

Out of the Blue

Waikerie Gliding Club Newsletter

JUNE 2008

Notices

1. Working Bee

Saturday and Sunday 5th & 6th July 08
Waikerie Gliding Club - Lots of odd Jobs and Painting to do - Bring tools and Brushes/Paint rollers. We need your help.

2. Polo Shirts

A range of new **POLO SHIRTS**, which feature the Club name, "*Waikerie Gliding Club*" embroidered above the breast pocket, are now available.

The short sleeved POLO SHIRTS come in a small range of colours and various sizes (S, M, L, XL, XXL), at a cost of \$26.00 each. They are available in the Office.

3. Gliding Federation Annual General Meeting

We are fortunate the Gliding Federation of Australia AGM/ABN is being held in Adelaide this year over the weekend of the 6th & 7th September 2008

The Saturday meeting will include seminars and guest speakers, followed by a dinner and award presentations. Previous sessions in Melbourne and Queensland have been excellent. All welcome.

4. Everything Aeronautical

The Club plans to host a "Fly-in" to Waikerie on the weekend of Saturday 25th and 26th October 2008. This event will coincide with the annual Sport Aircraft Club Fly-in.

All groups with an interest "off the ground" are being invited to Waikerie for the day - or the weekend - aeromodellers, parachutists, balloonists, ultra-lights, warbirds, antiques, rotor-craft, glider pilots - everyone is welcome.

A program is being developed to ensure an action packed and interesting day.

It is planned to host a dinner on Saturday evening - with a comprehensive aviation quiz covering all of the "disciplines" present.

The club is planned to host a similar weekend on an annual basis - the last weekend in October each year. Suggest you put the above date in your Diary or miss out on a great weekend.

5. Airfield

Tug pilots have been asked, and will be continually reminded, to only provide a launch from the centre of the pads.

Caltrop keep an eye out for it especially as we have had rain and could get a warm spell at anytime. *Remove any plants from the airfield and collect and place in a bin as many of the spike seed pods as possible. We have acquired a tractor operated spray system and will need some volunteers to operate and spray this noxious weed over the coming months.*

'OUT OF THE BLUE'

SEND YOU'RE NEWS ARTICLES, ITEMS OF INTEREST OR ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE TOPICS TO:

gjack@tpg.com.au

DIARY DATES

Annual General Meeting	Sat 23 rd May 2009 (1600)
Next Committee Meeting	Friday 18 th July 2008
Member's Flying Days	Saturday 19 th Sun 20 th July
Public Hol's L/Weekends	Check WGC web page

Operations

Committee Meetings and Members Flying Schedule, 2008

Members Flying Days Comment/Discussion/Topic
Check our weekend calendar on the web to ensure a crew is available. Latest update as at the 21th June 08 included in this addition of Out of the Blue I have included the calendar because we have some gaps and positions need to be filled.

05.06.08 – 06.06.08	WORKING BEE
18.07.08	Committee Meeting
19.07.08 - 20.07.08	Flying Days
Proposed Committee meeting in Adelaide TBA	
16.08.08 -	Flying Day
26.09.08	Committee Meeting
27.09.08 - 28.09.08	Flying Days

Annual General Meeting

The Club's Annual General Meeting on Saturday 24th May 2008 was a successful event with many members taking the opportunity to once again catch-up with old friends.

Weather was cycling with some good flights in the Duo and Peter Robinson again having one of the longest flights of the day. Robo regularly does his on our AGM days taking an earlier launch and staying up for hours. Other members experiencing the joy of a perfectly planned circuit. Almost a normal flying day, with the new time of 1600 Hrs for the AGM allowing plenty of bar chat time before a terrific dinner served around 18:30 by Jean and John Hudson.

Highlights from the President's Report included,

- No serious accidents during the reporting period.
- Some minor incidents, highlighting the need for ongoing personal discipline by Pilot's.
- Recognition of the efforts of the band of Volunteers.
- Ongoing review of the Club's cost structures.
- Sale and purchase of sailplanes and Fleet upgrade.
- Facilities Lease negotiations.

Committee Elections

Consistent with the Club Constitution, the Executive Committee vacate Office and three Committee

Members retire, requiring an election to be conducted. Club Life-member Moss Potter was called upon to conduct the election, with the following results,

Position	Nominations	Elected
President	John Hudson, David Lawley (Declined)	John Hudson
V/President	Peter Robinson	Peter Robinson
Secretary	Phill Hollick	Phill Hollick
Treasurer	Craig Vinall	Craig Vinall
Committee	Allen Hudson Peter Page Aiden Baker	Allen Hudson Peter Page Aiden Baker
	Second term	Greg Jackson Peter Paine

Hull insurance has been removed from the Club glider fleet. The saved funds will be set aside in the Club's books as a "*Self Insurance Fund*".

We continue the series:

Describing how many of our past club members remember Waikerie.

Romilly Barrett

Romilly joined the Waikerie Gliding Club on 1st July, 1949 at the age of 22, and maintained membership until the end of June, 1964. Learning to fly in the Slingsby T35, he had around 30 flights off winch launches to solo, which he did on 15th July, 1952, with a flight of 6 minutes duration.

Rom's experience in Club gliders included:

Slingsby T35
Grunau Baby IV
H17
Pelican
Kite II
ES57 Kingfisher
Olympia H
BG12 A
ES52 Kookaburra
KA6
Cherokee

He recalled his two "best" flights in a WGC glider were flights for Gold C attempts. The first attempt was in the Olympia "Yellow Witch" in November 1956, from Waikerie to Truro, Karoonda and back to Waikerie. He landed 6 km short of Waikerie, having flown for 8 hours and 15 minutes – which became his longest duration flight.

He attempted another flight around the same triangle in December 1956, completing the flight in 7 hours and 45 minutes.

Rom achieved his Silver C and Gold C badges with 2 diamonds.

His most treasured memory of gliding with WGC was during a Gold C attempt, while thermalling above Mildura in a forming "Cu Nim", entered cloud with ice forming on the wings. Deciding that it was not prudent to be there without oxygen, airbrakes were deployed and at a speed of 90 knots – and freezing - the glider continued to climb at 20 feet/second. He was glad to eventually get back on the ground – landing safely at Mildura.

Rom recalled his "first" memory of gliding at Waikerie was as a 7 year old, on a hot and clear day in mid December, 1944. This memory was of Ken Reibe (1909 - 1944), who after being launched by auto-tow in the Kite I, contacted lift and climbed to a great height to the north of the "drome".

Concern was eventually felt for his safety as he disappeared in the blue. When he did not return to the aerodrome before last light, a land and air search was commenced the next day. Local farmers on the north side of the river were contacted to help search for the missing pilot and glider. The air search was unsuccessful.

The wreckage was finally located by a farmer approximately 15 miles into the scrub north of the 'drome. The pilot, still strapped into the machine was deceased. The farmer lit a fire to indicate the location of the wreckage, however the fire got out-of-control and burnt the wreckage – all that remained were the metal fittings and control wires. Ken Reibe, a local fruit-grower was buried in Waikerie cemetery.

Romilly Barratt. (2007)

Christopher Barrett

Christopher joined the Waikerie Gliding Club in 1951 as an 11 year old boy, and maintained membership until 1960. He learnt to fly in the Austral glider, completing around 80 flights to solo, which occurred in 1954. His first solo flight lasted 5 minutes off a winch tow.

Christopher flew the following Club gliders,
 1954 - Austral
 1955 - Grunau Baby1V,
 1959 -Yellow Witch – Olympia
 80's & 90's – Pelican.

Christopher has treasured memories of beginning aerobatics in the Grunau glider.

He considers his "best" flight being a cross-country flight in the Grunau from Waikerie to Loxton – in 4 hours 35 minutes. This flight was also his longest duration flight.

Christopher Barratt
 2007.

List of Items the Committee will achieve with your help over the next year or two -

1. **Painting** External Woodwork, all facilities. Purchase Paint & Consumables. Dorms, Bathrooms, Toilets, Accommodation, Members Kitchen, Clubrooms Main Kitchen Main Hanger, Rust Proof and repaint Igloo
2. **Office Computer** Upgrade
3. **Clubrooms** Airconditioning Units (Overhaul or replacement) (Refrigerated ?) Floor Coverings. Main Laundry, Hot water heater/s – replacement fund.
4. **Briefing Room** Paint, Replace Window Frames
5. **Members Kitchen** Airconditioning - Replacement Replace BBQ. Paint. Laundry, Paint Hot Water Heater, replacement fund.
6. **Pad Irrigation** New Hoses, New Sprinklers. Rework undershoot areas, Rwy 26 & 08, 20

Clubhouse Irrigation Review Lawned Area/Irrigation, Additional Pop-up Sprinklers
7. **Tractor** On going work
8. **Club Fleet.** AS K21 Trailer, Discus, LS-4, LS-7 Canopy Covers All sailplanes Microphone replacements, All gliders
9. **Caravan Park** Power Supply Upgrade, Rationalisation.
10. **Main Kitchen** Refrigerated Airconditioning.
11. **Avgas Facilities** Replace tank with above ground tank. Replace Fuel Bowser.
12. **Club Signs** Delete reference to WISC. Update all signage.

"Everything Aeronautical"

Hosted by *Waikerie Gliding Club.*



***Waikerie Aerodrome, Saturday October 25th,
Sunday October 26th, 2008***

Put this annual event into your Calendar – the last weekend in October

Everyone with an interest in things "Aeronautical" – from kites, aeromodelers & model rockets, balloons, hang-gliders and sailplanes to sport aircraft, micro-lights homebuilts, antiques, vintage, warbirds, gyro-copters, and parachutists to rocketists - everyone is welcome to come to Waikerie.

Come for the day – Saturday 25th October 2008 - or the weekend.

**Meet and talk to people with similar interests,
Pilots, builders, owners, maintainers, restorers, suppliers,
See a wide variety of "flying machines".**

See the AS-W20 Tri-jet glider

**Try your hand in a "Maggot Race" around a (short) defined route to identify objects etc while carrying a data logger (will be provided), to be downloaded for all to see.
Practice your aviation knowledge in the "Aviation Quiz" after Dinner on Saturday evening.**

**Plenty of aircraft parking, good tie-down facilities
Light snacks and refreshments available during the day**

Dinner on Saturday evening for those who wish to stay (Bookings essential) – complete with an "Aviation Quiz".

**For further details, information, phone John Hudson
08 82725929**

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Phone (08) 8541 2644

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Website: www.waikerieglidingclub.com.au

"When once you have tasted flight, you will always walk with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been and there you will always be" Leonardo da Vinci

WAIKERIE GLIDING CLUB

Regularly updated
Weekend flight crew roster from Web page
<http://www.waikerieglidingclub.com.au/roster/>

Proposed Flying Dates	Instructor	Tow Pilot	Special Activities
Sat 5 July 2008	--		Working Bee
Sun 6 July	--	--	Working Bee
Sat 19 July	Bill Mudge	--	Committee meeting Fri 18/7/08
Sun 20 July	--	Greg Jackson	Flying weekend
Sat 2 August	--	--	
Sun 3 August	--	--	
Sat 16 August	Bill Mudge	--	
Sun 17 August	--	--	
Sat 30 August	--	--	
Sun 31 August	--	--	
Sat 13 September	--	--	
Sun 14 September	--	--	
Sat 27 September	Bill Mudge	--	Committee meeting Fri 26/9/08
Sun 28 September	--	Greg Jackson	Flying weekend
Sat 11 October	--	--	
Sun 12 October	--	--	
Sat 25 October	Bill Mudge	--	Sport Aircraft <u>"Everything Aeronautical" fly-in</u>
Sun 26 October	--	Greg Jackson	
Sat 8 November	--	--	Committee meeting Fri 7/11/08 Flight Crew

			meeting Sat morning
Sun 9 November	--	Greg Jackson	Flying weekend
Sat 22 November	Bill Mudge	--	
Sun 23 November	--	--	
Sat 6 December	--	--	Flying weekend
Sun 7 December	--	Greg Jackson	
Sat 20 December	Bill Mudge	--	Committee meeting Fri 19/12/08
Sun 21 December	--	--	Flying weekend
Fri 26 December	--	--	Fulltime Ops, Japanese Members
Sat 27 December	--	--	Fulltime Ops, Japanese Members
Sun 28 December	--	--	Maurie Bradney Week, Coaching Week
Mon 29 December	--	--	Maurie Bradney Week, Coaching Week
Tue 30 December	--	--	Maurie Bradney Week, Coaching Week
Wed 31 December 2008	--	--	Maurie Bradney Week, Coaching Week
Thu 1 January 2009	--	--	Maurie Bradney Week, Coaching Week
Fri 2 January 2009	--	Greg Jackson	Maurie Bradney Week, Coaching Week
Sat 3 January 2009	--	--	Maurie Bradney Week, Coaching Week SA State Comps Non-compulsory Practice Day Aussie Night

Sun 4 January 2009	--	--	SA State Comps
Mon 5 January	--	--	SA State Comps
Tue 6 January	--	--	SA State Comps
Wed 7 January	--	--	SA State Comps
Thu 8 January	--	--	SA State Comps
Fri 9 January	--	--	SA State Comps
Sat 10 January	--	--	SA State Comps, Presentation Dinner
Sun 11 January	--	--	Cleanup Day
Sat 24 January	--	--	Long weekend
Sun 25 January	--	--	Check Web Calendar