



SSAC NEWSLETTER

More Bent Wings - Rod's Jodel No 3



There's no doubt about Rod Taylor: he likes his wings bent. He has recently completed and test flown his third Jodel, a two seat D18 model. Well done Rod. This one is Rotax powered and sounds very business-like in the air. Rod has been busy flying off the necessary test hours. He hopes to be able to fly it on the club fly-away starting May 8. Thanks to Brad Pike for the Photos.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi one and all,

Well, what an interesting start we have had for 2015.

Nearly \$1000.00 was raised at our Bunning's sausage sizzle thanks to Dave, Marlene and all the members who gave their time on Sunday 22nd March.

A Facebook page for SSAC now up and running thanks to Peter Skipsey.

Rod Taylor completed building his Jodel and is quickly getting the hours up so that he can take it to William Creek in May. So now we have a Spitfire, a Mustang and three Jodels at Wentworth!

Brian is in the process of buying a defibrillator for the clubhouse thanks to the funds from our sausage sizzle and a generous donation of \$800.00 from the Coomealla Club. Members please make yourself familiar with this piece of equipment and remember the life it may save might be yours. The MCG have had a 100% success rate since they introduced them; I hope we have a similar result.

We have 30 starters for our May fly-away and weather permitting a great time is assured.

Preparations for our June fly-in are well advanced and I would ask all who can help out over the weekend to please let Brian know particularly regarding the dinner on Saturday evening. Your attendance will help to make it a success.

In July we have our Wings Evening planned and again help is required. Please pitch in to make it a truly memorable event for our up and coming aviators.

The Auster and Short Wing Piper Rallies, annual events for the Antique Aircraft Association, will combine next year and be held at Wentworth in March. So our calendar is indeed full of fun and activity.

On a sad note our Editor Dale has asked us to find someone to take over the role of Editor of our magazine. He has done a great job but after four years wants a break. A hard act to follow but we would like to see the magazine continue so please give it some thought.

And to finish, John Peel has been in Melbourne for an operation last week. I wish him and anyone else on the sick list a speedy recovery.

Safe flying to all

Jeff Woodroffe.
President.

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VALE Peter Johnston.

Peter Sale Johnston (Pete, as he was affectionately known to most of us) sadly passed away on the 11th of February 2015 aged 88 years. At the time, Peter and his wife Betty were residents at Merbein's Chaffey nursing home. Peter unfortunately had been ill for sometime prior to his passing.

We at the Sunraysia Sport Aircraft Club will remember Pete as a gentleman, a quiet achiever and dedicated member and servant of the club in capacities of both Treasurer and also Secretary/Treasurer from 1998 to his retirement from the club executive in 2012. A period of 14 years continuous service.

Peter was awarded a Life Membership in recognition of his selfless service to our club.

Peter's interest in aviation went back many years however Peter finally fulfilled his dream to fly under the guidance of our CFI Cliff Banks. Having received his pilot certificate Pete went on to purchase a parcel of land at Wentworth Airport, on which he had a hangar constructed to house his pride and joy, a single seat Seabird pusher aircraft which had a very compact cockpit, but it suited Pete's slight stature.

Peter was a true gentleman, always ready to jump in boots and all to contribute to any club activities that were happening. Peter and his wonderful wife Betty were always there to help with the finances and visitor welcoming at our annual Queens Birthday fly in or any other special occasions such as our Christmas dinners etc.

Peter spent many a happy morning at Pearce Dunn's "Coffee Club" in the upstairs apartment in Pearce's hanger at the Mildura Airport, where many of the local recreational aviation enthusiasts would gather on an almost daily basis to share stories and fellowship.

Peter's last visit to our club rooms was at our 2014 Christmas party on December 13th, accompanied by his devoted daughter Carolyn Gowers. It was with great pleasure, tinged with sadness, as Peters illness was well advanced, that our President Jeff Woodroffe was able to present Peter with a sign carrying his name 'The Peter Johnston Hangar', which was subsequently attached to one of our newer hangars on the west side of our property, which coincidentally is immediately adjacent to Peter's block and hangar.

Farewell Peter. Your memory will always be part of this Club.



DEFIBRILLATOR FOR CLUBROOMS

As mentioned in our president's report, the club is in the process of buying a defibrillator unit. That process is now well advanced and by the time you read this it may well be installed in the clubrooms. This is an important piece of safety equipment for the club. In due course we hope that all members come to understand its operation. Of course we hope it's never needed, but you never know.

NEW CLUB MEMBER

Welcome to new Club member Andrew Pratt from Nichols Point. Hope to see you around the club regularly Andrew and enjoy your flying at Wentworth.

NEXT MEETING

Please note that our next club meeting will be held on Sunday May 17th. The change from our regular 'second Sunday of the month' is mainly due to the club fly-away taking place from May 10th to 12th as mentioned elsewhere.

This meeting will be important as it will be the last regular meeting before our June Fly-in so there will be many things to organise. Please come along and volunteer to help out.

WANTED - A NEW EDITOR FOR THE CLUB NEWSLETTER

After four years or so the Editor needs a break and is looking for a replacement. There is lots of talent within the club membership and we know the right person is out there.

Please contact the Editor Dale Castle 0429 021 721 if you feel this is you.
All assistance given for the changeover.

COMING EVENTS

MAY 8th - 10th CLUB FLYAWAY to points Northwest. Contact Jeff Woodroffe, Rod Taylor or Peter Guest for details. Looks like being a big affair with approx 18 aircraft and 34 pilots & passengers registered as starters so far.

JUNE 6th OUR OWN ANNUAL FLY-IN As usual, lots of hands needed to run a successful fly-in. Please add your name to the list of helpers being compiled by Brian Middleton.

JULY 11th SSAC WINGS EVENING for the presentation of Wings & Pilot Certificates. Will include clubhouse dinner.

Wentworth is becoming a popular destination for club flyaways. We are being booked for next year already:-

MARCH 18 - 20th 2016 Combined Piper Short Wing & Auster groups from the Antiquers are planning another visit.

ON THE INTERNET

For those who like to surf the net, a few sites you might find interesting:-

For some good footage of the Blue Angels at work (I think that should be “at play”) have a look at: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/u4D0yx4DvBk?rel=0>

If you are into serious radio control models have a look at:
https://youtu.be/1IYGUROZ_Pg (Thanks to John Waters)

And if you are into serious aircraft restorations, have a look at this rather remarkable Seafire restoration at: <http://www.youtube.com/v/TneYPcyGbbY&autoplay=1&rel=0>
(Thanks again to John Waters)

SHORT FINAL

A problem we don't have in Australia !

**You are a South African bush pilot
Working for Blue Sky Aviation.
You fly in some critical medical supplies,
Enjoy a quick lunch at the hospital.
It's a stifling 100 degrees in the shade and
You're eager to get back aloft to the cooler upper atmosphere.**

**On the way back to your aircraft,
You discover that the only bit of shade within 1 mile
has become very popular.**

You start estimating the distance to the aircraft door and wonder...

Do I feel lucky today?

