



The N.S.W. Sport Aircraft Club Newsletter

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2006

YWBN CTAF 122.55MHz
Area Frequency 124.55MHz
Latitude 34 11.2S
Longitude 150 48.3E

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NSW SAC members being briefed for the Camden Fly-past on Australia Day. Full story Page 7



Aircraft awaiting departure for Camden flypast



Sy checks out the weather conditions for the flypast in the Beaver

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

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

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From your Editor

Welcome to the February/March edition of your Newsletter. We hope you all had a good Christmas, and are all working hard to make 2006 an even better year than 2005!

For the first time ever, the printed edition of your Newsletter (that you have just received in the mail) has some coloured pages. (Good, you already noticed.) This has been made possible by the sponsored assistance of Matthew Gray. **Thanks Mate!**

The two Club events that have taken place since the last Newsletter are the End-of-Year Dinner and the Camden Flypast. There are some articles as well as many coloured pictures included here that capture



the spirit of these events. As usual you will also find all of the regular features and articles written by our usual contributors.

Don't miss the Annual General Meeting and election of office bearers on Sunday, March 12 at 2pm. You will find forms for the nomination of office bearers, and proxies on **Pages 14 and 15** of this issue.

Hope to see you all on the trip to China in October which is being organised by the Sinclairs. More details appear on **Page 12**.

You will find a handy, nice coloured Club Calendar included with this Newsletter, which was made possible through the efforts of Tara Stevermuer. **Thanks Tara.**

Just in case this is my last edition as Newsletter Editor, allow me to thank all those who have assisted with the production of this publication over the last two years, including those who have written articles, and also the snap-happy shutter-bugs (who wish to remain anonymous) who have contributed so many photos for you all to enjoy.

See you all at the AGM!

No headwinds

David Rittie

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

Words from the President

Greetings fellow fliers

The Club Year draws to a close with this, the last Newsletter before

the **Annual General Meeting**, to be held as usual on the second Sunday in **March, the 12th**. Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will find **nomination forms** for the Committee elections and proxy forms so that if you are unable to attend, you can give your instructions to a colleague. Be wary of giving your proxy to people who canvass you for it.

At a General Meeting last year, we had a small group

of 5 members effectively able to block resolutions to restore by-laws, despite a clear majority of those attending the General Meeting voting in the affirmative. If the proxy givers were indeed opposed to the by-laws, then this would be fine and democratic. But one was left with the impression that many of the proxy givers simply gave blanket authority to members of the pressure group without knowing what matters were going to be voted upon. So if you are giving your proxy to another member to vote in the election, make sure you advise him or her how you want your vote to be used with respect to the Com-

mittee election.

Better still, come to the General Meeting and make up your mind by listening to the candidates in person! Nominations for Committee positions close 7 days before the AGM (that is, on 5th March 2006) and the nominations will be placed on the members website soon afterwards.

Australia Day Fly over

A very pleasurable duty for me is to congratulate those who participated in the Australia Day flyover of Camden Showground. Sixteen pilots participated and you can read the details elsewhere in this Newsletter. On behalf of you all, I



COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Peter Scott (President)	9605 1180
Stan Nightingale (Secretary)	4634 1924
Ray Feneley (Treasurer)	0425380967
Margaret Adams	9567 6522
Ian Harvie	4572 1377
Vic Laybutt	0425380965
Margaret Nightingale	4634 1924
David Rittie	9387 7285
Lindsay Sinclair	0425380966
Caretaker	0425380964

must extend our thanks to Bret Cavanagh who did a thoroughly professional job of obtaining CASA approval for this event that involved over-flying a public gathering within an MBZ. His briefings for each pilot were meticulous and thorough. As a result all pilots understood exactly what was required of them and the flyover was executed as a flawless exhibition of airmanship. The pilots who participated can take satisfaction in a task well done. Bret has been a regular observer at committee Meetings throughout 2005 as one of five invited observers who expressed interest in working on the Committee. I extended these invitations because all of them had offered themselves for election in 2005. Bret has willingly accepted this and other assignments on your behalf.

Club Calendar

It is another pleasant duty as President to offer appreciation and thanks for hard work to Tara Stevemuer who has designed, edited and printed the 2006 Club calendar that you are receiving with this Newsletter. It is resplendent with colour photographs of SAC people, their aircraft and Club events. Pinned to your noticeboard it will provide you with a ready reference to the planned dates for Club functions in 2006. (Newsletters will carry confirmatory updates or amendments if required.) This initiative was Tara's idea entirely and she has been its champion in convincing the Committee, gathering the editorial copy and compiling it into a splendid publication. At my invitation, Tara too has been one of the regular invited observers at the Committee meetings. (The others are Bernie Stevemuer, Rick Harper and Matthew Gray.)

Fergie replacement

The Committee believes the Ferguson tractor with its slasher and bucket needs replacement with a more modern implement. Ian Harvie is our Machinery Coordinator and he suggests we should be looking to replace it with a 40 horsepower (or more) diesel tractor, preferably already equipped with a slasher and a front loading bucket. Suitable equipment may be available second-hand if one knows where to look and is on the spot at the right moment. That is why this item is placed in the Newsletter in the hope that some of you Club members will either know of a possible replacement or at least will keep your eyes open for a suitable machine. If you have some information, please call Ian Harvie on 9894 5955 in business hours.

Land Assessment

The Department of Lands has not yet completed a review of the submissions it received in response to the publication of the Draft Land Assessment for Wedderburn airfield. We were advised that a large number of submissions were received and the task of assessing each one and preparing an overall summary of the views of respondents is significant. When all the views have been considered, the Department of Lands will publish the final assessment of the capability and suitability of the site. Based on that assessment, a decision will be made on whether the land can be sold to the Club. If the decision is in the affirmative, a valuation will be obtained, or the sale put to public tender.

Your Committee will be staying in close consultation with the Department of Lands to press for the earliest possible publication of the final Assessment. Various submissions opposing the sale of the land to the

Club were lodged by a few Wedderburn residents. One can be seen at http://npamacarthur.com/Wedderburn_land_assess.htm

Accommodation at the Airfield

No Club member should be ignorant of the fact that the terms of the Club's Special Lease say no residence is allowed on the airfield except that occupied by the Caretakers. This limitation is also a requirement of the Wollondilly Land Zoning rules. Members who have overnight accommodation in their hangars were sent letters advising them that they must allow access for the building consultant retained by the Club to inspect, measure and draw plans for applications to be made to Wollondilly Shire Council. The consultant is working with the Committee to prepare those applications. This process will also require the consent of the Department of Lands.

Letters have been sent by the Committee to members whose use of their overnight accommodation is thought may exceed the intention of the lease to allow "quarters for overnight accommodation", so members could have an extended weekend at the airfield without having to seek a bed elsewhere. Any use for commercial purposes is also not allowed under the terms of the lease. These letters advise that use of overnight accommodation in a hangar as a residence would breach their Hangar License Agreement. Under the specific provisions of the Hangar License Agreement, the letters advise that acknowledgement of a notice of breach sent by the Club must be returned within 30 days of the notice being posted, and plans address the breach proposed, or the hangar license will terminate.

Any use of hangars contrary to the

Need some exotic plants? Why go to the big smoke, when you can choose from a big selection near the airfield, just around the corner in Blackburn Road at

HARLAND'S NURSERY

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

Special Lease, or the Wollondilly Land Zoning rules, carries a risk to the entire Club, so the Committee agreed that it was appropriate to invoke the termination clause of the Hangar License Agreement to ensure that any such risks are addressed promptly. The Hangar License Agreement specifies rectification of the breach within 30 days, but the Committee has determined that if acknowledgement is received within 30 days a longer period may be allowed, if necessary, for the member to transfer effects to another location.

Replacement Gate Keys

Almost a year ago you all paid a \$40.00 deposit for a replacement gate key. The proposal made to the Club by the Rural Fire Service was that our existing locks be replaced by RFS locks compatible with master keys held on every fire truck in the district. Your Committee formally agreed to this proposal, having negotiated with the officers of the RFS that they would have sufficient keys to their locks cut for each member of the Club to have one. We were advised that the order for the keys had been placed with the RFS lock contractor. Follow-up enquiries discovered that the officers of the Rural Fire Service who negotiated this arrangement had been transferred elsewhere and their successors were apparently unaware of it. More enquiries gained a further undertaking from these officers that the preparation of the keys would be pursued. So far this has not happened. I ask for your patience while we continue our efforts to have the agreement implemented. Should this prove not possible within reasonable further time, then of course deposits will be credited to members accounts.

Security and Vandalism

Vandalism continues to give your Committee concern. There have been frequent incidents where the hawser fence to the north of our northern gate is vandalized to allow

trail bikes and 4WD's to come and go. Letters have been written to the Local Police Area Command seeking assistance. We understand there is an intention by the police to increase the number of patrols through the area to intercept trespassers using vehicles on the Tharawal land.

The Caretakers have also had some concerns about people letting off fireworks, firearms, or other explosives in the vicinity of the airfield at night. At the very least these events pose a fire hazard and both the Police and the National Security Hotline have been advised in writing.

Hangar Developments

A subcommittee has been appointed to supervise the development of new hangar sites and the approval of hangar plans. Most of the effort is required for the new hangars being developed to the north of the Clubhouse. Recently a second development application was submitted to Wollondilly Shire Council for earthworks to install taxiways and storm-water drains. There are many decisions to be made in the implementation of these services and all plans for new hangars have to be approved on behalf of the Club Committee before they are submitted to the Department of Lands (for Landlord's consent) and to Wollondilly Shire Council for building approval.

The new subcommittee responsible for hangar developments is Bret Cavanagh, Matthew Gray, and Vic Laybutt. They will be in close liaison with Bob Sproule who contributes much of the earthmoving service where required.

Trophy Night

The venue at the Razorback Inn on December 10 was convivial and relaxed. Christmas cheer lubricated the enjoyable evening. The details of who won (again!) (need you even ask having seen the "Stop Dave" graffiti appearing around the airfield) can be read elsewhere, but as the representative of you members, I

need to highlight the success of our Fly-out coordinators, Lindsay and Maree in not only managing the formal awards ceremony, but even more importantly, organizing all those events that were enjoyed throughout the year where SAC members flew and socialized together, and were judged on their success in the tasks assigned by the energetic and enthusiastic Sinclairs. Thank you Lindsay and Maree. (Maree is another welcome invited observer/contributor to Committee meetings). Look for more great events in 2006 from the imaginations of Lindsay and Maree in this newsletter

And thanks too to Margaret Adams and the Ladies Auxiliary for organizing the venue and the menu, yet this was only the last of many functions brought to SAC members in 2005 by Margaret and the Ladies Auxiliary. More thanks for all those too.

The Sparkling Newsletter!

You cannot now be anything but impressed with the new colour format of the Newsletter unveiled with this issue. Our energetic editor, David Rittie has steadily introduced content and layout improvement over 2005 to provide a better organ of communication to you members. His latest innovation is a colour supplement, so not only the web-viewers see the full spectacle of photographs of members, machines and events. A lot of discussion at Committee about the value of a paper-based edition of the SAC Newsletter was based on research by our Editor (David) into ways to produce a cost-effective colour mail-out. Garth Bartlett assisted with a referral to an aviating printer who publishes the Cessna Owner's Newsletter. That proved not completely the same as our needs, but negotiations and fact-finding continue.

The Committee believes that there is a greater benefit in an attractive colour journal, despite the relatively

high cost. Not everybody is a regular web-reader, so at least some members will always require a paper version. And even if a proportion of members are agreeable to following up an e-mailed link to the Newsletter on the web-site, it is agreed that an attractively laid out colour Newsletter has many advantages because it achieves greater readership, often immediately the envelope arrives in the mail. Each edition also remains a reference for later review to confirm facts, figures or dates. So the policy is to assign financial resources to a colour Newsletter to improve its appeal because it is an important means to engage all members. Do

you agree? If so, let David know your appreciation of his efforts. If you think the current policy is off the mark, let the Committee know how you think communications can be improved.

'Til We Meet Again...

That, I hope will only be until the AGM at 2 pm on March 12. Your attendance is important. Big things are happening in your Club, and you need to be involved in, or at the very least aware of, what is planned for the Club that supports your aviating interests.

Please try to be there at the AGM so

you can hear the plans and decide who you want to represent you in 2006!

For the meantime, I quote another scribe who signs off with the admonishment to "*MAINTAIN AIR-SPEED*"! *If ya not flyin' folks, ya aint gonna have any to maintain!! So yers need to crank 'em lots! And stir them little air molly-cules into lifting your spirit.*

Happy aviating,

Peter the Pres'

Peter Scott

SAFETY NOTICE SAFETY NOTICE

There has been a noticeable improvement in the flying behaviour and attitude of our Club member pilots.

The radio manners have improved and there seems to be fewer beat-ups and performance demonstrations around our airfield (apart from one notable

recent exception).

However, there are still aircraft transiting from the southern end of Victor One through to Bankstown who are flying directly through our circuit.

I urge you all to keep up the good airmanship, keep a watch out for transiting

traffic, make yourselves fully aware of the new regulations regarding non-towered airfields, and encourage all other pilots to use correct procedures whenever the opportunity arises.

Maintain a good watching brief and be safe.



John Dall

Cliff van Praag on the mend after heart surgery

Cliff Van Praag is, at the moment, recovering from open heart surgery. The operation to replace a valve in his heart was carried out last week at the Prince of Wales Hospital in Randwick.

Due to the magnitude of the invasive operation he subsequently spent four days in the

Intensive Care Unit.

"The people in the I.C.U. are really wonderful" he said, but he declared himself insufficiently recovered to flirt with the nurses.

"Nothing could be further from my mind." he said.

Cliff expects to make an ap-

pearance back at the airfield in about two months provided the recovery goes according to plan.

Cliff is "heartened" by all the NSW SAC members who have wished him a speedy recovery.

David Rittie



FINANCIAL BALANCE SHEET

The Treasurer's Financial Balance Sheet, which formerly appeared on the back page of your newsletter, can now be viewed in the

MEMBERS' SECTION of our website: www.wedderburnairstrip.com.au

This change provides our Club members with continually updated financial information.

Ed

Hi Fellow Aviators

As this is the last newsletter before the Annual General Meeting it is a good time to reflect on the new members of our Club for 2005. This year we have admitted 14 new members. These members include social, full and associate, and represent steady growth for the Club as many of our older members, for one reason or another spend less time in the air and more time talking about their vivid memories of flying. I, once again welcome all members who have joined us in the past 12 months and sincerely hope you enjoy the opportunities and experiences this club has to offer.

I would like to warmly welcome Richard Macready from Glebe as our latest probationary member. I hope he enjoys a long and happy association with us.

As many of you know bushfires again threatened the area on New Year's Day. Fortunately this time the fire was a reasonable distance from the airfield to the south near Westcliff Colliery and was brought under control and then extinguished before it caused damage to people or property although many hectares of bushland were burnt and much of the habitat destroyed.

I would like to acknowledge the part played in the containment of the fire by

the volunteers of the Rural Fire Service from many different locations around the area including Wedderburn and Appin. Every year the Sport Aircraft Club makes a donation to the Wedderburn Rural Fire Service and we have done so again for 2005. We appreciate the effort they put into the community to make it safer for us all.

Appin Rural Fire Service is also active in this area and have been seen making routine patrols around the airfield. They would be our first line of defence should any fire take hold to the west of the airfield. The township of Appin is a close neighbour as is Wedderburn. At the last Committee meeting a few



members of the committee and some of the observers at the meeting made personal donations so that we could show our appreciation to Appin Rural Fire Service with a financial donation. If you would like to add to this donation please let me know by 14th February and I will add it to the money already received and forward it to them on behalf of individual members.

Happy buzzing about the sky.

Stan Nightingale

Workdays

The February Workday will be on Sunday, 26th February starting at 9.00a.m till 3.00 p.m. As it is usually hot in February you will need to bring a hat and some water or a drink of some kind for yourself even though the

ladies bring refreshments around to the workers. The Ladies Auxiliary will again provide a hearty lunch at a cost of \$5.00. Come to the Clubhouse and sign on and pay for your lunch and I will assign you a task to

complete.

At the moment the following tasks have been identified. If you have any suggestions to add to this list please let me know. The final task list will be published on the website the weekend before the workday.



Tasks:

- Erect the "add on" to the southern boundary fence.
- Clean out drain from taxiway JK to divert stormwater from washing away the bottom of taxiway LM.
- Remove club property from hangar site D6.
- Attend to the potholes in the roads within the airfield.
- Replace the fence between the carpark and the taxiway before the runway.
- Clean up the leaf litter around the airfield.
- Clean up undergrowth from the southern airfield gate to past the hangars in Row N.
- Clean up undergrowth and rubbish behind row E.

Service water tankers.

I look forward to seeing you on the workday for a great day's work, fun and the opportunity to make new friends and catch up with old ones.

Margaret Nightingale

Australia Day. It rolls around once a year, and what do most of us end up doing? Having a day off? Sleeping in? Being dragged to a family BBQ? Well, for 2006, 16 keen aviators and their self-loading ballast got together to make a solid contribution to some local community celebrations.

After the usual pre-flight shenanigans where we inevitably find little things we need to do to our fine aircraft, all the participating pilots attended the mandatory briefing in the clubhouse. Here they were handed a large pile of papers containing all sorts of information about the planned fly-past of the Camden Australia Day celebrations. Amongst these papers was CASA's version of what is required to fly over a public gathering, containing no less than 16 conditions to be met! Also in the bundle was the map showing where it was to happen, how high, how fast, by whom, and who to talk to.

After the briefing was our chance to perform. The ringmaster on the ground was young Dave Thomas, and he did a great job of marshalling all 16 of the aircraft onto runway 35 at the right time, confirming run-ups were all OK, and sending them on their way at the correct intervals. From now on this very simple and effective method should be known as the "DT start". Unfortunately the Aeronca wasn't able to fly, and that made Dave available. We couldn't have done it without him, (indeed we are already planning what part of LDT we will have to break in preparation for next year).

Red group consisted of the 4 slower



Blue Team rolling Runway 3 5

aircraft, who managed to stay pretty well all together in a group, cruising at 90kts. Red consisted of the Tomahawk, the Two Dogs (Beagle Airedale), a Skydart and an Auster. The Stinson had to pull out due to a U/S tail wheel.

White group were the 100kt cruisers, consisting of 2 Jabirus and the Grumman Tiger. As usual the Jabs just quietly did the job without any fuss.

Blue group were the speedsters, including a C210, a Robin which had been reassembled at short notice especially for the fly past (and then flown by a 57 year old grandmother!), the Cardinal, Mooney, RV9, Seneca, T18 and Nanchang. They tore along at 120kt (with the 'chang driver complaining about how slow he had to go!).

The 16 of us made our way around the planned track, and only had to make minor adjustments to keep the

required distance between groups. Red Leader managed to find the turning points OK, and not lead the other 15 aircraft too far astray. But now I know how the bomber crews, especially the Pathfinders, must have felt during the war. Do you know the sinking feeling in the pit of your stomach when you hope you are heading the right way but you can't quite see the target? Let me tell you that the relief you feel when the target appears is fantastic.

Well, how did it go in the end? All the aircraft that left Wedderburn were accounted for at the end of the day, altogether a good result. We managed to fly over the correct Camden Showground, at the correct time, and at the correct height. Again, a good result. The organisers of the Camden end of the festivities were beside themselves pleased, and could not thank us enough for putting it on. Mission accomplished. I fear that it went so well that they will ask us to do it again next year. If they do, let's try to make it a record, and get over 20 aircraft flying.

Red Leader

Our Thanks got to Bret Cavanagh for organising the event, and for a great story.

Ed



All awaiting the order to "Start your Engines"



Hi Everyone

Here we are already into the second month of the New Year and with the holiday season almost over it's time for us to get back to working hard for our wonderful club.

I was delighted to receive an invitation from Glenda George to attend, with other members from our Club, the 2005 "Order of Macarthur" awards being held at The Gledswood Winery, Catherine Field on Thursday 24th November. The Ladies of the Rural Fire Service (Glenda being a member of the Wedderburn Rural Fire Service for many years) were nominated along with many other worthy members of the various local Community Services to be present on this day, hosted by The Hon Pat Farmer, to be presented with Certificates by the one and only Alan Jones and a chance to win the main award. It was a most interesting day seeing these wonderful community helpers get together. Also, our friends from the Lions Club of Camden were there having been nominated for the award and we are aware how much they do for their community and wherever they are needed.



We were very pleased to join with Glenda and the other ladies in the celebration, and trust they continue their good work in the WRFS.

Our Christmas get-together and Trophy Presentation Night held on Saturday 3rd December was very successful. Our venue for this night was at the Razorback Inn, Picton, and 50 of our members certainly enjoyed the delicious 3 course dinner served to us in a lovely function room we had to ourselves. I congratulate our members for being so prompt in sending in the acceptance form and your cheques to attend, it makes life easier when booking for these special functions. To the owners Van and Nick together with Carmel it was a delight to work with them to make our evening a happy one for our Club members. Lindsay and Maree handed out many trophies to the worthy winners and they will have the full story in their section of the Newsletter Now the good news is I have tentatively booked "The Inn" for this year's get-together on Saturday 2nd December so please place this date in your diary

FLY-IN/DRIVE-IN BRUNCH SUNDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 10.00 A.M. - 2.00 P.M.

Yes, the first of our Fly-In/Drive-In Brunches for this year is only a few days away and we hope you receive your Newsletter in time to remind you all. Please come along and enjoy the company of your fellow members whilst partaking of the delicious breakfast your Ladies Auxiliary cook for you and remember it will only cost you \$6.00.

This year the Committee suggested we try something a little different by inviting a special Guest Speaker to address the assembled group at our Fly-In days. Bret Cavanagh has invited his flying instructor John Lyon to be our first guest of the new year to speak on Sunday 5th February and I'm sure John's talk will be most interesting. For the May Fly-In, Ron Lalor has agreed to speak about his exciting aviation life.

WORK DAY SUNDAY 26th FEBRUARY 9.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

Yes, our first Work Day of the New Year is just a few weeks away and we would like to see many more of our members come along to help with the many projects that are scheduled to be carried out. The Ladies will prepare an excellent lunch for all the workers and we would like you to register your name on arrival in the Clubhouse, and to help us with catering numbers please make sure you purchase a lunch ticket - cost is only \$5.00. Our Work-Day Co-ordinators Margaret N and Vic will have all the lists of jobs to be done waiting for you to choose from so we hope to see you on the 26th

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & GENERAL MEETING**SUNDAY 12TH MARCH 2006 AT 2.00 P.M. IN THE CLUBHOUSE**

This is a reminder to all members to attend this most important AGM where you have the opportunity to have your say and vote for the Committee you would like to work for you in 2006.

	<u>TRIVIA NIGHT</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>1ST APRIL</u>
<u>WHERE:</u>	<u>Clubhouse</u>	<u>Wedderburn</u>	
<u>TIME:</u>	<u>6. 00 p.m. For the Main Meal</u>		
	<u>7. 30 p.m. Trivia Questions will commence</u>		
<u>COST:</u>	<u>\$10.00 per Head</u>		
<u>MENU:</u>	Butt of Beef (Spit Roast) Jacket Potatoes (with Sour Cream) Sliced Ham Chicken Pieces Coleslaw Tossed Green Salad Bread Rolls BYO DRINKS		

The Ladies Auxiliary have once again had the local Caterers suggest a menu that will appeal to all and I'm sure everyone who attends this fun night will enjoy the selection of fine food.

Supper, served a little later in the evening, will be included in the cost.

This night will be hosted by Glenda George and Rick Harper and we are expecting to have members of the WRFS and other local residents come along to join in with our members so we will need for everyone to book tables of 8 or 10 as soon as possible.

Please contact me on 9 567 65 22 or Email me at mda@isp.net.au with your definite booking. Closing date for Trivia Night bookings will be MONDAY 27th MARCH so final numbers can be given to the Caterers.

Start brushing up on your general knowledge as our hosts are sure to ask some very interesting questions.

Please remember to **BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS.**

We will be having quite a busy year with many functions so it is important for all of our members to take a note of each of them so please read the **CALENDAR OF EVENTS** and check on the Website for the latest information.

Cheers

Margaret Adams

<u>DIARY DATES</u>	Sunday 5th FEB	Fly-in/Drive-in Brunch	10AM - 2PM
	Sunday 26th FEB	1st Workday for 2006	9AM - 3PM
	Sunday 12th MAR	AGM and GM	2PM

**EQUIPMENT
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2005 ANNUAL DINNER AND PRIZE GIVING

The 2005 Christmas Get-together/Annual Dinner and Prize-Giving event was held on 3rd of December last year at the Razorback Inn on the Old Hume Highway just north of Picton.

The nice three course meal was followed by the prize-giving ceremony where Club championship awards and other prizes were given to the vari-



TROPHIES WERE AWARDED AS FOLLOWS:

Runners up receiving a couple of bottles of wine each to Vic Laybutt and Bernie Stevermuer - both on 151 points.

3rd place and trophy went to Peter Scott with 160 points

2nd place and trophy went to Dave Thomas with 199 points

1st place and trophy, along with the Gordon Crampton Perpetual trophy went to Dave Rittie with 271 points

The challenge is out now - who can beat Dave Rittie in 2006?.

Also at our Presentation night and Christmas Dinner the following acknowledgements were given:

THE AVIATORS AWARD / TROPHY went to **Ron Lalor** the Club's No. 1 member. He has shown an integrity and airmanship second to none, and raised flying to a very high standard. He is truly an aviator.

Several other acknowledgements were handed out by way of bottles of wine to:

Greg & Ann Goulding for best individual club member money raisers - raising over \$1,000 with a raffle on Open Day and the funds going to Camp Quality.

Ray Feneley for the **Quite Achievers Acknowledgement** - who is behind the scenes slogging and toiling away for the good of the club.

Also acknowledgement to Bret Cavanagh, Matthew Gray, Bernie & Tara Stevermuer for attending during the year virtually all club committee meetings as observers and providing assistance where able.

And last but not least a **acknowledgement** to our **Caretakers, Mike and Sue McCormick** for their support and joining in the spirit of things.

A big thank you to everyone. Cheers and happy flying

Maree & Lindsay Sinclair

26/1/06 - AUSTRALIA DAY FLY PAST OVER CAMDEN NSW

A big thank you to Bret Cavanagh for his thorough organisation of the fly past over Camden, with dealing with CASA, Camden Council, as well as briefing our member pilots participating on the day. Dave Thomas provided a very important role dispatching and receiving the flyers - well done to you both. Also a great show by our mem-

ber pilots and friends/family supporting them.

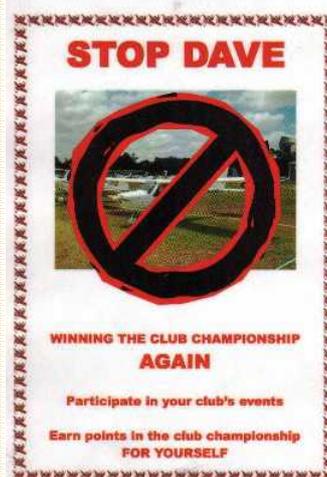
Points wise: the Pilots in Command (PiC) all receive attendance points which will go towards the end of year trophy. Club Member participants and PiC names will also go in the barrel for end of year prize. It was great to see Ann Goulding getting into the spirit of Australia day - patriotic from head to

toe. Well done Anne, wish we had thought of doing that. Remember, initiative and fun like that and going the extra yard in an event may result in you getting a extra chance in the barrel.

A great day to start what is going to be a great year of flying ahead for us all.

Cheers

Lindsay & Maree



STOP PRESS READ THIS STOP PRESS READ THIS STOP PRESS

Thought has been given to rewarding **all Club Member** participants who join in the social events and flying events. At the moment it is only the pilots who get a trophy for highest competition points earned.

To acknowledge all the club members who come along and cannot earn points and as a bit of incentive or bribery the following is being organised for 2006:

ATTENDANCE POINTS will be awarded for all pilots participating in flying events along with quiz points etc. as per previous years.

AS WELL, for all club members participating in flying events and social events your names will be recorded and put in a hat. The more events you participate in the more times your name goes into the hat and the more chance you have of winning the prize.

At the end of the year names will be drawn out of the hat to win 1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes. (1st prize will be something quite fun and worthwhile, say a lunch/dinner cruise on the harbour for two, or a luxury weekend in town with a show and accom) - just a tempter to get all members to participate in events. Remember the more times you join in events the more chances you have of winning a great prize.

UPCOMING 2006 FLYING EVENTS Put them in your diary

The following is what is happening in the next 6 months with a few extra new events added in. Full details are on the website and will be updated and added to along the way - so keep checking the website for the latest information.

We have included a flyer in with the newsletter this month, regarding the Gloucester trip, China trip, Mudgee/Gulgong long weekend trip and the Sydney Tarmac Tour trip - these all need bookings quite a bit in advance, so if you can complete the back of the flyer and return to us ASAP, (Gloucester deadline is the 10th February), it would be most appreciated and help us greatly in organising these events.

SUNDAY, 12 FEB.

MORUYA - 1 DAY TRIP

Will organise a mini bus and have a picnic on the beach. BYO. **Please let us know as soon as possible if you wish to join in.**

SUNDAY, 19 FEB.

TYABB AIR SHOW - for general information - not a club event.

The Peninsula Aero Club is hosting the Tyabb Air Show. Located on the Mornington Peninsula, Tyabb is home to one of the most diverse collections of warbirds and antique aircraft in the Southern Hemisphere.

SATURDAY, 25 FEB

WOLLONGONG FLY-IN is the inaugural "Wings over Wollongong"

This club event is in conjunction with the SAAA. There are many activities - for both aviation and non aviation interested people. Also, we would really appreciate an indication of how many people from SAC are thinking of coming, so phone Lindsay or Maree 0425 380966 or 4626 4959 or send us an e-mail redstars@bigpond.com.au advising your "intention to attend" and approximately how many people you are bringing - it would be *most appreciated*.

Visiting aircraft parking will be on the hardstand south east of the HARS hangar, clear of the 26 taxi way. This is the hard stand area between the HARS building site and runway 26. After parking, crew will be escorted to the Terminal building through the HARS construction site for Hangar 2

18-19 MARCH

GLOUCESTER - 2 DAY TRIP - see separate insert in this month's

newsletter and please reply.

To cater for all club members, (especially the non flyers, social, associate members) we are looking to hire a coach and drive from WBN to Gloucester. Pick up the flyers and then have a look about. There are museums, gallery, art centre, lavender farm and llama farm, herb farm, goat cheese place. Heritage town walk - 45 minutes - historic buildings and a Gold mining town nearby at Copeland village - so plenty to see around the place. Check out the website for itinerary. **We need to have a response from you no later than 10 February** so we can organise a coach and confirm accommodation.

SATURDAY, 22 APRIL

MUDGEE AIR SHOW - for general information - not a club event.

It is a Wings, Wheels and Wine show - sounds pretty good so go visit and enjoy a great show.

SUNDAY, 7 MAY

GOULBURN - 1 DAY TRIP

Hire a bus for a look about and lunch at the pub. Quite a bit to see and do - Hume Dairy a private house open for inspection, the Brewery Hotel, courthouse, craft village, Rail steam museum, waterworks museum, Waterworks Museum - once a month it is in operation.

SUNDAY, 28 MAY

VICTOR ONE

About mid morning (weather dependent) we will fly up the light aircraft lane to Brooklyn Bridge and then commence Victor One down the coast to approx. Bulli and then cut back in to WBN.

Still to be determined but we are endeavouring to have a late lunch - perhaps a Camp Oven feast complete with camp fire at the Club House. Details to be further advised along with the cost. **We will need to know who is interested in the tucker** so catering can be organised.

10-11-12 JUNE (LONG WEEKEND)

MUDGEE & GULGONG - 3 DAY TRIP

Hire a mini bus to check out some wineries and do a bit of sampling. Also a visit to Gulgong - historical buildings and old gold mining town. We may involve the DC 3 in this trip as well. Need to know who is interested in the DC3 flight as bookings are essential. The sooner the better.

Alternatively, depending on the success of the coach hire for the Gloucester trip, we may look at doing a coach trip up there.

SUNDAY, 2 JULY

SYDNEY AIRPORT TARMAC TOUR - half day

Group booking - costs approx. \$25 - \$27 per person and includes morning or afternoon tea. Lunch is optional for approx. \$14-16 p.p. at the Eskybar.

You get to watch jet aircraft take off and land from a vantage point within the airport, listen to pilots communicate with the tower, see various activities behind the scenes, see the massive jet hangars, close up view of aircraft from all over the world, travel along the runways out into Botany Bay. Tours take approx. 90 minutes. Free car parking is available. Final details will be advised once booking is made.

We need to book this as early as possible to get the group booking for the date. These tours are very popular. **Let us know if you are interested. Max number per tour is 40, so get in quick.**

THE CHINA TRIP is now on in **OCTOBER** as we have been told this will be a better time to visit and will be on during NSW school holidays. See the flyer included in this edition.

Departure Date is **MONDAY, 2 October** and returning 11 October 2006. It is a 10 day trip. Price is \$2,400 per person plus taxes of \$280 (providing we have 15 people booked).

Itinerary, and all the details are on the website. **THE TRIP WILL BE HAPPENING** - We have some 15-20 members who have indicated interest. Now we need definite responses if you are going. Please let us know as soon as possible - deadline is 28 February 2006 for responses. ***For the members who have already advised interest could you still complete the flyer and return it.***

SUNDAY, 19 NOVEMBER

ALBION PARK

Fly down in the morning for a leisurely brunch or lunch at the Airport Cafe. Non flyers/pilots are welcome to drive down and join in the fun.

Cheers and happy flying

Lindsay & Maree

The Bert Rutan designed DEFIANT, which was built at Wedderburn, defied gravity for the first time as it roared into the air from Cowra Airport on Sunday, January 22nd at 11 a.m.

The Defiant, VH - DFY (think about it) is a canard wing design which utilises two engines - one in front and one in back.

Dr. Jock and his son, Ian Anderson started construction nine years ago. "For the first two years we were only getting started," reports Jock, "but there has been intensive work being undertaken for the last seven years."



craft flew perfectly, and the airspeed easily exceeded 150 knots on the downwind leg using less than cruise power.

When asked "Whatever possessed you to take on such an enormous task?" Ian suggested that they were "a little drunk" at the time.

"Building and flight testing your own aircraft is the male equivalent of a female giving birth, but without the pain." quipped Jock.

The members of the NSW SAC congratulate Jock and Ian on the successful completion and test flight of such an interesting and unique aircraft.

David Rittie



Jock climbs aboard to carry out the final engine run on the day before the test flight.

As would be expected with a project such as this there were many hurdles to jump, especially near the end of the construction. Such things as low rear engine RPM and apparent lack of canard lift during the take-off roll had to be resolved.

On the Sunday morning of the test flight Jock had intended only to check if he could raise the nose wheel off the ground. The nose wheel lifted off after approx 750 metres of take-off roll, and the moment that happened the aircraft unexpectedly simply took to the air. The air-



Ian seems to be giving his father, Jock, the "thumbs up" after final inspection of the forward engine



Ready to roll. "Lets go-o-o-o!"



**N.S.W SPORT AIRCRAFT CLUB INC.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – SUNDAY 12 MARCH 2006**

NOMINATION FOR ELECTION

**POSITIONS: PRESIDENT – SECRETARY – TREASURER
6 COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

I, SAC M/ship No.

of (address)

hereby nominate SAC M/ship No.

of

for the position of

Signature of Nominator Date / /

Nomination seconded by (name) SAC M/ship No.

(signature) Date / /

Nominee's consent (signature)

(signature) Date / /

Nominations should be sent to:

THE RETURNING OFFICER
MR NOEL CARMODY
27 CHARLTON AVE
TURRAMURRA NSW 2074

Nominations must be lodged by 2.00 p.m. Sunday 5th March. Noel or a nominated deputy will be stationed in the Clubhouse between 12.00 and 2.00 p.m. on Sunday 5th March to accept last minute nominations. Please note that the nominee, proposer and seconder must be full financial members of the Club.

AIRBORNE AVIATION

is Australia's first Cessna Pilot Centre

- We offer professional pilot training, aircraft hire, joy flights, charter flights, and more.
- We hope you will find all the information you require on our website:

www.airborne-aviation.com.au/



HANGAR C4 is FOR SALE

Hangar C4 is for sale as I have sold my Yak 52

- Good condition with easy to operate concertina doors and high opening height
- New PVC water tank, wired for 240volt power and fluoro lights
- New heavy duty 7 KVA generator (cost \$2300 & has run for less than 2 hours).
- Good floor.
- Lots of benches and cupboard space.
- Ready to occupy now.

Call Bob on 0427 977 127





**N.S.W SPORT AIRCRAFT CLUB INC.
PROXY FORM**

I,
of
being a member of the N.S.W. Sport Aircraft Club Inc. Membership No.
hereby appoint of

as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, to be held on the 12th day of March 2006 and at any adjournment thereof.

My proxy is hereby authorised to vote *in favour of/*against the following resolutions: -

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Signed this day of 2006

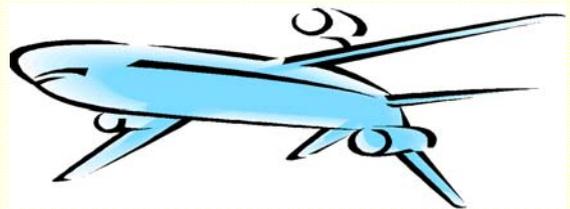
Note 1. In the event of the member desiring to vote for or against any resolution they shall instruct their proxy accordingly. Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy may vote as they think fit.

* Strike out whichever is not desired, or put instruction alongside each resolution.



**Bernie's beaut
Cessna 207**

UPSIDE DOWN AIRSPACE?



Why do we have upside down airspace at places like Proserpine, with Class C in the low risk 'link' airspace above, and Class G in the higher collision risk airspace below?

The answer is self-interest, a lack of leadership and resistance to change.

It is imperative that every pilot and air passenger comes up to speed on this issue and gets involved in resolving the problems.

For a complete copy of the presentation see Dick Smith Flyer under the heading of 'Unsafe Skies' or phone, email or write for the free colour book.

PO Box 418

Terrey Hills NSW 2084

Ph: 0429 134 726

Email: contact@dicksmithflyer.com.au

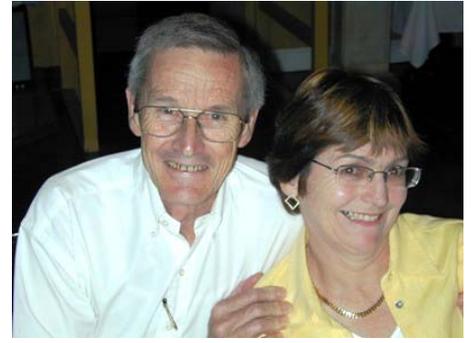
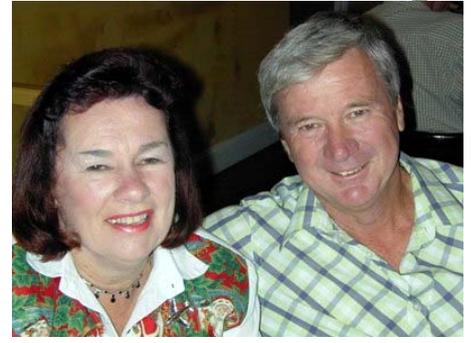
See www.dicksmithflyer.com.au



Some of the attendees of the Annual Dinner and Awards Night last December.
More details in "Wings Away"
Page 10



The Competition Organisers



Pat Lalor congratulates Ron for achieving the "Aviator of the Year" award



Peter Gibson is pictured here recently during an Angel Flight mission to Mallacoota



Above: Glenda George is congratulated at a recent ceremony by the NSW SAC President (Peter Scott), for being nominated for the Macarthur Award, for voluntary services rendered to the Wedderburn Rural Fire Service.

Well done Glenda . Ed

