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# Uni Gliding

August 2003

The Official Journal of the Adelaide University Gliding Club



WVA (left) and MI (right) in action over the Flinders Ranges. (Photos: WVA - Dennis Medlow ; MI - Justine Thompson)

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### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"I find your hole unsatisfactory."*

*Scott Battersby to Mark Tyler in the course of installing new "windows" in the pie-cart.*

## Club News

Greetings all,

First up: we have two less trainees. **Tim Bates** and **Derek Eilers** both went solo in the Puchatek on Saturday August 2, despite the best efforts of the cables to thwart them by breaking repeatedly towards sunset. Congratulations guys! Derek came prepared for the occasion - apparently his home brew is not a bad drop. He has also given us his impression of the flight on page 4.

A handful of people turned up for 'Pizza and PIK Night' at West Beach. I'm of the opinion that we need more of these occasions. Perhaps a 'Pizza and Bergfalke Night' later this year? Send your thoughts to social@augc.on.net !

The GFA Safety Seminar was held in the new hangar at Lochiel on Saturday July 19. There were about 50 attendees, 23 of those being from our club. Kevin Olerhead (GFA Chief Technical Officer) gave an in-depth review of accidents and incidents that have occurred Australia-wide since the beginning of last year. Operations issues were also discussed, at times prompting vigorous debate amongst the attendees. I noticed a few of our members taking notes - perhaps they were planning a summary article for the newsletter <insert large hint here>. Many thanks to **Dave Hichens** and **Dirk Seret** for organising lunch and seating for everyone, and to everyone else who lended a hand. The day ended with a bonfire and barbeque in celebration of **Tim Bates'** 18th birthday, which was enjoyed by all. Possibly except for Tim, during his excursion to the sheep trough.

Adelaide Uni is having an Open Day for prospective students on Sunday August 17 from 10-4. The club is planning to display an aircraft, photo boards and more. This is a great opportunity for the club to recruit new members. Volunteers are needed to help out on the day and, in particular, an Adelaide Uni student member to act as liaison with the Union organisers.

There is also going to be a lunchtime display on the following Tuesday or Wednesday. Volunteers are needed



*The results of a rather wet Saturday in June. The winch, piecart, Roger Chapman's car and, yes, the Puchatek all managed to get bogged.  
(Photos: Derek Eilers)*

for that too. If you can lend a hand for either of these days, please get in touch via email (augc-people@lists.internode.on.net).

See you at Lochiel,

**David**

Editor

## A land lubber takes flight - finally

**Claire Seret**

She did it, she actually did – she went up in a glider and retained sanity, equanimity, life and limb. And was heard to say after this momentous occasion that she would even take flight again – sometime – whereas pre-flight she had stubbornly maintained that this experience would be a one-off and that was that.

Such is the drawing power of gliding at Lochiel and, especially, being able to share the experience of flying the ridge in a paper-thin contraption with someone who has been so totally hooked by gliding - as Dirk has. I really did enjoy our flight of 29 minutes, floating up and down the ridge, accompanied by a wonderful quietness (except for that friendly little chattering whistle) as the light began to fade and the rain threatened, looking down and seeing the lambs on the hillside; being able to see what's on the other side of the ridge; watching the other gliders and learning some rudimentary 'road' rules about who flies where; and watching out for eagles.

I had decided that take-off and landing would be the critical 'don't want to know about this' moments. But no such thing – the take-off was so swift I had no time to get anxious and by the time we came in to land I was feeling quite impressed with the experience and didn't have the slightest qualm.

So Claire finally experienced gliding. I'm sorry to say that I did not experience instant conversion to gliding enthusiast, as many had predicted would be the outcome. I still love having my feet on Mother Earth, but I know I'll take to the air occasionally in the future with my favourite pilot.

# August 2003



Chase Range in the Flinders Ranges, as seen from ZQ (Photographer: Justine Thompson)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1	2 Go Gliding	3 Go Gliding
4	5	6 General Meeting "Cross Country Soaring I", 7.30 pm Margaret Murray Room, Union Bldg at Adelaide University	7	8	9 Go Gliding	10 Go Gliding
11	12	13 Official Observer Course, 7.30 pm, Seminar Room, Chemical Engineer- ing Dept. at Adelaide University	14	15	16 Go Gliding	17 Go Gliding Open Day at Adelaide Uni. Come and help!
18	19 Lunchtime display at Adelaide University Come and help! *	20 Executive Committee Meeting (to be confirmed) Lunchtime display at Adelaide University Come and help! *	21	22	23 Go Gliding!	24 Go Gliding!
25	26	27	28	29	30 Go Gliding!  Deadline for September newsletter	31 Go Gliding!

\* The lunchtime display will take place on either the 19th or 20th.

## My First Solo

Derek Eilers

Well on the weekend, Saturday (02-08-03) I finally got to go Solo. Redmond (My instructor of the day) didn't really say anything but just didn't get in when I expected him to so it kind of surprised me. I thought that my previous "circuit" wasn't perfect because I had nominated to go over the power lines with a right hand circuit and once again I was too close and too high in my set up. (Who's paranoid?) So a good dose of air brakes during final was needed to correct my indiscretion resulting in a more positive than normal flare. (ie. Not my best landing ever). Hence I was expecting a passenger/observer/instructor/safety officer again. When Mark walked up with the cable, I asked Redmond if he was "Getting in or what?" he pointed to the done up harness in the rear seat and I soon got the message, my heartbeat suitably doubled. After locking the canopy, final checks and being hooked on he just said, "Do a good job"; "Sure" I said and gave thumbs up whilst removing my now rapidly fogging up sunglasses (What else are you going to do?). So, a few deep breaths, the cable went tight and I was off.

The speed was way too fast during the initial take off and climb but after some very, very definite speed signals the winch driver slowed down enough so that I didn't need to abort. Once on the top of launch it was really weird being on my own, every thing was very quiet and yes I checked the backseat again. So I asked myself what to do next and decided to do some slow turns, enjoy the view and float around for a while. It wasn't long and I was down to circuit height. I thought to myself, "No need to drag it out, time to get down safe" so I did my landing checks, made my call and set up on a left hand circuit, (I still don't like power lines).

I'm glad to say that all my angles looked good and my speeds were spot on, my down wind, cross wind and the final approach were perrrrfect as far as I could tell. I flared out thinking, "hold it off, hold it off, hold it!" and settled for one of my best landings yet. What a tremendous way of ending the day! (YAHOOO!)

You know when you're getting close to solo but when it happens you can still doubt if you're quite ready, so you trust your instructors, the training and yourself and do what you've been waiting for; take command get it in the air and after a brief time as free as you've ever been you bring your freedom machine home safe and sound for someone else to have a go. (Namely Tim who was anxiously waiting for his solo flight! Well done Tim!)

Thank you to the Adelaide University Gliding Club and all of its instructors for helping me achieve this, my latest goal.

**Derek Eilers**



*My final approach (looking good).*



*A very happy boy (I lived).*

## News from Peter and Mandy Temple

From an email to Anthony Smith

Hi Anthony

Here's another 'AUGC in exile' photo for your collection. Greg came over to visit from New York for a few days and we took him to see our local volcano.

We're just back from our 'summer vacation'. We had a great trip over to a bunch of the National Parks in the American Rockies; Craters of the Moon, Grand Tetons, Yellowstone, Glacier (and Waterton in Canada). We were away just over 2 weeks and had great weather the whole time. We saw a lot of animals; Bison, Elk, Moose, and 5 Bears. The closest we came to a bear was when we almost ran over a baby black bear which was in the middle of the road and a bit lost. We also saw a grizzly and two cubs from a distance, which is the best way to see a grizzly.



*Peter, Mandy and Greg on Mount Rainier*



*Nuclear Aircraft Engine EBR1 in Idaho.*

We also went to EBR1. It was the world's first nuclear power station. During the cold war the Russians convinced the US that they had a nuclear powered jet. So the Americans built a nuclear jet engine. It was not small, and weighed several tons. Boeing had plans to build the plane, including several tons of lead shielding to protect the pilots. They had the hangar built and were planning a 20 mile runway when Kennedy scrapped it. Only in America.

I just finished an interesting book called; 'More for less, Paul MacCready and the dream of efficient flight' by Paul Ciotti. It has several errors and I'm not sure I believe everything it says, but it is interesting. At the end it talks about a remote controlled camera plane he has designed to fly with birds, I wonder if it's the one used in the bird movie, (which we're off to see tonight).

Take care

**Mandy**



*Thermal sign, Yellowstone National Park.*

## President's Report Trent O'Connor

Greetings. It's been a busy month for the Exec. The Club's offer to buy Motorfalke FQW from Simon Hackett has been accepted. Delivery will be arranged as soon as Simon has returned from Europe, where he is training to operate and maintain his *new* motor-glider.

The addition of a motor-glider to the AUGC fleet is an exciting opportunity for our pilots to learn new skills, have long flights on what would otherwise be circuit days, and even enjoy mid-week flying without the need for a winch driver. Soaring experiences such as jumping into wave East of the Ridge, soaring the South Hummocks and other novelties will now be more accessible. It should also reduce the number of days on field required for new recruits to get through pre-solo training, so hopefully we can have significantly more new members persisting to solo.

The Club is not immediately selling any aircraft to finance acquisition of the Motorfalke, therefore we will need a substantial injection of funds. Arrangements are being made so that members can invest in the Club to help with the financing. Details of new schemes will be announced in a few weeks, but in the meantime, everyone can help out by making sure they keep their AUGC accounts permanently in the positive.

The club is conducting several promotional events in August - see the events page for details and contact Mark if you can help out. Having the Motorfalke will give us an improved capacity to handle AEFs and new trainees but we need to keep them coming through the door to pay off the aircraft.

I don't believe anybody went solo in July but there are a couple who are almost there. Keep at it!

Safe Flying,

*.Trent.* (Aug 1)

## Assistant Treasurer's Spiel Trent O'Connor

Our Treasurer is still on holiday so I will talk about money again.

The Adelaide Uni Sports Association is a significant contributor to the Club's finances. This is partly what allows us to offer very low membership fees, low concessional flying rates, GFA membership subsidies and other benefits to the student members. In deciding to allocate us money, the Sports Association is of course interested in seeing lots of participation in gliding by Adelaide Uni students. More student members leads to more Sports Association funding *and* more flying income.

So, to help the Club provide better facilities and maintain a high level of flying activity, all Adelaide Uni student members should consider promoting the club to their friends. Printed brochures and the web site are available to help you in your recruitment efforts. If each person reading this can introduce one new member to the Club in the next year, that will make a huge difference. Even if you can't convince your friends, please consider helping out with displays, placement of posters and other promotional activities on campus.

If you have any new ideas for fundraising and recruitment, don't hesitate to pass them on to any member of the Exec.

On payment of accounts – if you owe the Club money but can't send a cheque or get to the airfield anytime soon, please consider making a payment by direct transfer to the AUGC bank account. For details, contact the (Assistant) Treasurer.

*.Trent.*

## Crazy Caption Contest



*The winning caption:*

**“Scott seeks clarification during measurement of Derek’s entry for the Viagra Award”**

*Congratulations Scott Battersby, you’ve won a reservation of the clubhouse “bonk-room” for one weekend. Partner not included.*

*(For the uninitiated, the Viagra Award is given each year to an AUGC pilot who has distinguished themselves in not being able to “keep it up”)*

## Slightly Dodgy Gliding Glossary - "A"

Trent O'Connor

Acrobatics – Activity performed at ground level by clowns and gymnasts.

AD – Agitating Directive. Issued by the GFA (q.v.) at inconvenient times.

AEF – Air Experience Flight. Opportunity to experience flight. Most people have already experienced air, but "Flight Experience Flight" would sound silly.

Aerobatics - Flight activity performed while the CFI's (q.v.) attention is elsewhere\*.

Aerotow – Form of launch favoured by glider pilots who have a lot of money and don't like high climb rates.

AGL - Above Grass Level. Measure of height. Prudent pilots will evaluate this with reference to the lowest wingtip.

AGM – Annual General Meeting. Once-a-year opportunity to seize the much sought-after position of Newsletter Editor (q.v.).

Ailerons – Unless your name is Mandy you need two of these on your glider.

Airbrakes – Descent mechanism for gliders that is less entertaining than Side-Slipping (q.v.)

Airfield – Preferred location to land your glider, despite the fact that it may appear undulating, rocky, muddy, full of sheep or crops, bordered by power lines etc.

Airfoil – Lift producing device attached to all gliders and some Toranas.

Aircraft – Device (other than a kite) which allows pilots to become airborne.

Airworthiness – Absence of alarming cracks in the wings of your glider.

Altitude – An inverse measure of how small the sheep appear.

Altimeter – Instrument which looks a bit like a clock but has a distressing tendency to go anti-clockwise under some conditions.

AMSL – Above Mean Sea Level. Measure of altitude useful for planning your final glide to the beach on a hot soaring day.

Anthony Smith – Life Member (q.v.) who has at some point occupied almost every position in the AUGC hierarchy, including Gardener.

Arrow – Small glider ideally suited to flight without a canopy and retrieving the Come-and-Get-It Trophy (q.v.)

ASC – Another Soaring Club.

ASI – Airspeed Indicator. Device to warn you that the Instructor (q.v.) is about to say "watch your speed"

Assistant Treasurer – Person endowed with ESP, X-ray vision and other special powers which allow interpretation of the flight sheet.

ASH-25 – Aircraft of choice to pursue the Come-and-Get-It Trophy if you are not lucky enough to have access to an Arrow (q.v.)

AUGC – Gliding Club for people who like to fly the Arrow.

AUWDC – Adelaide Uni Winch Driving & Debauchery Club. See Matt Fenn (q.v.)

Averager – Instrument you only like to look at if your glider is climbing.

Aviation – A good alternative to winch driving.

\* may or may not apply if CFI is the pilot.

**.Trent.**

## Stay In Touch

The club has an e-mail group address, [augc-people@lists.internode.on.net](mailto:augc-people@lists.internode.on.net), that is used to either discuss or arrange things within the club. If you want to stay in touch with the club, send a blank e-mail message to [augc-people-request@lists.internode.on.net](mailto:augc-people-request@lists.internode.on.net) and it will send an automatic reply with instructions on how to join the group list. You can still send an e-mail to the list even if you have not subscribed to it. There is also a new 'augc-announce' list for official club announcements, courtesy of our friends at Internode. If you are an AUGC member and have provided your email address then you will already be on this list. If you want to join this list or want to change your subscription, e-mail [majordomo@lists.internode.on.net](mailto:majordomo@lists.internode.on.net) and follow the instructions.

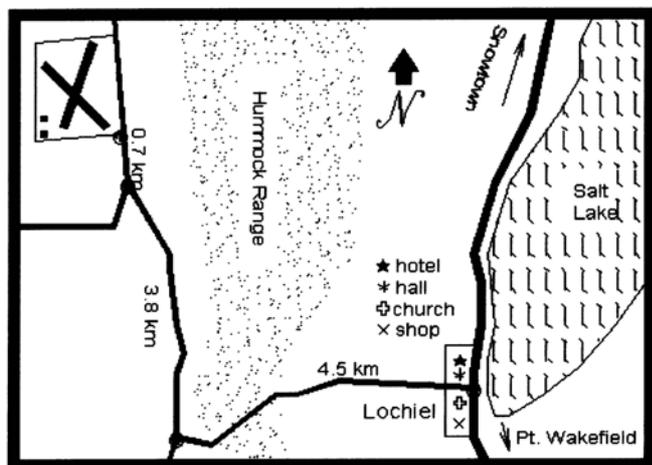
You can also get the latest newsletter and up to date news on what is going on at the club's web page:

<http://www.augc.on.net/>

If your e-mail address is on the membership database the club's Assistant Treasurer can send you your account updates over the internet. Send an e-mail to: [accounts@augc.on.net](mailto:accounts@augc.on.net)

## Want to fly this weekend?

### LOCHIEL AIRFIELD



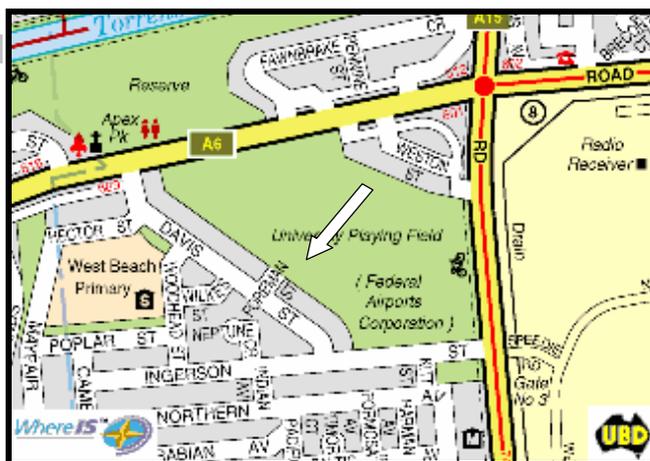
Want to go flying on the weekend? You must ring the club contact person, Mark, on the Thursday before, between 8.00pm and 10:00 pm, on 0412 870 963, (or by e-mail before) so that he can organise instructors and transport for those intending to fly.

You can either drive up yourself by following the map at left, or Mark can arrange a lift to Lochiel either from the Adelaide University footbridge (meet at 7.15am to leave at 7:30 am), or from the Caltex Service station on Port Wakefield road, Bolivar (meet at 7.45am to leave at 8:00 am)

## Want to help at West Beach?

West Beach is where we carry out the maintenance and repair on our gliders and equipment. There are usually volunteers working down there on Monday and Tuesday evenings. The entrance is at the end of Foreman St, West Beach.

So you want to help fix the gliders at West Beach, but can't get there? A lift can be available from the Adelaide University footbridge at 7.30pm by arrangement. Ring Anthony on (wk) 8393 3319, (hm) 8269 2687 or E-mail: [anthony.smith@adelaide.on.net](mailto:anthony.smith@adelaide.on.net).



## Contact List

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Newsletter Editor:	David Battye	8331 1451	<a href="mailto:editor@augc.on.net">editor@augc.on.net</a>

# Upcoming Events

**Wed 6 August:** General Meeting: 'Cross Country Soaring Part 1', 7.30 pm, Margaret Murray Room, Union Building at Adelaide University. Mark Newton will be presenting. Material covered will include preparation, an introduction to McReady Theory, an exploration of why McReady Theory doesn't necessarily need to be followed religiously, and outlandings. Anyone hoping to do their Silver distance this summer is strongly encouraged to attend.

**Wed 13 August:** Official Observer Course. 7.30 pm in Seminar Room, Department of Chemical Engineering at Adelaide University.

An Official Observer performs official duties required by the FAI to enable pilots to obtain badges, distance badges and record flights. Anyone can do it, all you need is to be honest and reliable. The course will be presented by the SAGA Regional Technical Officer (Sports), Catherine Conway and will provide all the knowledge necessary to become an Official Observer.

**Sun 17 August:** Open Day at Adelaide University, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. Volunteers are needed to help rig/derig aircraft, set up our display, answer questions and hopefully sign lots of people up! Get in touch via email to [augc-people@lists.internode.on.net](mailto:augc-people@lists.internode.on.net) if you can lend a hand.

**Tue 19 or Wed 20 August - to be decided:**

Lunchtime Display at Adelaide University. As for Open Day, volunteers are needed. Get in touch via email to [augc-people@lists.internode.on.net](mailto:augc-people@lists.internode.on.net) if you can lend a hand.

**Wed 20 August - to be confirmed:**

Executive Committee Meeting. 7.30 pm onwards, Conway residence, 1 Cuming St, Mile End. All welcome to come along and have a say in how the club is run. *Due to committee member absences the meeting may be rescheduled for one week later.*

**Upcoming General Meetings:**

3 September	Cross Country Soaring Part 2
1 October	Guest Speaker

**Uni Gliding**  
 If undelivered please return to:  
 AUGC Inc.  
 c/o Sports Association  
 Adelaide University, SA 5005

