

April 2000

President

An updated copy of the Club's Strategic Plan is enclosed. This is based on the strategic planning meeting held last May and it is pleasing to see the progress we are making along this planned pathway. Information packages on the Youth Soaring Scholarships will be going out to local (DD) schools this month. This has been posted on the Website and may also be obtained by contacting Leneese Fardell. The subsidy amount will be to the value of \$750. Four scholarships will be awarded to young people between the ages of 15 and 21. These are aimed at getting them to solo stage for less than half the normal adult cost. E-mail and Internet facilities will soon be available in the club flight office.

Treasurer

I am going on holidays for most of April. Please drop the time sheets and any payments off at Trish and Denis Lambert's, 62 Stephen Street, Toowoomba. We now have a "manual" credit card machine and the club accepts Bankcard, Mastercard and Visa. There is a \$5 surcharge (to cover bank charges) on TIF flights. John Davis, of Clifton, was our very first customer when he paid for a TIF on Mastercard.

Flyaway Weekends

The weekend of 11/12 March at Bange's Airfield, Clifton was very enjoyable and successful. It got off to a (half-day) late start due to the C182 being unable to make it through to DDSC from Caboolture. Robert Bradley eventually made it through the weather and Kevin and Allison Senz took RI over to Clifton behind CMN driven by Mark Robertson. The Darling Downs Sports Aviation Group fly-in attracted approximately 100 aircraft ranging from hang gliders, the Dimona from CQGS flown by Allan McMasters, Stemme S10 from Gold Coast GC with Peter Novakovich through trikes and ultralights, regular light aircraft to the odd twin. This was the largest response to date and the first time that gliders had attended. Everyone had a great time. There was a BBQ, beer tasting (courtesy of Steve Glasheen and John Davis) a band and lots of fun. The next morning saw RI (Rick Nothard and Murray Knight) and CMN (Mark Robertson and Allison Senz) do a touch and go at Warwick. (Purely a training exercise, coupled with a runway change at Clifton.) The 2000 schedule for flyaway weekends has been revised, with the next one at Chinchilla in May. Toowoomba has been moved back to later in the year. Shane Andersen has taken over coordination of these from Murray. John Knox is working with Shane.

Club 40th

DDSC is the big four-oh this year. We should have a celebration. How about a fly-in? If anyone would like to volunteer to organise one (or to be on a

team), please contact Peter Bell. The club would appreciate a birthday present in the form of an outdoor chair from K Mart. (Persistent, aren't I?)

Marketing

Copies of the new club brochure and a few DDSC business cards are enclosed for your use. Please use whatever opportunities you can to promote your club. The club also has a new logo, which will uplift our image. A "style book" will define how this is to be used. There is a new masthead on "CHAOTIC". (We needed a change and this may be temporary until we get a chance to put some more thought and work into it.) Please bear with us as there is a lot going on. CMN is resplendent in new DDSC signwriting, complete with our website address. Advertisements for the flyaway weekend were placed in "The Clifton Courier", "Steele Rudd Journal" and "The Allora Advertiser." Club glider flights and CMN hire were advertised in the "All Arms Despatch" military newspaper which goes to all Defence establishments in Queensland. The signs organised by Mark Robertson and placed along the highway are drawing TIF flyers in "off the street." Ten guys from the Broadbeach Rotary Club had a wonderful time on Saturday 18th and have vowed to tell their mates and to come again.

Gliding Notes

Anyone interested in and capable of, writing short, weekly, notes for the local papers please contact Murray. (I shall be giving up "CHAOTIC" and marketing in September so this could be good introduction for my replacement.)

CFI

The proposed changes to the Toowoomba MBZ have been diluted to 5NM radial and will not affect the club adversely. Congratulations to Don Hamley who went solo. David McManus has the LS7 booked for the Easter Comps and Mike Codling has the Cirrus.

Tug Master

The nose wheel on CMN has been repaired and the oil leaks in and around the engine bay are to be attended to at the next service. Foot steps are made but still to be painted. SWR went overdue for a 50 hourly oil change. This was noticed and carried out by Robert Bradley. This highlights the need for pilots to check the maintenance release prior to the day's flying. Two tug pilots are now rostered each day because of the increase in flying activity. Use the tug's (or "Cessna"/ "Pawnee") call sign with the "rope clear" radio call when releasing.

Airworthiness Officer

New boom mikes have been fitted to the Puch's and the front window on QX replaced and rectified. Gliders need to be vacuumed out more regularly. The Hornet winglets are here.

Scouts

We now have bookings for May, July, October (full) and November. There have been Venturer Section Leader enquiries for other dates. Tony Barker will send out another reminder in the next group mailout.

For Sale

Peter Holmes will shortly have a fully overhauled Hornet for sale. It will go for \$27/30,000. Please contact him if you are interested. Ron Brecknell has a range of accessories for sale.

Weather Station

The automatic weather station is close to becoming a reality. Thanks to the following for their generous support: Denis Lambert, Russell Bennett, Lex McQueen, Shane Andersen, Murray Knight, Robert Bradley and Mike Codling. (It's not too late to offer your contribution.) The aim of this project is to provide both information on current weather conditions and trends as well as long term statistics on the weather patterns at the club. Real-time information, including a "skycam" picture will be available via the Internet. Conditions such as: temperature, pressure, wind direction and speed, rainfall, humidity, dew point and wind chill factor will be displayed. Both current and 3-day trend data will be displayed. There is potential for the information to be available on a vacant channel on the clubhouse TV. We have \$400 and need another \$400 to get it up and running. Send all donations to Mike Codling.

Midweek Flying

The contact for this is now Peter Bell. There was some good flying on Friday 24th, followed by a very convivial BBQ led by Val and John Knox, Lex McQueen et al. Congratulations to Lex on his first glider solo on Saturday.

Visitors

John East brought old friend and former Warwick pilot Cliff Beatson to the club. Cliff had three great flights with John and Murray.

Runway Extension

The contract to purchase the land to the north of the strip was signed on Saturday 25th and a deposit paid to Shane McCaffrey. This is a great step forward for the club and we are grateful to Shane and the committee for whom this process has not always been easy or entirely straightforward.

Housekeeping

(We've mentioned this before and are still trying to be diplomatic.) A cleaner is to be employed every Monday for two hours to clean the club house kitchen area. This should not mean washing and drying up and putting away the weekend's dirty dishes. Please wash/dry/store after yourself as dirty stuff attracts vermin and breeds nasties. Anything left out to "dip dry" and then

forgotten will then have to be re-processed by the poor, conscientious member who follows after you. The alternative is squalor and possibly, an outbreak of some illness. (Not a nice topic, but, unfortunately – it has to be raised.)

Reciprocal Membership

For short term DDSC membership, the joining fee is now \$30, with normal club flying rates and no GFA fee.

Duty Pilot

A day-glo vest is now in the pie cart. It is important that this be worn as it identifies you as the responsible person and point of contact for visitors as well as making any visiting (power?) aircraft more comfortable about any human activity on the runway.

Notable Flights

Lars Zehnder and Peter Griffiths won Open Class in the FAI Nationals, which is pretty notable. Congratulations guys. Good to see that you are keeping the DDSC name and reputation up front.

Darian Jenik AW 3.00, 4.12 - Kim Houghton XOW 2.40, 4.45 - Richard Friday GWC 4.43 – Dudley Waters XHC 4.04, 4.31, 3.41, 5.09, 3.43, 4.44, 4.47 – Allan Latemore and Steve Harris IUR 3.20, 2.38 – John Hook MV 2.20 – Richard Hoskings FQR 2.30 – Reg Trevor and Alex Russell IUR 3.18 – Jim Somerville RI 3.02 – Don and Trevor Hamley WQX 0.20 – Allison Senz and Murray Knight RI 0.42 [first official planned glider flight out of Bange Airfield Clifton] – Owen Jones EC 2.42, 3.16 – Brian Wade AW 2.00 – Chris Aniftos XOW 2.22 , 3.13, 7.11! (Eat your heart out, Denis) – Steve Harris WQR 2.14 – David McManus XOW 4.04, 4.39 – Tony Cavanna XV 2.12, MV 3.27 – Allan Latemore WQR 2.42, 2.00 – Ken Stehbins and Mike Liddle RI 1.04 – Lars Zehnder XC 3.27 – Peter Griffiths RG 3.20, 3.17, 3.05 – Roly Sundell ZO 3.12, 4.00 – Bob Ward BW 3.17, 4.43, 5.15 – Mark Robertson XOW 2.01! (Got into the wrong aircraft) – John Geddes ASK14 2.10 – Andrew Georgeson AG 3.00, 4.48 – Dennis McCaffrey GH 3.16, 3.04 [Jim Somerville converted to the Grob] – Mike Codling XV 5.24 – Jenny Thompson and Allan Latemore IUR 3.09 – John Moore LR 3.15, 4.48 – Roger Lavers MV – 2.58 – Peter Thomas MV 3.12, 2.02 – Peter Hastings XV 4.29 – Mike Codling and Allan Latemore IUR 3.35, Rick Nothard RI 2.04.

The last weekend of March was nearly a record for club hours flown at 56hours10minutes.

World Club Class Championships

To be held at Gawler SA from 8/1/01 to 27/1/01 and are expecting 90

entrants. There is also a Grand Prix event being held concurrently. We have been approached re supply of a tug.