



The N.S.W. Sport Aircraft Club Newsletter

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2008

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

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Berrima District Aero Club, Mittagong Fly-in BBQ, 2nd December 2007

Above: Nash Pilling's Jabiru, Peter Bowman's RV4, Sam Randazzo's Moonie, John Lightbown's Jabiru and Tim Causer's trike. **Below:** Garth Bartlett and Ceri show off their magnificent Cessna 210, and Lindsay and Maree Sinclair prepare to depart in the beautiful newly restored Yak 52 "Rusky Business". Story Page 7



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

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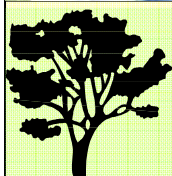
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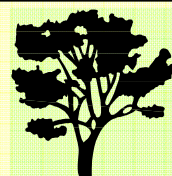
Mittagong Fly-in BBQ, 2nd December 2007

Above: Sy Alsep's Beaver, Phil Power's Lanceair, Robert Greig's Cessna, Peter Hodgens' Lancair, Dave Rittie's Jabiru, Dave Thomas' Aeronca and Doug Montague's RV.

Below left: Jacqueline Montague, Don Harvie, Doug Montague, Dorothy McSparren, Margaret Adams, Anne and Greg Goulding all taking refreshments, and **Below right:** Tim Causer gives Jay Laybutt a rather windy lift home in the trike. Story Page 7



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.





Welcome to the **February/March '08** edition of your Newsletter.

Major events since the last newsletter include the BBQ fly-in at Mittagong, the Annual Christmas party and the

Australia Day BBQ. You will find accounts of these events on **Pages 7 and 8**. You should also check out the press release from the "Friends of the Runway" on **Page 9**.

Please remember to come to the **Annual General Meeting** on 9th March at 2pm, where you will be able to elect the group of office bearers to represent you for 2008/9. Included with this Newsletter you will find a Proxy Voting form and a Nomination for Election form.

Nomination forms need to be in by 2nd March before 2pm.

As this may very well be my last edition as Newsletter Editor, I wish to thank all those who have contributed articles, pictures and letters to the Newsletter over the last five years, and also to thank the tireless distribution team. We hope you have enjoyed the fruits of their work. It's been a lot of fun.

David Rittie

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

Words from the President

Hi there. Let me give you the latest news on a range of current issues.

Runway

The Committee has decided that the runway will be fully sealed with two-coat, rubberised "spray and lay" with 200 meter long, ten meter wide hot-mix acceleration strips at each end. In time, the hot-mix cover can be extended as funds become available either from Garth Bartlett's fund-raising activities or at some time in the future from Club funds. (See **Page 9** for the latest on this fund-raising effort.) The Committee is currently evaluating the ground preparation requirements, but we still hold the hope that this job will be completed by the end of March

Along with the runway seal we are still pressing to arrange the sealing of the hangar taxiways and the main taxiway. The sealing of the road may come a little later.

Joining fees

At the December General Meeting the membership moved that the joining fee be raised to \$3000 (plus GST). At the January Committee Meeting the new fees were ratified in accordance with the members' wishes.

Lease

A draft application for a forty-year lease of the airfield has been submitted to the Department of Lands for their comment. After their comments are received a signed application will be submitted. Because there is still ten years remaining on the current lease we believe that our application will be a low priority for the DoL.

Caravans

Thanks to everyone for assisting in the removal of all caravans from the airfield. We have now shown the Wollondilly Shire Council and the Department of Lands that we are responsible tenants. This will assist with our ap-

plication for the renewal of the lease.

Open Day

The November 2007 Open Day had been postponed to March this year. It is now with sincere regret that the Committee has cancelled the upcoming Open Day. It takes quite a bit of lead time to organise such an event, and the uncertainty of the timing of the runway and taxiway sealing project does not allow the luxury of nailing down a specific date, so the next Open Day will be at the usual time in early November.

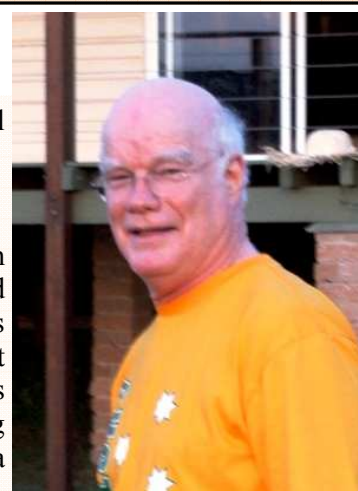
Northern Development Sub Committee

The Northern Development Sub Committee is working on two projects. They are devising a plan to have a huge water tank located up in the south eastern corner of the field and will be plumbed to supply our dams' water to the whole airfield. The "swimming pool" tank has seen better days and will be retired.

Their other project is the installation of a sewerage system for the northern end of the field, and other necessary infrastructure before the hangar taxiways are sealed.

Barry Davis

The latest news on Barry is that he is recovering, but oh so slowly. He is able to recognise people and say the names of a few of his best friends, but does not say much else. The fear is that there will be no further improvement, and any relapse could prove fatal. We are all hoping fervently, without much hope, for further improvement.



Fencing

The northern end of our western boundary will soon have the same wire rope fence that most of the airfield uses as protection against four-wheel drive vehicles. Vic Laybutt is working towards this extension. Thanks Vic.

As this could be my last words as President, allow me to thank the Committee for all the hard work they have put in, without much support or recognition, and for very little reward. It has been a very cohesive group, and it has been a pleasure working with each

and every one of them. I also wish to thank all of the other non-committee Club members who have pitched in and helped during the year.

Please fly safely

David Rittie

From the Secretary's Desk

Hi Everyone,

This is the last Newsletter before the March General Meeting and Annual General Meeting which will be held on Sunday 9th March at 2.00pm in the clubhouse at Wedderburn. The General Meeting will be held first at 2.00pm and the AGM will follow.

At the Annual General Meeting the office bearers and committee members will be elected for the coming 2008/09 year. The nomination form and proxy form for the AGM and the General Meeting are included with this newsletter. The nomination form for the Committee needs to be sent to either Noel Carmody or myself, the Secretary, by 2.00pm on Sunday 2nd March 2008. Either Noel or myself will be in the clubhouse to accept nominations on Sunday 2nd March between 1.00pm and 2.00pm. If you would like to post nomination forms they can be sent directly to Noel at 27 Charlton Ave, Turramurra, 2074 or to me at PO Box 450, Campbelltown, 2560.

There is a new proxy form to be used and the rules now say that only originals will be accepted. You can no longer bring faxed or emailed proxies. It is always a good idea to give your proxy to someone that you trust. If you can't be at the meeting then you need to get your proxy organised soon. A member can hold no more than 5 proxies.

Being a committee member requires a fair bit of commitment in both time and energy. There are at least 12 committee meetings a year plus 4 general meetings, special general meetings, 5 workdays and many social events that representatives of the membership should

attend. There are many areas of concern for the committee in the general running of the club on a day to day basis. Some of these areas are listed below. Following each committee meeting and general meeting there are tasks and issues to be followed up and completed by individual committee members.

If you have the time and the energy to commit to your club and you can see an area or areas where you can contribute in an energetic and meaningful way then I would urge you to nominate for the committee for this year. Your club needs people with drive, skills, and time with a sense of fun as well as responsibility. A thick skin is a prerequisite.!

If you cannot commit to serving on the committee then you may want to help out by being on a sub-committee dealing with the tasks below.

Tasks and areas the committee is responsible for include: (this is not a complete list but you'll get the idea.)

Facilities/Plant and Equipment

Maintenance and repairs
Runways, taxiways, machinery, water and drainage, fire mitigation and equipment
Caretaker liaison
Workdays

Hangars

Hangar compliance
Northern hangar development area
Hangar plans
Hangar licence agreements
Options

Social Events

Club Championship
Christmas Party and other celebra-



tions

Workday lunches

Fly-in drive-in brunches

Open Day

Fly Aways

Communication

Publicity

Newsletter

Website

Community Liaison

History of the Club

Fund raising

Finances and Record Keeping

Treasurer's duties

Secretary's duties

Membership records

New member applications and interviews

New member orientation

And so on.

It's a big job, but as they say, many hands make light work.

Committee Meetings

The next 2 committee meetings will be held in Hangar E5 on Saturday, 16th February, at 1.00pm and Thursday, 6th March, at 7.00pm.

Cheers for now

Margaret Nightingale

Happy new year!!

In case you haven't heard, we now have a son – Sebastian Stratford Stevermuer. He has already spent quite a bit of his life at Wedderburn (like his father). We look forward to taking him flying with us one day soon, and I look forward to completing my pilot's license one day soon too (hopefully before Sebastian gets his at least).

Annual Subs

By now you should have received your annual subscription invoice from me. **If you have not received yours yet please contact me urgently at** (stevermuer@uow.edu.au or 4285-2007). Annual subs can be paid via online banking, direct deposit, cheque, cash or credit card (*please, if paying by cheque – do not attach the cheque by staple, use tape or a paper clip*).

NOTE: If you have any questions about your work day credits, *please* direct them to Matthew Gray. If you have any questions about hangars, *please* direct them to Nash Pilling. Any other queries about your annual subs or other invoices should be directed to me.

Changes to your annual subs – work day credits

As described in a newsletter early in 2007, you are no longer penalised for not participating in social/work days, instead the annual Full Membership has been increased and you now receive credits for participation at social/work days (as well as for any other days you may have helped out around the club). The table below shows how annual subs have changed and credits are applied.

Work/social days attended	Full membership + credit	Total
3 or more	\$452 - \$250	\$202
2	\$452 - \$125	\$327
1	\$452 - \$50	\$402
None	\$452 - \$0	\$452

December 2007 Statements

I have to apologise to some members for whom their December 2007 statement was not correct. I was so keen to get everyone's annual subs sent out on time (despite having just had a baby) that I completely forgot to update all the incoming payments before sending out the statements. Therefore some members statements indicated that they had outstanding invoices which had, in fact, been paid. **Note:** annual subs invoices are correct, just your statement could

be in error. I am really sorry if this affected you. I am back on top of things now. Please let me know if you believe your December statement to be in error.

Late fee – now \$150!

As always, annual subs are due 31st

January. Late fees apply to those that do not pay on time. A late fee is the only fee that no-one need pay as it is only charged if annual subs are not paid on time. Please avoid a late fee and pay by 31st January. Not only will you save yourself money, you will save both myself and the secretary the time required to invoice the late fee and chase your payment (remember we volunteer our time). **If you expect to have a problem paying on time, please advise either myself or the secretary BEFORE the due date** to avoid a late fee.

Fuel purchases – jerry cans

Do you fill jerry cans from the club's bowser? If you do, please ensure you write your purchases in the fuel book, same as you would if you were filling your aircraft. Late last year there were two 20 litre purchases that were unaccounted for – if either of these were you please let me know.

End of financial year

The clubs' financial year runs 1 February to 31 January. I am now in the process of finalising the clubs' records for auditing. Also at this time, the committee is finalising the budget for the new year. Both the auditors report and 2008/09 budget will be presented at the upcoming AGM in March.

Emailed invoices – reminder

This is just to remind you that invoices are sent via the email account fly.bcy@bigpond.net.au – so if you have not received your annual subs invoice yet you should check your junk mail filters to ensure you can receive emails from fly.bcy@bigpond.net.au. PLEASE NOTE: this email address is used for sending invoices only, please do not send emails to this address. To reach me by email use my usual email address: stevermuer@uow.edu.au

HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS OR CONTACT DETAILS RECENTLY?

If you have changed your postal and/or email address, or other contact details, or if you have an alternate email address you'd prefer the club use, please let me know.

Blues skies,

Tara Stevermuer





Hi Everyone,

The “Holiday” season is now over and it’s back to the hard work ahead of us for the New Year of 2008. I trust everyone had an enjoyable festive season and a good rest. This year your Ladies will be very busy with several functions being suggested to take place in the Clubhouse as well as our normal Fly-In/ Drive-In Brunches and the Work Day Luncheons, so please remember to check your Newsletter and the website for all information regarding our get-togethers.

It is with sadness that we advise the passing of one of our foundation members Alan Owen Lewis, please read separate VALE written by Richard Charteris. (see **Page 9** . Ed)

I was very sorry to postpone the “Fly-In/Drive-In” Brunch set down for Sunday 3rd February BUT the Ladies decided that “The Pledge Day” also set down for the 3rd February and our Fly-In would clash if held together, so we will hold our Brunch on another date – yet to be finalized. We will let you know when it will be happening.

Just back tracking a little. It was wonderful to have so many of our Aircraft (around 15 in number) fly to the organized Fly-In and BBQ held by the Berrima District Aero Club on Sunday 2nd December, 2007. It proved to be a great day with the aviators getting together to swap their stories and I know the 30 SAC members (including 3 of us who drove down) and 8 non-members all enjoyed themselves. Thanks to all for attending. Hopefully, David will have some photos of the event to place in this Newsletter.

Now to our first WORK DAY of the New Year: Yes! It has come around very quickly.

SUNDAY 24th FEBRUARY 2008 is the day and so keep this date in your diary and please remember to come along and join with your fellow members to carry out very important tasks around the Airfield. Matthew will be in attendance with his list of all the jobs to be done and I’m sure you can find a chore that will suit you. So on arrival in the Clubhouse please make sure you place your name on the Luncheon list, as well as the work list, this does help the Ladies with numbers to cater for.

I can assure those who will attend for lunch that the Ladies will be serving a very healthy and delicious meal for the small cost of just \$5.00 per person so I hope to see a good roll up on the 24th.

Around the time you receive this Newsletter our Club will be 29 years old. (Our Inaugural General Meeting was held on 10th February, 1979) With this in mind and only one year to go before our 30th Birthday, I have been lucky in recruiting several of our older members to help with the update of our Club History Book that Ron Lalor, yours truly and many others produced in 2004. This booklet is being given out to our new Members at their initial interview on becoming a member of SAC and I think it has certainly helped in showing our new members “how it all began” and to see how well we have progressed. We have certainly seen a lot more changes in the last 3 years and we need to write about these changes so I would like to ask all members if they have old and new photos, articles from past Newsletters or any relevant information to donate to our History to please send them to me or contact me by Email or telephone as soon as possible.

CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

Remember you can purchase Club Polo Shirts and Club Caps with embroidered Club Badges on both for only \$30.00 for the Polo Shirt and \$15.00 for the Cap. The embroidered Club Badge (to sew on) is only \$5.00. Contact me on 9567 6522 for any of the items you would like to buy.

Seeing I am the reminder lady of the Club – please remember to attend our General Meeting and AGM to be held on Sunday 9th March 2008 at 2.00 p.m. in the Clubhouse.

Cheers

Margaret Adams

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to 2008, and another exciting year of maintenance and repairs for our airfield / club. Similarly to last year, we will have two Saturdays and three Sundays allocated for work/social days during 2008. Unless I am mistaken the dates for 2008 will be,

Sundays: 24th February, 29th June and 26th October.

Saturdays: 26th April and 30th August

Please mark these down on your calendars, and, as was the practice in 2007, all Saturday's will see a free BBQ for those attending the workday activities. Where possible, the workday activity list will be posted on the website around a week or so prior to the actual day, and as



usual, there will more that likely be some activity amendments or variations to that list on the day influenced of course by last minute changes in work priorities.

Now, on another note (and I say this with cap in hand), due to my increased "Real Job" workload that will be happening over the next 12-

18 months, there will be occasions where I may not be able to attend some of these days myself for the sign-on's, handing out tools, paint, and everything else that goes along with the workday coordination task etc. I would therefore ask, if anyone has a desire to step up and assist me with this when I can't make it from time to time, or... perhaps even take part as a general assistant on the day when I am there, could they please let me know at some point – and it goes without saying that, any and all assistance, is greatly appreciated.

So, with business part out of the way for this edition of the news letter, I look forward to seeing you all on Sunday Feb 24

Kind Regards

Matthew Gray
Workday Coordinator

* * * UPCOMING FLYING AND SOCIAL EVENTS * * *

Event coordinator needed...

The club needs an event coordinator for 2008. Are you interested in helping the committee by taking on this role? If so, please let your Committee know. In the interim we will call on individual club members to champion events you plan to go to in 2008 and invite the rest of the club to join you, OR, to create your own event.

UPCOMING EVENTS. Put 'em in your diary

Sunday 24th February	Social Workday	0900	Wedderburn	[Contact: Margaret Adams, Matthew Gray]
Saturday 8th March	Wings over Illawarra	early	Albion Park	
Sunday 9th March	GM and AGM	1400	Clubhouse	[Contact: any Committee member]
Fri-Sun 21-23 March	NATFLY	3 days	Narromine	
Date to be fixed	Mudgee "Sip 'n' Bite"			[Contact: Garry Malane]
Date to be fixed	Sydney Basin Bash	(Let's try it again)		[Contact: David Rittie]

Berrima District Aero Club Fly-in BBQ at Mittagong

2nd December dawned a little overcast, but calm. All sorts of aircraft departed Wedderburn for Mittagong in the mid morning, the trip taking from eight minutes to 35 minutes, depending on the sort of aircraft.

SAC visiting aircraft ranged from the 240 knot Lancair IV of Peter Hodgins to the 40 knot trike of Tim Causer. Margaret Adams and Dorothy McSparren drove down at 45 kph to join in the fun.

Altogether there were at least 33 Wedderburn members and friends at Mittagong, and over 15 aircraft from the Napper Field in attendance. This is truly a great turnout, possibly the best ever attended by our club outside our own airfield.

There was a great BBQ in progress, and everyone had at least one helping of the food available. There was also a very successful mobile coffee shop near the BBQ, which did a great business. It was reported that

they did a great mocha coffee. (Let's get them to our next Open Day.)

There were lots of locals as well as aviators present who took a great interest in all the different types of flying machines.

All headed home in the early afternoon and all arrived safe and sound back at Wedderburn, including Jay Laybutt, who got a windy ride home in/on Tim Causer's trike.

David Rittie

Pictures appear on Page 1 & 2 . Ed

Annual Christmas Party and Awards Presentation

The annual fly-out Christmas Party Lunch and annual prize-giving gathering was held on Saturday 15 December. Because the last annual Christmas Party held at this location was such a success, it was decided to have a repeat performance in the attractive surroundings of the Aviators Lounge inside the terminal at Albion Park.

At least a dozen SAC aircraft flew down from Wedderburn, while some other members chose to drive.

After the main meal the prizes were awarded for the Club Championship point score winners, some recognition awards as well as lots of novelty prizes and raffle draws.

Sydney Basin "Crash" award went to **Ian Harvie**, for completely disrupting the whole day's flying while everyone assisted with his rescue mission.

Most frequent Flyer was awarded to **Vilovoj Cresovic**, who is often seen doing circuits at Wedderburn and at the Oaks all at the same time.

Caretakers Award went to **Mike McKormick** - the best Caretaker

we have had all year.

Junior Participation Award went to **Lilli Harvie**, for being such a help in the Clubhouse during social events.

Most enthusiastic Flyer award went to **John Lightbown**, who takes Dad flying at least nine times a day.

Recognition awards in acknowledgement of work above and beyond the call of duty at the airfield went to:

Greg Ackman for installing the P.A. system in the Clubhouse;

Russell Dann for his assistance in laying the drainpipes crooked across the runway;

Dave Thomas for his drainpipe laying assistance, and his cooking abilities at social functions;

Greg Goulding for his mammoth marathon effort in installing the drains across the runway;

Vic laybutt for his continual assistance with all sorts of odd jobs around the airfield, such as fixing leaking pipes, fencing roadwork etc.etc.;

Doug Montague for organising two fly-aways during the course of 2007 when there was no Fly-out Coordinator; and

Bernie Stevermuer was recognised



as the "Club Member of the Year", for looking after machinery, for taking care of the New Member induction process and for help with just about anything.

Club Championship point-score winners. During the year points were awarded for participating in Club events, both social and fly-outs. The winners were:

4th **Robert Greig**
3rd **Nash Pilling**
2nd **Doug Montague**
1st **Dave Thomas**

The Gordon Crampton perpetual trophy went to **Dave Thomas**.

Congratulations to all the prize winners, and all those who earned recognition for their work for the Club.

Thanks also to Robert Greig for organising the whole affair.

David Rittie

Pictures appear on **Page 12 . . . Ed**

Australia Day BBQ

This was another one of those "unplanned" BBQs that just seem to come out of nowhere. The grapevine was in fine fettle as a large number of SAC faithful all turned up to celebrate our national day, and to enjoy the company of other patriotic and like-minded aviators.

Everyone dressed appropriately, as one of the requirements was to wear something typically "Oz". Some wore thongs, some had flags on their T shirts, and someone wore a stupid grass hat. One of our prominent lady members wore an Australian flag transfer on her - um - over her

heart . . . Ahem!

The BBQ facilities were soon in full swing, and soon the whole place was filled with the smell of sizzling steaks, sausages and onions - truly a unique Australian aroma. This was mixed with the typical Australian sound of men chatting around the sizzling BBQ, and the noise of popping corks and the fizz of beer cans being opened.

Many steaks and sausages were consumed, all washed down with good cheap Australian wine and cold beer.

A game of backyard cricket ensued, using tennis balls and, of course, the garbage bin was the stumps. About 20 of our caretaker's grandchildren appeared out of nowhere to join in. There was all the usual controversy about the rules, which changed continually, which was all part of the fun. The unofficial fielding award went to Gemma Laybutt (Vic's dog).

When it became too dark to see all participants gradually melted away.

It was quite a party, thanks to Margaret Nightingale, who arranged it all.

David Rittie

See pictures on **Page 11 . . . Ed**

Sunday 3rd February was a very rainy day, but it didn't dampen the spirits of over 30 "Friends of the Runway" enjoying a BBQ and raising over \$45,000 in donations to enhance the club-funded runway upgrade.

"Friends of the Runway" fundraising initiative was endorsed by the committee to raise funds to 'top-up' the quality of the runway.

The committee has currently committed to enhancing the runway by sealing the whole strip with spray seal and using the better quality Hot Mix for two-hundred metre run-up strips at both ends of the airstrip.

Friends of the Runway are raising funds to seal the full length of the runway in the better quality Hot Mix.

"On Sunday, over \$45,000 was pledged, so we are very close to meeting our target of \$50,000" said Garth Bartlett, Friends of the Runway fundraising co-ordinator. We are very close. If anyone else would like to pledge a contribution, now is a great chance. Please contact Garth Bartlett on 0428 103 023 or garth@bilyaragroup.com.au

Work should begin on the airstrip at the beginning of the 2nd quarter of this year, giving Wedderburn a top class runway that we can all be proud of.

A Letter to the Editor

Dear member,

Recently I have had discussions with David Rittie, our hard working and committed president. I know he gives the club 110%. His social skills are commendable, club members like him very much. To his credit, he has managed peacefully to clear the caravans and other junk from the common grounds, he has changed the bitter atmosphere we experienced last year, he started new and fresh initiatives towards the sealing of the runway and taxiways and the completion of the lower dam, he worked hard towards resolving financial issues as well as helping to push to increase the new membership joining fees to a more realistic level. All this in just one year! At his disposal he has help from committee members and club members. However, there are a few issues of great concern to me.

We have made a hasty and wrong decision by taking in the wrong fill for our runway. The fill we have obtained is a heavy clay based soil that will never grow a satisfactory grass cover. With the lightest rainfall, our aircraft will get bogged. It will continue to require remedial works and involve future expenditure. In addition, it is my understanding that the fill was supplied without any recompense to the club, despite a market for fill disposal areas. Better management, may have resulted in the club getting many thousands of dollars in ex-

change for accepting this fill. This matter and appropriate decisions on the most suitable main runway sealing method must be attended to **urgently with proper diligence and expertise.**

Initiatives to raise funds for the club from different sources should be explored. The possibility of obtaining government grants, perhaps, should be contracted out to professionals who specialize in lobbying government officials and politicians for such grants.

It is imperative that the club operate to a sufficiently detailed business plan that outlines agreed priorities, budgets and timetables. The development of the northern end is an example of a bad planning; this needs to be re assessed before the planed hangar taxiways are sealed.

I understand there is a schedule of priorities that the committee has put together. This is a start, but it needs to be more detailed, clearly reflect responsibilities, skills and decision processes in order to be useful.

Finally, extending our lease must be an absolute priority for the club. It will safeguard our future and will attract new members. We must make sure we approach this task with absolute professionalism. It may be that we need to hire professional advise to guide us, if so, that will be money well spent.

In this matter, it is important that the club rules be strictly enforced, so that those

members, who would jeopardize the tenuous of our lease by breaking the conditions of the lease, are prevented from doing so.

For those who think I am just criticizing from the sidelines I will say this. I have worked hard towards my retirement and have (almost) finished my RV with plans to travel and check out this beautiful country of ours. However, I am more than willing to modify my plans and make myself available to assist in addressing some of these matters. I encourage other members to do likewise. But it must be understood that if one is to step forward he or she must give a full 100% and that it is for one goal - to improve our facilities and secure our future.

If you agree that the issues I raised above are important and require immediate action to address, then please let the committee know this.

We, as a group of enthusiast aviators, have been given a very unique opportunity to defy the current decline in Australian GA. However, we must ensure that we make the right decisions - errors will cost us dearly.

Further, I challenge the committee to respond to my concerns, and restate that I would be happy to help out in addressing these issues.

Yours truly

Ami Gale

VALE . . ALAN OWEN LEWIS

Alan was one of the foundation members of the Sport Aircraft Club. He was an enthusiastic pilot and lover of anything that flies.

Some forty odd years ago, he embarked on building the Stitts SA3B - Playboy which was a first of type Homebuilt Air-

craft in Australia.

His dedication went to Ultra light craft of which he owned two.

Unfortunately, he developed diabetes which eventually grounded him.

His love of aviation never waned up to the time of his passing.

Alan also had a love of sailing and target shooting.

We mourn his passing and cherish his memories.



New Member Report

Hope you all had a good Christmas, new years and Australia day.

Well, last year saw a huge increase in new members, with nearly 40 people joining the club. The most recent to join are Masoud Alaei, Ian Baker, Bruce Cunningham, Bruce Keen, Ashley Laybutt, David Lian, Martin Ongley, Brian Pittman, Bernie Szymeczek and Nicholas Vass.

In response to requests from the membership, the committee has agreed to increase the joining fee to \$3,000 (+GST). All applications received now for full mem-

bership will be charged this increased fee. Any applications currently with the committee will be charged the old joining fee.

The next round of new member interviews will be held on the social/work day on February 24th.

Always Airborne



Bernie Stevermuer

HANGAR C2 IS STILL FOR SALE

Isn't there someone out there interested enough to at least make a sensible offer???



Hangar size is 12.4 meters wide by 9.25 meters deep.

\$40,000

For further information call **Robert Peak** on: 6973 1377, or 0427 333 478

FOR SALE:

Airtourer bits and pieces

Partially restored wing for MUO. Wreck of MVL fuselage and another wing. Some control surfaces and numerous boxes of parts. Box of drawings available (Not complete). Must clear Hangar space, will email photos to those interested. Any offer considered. Parts kept in hangar at Wedderburn.

Contact **Bill King**.

Mobile: 0407285641.

Email address: bil.king@bigpond.net.au

Greg Ackman donates aircraft to H.A.R.S.

The Convair C131F pictured at right is presently located at the Pima Air & Space Museum in Tucson Arizona USA, and is a gift from Greg Ackman to HARS. The aircraft will be refurbished and then will be flown back to Australia.

It is intended that HARS will operate this aircraft and attend Air Shows and Fly In events, and is quite a significant addition to the HARS collection.

The Convair was the first Pressurised Aircraft to be operated in Australia and was introduced in the early 1950's by TAA. It was also operated by ANSETT-ANA and BUTLER Airlines and was used extensively as a feeder aircraft during the 50's and 60's. This particular aircraft will be painted with TAA livery on one side and ANSETT-ANA livery on the other.

This aircraft is one of ten aircraft to be donated to museums by Greg Ackman.

You're a good man Greg

Ed

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From the top: Quite a gathering. "A game of backyard cricket ensued". Wendy and Dave Berry. Our caretaker, Mike. Ray Feneley, Peter Hodgens, June Nicholson and Jan Faulkner join in. Brian Pittman, Robert Greig and Dave Faulkner busy cooking. Cathy and Masoud Alaei with Nicholas Vass in the background. Peter and John Lightbown enjoying the party. Story appears on Page 8
Below: Greg Ackman's Convair. Story Page 10



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Above: The Club Champions, Dave Thomas with the Gordon Crampton trophy 1st, Doug Montague 2nd, Nash Pilling 3rd, Robert Greig 4th. Jacqueline Montague presents Greg Goulding with a recognition award. **Below:** Pat and Ron Lalor, Margaret and Stan Nightingale, Miss Goody Two (different) Shoes, Kim Gatherer and Nash Pilling, Randall and Judy Krebs, Mary and Russell Dann, Diane and Lloyd Shepherd, Lilli Harvey gets the Junior Participation Award, Bernie Stevermuer with baby Sebastian, and Tara with her Mum, Sue.





N.S.W. SPORT AIRCRAFT CLUB INC.
P.O. 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.



**N.S.W. SPORT AIRCRAFT CLUB INC.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – SUNDAY 9th MARCH 2008**

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 2nd March. Noel or a nominated deputy will be stationed in the Clubhouse between 1.00 and 2.00 p.m. on Sunday 2nd March to accept last minute nominations. Please note that the nominee, proposer and seconder must be full financial members of the Club.