



Too many cooks? Everyone likes to watch the BBQ cook at work!

Carol Richards Visits Orange Aero Club

Dr Carol Richards is one of the two elected NSW representatives on the board of Recreational Aviation Australia, and she visited our club Sunday 16th November...

The main purpose of Carol's visit was to see first hand what we as a club are doing with our Junior members' training program, but also to provide RAAus members the chance to meet and talk with their representative, and to meet with other members of the aviation community.

Recreational Aviation Australia is the administrative body controlling that particular section of sport aviation previously known as "Ultralights".



Aeroclub Juniors learn about engines.

Next year, 2009, has the theme "Share the Passion", with the aim of getting every member and flying club, school etc involved in spreading the word about flying, especially recreational flying. In this vein, a scholarship program called GYFTS - Giving

Young Flyers Training Support - has been announced, which will assist deserving, committed young people with the costs associated with learning to fly.

In talking to our Junior members, Carol made the point very strongly that preference will be given to young people who are prepared to commit themselves by commencing training and show their willingness to be a useful part of the Aero Club community.

Numbers will be limited, especially in this first round, and must be supported by a recommendation of the CFI before going to a panel chaired by Carol. Please talk to Ken in the first instance if you feel you may be eligible.



Carol Richards talks to Juniors about the GYFTS program.

Carol gave a brief illustrated history of the organisation, from its "grass roots" with the introduction of the first commercially built aircraft, the Wheeler "Scout", formation of the Australian Ultralight Federation, to the current RAAus numbering almost 10,000 members.

After lunch, she sat in on a training session when Juniors learned some 4-stroke engine basics, checked out Peter Jones' new Evector Sportstar Plus, and generally chatted with those present.



The Evector Sportstar recently bought by Peter Jones.

Presentation Night

The End of Year dinner and Presentation Night will take the form of a BBQ, and be held at the Aero Club.

The earlier intention was to hold a Dinner/Dance at Ex Services Club, but for a variety of reasons including likely numbers, size of the room and cost, it was decided to run with the BBQ at the Club house concept.

All members and Orange Ultraflight Centre pilots and students should have received notice of this by email, or snail mail for those who don't use email.

There will be some work to be done beforehand and afterwards, and various people will be asked to assist with the catering.

During the night, we'll have some awards to give out - many people have gained flying achievements - and of course the Pilot of the Year will be named and presented with the Ross McLennan Memorial Trophy.



Got your tickets for the Guitar Raffle yet?

This is no ordinary guitar! Its a quality Fender Accoustic Guitar kindly donated by Landers' Music Orange, AND, its signed by 16 of Australia's Country Music greats from Tamworth 2008 - making it a valuable collector's item.

Tickets will be on sale right up to the draw at the Presentation Night.

Please return all ticket stubs, money and unsold tickets to a committee member by 1st December.

New Junior Membership

seems to have stabilised at five regular attendees. Jack Breen, Michael Langham, Sam Cook, Kent Hayman and James Vaughan. These guys have been attending regular Sunday training sessions, and getting in the air at every opportunity.

There'll be three or four more training days to complete their introductory course, and at that time we'll be getting ready to start the whole thing again - probably about April.

When you see these guys at a club function, introduce yourself, talk with them, and if you've a spare spot in the plane, take one of them for a fly. They're getting used to Jabiru flying, but not a lot of other aircraft.

Got an hour to spare this Saturday 29th? Join in the Great Hangar Clean Up - Aero Club, 10:00am. Bring ya gloves!

The World's Safest Airline

is still doing it tough this week, with the latest incident a taxi-ing mishap which damaged the 747-400 which suffered an explosive de-compression last July in the Phillipines. Latest, that is, if you don't count the very irate pax on the NZ run, delayed 24 hrs when an engineer discovered flap damage while the 747-300 was taxiing at Sydney!



Rex Cops Their Share

While the ink was still drying on Friday's media bagging of Rex's litany of cancelled & late flights, passengers on a Sydney bound flight at Orange were off loaded to wait for a replacement aircraft. The SAAB 340 had backtracked RWY 29 for take off, then returned to the terminal. Engineers came on the replacement aircraft and had the culprit flying an hour later.

Priestley Makes It This Time

Once aspiring Federal MP Gavin Priestley was successful in his bid for a seat on Orange City Council in the

recent Council Elections. In the divvy up of jobs, Gavin has landed a position on the Airport Advisory Committee (it has a different name now). As a current pilot, Gavin should be able to bring a voice of experience to the debates.

Best Wishes Jenny...

Jenny Ellis is recovering from an illness which has kept her and John out of action for several weeks. Hopefully she'll be fully recovered soon, and joining the "Flightless Birds" in club activities.



When many people hear the word "Ultralight", this is what comes to mind! Compare this to the picture of the Sportstar on page 1.

(Photo RA-Aus Web page.)