



The N.S.W. Sport Aircraft Club Newsletter

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2009

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Above: Sy Allsep's newly restored Twin Pioneer takes off on runway 35 on a recent familiarisation flight.

Below: Don Harvie has done it again with this great photo of the airfield with the newly sealed taxiways. This could be the "photo of the year" for 2009 to follow Don's 2008 winning photo, also of the airfield.



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

Visit our website:- www.wedderburnairstrip.com.au
and see this whole Newsletter in full colour

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Committee Contacts

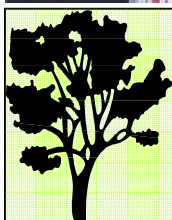
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Left: John Duncan's newly acquired Stinson arrives at YWBN on 13th January.

Below: "It's all happening" at the Australia Day BBQ. **L to R:** Dave Berry and Wendi, Stan and Margaret Nightingale, Peter and John Lightbown. **Bottom:** Anne and Greg Goulding with Vic Laybutt and Alice, new members Jim and Rachel Lumb, Lilli Harvey bats while Bernie and Sebastian keep wicket at the game of "backyard" cricket.

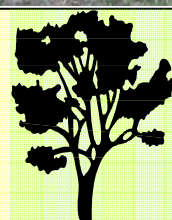


Need some exotic plants, or want some peaches or other stone fruit? You can choose from a wide selection near the airfield, just around the corner at #7 Blackburn Road.

HARLAND'S Fruit, Nursery and Landscaping

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

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



Welcome to the **February/March 2009** edition of your Newsletter.

Because the Club elections for office bearers will happen next month you will find enclosed with this Newsletter a Proxy form and a Committee Nomination form. These need to be submitted a week before the AGM.

You will find pictures of the Australia Day BBQ, the trip to Frogs Hollow and of the Christmas party on the col-



oured **Pages 2, 13 and 14**, and a list of those members who contributed money to the sealing of the runway on **Page 11**

The picture of the airfield on the

front page is a reduced version of a photo taken by Don Harvie, and the original is one of the best photos I have seen in ages. Sincere thanks Don.

I hope to continue on as your Newsletter editor after the March elections, but you just never know.

We hope you enjoy this issue.

David Rittie

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

Words from the President

Hullo again.

Taxiways

Since the last Newsletter, all the taxiways in the northern precinct and the main north-south taxiway have been sealed with spray seal, which virtually completes the runway and taxiway sealing project. There is still some minor work to be carried out to complete the project which includes the sweeping of the gravel on the taxiways, and some other minor additional work. The gravel will be swept off the taxiways shortly.

Our thanks go to Sam, Vic and Gordon for the work involved in achieving such a good result with this major project.

“Friends of the Runway” donations

Nearly all of the money pledged for the sealing of the runway has been received, and there are some who donated money later on in the process, without a pledge. We are genuinely thankful for all those who pledged and contributed money for the runway. The names of all those who contributed will be inscribed on a plaque to be unveiled at a “thank you” BBQ sometime later this year. A list of all the contributors appears on **Page 11** in this Newsletter.

General Meeting and Annual General Meeting

You will be aware that the GM and the AGM will be held on 8th March. Please read the Secretary’s column about a notice of motion, and about joining fees.

Just prior to the General Meeting we will be having a BBQ lunch to celebrate the 30th birthday of the Club’s first ever General Meeting.

Safety Sub-Committee

While we are talking about the March General Meeting it should be noted with interest that Garth Bartlett will address the members about the proposed Safety

Sub-Committee. Garth foresees that this sub committee will look at all aspects of safety in the Club, not only safety on the ground (such as aircraft maintenance issues) but also in the air. Garth has already given the Committee an overview of his thoughts.

Your Committee is enthusiastic about this proposal and will assist where possible to make the concept work.

Water for the fire brigade

I was heartened to hear that the fire brigade was able to use some of our dam water to fight a fire somewhere off to the north west of the airfield. I would have loved to have taken a photo of the helicopters taking up our water. (If anyone has a picture of this please let me have a copy). Anyway, I am delighted that we were able to be of some help to the local community.

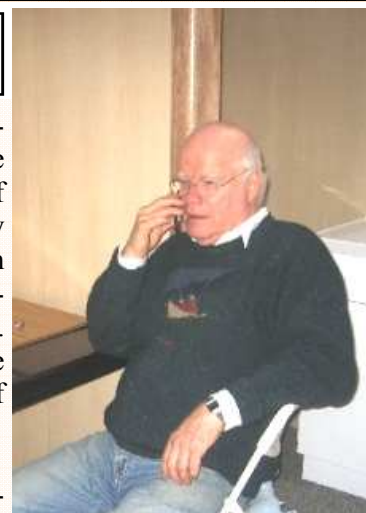
Christmas party

Well, the Christmas party went off with a bang. There were around 80 members present, many awards presented, and a great time was had by all. The Club Champion for 2008 is a very proud “Lucky” Dave Thomas. Congratulations Dave. You wear the badge well.

There is an article about the party on **Page 11** of this newsletter

Australia Day BBQ

The weather was kind to us for the Australia Day BBQ. Around 40 members and friends turned up, burned their steaks and sausages and joined in the game of backyard cricket. Gemma Laybutt won the unofficial fielding award. On one occasion she fielded a ball from the bowler before it reached the batsman! The Oz Day BBQ has now become



a tradition, and we hope to see even more people there next year.

Flying events for this year

As always, we are looking to members to arrange some flying events for this year. You can gain additional championship points by organising an event (or two). Please contact Bret if you can assist.

Hangar construction

There has been good progress with the construction of hangars in the northern precinct. Our member, Phil Ayrton, has offered to design, draw

and seek council approval (at cost) for any modifications you may wish to incorporate (or may have already incorporated) into your hangar. Phil is an architect, and therefore qualified to assist with this process. Thanks Phil.

Newsflashes

Once again, if you have access to email and you are not receiving the Newsflashes every week please let us have your email address, so you can get weekly updates on matters concerning your club.

And lastly . . .

Because the Club elections will be held at the AGM and prior to the next Newsletter, this could be my last column. So I would like to express my gratitude to all of you who have been so supportive during my time in office, and also to the members of your Committee who have been so hard working and productive. Thank you all, and maybe we will do it all again for another year.

Please fly safely

David Rittie

From the Secretary's Desk

Hi Everyone

March General Meeting

The March General Meeting will be held in the Clubhouse at Wedderburn on Sunday 8th March, 2009 commencing at 2.00pm.

There is a **notice of motion** for the General Meeting as follows:

"that the motion to locate a new fuel bowser in the middle of the aircraft parking area be rescinded" moved by John Duncan and seconded by Vic Laybutt.

Just to put this motion in context for new members and those who may have forgotten in September 2006 43 members of the 79 represented at a General Meeting voted to place a new fuel bowser, when it became available, to the east of the windsock in the aircraft parking area. Since then there have been extensive changes to the infrastructure of the airfield including taxiways and drainage. The committee feels that the placement of the fuel bowser needs to be revisited, and this motion (if it is accepted by the members) will remove the previous motion from the books and allow other alternatives to be considered.

2009 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Clubhouse at Wedderburn on Sunday 8th March, 2009 immediately following the General Meeting. Items of business for this meeting are

- Ratification of the financial reports
- Election of office bearers and committee members
- President's Report



Nomination forms for the committee are enclosed with this newsletter and should be forwarded to either the Secretary at PO Box 450 Campbelltown, 2560 or the Returning Officer, Noel Carmody at 27 Charlton Ave, Turramurra, 2074. These nominations must be received by Noel or myself by 2.00pm on Sunday, 1st March, 2009. One or both of us will be in the clubhouse from 12.00 noon to 2.00pm on Sunday 1st March to receive any late nominations.

The nominee, the proposer and the seconder must be financial members of the SAC.

If you think that you can contribute your time, ideas and expertise to the workings of the club, please nominate for the management committee.

A **Proxy form** is also enclosed with this newsletter. This form must be filled out correctly, indicating which meetings it is relevant for, and must be signed by the member that cannot attend the meeting. Proxies must be received by the Secretary or the Returning Officer before the meeting begins either by mail or by hand or from the person holding the proxy, however the completed form must be an original. It cannot be faxed or emailed. The member holding the proxy and the member giving the proxy must be financial members of the club.

Joining Fee

At the December General Meeting it was decided that there would be a wide ranging and general discussion of the joining fee at the March General Meeting and mem-

bers were asked to forward their thoughts in writing to me so that I could formulate the pros and cons to aid the discussion. If you have some strong feelings about the joining fee, please email them to me at fireweed@netspace.net.au or write to me at PO Box 450 Campbelltown 2560 by 27th February and I'll get all your ideas collated to help make the discussion focused and hopefully not too long. Thank you to those who have contributed so far.

Hangar Compliance

In August last year, letters went out to all hangar owners regarding hangar compliance, ie guttering and downpipes, soil preservation, rubbish and goods outside hangars and so on. I'd like to thank those hangar owners who made an effort to make their hangars and their surrounds compliant with the terms of their leases and contributing to the aesthetics of the airfield. Unfortunately, however some hangars are still non-compliant in some areas. More letters will be sent out in the next couple of weeks. These letters will give hangar owners 30 days to rectify their problems or the Committee has determined that a fine of not less than \$100.00 will apply. I would urge your assistance with this matter. We need downpipes, tanks and rusty gutters fixed, soil stabilised and rubbish removed.

Soil stabilisation is a problem in both the northern and southern areas. The drainage is not yet complete for the northern area but it should be installed in the next few months.

In the southern area there are areas that have mainly paspalum growing at the backs and fronts of hangars. Hangar owners are asked that those areas are made "mowable". By that I mean that the rocks are removed, and/or top soil is added so that the grass and weeds can be mown without damaging the mower. If this is done then the mowing may be done more often. Please also clean up down the sides of hangars regularly to reduce fire hazards and the build up of rubbish. Items that are not gas bottles or BBQs must be placed inside hangars.

I look forward to your company at the General and Annual General Meeting on 8th March. Be there and have your say about how your club grows and prospers.

Keep flying safely and having fun.

Margaret Nightingale

* * * UPCOMING FLYING AND SOCIAL EVENTS * * *

If you want to stage an event, or invite the Club to join you on a flying jaunt please talk to me. You will earn additional Championship points. As you can see below, we need some more events for 2009. **Bret Cavanagh**

UPCOMING EVENTS. Put 'em in your diary

February 15 (Sunday) **Social Workday** with free lunch. Sign in at 0900 [Contact: Matthew Gray]

February 22 (Sunday) **Wings over Illawarra** [Contact: Phil Ayrton 4267 4818]

The Historical Aircraft Restoration Society (HARS) and SAAA Chapter 4 present a HARS Open Day and Fly-in. All HARS aircraft will be flying, as well as Temora Museum and Nowra Museum aircraft, the RAAF Roulettes and a C130 Hercules, as well as aero modellers, classic and vintage cars, motorcycles and vintage farm machinery. Free admission and no landing charges for all fly-in aircraft. See www.aeroclub.com.au/events for more details.

March 1 (Sunday) **Frogs Hollow** Clubhouse opening ceremony/party [Contact: Bob Phillips 6495 9251]

Here it is folks, the biggest event at Frog's Hollow since the christening of the airstrip dunny. The new clubhouse is finished and will be officially opened on Sunday March 1, with a 12.00pm ribbon cut and a BBQ as only the Frogs team can do. So come along and dribble some tomato sauce on their brand new verandah, and help to make it look lived in and loved. Go on, write it in your new diary right now. We'll see you there. **Phil Ayrton**

March 8 (Sunday) **BBQ Lunch** to celebrate 30 years since the first GM, 12:30 pm Clubhouse [Contact: Margaret Adams]

And on the same day:

March 8 (Sunday) **General Meeting and AGM** 2pm Clubhouse. [Contact: Margaret Nightingale]

March 13-15 **Avalon International Air Show** Avalon VIC [Not a Club Championship event]

April 11, 12 (Sat, Sun) **Temora Museum flying display** [Not a Club Championship event]

April 24-26(Fri-Sun) **AAAA National Fly-in**, Echuca. [Contact: Matthew Gray]

Happy new year everyone!

THANK YOU to all those members that have already paid their 2009 annual subs. Your paying on time makes my job SO much easier. As some of you may already know, Bernie and I are expecting our second child in early 2009. What's more, this is the busiest time of the club's year for the treasurer – combination of chasing annual subs and getting the club's records audited (not to mention chasing a very mobile one year old while 7 months pregnant and working full time). **Although all members should always pay their annual subs on time, as a special request for 2009 please pay your annual subs on time** to help minimise the amount of extra work I need to do.

2009 ANNUAL SUBS:

How to pay them?

Annual subs for 2009 were emailed to members on 31 December from the email account fly.bcy@bigpond.net.au and are to be paid to the club by 31 January. Payment of annual subs can be by EFT direct to the club's bank account, direct deposit into the club's bank account at any NAB, or cheque posted to the club's PO Box or left in the clubhouse mailbox. The club's bank account details can be found at the bottom of your statement.

Old club house keys

Thank you to those members that returned their old keys last year as requested. Those members received a \$30 credit on their 2009 annual subs. Have you still got your old club house key? This key is no longer in use on the airfield so is no use to you. If you still have your key and would like a refund please return it by either leaving it in an envelope with your name on it in the club house mailbox OR post it to the club's PO Box (make sure your name is somewhere) OR hand your key in an envelope with your name on it to a committee member.

Unpaid subs WILL incur a late fee...

Members that have not paid their annual subs by 31 January will receive notice of a late fee and be ineligible to vote (or stand for a committee position) at the upcoming General and Annual General Meetings in March if payment is not received by 28 February. So, if you have not yet paid your annual subs **DO SO NOW**.

Haven't received yours yet?

If you have not received your annual subs for 2009 yet please contact me urgently – or you will be invoiced a late fee.

Not planning on renewing your membership in 2009...

If you do not intend to renew your membership, please be so kind as to let me know so that I don't waste my time chasing you for money (I do actually have better things to be doing).

Will you have difficulty paying your 2009 annual subs on time?

If you will have difficulty paying your 2009 subs on time you need to contact me NOW. The only way to avoid a late fee is to either pay your subs on time, or advise me – before late fees are invoiced – that you need extra time to pay. Once late fees have been invoiced it will be too late to seek an extension for payment and you run the very real risk of losing your membership.

CLUB AUDITS:

The club is being audited by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

We certainly had a big spend up last year (sealing the runway and taxiways) and didn't the ATO notice when I lodged our BAS for that quarter asking for a refund of nearly \$30,000! I worked really hard to get this BAS statement into the ATO within a couple of days of the quarter ending to in turn get this money into the club's bank account ASAP



and needed an audit from the ATO like I needed a hole in my head. The club has provided the ATO with all the documents and data they requested and we now await the outcome of the audit. Despite giving the club only 48 hours to respond to their request, the ATO expect to take a couple of weeks before getting back to us – perhaps I should invoice them for lost bank interest!!!!

End of club financial year.

For those that are not aware, the club's financial year runs 1 Feb through to 31 Jan. As such, we have now reached the end of the financial year for the club's accounts. I am now in the process of finalising all the books to go to the club's auditor such that we can have the clubs accounts audited in time for the Annual General and General meetings in March.

SUMMARY OF BUDGET OUTCOMES:

Overhead & Maintenance Budgets...in 2008/09

Both the overhead and maintenance budgets overall finished the year with dollars to spare. The only items to go over budget were garbage, donations, subscriptions and stationary. The garbage budget ran over courtesy of a few inconsiderate members that put all their rubbish from inside their hangars onto a club pile of rubbish that appeared after one work day where members picked up rubbish from outside recalcitrant hangar owners hangars – this required the club to hire a skipbin to remove what ended up being a very large amount

of rubbish – otherwise we would have finished on budget. Donations ran over as we raised more money on the gate at open day than originally anticipated – great news for Angel Flight. Due to a change in our website hosting arrangements our subscriptions were higher than expected for this year, we would expect them to be a little lower next year. An increase in copying costs and newsletter circulation are the primary reason for the high stationary costs – this has been addressed in next years budget.

Capital Projects Budget...in 2008/09

Isn't the airfield looking great – thanks to all those members involved in all the various projects last year, not just for your contribution to the club, but also to ensuring we remained within budget. The projects completed in 2008 included sealing the runway and taxiways, water reticulation, NW boundary fence, regrading of the southern road and the emergency evacuation plan.

As you may recall the committee, with your approval, budgeted \$197,000 to seal the runway. This budget for the runway did not include a full width / full length hotmix finish. This full hotmix finish was conditional upon those members

that really wanted it donating it to the club. Thank you to all those members that wanted a hotmix runway and donated ~\$55,000 towards it — we have only one outstanding pledge. At the end of the day (when all pledges have come in) we will have come in on budget for this project.

The only completed capital project to run over budget in 2008 was the sealing of the taxiways. The main reason for this was a change to the taxiway requirements (extra bit here, further straightening there, and some repair work) that was not in the original budget spec. It was never re-costed, and so this item's budgeted amount was never changed – although these changes to the taxiway requirements were approved by the committee. The overrun was as expected for the extra work that was done.

Bank balance...in 2008/09

The club's bank account went from a high of nearly \$450,000 in September to a low of \$80,000 by the beginning of January 2009. As annual subs for 2009 are coming in the bank balance is slowly increasing again ahead of 2009 expenses. We currently have nearly \$170,000 in the bank and \$130,000 in outstanding invoices.

The 2009/10 Budget

The overhead budget for 2009 was decreased by \$22,500 overall as a direct result of the expected BAS refund that now will not go into the club's account until February. Excluding this item the overhead budget was otherwise increased by \$6,500 to account for increased expected costs associated with insurance, head lease payments, stationary, garbage and function expenses. There was no change made to the maintenance budget from 2008. The total budgeted cost to run the club (excluding any capital works) in 2009 is \$96,100 (this assumes the club will receive the full BAS refund).

Based on a predicted income of \$180,000–\$200,000 in 2009, this leaves the club with \$80,000–\$100,000 to save and/or put towards capital projects. The capital projects listed to be funded in 2009 are stormwater infrastructure, improvements to the clubhouse power system, installation of the northern toilet block and sewerage points, regrading of the southern road and sealing of the northern road. Although these items are approved by the current committee, they are subject to change under the new committee.

Do you want me to run for treasurer in 2009? I THINK I'M GOING TO NEED SOME HELP!

I am happy to stand again as treasurer IF I AM WANTED, but, in electing me you need to be aware of the following...while I enjoy being the treasurer I do also work fulltime and will soon be a mother to two under 18 months! The time I have available for the club is now much less than I had before. Thankfully I have managed to streamline the club's books as much as possible but I am concerned that I will not have enough time to do everything required of the treasurer's role at all times. I think I might need some help. So I am wondering...

Do you want me to stand again as treasurer?

If so, is there a member that can lend me a hand if and when I need it?

If you want me to remain on as treasurer and could give me an hour or three maybe once a month please let me know.

As always, don't hesitate to contact me if you believe any statement you have received is in error. Also, if you have an email address and would like to be included in club email notifications, please drop me a quick email and we'll add you to the SAC newflash list. I look forward to seeing you at club gatherings throughout 2009.

Blue skies

Tara Stevermuer

Hi Everyone,

I trust everyone had an enjoyable festive season and here we are already into the month of February. I know the Australia Day BBQ went off very well and everyone who attended had a great time and I hope we will enjoy many social get togethers during this year.

Our first **Fly-In/Drive-In Brunch** of 2009 was held on the 1st February. We thought we would not have a big roll up due to it being a very warm day but we were delighted to have 37 members and 6 visitors arrive to enjoy the hearty Brunch of Orange Juice, Cereal, Sausage, Bacon & Egg on Toast, Tea or Coffee. Everyone had a great few hours socialising and I was especially pleased to see many of our newer members attend. One new member came along with a couple of visitors from Overseas and I know they would have enjoyed the Brunch and their visit to Wedderburn. The best surprise of all was to have Arthur Napper pop in to join us. Arthur, for our newer members was one of the prime movers in helping us lease our Airfield in

1978. Many of us had a great chat with Arthur about those early days and of course the progress of the Club and how it looks today. As Arthur lives in Tuncurry he is not in Sydney very often but he will come back to see us when he can. It was unfortunate that the Aero Clubs who Margaret N. sent invitations to were not able to attend. Hopefully they will make it to the next Fly-In/Drive-In Brunch in May.



My “Thanks” go to Dave Thomas (Master Chef) for taking care of the cooking of those delicious sausages and bacon. You did a great job Dave. To the team of Ladies of the Social Committee, Dot, Maryanne, Jacquie, Inez, Veronica and yours truly, with help from Anne Goulding & Jacquie Duncan, you all worked so well and I “Thank” you all in making the day a success.

WORK DAY SUNDAY 15TH FEBRUARY, 2009 FREE LUNCH

As you all know our Work Day is being held one week earlier due to the H.A.R.S. “Wings over Illawarra” being held on our usual work day (22nd February).

Yes, our First Work Day of 2009 is almost upon us and we would appreciate seeing as many of our members report for duty to help in every way possible to work on the list of jobs waiting to be done. The Ladies of the Social Committee will be on duty to provide an excellent lunch for all the workers and at present we are deciding whether to have a Chicken and Cold Meat Salad or a BBQ, whatever we decide on I’m sure you the member will be happy with our choice.

We do need you to register your name on arrival in the Clubhouse to assist with our catering needs and it is important to report to Matthew Gray on arrival to view the list of jobs you may like to work on – so we’ll see a great roll up on the 15th. By the way, the Ladies will be holding a Raffle at the Luncheon, so please bring your \$2.00 with you to buy the winning ticket. The prizes, 1st & 2nd will be a Fuel Voucher and a Bunnings Voucher.

OUR 30TH BIRTHDAY, since our INAUGURAL GENERAL MEETING, which was held on 10TH FEBRUARY 1979, IS ON 10TH FEBRUARY 2009.

It was decided that we celebrate THIS MILESTONE at our AGM to be held on SUNDAY 8TH MARCH, 2009 A BBQ luncheon will be held at 12. 30 p.m. and the General Meeting and AGM will follow at 2.00 p.m.

A number of Foundation Members will be invited to come along and celebrate our 30th with us and they may like to stay on and be a part of history as to the largest numbers present for an AGM.

Outside caterers will be taking care of the food supply and I know there will be plenty for all. Please remember the date is an important one, not only for our AGM for this year, but the celebration of 30 years since the first AGM.

CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

BLUE POLO SHIRT - WITH EMBROIDERED CLUB BADGE ON POCKET	\$30.00
BLUE CLUB CAP - WITH EMBROIDERED CLUB BADGE ON FRONT	\$15.00
BLUE CLUB CLOTH BADGES (SEW ON)	\$5.00
NAVY BLUE EMBROIDERED PILOTS WINGS (SEW ON)	\$7.00
CLUB NAME BADGES (MUST BE ORDERED)	\$9.00

FOR PURCHASE OR ORDERING OF ANY OF THE ABOVE ITEMS PLEASE PHONE MARGARET ADAMS ON 9567 6522 AND I WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU.

Cheers

Margaret Adams



*** * VALE * ***

GUNTER WILHELM BLEUEL



On Friday 16th January, 2009 we farewelled our member, Gunter Wilhelm Bleuel, at a very well conducted Lutheran funeral service.

Gunter joined our Sport Aircraft Club in 1983 becoming a very active member, working for many hours carrying out so many of the never ending jobs always needing to be done in those early days of our Club. The ever faithful "Blue Truck" Gunter used to maintain our "dirt" strip, with a rake attached, worked overtime during late afternoons every week day so that the strip would be cleared of all stones etc. in readiness for our weekend aviators. I can still see him working so hard for all of us and we certainly appreciated all of his efforts over the years.

Gunter was elected for SAC Committee Duties on 10-2-1988, had 1993 off and then was re elected on 14-2-1994 for another year, and in those six years Gunter played his part in many decisions the Committee made for the betterment of the Club.

Those of our older members remember how Gunter flew his Cherokee VH-MAM everywhere. His daughter, Elizabeth, lived in Bourke with her three beautiful daughters, and every few weeks Gunter and Margaret would fly off to spend a couple of days with the family. At the social fly-outs that we held over many years to various aerodromes, and our own flying competitions,



we could always rely on Gunter to be a starter. It was a sad day when Gunter sold his beloved aircraft, but we were happy that he still remained a member and came out to lend a hand wherever he could, and of course, keep his friendship with so many off us.

When you look around our Clubhouse there are many interesting photos that Gunter has taken and he spent a lot of time making very interesting videos of the making of "Fenton" (a Movie made at Wedderburn Airstrip) and many of our Open Days. He was always busy doing things for our Club.

Gunter attended our 30th Anniversary of the signing of our Lease celebrations on 27th September last year, with his friend Inge, and a few weeks later went into hospital for an operation which was a success. Unfortunately, cancer of the bone was diagnosed and due to complications he passed away on 10th January. On the 25th November Gunter celebrated his 80th Birthday but unfortunately he had to celebrate this milestone in hospital.

To Gunter's son Mark, his three granddaughters and his friend Inge, our thoughts are with you all at this sad time.

Gunter – we will remember you.

Margaret Adams.

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to 2009. I trust you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year break. There have been some remarkable changes around the airfield in the last few months and I hope everyone is taking advantage of the new all-weather surfaces (particularly the runway).

So..... it's the beginning of 2009 and the start of another Social/Workday day accrual period. Just quickly, a reminder from the Newsflashes that the first Social/Workday for 2009 will be the Sunday the 15th February, not the last Sunday of the month as would normally be the case. This was changed so that the 22nd of February could be freed up for those members who might want to go to the H.A.R.S. "Wings over Illawarra" Fly-in / Air show at Wollongong Airport (Albion Park).

As for this coming Social/Workday, the day's activities will, of course, include the usual type jobs on offer – fire reduction and general cleaning up around the airfield. There will however, be some more specific one-off jobs to do also – a list of which will be on the website around a week or so prior to the Social/Workday itself, so please monitor the website to ensure you bring the appropriate working gear along with you on the day. As usual, any tools or other equipment you can bring from home will be greatly appreciated as it will take some of the pressure off our limited supply of club tools on the day.

Lastly, and this goes for all Social/Workdays, please don't forget to "sign-on" onto the specific job sheet in the morning, as this is the only record of your atten-



dance on the day. Sign-on kicks off from 8.45am with the official start to the day's activities at 9.00am. These sheets will only be laid out in the clubhouse up until 9.30am, so if for some reason you are going to be late on the day (that is - after 9.30am), please let me know otherwise you won't be credited for attendance on that day. Finishing up time will be up at around 1.00pm where lunch will be provided free of charge for everyone who attends.

As with previous years, credits can be gained on days other than the designated five Social/Workdays planned for 2009, all you need to do is email/call me to arrange an appropriate activity to receive the credit. For the record, one credit is equivalent to four hours of participation on an assigned activity.

I look forward to seeing you all on Sunday 15th Feb

Kind Regards

Matthew Gray

CLUB TRACTOR

Recently our club tractor suffered a major failure in its drive-train. The entire front differential gears and bearings failed and had to be replaced. The expected repair cost is in the order of \$2,500-not an insignificant amount for a small club. The repair agency deduced that the failure was most likely caused by misuse of the unit's 2wd/4wd selector lever.

Accordingly, the use of this implement is now restricted to those members that have been formally instructed in its use. Any member wishing to use the tractor may approach Caretaker Mike McCormack, Bernie Stevermuier or Vic Laybutt to undergo instruction and receive approval for use.

No member is to operate this unit without this training and approval.



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A'BESCO BLINDS kindly supplied and installed the blinds on the Clubhouse balcony FREE OF CHARGE

In February last year Garth Bartlett, under the banner of "Friends of the Runway" arranged a BBQ cum fund raising meeting, and sought pledges from members to donate money towards the "gold" option runway which was the "hot mix" asphalt surface.

Now that the runway has been sealed it is time to recognize those that contributed their hard-earned cash towards the project.

The following Club members pledged, and later donated money towards the "gold" runway. (The names appear in alphabetical order.)

Allan Aaron
Greg Ackman
Sy Allsep
Ian Anderson
Jock Anderson
Anthony Baldry
Simon Bates
John Bennett
David Berry
Russ Dann

Greg Goulding
Lance Grant
Robert Greig
Kevin Haydon
Keith Lyons
Richard Macready
Gary Malane
Ray Mobbs
Peter Needs
Jim Paterson
Frank Popovsky
Sam Randazzo
David Rittie
Richard Thompson
Richard Wiltshire

The following didn't actually sign pledges, but were involved right from the beginning, and also donated money to the "gold" runway:

Garth Bartlett
Gary Callaby
Steve Cohen
Nick Hunt
Erhardt Mahr
Paul Milstead
John Venn

There is a third group. The following members added to the fund later on in the process:

Bill Bishop
Derrick Duggan
John Duncan

As announced at the original fund-raising BBQ meeting a plaque bearing the names of all those who contributed to the runway, will be unveiled at a celebration ceremony and BBQ in the Clubhouse (where it all began) later on this year.

On behalf of all members allow me to thank all who contributed money to the cause, but my special and personal thanks go to Garth and Ceri Bartlett who masterminded and ran with the whole idea and who were successful beyond anyone's wildest hopes.

David Rittie

Thanks to Ceri Bartlett for supplying the above information. . . . **Ed**

Christmas Party and Awards Presentation

Our annual Christmas lunch was held at the Aviators Lounge at Albion Park Airport on 14th December, at which the following prizes were awarded:

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Acknowledgement for work above and beyond the call of duty around the airfield

Greg Ackman PA system, Open Day raffle prizes, cook, generator, PA announcer, Dragonfly

Sam Randazzo Contractor liaison, runway and taxiway sealing.

Graeme Daley Earthmover extraordinaire

Vic Laybutt Runway, taxiways.

Garth Bartlett Fundraiser

Gordon Steer Facilities assistance

Steve Cohen Facilities assistance

Tim Causer Facilities assistance

Bernie Stevermuer Assistance with new member induction

TREASURER'S 'BIG THANK YOU' AWARDS

The fastest to pay their fuel account

Third - Vic Laybutt.

Second - Bruce Nash.

First - Lloyd Shepherd, Paid in 2 days

Frequent flyer award for most number of fuel purchases in 2008:

Third - Dave Thomas.

Second - Bernie Stevermuer

First - John Lightbown 43 purchases

Thirsty plane award for the most fuel purchased in 2008:

Third - Sam Randazzo

Second - Anthony Baldry

First - Bernie Stevermuer 3,098 litres.

NOVELTY AWARDS

Caretaker's award Mike McCormick

Best caretaker for this year

Junior Participation award

Lilli Harvie, Always helping around the Clubhouse

Photo of the year award

Don Harvie, For the photo of the new airstrip, and for being our webmaster

CLUBMAN OF THE YEAR

Vic Laybutt, for work on runways, taxiways, fences, roads, grass runway, Committee, all facilities.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Fourth John Lightbown

Third Matthew Gray

Second David Rittie

First Dave Thomas

GORDON CRAMPTON TROPHY

Dave Thomas

My thanks go to the many ladies who were called upon to present the awards. Thanks also to Matthew Gray, who assisted with the purchase and manufacture of all the trophies.

Bret Cavanagh

Pictures appear on Page 14 . . **Ed**



G'Day All

I would like to apologise first of all for being a bit slack in the last newsletter, to those members who have recently joined and to those who wish to join. I lead a very busy life at the moment with Sebastian taking up a lot of it, can you believe he will be 1 year old by the

time you read this newsletter. Both Jeremy Williams and Michael Sladek will be coming off their probation period shortly. 2 new members who have recently joined are John Cleary and Robin Chenery. If you see any of these unfamiliar faces around the airfield, introduce yourself and make them feel welcome.

On the 2nd November, there were 3 prospective new members:

Robert Ian Coles (Social Member) has 3 referees. Frank Luke, Sarah Anderson and Cheryl Campbell. Rob likes flying with his father and brother-in-law and would like to contribute to the club.

Christopher Rawdon Kennedy (social) has 3 referees. Damon Hartley, David Rennie and Adrian Rid-dell. Chris is a local resident who started to learn to fly in the early '70s. He hasn't got his licence yet but would like to become involved with the club with the intension of becoming a full member.

Rachel Deborah Lumb (Full Member) Proposed by Paul McGuire and waiting for other referees. Rachel is a school teacher who has been flying for 20 years, has a PPL and RA-Aus licenses and owns a Glasair.

There is 1 other person who wishes to join at the moment and they will be interviewed at the next work/social day and his name is Tim Walmsley.

If anyone has room in their hanger, some of these new members would like to rent some space. Some of them would also like to purchase their own hanger, so if you are thinking of selling, please let myself or anyone on the committee know. Remember, the exchange needs to be approved by the committee before any money changes hands.

Some people believe the joining fee is too excessive, some think it's not enough. It is very hard to please everyone. However, by the time the northern taxiways are sealed, I believe the initial joining fee represents good value if you intend to use the club for what it is, i.e. a flying club. The facilities we have in place are made possible by all of our members. It doesn't matter if you can't contribute much, every little bit helps and it's the combined effort of everyone that makes the NSW Sport Aircraft Club something to be proud of. I for one would like to thank those who have contributed more than their fair share of blood, sweat, tears, time and hard earned money.

Cheers

Bernie Stevermuier
New Member Co-ordinator

AIRCRAFT FOR SALE

Grahame Gibson's beautiful SWIFT is for sale.

Offers above \$40000 will be considered. The buyer will need to renew the annual, and obtain a Maintenance Release.

Grahame now resides in the Philippines, and can be contacted on:

grim_downunder@hotmail.com, or on his Philippine mobile number +639208306348





Above left: Dave Thomas' Aeronca "Champ". **Right:** Vic Laybutt and Alice with the Cessna 177 Cardinal
Below left: Peter Bowman's RV4 with Dave Rittie's Jabiru in the background. **Right:** Phil Ayrton's RV4.



Below Left: Former SAC President, Bob Phillips chatting with Dave Thomas and Peter Bowman.
Right: The newly built Clubhouse that will be officially opened on March 1st. We are all invited to attend



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Above: left: “and the winners are:” Matthew Gray 3rd, John Lightbown 4th, Dave Thomas 1st and David Rittie 2nd. **Right:** Anne Goulding presents Dave Thomas with the perpetual Gordon Crampton Trophy



Above: June Nicholson presents Lilli Harvie with the “Junior Participation” Award. Lloyd Shepherd (with Dianne hidden), Robert Greig, Kim Gatherer, Jan Faulkner with alcoholic husband, Bert. Judy Krebs, Maryanne and Frank Krasso and Randall Krebs. **Right:** Jan Faulkner presents Gordon Steer with another recognition award. **Below:** Glenda Daley presents husband Graeme with a trophy for his contracted assistance with the earthworks. Matthew Gray with wife Vicki, Ben, Josh and the very cute Abbey. Glenda Daley presents Vic Laybutt with another week’s supply of VB.



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**N.S.W. SPORT AIRCRAFT CLUB INC.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – SUNDAY 8th MARCH 2009**

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 SAC M/ship No.

Signature of seconder Date / /

Nominee's consent

Signature of nominee Date / /

Nominations should be sent to:
The Returning Officer
Mr Noel Carmody
27 Charlton Ave
TURRAMURRA NSW 2074

or to:
The Secretary
N.S.W. Sport Aircraft Club Inc.
P.O.Box 450
CAMPBELLTOWN NSW 2560

Nominations must be lodged by 2.00 p.m. Sunday 1st March. Noel or a nominated deputy will be stationed in the Clubhouse between 1.00 and 2.00 p.m. on Sunday 1st March to accept last minute nominations. Please note that the nominee, proposer and seconder must be full financial members of the Club.



NSW SPORT AIRCRAFT CLUB INC.
PO BOX 450 CAMPBELLTOWN NSW 2560

FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

N.S.W. SPORT AIRCRAFT CLUB

This proxy is valid for (tick one box only)

☐ General Meeting ☐ Annual General Meeting ☐ Both Meetings

I

of

Being a member of the N.S.W. Sport Aircraft Club inc. hereby appoint

.....

of

or failing him/her

of

as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the (Annual/Special) General Meeting to be held on the _____ day of _____ 20_____ and at any adjournment thereof. My proxy is hereby authorised to vote * in favour of/against the following resolutions:

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

Note: in the event of the member desiring to vote for/against any resolution he/she shall instruct his/her proxy accordingly. Unless so instructed the proxy may vote as he/she thinks fit.

Signed.....

thisday of.....20.....

* Strike out which ever is not applicable

The instrument appointing proxy shall be deposited *with the secretary or the returning officer* before the time for holding the meeting or in the case of a poll before the time appointed for the taking of the poll, and in default the instrument of proxy shall be treated as invalid. *Only originals will be accepted.*