

# BACK TO THE PUB FOR THE 13TH AGM

SPRING HILL HOTEL WAS AGAIN THE  
VENUE FOR THE CLUB'S 13TH  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

When Charles Thompson was "Mine Host" at the Spring Hill Hotel, the aero club held a number of functions there, including a couple of AGMs.

Back then it was known as the "Whistle Stop Hotel" - a reference to its proximity to the railway station, or somewhere to stop & "whet the whistle"?

Its changed hands several times since then, getting to a pretty poor standard, but the present licencees have tarted the place up, re-opened the kitchen and are re-building the reputation.

We had 21 members & supporters along to the AGM and lunch afterwards - a comfortable number for the facilities, and there were several other groups relegated to the front bar and beer garden.

The meeting took only about an hour, and the lunch about two, which is pretty much the right proportion. After the President & Treasurer gave their reports, and the incoming committee was elected, the highlight was a Powerpoint presentation by John Pullen, giving an overview of the progress to date towards the new clubhouse.

The elected committee involved the inevitable shuffling of the deck chairs, however three of those chairs are occupied by new committee members, and relatively new club members.

## YOUR NEW PRESIDENT



Phil Robertson has been part of the Orange Aero Club for four years, and makes the planned move from Vice President last year to President for 2010-2011.

Phil has been flying many years, and until recently was part owner of a Beech Bonanza based at Hoxton Park. He now flies Jabiru on his RAA Pilot Certificate!

Together with wife Debbie, an interior designer, Phil has a business providing office furniture to business and government departments, and in this capacity, has a lot of contacts who will be potentially very useful in realising our new Clubhouse.



*All eyes on the screen as John Pullen makes his presentation*

We welcome them, and look forward to sharing the various tasks with them. These new committee members are profiled elsewhere in this news.

We also thank Ron Pullen and Lawrie Breen, retiring from the committee, for their valuable contribution to the running of the club, and wish Ron a speedy and complete recovery.

## COMMITTEE NEWBIES



**John McKenzie** commenced learning to fly in Feb 07, completing his RAA Pilot Certificate and cross country endorsement in the J160 with OUC before gaining his PPL. He's been a club member for a couple of years, and has now joined the management committee.



**Peter Davis** learned to fly with OUC and has since bought his own Tecnam E-glet, featured in last News Peter regularly flies between Orange & his farm at Cooma, in between leading Kokoda Treks in PNG, and other stuff!

**David Powell** is a current RAA Student Pilot with Orange Flight training. He is retired, so now has lots of time to devote to the club! His current task is helping to make sure the 2010 Presentation Night is one of the best ever! (Sorry David - better pic next time!)



## NEW MEMBERS

New members since the last news include the **Paoloni family**, with Pilot Certificate holder **John** taking out full membership, wife **Keri** an associate and daughter **Milli** junior membership. John travels from Katoomba to fly with us at Orange.



Other new members are **Don MacLennan**, who lives at Borenore, and **Peter Thomas**, who lives in Sydney but has a farm at Springside, coming here most weekends.

Don gained his RAA Pilot Certificate earlier in the year, and has yet to complete the necessary solo times for his Passenger Endorsement.



Peter started flying many years ago, and has now resumed under the RAA system. He is currently working through his PC flight check at this time, and all being well, will shortly become one of our newest Pilot Certificate holders.



## STUDENTS

Since the last News, **Max MacMahon**, **Luke Hoadley**, **Gavin Hillier**, **Kyle Thomson**, **Tim Pascoe**, **Paul Babbage** and **Tom Harbison** have all commenced learning with Orange Flight Training under the RAA system, and several TIFs are booked in the coming weeks.

They say there's no fool like an old fool, and this doubtless applies to **Ken Pidcock** who is valiantly trying to learn to fly a helicopter! At least he can empathise with other students!

More on this tomfoolery next issue!

## FAREWELL



Sadly, **Leonie Burford** and **Christian Karner** who have been travelling from Cobar to learn, have decided to take up new positions in mining in West Australia, and reckon its a bit TOO far to come for lessons.

We'll especially miss Leonie's infectious, bubbling personality. Besides, we don't get many female fliers, so don't like to lose them!



## TRAINING BRIEFS

The winter months haven't been kind for flying schools and their students, but nevertheless there have been some successes since the last OAC News.

Newest Pilot Certificate holder (and new "boy dad" too) is **Nathan Morris**, who manages the CTLX at Carcoar. Nathan comes from Narrabri, where his dad flies a new J430, VH-BBS, seen in Orange pretty often these days! (I need a photo Nathan!)



**Peter Thomas** and **Rohit Chitre** are both on the cusp of completing the requirements for their RAA Pilot Certificates.



Junior Member **Mike Langham** has gained his Pilot Certificate recently, and just completed his Passenger Endorsement, while another Junior pilot **Sam Cook** has just about completed his Passenger Endorsement.



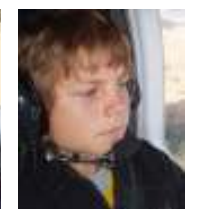
Sydney based student **Liam Keniry** has been training in blocks, and completed his Pilot Certificate in July.



**Murray Evans** has completed his Cross Country Endorsement, and **Jimmy Elliot** (not quite so much hair now) and **Meredith Schwilk** are well on the way to completing their Cross Country Endorsements. This endorsement lifts the area restriction and allows flight practically anywhere in Australia.



**Jack Breen**, **Stuart Cook** and **Trent Ramsay** are on the downhill run now, having taken their first solo flight, and **Harry Edwards** is anxiously awaiting his 15th birthday so he can solo.





# Get Well Soon!

Long time committee member and ex-treasurer of the Aero club, **Ron Pullen**, has been on the sick list for three months now, and has been hospitalised at Orange, then Sydney and just recently returned to Orange.

His recovery is slow, but assisted in the knowledge that his many friends in the Aero Club are thinking of him and wish him a full recovery. He'd love to have friends visit him at Dudley Hospital, but John asks that visits be kept brief as he is very weak.

**Bob Nash** is currently learning to get around on his new ceramic hip joint, and should be kicking goals again soon. Best wishes to Bob.

The "big plane" instructor, **Troy Thomas**, is currently hobbling around on crutches, with one leg screwed together and in a brace, having come off second best whilst trying to chop firewood with his foot! After damaging his head and foot this year, I guess the unlucky third injury will have to be somewhere in between! Anyone want to run a book?

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

These are generally held on the 1st Tuesday \* each month except January, at the Park View Hotel, 7.00pm start. Those who are able, stay for dinner in the restaurant after the meeting, which helps ensure we don't stretch the meeting out too long. Members, why not join in?

\*The November meeting will be held on WED 3 Nov.

## PRESENTATION NIGHT

It's back to a Hangar Party again this year! Unfortunately, not our new Club House, but in the Orange Flight Training 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 2008 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. New pilots with Orange Flight Training will receive a memento of their achievement, and hopefully other training organisations will do likewise!

One of those achievements will be the Pilot of the Year, and this year we'll have both RAA and GA categories represented. Has Angus Tobin completed a hat trick by winning the PoY RAA division for the third consecutive year, or will one of the other strong contenders depose him? Come along and find out!

This year, we'll also be looking for the "**Master Dessert Chef**"! Enter your favourite dessert, and be judged by the harshest critics of all - your fellow diners! Surely they won't be as tough as those buggers on TV!

A separate flyer will be circulated in a day or so, and the details of the Master Dessert Chef will be sent around shortly!

## COONA FLY-IN

The weather gods conspired to prevent Coonabarabran Aero Club's Fly-In on the October long weekend, so they're trying again on Sunday 7 November.

We were all set to send 4 people in the two J160's, but there seems to be more interest this time - potentially the two 160s, Brownie's 230 and a Warrior or two!

Coona airport is situated just outside the Warrumbungles National Park - an area I've done a lot of walking in over the years. Its also a fantastic view from the air, and a



great opportunity for some shots of the Breadknife, Wambelong Mount and the other volcanic plugs & dykes which began life some 17 million years ago.

Interested? Send the secretary an email, or organise your own plane, but please don't fly there with an empty seat!

## NEW HANGARS

A lot of building activity going on at the airport, with the Don Hodge hangar finally being finished, and Bruce Whiley making big strides in getting Orange Aero Engineering into a permanent home. At least two further hangars in the planning stage, too.

**Footnote: The strong NW winds of Friday 15 Oct have caused some damage to both these new hangars. Hopefully, not too much of a setback!**