



CHAOTIC

Monthly Newsletter of the Darling Downs Soaring Club

December 2001

President's Report

It never rains but sometimes it pours seems to have been our new club motto for the last month. After months of problems with no grass on the strip, dust everywhere and maintenance problems with our gliders and tugs, and almost no water in the tanks, we have more water than we know what to do with.

It is so nice to have a grassed strip again. We'd almost forgotten what grass looked like. We have had to get both mowers back into working order again and remember how to use them. It has also meant that the tanks are full for all our visitors.

A lot has happened over the last month. We had a working bee and thank you to those who turned up to help tidy the place up. That was followed by a week's operation with members of the Caboolture Gliding Club.

On 23 November, 10 pilots from the British Army Gliding Association arrived for 3 weeks. Unfortunately the weather was not ideal, but all the pilots achieved their minimum goals for the visit. In the midst of the inclement weather a few of us enjoyed a quiet barbeque with some of the Army pilots. Hopefully they will be back again and

strike it third time lucky and get some good weather.

We had a quiet week to catch up on a few things before the RAFGSA Warrego Wanderer expedition arrived on Saturday 24 November. Four of last year's expedition returned along with 14 new members. Again the weather has not been ideal, but its looking better from here on. All the pilots have goals for their time here, with many of them aiming for a 500k. The welcome barbeque, a great ideas of Mick's, was well attended and enjoyed by many.

These expeditions have only been made possible with the efforts of a large number of club members. Without naming individuals, members have helped with organising, sorted out administrative details, cleaned up the buildings and grounds, made caravans available, organised caravans and other equipment, hired out gliders, towed mid week, supervised operations, arranged publicity, and probably done many other things. A number of members who live nearer to the field than some of us have put in exceptional efforts and these people deserve special thanks from all of us.

In the midst of all of that the hangar extension has been

completed and is now usable. We have some more work to do on the floor which we will do after the expedition ends. Somewhere in there we had a general meeting. It was the first general meeting since the AGM and it was well attended and a really good meeting. We seemed to get through a lot of business, received some good ideas from members and discussed some important issues for the future of the club. Thank you to all those who were there.

We have also been doing a fair bit of flying. We set a goal for the financial year of 2300 hours in club gliders, a 15% increase on last year. To the end of October we had done 699 hours, 99 hours up on the same time last year, which is a 17% increase, so we are on track so far.

Don't forget the club's Christmas Party and other festive events on Saturday 15 December. This will serve as a farewell to our visiting friends who leave to go back to England the following week. I hope to see as many members and family and friends at the Christmas Party, but for those who aren't able to make it, I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year and lots of enjoyable soaring at Queensland's premier soaring club in 2002.

Ralph Henderson
DDSC Chat

Some of the newer Club members may not be aware of DDSC's automated electronic mail distribution system chat@ddsc.org.au and might therefore be missing out on using this highly efficient method of communicating with other club members and staying in touch with Club developments.

To access the system follow the steps given below using your Internet browser:

1. Go to the DDSC home page www.ddsc.org.au
2. Left click on the word **MEMBERS** at the top right hand side of the home page
3. The **Member Information Centre** page will appear, scroll down and left click on the word **Mailing List**
4. A Mailing List subscription form will appear, enter your email address in the empty box and left click on the **SUBMIT** button

One of two things will then happen. You may get a confirmation email that you have been joined to the system and you will start to receive any messages posted by others to chat@ddsc.org.au. This means you have access to the system and you need do nothing more.

The other thing that can happen is that you will get an automated email reply from the system seeking confirmation that your request is a genuine one.

Follow the instructions in the email and you will be given access to the system.

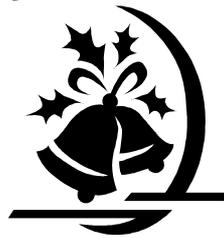
After you have gained access to the system, you can post email messages to all other people with access to the system by sending the email to chat@ddsc.org.au.

David Hughes

Xmas Party

The club Christmas Party is set down for Sat 15 December.

The program will follow the successful formulae of previous years. The day will start with a dawn dual launch (to 6000ft).



The Christmas Pylon Race is scheduled to run from 1100 to 1600 with a briefing for all pilots at 1000 to outline the rules and details. Compete individually or as a member of a team. Contact Peter Bell, peter_di_bell@ozxpress.com.au or phone 4663 7133, to book your seat. The entry fee will be \$10 per pilot to cover cost of prizes. The pylon race will include the second leg of the Pooch-off competition between DDSC and RAFGSA pilots.

Following the completion of the race there will be a glider handling demonstration and a few other airborne surprises currently being negotiated.

Make sure the kids are there for the arrival of Santa as he arrives low and fast in gliding's version of a white nosed reindeer (the Grob) and showers the strip with

sweets. Make sure you bring along a gift for Santa to give to your children.

The festivities continue into the evening with a roast meal, provided by the same excellent caterers who were there last year, and presentations to our departing visitors. Cost of the meal will be around \$16.00 per person. If you are coming for the meal please contact Ralph Henderson, rhenderson@austarmetro.com.au or phone 3843 6178, by 10 December for catering purposes.

It will be a great day and an even better evening, so come along and help celebrate another successful year at your club - Queensland's Premier Soaring Club.

Ralph Henderson

Club Telephones

There have been some changes to the telephone lines at the Club.

The most obvious is that the Gold Phone is no longer. It was costing the Club far in excess of the income we received from the coin box. As most members and visitors have a mobile phone, there should be little inconvenience from its demise.

A new line has been installed. Its purpose is to enable people to make outgoing local calls, which would include calls to our Internet service in Dalby. The line has been STD & ISD-barred.

The number is 07 4663 7255, and the phone and socket are located in the briefing area

near the stairs, and can be used for incoming calls.

If members don't have a mobile phone, and wish to make a STD call there are two options:

1. Have homelink attached to your home phone and then you can call home from the new phone.
2. We are in the process of obtaining "phoneaway" cards for sale at the bar. These will enable you to make STD/ISD calls from the new phone. They are also useable from any telephone (private or public) in Australia.

The Office phone remains at 4663 7140, and still has the cordless phone attached to it. In the near future, an answering machine will be added.

The fax line remains on 4663 7228 and the fax shares the line with the weather station computer. Please note that the weather station utilises the phone line every 3 hours for about 15 minutes, starting at 6am.

Mike Codling

Jobs to Do

We'd still like to hear from anyone who can help coordinate the pie-cart refurbishment.



Instructors' Panel Notes

The frequency for Toowoomba MBZ will be

changing from 127.15 to 127.65 on 29th Nov.

There have been some recent infringements of Oakey airspace during midweek flying. We want to remind pilots that good relations with Oakey are essential to our operations. This means not straying outside our agreed airspace areas.

At the weekend the 7 nautical mile zone around Oakey reverts to a mandatory broadcast zone (MBZ).

During the week however we are restricted to either *Gliders North* or *Gliders South Alpha* and *Bravo* when within 23 NM of Oakey.

Briefly, *Gliders North* extends east-west along the railway line to just beyond Kommamurra and north from Jondaryn to west of Wutul.

Glider South Alpha also extends east-west along the railway line to just beyond Kommamurra and south from Jondaryn to just south of Norwin.

Gliders South Bravo is bound by Mount Maria, Southbrook, Yarranlea and Norwin.

The maximum altitude allowed in these areas is 7500ft. Pilots intending to fly during the week must be aware of the boundaries of these areas. There is a map in briefing room with these areas shown.

A copy of our agreement with Oakey will be placed in the office so pilots can acquaint themselves with our rights

and obligations regarding Oakey's airspace.

Tugmaster Notes



Thank you to all the tug pilots for the reliable and safe towing that you provide for us and every time we fly - you are rarely mentioned, but rest assured you are greatly appreciated.

By now, most of you will have found our new equipment and materials for cleaning and maintaining our aircraft.

The detergent is only to be applied by use of the pressurised sprayer, pre-mixed at 10 parts water to 1 part detergent. Apply to painted surfaces and keep away from screens. This will remove any grime, oil, bugs, etc. if sprayed on and then washed off with the special wash broom provided. **DO NOT LEAVE IT ON TILL IT DRIES.** Spray small areas such as engine cowls, then wash off, and if in doubt, ASK.

We are now going to use the same oil in both engines, as both the oils we are using have exactly the same specifications. Remember, do not fill above 9 quarts and the minimum is 7.5 quarts.

Mr Sheen and soft rags have been provided for the screens. Please **DON'T USE PAPER ON THE SCREENS** as it scratches. Tug Pilots may contact me on

0429 639 770 to report any maintenance problems or concerns.

Tuggies, please take the time to carefully fill out the Maintenance Release in both tugs, as there have been errors with calculation of total units used for the day, and some pilots are not filling in the info at the end of the day's flying - *it is a legal requirement to do so.*

If some pilots need a refresher they can ring me or refer to Bob Tait's VFR study guide Part 4.2 of air Law, which I can lend out.

Safe Flying,
Bob Keen

High Performance Two-seater

We've been talking around the subject of buying a high performance two-seater for the club for a while. Many members have seen Kingaroy's Duo-Discus and heard about how successful it has been for that club. The GCV at Benalla have also bought one recently. Some of the visiting RAFGSA pilots have done a lot of flying in a Duo. Another option would be to buy a DG1000. The level of interest seems to have escalated recently and some committee members are seeking further information.

However, to purchase such an aircraft would be a large financial commitment for the club, probably the largest ever in dollar terms, and would require the commitment of considerable funds from members. Consequently it is a decision we should consider carefully.

The reason for writing this now is to engender discussion among members, either on the field, in the bar or on the chat line. I propose that we collect information, talk about it informally, and then have a full discussion at the next general meeting, which will be on Saturday 12 January. Please come along and have your say.

Ralph Henderson

Fly-Away Weekend – Jimbour

DDSC is organising a Fly-away Weekend/Fly-in on the weekend 16-17 March next year at historical Jimbour House, operated by the Russell Pastoral Company. This follows on from the success (and pleasure) of flying and social expeditions to Clifton, Rainbow Beach and Jimbour this year.

March might seem a long way off, but we need to get started with the planning. We'll need a dedicated team to get the most out of the event, as many other aviation organisations and participants will be invited.

For example, we will need:

- Expedition Leader (Murray Knight)
- Tugmaster
- Ferry Organiser
- Duty Pilots
- Registrar
- Treasurer
- Accommodation Coordinator
- Airfield Officer
- Social Director
- Ground Facilities Organiser
- Promotions Officer

We have some volunteers already.

Please indicate your interest in participating (with numbers of people), and please volunteer for a job. Then we can get on with it.

So far gliders, tow planes, radio-controlled model helicopters & model aircraft have committed.

There will also be powered gliders & light aircraft. The night displays by the illuminated model helicopters are spectacular.

Saturday night will see social activities, including a BBQ. Lunches & breakfasts are available for purchase. Camp sites (most unpowered) will be available. Jimbour will have its brand new wine cellar door opened (the weekend before the event).

Other accommodation: There are three "basic" hotels at Jandowae with the main commercial centre being Dalby, where there are a number of motels.

Some examples: -

Dalby-

Criterion Hotel 4662 3303,
Dalby Homestead 4662 5722
Dalby Manor Motor Inn 4662 1011
Pioneer Caravan Village 4662 1811
Dalby Parkview Motel 4662 3222
Country Pathfinder Motor Inn 4662 4433

Myall Creek Caravan Park 4662 4793
The Russell Hotel 4662 2122

Bell -

Bunya View Caravan Park 4663 1265
The Bellview Hotel 4663 1211.
More information: Dalby Wambo Tourist Information Centre 4662 1066

Jandowae -

Suggest you contact the Jandowae Community & Cultural Centre on 4668 5014 as they are the local information centre.

Jimbour Station has a 1000m
E/W bitumen runway.
S26 57.582; E151 14.117

Any visiting gliders will get a
"return" launch to 2000' for
only \$10.

Contact: Murray Knight
07 3351 2083 (h)
07 3868 2800 (w)
07 3868 1883 (fax)
0418 724 025 (mob)
camknight@smartchat.net.au

DDSC wines

The DDSC wines, the
McCaffrey Field Red and the
Cumulus Chardonnay, have
proved to be very popular
with members and we have
recently received additional
stock. In response to popular
demand we have increased
the range of Reds and we
can now offer Shiraz
Cabernet and Cabernet
Merlot as well as the original
Shiraz. All are sold under the
McCaffrey Field Red label.

Some members have
expressed interest in buying
a dozen, either for personal
consumption or to give away

as gifts for Christmas. Normal
delivery time is one week
from the placing of an order
but as we get close to
Christmas this may increase
a little. If you would like to
buy a dozen please contact
me direct and I will arrange
delivery before Christmas.

Gee Gliding in Australia must be Good.....

One of our RAF visitors is
Sarah Boydon, Mick's
daughter. She was married
on November 17th this year,
and arrived in Australia on
November 24th, to spend 3
weeks gliding at DDSC.....
without hubby.

Thanks

Peter Thomas is taking time off gliding for personal reasons and has donated the balance of his account (\$630) to DDSC for the purpose of funding a young pilot. The money will go towards



funding our youth Scholarship next year.

Thanks Peter.



"Lost Mice", Courtesy of Robert Percy

Events Calendar 2001

7 Dec

Instructor panel Mtg
Peter Bell

8 Dec

Committee meeting
Jenny Thompson

15 Dec

DDSC Christmas Party
Ralph Henderson

March 16-17

Jimbour Fly-away
Murray Knight

Darling Downs Soaring Club

Instructor, Tug Pilot, & Duty Pilot Roster

December 2001 – January 2002

December 2001	Instructors	Tug Pilots	Duty Pilots
Sat 1	D McManus C Jordan	Pam Kurstens B Ward	R Henderson H Hofmeister
Sun 2	D Lambert B Keen	J Geddes M Robertson	R Percy J Lee Lewes
Sat 8	Jeremy Thompson R Henderson	T Barker D Gerschwitz	J Hook Jim Knox
Sun 9	R Bennett T Lake	Jenny Thompson N Kranenburg	L Matuszczak S Kehoe
Sat 15	S McCaffrey A Wetherspoon	A Garrone D Cramer	A Midwood P Hughes
Sun 16	K Senz T Lake	D McCaffrey R Muir	D Hughes A Barker
Sat 22	M Codling P Bell	J Knox L McQueen	B Rolfe P Hyde
Sun 23	G Brown C Jordan	M Robertson D Baartz	C Hall A Sim
Sat 29	T Cavanna A Wetherspoon	D Cramer D McCaffrey	B Kruyssen J D'arcy
Sun 30	P Bell R Henderson	R Bradley B Keen	J Somerville T Kehoe

January 2002	Instructors	Tug Pilots	Duty Pilots
Sat 5	S McCaffrey A Wetherspoon	A Garrone L McQueen	R Percy P Bart
Sun 6	K Senz M Codling	Pam Kurstens D Cramer	L Matuszczak R Armstrong
Sat 12	T Cavanna R Henderson	T Barker D Gerschwitz	R Henderson P Downey
Sun 13	Jeremy Thompson C Jordan	Jenny Thompson B Keen	B Hofmeister N Muspratt
Sat 19	D McManus B Keen	J Geddes M Robertson	C Hall S Tromp
Sun 20	G Brown M Codling	N Kranenburg R Muir	D Hughes P Hughes
Sat 26	P Bell R Henderson	J Knox D Baartz	B Rolfe K Houghton
Sun 27	D Lambert C Jordan	R Bradley D McCaffrey	J Hook D Pinel
Mon 28	P Bell A Wetherspoon	L McQueen D Cramer	J Somerville J D'Arcy