



APRIL
2012



Recreational Flying's most popular Annual event - NATFLY - is just about to get under way at Temora Airfield. If you're looking for an aviation event to visit over Easter, this is the one.

This will be the third year at Temora, and while there were a few bugs the first time, they will have been pretty much sorted this year, and the only variable, as always, will be the weather.

NATFLY sees the biggest gathering of recreational aircraft in the country, with perhaps 800 aircraft flying in for one or more days over the weekend. Although it's officially a two day event on Good Friday and Easter Saturday, the organisers have arranged a program covering the Thursday as well, as many people arrive Wednesday and stay till Sunday.

The Temora Shire Council is a major sponsor of NATFLY. The council has made sure the airport is in prime condition to support the event, provides a free shuttle bus to & from the town and assists in a host of other ways.

Anderson Aviation and Jabiru Aircraft are the other major sponsors, and both will be exhibiting at the event.

There are a host of industry exhibitors keen to talk to pilots and other interested parties and show off their wares. One of particular interest to many pilots is OzRunways, who have produced a fantastic App for iPad and iPhone for flight planning and navigation. They are running workshops as well, so be sure to get in early, as they'll be very popular.

There's a special website devoted to NATFLY with a site map with all the details of program, aircraft parking, camping, exhibitors, sponsors and town and surrounding attractions.

Go to www.natfly.com.au for all the information.

Pilot of the Year Round 2 is also on over Easter, and a separate flyer has been distributed to OAC and OFT members.

For those who are new to flying at Orange, this is an Annual Event comprising six rounds. Each round involves flying a series of exercises with an instructor, who scores the event, but also makes sure the exercises are conducted safely and offers any guidance or advice to assist with learning from the experience.

All the exercises involve basic flying manoeuvres - things we should all practice, but often don't.

In November each year, each competitor's best 5 rounds of the 6 possible are tallied up and the Pilot of the Year is announced at the combined Aero Club and Training Organisations' Presentation Night.

There are two divisions - Recreational and GA, and the winner of each division receives a trophy and their name is recorded on the Ross McLennan Memorial Trophy and the PoY Honour Roll. The Honour Roll is currently in Orange Flight Training's facility.

Last year's winner in BOTH divisions was Murray Evans.



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COMING EVENTS

A far cry from flying - but Orange Aero Club has again been a part of this important annual event funding Cancer research.

Around 10 club members took part this year, in an event which seemed to have more participants than last year.



Fears that the heavy rain which fell within the previous week would turn the Waratahs Sports Ground into a bog, turned out to be unfounded. In fact, the conditions throughout the afternoon and night were just about perfect.

The top team in terms of funds raised was Team NAB (National Australia Bank) with about 30 members raising over \$11,000 towards a provisional overall total of \$215,000 - a fantastic effort. Our club's contribution was a far more modest \$930.

Its worth noting that many club members were involved in the relay with other teams and organisations, built around their employment, friends or other interests.

Thanks to the team captain John Pullen for his great work, and to President Phil Robbo for providing his van as R&R centre.

Planning is already under way for the 2013 event. It will be held on 9th & 10th March at the same location - Waratahs Sports Ground.

Photos of this year's event are located at: stenteventphotography.smugmug.com/Events/Relay-For-Life-ORANGE-2012/21916442_FmBXIV#i=1747887595&k=xTgHG09

Copy this link into your browser or google *Relay for Life Orange 2012 photographs*.

APRIL

3rd - O.A.C. Committee Meeting (conducted 1st Tuesday of each month) - Parkview Hotel, Orange - 6.30pm for 7pm - members welcome.

8th - Pilot of the Year Competition - facilitated by Orange Flight Training (RA) and Thomas Aviation (GA) - qualified and student members encouraged to participate - information flyer circulated prior - timings subject to season and weather - Club BBQ (gold coin donation) for those involved in the competition and those that wish to socialise - BYOG - available subject to numbers and weather. **BBQ DUTY ROSTER, COMMITTEE MEMBERS: DAVID POWELL, ALLAN BROWN.**

21st - Orange Aero Club Fly-In to Orange - invitation to club members, aero clubs and those interested in aviation generally to gather, view aircraft and talk all things aviation - from 11am - BBQ available (\$5) - major autumn activity for the club - last weekend of F.O.O.D. Week.

MAY

1st - O.A.C. Committee Meeting (conducted 1st Tuesday of each month) - Parkview Hotel, Orange - 6.30pm for 7pm - members welcome.

11th - Club BBQ (gold coin donation) at Orange Flight Training - from 5pm - take the opportunity for an late afternoon flight, join those present for a social gathering around the BBQ - BYOG. **BBQ DUTY ROSTER, COMMITTEE MEMBERS: JOHN MCKENZIE, MIKE SECCOMBE.**

Welcome to Student Pilots who've commenced training with OFT in the past few months - Roland Grueneis, Andrew McIntosh, Mark Skidmore and Andrew Long.

Congratulations to graduating Pilots Braden Riles, Jack Yeomans, Rob Morgan and Mark Holle. Photos & more detail coming.



Steve Ridgewell's name crops up from time to time, and he's been in Orange recently, partly on leave from Tropic Air in PNG, and partly to renew his work visa.

There was a BBQ a couple of weeks back to provide an opportunity for those who knew Steve when he was club member, student pilot, pilot and Instructor in Orange, before he moved to a property in the Northern Territory. Just an informal thing, but there were a few young guys with flying careers in mind able to pick Steve's brains

As you can see from the photo, security is taken pretty seriously there - definately don't want any terrorists on board the Cessna Caravan! Steve mostly flies Beech King Airs now, but he still knows how to get the best from a Jabiru 160!

