

A large contingent of the Club recently made the trip to Perth to watch the Redbull Airrace. This is the first time the event has been held in Australia and only the second year that the world series has been running. For those of you who haven't heard about it, it is a time trial where the world's best aerobatic pilots race between large gas filled pylons and ridiculously high speed, whilst performing a series of aerobatic manoeuvres. Penalties are given for hitting the pylons, flying too high, too low etc. The photos below which were taken by Alan Henderson probably help explain it a little better. Best effort on the trip went to the team of Scott Bridge and Scott Shann for their consumption of 12 litres of beer each whilst sitting in the sun, and Ian Beard for finding new places to use as a toilet!



SCONE aero club



A Scene From The Recent Redbull AirRace in Perth

Newsletter
December-January

Welcome to the summer edition of the Scone Aero Club newsletter.

Well the club has certainly sprung to life and there is action aplenty. The biggest event on the calendar is the December 9th Christmas Extravaganza which I have further details of in the newsletter.

A very big thank you to people who have sent in photos and stories, in particular Alan Henderson for his photos of the Redbull spectacular, Geoff Pinfold and Brooksy for their continual spotting of good aviation pics.

Also please remember if you have a suggestion or an article to add, don't hesitate to send it through to me at mail@sconerealestate.com.au, fax on 6545 1925, phone 0418 236 077 or drop it into my office at 203 Kelly Street, Scone. Cheers Stephen Bell



Left: The master craftsman himself

Flight Instructor's report – Spring 2006 Onwards and Upwards!

Fleet expansion:

I am delighted to confirm that the Aero Club's third training aircraft, a Grob G115, has been purchased by a syndicate of members and the future of GA training is looking firm. The Scone Aero Club flight school is indebted to those members who have worked together to put the aircraft online.

The Grob is a two-seat composite aircraft with the same power plant as the Cessna C152, but achieves a higher cruise speed (due to low weight) at a lower fuel burn (advanced aerodynamics). It is equipped with a VOR and a transponder, certified for Night flying and hopefully will have a GPS at some time in the future. Those members who have flown it have commented on its elegant lines, roomy cockpit and "big plane" handling.

It is online for instruction and private hire RIGHT NOW so call and make a booking - 0408 966 979.

Pilot numbers expand:

Spring has been very very busy with a number of students completing their training or achieving significant milestones in their flying careers. Of note:

- Todd Hennessy: RAAus Pilot Certificate - Jim Birss: First Solo - Al Gordon: CSU and retractable undercarriage endorsements - Trevor Bristow: RAAus Pilot Certificate - Neville Harper: Biennial Flight Review (RAAus) - Hamish Henderson: Biennial Flight Review (CPL(A)) - Allen Caldwell: Biennial Flight Review (RAAus) - Jemael Karaka: First Solo - Hon. John Nader QC: RAAus conversion

Congratulations to all these pilots on their achievements and dedication. A reminder to all that Ed and I will be presenting Wings, certificates and trophies to all our High Achievers for 2005/06 including *Student of the Year 2006*, *Most Improved 2006* and with Ron Haggarty, the *WO Pye Trophy for Excellence in Airmanship*. Make sure you are at the Christmas party/Wings night on December 9th.

Until we see you next, safe and happy flying. Ben Wyndham – CFI



Flash as a Rat with a Gold Tooth!

Club Captain Al Gordon is seen here modelling his new aeroplane, an Arrow 3. Al's former Cherokee remains in the club with John Nott purchasing it. Al's smart new plane has a 200 HP engine, constant speed prop and retractable undercarriage, all good things to keep a pilot thinking.

Al reports the plane is flying beautifully and cruises along at about 130 knots.

Geoff Shopland—He's Over the Hill!

That's right over the hill near Quirindi, and that's where Nev Partridge and I zipped over to take a few photos of Geoff's Corby Starlet. Geoff has put about 2000 hrs time into the project so far, and guarantees me that he'll have the little rocket up and flying by Christmas next year. He is going to power it with a 2.2 Jabiru which should see it launch of the ground with ease.

Geoff already has his tail wheel endorsement and is the proud owner of a 180 HP Cessna 172 which he bases in Tamworth. (we should probably put a little pressure on him to transfer it to Scone!).

We will continue to provide construction updates of the Geoff's Corby Starlet.



Above: The two wings in their nearly complete state.

Right: Fuselage with landing gear already attached, disc brakes in place on new wheels.



Left: Sent in by Dave Bergus during one of his recent overseas jaunts.

Below: The Cessna Caravan is dwarfed by the UN helicopter.



Looks like life certainly hasn't been dull for Dave since leaving Scone, with trips to Africa, Russia and beyond being commonplace.



Above: One of these new Citabrias will be available for test flights at the Christmas Extravaganza. For anyone interested in taking one for a test run please let Stephen Bell know on 0418 236 077.

Flying Competition

On Saturday October 7th the third round of the Scone First National Flying Competition was held.

The competition involved flying to 3000 feet above the airfield where the power was pulled and a forced landing was made to a specific mark on the airstrip.

Each competitor had a testing officer on board and was marked for flying accuracy, correct radio work and correct emergency procedures. Marks were also deducted for not landing on the 'spot'.

First cab off the rank was Nigel Russell who made a great effort, particularly in his first flight in the Gazelle. The howling 25 knot headwind made it slightly challenging and pilots had to concentrate hard to ensure that they didn't pull up too early.

Best efforts on the day were by, wily old competitor Neville "Chuck Yeager" Partridge, Jacko, Scott Shann who only has a grand total of 20 hours flying time and Ed (new instructor) Smith. Unfortunately Ed's score could not be counted as it was discovered that he is of New Zealand descent.

Jacko deserves special mention for the bravery he demonstrated by agreeing to be the check pilot. He certainly had his work cut out for him with a few of our efforts.

After three rounds the competition remains tight with Chuck Yeager and Jacko leading from Scott Shann and Stephen Bell.

Remember there is only one round to go, set for the Christmas extravaganza function on Saturday December 9.



Club Renovations

Renovations have continued at the club with the next big project nearing completion. A paved and covered walk way gives the club a very smart new entrance. This has been nicely complemented with concrete garden edging. A huge amount of work has gone into this and a very big thank you to everyone who has contributed.

Pilot Profile - Brian Hill

Well known local identity Brian Hill has had his PPL for 20 years after learning in Scone with Ken Howard and Col Pay. Initially he learnt how to fly because he had a business interest in Camden and he got sick of battling the putty Road, so he took up flying and battled the weather instead!

Originally learning in the club's Cherokee WJS, he went on to get constant speed endorsements, night ratings, tail wheel and aerobatic endorsements.

Brian has been a shareholder in several aircraft including AAY Cessna 182 and also a Cessna Cardinal.

Brian has approximately 600 hours in his log book, however in recent years he hasn't had much of a go, however he is looking to rectify this situation and return to the air in the next 12 months.

Brian is a pilot that has put his license to extremely good use, flying all over Australia.

Brian is also the longest serving member of the current Scone Aero Club committee with 18 years continuous service, and currently the club treasurer.

Highlights of Brian's flying career include getting his aerobatic endorsement in the Chipmunk and flying as a support plane during several car Royal Flying Doctors charity rallies in central Australia.



Brian Hill at the recent Redbull Airrace.

Here and there...

- ♣ Club member George Jones has just purchased an Auster. Full details will appear in a later edition.
- ♣ Bar sales have hit a new high at the club. High wind, rain and working bees has meant that there has been little aviation, but plenty of socialising.
- ♣ Geoff Pinfold has reported that life without an aircraft is highly over-rated. Good to see Geoff getting his fix by earning his ultra light ticket and flying the Grob.
- ♣ The Grob has proven to be a great GA training plane and a huge effort is being made by Ben Wyndham to ensure that a syndicate form in order to purchase it and keep it in Scone on a full time basis.
- ♣ If Neville Partridge appears to be ducking shouts at the bar it's probably because he has no money left after paying all his various driving fines whilst holidaying in Perth. Nev seems to have covered the fine market quite well with speeding tickets, red light tickets and parking fines!
- ♣ Alan Henderson recently flew his Cub to Temora and back and reports that the little red rocket performed flawlessly.
- ♣ Ben Wyndham has been a very busy boy recently renewing his command instrument rating, getting his 1500ft aerobatic clearance and aerobatic instructor rating. Well done!

Not a member? Well look below!

Flying members \$44, Social \$22 and Junior \$11

All these fees include GST It's a Bargain!

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The Best Value Drinks in town in our newly
refurbished club house.**

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