

# Tasmanian Aero Club

## Plane Torque

Edition: 95

September 2020

### Welcome to Issue #95 of Plane Torque.

#### Presidents Report

It has been an extraordinary year.

No one would have picked that a virus would bring the global aviation industry to its knees and severely battered most of the world's economies.

However, even though flight training was permitted to continue during the restrictions, the Club shut its doors for a period during the height of those restrictions.

Since that time, we are pleased to report that training has been strong and continues to be so.

We heartily congratulate those who have achieved their ambitions in flight training be it commencing training, first solo or even their pilot's certificate.

During the year, the two-training aircraft have given sterling service as usual. As common with all training aircraft their operating environment is harsh, and it continually amazes us all the durability of these machines. Inevitably service issues arise from time to time, but these have been accommodated. More particularly, Jabiru 81's engine is now approaching full life and has recently encountered a service issue which has made it necessary to retire the unit. It will be replaced with the latest generation engine. It is hoped that this will be completed before Christmas this year.

On the social side, it is pleasing to see the reintroduction of the bimonthly barbeques. Now that the COVID-19 restrictions have largely gone it has been a great opportunity for members to come together in a relaxed atmosphere to catch up and on occasions have the benefit of listening to a speaker covering matters of interest, be they historical or operational. We thank Georgia Rundle for the rejuvenation this area of Club activities.

As everyone is aware, the Club over recent time has undergone a reconstruction after a very trying time in its history. I need to sincerely thank once again all who, in their own way, contributed to this reconstruction be it in a large or a small way. As a measure of these contributions together with the new directions the club has taken, I can advise that the Club's onerous overdraft has now gone. The Club is now cautiously in a positive cash flow and your Committee is determined to keep it that way. Of course, recent events have shown that no one can predict the future, and so 2021 will look to be a year of consolidation but hopefully growth.

Notices will shortly issue for this year's Annual General Meeting. The meeting is planned for Friday the 27th of November 2020 at 7.00 pm. The meeting is open to all financial members of the club so those who wish to attend should make sure that they are currently financial.

By the 31 December 2020, the club will shift its premises. The reason for this shift is many fold.

Firstly, the clubs present 20-year lease comes to an end and secondly the Airport requires the site to fully utilize the extensive freight apron development in front of the clubhouse.

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The Club will be moving to what is known as Building 105, the brick house between Evandale road and the control tower. Ironically, the position is awfully close to the position of the Club's original clubhouse. There will be pros and cons to the club with this shift of location, but on balance and with the future development of the club that is planned new opportunities arise, some of which were not available to the Club on its present site. The Club is presently working closely with the Airport as to these opportunities and with the shift itself, and we can say that the level of assistance offered by the Airport to date has been substantial. More details of the Club's strategic intentions in this regard will be advised soon.

In December, the Club welcomes back McDermott Aviation and its helicopters for the firefighting season. Everyone will recall that McDermott's were with us for the last firefighting season and we enjoyed their presence. We have no doubt that they will be given the warm welcome that was extended to the crews last year.

We are now entering the Club's busy part of the year and we all look forward to an active and prosperous new year.

Hugh Targett

President

### **Flight School Operations**

Flying school operations were suspended on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March due to the situation of COVID-19. Even though technically our operations might have been able to continue, the risk to instructors and the inability to comply with the requirements of individual separation the decision to continue flying operations was deemed an unnecessary risk to our instructors and students.

As restrictions were eased it was decided that it was safe to resume flight training in align with all health directives of the state government and flights resumed from the 4<sup>th</sup> of May 2020.

Flight Training had a strong start to the year before the Covid-19 close down, with a steady increase in regular flying students. We are pleased to see even with the whole Covid-19 situation that this has not affected our student base with an increase in students in the last few months post the close down, with all our instructors with a full workload of regular students. Over the past few months, we had several of our students achieve their first solo flight, a massive achievement for them all. We have also had three students gain their Recreational pilot's licences and now are working on their navigation endorsements.

Andrew Duddington

Chief Flying Instructor

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### Student Achievements



Congratulations to Adrian Wagner on achieving his first solo Flight. An achievement he certainly won't forget.



Congratulations to Michael Johnson for his first solo flight. A moment not to forget. Onward and upward from here.



Congratulations to Charles Headlam on gaining his recreational pilots 'licence. A massive achievement, he has quickly moved onto working towards his navigation endorsement.

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Congratulations to Andrew Beasley on gaining his recreation pilot licence. A massive achievement, he also has quickly moved on to work toward his navigation endorsement which he has now completed and now is looking forward to exploring the state by the air.



Congratulations to Will Evans for his first solo flight, and recreational pilots' licence. A big achievement he will not forget anytime soon. Now onto that Navigation endorsement.



Congratulations to James Culpeper on achieving your first solo. A Great achievement.

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Congratulations to Luke Woodfield on achieving your first solo. Another great achievement.



Congratulations to Bailey Hume on achieving your first solo.



Congratulations to Ben Seamer on achieving your first solo.

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Congratulations to Chris Hargreaves on achieving your first solo.

### **New Members:**

The Tasmanian Aero Club would like to welcome new members: Chris Hargreaves, Paul Hansen, Kuba Meikle, Johanna Cameron, Ben Seamer, Alberto De Moor, Will Evans, Marcos Ambrose, Ross Freeman, Natalie Freeman, Andrew Reed and Billie Jones.

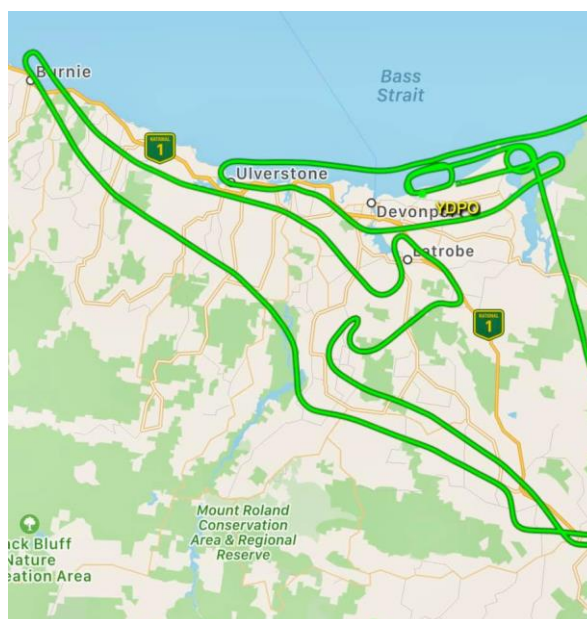
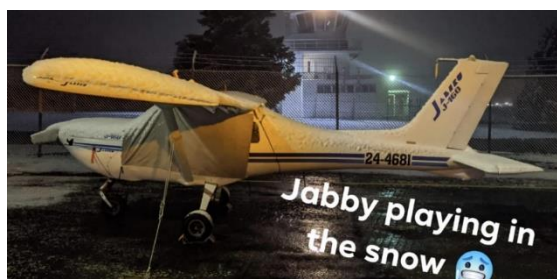
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### Recent Movements / Photos



Above:

Frost-man basking in the sunshine!

Georgia Rundle upgrading to senior instructor

A member of the Devonport Aero Club taking on drawing the flying kangaroo over Devonport.

Jabiru 81 feeling the cold.

An "un-manned" flight with student Luca.

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### General News

#### BBQ Report:

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> of August The Club held a social barbeque for members, students and friends of the aero club.

Although the weather was wet and wild and didn't promote the option to fly in, we had an incredible number of attendees (a whopping 44 people). It was an afternoon well spent enjoying a sausage or two and chatting about all things aviation with new and old friends. Thank you to those who came, it was great to see so many people out at the club. Special thanks must go out to Bill Mackinnon who manned the BBQ out in the raging wind, and thank you to Shayne Nunn and Andrew Duddington for their help setting up the club.

We hope to have more events like these on a bi-monthly basis. If anyone has any suggestions or ideas please let us know.



*Pictures: Left- Bill in action, Right- look at all those people!*

#### RAA BAK Theory Course:

Expressions of interest are being sought for a weekly RAA BAK theory course run here at the club rooms to prepare flying students for their final RAA BAK Theory Exam. Theory would follow along from the Bob Tait RAA Theory Textbook. Dates and times will be advised once we have an idea on how many people are interested. Please contact the club via email [tasaero@bigpond.com](mailto:tasaero@bigpond.com) to register your interest.



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### **Committee:**

President: Hugh Targett

Treasurer/Secretary: Max Butler

Andrew Duddington (CFI)

Shayne Nunn

Georgia Rundle

Geoff Watson

Anna Henry

Martin Eadie

### **Staff:**

Andrew Duddington: RAA CFI

Brain Green: RAA Instructor/L2 Maintainer

Georgia Rundle: Senior RAA Instructor

### **Contact:**

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