

AUGC AGM 2019 Presidents Report

This year we have continued to grow and offer more opportunities to our pilots to improved their skills.

Operations

Its pleasing to once again see a good safe year with increased flying hours and mixed launching operations. Thanks to the training panel, the winch drivers, tug pilots and all who have contributed to this.

It has been especially challenging with the lack of rain over the winter period leading to a very dry and dusty summer.

Congratulations to all who have progressed their flying goals this year. The solos, conversions, GPCs, badges, XCs, aerobatics, single seater flying, and personal bests.

As always we must continue to be vigilant not to relax our guard and allow complacency or inattention to lead to a poor safety outcome

Membership

Our membership has grown a modest amount over the year. A better position at O'Week this year saw us closer to the action at the expensive of being able to display a rigged glider. However more exposure led to more members signing up.

We are continuing to work with the University engineering department and are giving aero engineering students the opportunity to attend a GFA Component Replacement and Basic Composite Repair course to be held during the September/October university break.

Fleet

The Janus has proved very popular and has attended camps and competitions as well as providing XC training to members.

Repairs to the Astir have been completed and this aircraft has returned to service with AUGC with conversions to it and XC/competition flights completed over the summer season. This has been quite timely with the Pik unavailable for the summer due to life extension survey inspections.

The Motorfalke attended the GFA Engine course at Waikerie

The ASK13 has been progressing at West Beach and we hope to see it return to service soon.

Airfield

Unfortunately, CASR were not successful with their funding so a sealed strip is on hold at the moment. It has been a particularly dry and dusty season with little rain last winter so we hope this winter is kinder.

Camps, XC and Competitions.

Club members again attended the annual GCV camp at Khancoban although poor weather allowed only one day of flying.

Members were active in competition flying with Leigh Stokes, Heath L'Estrange and Nick Gilbert at the Formula 1 Grand Prix at Leeton, and myself at the Multiclass (Narromine) and Sports Class (Lake Keepit) Nationals. I have been lucky enough to be selected to represent Australia in the upcoming

Women's World Gliding Championships at Lake Keepit in January 2020 in Standard Class so has had to swap my Ventus 2cxT for a Discus 2b which will live at Stonefield until the competition.

Club members participated in junior coaching at Joeyglide with the Janus, Astir and the Pawnee attending. The weather at Waikerie was less than ideal leading to very few competition days.

Derek and Konrad flew over 1000km in the Nimbus 4DM from Stonefield.

AUGC hosted the SAGA State Comps at short notice and ran it in Grand Prix format over two weekends in March. Pilots from Waikerie, Gawler and AUGC competed. The event was won by former member Peter Temple with AUGC pilots Leigh Stokes and Cath Conway 2nd and 3rd. We had some epic dinners with food prepared by the club but wine by Craig Vinall from Waikerie. Despite losing 2/5 days due to weather, we had a great time and some good flights.

Other Members News

Simon Hackett (our patron) bought an electric self-launching Pipistrel Taurus which he will operate from his airfield at The Vale in Northern Tasmania. Cath and Simon test flew this aircraft at Parafield and made history with the first electric aircraft to fly in South Australia.

Development

AUGC was selected as the first ever Gold level Soaring to the Future Club. This is due to our participation and facilities available for youth and female members. We will be working with Soaring Community and GFA on further development of the club under the S2F program.

We aim to make the club the best it can be and thank GFA for selecting us and funding the process

Here's to the next 12 months being fun and safe with lots of flying

Cath

30th April 2019