



# Glide Angle

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Flight Group Inc**

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Friday Flying



Attendees assembling for the opening ceremony - Photo: Cliff Pritchard

## AUSTRALIAN GLIDING MUSEUM BRUCE BROCKHOFF ANNEXE OFFICIAL OPENING

At 1230 on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November, members, volunteers, patrons and guests of the Australian Gliding Museum assembled at Bacchus Marsh for the official opening of the Bruce Brockhoff Annexe of the Museum.

The picture above shows the inside of the building with aircraft already in storage along the left-hand side in various stages of restoration, the Lessing glider (which has never flown) suspended from the ceiling, and the partially built Taylor glider replica below – The Taylor replica is under construction for the centenary of the first manned flight in Australia (1909-2009).

The Annexe was made possible by a generous donation to the Gliding Museum by Bruce Brockhoff for a sport which has enriched his life, and to ensure that our Gliding Heritage is preserved.

Outside the Museum Annexe a number of restored aircraft were on display and the Museum provided tea coffee and a sausage sizzle to wind up the ceremony.



Bruce Brockhoff (right) and Alan Patching (left) unveiling the plaque



Aircraft in various stages of restoration are already in situ at the Annexe



Outside with sausage sizzle underway



## **\*THANKS\***

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I would like to sincerely thank the many many members of VMFG who have shown me considerable kindness following the death of my wife Pennie in September, either by way of attending the service, writing a card to me or in other ways. I will be replying to many of you shortly, but it is all a bit overwhelming and it is taking me a bit longer to get back to some sort of normality.

I appreciate your thoughtfulness very much.

ROGER DRUCE

## **VMFG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

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By the time you receive this issue of Glide Angle the AGM for 2008 will have concluded.

Details of the AGM are expected to be published in the December Issue.

EDITOR

## **WANGARATTA CHRISTMAS CAMP**

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The VMFG Christmas Gliding Camp will be held this year at Wangaratta Airfield, commencing on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> of December 2008 and going through until Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> of January.

Please email me if you are coming to the camp along with the dates you will be in attendance as I need a good idea of numbers as soon as possible.

We are very fortunate as Murray and Anna Griffith of Precision Aerospace Productions are making the Terminal Building facilities available again this year. If you came last year, you will agree the terminal building provided us with very comfortable surroundings including a large walk in refrigerator for food and drinks plus evaporative air conditioning during the daily briefing and for relaxing prior to and after the day's flying.

We will also have access to the National Sports Aviation Caravan Park adjacent to the airfield. Steve Larke will have it ready for us to move into on the 26<sup>th</sup> of December which is great news, you will be able to camp there for a very modest cost of \$10 per night. You will be expected to pay prior to your departure.

The other good news is that the committee will reimburse club members who are kind enough to tow gliders to and from the camp. This offer is in recognition of the additional cost burden glider trailer towing creates. I hope this will encourage you to contribute towards getting the club's equipment to the camp. The reimbursements will become part of the camp costs spread across the camp attendees, I think you will agree this is very fair and reasonable.

The reimbursement rate for the Wangaratta camp has been set at \$10 per 100 Kilometres from Bacchus Marsh. For future camps the reimbursement rate will

be adjusted to reflect the current cost of unleaded petrol or diesel.

If you are able to tow a glider to Wangaratta then can you please let me know as soon as possible, remember if you want to fly them they need to be at the camp not parked at Bacchus Marsh

I look forward to hearing from you very soon, the sooner the better in fact, as I need a clear indication of the number of members attending the camp

TOM VAN BLARICUM  
VMFG EXPEDITIONS OFFICER

[tomvanb@optusnet.com.au](mailto:tomvanb@optusnet.com.au)

## **NIGHT OUT WITH VMFG**

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Don't forget the VMFG restaurant night, 1st Thursday of every the month.

Check the Calendar on the VMFG web site for the venue [www.vmfg.org.au](http://www.vmfg.org.au) and navigate to the members page.

## **HEADSET FOR SALE**

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Geoff Newlands advises that he has an aviation headset for sale – Near new condition

If anyone is interested please give Geoff a call.  
Phone: 9859-5312.

<p><b>Deadline for Next Issue</b> <b>10<sup>th</sup> December, 2008</b></p>
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## **BIRDSVILLE 08 BY ROCKWELL**



Ian, Rick and George at Birdsville

**Editor:** For those not familiar with aviation abbreviations, refer to the reference list I have added at the end of this article (or look them up in ERSA).

This trip was the culmination of at least three attempts - each time there were sufficient takers nine months out - but as departure drew nearer so the cancellations occurred (note - get deposits!).

This time it was all go with four members of VMFG - Victorian Motorless Flight Group - at YBSS committed to the cause.

### **Thursday 4th Sept 2008:**

Our planned 0800 departure from YMMB was delayed by me leaving my headset bag with license home which needed a quick retrieval - thanks Trudy!

Fortunately this delay allowed us to miss the rubbish weather around Melbourne so it was off to YMIA for our first refuel tracking overhead YSWH.

Onto YBHI with a deviation to Silverton before a "City Orbit" of YBHI and at this point the Arrow HAB was departing YBHI.

Cruising at 6,500' brought us to an overcast sky about 30 minutes from YTIB descending to 3,000' gave us a slightly bumpy ride into YTIB. On arrival we were met by 'Macca', the refueller and publican of The Tibooburra Hotel, and after putting CSH to bed, into town for a couple of chilled refreshers, some good country cooking and a great night's sleep.

### **Friday 5th:**

An early morning start with huge cooked breakfast, a check of the weather and SARTIME filed. A lift to the airport and off to YWDH to refuel before continuing to YLRE. Ringing ahead from YWDH to check the weather with the refueller elicited the information that whilst plenty of fuel was there the pump was broken with no likelihood of repairs being possible for three days. Drums of fuel were available at \$500+ so the decision was made to continue to YLRE as planned and on to YWIN the next morning to pick up fuel for

the longish leg into Birdsville.

### **Saturday 6th:**

It was on this leg that the length and breadth of 'the wide brown land' became apparent as we followed the Diamantina to YBDV.

Having been to the Stockman's Hall of Fame and flown over the Channel Country the previous afternoon, has given us a greater appreciation of the trials and tribulations faced by our pioneers.

### **Birdsville!!**

Many memories - high prices, limited facilities, political incorrectness (Fred Brophy's Boxing Tent - what a ripper!), having our photo taken with the cup (after the owner picked it up out of the dust!) and the cup winner; and RVAC receiving a trophy for having the most aircraft at YBDV.



The Winners

### **Sunday 7th:**

After a great sleep at Chateau Aluminium we refuelled (a mini fiasco . . .) and departed across the Simpson Desert for Coober Pedy.

Our planned route was to track down Lake Eyre until we were abeam William Creek and then turn right for YCBP. We reached the top of Lake Eyre and after deciding that looking at salt for five minutes was more than enough we tracked direct to YCBP. This brought us overhead Mt Margaret in the Davenport Ranges and more fantastic views from 500' AGL.

### **Monday 8th:**

A great day's flying from YCBP to YMIA with a refuel at YLEC.

Magnificent views of the Flinders Ranges and Wilpena Pound before tracking Peterborough - YMIA where we able to climb to 9,500' (above cloud) for a beautiful ride into YMIA. The glider pilot in all of us wanted to "use the Cu's" but we were in the 114 not a

Duo-Discus - pity!

Another highlight of the trip was dinner at Stephano's at The Grand Hotel - what an experience. If ever your flight plan takes you to YMIA a deviation to Stephano's will be well received.

### Tuesday 6th:

A leisurely departure and an uneventful last leg over increasingly green countryside saw us back at YMMB after a sensational six days away.

### Other highlights of the trip:

- How well CSH performed - it is a very comfortable and well equipped touring aeroplane
- The hospitality of the hotels/motels that we stayed in - nothing was too much trouble
- The pleasure of each others company in environments totally different to our normal daily routines

IAN DOWNES

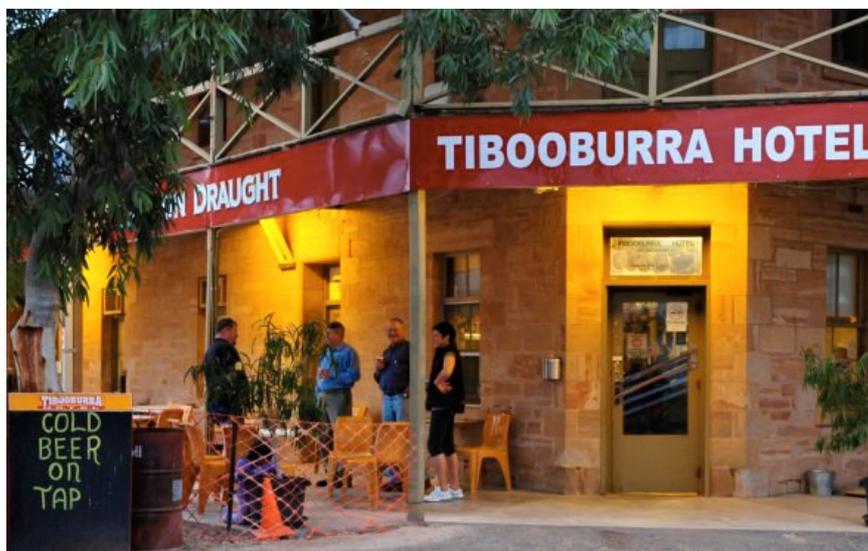
### Editor:

For those not up with their aviation abbreviations, here is a quick reference to decode this article:

ERSA	En Route Supplement Australia
YBDV	Birdsville
YBHI	Broken Hill
YBSS	Bacchus Marsh
YCBP	Coober Pedy
YLEC	Leigh Creek
YLRE	Longreach
YMIA	Mildura
YMMB	Moorabbin
YSWH	Swan Hill
YTIB	Tibooburra
YWIN	Willowbank
YWDH	Windorah
RVAC	Royal Victorian Aero Club



Birdsville Accommodation



Relaxing at Tibooburra

## Bacchus Marsh Gliding clubs

### Summer Friday Flying Roster 2008 – 2009

#### Overview

The roster covers Friday flying for all gliding clubs at Bacchus Marsh. The roster operates from Cup weekend to Easter over the summer period.

#### Instructions

1. Register your interest to fly on a Friday with the appropriate contact person by 7:00pm Thursday. If you have independent operator rating, organise a launch time with the contact person. If you are a student or do not have an independent operator endorsement let the contact person know. You must also contact and organise an instructor.

#### Notes

- You must have an independent operator rating to fly on Fridays, without an instructor.
- Instructors and tow pilots only travel to the airfield if you contact them.

Date	Tow pilot	Instructors	Contact	Phone	Notes
7-Nov	David Howse VMFG	---	David Howse	0447470747	
14-Nov					
21-Nov					
28-Nov	Ian Downes VMFG	Ian Downes VMFG	Ian Downes	0425 796 619	
5-Dec					
12-Dec					
19-Dec	Tom Van Blaricum VMFG	---	Tom Van Blaricum	0419101903	
26-Dec	<b>Club Camps</b>				
2-Jan					
9-Jan					
16-Jan					
23-Jan	Ian Downes VMFG	Ian Downes VMFG	Ian Downes	0425 796 619	
30-Jan					
6-Feb					
13-Feb					
20-Feb	David Howse VMFG	---	David Howse	0447470747	
27-Feb					
6-Mar	Tom Van Blaricum VMFG	---	Tom Van Blaricum	0419101903	
13-Mar					
20-Mar	Ian Downes VMFG	Ian Downes VMFG	Ian Downes	0425 796 619	
27-Mar					
3-Apr					
10-Apr	<b>Easter</b>				

If you have any questions please contact Steve Trone 0407 810 320