



## **Pioneer Aviation Gippsland**

*Recreational Flying School News*

PO Box 154  
Traralgon 3844

AH/ph: 5176 5959  
mob:0407 804 503

[catalpaaviation@wideband.net.au](mailto:catalpaaviation@wideband.net.au)

[www.pioneeraviation.com.au](http://www.pioneeraviation.com.au)

**October – November 2009**

### **ANTHONY'S RAMBLINGS**

The silly season is almost up on us again! Please take it easy on the parties etc.

Janet and I would like to wish every one a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Once again we will have our New Years eve party on you guessed it new years eve. Please come along and enjoy yourself, note: it is a BYO barbie etc.

I have bought a Jabiru J250 kit for something to do when not instructing, when completed it will be for sale, watch this space.

The 250 is the same fuselage as the 230 but with shorter wings with 200mm more chord. The 250 is the USA version of the 230.

Christmas closing down times are 24th-29<sup>th</sup> of December and the 1<sup>st</sup> of January. I will not be going away at this time so if you want to private hire it can be arranged.

### **NEW AVIATORS**

Deng Thok from Fitzroy.

### **FIRST SOLO**



Tom Guy on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October



John Brent on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November



Paul Mitchell on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November

### **PILOT CERTIFICATES**

Ben Morgan on the 17<sup>th</sup> November

### **CROSS COUNTRY ENDORSEMENTS**

Ashley Hiscock 18<sup>th</sup> October

Sonny Webb 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Peter Ward 25<sup>th</sup> November

***TO ALL OF THE ABOVE, WELCOME TO PIONEER AVIATION GIPPSLAND AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE ACHIEVERS.***

### **CLASSES**

Basic Aeronautical Knowledge class has finished with 6 participants. I will run another in February.

GPS and Microair radio class run by Barry's will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December.

## THE FLEET

### 4497

As mentioned in the last newsletter the new engine has been fitted and is (touch wood) going well with well over 100 hours on it now

### 4702

Due to a slight landing hiccup 4702 ended up on its roof on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October. Both occupants came out with some cuts and bruises and very bent egos.

Rob has decided to take it off line, so it is back to one aircraft for the time being.

## FLYWAYS

Easter next year, Kevin would like to have some idea of who is coming along for booking accommodation etc, contact Kevin on 0417 131 816

### **Murray Bridge Flyaway. By Peter Sealie**

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October six aircraft from the Latrobe Valley launched for a long weekend in South Australia. Four of us departed about 10.00 o'clock, and with low cloud around the hills Sandra and I in two Jabs tracked via Tooradin and Tyabb, with the Tom and Rob going direct to the heads in the RV and T18 respectively.

The weather improved as we approached Westernport Bay, so it was on too Torquay then a turn to track to the northwest for Hamilton via Mt Elephant. Mt Elephant is an old volcanic crater near Derrinallum, up close it looks like a kneeling elephant thus the name. It's a great landmark sticking up out of the plain it can be seen from miles around.

Scattered cumulus cloud made of a lumpy ride but visibility was perfect. It's a perfect time to see this part of the country as spring rains have filled all the dams, and you are greeted with a patchwork vista of brilliant green and bright yellow with canola crops in flower for as far as the eye can see.

We landed at Hamilton to be greeted on the apron by the Groundsman who unlocked the clubhouse and even put the kettle on, *now that's service*. So we shared a cuppa with him and two guys who had flown in, in a J230 on a navex from Ballarat. Pitted and fuelled we pressed on for Naracoorte tracking around the southwestern edge of the Grampians.

Settled into our Motel at Naracoorte Tony, Ed, Morris and Ben arrived later in the afternoon following a late departure from the Valley. Ben Lappin, *the poor bugger*, had to skip a days' school so he could hitch a ride to Murray Bridge and ferry a Pitts Special home to the Valley.

The Motel was an interesting place; Gary the owner had a pet Cockatoo that he had rescued months earlier. Aussie the cocky spent the afternoon entertaining everyone buy visiting all the rooms chatting away while drinking all our tea and coffee. Gary said he was trying to teach him to say, "*pay your bill*."

The next day saw us depart Naracoorte heading to Murray Bridge in smooth air with clear skies. My arrival at Murray Bridge proved to be more exciting than planned as I soon realised I'd landed with a dead flat nose wheel, the aircraft trying to steer me off the gravel runway. We were met by John and Judy Harding, John hangars his J160 at Murray Bridge. Murray Bridge Airport has many hangars and a large variety of GA and Recreational Aircraft. Ben picked up the Pitts in the afternoon and returned home safely to Latrobe Valley.

We frequently run across John and Judy in places like Narromine and Bundaberg, so it was good to share a meal with them at the local Chinese Restaurant although the staff seemed a little overwhelmed with the room half full of customers.

Our original plan had us lunching at Aldinga the following day then onto Goolwa for an overnight, but the forecast of bad weather saw us departing for Goolwa to fuel. Just 34 miles from Murray Bridge, Goolwa is on the coast and is a very pretty place to fly into our approach took us out over the beach for a landing on 01.

The track to Mount Gambier took us down the coast along the Coorong before heading inland to the southeast. I chatted to the pilot of a Rex Sarb 340 inbound to Gambier with an ETA four minutes in front of ours. And a short time later he whistled over head, *hope those guys have got TCAS*. Landing at Gambier we discovered there was a fly in and we were just in time for a BBQ lunch.

I filled the tank and we all headed out for the 270 odd mile flight back to the Valley. Despite our head start Tom and Coral in the RV and Rob and Val in the T18 soon rocketed past at nearly twice our speed. I don't actually mind this as they scout ahead for the weather.

Coming up abeam Camperdown we received a text from Bev Fisher to say it was dark and stormy at the Valley. This was quite a surprise, as the local weather appeared fine all the way to Melbourne. By the time the Jabs reached the heads the RV and T18 were tracking to the south of the showers via Leongatha for home. As I had plenty of fuel left I decided to press on, with the three remaining Jabs who were now low on fuel deciding that discretion was called for and landed at Tyabb for fuel.

By the time I reached Crib Point, I could see Mt Worth and the weather looked better on a direct track, so squeezing past a large shower south of Warragul we arrive in the Valley to be greeted by smooth air and clear skies. With the three remaining Jabs arriving a little later.

This was my first trip to that region of South Australia and I'll look forward to returning it's a picturesque area with lots of airfields with a variety of aircraft and like-minded people.

Peter Sealie

**Happy flying**  
**Anthony Morrison**

