

May 2000

The Future

The club has come a long way in the past twelve months and continues to gather momentum. The growth and progress have brought many benefits; more income, a better fleet, a second towplane, fewer delays, backup launching capacity, easier aerotow retrieves, the ability to mount expeditions, some new furniture, better clubhouse facilities and environment, a world class website, national champions, world class competition pilots, ongoing demand for training courses, new people with fresh ideas – the list goes on. Where to from here? A popular dictionary defines a **club** as: “A group of persons organised for some mutual aim or pursuit, especially a group that meets regularly, (how true) To contribute for a common purpose.” *Note the words “meet”, “pursuit”, “common” and “contribute”.* We are now some four months out from the club’s AGM and election of office bearers. Most of the key/core donors of time are stepping down. Some, like Trevor Bange, have been at it for over 15 years. Others, such as Kevin Senz, have to step aside by law. As is so typical in life, 20% (or less) put in 80% (or more) of the effort. On the other end of the spectrum, we have focussed members who practise the belief that an annual club and GFA subscription is all that is needed to take full advantage of the physical and human resources that the club offers. Service and ultimately, safety, will suffer unless we get some willing volunteers for the next year, or two.

Organisation

Southern Cross Gliding Club, operating out of Camden, has devolved a lot of its functions to individuals or groups outside the normal (statutory?) club structure. DDSC has already set off in this direction with a Web Master and a Marketing Officer. Southern Cross has the following additions; Ground Equipment Engineer, Operations Officer, Membership Secretary, Expeditions Officer, Elected Flying Member, Social Secretary, Certificates Officer, Aircraft Captains. These officers don’t just take some of the load off the statutory office bearers, they get more done and improve the service to all. It is time to start considering how we are going to maintain the progress and momentum of the club. A good start would be for a considerable number of members to volunteer for service.

“Australian Gliding” Magazine

QSA is conducting a poll to see how many members would like the magazine to revert to the old, (GFA/A5) format or stay the way it is. E-mail Shane Andersen or register your vote, some other way, with Kevin Senz. Some “for and against” aspects; the print run for a “GFA only” publication will be smaller and cost more, there will be no “impure” content, there will be less advertising (and revenue to offset production costs) it may come out BI-monthly, who is going to contribute articles and who is going to produce it? The chances of getting wider community distribution of a “GFA” magazine are about as good as they were two years ago.

ABC Radio “Queensland Sunday”

As a result of publicity about our Youth Soaring Scholarship and our web site, Trevor Hamley and Robert were interviewed on 16th April by David Anderson. Well done, guys. Shane Andersen reports that our web site hits on that Sunday went up 400% and were still up 150% the next day.

Welcome

Alan Midwood who did a weekend flying training course, Robert Percy who dropped in, with his family, on his way to Darwin. To the expedition from the British Army Gliding Association (led by CFI Allan Tribe) from Bicester who flew with us (weather not permitting) from 16th to 26th April. From Easter onwards the weather was very unkind and managed to spoil what should have been a wonderful fortnight of cross-country flying. We were short of aircraft due to the Easter Comps and the visit exposed other shortcomings in our club resources but the Brits were very positive and understanding and put on a brave face. Kath and Bill Adams from the Gold Coast “attempted” a 5-day course with us but the gods were crazy. They saw a lot of local tourist attractions (from the ground) and will be back (to quote Arnie.)

Thanks

To John Hook who stepped in as Duty Pilot on Saturday 15th. As a result of this, coupled with an early start, we flew 35 launches and satisfied everybody on the field. To Brian Wade of Caboolture Gliding Club for introducing the British pilots to us and to Allan Latemore and Peter Bell for looking after them.

Duty Pilots

Are now an absolute necessity to efficient operations. With three two-seaters and two towplanes on the field most mornings there is simply too much happening for the duty instructors to manage alone. This will need to be addressed by the club executive as incomplete record keeping may seem like a non-essential function on the flight line but most of the club’s finances and administration are dependent upon it and the Treasurer spend an inordinate amount of his time chasing and correcting records.

Congratulations

To Michael Liddle on his first solo and to Josh Martin of Boonah Gliding Club who achieved Silver height and distance on his first attempt in difficult soaring conditions (as well as a safe outlanding at Tipton) in the Hornet, MV. Josh was briefed, kitted out and supported by AGA instructor Bod Blanchard which was a wonderful example of comradeship and how two heads are better than one. Josh was even given the use of one of the AGA’s £500 data loggers, complete with embedded GPS. Peter Griffiths and Lars Zehnder have been selected for the Australian team at the 2001 World Comps in South Africa. Andrew Georgeson and John Buchanan are reserves.

Notable flights

Michael Codling 6.03, 3.29, 2.40 XV, Dudley Waters 5.11, 3.57, 4.55, 3.51 HC, Bob Ward 4.56, 3.21, 4.34 BW, Owen Jones 4.15 EC, Roly Sundell 4.36 GZO, Ron Brecknell 3.58 XOW, John Geddes 3.47, 3.22 K14, Chris Aniftos 4.04, 3.20, 5.12 XOW, Steve Harris 5.26 WQR, Richard Hoskings 2.44 FQR, Tony Cavanna 5.00, 2.41 MV, Owen Jones and Geoff Hunter 3.11 IUR, David McManus 5.30 XOW, Geoff Brown 4.52 GH, Peter Holmes 3.47, 2.42 BB, Lars Zehnder 3.58, 3.31, 4.45 XC, Andrew Georgeson 3.43 AG, Allan Latemore 2.39 WQR, Robert Bradley and John Moore 2.17 XQA, Alf Garrone and Ralph Henderson 2.07 IUR, Heinz Zehnder 4.16 GXC, Lex McQueen 2.04 RI, Trip Rogers 3.31, 5.29 XOW 2.07, 2.51 AW, Bod Blanchard 2.51, 4.42, 5.32 XV 2.45 XOW, Jamie Sage 2.09 IUZ 2.04, 6.34, 4.56 AW, Allan Tribe 2.30 IUZ 4.38 MV, Rich Misselbrook 2.10, 2.30, 4.55, 2.15 IUZ, J Welch 5.46 MV, W Stroud 3.53 IUR 5.13 MV, Peter Griffiths and Lars Zehnder 2.02, 3.07 XY, Alec Russell 1.24 IUR, Allan Latemore and Josh Martin 2.18 IUR, Anthony Wetherspoon converted to the Cirrus. Kylie Robertson flew aerobatics with Murray Knight.

Weather Station

This project is progressing well, but has slowed down due to incomplete funding. Mike Codling needs some more money to go with all of his own generosity and hard work. Please send you donation directly to Mike.

DDAC

We are in discussions with the Darling Downs Aero Club re closer co-operation.

Flyaway Weekend

Our next flyaway weekend is to Chinchilla over May 20/21. The Grob and a Puchacz will be dual towed out on Friday 19th behind Stow's Cessna 180 MDK. A single seater (Hornet or Cirrus) will follow on Saturday behind the C182. Operations will continue at McCaffrey Field. Contact Shane Andersen to book a seat for the Friday dual tow or Mark Robertson if you want a trip in the 182 on the Saturday. Already booking for glider flights have been taken and interest from the Chinchilla community is high with posters placed in small businesses and two glider flights offered as raffle prizes. Chinchilla State High School has been given a gift voucher at promote the Youth Soaring Scholarship. The Chinchilla Aero Club will be putting on a spit roast on the Saturday night (\$7-\$10.) Accommodation at the airport is BYO tent. There are showers and toilets at the new airport terminal. This is Chinchilla Show weekend so accommodation will be tight. Contact Shane Andersen by May 12th if you are interested in going.

Coming Events

Event	May	June	July	Contact
Midweek Flying	Thu 4 Fri 5	Thu 1 Fri 2 Mon 12	Thu 6 Fri 7	Peter Bell

Instructors Meeting	Friday 12	Fri 9	Fri 14	Peter Bell
Committee Meeting	Saturday 13	Sat 10	Sat 15	Kevin Senz
Scouts/Guides	Sat 13 Sat 27	Sat 10 Sat 24	Sat 15 Sat 29	Tony Barker
Flyaway weekend	Sat/Sun 20/21 Chinchilla	-	-	Shane Andersen
Working Bee	Sat 27	-	Sat 8	Trevor Hamley
Ab Initio Course	Mon 29 May - Friday 2 June		Mon 3 - Fri 7	Peter Bell
Pylon Race	-	Sat 3	-	Peter Bell
Olympic Torch Relay	-	Sat 10	-	Murray Knight
Youth Soaring Scholarship Assessment	-	-	Sat 15 Sun 16 Sat 22 Sun 23	Trevor Hamley
Club General Meeting	-	-	Sat 15	Kevin Senz
Club BBQ	-	-	Sat 15	Trevor Hamley