

# ASC e-News



*Electronic news from the Adelaide Soaring Club*

*1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020*



## **HAPPY NEW YEAR for 2020**

Well, what a Year we have had. The Adelaide Soaring Club is 75 years old and it is going from strength to strength. We have had a real positive increase in our lease of the airfield and the Light Regional Council has intimated a reduction in our council rates. Membership is increasing, there are more student pilots to train by our Instructors, flying hours going up and more hangars re being erected by members. A very positive outlook for our club.

Karl Faeth

### **SUCCESSFUL INTENSIVE GLIDING COURSES**

Two intensive gliding courses were recently held at Gawler. Each course took place during 5 days (Monday to Friday) with both ground theory and flying every day, and instructors solely committed to the students on the course. The results were good. Of the three student pilots involved, two went solo during the week and the third managed seven hours flying in the five days.

One of the students who soloed was Kalell Kemp. He was very pleased with his progress!

(Photo: Phil Kemp)



Another course is planned for early 2020

**Thumbs  
up.**

**Looking  
good.**

## 2019 -20 ASC Gliding Scholarship Program

Further to the release of details of this program, members are informed that post registration of interest to Peter Sadler, Application Documents will be forwarded to you.

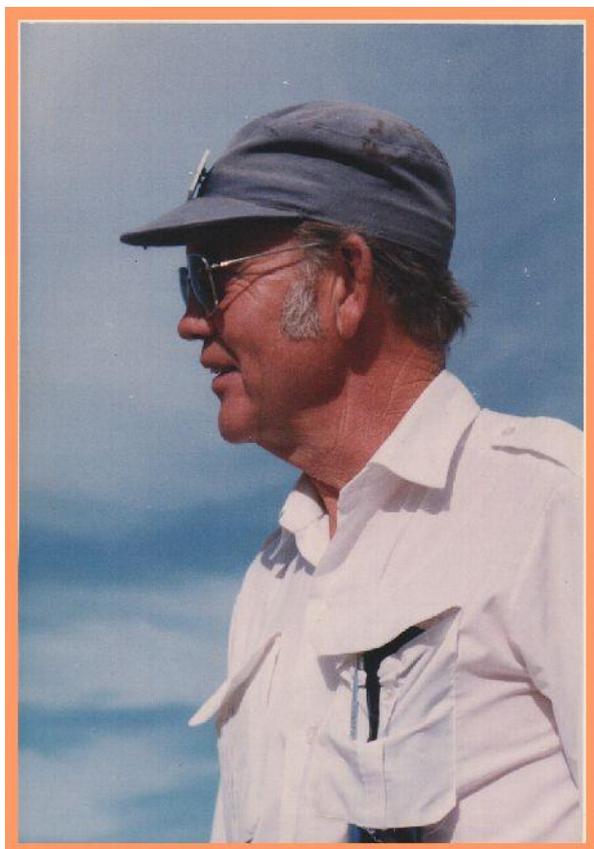
**Please note; The closing date for receipt of completed Applications is Saturday 14/12/19, however see below.**

It is appreciated that the limited timeframe in meeting the above date may have precluded some members from considering an application.

To that end, you are advised that if sufficient funds are available, a second round of Scholarship applications will be considered during 2020.

Should you be considering a future application, registering that interest with Peter Sadler - [peter.sadler50@gmail.com](mailto:peter.sadler50@gmail.com) will assist the Gliding Scholarship Management Group in considering a further round. See page 9. *“Winners Announced”*

## HISTORY CORNER



**B102 GR.  
Gordon Redway, 1976.**

**Gordon was for many years the ASC full time professional instructor and had an enviable reputation Australia wide. He was awarded with club Life Membership in 1980.**

**A legend in his own time.**

A number of us senior members remember Gordon very well. I arrived at the ASC in 1973 and flew with Gordon and also Mike Valentine. In no time he had me in the back seat of the ASK13, then flying the ES60B Hornet and ES60 Boomerang. He convinced me to undertake Instructor Training in 1974, which included flying in the Kookaburra M4 and from then on it was sitting in the back seat, instructing. It was a busy time and some days I had 13 training flights. Gordon was very pragmatic. He used to smoke a pipe and when offering advice to a

student, he'd give it a puff and say " I like the way you got into and out of the glider, BUT" and well thought out and very informed advice would follow. He was a great man.

## History Corner

# Our airfield – 10 years old!

It was ten years ago this month that we moved from our "old" airfield to what you see today – well, more or less what you see today...

If you've joined the club in the last 10 years, here's a quick history of Gawler aerodrome. It was built in 1944 during the Second World War and was used for a short while as an operational base, then as a training base. Among other things Curtiss P40 fighters were based here. After the war Gawler aerodrome was the alternate aerodrome for Parafield which was then the main Adelaide aerodrome. Here's a picture of a DC4 airliner landing at Gawler:



The runways were a little longer than they are now, and believe it or not 23/05 was bitumen, the remnants of which can still be seen in some places.

Below is the aerodrome at about that time showing the then club buildings. Two Wells Road is on the left and the 05 threshold in the far distance. Not many trees compared to now!! Or houses!



The Adelaide Soaring Club was established also in 1944. It operated from a number of different sites, but had become firmly established at Gawler by 1960. The club leased the aerodrome first from the Commonwealth Government, and from the 1990s from the Light Regional Council. It still does. The club has maintained, improved and nurtured the aerodrome for decades, resulting in it being transformed by 1973:



In the picture above the trotting track is roughly where our current 2019 clubhouse is, and the old clubhouse is on the other side of runway 31.

Then in 2006 we had the first intimation of something that would cause us the greatest change since the move to Gawler 50 years before – the proposal for the Northern Expressway.

After a period of consultation which left the proposals unchanged, the Expressway was built. The work involved was simply enormous. Vivally for us, all our hangars and other buildings were now separated from the runways by a 4-lane highway. The SA Government judged that the best thing to do was to replace our previous buildings with new ones. Taxiways were built for the first time, in part to compensate for the shortening of the runways.

The picture below shows the Expressway being built, with our new hangars in place but no clubhouse yet. The old buildings are on the extreme left of the picture. They were subsequently demolished.





So it was that ten years ago this month we held a major club working bee to shift all our equipment, goods and chattels from the “old site” to the new, ending with a big free BBQ:



The official opening of the new site and buildings occurred on 8 March 2010 and since then we’ve settled in and continued ever onward and upwards.

**Geoff Wood**

**ASC History Coordinator**

...with acknowledgement to the ASC photo archive and its compiler Peter Killmier

## SOLO FLIGHTS



Chad Mauger went solo in the Jabiru and has Achieved his pilot certificate and passenger Rating.



Hayden Borchard was sent solo by Instructor Clem Lunau. Ever the achiever, Hayden is now flying in the Jabiru as well.

## RECENT HELICOPTER VISITOR

VH-JYS a Messerschmitt-Bolkow-Blohm powered by two Allison Gas Turbines flew into Gawler the other day for a quick stop but stayed overnight due to a defect.



## CUDLEE CREEK FIRE

Well we had 4 days of over 40 degree temperatures, declared “Catastrophic Fire Days”. Not very comfortable on the ground, however some of our intrepid glider pilots put the temperatures to good use. Great to see Vlad doing a 300km on Monday followed up by a 500km flight on Wednesday. A number of others made good use of the thermals as well.

Just on lunch on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> our tuggie, Brian Walsh, said “Well I’ve towed them up and I am going home. Good decision Brian as there was no sign of anyone returning.

Friday morning and the CFS set up early, Ged Terry, our yearly visitor from the UK who left 2 degrees to swelter in our 40+, had an early morning flight in a Jabiru and then it was a case of shutting the hangar door, made difficult by the strong wind holding the door against its tracks.

AeroTech bombers then arrived and were filled in pairs by the CFS crew on a rotating basis as reports came in of fires on the Northern Expressway and then Cudlee Creek. Truly horrendous conditions for the communities and the firefighters involved.

It felt proud to be a member at Gawler and part of the airfield that was able to play its part in fighting these fires and those that have occurred in past years.

Saturday morning again saw a number of bombers coming in for a refill, but conditions had moderated somewhat and we were able to do Glider, Jabiru and Roko flights. Not great visibility though as the smoke layer was up to 4,000 plus feet. It was very easy early to be lost in the haze and keeping track of the Sturt Highway helped. Good enough though for Ian Roddie, John Cooper-Smart, Bridgitte McAllister, Sue Ingham and some others to take a lunch flight down to Meningie. Apparently the smoke cleared once over the Barossa Valley and into the Murray Valley.



Come Monday morning and Gawler saw the CFS crew setting up again. Interesting to see the numerous containers of fire retardant that were delivered by truck on Friday morning, still evident as part of the set up.

A couple of AeroTech bombers and helicopters also remained on standby at Gawler whilst the crews enjoyed a bit of comfort in our cool dining room. Let us hope these dreadful and dangerous conditions are not repeated this summer.



## DIARY DATES

Flinders Expedition Brenton Swart advises that it will be October 2020, first week of the school holidays.

### Aeroscene Events coming up:

19<sup>th</sup> January, American River Gala Day on Kangaroo Island. There will be shuttle buses from Johnson Airfield.

26<sup>th</sup> January, Australia Day. Fly-in at 'The Vale', Tasmania. Sounds like a great trip. Travel across Bass Strait. This is made very safe with 'Flight following' with Air Services. Three or four pilots have already indicated an eager interest including Jeff Schuster and Sue Ingham and Bridgitte McAllister.

1<sup>st</sup> March. Cowell Pub Fly-in. Eyre Peninsula. In planning stage.

## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to the following winners of a 2020 ASC Gliding Scholarship.

Cooper BARTLETT. David BRADSHAW. Francesca LARIZZA. Hayden BORCHARD. Jason SMYTH. Kalell KEMP. Kynan LAMPE. Nicole HENDRY.

## 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](mailto:office@adelaidesoaring.org.au)      08 8522 1877

- ASC ANNOUNCE** [communications@adelaidesoaring.org.au](mailto: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](mailto: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.

#### OFFICIAL CLUB CONTACTS

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