



The N.S.W. Sport Aircraft Club Newsletter

DECEMBER 2005 - JANUARY 2006

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

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Contact your Newsletter Editor
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Visit our website:- www.wedderburnairstrip.com.au

From your Editor

Welcome to the December/January issue of your Newsletter.

Well! What can we say about the OPEN DAY? It was just terrific wasn't it?. It was described by Peter Hodgins as "The best yet". It was clearly the biggest event on our calendar, and there are many references to it in this issue of your Newsletter, with lots of pickies to capture the spirit of the day.

Once again we are thankful to all who helped to make the Open Day happen along with those who sponsored the event, but surely the big-



gest accolade must go to Maree and Lindsay Sinclair for the vision, the preparation, the organisation and the huge drive that they exhibited in staging the whole affair.

Thank you both

There is a "notice of motion" on **Page 7** which you should read and

Page 2

be ready to vote upon at the next General Meeting in December.

As usual you will find all of the regular features and articles written by our usual contributors. We hope you enjoy this issue, and

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

David Rittie

Pssst . . Check out **Page 11**. There's a proposed trip to China **WOW!**

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

Words from the President



The calendar year draws to a close and it is time to reflect on the year past, even though the Club business year runs from March to March. As this will be the last Newsletter before the Christmas/New Year holiday period, I extend on behalf of the Committee best wishes to all members for a relaxing time during the festive season.

As spokesman of the general membership, it is also appropriate that I document on your behalf appreciation to the Committee who have worked diligently and often for long hours in the interest of your Club. My task as President has been greatly aided by the willing contributions of my Committee colleagues.

Committee Contributions

Each addressed particular aspects of the Club's administration and their management of each "portfolio"

made the Club's administration run smoothly as the responsibilities were shared. Stan Nightingale has attended to club correspondence and filing (with Margaret's help) so that our administrative affairs are in order and on record. Ray Feneley, as Treasurer, has delivered understandable and predictable financial outcomes with his usual practical application of our accounting software. He can distil the mass of figures into summaries intelligible even to the financially compromised (like me!). Lindsay Sinclair has managed the Club's social expeditions (with detailed input from Maree), so there have been many good occasions for members to join together in flying exploits. Lindsay has generously lent his time and innovative management ideas to maintenance and several renovation projects. Workdays have run smoothly and effectively under Margaret Nightingale's direction. Margaret also dedicates a lot of effort to preparation of Committee and General Meeting Minutes, no small imposition on her time, but an essential part of the Club's administration. Margaret Adams maintains her indefatigable enthusiasm for organizing the support for Club functions by the Ladies' Auxiliary. Without the input of this organization, most of our at home functions would be the poorer, both socially and gas-

tronomically! Vic Laybutt has been his usual dynamo-self in 2005, pursuing maintenance and development items for the Club facilities all over the airfield. In this he has been supported by Ian Harvey whose expertise and ever-willing donation of his time has ensured our machinery has been kept in operating order. Vic also gives a lot of thought to keeping our Rules (that are effectively our constitution) up to date and set out to best serve the body corporate. In case you do not recall, the Newsletter and Website communication tools so conspicuously successful in upgrading information for members during 2005 have been managed by David Rittie. He has brought flair and innovation to complement the plain hard work that is required in getting information into print for you to read.

That is a thumbnail sketch in appreciation of the efforts of the elected Committee members, but there are many other helpers whose efforts have made the year a productive one. The Committee has co-opted the services of Bret Cavanagh, Bernie and Tara Stevemuer, Rick Harper and Matthew Gray to help with Club administration throughout the year. John Dall has been a thoughtful advisor as Safety officer and Jay Laybutt (who is not a mem-

ber) spent much voluntary time as the expert Webmaster. One look at our Club's website: www.wedderburnairstrip.com.au and his skills are apparent. Thank you one and all.

The Open Day

Another great Open Day is behind us. There is much description and pictorial record in this Newsletter and I commend to you a visit to the website where you can see the pictures in striking colour and detail. If you were at Wedderburn on the day you will enjoy seeing the record of a great exposition of the Club's interests, amidst the most perfect weather conditions. As usual, the major credit (amongst a throng of willing workers) goes to Maree Sinclair and Lindsay, whose vision and hard work were the driving forces that made it such a successful day (again!).

Fisher's Ghost Flypast

Eleven aircraft took part in the regular flyover of the Campbelltown Fisher's Ghost Parade. The aerial manoeuvres this year were completed smooth as silk thanks to the organisational pre-work by Dave Thomas and some good airmanship on the part of all participants. Be aware that we have been asked to do *another flyover* at Camden for *Australia Day* celebrations and if you are able to bring your aircraft on the day, please contact Bret Cavanagh at bret@cavanagh.id.au, or telephone 0407 344 795.

Land Assessment

After an extension of two weeks to the public comment period (at the request of the Wedderburn Community Association) the Draft Land Assessment is back with the Department of Lands for consideration of all submissions prior to the issuing

of a final assessment. This will establish whether or not the land presently used leasehold by the Club is able to be sold by the Crown. This determination needed to be made before the Club's application to purchase the land could be decided.

During the public assessment period, the Wedderburn Community Association called a public meeting of Wedderburn residents at the old school. Several members of your Committee attended and the meeting afforded us a fair opportunity to present our case that the purchase of the land does not pose any risk to the peaceful enjoyment of the area by our near neighbours in the suburb of Wedderburn. Of course, some at the meeting were opposed to the proposed purchase, but there were also many who foresaw that operations as they occur at present do not adversely impact their neighbourhood. The challenge for the Club was to convince the Wedderburn Community Association and the residents that there are adequate safeguards to assure that commercial expansion will not occur in the future. The arguments in this respect you saw in the previous Newsletter which contained a copy of the mail-out that the Club sent to Wedderburn residents.

So for the moment, we await the issue of a Final Land Assessment by the Department of Lands. In the meantime, the Committee is proceeding with the submission of Development Applications to Wollondilly Shire Council for all hangars that contain facilities that require assessment to ensure that they comply with the Council ordinances controlling the approval of use of land that is zoned Rural A1. As discussed in several newsletters this year this may require the modification of some overnight accommoda-

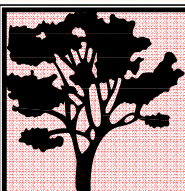
tion facilities, since Wollondilly Shire Council has advised that none must be of a nature that would be concluded to be a dwelling. The point of this requirement from Wollondilly Shire Council is that land zoned Rural is not permitted to contain multiple dwellings. We have approval for the caretaker's apartment, but other than this, facilities for overnight accommodation must be only for temporary use.

Wollondilly Shire Council have been consistent in their advice that there are no ordinances that would permit the maintenance of caravans at Wedderburn on a permanent basis. We are therefore in negotiation with the Council over a timetable for removal of the caravans, most of which have been used as Saturday night digs for many years, even a couple of decades.

More New Rules (Dec GM)

A special mail out was used to advise members of two Special Resolutions to amend the Rules at the *General Meeting to be held on 11 December 2005.*

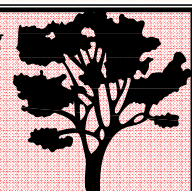
-One is to replace the old Rule about the prohibition on operation of generators from 11:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. This rather innocuous rule was defeated at the September General Meeting by exercise of a large number of proxies in the hands of a very few of the meeting attendees. (See my discussion about careful use of proxies in the last Newsletter.) I am sure no-one seriously questioned that this Rule should remain, though the proxy holders were arguing that the Rule didn't need to be documented because the Committee could make an executive decision. While that may be so, the administration of the Club is much, much easier if we have



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



such matters clearly described in the Rules.

The second resolution is to reinstate the requirement that members attend at least 3 of the 5 work-days each year. This rule has been in existence for a number of years and was accepted as having a modification that it applied only to members 65 years of age and younger. However that modification was in effect an executive decision of the Committee and was not documented in the Rules. There are some members who think the exemption is inappropriate. A modification proposed at the September General Meeting was defeated by exercise of those proxies! as then was the original Rule. For the December GM we

have notified a resolution that brings back the rule as it was but including its application only to members 64 years or under. We expect quite some discussion about whether this age limit should be applied, whether it should be varied or whether it should be removed altogether. That much variation on the resolution can be accommodated on the day of the General Meeting as amendments. So get your thinking caps on, discuss widely with your fellow members, and come to the General Meeting prepared to contribute to the debate.

Christmas Function

The mail-out also advised everybody of a trophy night awards ceremony

combined with a Christmas dinner to be held at 6:30 p.m. on 3 December at the Razorback Inn on the road from Camden to Picton. We hope to see a good rollup of members. The cost is \$35 per head and there will be music and dancing afterwards (probably some social drinking too!).

See you there I hope. If I cannot give you greetings personally, then a very **Happy Christmas and New Year** to you all. May all your landings be happy.

Peter Scott

From the Secretary's Desk

Hi Fellow Aviators

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome these applicants who have been accepted by the Committee:

Jason Weston	from Macquarie Park	probationary member
Ron Hamilton	from Corrimal	social member
Catherine Cavanagh	.	associate member
Vicki Gray	.	associate member

I hope they enjoy a long and happy association with the Club.

In the last few months there has been a lot of mail addressed to the Club's post office box that is obviously member's personal mail. Both Ray and myself clear the box periodically and would like to remind members that these positions, that of secretary and treasurer, are honorary. Re-addressing or delivering member's personal mail is time consuming and

unnecessary.

I would ask you not to give the airfield as your address for any correspondence. Some of the mail is for deliveries, such as concrete, soil etc made to the airfield and the company has sent the bill to the hangar owner. The Post Office then puts the SAC box number on the letter and it ends



up in our post office box. There are no mail deliveries to the airfield itself. Could you please make sure that you only give your residential address for accounts or flyers? Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Happy buzzing about the sky, and **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.**

Stan Nightingale

Workdays

Thanks to all those who braved the rain to help get the airfield ready for Open Day. About 35 members worked stoically, some in raincoats and gum boots and some in wet clothes. The airfield looked a pic-

ture on Open Day thanks to their efforts and the endless mowing and fixing done by Vic, Lindsay and Mike to name just a few, during the week between workday and Open Day. Well done to all.

The next workday will be on Sunday 26th February, 2006. It seems a lifetime away but keep your eye on the website mid February for the task list. In the meantime, **have a very Merry Christmas and prosperous and safe New Year.**



Margaret Nightingale

DIRTY DEEDS (BUT ARE THEY LAUGHABLE?)

It is not news that some residents of the Campbelltown suburb of Wedderburn are opposed to the Club purchasing the airfield. Some of the reasons for that opposition are understandable, even if from our perspective as Club members they appear unrealistic and unsubstantiated. Concern has been raised that transfer of the airfield land to freehold ownership would lead to expansion and commercialization. Your Club Committee has gone to considerable effort to demonstrate to all Wedderburn residents that while such concerns may appear possible at face value, there are sound reasons related to land zoning and the physical limitations of the site why such fears are not realistic.

At the recent public meeting of Wedderburn residents called by the Community Association, there was indication that our efforts to inform Wedderburn residents have had some success. The number opposed appears not to represent a majority of the residents. Among the opponents, there are some who are opposed even to the continued existence of our airfield! Yep, pretty extreme, but in a democracy people are free to form their own views. But it seems that for at least one such, there are no limits of fairness or accuracy on the actions they will employ to attempt to gain their objective.

The day before our Open Day in November, a call was lodged to the national security telephone hotline alleging that Wedderburn airfield is

a haven for terrorist activities. Okay, okay, when you have stopped laughing derisively at the silliness of such an allegation, stop and think about where this puts us in dealing with an apparently radical element acting on behalf of the opponents of our airfield.

1. We know that this allegation was made because the Department of Transport and Regional Services told us that the call had been received. Fortunately that Department, which manages the security of aircraft and airfields, is familiar with Wedderburn and has sufficient information to objectively assess any alleged risk.

2. It is probable that such wild accusations will damage the credibility of those making them. If that is a reasonable conclusion, then we might decide that such silly and extreme behavior is not a problem for us.

3. However, there is another implication. People who are willing to resort to such inaccurate and unjust accusations have to be treated as if they have no scruples. They cannot be trusted to abide by common values of fair play, or legality. This means that any negotiations that the Club might undertake with people concerned about the future of the airfield have to be influenced by a caution that perhaps someone with whom we might be negotiating is not negotiating in good faith. This makes it very difficult to sit down at a conference table and openly discuss arrangements that could provide a framework to assure our neighbours that future expansion and

commercialization does not occur. We must now always be fearful that among the negotiators on the other side is someone who intends to use any frankness and recognition of the other party's position to destroy our credibility as an organization of responsible individuals that recognizes community resources are to be shared and that reasonable compromises should be considered so that everybody has fair and enjoyable use of the country in which we live.

Your Committee will continue to negotiate using all the structures of government and the procedures of democracy that are available. This incident is almost certainly the work of a radical fringe, possibly only one unbalanced extremist. As such, it is unlikely to achieve much credibility.

What can You Do? The goodwill towards the Club that exists among Wedderburn residents is precious to us. **Please don't put it at risk by doing something DUMB.** Observe the "Fly Neighbourly" procedures. When you are talking to the locals, being arrogant and insensitive when discussing our airfield would not help. Listen to their position and do your best to assure them that their fears are groundless. If they are willing to give you their name and telephone number, offer to get a Committee member to contact them.

Be a good ambassador!

Peter Scott



It seems that our lucky **Dave Thomas** was the only one from Wedderburn that made it to Orange on 19th November for their Open Day. Some others intended to go on Sunday but the bad weather prevented it.

'Onya Dave . . . Ed



Our luck was in again - 2nd time we fluked the great weather for our Open Day. Similar happened this year as what happened last year, rain leading up to the weekend but a fine day for the 6th and then the next day the weather was poor again. How lucky were we? !! And what a day - it was great.

Some statistics first:

All up we raised **just over \$3,000** and in the end it will be close to \$3,100. This all goes to Camp Quality to help the kids.

Of the 86 volunteer jobs needing to be filled for the Open Day we managed to have 82 jobs covered. Club members came on board to make it all happen. We had **54 volunteers** of which 19 of these people doubled up, tripled up, quadrupled up to do another 28 duties.

These figures do not cover the Ladies SAC Auxiliary running their Stall and the morning teas. Thanks also to our Caretakers, Mike and Sue (it wasn't part of their caretaker duties) but nevertheless, they also pitched in and helped where ever and when ever called upon.

Some 58 Camp Quality children and 38 adults attended during the day and all enjoyed a great day. They were being given flights in several types of aircraft by our members, looking through the DC3, having rides in a variety of vintage cars and being thrilled by the jet model aircraft.



We had some 54 aircraft on display. A bit less than last year where we had about 72 aircraft, but the weather leading up to the weekend could have deterred our fly-in visitors from coming.



Unfortunately the Police Helicopter at the last minute could not attend due to an emergency in the Blue Mountains with a lost kid, and the lead up to the Sydney raids that occurred this last week.

The joy flights seemed to be popular and we had quite a diverse range on offer to tempt all. Decisions had to be made whether to take a Helicopter ride in a R44, or a Yak 52 flight, or a Tiger Moth flight.

It was marvelous that so many people came on board to donate their services, and we are really appreciative and thankful to the following:

Airborne Aviation - provided the 1st prize in raffle - Tiger Moth flight.

Highland Warbirds - provided an adventure flight prize for raffle.

Camden Hire - helping out with the Port a loos.

Tharawal Community - providing a marquee for the kids to use.

Mobile One - setting up and running the PA system and providing communication devices and taking away the rubbish.

Discovery Air Tours DC 3 flying in and allowing the public to have a look through. They raised some \$191 for Camp Quality. The owners of the DC3 brought the aircraft over for free and the pilots and crew volunteered their time and services - a great effort.

Camden Lions Club - providing the food for the day.



Wedderburn Bush Fire Brigade - A great display and all their team giving us support and back-up.

The Ingleburn RSL & Campbelltown Community Pipes and Drums Band - entertaining us in the morning.

Model aircraft kept the skies a buzzing and the crowds enthralled.

Sky diving/parachutists dropping in and showing us how easy it is - thanks to Bernie & Tara Stevermuer.

Glider land and launch display from **Southern Cross Gliding Club** at Camden.

Also ground displays of:

Campbelltown Steam & Machinery Museum letting off a bit of steam.

Military vehicles, vintage cars etc showed off their plumage and also gave the kids rides around the airfield.

The Body Shop - (local identity) who also donated a gift pack, and raffled it **raising \$55**.

Harlands Nursery - (local identity) - beautiful plants and fruit for sale.

Women's Pilot Association came on board to encourage females to get in there and give it a go.

The Nomad from **Bankstown Museum**

Aviation Photographs on display and for sale.

Model aircraft pedal cars.



The SAC Ladies Auxiliary did a great job with providing morning Devonshire teas - the scones and cream were delicious along with all their goodies that were on sale.

Dotars were happy with the day as well - so a plus for us.

So a great turnout by everyone.

Again, this could not have been achieved without the abovementioned.



tioned people coming on board and donating and providing services. Also, it just would not have happened without the volunteers doing all the 1,001 duties and chores that needed to be done - not only on the day but for the weeks leading up to it. Many, many thanks to everyone. Reducing most of the duties to approx. 1.5 hours made it less tedious and I think helped. We will endeavour to improve on this time for next year.

This year we requested \$2 per adult and \$1 per child who came through

our gates, irrespective whether they were Club Members, friends and visitors, display participants, local neighbours or the general public. We thought it was a reasonable request. **We raised \$1,295 from gate keeping.** I am very happy to say 99.9% of people coming through the gates were more than happy to oblige with a donation - in fact many put more than the nominated amount into the kitty for the kids. We even had a couple of 4 wheel drive vehicles come out of the bush and were talked into donating before they disappeared back into the bush again. It is therefore a disappointment to hear that a couple of our members objected to donating a \$2 coin to the kids. In fact one of these members (name withheld) refused completely.

On the other hand, we have Greg and Anne Goulding who got sponsorship from East Coast Propellers to

have an old propeller done up to look like brand new, raffled it on the day and **raised \$1,032** which all went to Camp Quality. A terrific effort. On top of that, the gentleman who won the propeller then donated the propeller to the SAC - so in the near future you will see it adorning the Clubhouse wall.

Anyway, a good time was had by all. Stan Nightingale and his brother Brian were manning the gate late afternoon, seeing all our visitors out and reported every vehicle leaving all said they thoroughly enjoyed the day.

So congratulations to SAC members and volunteers. You have certainly done a great job. Remember, it will be on again next year. Till then . . . thanks and cheerio.

Maree & Lindsay

CAMP QUALITY WINS AGAIN

On the evening prior to the Open Day Anne and Greg Goulding hosted a BBQ in their hangar. They also held a raffle, the prize being a beautifully restored three-bladed propeller which had been donated for the cause by John Marks of East Coast Propellers of Bankstown.

The raffle was won by Jack Ludington of Sans Souci, who promptly donated the propeller to the club so it could be mounted for display inside the clubhouse.

Due to this incentive the significant

amount of \$1,032 was raised via the raffle, and donated to Camp Quality.

Our thanks go to John of East Coast Propellers for donating the impressive looking propeller. Our congratulations go to Jack for winning the raffle, with our thanks for donating the propeller to the club.

Thank you Anne and Greg Goulding for having the ability and the drive to bung on a great and enjoyable BBQ, for organising the raffle, and most importantly, for acting in such a community



minded spirit.

Everyone was the winner

David Rittie

Have you ever wanted to fly out of Wedderburn on FLIGHT SIMULATOR 2004? I had a go at it on Lindsay Sinclair's computer recently, and it is amazing how accurate the airfield detail is. The taxiways, hangars and the clubhouse are all there. If you want to incorporate YWBN into your FS 2004 give Lindsay a call on 0416 192 552, and he will burn you a copy real cheap. **Ed**

NOTICE OF SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS - Additions to Club Rules to be voted upon at the December G.M.

1. **No generators are to operate between 2300 hrs and 0600 hrs. Generators for club operations exempted.**

Proposed: P. Scott

Seconded: D. Rittie

2. **All (full category) members aged 64 years and younger are required to attend three of five workdays that are scheduled each year. In default, a Committee determined financial contribution will be invoiced annually for each workday missed.**

Proposed: V. Laybutt

Seconded: D. Rittie

Hi everyone

Here we are nearing the end of the year 2005. Where has the year gone? Our club activities this year have been very successful and I wish to thank our members who have come along to support the Ladies Auxiliary all this year. We do appreciate your attendance at all of our get-togethers, and we hope the year 2006 will be even better.

The Sydney Basin Bash on Sunday 23rd October, organised by Lindsay and Maree, was a great day, and after the pilots had finished their flying adventure a delicious lunch was available at a reasonable charge, with a menu of various meats and salads. We had 44 members book in for the luncheon and this was a really good turn out, and it makes it all worthwhile arranging these luncheons with the support from our members. We thank you all for attending, and a special "Thank You" to my team of ladies who helped prepare the spread.

Our last work day of the year, held on Sunday 30th October, saw only 36 members attend for lunch. I know we had some who could not stay, but we are always happy to see as many of you who can turn up on these important Work Days.

We were delighted to have Deborah Gibson come along and join in with the ladies group in preparing the lunch for our workers and I just hope we did not work you too hard. "Thank You" for your help Deborah.

Our two very special junior helpers, Grace and Lily Harvie, are always very willing workers on our work days, and we are so lucky to have these two delightful young ladies come and spend their day with us and help us in so many ways. Thank you girls – we love you both.

To our workers, thank you for the wonderful job you all did in making sure all areas of our



airfield looked so neat and tidy in readiness for our Open Day.

Open Day 6th November 2005

Yes, our most important day of the year is over for another year and what a wonderful Open Day we all had.

Firstly, our thanks to Maree and Lindsay and the Open Day Organising Committee for another successful Open Day. The members became very much involved in volunteering for various jobs, and with everyone helping all went off very well.

The Ladies Auxiliary had several stalls laden with handicraft, soft toys, jams, relishes, delicious cakes, slices and confectionary, which our team of wonderful knitters, sewing experts, cooks and clever ladies had worked so hard for months to have a wonderful display of great items ready for all of our visitors to buy. My thanks go to all who contributed with these goodies – they were terrific.

The very important food stall with freshly made sandwiches, devonshire teas etc. is always popular around morning tea time with freshly made pikelets (cooked in the clubhouse by Pat Lalor) and scones with plenty of jam and cream and the group of very busy ladies served so many cups of tea and coffee they seemed to be busy all day. Our thanks to Carla, Jenny, Judy and Robyn who helped Junie, Sandra and Dianne so much with organising this busy stall, and also to our two junior helpers Grace and Lily.

We are so lucky to have our very good friend Robyn Cavanagh come along each year to help us in so many different ways. She arrives laden with goodies for the stalls then sets about working so hard wherever she is needed and we "thank you" Robyn for your continued support of our Club. I know we had friends of some of our Ladies Auxiliary donate goods for us to sell on our day, and we do thank them for their gen-

erosity in helping to make our day so successful.

I personally would like to thank all my Ladies Auxiliary team that work so well in helping me all year, but for and on Open Days they all work harder, as we know it is a very busy day and I do appreciate all your time and effort you give to our wonderful Club.

Our very good friends from the Lions Club of Camden catered with all the hot food and their team of great workers did an excellent job, and it really does help us to know they are so willing to come out on our Open Day. They tell me they enjoy every minute of being at Wedderburn, and we do appreciate them being a big part of our special day.

A special "thank you" to Delcie Harrang for taking on the task of selling raffle tickets. We actually had two raffles going so that meant more work for Delcie, but you certainly did an excellent job and we do appreciate all the time you devoted in carrying out this very important task.

While we are talking about the raffles we are indebted once again to Airborne Aviation of Camden for donating the **1st prize** of a 30 minute flight in a Tiger Moth.

The lucky winner of **1st prize** this year is Margaret Nightingale with ticket no. 75. Congratulations Margaret, and we all trust you enjoy your flight.

1st prize of raffle no. 2 was kindly donated by Highland Warbirds with a Yak Adventure Flight, and the lucky winner is Dianne Shepherd with ticket no. 53. Our congratulations to you Dianne and we know you will enjoy your flight.

2nd prize of a \$100. 00 Coles/Myer gift voucher was won by our auditor - Ray Gittens

with ticket no. 209. He was delighted with his win – well done Ray.

3rd prize of 2 cases of beer was won by our member Glen Frohling with ticket No. 64, and we know he is a very happy winner and will enjoy the beer. Good on you Glen.

We are very thankful to all who bought tickets in our raffles, and we are sorry you all couldn't win, but we wish you better luck for next year.

Our Club invited Camp Quality children and their parents to come along and join us on our Open Day this year instead of holding a separate day for them in May. The Camp Quality area manager - Sydney, Janne Hardy, who was attending for the first time, was delighted to see so many aircraft and flying displays as well as all the various activities that were happening on our day, and we know the children present had a very tiring but happy day. Hopefully we can arrange for more children to attend next year.

The breakdown of all monies collected for the donation to camp quality came to \$3,102.20. This is an excellent result and we thank everyone for contributing to this wonderful organization.

A final "thank you" to all our members for the year 2005 for supporting your club by attending our functions and bringing along relatives and friends to see just how great our Club is. Please keep a note of all the dates of functions for the new year in 2006 and try to encourage other members to come along and join in. Remember to read the Club Newsletter or visit the website for further information.

I wish everyone a very **Merry Christmas** and a healthy and **Happy 2006**

Cheers

Margaret Adams

DIARY DATES	Thursday 26 JAN	Camden Flypast	Depart YWBN Midday
	Sunday 5th FEB	Fly-in/Drive-in Brunch	10AM- 2PM
	Sunday 26th FEB	1st Workday for 2006	9AM - 3PM

2006 FLYING EVENTS

Hi folks

Following is a preliminary list of flying events to give you an idea of what's happening next year. Note them in your diary and keep the days free and come join in some fun. Points will be awarded for attendance to all Club Events. We will have a few quizzes along the way to make things interesting and maybe some other things !!!

Please let us know as soon as possible what events you are interested in. The events where we don't get a reasonable response will be cancelled. Phone or email Maree or Lind-



say Sinclair - 0425 380966 or 02 4626 4959 or
redstars@bigpond.com

Cheers, happy flying, and a **MERRY CHRISTMAS** to all.

Maree and Lindsay Sinclair

UPCOMING 2006 FLYING EVENTS Put them in your diary

26/1/06

AUSTRALIA DAY

FLY PAST over Camden

The Club has been requested to provide a fly past over Camden township for Australia Day. Anyone interested in joining in with the fly past - see Bret Cavanagh who is organising the event. Contact Numbers: 0407 344 795 or 9629 8869.

Also endeavouring to have a get together afterwards - BBQ = BBYO (bring & burn your own food)

12 FEB

MORUYA

1 DAY TRIP

Will organise a mini bus and have a picnic on the beach. BYO.

19 FEB

TYABB AIR SHOW

for general information.

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.

The theme for this year's event is 'Tyabb on Show'. Patrons will be treated to world class aerobatics, military, ultralight, general aviation and home built aircraft displays. There will also be classic cars, hotrods, motorcycles and plenty of other activities to interest the whole family. In addition to spectacular flying demonstrations there will also be a V8 Supercar Air Race featuring Bathurst winner Todd Kelly and two of Australia's top aerobatic pilots, Pip Borman and Chris Sperou. Proceeds from the event will, as in previous years, be donated to local charities. The beneficiaries will be the CFA, SES and the Hillview Maternity Wing of the Rosebud Hospital.

18-19 MARCH

GLOUCESTER

2 DAY TRIP

Hire a bus for a look about. There are museums, gallery, art centre, lavender farm, 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.

APRIL

MUDGE AIR SHOW

date to be confirmed

The Russian Roolettes will be attending. We have contacts where we can get a DC3 especially to transport all and sundry to the airshow. If you have a plane then fly yourself. But for others not so lucky, or if you want to leave the plane at home, we have the answer for you. Sit back, relax, get spoilt along the way in a DC3 nostalgic flight. Let someone else do all the work for you.

First in first served as there are only 28 seats in the Dak. Gathering further information and will advise shortly.

MAY

GOULBURN

1 DAY TRIP

date to be confirmed

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

10-11-12 JUNE LONG WEEKEND**MUDGE & 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.

Instead of having a big fly away this year we are thinking of organising a special trip that can involve anyone in the Club to join in.

APPROX 5 - 12 JULY**8 day CHINA TRIP**

We're endeavouring to keep the cost to approx \$2,000 p.p.

4 nights BEIJING to see Great Wall, The Chinese Aviation Museum set on a former secret military base partially inside a mountain and comprising over 200 aircraft on display, Silk factories, Jade factories, markets.

2 nights SHANGHAI - take a ride on the Maglev (magnetic levitation) train at 430 km/hr from the airport to the city.

2 nights XI'AN (The Terracotta Warrior city).

\$1,399 gets you return economy airfares, 4 nights accommodation, daily breakfast. Extra 4 nights accommodation and internal transfers and sightseeing to be determined and advised.

WE NEED TO HAVE A INDICATION OF WHO IS INTERESTED IN GOING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE - NO LATER THAN 30/1/06 - SO THAT WE KNOW WHETHER TO GO AHEAD AND START PLANNING OR IF WE ARE JUST WASTING OUR TIME.

19-20-21 AUG**CALOUNDRA****3 DAY TRIP**

Quite a bit to see and do from visiting the Eumundi Markets, Ginger factory, Nut factory, cheese joint, lots of arts & crafts.

17 SEPT**BATHURST****1 DAY TRIP**

Possible hire a bus and trip out to Sofala 45 km N old gold mining town with interesting old buildings. Find a pub and have some tucker.

14-15 OCT**GRAFTON****2 DAY TRIP**

Jacaranda festival is on the last week Oct and 1st week Nov. We'll have a look around town and perhaps do a River cruise.

5 NOV**CLUB OPEN DAY**

OK volunteers start polishing up your volunteering skills.

2 DEC**CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Maree and Lindsay Sinclair

CAMDEN FLY-PAST AUSTRALIA DAY 2006

WANTED: Enthusiastic pilots to warm up Australia Day crowd at Camden, in preparation for Roulettes demonstration.

QUALIFICATIONS: Pilot licence and airworthy aircraft, able to follow the leader (in the air and on the ground).

WHEN: Australia Day, Thursday 26 January 2006 (a day we all get off work).

EXPECTED FLYING TIME: Early afternoon, for approximately 30 minutes.

STANDBY for more details as the date approaches.

CONTACT: Bret Cavanagh to express your interest. bret@cavanagh.id.au or 0407 344 795

Thanks for the info Bret. It should be as much fun as the Fisher's Ghost fly-past . . . **Ed**

NO TREE CUTTING

This is the third Newsletter reminder this year that cutting down trees without a permit is forbidden – **BY LAW!** This is not just a Committee directive. Please observe it and avoid Club disciplinary action or even a civil prosecution.

Are trees unlimited?

We have 30 hectares, about 20% still in woodland. We

have 200 members. If every member removed one tree a year, there would soon be none!!

So, no tree is to be removed without written request to the Committee and the Committee having providing a Council-issued approval.

Peter Scott

The President's BAH HUMBUG Award for 2005

The "Scrooge McMean" Award for impatient disregard of the efforts of Sport Aircraft Club members to put some good deeds back into society and our own Club's social life goes to the one and only member who stormed through the entry gate in pique, refusing to give a gold coin for Camp Quality on the Open Day. Totally

ungracious and a poor show. One wonders what our Club would be like if everybody showed such disregard for the cooperation that sustains the Club that everybody benefits from.

Peter Scott

Who was it? . . . Ed

The Treasurer's Report

The Club is in a reasonable financial position as is generally the case due to proper financial management and to the sensible demands of the members over quite some years. This has allowed for the proper planning to take place and the result is seen in the balances we hold in credit bank accounts today in preparation for the land purchase.

The membership have, in recent years, been very patient and allowed the Club

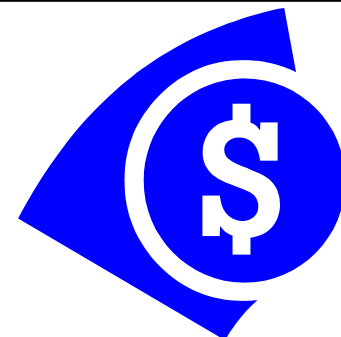
to progress in a steady fashion, not demanding everything (at the snap of a finger) that is all available at Bankstown and Camden. We exist for the grass roots aviator and by its very nature progress has to be slow and affordable.

Everyone is told when joining that we are a self help club. We are not a huge commercial enterprise that can provide all the amenities that commercial airports provide on tap.

We appreciate your patience.

So to those affected, be patient as your fellow Club members have had to be over the years and we will achieve our common goals (all of them) for the benefit of all.

This is an extremely busy time of the year for me, your annual invoices are now due for preparation – which is different from every other year - no caravans, insurance costs are different, Sydney inflation rates have varied and work



day fees need to be calculated, but all should be completed within the near future.

So to all of our Members
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

Ray Feneley



FINANCIAL BALANCE SHEET

The Treasurer's Financial Balance Sheet, which formerly appeared on this page, 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