to build up. (Admittedly, our website and promotional activities may create a perception that we are a lot bigger and more capable than we really are.) Some members (and rightly so) may just want a “quiet life.”

Extra activity (such as Scouts) has contributed to new members, a second Puchacz and a second towplane. The bunkhouse has new beds. The Cirrus is online. We can afford better instrumentation all round. We are putting winglets on the Hornet. A couple of the approaches are quite startling: the documentary is a “once in a lifetime” opportunity for a sport that has seen a worldwide decline of 14% and an Australian decline of 21.6% over the past decade. We could not buy this kind of publicity. We shall have to get someone in the club to take this on and liaise with Canada, the Toowoomba Warbirds, Flypast Museum etc, or enlist the help of QSA (ie other clubs) or turn the offer down by the middle of this month. The RAFGSA want to bring 10 pilots, 2 Discus and 1 ASK13 (which they will sell locally when leaving for home.) We need a club member to take this project on, organise the club gliders for them. We also need club private owners to indicate whether they are prepared to cross-hire to them. They are 500 hour (min.) pilots wishing to do 300km, 500km, 1000km tasks. They will “R&R” at the weekends and return the club to us. Any volunteers? (Otherwise, see above.) We also need small teams of volunteers to organise and operate flyaway weekends from April onwards. These are good fun. But, otherwise.

Duty Pilot Roster:

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Saturday 4 th March | Sunday 5 th March | Saturday 25 th March | Sunday 26 th March |
| Roly Sundell | Michael Pierce | Trevor Hamley | Paul Owens |
| Saturday 11 th March | Sunday 12 th March | Saturday 1 st April | Sunday 2 nd April |
| Dieter Gerschwitz | Alex Russell | David Thomson | Paul Dalziel |
| Saturday 18 th March | Sunday 19 th march | Saturday 8 th April | Sunday 9 th April |
| Chris Aniftos | Terry Mosler | Dieter Gerschwitz | Trevor Hamley |

Coming Events:

| Event | March | April | May | Contact |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Midweek flying | <u>Fri 03</u> | <u>Thu 06 Fri 07</u> | <u>Thu 04 Fri 05</u> | <u>Alf Garrone</u> |

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|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| <u>Committee</u> | <u>Sat 18</u> | <u>Sat 15</u> | = | <u>Kevin Senz</u> |
| <u>Instructors</u> | <u>Fri 10</u> | <u>Fri 14</u> | | <u>Peter Bell</u> |
| <u>Clubgeneral BBQ</u> | = | <u>Sat15</u> | tba | <u>Kevin Senz</u> |
| <u>Flyaway</u> | <u>Sat 11 Sun 12</u> | <u>?</u> | <u>?</u> | <u>Murray Knight</u> |
| <u>Scouts/guides</u> | <u>Sat 11 Sat 25</u> | <u>Sat 01</u> | | |
| <u>Caboolture GC</u> | <u>Thu 12 - Sun 05</u> | = | = | <u>Peter Bell</u> |
| <u>Easter Comps</u> | = | <u>Sat 22 onwards</u> | = | <u>Peter Bell/KSC</u> |
| <u>Pylon race</u> | <u>Sat04</u> | <u>Sat29</u> | | <u>Denis Lambert</u> |
| <u>Workingbee BBQ</u> | = | <u>Sat29</u> | = | <u>Trevor Hamley</u> |