

ASC e-News



Electronic news from the Adelaide Soaring Club

1st April, 2020

We had a great flight to Cowell last month when a total of 11 aircraft made the trek over the water. It was a great get-together with a nice meal at the Franklin Hotel. It even got Phil out of the briefing room for a day.

AND THEN IT HAPPENED. CORONA VIRUS. The hangars are closed. We are keeping our distance from each other, there is no theory training and **NO CLUB FLYING**. Private owners are still permitted to fly their aircraft BUT don't cross the State border or you will have 14 days isolation and another 14 days when you come back. Also stay away from other airfields.

Let us hope we all stay well and this is over with quickly.

Any changes to the present arrangement and members will be informed immediately. I know a number are very eager to fly to just get up there or to build on their last training flight. Very hard to be patient though, isn't it.

I may not have much to write about in the next month or two. Next edition is up in the air somewhere.
Karl Faeth

CORONA VIRUS

Well it certainly is topic of the day and everyone will be sick (no pun intended) and tired of hearing about it. It appears to me that we should all use common sense and do what is right for us, our family and club members. When we are flying in our aircraft, we are in close proximity to each other so if you have some inkling of flue symptoms – don't fly. There is always another day to come out and get up there.

My advice for LSA pilots always is – the microphone on headsets needs to be close to the mouth to activate and transmit – if you don't want to kiss all the other pilots that have used the headset – buy your own. There is a Pilot Shop at Parafield and there are numerous shops on the net. They start from the low \$200 mark.

The "Mike Muffs" on our headsets have currently been removed. All headsets are in the bottom drawer of filing cabinet in the briefing room. (Marked). Present advice is to use the wipes on the briefing room table and thoroughly clean the headset before and after use and put the headset back in the drawer. I have purchased a new supply of muffs for when and if our present situation comes back to normal.

Stay tuned.

EASTER GLIDING REGATTA 2020

The 'Regatta' has been cancelled due to Covid-19

THEY SAY AS THE BOYS GET OLDER THE TOYS JUST GET BIGGER...

...and just to prove it here's the latest model from Mick Wright and Paul Clift:

All old aeromodellers will appreciate what a fine piece of work this is, particularly those of the diesel persuasion who fondly remember their Taipans and DC Merlins. And notice the finely carved model of Paul Clift in the cabin!



SPECIAL GLIDER TRAINING

Frank Johann has organised some special and very interesting glider training. Anyone interested – please let Frank know.

Sunday 26th April – DUAL AEROTOWING.

Sunday 24th May – GLIDER AROBATICS

Both events are cancelled due to Covid-19.

AEROSCENE EXCURSION

Every 2nd Tuesday of the month a group of aviation enthusiasts meet at the Roulettes Tavern at Parafield to have a nice meal, talk about flying and organising trips away. Jeff Schuster is the organiser and he follows up by giving us a run-down of the proceedings via email the next day.

The next planned event was a Kangaroo Island excursion to support the Island after the recent bushfires. The idea is to fly to Kingscote Airport on the morning of Saturday, 2nd May then fly to

Johnsons the next morning. **This event is also cancelled due to Covid-19. Stay tuned for future dates.**

The last excursion was a flight to Cowell on the 1st of March. After Jeff Schuster's announcement, 8 aircraft from Gawler, 2 from Port Pirie and 1 from Parafield with 15 pilots and passengers indicated they would be attending.

Aircraft gathered at Gawler on the Sunday morning, D.I.'s were done, life vests checked and a briefing carried out. Being Sunday there was no active airspace but there was a strong south westerly. Track was Gawler – Balaklava – Wallaroo – Cowell.

I was able to persuade Phil Pullem that he had to get out of the briefing room and do a bit of flying. We headed north, tracking for Balaklava and using Oz runways noted that we were not really making much progress – ground speed near 60 knots. Tried a few altitude variations to improve matters but we had to be satisfied with what we had. Got to Wallaroo and headed over the water – couldn't see any big fish down there though.

Quite a few other aircraft were flying in the area and we heard a couple of our group departing Port Pirie and of course all the prospective airline pilots flying from Parafield. Clare Valley, Kadina and Maitland are among their popular destinations. Really interesting how our senses become more acute when flying over water – listening to the engine, double checking fuel and ground speed etc.

Approaching Cowell, listened to Multi-Com, heard early arrivals discussing which runway to use and then made a decision on the right one for us.

Transport was waiting for us, a bus, a limo and a car. Phil and I settled for the limo driven by lovely Amy. Well we deserved it. Nice ride into town and a little detour to check out the town silos. Great feature of Cowell.

A very pleasant lunch was at the Franklin Harbour Hotel in Cowell. There were only a few locals in the dining room but seemed quite interested in the great tales of aviation and derring-do emanating from our table.

Then it was back on the bus and heading for the departure lounge. Flying out was over the Franklin Harbour and tracking for Wallaroo but this time there was a very welcome tail-wind. The home trip always seems to go a lot quicker so the wind was very helpful. A great day out.



Franklin Harbour



Your transport awaits



Relaxing after lunch



The Group



Waiting for lunch



The painted silos at Cowell.

A brilliant feature of the township and one just wonders the work involved in creating such a masterpiece.

HISTORY CORNER

History isn't just about stuff that happened 75 years ago, or 50, or 25 years ago. This month's History Corner comes from the year 10 B.C. – before coronavirus, that is.

The *ASC e-News* for March-April 2010 reported as follows:

New CFI

The club has a new Chief Flying Instructor. Peter Phillips has filled this role for approximately three years and retired according to the protocols relating to this position.

Our new CFI is Richard Skinner. Richard is a gliding instructor and owns his own motor glider. He is an experienced business executive but is now retired, and we are lucky to have him in the role.

The CFI role is very arduous. Not only does the CFI have legal and moral responsibility for the conduct of ASC operations, but is also automatically an ex-officio member of the ASC Committee and therefore takes part in the full gamut of management decision-making. He (there has never been a she – yet) is also a member of many important standing subcommittees and working parties.

With this in mind, we are doubly indebted to Peter for his service, because while doing all this he has also been carrying on his busy and important “day job” where among other things he has been helping to protect you and me from swine flu.

The last referred to Peter's work in medical technology. Swine flu – remember that? It appears that Split Enz were wrong – history does repeat! But we got through swine flu then, and we'll get through Covid-19 now. All the best...

Geoff Wood

ASC History Coordinator

VICKERS VIMY CENTENARY FLIGHT

Last month saw a 100 year anniversary of an incredible event. The flight of the Vickers Vimy in an air race from Great Britain to Australia. The Vimy was a bi-plane and at the time, the most advanced bomber in the world. It was 40' long, powered by two Rolls-Royce Eagle V111 engines with 10foot, 4 bladed propellers.

Some time ago a group of Australian pilots planned to commemorate this flight and to also fly part of the 18,000km route. Their flight arrived at Gawler on Saturday, 21st March and culminated at Aldinga airfield the next day.

The flight from Gawler to Aldinga took the gaggle of aircraft through controlled airspace, over the city of Adelaide and then to Aldinga. An RAAF Poseidon did a low level flight over the original Vickers Vimy landing site at Lightsview. A great event.

The gaggle consisted of:

PIPISTREL Michael Coates

SEA BEAR Michael Smith

JABIRU 230 Louise Humble

LAKE BUCCANEER John Daley

JABIRU 170 Chantal Didenko /Rod Curtain ROKO AERO STRATUS Bradley Leksas

The Sea Bear and Buccaneer are of course amphibian and a very rare sight at Gawler.



The Vickers Vimy flight was the subject of an address at our 75th birthday celebration at the Aviation Museum in Port Adelaide recently. The flight was beautifully described by Lainie Anderson who also wrote the excellent book "LONG WAY HOME". A great read which gives a detailed insight into the aircraft and the huge problems faced by the Australian crew.

DIARY DATES

Flinders Expedition Brenton Swart advises that it will be October 2020, first week of the school holidays. **Subject to Covid-19 as is the Bunyan Wave Camp.**

Bunyan Wave Camp Frank Johann advises that the dates are 12/09/20 to 19/09/20.

COMMUNICATION AT ADELAIDE SOARING CLUB

ASC WEBSITE <https://www.adelaidesoaring.org.au>

Information about the club for visitors and official information for members.

ASC OFFICE office@adelaidesoaring.org.au 08 8522 1877

ASC ANNOUNCE communications@adelaidesoaring.org.au

For official information within the club and can only be used by club officials. All members must have a site to receive these messages.

ASC MEMBERS members@adelaidesoaring.org.au

For members to post items relating to club matters. Members can opt out.

FACEBOOK The ASC has a Facebook page and also a club facebook group.

ASC e-News To convey information about club activities. Usually presented monthly.

COMMITTEE The Committee meets monthly and meeting minutes are posted on Notice Boards.

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