



MIDWEST AERO CLUB (INC)



Geraldton Airport

PO Box 1974
GERALDTON WA 6531

Pres: Greg Fletcher

Sec: Carl Hanson

WebPages: www.wn.com.au/midwestair

Club Phone/Fax 08 9923 3652

Email: midwestair@wn.com.au

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2003

EDITORIAL

Newsletter Editor Jeff Wheat

Phone 9938 1875ah

Email wheat@wn.com.au

The busy time continues, with the next event, the Jurien Fly-in with RACWA and Northam AC is to be held 22-23 March. This has traditionally been a fun event, and a dinner has been arranged at the Jurien Hotel for the Saturday evening. Please support this weekend if you are able. Current representatives are Dick & Vi Thornton and Bob & Val Watson, with possibly Rob Morris, Carl Hanson & Peter Kelliher to fly in and out on a day trip. If you are able to go, it will be a great weekend – you will need to contact the hotel directly for accommodation and your dinner numbers. Please give Captain Dick a call on 9921 8790 if you're interested.

The computer for Members' use has been ordered and will soon be up and running. It is planned to install the Champagne Flight Planner Program (all Australia Package), and flight simulation software. In addition, Internet access will be available, with access to NAIPS for briefings, plan submission etc. These facilities will be available for all members' use.

The April Fools Fly-in and Seafood Spectacular – the MWAC Premier Event - is fast approaching – 12-13 April, the weekend before Easter. MARK your diary now, and plan to be involved! Full details of the event are on the Club website, but includes mini air trial, flying and ground competitions, fellowship and fun – all the ingredients for a great weekend, and it's RIGHT HERE!!

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Club Captain Dick Thornton

Phone 9921 8790

Email capndick@westnet.com.au

Captain Dick's report on HMAS Greenough carrier landing held on 23rd Feb.

Several members were in attendance on the day but only 3 had a go in 35-knot winds. Carl was first away in JRC with Tyler as check & me in the back. The idea was to start your roll at the piano keys on 21 & rotate by the large white markers for a 500' circuit then land & full stop before the end of the markers otherwise you finish in the drink, no points.

Carl completed his circuit, landing ok & taxied back to the keys to swap with Tyler who got off fine for a good circuit but his landing was not so classy, so he had another go, much better. As I had not flown JRC we taxied back to the hanger & pulled the Mouse out, all climbed in, with Carl as first officer I proceeded to do my lap. By this time the wind had shifted slightly to the east. Unfortunately we could not bring the carrier head on into the breeze so I did a crossy onto the deck for which Carl gave me top points with himself second & Tyler third.

Thanks guys for an interesting afternoon.

EMAIL ADDRESS

Do you have (and use) an email address? If so, please let me have your address, as Club newsletters and other communications can be delivered so quickly, and at no expense to the Club. Financial members will continue to receive a hard copy in the mail, in addition to email, unless you advise your willingness to accept the electronic version.

AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

Well known Club member and Morawa identity Dick Sasse was recognized in the recent Australia Day Honour list. Known well to MWAC members for his founding and unstinting involvement in the activities of the Morawa Gliding Club (and also participation in MWAC events), Dick has also been heavily involved in his local Community through such avenues as Presidency of the pasture improvement group of the Morawa Shire, member of the Morawa Roads Board, long term membership of the RSL and other Community Groups such as the Morawa Brass Band and the Anglican Church. Dick is a high achiever, having won the Sports Class three times, and the Veterans twice at the WA Gliding Association Championships – a perfect gentleman and all-round nice guy to boot!! Sincere Congratulations Dick, from all your friends at the MWAC.

SNIPPETS

Wendy Mann's Cessna 337 has left town.

Does Rick P have a riveting new interest in mind??

Sign seen in the Gents in a GA Terminal "Pilots with short pitot tube and low manifold pressure are advised to taxi closer..."

More hangar construction planned?

While waiting on the ground for half an hour for bad weather to clear, the following was overheard:

Tower: "United 123 taxi into position and hold."
United 123 "We are unable to. We have a passenger in the lavatory."
Tower: "United 124, do you have a passenger in the lav?"
United 124 "No sir."
Tower: "United 124, you're up!"

While Carol and I were sitting in a rain delayed United flight on the ground at Chicago last year, I was listening to the flight deck on the headphones.

United 1035 "What's the sequence on United 1035?"
Tower: "Oh Man, I don't think I can count that high..."
It was a long wait!

Singapore Airlines Flight School to operate in Geraldton for a trial period this year.

John and Glenys Kelly were recently in town for a week or so while KTT was in Perth for service. All goes well for them in Port Hedland. Noting the resurgence of the Newsletter, JK couldn't help but do himself in for penetration of RAAF airspace on his trip to Perth, with the resultant "Please call this number on arrival..." Maybe he is suffering from withdrawal of the Wooden Spoon?

DATES TO REMEMBER

Jurien Fly-in MWAC–RACWA-NAC March 22-23
MWAC Club Competition Sunday 30th March 1400hrs
MWAC April Fools Flyin and Seafood Spectacular April 12-13
Cunderdin Easter Airshow April 19-20

BOYUP BROOK FLY-IN REPORT

Capt. Dick, steering, & Violet navigating, departed YGEL on the 14th at 0800 local at 500" due to low cloud & an inbound Dash 8 from the southeast. By the time we reached 20 miles out the cloud lifted, he was on the ground, so climbed to 3500" & tracked to Northam via Yerecoin to miss CTA. We fuelled up, pit stop, & were on our way south (188*) to Boyup Brook where we did a couple of laps of the town before heading for the strip some 5 miles to the southeast.

After landing we were met by Tracey & Mike Hill. Mike is a teacher & taught Karl, our recent scholarship winner, aeronautics at Kent St High. After erecting our under wing tent we were taken to town where we met up with Vi's sister who was playing bowls. Borrowed her car & did a recce of the very hilly town which was jampacked with caravanners. After returning to the bowling club to watch sister inlaw play I was introduced to two gentlemen (93 &95) locals who forced me down to the club bar where they plied me with beer, stories, & more beer till the ladies came down & prized me away for tea. After tea we headed for the oval where we enjoyed good singing & dancing (belly), met up with Bob Watson, & later taken back to our tent some 10ks away.

Saturday we woke to a fresh easterly & toad in the hole for breakfast. Mike had hired Manjimup's 172-180hp & commenced doing scenics, while we got a lift into town to see the street stalls & watch the parade till mid afternoon. Vi's sister took us back to the airfield & unloaded a heap of lovely stone fruit into the plane. Barbeque that night in the hanger & all into bed early.

Woke up Sunday to low cloud, thunder & lightning. Started raining & it didn't look like we were going to get off for home. Mike drew a cross in the middle of the hangar & invited me to jump on it as we were the only ones to show up for the spot landing comp. Naturally I hit the middle but then bounced but still won. Got a nice T-shirt. By this time Tracey's brother, who had left by car for Perth called from Collie saying the cloud was broken over head & clear to the north so we jumped in & headed for Serpentine & the coastal LOE to YGEL.

Got down at 2pm after a very enjoyable weekend. Our thanks go to Mike & Tracey Hill for their wonderful hospitality.

Cheers Dick & Vi.

APRIL FOOLS FLY-IN AND SEAFOOD SPECTACULAR APRIL 12TH & 13TH

Donations of cakes, slices, sandwiches etc are required for morning and afternoon teas and lunches. Please call Val Watson (9964 2564) or Vi Thornton (9921 8790) with your offers of help. We also need crock pots etc for use on the day.

Volunteers are also needed on the days – to help with food preparation and service, and also volunteers to act as air or ground judges for competitions, marshals etc, and just being generally good hosts – with fellowship, a lift to town if needed etc.

This is a great weekend at YOUR CLUB – so why not plan to come out, join in the activities, and spend some time at the Club. We look forward to seeing YOU!