



# CHAOTIC

Monthly Newsletter of the Darling Downs Soaring Club

June 2003

## **President's Report**

Since the last Chaotic, two big decisions have been made that will significantly affect on our club over the next couple of years.

The first decision was made at the May general meeting where we decided to place an order for a new Duo Discus. Delivery will occur in 2 years time. This will greatly enhance our ability to train pilots in cross-country flying and give members new opportunities to do mutual cross-country flights. Further details will be provided later in the CHAOTIC.

The second decision was by the GFA Sports Committee to accept our bid to hold the Multi-class National Championships at Dalby in October 2004. The nationals have suffered in recent years from poor attendance and we are confident that we can turn this trend around. DDSC has a long reputation for organising successful competitions and our recent efforts with last years state comps and this years Easter Comps were no exception. Our success with both these competitions was a key factor in us being awarded the nationals.

I see a number of benefits for the club in hosting the nationals. We have a number of members who are experienced at organising and running competitions and we have the capacity to step up to the next level and organise nationals. We have a large number of cross country and competition pilots coming through the club. By October next year many of these pilots will be ready to fly a nationals and there is no better place to fly your first nationals than on your home patch. Of course we have any number of very experienced competition pilots who will be able to continue, or perhaps restart, their

competition careers without having to travel down south.

The nationals will also be an opportunity to earn some funds for the club. One of the key success factors of the Easter Comps was the low cost. We will be keeping the cost of the nationals as low as we reasonably can so as to encourage as many competitors as possible. We learnt at Easter that the way to make money from a competition is to charge low fees and encourage lots of people to come rather than charge high fees and have a small field of entries. Of course making a few dollars from the nationals will help us pay for the new Duo.

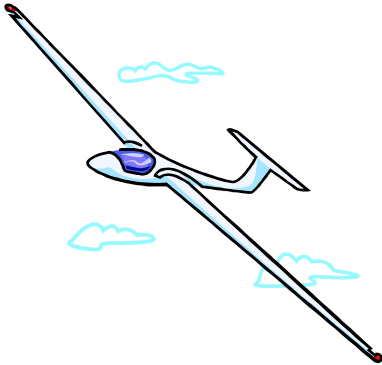
The other advantage of the Dalby nationals is that it will raise our profile in the local area. We received excellent publicity from the Easter Comps. The Dalby Herald gave us good coverage and we did a number of radio interviews. It is important to the future of the club that we have a high profile in our local community and that we have as many local members as possible.

This edition of the CHAOTIC is the first by Jo Davis and we welcome Jo to the role. Her predecessor Jenny Thompson did a great job as editor. During Jenny's editorship the standard of the CHAOTIC was raised considerably and there was a massive increase in members contributions. Thank you Jenny.

Thank you also to Jeremy Thompson who had a busy Labor Day weekend. On Saturday Jeremy ran a radio Operators course and on Monday supervised the dual towing day. From all accounts dual towing is something we should do again before too long. Thank you Jeremy.

While the mornings may be getting a little cool, there is still plenty of good soaring available. We have had a couple of 300k days in the last month.

*Ralph Henderson*



### **Cross Country Day 24 May**

It had been two months since our last cross-country day (a pylon race) due to the Easter Comps. Unfortunately the winter weather pattern has started and the prognosis for the day was not good. The forecast was for a blue day with 2-3 knot thermals to 3500 agl.

We were lucky enough to have George Lee talk to us on increasing cross-country speeds and for those who didn't attend it, you missed out on some great wisdom from a past world champion. Thanks George.

Shane courageously set a pylon race for the day, based on his local knowledge and the forecast. So it was off to Jondaryan-Bowenville-Formatin again as we've done in the last couple of pylon races. George and Shane flew in the Duo, whilst us other mere mortals followed.

The forecast was just about 100% correct and it was a challenging day, but we all had a lot of fun. It gave everyone the opportunity to gaggle fly and get into the mood of cross country flying, even though we were not out of glide of the strip.

Those who flew were

- Shane and George – JSR
- Simon Brown – KYT
- Alan Midwood – MV
- Pearce Mitchell – XV
- Fran Ning- XOW
- Me – GH
- Jeremy Thompson – KO
- Richard Hoskings – FQR
- Brian Hofmeister - XC

Next cross-country day is 28 June.

*Jenny Thompson*

### **Tug Fuelling**

We are getting some condensation in the tank when left partially filled. To avoid this, please fill the Pawnee tanks with fuel at the end of the days flying.

*Bob Keen*



## **Achievements**

Congratulations to Fran Ning for becoming our latest tuggy.

### ***May Day Long Weekend Training and Activities***

#### *Radio Operator Training*

The radio training day was held on 3 May with quite a good attendance.

Congratulations to the following people who attained their radio operator rating:

- Joan Robinson
- Koji Masuda
- Richard Armstrong
- Barry Daniel
- Bob Flood
- Graham Hennessy
- Libby Matuszczak
- Ken Stebhens
- Paul Bart
- John Hook

If you haven't got your radio rating, another course will be held later in the year.

#### *Dual Towing Day*

A "dual towing morning" was held on 5 May. We did four tows, with two Puch's each tow. These people got rated for dual towing in gliders:

- Karel Kazda
- Russell Bennett
- Barry Kruyssen
- Barry Daniel
- Glenn Todhunter
- Joan Robinson
- Alf Garrone
- Allan Latemore

Marty Hurst and Lex McQueen both received their CASA endorsements for dual towing (on the tug end) on the day as well.

Congratulations to all.

*Jeremy Thompson*



### ***Reasons for Mowing Grass***

I recently had the rather unpleasant experience of sitting in my glider looking very closely at Shane's Sorghum crop - it did look ready for harvesting! How I got there was, as nearly always with bad situations, a result of a series of events.

It started with being second in the circuit - quite a usual occurrence however, nothing wrong with that. I was flying the LS7 for the third time, and not sure of the length of my landing roll. So turning onto final (runway 12) I made the decision to land left to avoid the glider by the piecart, and to avoid being too close to the other glider if it was landed short. The grass where I was to land did look longer, but I thought it was OK.

I held off above the grass, and kept the stick back as the tail of the glider disappeared into it. Visually, I judged the landing ground to be the top of the grass, and so I had the glider in a really flared position. Luckily she landed softly, and the initial ground run was straight, but then the left wing dropped and a 90

degree turn into the Sorghum followed. Really rather a revolting place to be!

The glider that I was following landed way down the strip - plenty of room to land behind on the mown grass.

So what have I learnt?

Obviously, don't land in long grass! However, if it is unavoidable, (outlanding?) land in the middle, well away from fence line or trees, as it is highly possible that a ground loop could happen. Also, be ready to push forward, to lift the tail if she does start to turn.

To be very careful on the round out. If the grass is long, you will be much higher than usual above the ground.

To be more flexible in my decision making - there really was not an issue with the preceding glider, and I should have come in behind on the mown surface, and taken appropriate action if required.

Thank you to Kevin and Dieter who helped push the glider out, and encouraged me to fly another circuit, and all the other guys who gave me support. Also, thank you to who-ever has mowed that part of the airstrip!

*Fran Ning*

## ***Thanks for a First Flight***

It's always great watching someone strap in for their first flight, and it's even better when they come back out beaming. After talking incessantly about gliding at work a workmate bought his wife a voucher. Happily he, his wife and their two-year-old daughter had a fantastic time.

Their testimony to me later did include the flight itself, but was somewhat dominated by details of how friendly the people were and how welcome they were made to feel. So much so I've been asked to pass on another round of thanks.

Thanks to everyone on the day. It's great to see the atmosphere I encountered when I was brought out for my first it still going.

*Jo Davis*

## ***Letter ~~to~~ from the Editor***

Thanks to everyone who has who contributed, advised and generally helped for this edition of the CHAOTIC. Being a first for me it's been a bit of a learning experience and one which has left me with renewed respect for my predecessor. Thanks Jenny.

Contributions are welcomed/encouraged / needed and are a great way to share your experiences, information you have found, flying-buddy's achievements and more with the club. Please feel free to send a snippet through.

Looking forward to the next round.

*Jo Davis*

## 2003 - 04 Events Calendar

As at 27 May 2003

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Contact</b>
8 Jun	DI Training Morning	McCaffrey Field	Shane McCaffrey
14 Jun	Committee meeting	McCaffrey Field	Jenny Thompson
28 Jun	Cross country day	McCaffrey Field	Shane McCaffrey
7 - 11 Jul	Course Week	McCaffrey Field	Peter Bell
12 Jul	General meeting	McCaffrey Field	Jenny Thompson
26 Jul	Cross country day	McCaffrey Field	Shane McCaffrey
9 Aug	Committee meeting	McCaffrey Field	Jenny Thompson
11 - 15 Aug	Course Week, including Brisbane Show Day	McCaffrey Field	Peter Bell
23 Aug	Cross country day	McCaffrey Field	Shane McCaffrey
6 Sep	DDSC AGM	Toowoomba	Jenny Thompson
13 Sep	GFA AGM	Melbourne	Ralph Henderson
20 Sep	GFA safety seminar	Boonah	Peter Bell
21 Sep	GFA safety seminar	Gympie	Peter Bell
27 Sep - 4 Oct	QLD State Championships	Warwick	Michael O'Brien
6 - 28 Nov	RAFGSA III	McCaffrey Field	Ralph Henderson
15 - 22 Nov	NSW State Championships	Lake Keepit	Harry Medicott
29 Nov - 20 Dec	British Army III	McCaffrey Field	Ralph Henderson
27 Dec - 4 Jan 04	Multi Class National Championships	Corowa	Ralph Henderson

## 2004 Events Calendar

<b>M a y - J u n e - J u l y R o s t e r 2 0 0 3</b>	<b>J u n e</b>	Sun 1	T Cavanna B Hofmeister	R Green Jeremy Thompson	G Gillmore D Ferguson
		Sat 7	A Garrone R Henderson	L McQueen J Geddes	R Flood G Hennessey
		Sun 8 (DI Training)	S McCaffrey B Keen	M Robertson B Ward	K Masuda Gillmore C
		Mon 9	P Bell R Hart R Hoskings	Volunteers	L Matsuzczak D McEvoy
		Sat 14 (Committee Meeting)	R Bennett J Grosser	D Gerschwitz D Baartz	F Ning A Sim
		Sun 15	Jeremy Thompson A Wetherspoon	D McCaffrey Jenny Thompson	R Percy P Wetherspoon
		Sat 21	M Codling B Daniel	J Knox A Garrone	B Rolfe D Dudley
		Sun 22	K Senz T Lake	P Kurstjens R Keen	D Burrell M Dullens
		Sat 28 (Cross Country Day)	Jenny Thompson C Downs	T Barker D Cramer	R Sundell J Davis
		Sun 29	T Cavanna C Jordan	M Hurst N Kranenburg	M Hartman G Valler
	<b>J u l y</b>	Sat 5th	S McCaffrey J Grosser	L McQueen B Ward	K Allen A Straume
		Sun 6th	M Codling C Downs; R Hart	R Green D McCaffrey	L Day D Edwards
		Sat 12th (General Meeting)	P Bell R Henderson	Jenny Thompson M Robertson	R Armstrong P Bart
		Sun 13th	P Bell B Daniel; R Hoskings	Jeremy Thompson P Kurstjens	D Gliddon R Flaherty
		Sat 19th	A Garrone A Wetherspoon	J Knox M Hurst	R Flood G Hennessey
		Sun 20th	T Cavanna T Lake; K Senz	R Keen D Baartz	M Russell J Somerville
		Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> (Cross Country Day)	Jeremy Thompson B Keen	J Geddes D Gerschwitz	P Blackmore C Booth
		Sun 27th	Jenny Thompson B Hofmeister	N Kranenburg D Cramer	C Hall S Tromp
	<b>A u g u s t</b>	Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	A Garrone C Downs	R Keen L McQueen	Jo Davis M Dullens
		Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> .	T Cavanna B Keen	D Baartz J Geddes	D Ferguson C Gillmore
		Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> .	S McCaffrey R Hart B Hofmeister	Jenny Thompson A Garrone	P Gliddon P Downey
		Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> .	P Bell R Hoskins	M Hurst D McCaffrey	M Hartman K Masuda
		Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> .	M Codling R Henderson	J Knox M Robertson	H Hofmeister L Matsuzczak
		Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> .	K Senz T Lake	R Green B Ward	D McEvoy A Midwood
		Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> .	P Bell B Daniel	D Gerschwitz N Kranenburg	N Muspratt J Parslow
		Sun 24 <sup>th</sup> .	Jeremy Thompson A Wetherspoon	D Cramer P Kurstjens	R Percy J Robinson
		Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> .	Jenny Thompson J Grosser	T Barker Jeremy Thompson	B Rolfe R Sundell

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Contact</b>
11 – 23 Jan	Club Class National Championships	Waikerie	Ralph Henderson
9 –17 Apr	QLD Easter Competition	Chinchilla	Ralph Henderson
25 Sep – 2 Oct	QLD State Championships	Kingaroy	Ralph Henderson
4 – 15 Oct	Multi Class National Championships	Dalby	Ralph Henderson

Postal Address - Darling Downs Soaring Club PO BOX 584 Toowoomba QLD 4350  
Airfield - McCaffrey Field Mason Rd Bowenville 4404  
Clubhouse Telephone (07) 4663 7140 Fax (07) 4663 7228  
Website - [www.ddsc.org.au](http://www.ddsc.org.au) email - [info@ddsc.org.au](mailto:info@ddsc.org.au)  
Newsletter - [chaotic@ddsc.org.au](mailto:chaotic@ddsc.org.au)

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