



# CHAOTIC

Monthly Newsletter of the Darling Downs Soaring Club

January 2005

## ***President Report January 05***

In December, a member survey was established and notified through the 'chat'. So far we have received 58 responses and the results are shown on the club's web page. For those who don't subscribe to the chat, a link to the survey is on the front page of the website so if you haven't contributed and want to, it will be open for a while. (Enter DDSC, Go to Club Members, then to Mailing List and follow the prompts)

The survey will give the Committee some fairly clear direction of the club's strengths and weaknesses and help us to plan for the future.

The Committee has taken a number of initiatives on drawing up an integrated marketing plan. If you have ideas on marketing and new members, etc, please contact Lex McQueen, John Knox or myself.

On a marketing theme, when people visit the club it is often the first step in them becoming a member and learning to fly so it is important what impression we leave. I notice sometimes we can tend to talk about the dramatic side of gliding – the war stories - and we can sometimes forget they are "checking out the sport". Try to remember that we should make their experience enjoyable, and don't put people off by glorifying the scary bits, as we could lose them, and worse, they will convey that impression to others.

A reminder that the Easter comps is being held at Dalby from 25 March to

2<sup>nd</sup> April. If you want to hire a club glider, please send an expression of interest to the club by the end of January. The Queensland Juniors are the comp organisers.



From the last week of January, we will commence Friday Flying. Tug pilots are arranged but there will not always be an instructor on the field. In the interim, contact me on any queries about Friday flying but feel free to book club aircraft if you are an independent operator (see more in the Instructor Panel article). We had quite some interest also in Monday flying, but at the present time, we will see how we go with Fridays. Our limits are airspace (we don't want to stretch the friendship with Oakey too quickly) and tuggie availability.

With so many of our members now flying the more advanced gliders, we seem to have a shortage of club single-seaters. While we are not currently in a position to buy a new single seater, it is hoped that the Friday flying will help alleviate the difficulty in booking them. Also, we are amending the booking system, so two people may share-book a glider. More from Tony Cavanna on that in January. If there are any private owners that would be happy to cross-hire their gliders for club use, please contact the Committee.



Keith Allen, Bob Flood, Graham Hennessey, John Hook and Brian Rolfe moved the trailer park to the west last month. They laid a cable and secured it, so please, there are no excuses for not tying down trailers now. Moving the trailer park has freed up some space so we can begin to think about more hangarage.

Activity over the last two months has been quiet mainly due to weather, but the heat and being close to Xmas may also be factors. Because of the lower activity levels, and the unexpected additional costs of getting MLR up to scratch, the Club's finances are not ideal at the moment and we have some financial challenges to manage over the next eighteen months or so.

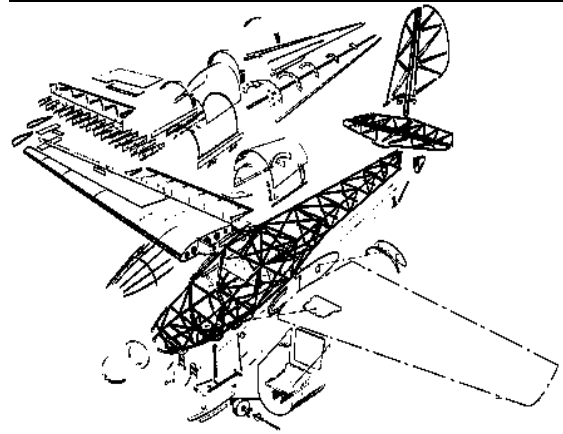
There will be a General Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> February. We have quite a few big issues to discuss, namely, the Duo Discus (or other) purchase, the re-engine-ing of the tugs, the hangarage shortage and fee increases. All these issues will result in quite a degree of financial commitment for the club, so I would urge you to come along to the meeting. The Committee has been working through the engine situation and should have some documented analysis available prior to the meeting.

The Club will continue to hold mini-comp days on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of every month. We will vary the way we conduct these depending on who are participating, and will set two different tasks if possible. The "comp" is handicapped using the club class competition handicaps. Winners of the last two days held were Jo Davis and Jeremy Thompson.

Finally, congratulations to Barry Daniel, being our newest official

observer and welcome to new members Henry Taylor, Jacob Van de Loos, James Southwell, Chad Nowak, and Colin Irvine.

### ***Jenny***

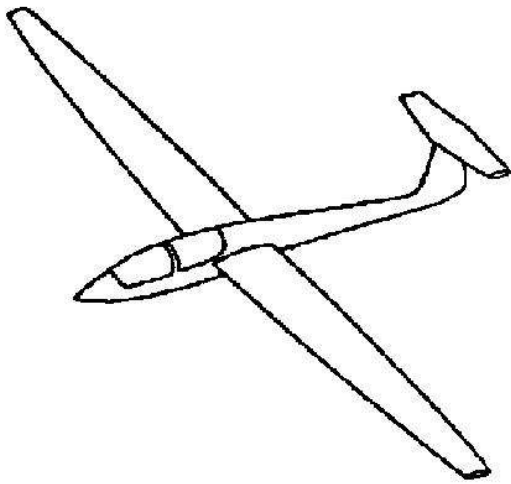


### **From the Tug Master**

Bob is away flying the lightweight tugs for the 2005 Hang Gliding Australian and World Championships at Deniliquin and Hay. The area has a lot of dry open paddocks, which do appear to be green at this moment but dry. Bob sent me a text message saying it is hot and dry as usual, one of the tugs (dragonfly or powered hang glider unknown... no they don't use pawnee!) broke a rope and was blown over one night then another text message to say another had been inverted, so he has a busy day ahead of him with tubes and sails no doubt to ready it for another day of towing. We look forward to seeing Bob fill the seat of one of the Pawnee soon. I have made up a roster for March in his absence and it will be modified if anyone has a problem. Sorry about that.

### ***Keith***

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### **From the Instructors Panel**

With the Friday flying commencing in late January, we won't always have instructors available. However, if you have an independent operator (IO) rating, you are able to operate a Level 2 instructor on the field. Because we will be operating with Oakey Base active, notification to Oakey will have to be made before flying.

The requirement for independent operators is to:

- Hold a Silver C, and
- Be approved by the Instructors Panel as being suitable.

If you are a level 1 instructor, you will still need to have an IO rating in order to operate independently if there is no Level 2 instructor on the field.

If you are eligible, and want to get this rating, please contact me to arrange it.

Just a reminder for those who are newer to the Club, that Tony Cavanna is our Club Mentor. If you are struggling with any aspect of your flying progress, be it at a pre-solo level or advanced, give Tony a call and he will give you a hand, or pass you on to someone who may be able to help.

Welcome to our new Air Experience Instructors Steve Harris, Greg Valler and Peter Wetherspoon.

### **A note for the Instructors**

The Instructors are a central part of the club, and maintaining consistency in our training, our general approach and student and post solo progress is quite essential. We have had few instructors attending our meetings over the last year, and I would like to take this opportunity to ask that all instructors try to make at least every second instructor panel meeting. If you can't make it, please let me know. They are now held at the club on the first Saturday of every month.

### ***Jeremy***

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### **From the Treasurer**

Megan (who completes the accounts) is away on holidays, so she won't be sending you an Invoice this month. We'll catch up with you next month though.

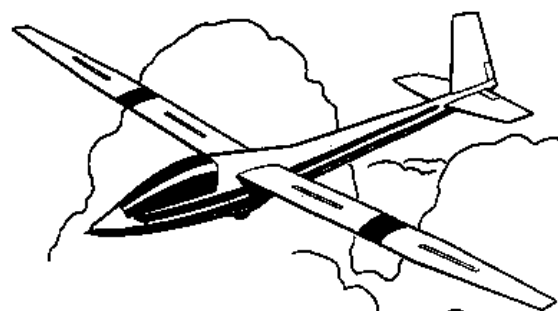
In the meantime, don't forget to keep your account topped up and in credit at all times.

Just make an estimate of what you owe, and send in some \$\$\$ to:

Darling Downs Soaring Club  
c/- Minserve  
Level 1,  
1 Swann Rd  
Taringa  
QLD 4068

### ***Richard (Treasurer)***

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## For Duty Pilots

Whenever you are a Duty Pilot there are always some different duties to be completed. In the caravan there is a Duty Pilot Manual (To access on the web, enter DDSC, Go to Club Members, then to On Line Documents...)

One thing that tends to trip up people is the GFA requirements regarding GFA membership. We were recently contacted by the GFA and they wanted

us to know the following requirements with regard to short-term membership

*To All Clubs,  
It has come to our attention that some members are applying for duplicate short-term GFA memberships. Please beware that Australian residents are only permitted **ONE** short-term membership. Foreign pilots are exempt. Failure to comply with this GFA Council regulation may affect your GFA Insurance coverage.  
Please see membership schedule attached.*

<i>Membership Category</i>	<i>Requirements &amp; privileges Of members</i>	<i>Annual fees payable</i>
<i>Ordinary Member</i>	<i>Active flying member, Voting rights, SA compulsory</i>	<i>GFA Fee + SA + Regional Committee fee</i>
<i>Family Member</i>	<i>Active flying member, Voting rights, No SA, Must reside at same address as Ordinary member</i>	<i>As Above with SA deleted</i>
<i># Student Member</i>	<i>Active Flying member less than 18 years of age or a full time student. SA compulsory, unless residing at the same address as an ordinary member</i>	<i>* 50% of GFA fee + ITC + Regional Committee fee + SA if applicable</i>
<i>Short term Member (1)</i>	<i>3 Month's Membership through membership of an affiliated club. Australian residents may only take this once.</i>	<i>*50% of GFA fee</i>
<i>Short term Member (2)</i>	<i>1 month's Membership on a once off basis for residents only.</i>	<i>* 40% of GFA fee</i>
<i>Associate Member</i>	<i>Issued on Executive approval. Conditions set and varied by the Executive. Not required to be a club member. No Flying rights</i>	<i>Fee if any determined by the Executive</i>
<i>Concession Category</i>	<i>Issued on Executive approval. Conditions set and varied by the Executive. Not required to be a club member</i>	<i>Set by Executive</i>
<i>Honorary Life Member</i>	<i>Elected by Council, entitled to all privileges of membership Not required to be a club member</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Introductory Member</i>	<i>Confers GFA membership privileges (excluding voting rights and SA subscription) for 3 consecutive days. Flying rights limited to 10 flights &amp;/or 5 hours. No solo flight. Available more than once in any one calendar year. Not required to be a club member</i>	<i>\$10</i>



## **Flights of distinction for December**

Again there are the people who just stay flying all day long. A lot of long flights and I believe a lot of long distance flights. Flights over 5 hours... Ralph Henderson with Graham Hennessey, Tony Cavanna, Bob Flood (close to 6hrs!), Richard Hoskings well done, flights of over 4 hours...Karel Kazda x 2, Andrew Straume, Tony Cavanna, Richard Hoskings, John Moore, Jo Davis good stuff, flights over 3hrs... Robert Hart, Robert Bradley with John Russell, Jo Davis, Karel Kazda, John Moore, flights over 2 hours... Brett Kettle, Jeremy Thompson, Brian Hoffmeister with Nancy, Tony Cavanna, Andrew Straume, Richard Hoskings, Jo Davis, Mike Morris, Ralph Henderson with Graham Hennessey, Koert-Jan Schonewille, John Hook, Barry and Ian Daniel, flights over 1 hour... Richard Hoskings, Jo Davis x 2, Graham Hennessey (without Ralph ☺), Jenny Thompson with David Bull, Kevin Senz with David Ferguson, Keith Allen with Fran Ning, Fran Ning (by herself ☺), Peter Thomas, Paul Bart, David Ferguson with Melita and Kerrin (two flights) All should be happy with that lot. A total of 162hrs flow for the month for 116 flights.

**Should you need to contact the Committee or others see below.**

### **Committee Members**

President	Jenny Thompson	0417 629 782	Events, Club Direction, GFA councillor
Secretary	Tony Cavanna	3262 1961	Pilot Mentor, Webmaster, meetings.
Treasurer	Richard Hoskings	0418 745 824	Accounts, Flight sheets, etc
Tugmaster	Bob Keen	0429 639 770	Tug maintenance, rosters, etc
Airworthiness	Shane McCaffrey	0418 759 310	Glider airworthiness issues
Chief Flying Instructor	Jeremy Thompson	3883 3139 (h)	Instructor rosters, flying standards, etc
Committee Member	Charlie Downes	0407 547 076	Airspace Officer
Committee Member	Bob Flood	0413 261121	Enquiries Officer
Committee Member	Keith Allen	0412 255 879	CHAOTIC Editor

### **Non Committee Contacts**

Graham Hennessey	0407 377921	Duty Pilot Coordinator
Libby Matuszczak	0409 140 954	Bar Manager & Social Coordinator
Irene Thompson	0409 051 566	Social Coordinator
John Knox	0411 143 772	Club Publicity/Promotions/Marketing
Lex McQueen	0418 730 288	
Ralph Henderson	0409 596 579	Gliding Qld President; Chairman GFA Marketing and Development Committee

**2005 Events Calendar**  
as at 4<sup>th</sup> January 2005

	<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Contact</b>
12 Jan	Committee Meeting	Taringa	<a href="#">Tony Cavanna</a>
9-14 Jan	Caboolture Visitors Week (tentative)	McCaffrey Field	Jenny Thompson
5 February	Instructors Meeting	McCaffrey Field	<a href="#">Jeremy Thompson</a>
12 February	General Meeting	McCaffrey Field	<a href="#">Tony Cavanna</a>
5 March	Instructors Meeting	McCaffrey Field	<a href="#">Jeremy Thompson</a>
12 March	Committee Meeting	TBA	<a href="#">Tony Cavanna</a>
25 March – 2 April	Queensland Easter Competition	Dalby Airfield	<a href="#">David McManus</a>
9 April	General Meeting	McCaffrey Field	<a href="#">Tony Cavanna</a>
30 April	Instructors Meeting	McCaffrey Field	<a href="#">Jeremy Thompson</a>
14 May	Committee Meeting	TBA	<a href="#">Tony Cavanna</a>
4 June	Instructors Meeting	McCaffrey Field	<a href="#">Jeremy Thompson</a>
11 June	General Meeting	McCaffrey Field	<a href="#">Tony Cavanna</a>
2 July	Instructors Meeting	McCaffrey Field	<a href="#">Jeremy Thompson</a>
9 July	Committee Meeting	TBA	<a href="#">Tony Cavanna</a>
July	"Xmas in July" flyaway to Charters Towers with Nth Qld Soaring Centre (tentative)	TBA	Jenny Thompson
6 August	Instructors Meeting	McCaffrey Field	<a href="#">Jeremy Thompson</a>

13 August	General Meeting	McCaffrey Field	<a href="#">Tony Cavanna</a>
3 September	Instructors AGM	Bowenville Hotel	<a href="#">Jeremy Thompson</a>
10 September	DDSC AGM	TBA	<a href="#">Tony Cavanna</a>
September (dates to be advised)	Queensland Gliding Championships	McCaffrey Field	Jenny Thompson

	Day	Instructors	Tug Pilots	Duty Pilots
	Saturday 8th	J Thompson R. Hoskings	D Baartz J Geddes	Hugh Hofmeister Andrew Straume
	Sunday 9th	P Bell L Matuszczak	F Ning M Robertson	Steve Harris Alan Midwood
	Saturday 15th	T Cavanna B Hofmeister	A Garrone J Knox	Roly Sundell David Ferguson
	Sunday 16th	R Hart B Daniel	Jenny Thompson B Hoffmeister	Libby Matuszczak Peter Davison
	Saturday 22nd	A Garrone B Daniel	M Robertson R Bradley	Richard Armstrong Paul Bart
	Sunday 23rd	R Henderson B Keen	Jeremy Thompson P Hyde	Greg Valler Michaela Valler
	Saturday 29th	J Thompson C Downes	D Cramer TBA	Bob Flood Graham Hennessy
	Sunday 30th	M Codling P Wetherspoon	G Kurstjens TBA	Joan Robinson Tim Hastings

**Note there are some changes and each DP should note**

	Day	Instructors	Tug Pilots	Duty Pilots
<b>F e r b r u a r y</b>	Saturday 5th	R Bennett J Grosser	A Hurst B Keen	Barry Daniel Brett Kettle
	Sunday 6th	M Codling A Wetherspoon	J Thompson TBA	Peter Wetherspoon John Hook
	Saturday 12th	J Thompson R. Hoskings	L McQueen Jeremy Thompson	Jo Davis Koji Masuda
	Sunday 13th	P Bell C Downes	R Bradley L McQueen	Ben Bezuidenhout Neil Muspratt
	Saturday 19th	T Cavanna	J Knox A Garrone	Brian Rolfe Ron Walker
	Sunday 20th	R Hart	P Kurstjens D Cramer	Keith Allen Robert Percy
	Saturday 26th	A Garrone	B Hoffmeister G Kurstjens	Libby Matuszczak Peter Davison
	Sunday 27th	R Henderson B Keen	P Hyde F Ning	Steve Harris Alan Midwood

**Note there are some changes to an email sent out by Graham, please note.  
Tuggies are preliminary for the month of March**

	Day	Instructors	Tug Pilots	Duty Pilots
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	Saturday 5th	R Bennett J Grosser	D Baartz J Geddes	David Ferguson Roly Sundell
	Sunday 6th	M Codling A Wetherspoon	F Ning M Robertson	Libby Matuszczak Peter Davison
	Saturday 12th	J Thompson R. Hoskings	A Garrone J Knox	Richard Armstrong Paul Bart
	Sunday 13th	P Bell C Downes	Jenny Thompson B Hoffmeister	Greg Valler Michaela Valler
	Saturday 19th	T Cavanna	M Robertson R Bradley	Bob Flood Graham Hennessy
	Sunday 20th	R Hart	Jeremy Thompson P Hyde	Joan Robinson Tim Hastings
	Saturday 26th	Easter Comps at Dalby	Easter Comps at Dalby	Easter Comps at Dalby
	Sunday 27th	Easter Comps at Dalby	Easter Comps at Dalby	Easter Comps at Dalby

### **From the editor**

I recently came across the following safety article, which outlines a potential problem with how we wear our parachutes. It relates to National parachutes but no doubt it is applicable to others. Please be aware.

SAFETY BULLETIN  
National Parachutes

#### **BACKGROUND**

It has come to our attention that some pilots are incorrectly adjusting the harness on National back style parachutes resulting in the chest strap riding high under the pilot's chin where in the event of a bailout there may be a risk of serious injury or death when the canopy opens.

Some pilots are apparently using the floating harness Velcro to tighten the leg straps because the leg strap adjustment buckle/thread through adapter has disappeared under the leg pad cushion. They are stepping through the leg loops and never undoing the leg straps at the Thread Through adapter on parachutes with the Thread Through type leg strap connector.

This may also be happening with parachutes equipped with B12 snaps or Quick Ejectors (QE's)

#### **ACTION**

The correct donning procedure including a diagram is described on pages 8,9 and 10 of the manual that accompanies the parachute. Note that National Parachutes have a "floating" harness with a Velcro adjustment where the Main Lift Web crosses the Side Strap. This

adjustment allows for different torso lengths, it is **NOT, REPEAT NOT**, so that you may tighten the leg straps without using the leg strap adjustments.

In normal use the Velcro adjustment is adjusted for the individual pilot and will not need changing unless a pilot with a different torso length uses the parachute. Once the Velcro adjustment has been made for that pilot the correct donning procedure is as follows:

Put shoulders through shoulder yokes.

Fasten chest strap.

Bring leg straps around thighs, thread them through the adapters or if harness is equipped with snaps, hook snap up with V-ring adapter and pull to remove slack.

Stand up and move leg pads to desired position and tighten leg straps.

Tuck leg strap ends into leg pad cushion.

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Note it is a CHEST strap not a THROAT strap. Note the "THREAD THROUGH" leg strap adapters are not designated "STEP THROUGH".

*Mike Borgelt*

*Borgelt Instruments*

*National Parachute Dealer*

*5th January 2005*