



## **GEELONG SPORTS AVIATORS**

## **NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2025**

Dear Members.

I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As I haven't flown since mid October, I am very keen in getting back in the air. Hopefully January will offer some good flying days.

I hope to catch up with most of you at the airpark some time soon.

Happy flying everyone.

### **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:**

PREZ SEZ

The first for the new year, so I hope everyone had a safe and successful Christmas and new year. I survived 10 days of party, getting around all the family, and with copious amounts of cheer - not the Cheese !!!

There are some whom are not so lucky, so please spare a thought for them.

On a new note for the new year, we have a lot happening with the Ballarat Car club calling in on the 22 Feb, this will be a great chance to Motor head it, with over 100 cars of all vintages rocking up for the day. If you have an aircraft, get it out for some fresh air, and the chance to swap motor stories. A must to add your calendar and come out too.

AVALON is coming shortly after that, and we still need aircraft and volunteers for this great event. If you are interested in going to Avalon, then volunteering to help at the club is a good way to get in cheap - ask a committee member how.

To close, REMEMBER: SPEED, HEIGHT and IDEAS - you ALWAYS need AT LEAST TWO (2) of these

### **AIRPORT NEWS:**

#### **Deer and Kangaroos:**

Recently there had been a number of Kangaroos and even deer sighted on the runway's in recent times. If you do happen to see any on the runway's, please let Gary or Sharon know so they can take action.

### **Cessna Citation:**

Cessna citations based at Essendon Airport will be operating at Lethbridge twice a week. Just for your information, they should not interfere with normal operations in any way.

### **Recycling:**

We have been warned by the council that if we don't start recycling our drink cans and glass bottles we could be fined so we have come up with a strategy and a plan to make some money for the club. We will have a recycle bin out the front of the club house specifically for cans. If you could all, please place your empty cans in the bin and once every now and then we will take them to a recycle facility and put the money we collect towards the club.

### **Aerobatic flights:**

Soon there will be Tiger Moths and a CT4 based at Lethbridge offering aerobatic flights for anyone interested in having the pants scared off them.

### **Fire Bombers:**

Recently and due to the fires at the Grampians, fire bombers have been flying out of Essendon and flying into our airspace to put out the fires. Since Monday however the fires at the Grampians have been under control but since then new fires have started in the Otways. Given the time of year and our vulnerability to bush fires the possibility of fire bombers flying in our air space is something to be aware of.

### **GEELONG SPORTS AVIATORS WEBSITE:**

We have had a few issues with our web site in recent times so our vice president and web site guru Wasif, with the help from treasurer Tim are in the process of revamping the web site and booking system to make it more functional and easier to use.

### **NEW MEMBERS:**

Due to issues we have had with the Web Site we have uncovered some new members that have signed up but not contacted. Firstly I would like to apologise to our new members and say welcome to the Geelong Sports Aviators. I have added you all to my mailing list now so you shouldn't miss anything we are sending out from now on. Hope to see you all at the airfield sometime.

### **CAR CLUB VISIT:**

On **Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> February** the Ballarat car club will be visiting the airfield for a BBQ lunch. They would love to see some of the aircraft we have at the airfield so if hangar owners are around and are happy to have the group walk through to see the type of aircraft you have, please let us know beforehand. We would also love it if some members would be willing to spare some time to show the car club members around the airfield. That way we could break them up into smaller groups.

### **TRIAL INSTRUCTION FLIGHTS:**

LAFT will be conducting trial instructional flights on the day of the Ballarat Car Club visit so if you would like to take advantage of the opportunity just turn up on the day.

### **AVALON AIRSHOW:**

The Avalon Airshow is coming up soon and we still need more aircraft to have on display. Some members have already contacted me wishing to have their aircraft on display but we are looking for a couple more so if you would like free tickets to get in to the show including access to the trade days please contact me directly with your contact details, aircraft type and registration and I will add you to the list.

### **FUTURE FLY AWAYS:**

#### **January:**

Afternoon trip to **Ararat** for afternoon coffee on **Saturday** the **25<sup>th</sup> January** about 1pm. I will have a spare seat available for anyone wanting to come along.

#### **February:**

Day trip to Shepparton for lunch. After a short fly to Shepparton followed by a short walk to the hotel at the end of the airfield where will have lunch. After lunch it will be a short flight back to Geelong. For those that would like to have a few wines and/or beers with lunch there is a motel attached to the hotel.

#### **March:**

There is a planned flyaway to **Mt Beauty** on **Saturday** the **15<sup>th</sup> March** with the option of staying until **Thursday** the **20<sup>th</sup> March** for those who want to make a holiday out of it. So you can either come up for a day trip like I will doing or plan to stay a few nights.

### **CLUB PLANE:**

The club plane is being well utilized and just a reminder if you have any concerns please let **Mac Wright** and/or **Timothy Breed** know so they can attend to any issues. We have had issues with the booking system online and even had an embarrassing moment when two people book the plane on the same day at the same time. This is currently being attended to by Wasif and hopefully should never happen again. Booking the plane can be done via our web site.

### **CLUB LUNCHES:**

Due to low attendance rate it has been decided to do club lunches once a month now instead of every Saturday. The club lunches will be held on the **1<sup>st</sup> weekend** of the month. Our next club lunch will be in **February** the **1<sup>st</sup>** followed by a club meeting.

## **MEETING:**

We plan to have a club meeting every **2<sup>nd</sup> month** to keep everyone updated and to hear any ideas some of you might have. Our next club meeting is scheduled for **Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> February** after lunch.

## **GRAMPIANS SOARING CLUB:**

*(I have reprinted this a couple of times now but now as we have some new members and our next trip is planned to fly into Ararat I thought it would be a good opportunity to remind members of our responsibilities when flying into the Ararat Airfield while winch operations are in progress)*

Hi Peter & Garry,

I'm the CFI of Grampians Soaring Club (GSC) @ Ararat Airfield. Peter Gilmour, who's a member of both our clubs, has given me your contact details.

GSC is normally a Aerotow Gliding Club. However, due to an recent AD on our Tug Piper Pawnee we've had to revert for the time being to Winch Launching @ YARA. Based on this, as we have visiting aircraft regularly to the CTAF. I wanted to advise you and educate your Pilots for general awareness. As you can imagine, Winch Wire could be dangerous if contacted in flight.

Below provides some basic understanding ( also a page out of the ERSA ) of how it works. When operating, we will have wires on the Southern side of RW's 12 & 30. When they are launched, the wire could be up to 3000 feet AMSL in the air. The standard procedures are we do a VHF radio call on the CTAF Freq 126.7 prior to launch. If a Power Traffic gives an in bound call, we will stop Winch Launch opps until the Traffic has landed and cleared or transited the Aerodrome. This is done for logical safety Reason.

We would be operating most weekends & public Holiday's

Could you pls pass this onto all GA & RA-Aus Operators within your groups. My contact #'s below if you or any members have a question. Pls scroll down.

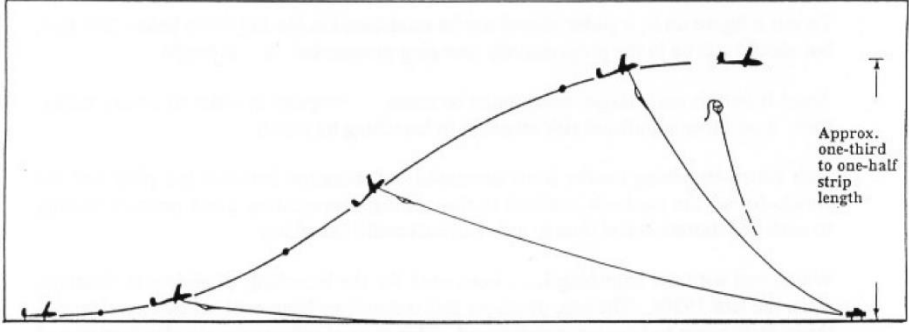
Rgds

John

Menu OPS 0007 - Winch Laun... x + Create

All tools Edit Convert E-Sign Find text or tools Q AI Assistant

This is simplified description, but it will suffice for a starting point. For those to whom a picture is worth a hundred words, the following diagram may help.



Ground run and separation Initial climb Full climb Release

Approx. one-third to one-half strip length


The minimum strip length for winch launching is 1,200 metres (refer MOSP 2, Section 16.1.2).

8:27 x 11:59 in 16°C Mostly cloudy Search ENG US 2:19 PM 1/10/2024

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All tools Edit Convert E-Sign Find text or tools Q AI Assistant

drivers must be trained to have a definite cut-off point in mind and to use the option if necessary.



(Photo Courtesy of Anthony Smith)

Winch Launching Manual Issue 2, January 2014

16°C Mostly cloudy Search ENG US 2:23 PM 1/10/2024

ERSA YARA - Search x FAC-YARA.fm x

https://www.airservicesaustralia.com/aip/current/ersa/FAC\_YARA\_13JUN2024.pdf

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AIP Australia 13 JUN 2024 FAC YARA - 1

**ARARAT** **ELEV 1006**

**AVFAX CODE 3007**

VIC 371834S 1425919E UTC +10 YARA  
AD OPR Ararat Rural City Council, PO Box 246, Ararat, VIC, 3377. PH  
03 5355 0905. Mobile 0428 552 800. CERT

**AERODROME OBSTACLES**  
Unlit tower 287/4.9NM FM 12 RWS end, 1,905FT AMSL.

292' 4 NM  
Ararat

**PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

04/22	044	22c	Unrated, Grass	WID 30	RWS 90
12/30	115	41a	PCN 12 /F /B /500 (73PSI) /U	WID 18	RWS 90

**AERODROME AND APPROACH LIGHTING**

RWY 04/22	PTBL(1)		BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT
RWY 12/30	LJRL	PAL 123.4	
RWY 12/30	PTBL(1)		BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT

(1) 90MIN PN.  
RWY edge light spacing: 12/30: 95M.

**OTHER LIGHTING**  
TWY LGT: Not specified.

**ATS AND AERODROME COMMUNICATION FACILITIES**

FIA	MELBOURNE CENTRE	126.8 Circuit area
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**CTAF 126.7**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

1. Gliding OPS H.U. Gliders OPR WI RWS. Winch and wire launching. RWY 04/22 will be closed during winch launching (closure designated by white crosses in line with the MOS).
2. Model ACFT OPR WI 1,000M of ARP up to 2,000FT AGL. OPR will MNT CTAF 126.7. OPR PH 0417 514 438.

**CHARTS RELATED TO THE AERODROME**  
WAC 3469.

16°C Mostly cloudy Search ENG US 2:25 PM 1/10/2024

Regards

John Rule

CFI / CTP

Grampians Soaring Club

Ph: 0417 553286

E: [john.rule@brandsaustralia.com](mailto:john.rule@brandsaustralia.com)



**FOR SALE:**

Any members wishing to sell any aviation related items please send me some pics and some details about the item and I will list it here.

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I have an IVO inflight adjustable propeller for sale for about \$1000.

Details:- 65 Inch Dia.

Inflight adjustable, presently set for fine pitch to coarse pitch.

S/No 562.602.1451.

Less than 2 hours of operation. Never been in flight.

I purchased this propeller for my Rans S12 when it was fitted with an Aerotwin 65 HP two cylinder air cooled engine from NZ as an alternative to the rotax 582 which after several design attempts did not work out.

Please contact **Peter Spitts** on **0425 781 919** for more information.

Regards,

Peter Newell  
 Secretary GSA  
 Phone: 0407 841 616  
 Email: [pnewell58@bigpond.com](mailto:pnewell58@bigpond.com)

**GEELONG SPORTS AVIATORS COMMITTEE**



<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Committee</u>
Michael Hooker	Wasif Bhatti	Timothy Breed	Peter Newell	Russell Oliver	David Maruskanic	Mark Wiffen	Mac Wright

*(Still waiting for pics of our new committee members)*



GSA QR code - (Use QR code as a link to our website)