



The N.S.W. Sport Aircraft Club Newsletter

APRIL - MAY 2011

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Above: SAC members and visitors at the February Fly-in/Drive-in Brunch.

Below: Sadly, Randall Krebs died after finally losing his battle with Leukaemia. More on **Page 10**

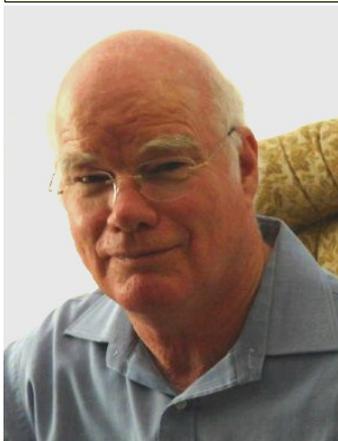


Contact your Newsletter Editor at
david.rittie@optusnet.com.au

Visit our website:- www.wedderburnairstrip.com.au

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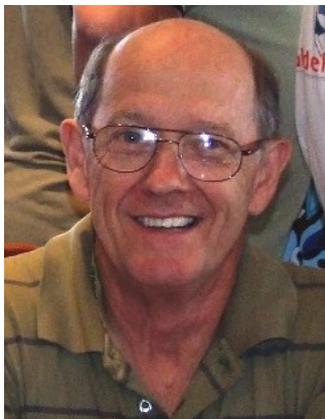


Your new Committee

Left: David Rittie (President).

Below (left to right): Margaret Nightingale (Secretary), Allan Aaron (Treasurer), Tim Causer and Bret Cavanagh.

Bottom (left to right): Matthew Gray, Don Harvie, Lloyd Shepherd and Richard Thompson.



Need some exotic plants, or want some peaches or other stone fruit? You can choose from a wide selection near the airfield, just around the corner at #7 Blackburn Road.

HARLAND'S Fruit, Nursery and Landscaping

Phone 4634 1234 or 0402 086 032, or drop by and see Charles or Clayton.

The Harlands also do hangar concrete slabs, at very reasonable prices

From your Editor

Welcome to the April/May 2011 issue of your Newsletter. Because I am back on the Committee for another year it seems that I may continue as your Newsletter Editor for the next little while.

In this issue the February Fly-in/Drive-in Brunch, the Wings over Illawarra



event and the Dick Smith Fly-in are featured. Also, the late Randall Krebs is remembered with

some photos on **Page 10**.

Please note the details of the next big fly-away (being organised by Vic Laybutt) which appear on **Page 9**.

Thanks to those who sent in photos and stories for this issue.

Enjoy

You can contact your Newsletter Editor at david.rittie@optusnet.com.au

David Rittie

Words from the President

Hi there.

Elections

As a result of the elections held at the Annual General Meeting in March, we have three new faces on the Committee. They are Allan Aaron (Treasurer), Lloyd Shepherd and Richard Thompson. Departing Committee members are John Duncan, Peter Lightbown and Dave Thomas.

Our thanks go to Peter Lightbown for serving last year as our Workday Coordinator. Our thanks also go to Dave Thomas, who did not stand again this year, but has offered to continue on as our Safety Officer. Particular thanks go to John Duncan who has been at your service for four terms, and who stood again this year for the Treasurer's job as well as for the Committee.

Allow me to thank all those who stood for election. Having so many members volunteering for duty is a very healthy sign.

Full details of the elections appear in the Secretary's column over the page.

Randall Krebs

Just when we were about to print the last Newsletter we learned the terrible news that Randall Krebs had died. He was a model club member, much loved and will be long remembered. There are some photos of Randall on **Page 10**.

Queensland Outback Safari

Vic Laybutt has kindly offered to organise a big fly-away trip later this

year. The current plan is for a 13 day trip of northern NSW and QLD starting in late August, the main objective being to spend a few days at Adels Grove. We hope we get a big roll-up for this event. Our thanks go to Vic for this initiative.

Open Day

The response to our survey about how this year's Open Day should be conducted was fairly small. It seems that most members who responded want to have a full-on air show. This outcome was reinforced at the AGM by a show of hands.

Fly Neighbourly

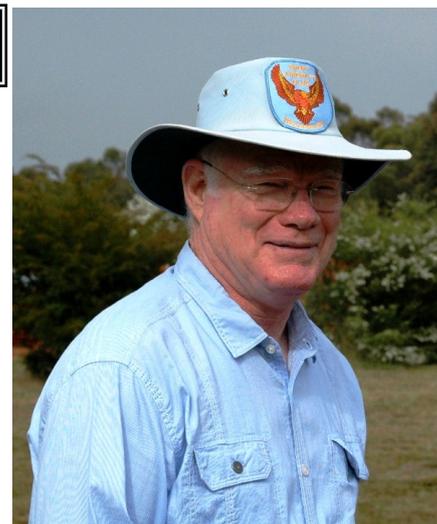
We must all take particular care to follow our "Fly neighbourly" policy and to stop annoying members of the local Wedderburn community. Not only is the noise upsetting to them, but they feel that their safety is threatened by the perceived low flying over their homes. The areas to avoid are shown in yellow on the picture on the back page of this Newsletter.

New Constitution

A team (selected from a group of volunteers) is in the process of reviewing our Club's rules in order to recommend changes that the team feels to be appropriate for a new constitution. The group has met twice already, and is asking for your input. Please refer to the Secretary's column for more details.

New Members

The "New Member" process review team has drafted a revised procedure



for the interview and approval process of new members. The proposed changes to the procedure will be published after approval by the Committee.

Trees at the Ends of the Runway

We are still working to gain permission to remove some of the taller trees in the glide paths of both ends of the runway. We are experiencing difficulties contacting the right people in the Aboriginal community to get final permission. The National Parks and Wildlife people are assisting us with this endeavour.

Grass Strip

The grass strip is coming on nicely after having received some loving care by some enthusiastic members. Use of the grass strip will always be at the pilot's discretion, as its condition can never be guaranteed, especially after rain.

Please fly safely.

David Rittie

From the Secretary's Desk

Hi there everyone.

Committee Elections

Congratulations to all those who were elected to the committee for the 2011/2012 club year. It was great to see so many members nominate for the committee and more than 60 members actually turned up to the Annual General Meeting to cast their votes. It just shows that our club is alive and well and we welcome fresh faces and new ideas to complement the experience and enthusiasm of committee members who have served the club for some years.

The results of the election as declared by Noel Carmody, the returning officer, were as follows:

President

David Rittie elected unopposed

Secretary

Rachel Lumb 40
Margaret Nightingale 82 elected

Treasurer

Allan Aaron 66 elected
John Duncan 56

Committee

Tim Causer 110 elected
Bret Cavanagh 86 elected
John Duncan 58
Matthew Gray 104 elected
Don Harvie 113 elected
Peter Lightbown 63
Rachel Lumb 34
Lloyd Shepherd 64 elected
Richard Thompson 76 elected

122 voting papers were distributed

There was a vote of thanks to Noel and all his helpers who do a great job every year.

New Constitution

A sub-committee consisting of Vic Laybutt, Geoff May, David Rittie, Noel Carmody and Lloyd Shepherd, has been meeting to review the club's current constitution with reference to the new format constitution brought out last year by the Office of Fair Trading. As part of this review the sub-committee is inviting all club members to send them ideas of any changes to the constitution that you would like. This is your chance to have your say about what you think should be included in our constitution. A copy of the existing club constitution and rules are on the website:

www.wedderburnairstrip.com.au or you can email me at fireweed@netspace.net.au or call 0425 380 966 and leave your name, address and post code and a copy of the rules will be sent to you by email or snail mail.

All ideas are welcome.

The sub-committee envisages having a document that summarises your input and any other changes for distribution by mid to end of May. There could be a meeting in the clubhouse to argue about some of the changes wanted (if any) at that time.



The next step will be to present a final document for fine tuning at another meeting at the end of June. At this meeting all the words and arguments will be finalised so that at a Special General Meeting called at the end of July all the changes can be voted on with very little argument to take place.

This is an arduous task and will depend on the goodwill of members for it to be successful. You should have received your invitation to send in submissions by mail out in the week ending 2nd April. If you haven't received the information please let me know.

Astronomical Society

The committee will be organising a BBQ and some stargazing on the night of Saturday 7th May in conjunction with the Macarthur Astronomical Society. The BBQ will start at 6.00pm followed by a talk and a chance to look at the stars and planets through telescopes that will be set up in the aircraft parking area. Those who wish to attend will need to be at the airfield before 6.00pm and park at the northern end of the airfield. So that if you leave before the stargazing is completed, your lights won't damage everyone else's slowly acquired night vision. This should be an amazing event. If you would like to attend please email me or phone and let me know before 1st May. This is a club sponsored catered event.

A message from Judy Krebs

We received a card from Judy and Karl Krebs with the following message for members:

"We want to thank all those who visited and rang Randall while he was ill. You will always have a special place in our hearts for your many kindnesses."

There are lots of things coming up. Join in and have fun.

Margaret Nightingale

Treasurer's Report

I'm excited to take on the role of Treasurer. I've been a member of our club for 15 years so figured it was about time I gave something back for all of the enjoyment I have derived over those years. Many of you don't know me so I'd like to use up my allotted space in this edition of the newsletter to introduce myself and tell you about what I would like to achieve during my term.

I learnt to fly about 25 years ago and hold a fixed wing PPL and am just about to get my helicopter rating. I've built and flown two planes - an Avid and a Mustang II. I started building a Cozy about 18 years ago and hope to finish it within the next 18 years. I just bought an Avid Amphibian kit (don't you just love eBay!) and one day will get that flying too.

Years ago, I graduated as an Aerospace Engineer. I picked up an MBA along the way and am a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. I've sat on the boards of more than 20 companies and on two honorary boards as Treasurer. I've also been on several government panels and boards. I really hope to be able to contribute to the club by applying my commercial background and experience in planning, business and financial management.

enterprise. There is more than \$20 million worth of improvements, members' hangars and aircraft at the field and we all need to work to protect these assets. We need to be clever in managing our finances, decision making and risks, and we need to be open to our members' and neighbours' input. Of course, we need to secure our lease renewal!

I believe that the key roles of the treasurer are to:

- manage the club's book-keeping (fuel, membership and hangar transactions, invoicing and record keeping)
- manage the clubs financial administration (payables, chasing up debtors and managing cash)
- report to the members on the clubs financial status
- ensure an adequate operating budget and capital expenditure plan exists which is visible to members and against which we can be measured
- operate to a clear (but evolving) medium-term "strategic" plan
- ensure good governance procedures and controls
- have a comprehensive risk management plan, and
- ensure that all decisions we make are made with transparency and due process

Our club is now a very substantial I've already had many members ap-



proach me with offers of help, suggestions about how to make things easier and suggestions for improvements to the operation of the club. These have included automating the fuel bowser, outsourcing or assisting with book-keeping, and various capital works project suggestions and improvements. I'm grateful for the input and will gladly take it to the Committee for review.

Finally, I'd be delighted for members to contact me with any questions about the financial status of the club, your suggestions or support, or to point out if I've made an error. Email is great and (almost) always gets a quick response - aaaron@tvp.com.au.

Allan Aaron

Photos from "Wings Over Illawarra" 22nd February



Clockwise from right:
Super Connie starts #2 engine; Gary Malane's Lightwing Speed; The "Black Cat" Catalina flies past; RV4s of Peter Bowman and Bruce Nash; and the FA18 did a short but impressive flying display.



Bird Talk

Hi everyone

Our first 3 months of 2011 have passed by so quickly. I for one can hardly believe it. The weather now should be perfect for our aviators to attend the many flying events that are listed each week in the Club's Newsflash.

It was with sadness that we farewelled our dedicated member Randall Krebs who lost his battle with Leukaemia on February 1st. Many of our members attended a most moving service to pay their respects to Randall.

Over a number of years we would always see Randall, together with Judy, come along to support their club either at Work days, Social events, Fly-Aways and were always willing helpers at our Open Days.

Randall was a very cheerful person and always had time to acknowledge the ladies of the Social Committee with a smile and taking time to have a chat with us and many other members, this was greatly appreciated. We were so blessed to have known Randall.

To Judy and son Karl our loving thoughts are with you. We, with you have wonderful memories of Randall, he will not be forgotten.

Our Fly-In/Drive-In Brunch, the first for the New Year, held on Sunday 6th February, saw only 37 members plus 8 visitors attend – this was a little disappointing to the Social Committee who go to a lot of trouble to prepare a fantastic Brunch Menu for our members to enjoy. We were very grateful to see fellow aviators fly-in from Bankstown and Wollongong, many of these friends have come along before to enjoy our hospitality and we do extend an invitation to them all that we would be happy to see them fly in as often as possible. To all who did attend we “Thank” you for supporting us and we know you all enjoyed your meal.

Must add a “Thank” you to Dave T. and Rodney G. for taking on the role as “chefs” for our Brunch day – you were both great. To my team of Ladies and our wonderful juniors, Lillian and Abbey – “thanks” for all your help.



The Social Work Day held on Sunday 20th February saw 56 members and 4 prospective new members attend the luncheon. There was quite a bit of work going on around the airfield that Peter L. had organised to be carried out and it was good to see so many helpers attend to get all the jobs completed. Your Social Committee were busy preparing a very tasty luncheon of Cold Chicken, Cold Meats, various Salad platters followed by delicious Cakes for all to enjoy. I did appreciate getting a lot of help, in various ways, from the (Krassoi) “twin” grandchildren, Tex and Abbey – how good were they – I think maybe they should audition for “Junior Master Chef” – Thanks to both of you for helping us and we must not forget your younger sister Lucinda, she was a good helper too. To my usual reliable team of Ladies, together with Grace (almost a senior now) and our juniors, Lillian & Abbey, “Thank” you all for assisting with making our Social Work Day Luncheon so successful.

Once again we held a Raffle on the Work Day and the lucky winner of the 1st prize of a \$50.00 Fuel Voucher from SAC was won by Rodney Russell.

Our 2nd Prize of a Coles/Myer Group Gift Card of \$25.00 was won by John Priddle (our oldest Club Member) Congratulations to both winners and “Thanks” to all who supported the Social Committee by buying tickets.

SOCIAL WORK DAY SATURDAY 30TH APRIL, 2011

Just a reminder to all that the Work Day for the month of April is being held on SATURDAY-NOT SUNDAY. Yes our second Work day of the year is almost upon us and we would like to see many more of our members come along to join in to do some very important tasks around the Air-

Bird Talk (cont.)

field. The Social Committee will prepare a **FREE** lunch for all workers, so on arrival in the Clubhouse, please write your name against a job you will be doing, and then please remember to state whether you will be joining us for lunch – it helps us with the numbers to prepare for. In advance I “Thank” you for your co-operation. The Menu for the day has not been decided on yet but I can assure you all it will be great. Yes, another Raffle will be run on the day so please bring your money with you. See you all on Saturday the 30th.

FLY-IN/DRIVE-IN BRUNCH - SUNDAY 15TH MAY, 2011

This is a tentative date at present for our 2nd Fly-In/Drive-In Brunch for the year, as we cannot hold our Fly-In the day after our Work day on the 30th April and the 2nd Sunday in May happens to be Mothers Day (a very important day) so that is why we have earmarked the 15th. I will discuss this date with the SAC Committee to make sure we do not have another Fly-Away scheduled. Please keep this date in mind and we will keep you informed in the Newsflash

Cheers,

Margaret Adams

“THANK YOU” from the Wedderburn Rural Fire Service

I would like to thank the members of the NSW Sport Aircraft Club, who participated, along with the Wedderburn Rural Fire Service members, to spend time on “Clean Up Australia Day” clearing away 135 large rubbish bags, tons of furniture, car parts, tyres and industrial waste.

Your efforts were greatly appreciated.

Glenda George WRFS

* * **UPCOMING FLYING AND SOCIAL EVENTS** * *

If you want to stage an event, or invite the Club to join you on a flying jaunt please talk to me. You will earn additional Championship points.

Bret Cavanagh

UPCOMING EVENTS. Put ‘em in your diary

NATFLY 2011.	Easter weekend April 21 st to 24 th	Temora.
Social Workday	Saturday, 30 th April. Sign in at 9am. Free lunch for members.	
BBQ and Stargazing Evening	Saturday, 7 th May, 6pm Come look at the stars through the Macarthur Astronomical Society’s telescopes. Contact: Margaret Nightingale	A/C parking area
Fly-in/Drive-in Brunch	Sunday, 15th May, 10am to 1pm Contact: Margaret Adams	Clubhouse
General Meeting	Sunday, 12 th June, 2pm Contact: Margaret Nightingale	Clubhouse
Social Workday	Sunday, 26 th June. Sign in at 9am. Free lunch for members	
Queensland Outback Safari	Sunday 28th August to Saturday 10 th September Contact: Vic Laybutt on 0414 734 540, 9520 2958 or at vic.l@optusnet.com.au	

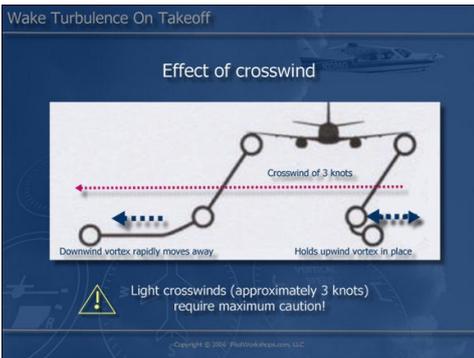
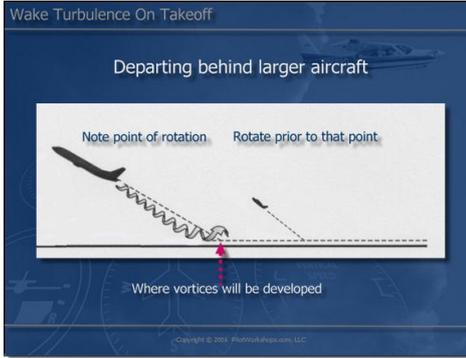
We need members to organise some social events and some flying adventures. Please contact Bret Cavanagh if you are able to organise an event (or two).

A Message from your Safety Officer

Wake Turbulence on Takeoff

Which wind condition requires maximum caution with regard to wake turbulence on takeoff?

- No wind
- Light crosswind
- Strong crosswind



Vortices tend to move outward from the aircraft. So if you are behind a departing aircraft, the vortex from the right wing will tend to move to the right. The vortex from the left wing will tend to move to the left in no wind conditions.

If we have a crosswind, the wind will tend to influence the movement of the vortices. A crosswind of about 3 knots will hold the upwind vortex pretty much in place at the runway where it was created, while the downwind vortex will rapidly move away from the runway.

Crosswinds greater than approximately 5 knots will tend to break up the vortices. So stronger crosswinds are good things, as far as vortices are concerned. At least the way we look at it, from our perspective; we want the vortices to begin to break up and decay. So light crosswinds require maximum caution, and I'm talking about a light crosswind of maybe 3 knots.

We need to note the point of rotation of the larger aircraft. That point of rotation is where the vortices will be developed. From that point on,



there will be vortices off the wings of that departing aircraft. So it's important that your rotation point occurs prior to the rotation point of the preceding aircraft, because we do not want to be rotating in the vortices of the preceding aircraft. We need to do that prior to reaching the preceding aircraft's point of rotation.

You need to climb upwind of the departing aircraft for the same reason we talked about relative to the crosswind's effect on the vortices. So if the crosswind will move the vortices to the left, our departure path should be to the right to avoid those vortices.

Dave Thomas

GUNDAROO - 27th March

As reported by Anne Goulding

After a shaky start weatherwise ten aeroplanes from Wedderburn landed at Dick Smith's Gundaroo property in brilliant sunshine. In all, over 50 aeroplanes flew in for the day.

The Wedderburn contingent included Vic Laybutt and Alice, Greg and Anne Goulding, Richard and Jackie Thompson and friend Doug, Lloyd and Dianne Shepherd, Jay and Ash-

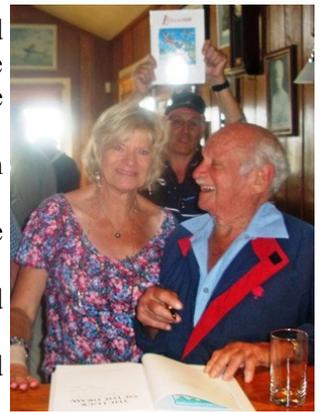


ley Laybutt, Dave Thomas, Ian Harvie, Doug Montague, Gary Malane, Rod Russell and Jim Booth.

Later in the afternoon we were treated to a talk by Edward (Ted) Sly DFC, MID, a 92 year old Air Force veteran of WW11 who had been flown from Ballina in Dick's "Citation". Ted, as sharp as a tack, reminisced about his flying experiences during the War and related many interesting and amusing anecdotes to the enthralled crowd of pilots.

Some of us were able to purchase Ted's book "The Luck of the Draw", a particularly

good read for those who are interested in life in Australia and the early 1900s and wartime flying and history.

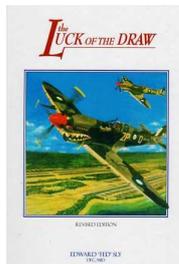


Above: Ted Sly autographing his book for Anne Goulding

All arrived back at Wedderburn safely, apart from those who continued flying south, taking part in the air rally that visited Point Cook, and which finished up at Echuca.

Anne Goulding

Thanks for the story, Anne . **Ed.**



QUEENSLAND OUTBACK SAFARI

Vic Laybutt is organising a 13 day outback fly-away tour of Queensland's more interesting destinations. All S.A.C. members are invited to participate. The basic plan is to depart Wedderburn on Sunday 28th August, returning Sat 10th September. The schedule is:

SUN 28 Aug WBN - NARROMINE - BOURKE - COMMEROO STATION (just south of QLD border).
1 night D/B/B accommodation on an operating sheep/camel station.

MON 29 Aug COMMEROO STATION - HUNGERFORD - NOCUNDRA HOTEL (morning tea) - DIG TREE - BIRDSVILLE (late lunch) then track BIRDSVILLE - BOULIA.

TUE 30 Aug BOULIA - MOUNT ISA - ADELS GROVE (in Lawn Hill National Park)

WED 31 Aug ADELS GROVE.

THU 01 Sep ADELS GROVE.

FRI 02 Sep ADELS GROVE - COBBOLD GORGE. Accommodation in self contained cabins.

SAT 03 Sep COBBOLD GORGE.

SUN 04 Sep COBBOLD GORGE - UNDARA LAVA TUBES. Accommodation in tents or antique railway cars.

MON 05 Sep UNDARA.

TUE 06 Sep UNDARA - INGHAM - TOWNSVILLE - BOWEN - AIRLIE BEACH.

WED 07 Sep AIRLIE BEACH - EMERALD - CARNARVAN GORGE.

THU 08 SEP CARNARVON GORGE.

FRI 09 SEP CARNARVON GORGE - ST. GEORGE - WALGET - BUNGLIE GULLEY (farm stay).

SAT 10 SEP BUNGLIE GULLEY - SCONE - WEDDERBURN.

There are plenty of fuel stops along the route, but more can be included if necessity warrants.

Accommodation will be your own responsibility. However, if you contact Vic on 9520 2958 or vic.l@optusnet.com.au, he will provide contact phone numbers of the applicable hotels etc.

As there are already four aircraft committed, and accommodation at some locations is limited, it is suggested that you get your accommodation requirements booked A.S.A.P.

Gordon "Indiana Jones" Steer, and the battle with the Red Belly Black

The picture at right was sent in by Garth Bartlett, along with the following message:

*"Hi David,
Please find attached a picture of Gordon and the Red Belly Black we found in my hangar last week. The snake was taken into the bush and let go.*

It was pretty feisty when Gordon was man-handling it, and never missed an opportunity to try and bite him.

Photo and story may be worthy of the Newsletter?

Regards. Garth"

It certainly is newsworthy Garth. Thanks for sending it in. **Ed**

Gordon and the very angry Red Belly Black Snake



Farewell to Randall Krebs

Randall Krebs was in the merchant navy, a merchant seaman, a ship's engineer. He was a pilot for over 25 years and joined our club nearly ten years ago.

In recent times he flew a Zenith ZZZ, but was in the process of building a Jodel, a variant known as the FDR 250 Monarch which is a design conceived by Frank Rogers.

On SAAA 'builders night' where the members visited his home at Dural there were always comments about the immaculate organisation of his workshop and equipment, and the outstanding quality of his workmanship.

Randall was a quite brilliant engineer, he relished a challenge and he never took the easy way out. He was meticulous with his attention to detail and he did not seek or need any recognition for his good deeds.

He had a delightful Australian sense of humour, and was generous with his time whilst giving others the benefit of his considerable engineering ability and expertise.

Randall contracted leukaemia last year, and initially responded well to the treatment to the point where it was believed that he was cured, but then some months later the disease returned so aggressively that he was unable to overcome it.

Our member, Peter Lightbown, wrote: "*Randall was a gentle soul with great inner strength, a calm and capable person who quietly did what needed to be done.*"

Randall was a model citizen of our aviation community, setting an example for all of us to follow. He was much loved, will be sorely missed and will never be forgotten.

Our prayers and thoughts reach out to Judy, Karl and his extended family.

David Rittie



Aircraft and Hangars For Sale

Kevin Haydon's impressive RV8, VH-KVI, is reluctantly for sale



110 hours, IFR category, Full glass panel, full featured A/P, every possible extra.
Oshkosh Silver Lindy award winner.
Call Kevin on 0408 694 713 for a full spec sheet and price.



Hangar S3 is for sale

15 x 15.5 metres, with a 3.6 x 15 council approved basic mezzanine and balcony

Roller door out to the road

\$90,000 or near offer

Contact Mel on 0417 065 574

Hangar for Sale

Almost new Hanger J9 is for sale.
13.5W x 9D

Price is reduced to \$50,000 for quick sale

Contact Bernie on 0414 375 795 for details.



Bob Peak's Hangar, B3, and other items are for sale



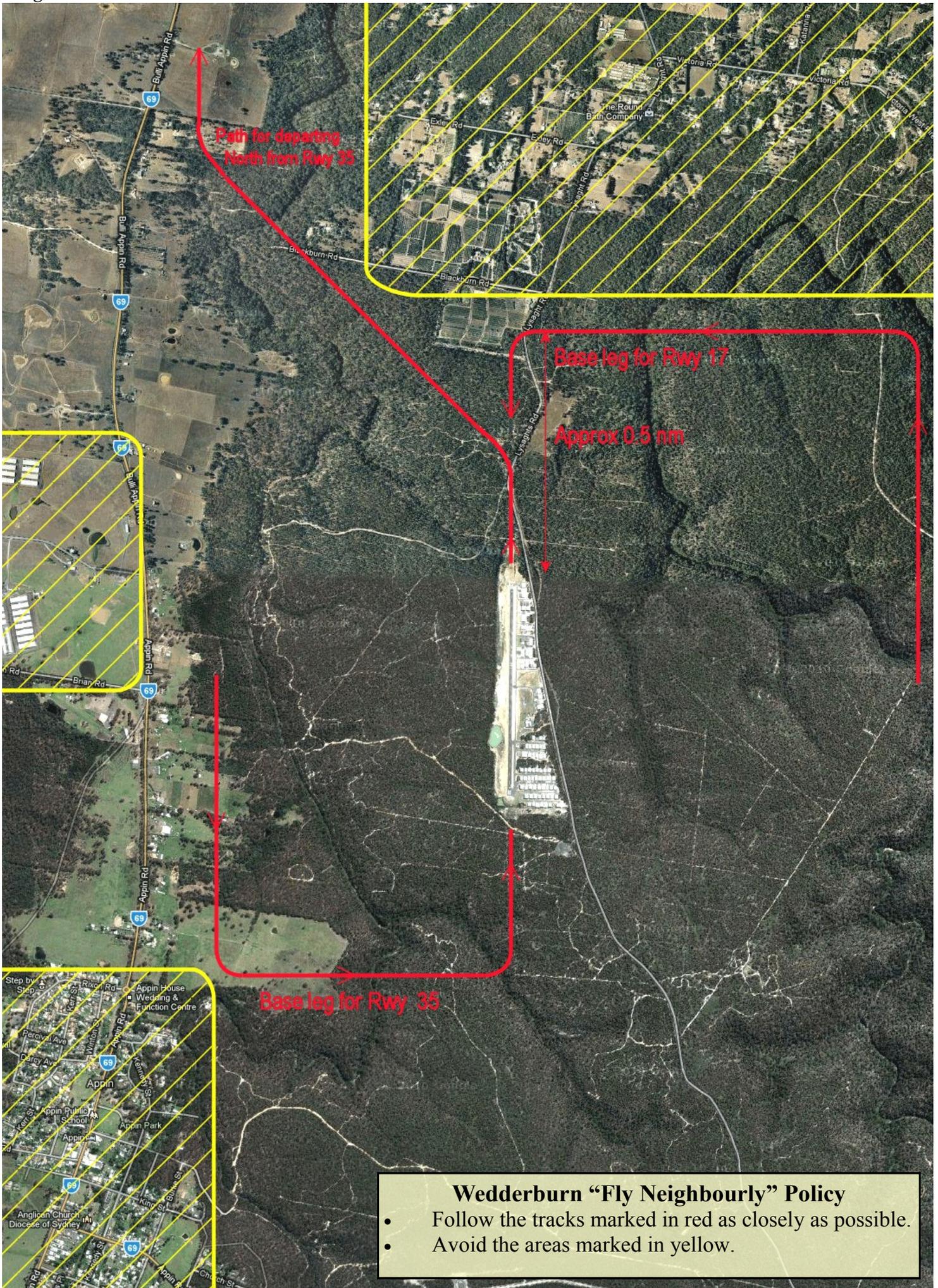
Bob Peak's hangar, car, caravan and generator are all for sale. Hangar is 12m x 9m with concrete floor, good doors and 4m tarred access to taxiway.

- Hangar B3, including Dexion shelving . . . \$50,000
- 1998 Toyota Camry, 3.3ltr, 120k, registered till June 2011 \$5,000
- 5m Caravan \$1,600
- 3.3kva Honda Genset \$1,000

For more information contact Bob Peak by phone on:

(02) 6973 1377

or by email: bobpeak@skymesh.com.au



Wedderburn “Fly Neighbourly” Policy

- Follow the tracks marked in red as closely as possible.
- Avoid the areas marked in yellow.