



CHAOTIC

Monthly Newsletter of the Darling Downs Soaring Club

September 2004

President's Report

My Last President's Report: Thank you all for your warm support and encouragement throughout the year. This is a great club, with a long history, and I took on the job feeling quite a sense of responsibility to you all. The role of president is very demanding, especially if the opportunities open to us are pursued with energy. I now know how much effort Ralph must have put into the job to achieve what he did. The workload in my consulting business has increased dramatically, and doesn't look like abating for a while. I felt that I could not do justice to the role of club president in the coming year. We are fortunate that the club has the depth of resources available to it and we can assured of the right person stepping up the plate.

Thanks Committee: I have really enjoyed working with the committee members this year. Shane keeps our fleet second to none. Bob maintains 100% tug availability and low costs through his incredibly conscientious preventative maintenance approach. Jeremy has done a very professional CFI job. Brian has guided us through the maze of Incorporation. Charlie has been the perfect liaison officer with Oakey. Thanks Anthony, Brian and Fran for your support. And our newest committee member Bob Flood has acquitted himself very admirably. Libby and Irene (our social committee) have established high cuisine at McCaffrey field, and Libby has done an outstanding job as canteen officer! It's always risky singling out someone for special mention, because the club is full of members who go beyond "the call of duty". However, I'm in a position to notice just how much Tony does for the club. He has carried out his

role as club secretary with great diligence, he was secretary of the Instructor's Panel until recently, and he keeps the information flowing on the website. I have appreciated his advice when I've been a bit stuck. However, Tony's most visible contribution to the club is at the airfield. He is always willing to help people. Tony is truly a very solid pillar of the club.

Nationals: Looks like we'll have the biggest Nationals since the last one at Dalby, with 50 gliders plus. Ralph and Bob, what can I say? For those who haven't been to a Nationals before, I would thoroughly recommend coming along. There will be some of our best pilots there and a wealth of knowledge to tap into.

New Tug - Pawnee VH-MLR: In case you haven't heard, we have purchased a new tug. Should be in the air within a few weeks.

DDSC AGM: The AGM will be held on Saturday 11th September 2004 at Banque Cafe, 122 Margaret Street, Toowoomba, starting at 6.30pm. Please come along and celebrate another successful year for DDSC.

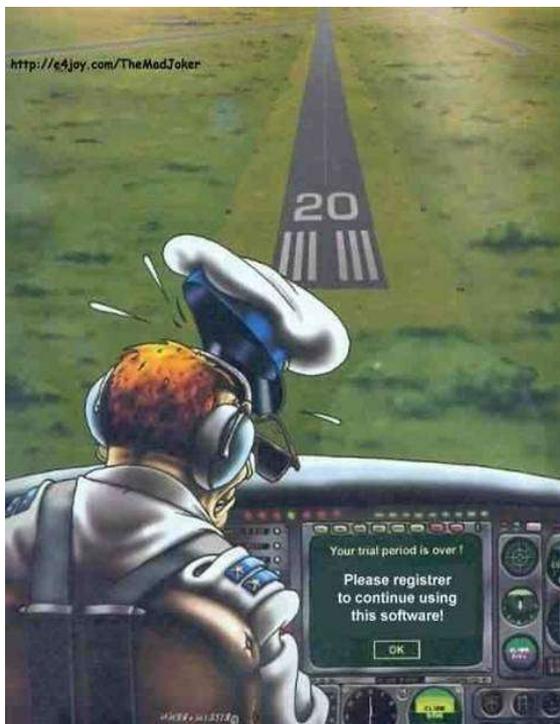
Happy and safe flying.

Richard Hoskings



Congrats!

Congratulations to Greg Valler and Dave Reitsma (from Townsville) for completing their 5 hours!



National Pilots

With everyone in 'Nationals spirit' it is probably timely to hear about a couple of the pilots who will be there. Thanks to Ralph for sending these through.

Grae Harrison

Began gliding in 1975 at the Wellington Gliding Club based on the Kapiti Coast 55 kms north of Wellington in New Zealand. He has now flown over 4,000 hours gliding.

He flew the Tasman Trophy, a trophy competed for between Australia and New Zealand, at Gawler, SA in 1983 and lost to Scott Percival but beat Charles Day for the Tasman Trophy at Alexandra, New Zealand in 1984.

He flew the National Championships at Kingaroy 1997, Narromine in 1998 and Queensland State Comps at Chinchilla, Warwick and Kingaroy.

Once in 1998 four kiwis including Grae landed in the cricket oval in Jandowae in the middle of town on their way from Kingaroy to Chinchilla when they ran out of thermals. They took off too late from Kingaroy, but the locals never told them that the thermals stop at 4pm. They never made the same mistake twice.

Grae has flown World Contests in NZ and Germany but generally enjoys the more relaxed atmosphere of local events such as the Australian and NZ Nationals. He has recently been flying at a gliding camp at Ely, Nevada with both Kiwi & American pilots. The desert conditions produce thermals to 18,000 ft and lots of thunderstorms to navigate most afternoons.

Grae is looking forward to Dalby because of the great gliding conditions on the Darling Downs plus the warm weather and friendly atmosphere. He says its a good opportunity to practice speed flying skills between thermals as the Queensland pilots are very good at

it and this makes the contest very competitive. It's also out of season for NZ pilots and October doesn't interfere with their NZ gliding competitions.

He is bringing over his ASH25 two seat glider this month. Grae and his flying partner Theo Newfield broke the World Record for a 300km triangular flight earlier this year at Omarama, NZ in this glider with an average speed of 223kph, the old record was 179kph. They are looking at the 500km record this season which is currently held by round the world adventurer Steve Fossett, USA at 189kph. They believe that in the right conditions they can achieve up to 215kph average speed.

Grae's greatest latest achievement was taking his 7-year-old daughter gliding for the first time.

Tony Tabart

Tony Tabart has won the Australian championship 4 times. He has represented Australia in 5 world championships held in Yugoslavia, Waikerie Australia, France, Italy and Austria and has crewed for Australian team members in Texas and Finland. Tony has managed Australian teams in the USA, where we won a Gold Medal, and in South Africa. He also assisted with the Omarama, New Zealand world championships.

Tony is a power pilot with an instrument rating and he ran a small aviation business for some years. He has approx 8,000 flying hours, both power and gliding. He is currently building a Lancair (a high performance two-seater American kit) - please don't ask when it will be finished and in the air!

Tony is 68 years old and has been flying for 45 years and "the thrill is as great as ever". Tony decided to take up flying when his elder son's strong allergy to horses made his involvement in show

jumping impossible. "I had to get out of the horse business and having a fairly competitive nature, I knew that I'd have to find something else competitive. I'd always been fascinated by flying."

Tony set many gliding records and completed the second FAI 1,000km triangle in the world in January 1979 in the Tocumwal area. This flight also broke the Australian 1,000 km triangle record (at that time) by flying 1,016km in 10 hours.

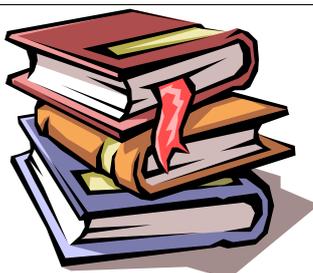
Tony felt that being the first Australian to win a day in a world competition (Yugoslavia in 1972) was his greatest achievement - until he became the oldest winner of the Australian Open Gliding Championship at Gulgong earlier this year, after not having competed in the Open competition for about 15 years.

According to Tony, "modern competitive gliding is all about being able to extract the most energy out of the atmosphere and using it wisely. You need to know when to slow down, when to speed up, when to race, when to cruise". Tony believes that a top glider pilot needs a perfect blend of patience and impatience. "You have to understand when to conserve altitude and when to fly fast, which uses more altitude, according to what you see and understand from the weather. You have to have a good imagination and even on cloudless days you need to be able to extract more energy from the atmosphere than your competitors. You have to know where to go to get that energy - which is lift, or rising air. You have to be able to follow energy lines, which you can't actually see. Concentration is also important - you have to be able to concentrate fully for six hours at a time."

Tony has absolutely no plans to retire from the sport. "I'll continue as long as I have my health and my ability; I'll be flying as long as I can."

Tony is a 5th generation fine wool producer on a property in Western

Victoria. There is an air strip on the farm which hosts a small gliding club - most of the members are dairy farmers.



From the Archive

(August 1968)

The Kind of Life I Would Like to Lead

Life is the most important thing on this earth. It may or may not be important to many, but to me, it is very important. The life you lead depends a great deal on your character, so good character is essential. One must love the life he leads very much if he is to succeed.

This is, flying, in general aviation. I love it already because I am now a pilot. Maybe not in power aircraft but I am still flying. The gliders, or sailplanes, are my wings and the sturdy Tigers make it possible for me to work the air currents and gain height. This is what has increased my desire to fly, the sensation of climbing into the sky without an engine to propel me.

The hopes of this kind of life have been increased by passenger flights in the Tiger Moths. It is planned, in the Club, to have a Tug Pilot Training Programme introduced on these aircraft, which will give me a terrific start in my aviation career.

Failing this, my alternative is light aircraft maintenance. I feel this is something I can easily do, for I am already having success in this field. I have so far built a number of model aircraft, and flown them above the Downs with pleasing results.

The Gliding Movement at Oakey is my stepping stone to higher places within the sphere of aviation. I hope this is an

inspiration to many others who would like to make their life "AVIATION".

Does the Author recognise and remember this?

c/o Russell Bennett

Lost and Found

Due to the memory status of the Chaotic editor this lost and found article is a bit late. However, if anyone has misplaced some cash around the back of the main hanger, can they please contact John Knox.

Jo Davis

2004 - 05 Events Calendar

as at 6th September 2004

Date	Event	Place	Contact
Sat 11 th Sept 04 – 6.30pm	DDSC Inc AGM	Banque Licensed Cafe (122 Margaret St Toowoomba)	Tony Cavanna tonycavanna@ozemail.com.au
Sat 25 Sep – Sat 2 Oct 04	QLD State Championships	Kingaroy	Doug Flockhart doug@ozgroup.com.au
Sat 9 th – Sun 10 th Oct 04	Fly Away Weekend – at Dalby Nationals	Dalby	Jeremy Thompson Libelle@optusnet.com.au
Mon 4 – Fri 15 Oct 04	Multi Class National Championships	Dalby	Ralph Henderson rhenderson@austarmetro.com.au
Sat 16 th – Sun 17 th Oct 04	Level 3 Instructors’ Seminar	McCaffrey Field	Peter Bell, Jeremy Thompson
Mon 18 th – Fri 22 nd Oct 04	Caboolture Pilots’ Week	McCaffrey Field	Russell Bennett randvbennett@optusnet.com.au
Mon 25 th – Fri 29 nd Oct 04	Instructors’ Course	McCaffrey Field	Peter Bell, Jeremy Thompson
Sun 24 th – Sun 31 st Oct 04	Kiwi Visit	McCaffery Field	Ralph Henderson rhenderson@austarmetro.com.au
Mon 1 st – Fri 5 th Nov 04	Cross Country Coaching Week (Bruce Taylor)	McCaffery Field	Ralph Henderson rhenderson@austarmetro.com.au
Fri 25 th March – Sat 2 nd April 05	Queensland Easter Competition	Dalby	David McManus David_mcmanus80@optusnet.com.au

	Day	Instructors	Tug Pilots	Duty Pilots
S e p t e m b e r	Sat 4 th	T Cavanna J Grosser	D Baartz J Geddes	Chezhan Hall Neil Muspratt
	Sun 5 th	M Codling A Wetherspoon	P Kurstjens B Keen	Hugh Hoffmeister Andrew Straume
	Sat 11 th	R Henderson R Hoskings	L McQueen F Ning	Mark Hartmann Robert Percy
	Sun 12 th	P Bell L Matusczak	Jeremy Thompson D Cramer	John Davies David Ferguson
	Sat 18 th	J Thompson C Downes	J Knox Jenny Thompson	Michael Russell Roly Sundell
	Sun 19 th	R Bennett B Hoffmeister	M Robertson B Ward	Peter Davison John Moller
	Sat 25 th	R Hart B Daniel	A Garrone G Kurstjens	Steve Harris Alan Midwood
	Sun 26 th	A Garrone B Keen	R Bradley B Hoffmeister	Joan Robinson Sara Tromp
O c t o b e r	Sat 2 nd	R Bennett J Grosser	D Baartz J Geddes	Richard Armstrong Paul Bart
	Sun 3 rd	M Codling A Wetherspoon	B Keen Jeremy Thompson	Jo Davis Koji Masuda
	Sat 9 th Dalby Nationals	R. Hoskings	F Ning	Charles Gillmore Gordon Gillmore
	Sun 10 th Dalby Nationals	L Matusczak	M Robertson	Greg Valler Michaela Valler
	Sat 16 th	P Bell	L McQueen J Knox	Bob Flood Graham Hennessy
	Sun 17 th	T Cavanna B Hofmeister	P Kurstjens B Ward	Keith Allen Ben Bezuidenhout
	Sat 23 rd	R Hart B Daniel	Jenny Thompson A Garrone	Chezhan Hall Neil Muspratt
	Sun 24 th	A Garrone B Keen	B Hoffmeister R Bradley	Hugh Hofmeister Andrew Straume
	Sat 30 th	J Thompson C Downes	J Geddes D Baartz	Brian Rolfe Ron Walker
	Sun 31st	R Henderson K Senz	D Cramer TBA	Mark Hartmann Robert Percy
N o v e m b e r	Saturday 6th	R Bennett J Grosser	A Garrone G Kurstjens	Steve Harris Alan Midwood
	Sunday 7th	M Codling A Wetherspoon	P Kurstjens M Robertson	John Davies David Ferguson
	Saturday 13th	J Thompson R. Hoskings	L McQueen F Ning	Michael Russell Roly Sundell
	Sunday 14th	K Senz L Matusczak	Jeremy Thompson B Hoffmeister	Peter Davison John Moller
	Saturday 20th	P Bell P Wetherspoon	J Knox Jenny Thompson	Jo Davis Koji Masuda
	Sunday 21st	T Cavanna B Hofmeister	M Robertson B Ward	Richard Armstrong Paul Bart
	Saturday 27th	R Hart B Daniel	D Cramer TBA	Charles Gillmore Gordon Gillmore
	Sunday 28th	A Garrone B Keen	R Bradley TBA	Greg Valler Michaela Valler

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Airfield – McCaffrey Field Mason Rd Bowenville 4404

Clubhouse Telephone (07) 4663 7140 Fax (07) 4663 7228

Website – www.ddsc.org.au email - info@ddsc.org.au

Newsletter – chaotic@ddsc.org.au

Jimbour Wines

Australian National Gliding Championships

4 – 15 October 2004

www.ddsc.org.au www.jimbour.com



a great Queensland

Only a month or so to go to the nationals and its looking really good. As of today we have 46 entries, 15 in open class and 31 in 15 metre class. There are another 11 entries I am expecting which if they all come in will give us 57. With a couple of late entries we might make 60.

For those of you who haven't followed the nationals in recent years, there were 20 gliders last year and 12 the year before due to a range of unfortunate circumstances. The two big events in recent years were the 2002 nationals at Narromine, which attracted 46 entries, as did the 1997 nationals at Kingaroy.

Among the entries we have pilots from every mainland state in Australia plus New Zealand, England, Germany, Italy and Japan, so it will be very much a national and international event. This will only help in our long-term goal of putting DDSC, Dalby and the Darling Downs on the world gliding map.

We now have people to do most of the jobs but can always use more assistance. Many of the pilots are coming without crews so if you have some time available and can help out in some way it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all those who have offered to help, as with other events this will be a true club effort. And remember that all the profits from the event come back to the club.

If you can help out at all please contact:

Bob Keen mobile 0429 639 770, home 4663 9770 Smokeymail@bigpond.com or

Ralph Henderson mobile 0409 596 579, home 3843 6178 rhenderson@austarmetro.com.au.

Ralph