

## “TROJAN 21” VISITS ORANGE

CHRISTMAS  
CAME  
EARLY FOR A  
BUNCH OF  
BLETCHINGTON  
SCHOOL KIDS,  
WHEN THEY  
GOT TO CHECK  
OUT A C130  
HERCULES



Bryan & Ken couldn't resist taking this photo of the Herc as a backdrop to Allan Brown's new Jabiru 230.

The Herc called in on a training exercise out of Richmond, and some inside information allowed Bletchington

School Kids to get a guided tour of this military work-horse. Apparently the School Principal knows the Pilot, who was able to tip him off about the visit in time for the necessary permissions to be obtained.

Perhaps, though, of more interest to Aero Club Pilots is the new Jabiru J-230D, which Allan Brown has bought recently and flown down from Bundaberg.

We found it a beautiful aircraft to fly, very forgiving, climbs out of site and glides beautifully with power off. This plane is on line with Orange Ultraflight Centre for advanced training, say for cross country endorsements or conversions from GA. Private hire direct from Allan.

The panel layout is nearly identical to the J160s, the main difference being the inclusion of a fuel flow meter.

Central Western Flying Training at Bathurst have had tremendous interest from GA Pilots, who've found the J230 to be a great platform to re-vitalise their interest and skills. Talk to Ken or Bryan.



## ORANGE AIRPORT CHANGES

Since the middle of last year, there have been enormous changes take place at Orange Airport.

Three additional hangars have been built on the southern side of the T-Hangars which were facilitated by the Orange Aero Club in 2004. Dr Peter Jones has the first one, housing his SportStar, and next to that, Jamie and Ben Wheeler have a hangar housing their Trikes, or motorised hang gliders.

The latest one to be built is the biggest one, owned by Ian Vennard, which has his own Arrow in there and several casual tenants (plus a lot of pool tables in storage!) There's still more planned, too, with Craig Conlon building at the end of that taxiway. This will house his Aerostar, which he'll be using in his business activities.

Joe Carman has bought the hangar and transportable buildings from Mick Robertson, and it looks like there's finally some action on the Don Hodge site, with a start being made on the structure.



# THE EAGLET HAS LANDED

Another new aircraft seen gracing the skies around Orange Recently, is the new Tecnam P92 Eaglet, and the guy in the photo wearing the permanent smile is owner Peter Davis.

Those who attended the Presentation Night last year will remember Peter, who was guest on the night, re-living some of his experiences as a trek leader on the Kokoda Trail in New Guinea.



Scared of running out of new adventures, Peter learned to fly with OUC last year - the justification

being to facilitate travelling between his farming property near Cooma, and Orange. This Eaglet has big wheels & tyres to accommodate his farm strip, a BIG EFIS, a BIG Garmin GPS and ..wait for it.. an autopilot! And its a recreational Aircraft! I wonder what's next on his "bucket list".

*The Tecnam cruises at 110Kts, powered by a Rotax 100hp 912UL, bought new from Wagga air Centre, imported from Italy, & fitted with 600 diameter wheels for bush strips. Dynon DK180 EFIS/EMS plus autopilot and a huge Garmin 695 GPS.*

*The new autopilot is an absolute dream, but takes some getting used to, watching the stick moving by itself, especially when you pass a waypoint and change heading.*



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## EAST TO WEST

*The following article was contributed by member Marcia Williams, after she hitched a ride with son Rohan, who was ferrying a C206 for his company...*

Departure from Orange Airport was temporarily delayed due to a heavy frost and an 'iced' aircraft before we were cleared for take-off to Broken Hill. On this leg we encountered intermittent, heavy showers and tracked in via the Menindee Lakes to refuel at Broken Hill prior to entering South Australia.

An interesting leg of the flight; altitude 8,500feet, vision very



clear ensuring captivating views of the ever changing terrain; spinifex clumps and claypans gave way to the Flinders Ranges with Wilpena Pound to the right in addition to a series of the salt Lakes:- Frome, Torrens, MacFarlane, Gardiner and Acraman each currently well watered as were most claypans. To the left we noted the distant Spencer Gulf and Port Augusta before descending for further refuelling at Ceduna. Good runways and interesting amenities with toilet doors adequately secured by elasticised motor bike straps.

Next leg, across the 'Bite', with white coastal sands quickly becoming a wall of weather-beaten, sheer cliffs to the Head of the Bite was in stark contrast to the landscape of the Nullarbor to the right. A welcome sight at the end of a long day was the small Nullarbor settlement of Forrest, a former Bureau of Meteorology weather tracking station, and currently home to a Meteorite Camera, on the Trans-Continental Railway line. Upon approach to runway 36 a request was made "mate, could you possibly avoid landing on any of the white markings, they have just been touched up". Request was granted, with no damage to either the piano keys or indeed any of the white markings.

The massive hangar at Forrest (pictured), built in 1929 when Sir Norman Brearley's West Australian Airways ran the royal mail, freight and passenger service from Perth to Adelaide in DC-33 Hercules, was the ultimate overnight parking for the aircraft. The US Military and RAAF were based at Forrest during WW11. The hangar also boasts a tennis court complete with markings, net and lights. We were met, refuelled and driven to our refurbished cottage; No: 4 of 6 cottages, settled in and dined at the manager's cottage together with air crew from an opposition aerial company.

Departure from Forrest at first light ensured another pleasant flight to Kalgoorlie. Again with full fuel tanks, we tracked north west from Kalgoorlie; destination Geraldton, over some inhospitable country before opening out into the incredible Western Australian wheat belt. Sighting the Indian Ocean signified our impending arrival at Geraldton and the first class maintenance facility where the lovely little aircraft will undergo major transformation to 'workhorse'. A commercial flight on a Fokker 50 from Geraldton to Perth completed two memorable days.

# MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

A big welcome to those members who've joined in the last six months or so...



Full (Pilot) members include a mix of RAA and GA Pilots, and several who have a foot in both camps!

**Meredith Schwilk, Phil Paton, Simon Coleman and Peter Jones** hold their RAA Pilot Certificate and Passenger endorsement, and Phil also has his GFPT.

**Alex Cozens** is a PPL (A) holder, and **Leonie Mazumdar** is at GFPT stage, working on her PPL(A) with **Troy Thomas**. Troy of course is the principal and Instructor of Thomas Aviation, and has a whole heap of qualifications and experience.

**Sharlene Jones** is almost a Pilot Certificate holder, and **David Powell** is well on the way. **David Bray** is an Associate Member who has yet to decide which path he'll follow!

Talking membership, the end of the financial year is upon us, and its time to renew for another year. Everyone should have received a message from the President and an invoice in the mail in the last few days, and it would be greatly appreciated if you could renew promptly, and encourage someone else to join. Those who joined up after 31 March are automatically financial to 30 June of the following year.

# PRESENTATION NIGHT

It's back to a Hangar Party again this year! Unfortunately, not our new Club House (unless a major benefactor comes along soon) but in the Orange Ultraflight Hangar, with the overflow onto the surrounding grassed areas and Allan Brown's hangar.

**The all important date to lock into your social calendar now is Saturday 27th November.**



It will be a great social event similar to the 2009 one (pictured at left), only better!

Live music, great food and the opportunity to congratulate all those Pilots who've made significant achievements during the year.

One of those achievements will be the Pilot of the Year, and this year we'll have both RAA and GA categories represented.

*“ Caution : Cape does not enable user to fly. ”*

Wise words on a Batman costume sold in (of course) USA!

# PILOT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the flying members who've achieved one of more milestones in their flying training...

**John McKenzie** and **Bryan Clements** have gained their PPL(A), having started in RAA, and on the way from similar beginnings are **Angus Tobin** and **Phil Paton**, who've achieved their GFPT.

RAA Pilot Certificates have been earned by **Simon Coleman, Sam Cook, Murray Evans, Don MacLennan, Rob McPherson, Craig Mills, John Paoloni, Pat Ryan** and **Nick Ziebarth**.

Well on the way, and past the first solo stage are **Glen Banham, Jack Breen, Leonie Burford, Rohit Chitre, Sharlene Jones?, Mike Langham, Nathan Morris** and **Peter Thomas**.

By the way, if you've ever wondered what is the difference between the CASA system and the RAA system, well, its pretty much what you can fly - the "priveleges" are much the same. Both the PPL(A) holder and the RAA PC holder with passenger and cross country endorsements can both fly anywhere in Australia outside controlled airspace, by day, in visual weather conditions.

Te PPL(A) holder can take his/her certification further by addind endorsements for controlled airspace, night flying or instrument flying, all of which are outside the scope of RAA pilots.

RAA pilots' aircraft are limited by their maximum take off weight, which effextively allows them a maximum of two seats.

*We have several school-age members, either pilots or students, but there are others learning too. We should encourage them and their (grand)parents to become members as others have done in the past. Jack Yeomans, Kurt Lander, Trent Ramsay, Harry Edwards, Harry Whipple, Tess Porges, Stuart Cook, Alex Murphy.*

*A special congratulations to Sam Cook, the first of our current bunch of schoolies to gain his Pilot Certificate.*

# CELEBRATION DINNER



We have received an invitation to a Mayoral Dinner to celebrate 150 Years of Local Government.

This will be held on Saturday 7 August at 6:30 pm for 7:00 pm, at the Orange Function Centre in Eyles St.

Your committee proposed a table for 10 at \$600 or \$60 per person, and would like to hear from members who would like to attend. Please let the secretary, Bob Nash know as soon as possible, to ensure we are able to secure a booking.