



## **Tumut Aero Club Newsletter Spring 2011**

*I must say that I am really pleased with how the club is going on every aspect at the moment. It's great to see the club aircraft doing plenty of flying, the fuel installation is well underway, and some of you may have noticed that we are now the 'Tumut Aero Club Incorporated'. This is an important change that is really bringing the club into modern day business. Our committee still has plenty of work to do yet to really get everything up to date. We are still working on a whole host of paperwork regarding leases, insurance, cost centres as well as looking at some upgrades to facilities as well.*

*The part I am most particularly happy with is the way that people locally are talking about and taking notice of what we are up to. Plenty of people have told me that they have really enjoyed listening on the radio about aviation locally and we have certainly been receiving plenty of articles in the newspapers regarding the fly-in and also the fuel facility. I feel that this really is important to ensure more community involvement and also to help to get those interested in aviation to get involved with a club that really does have a lot to offer.*



*DPK at the SAAA fly-in at Narromine in September*

### **Tumut Valley Fly-in**

*I would like to thank everyone that helped to make the 2011 fly-in a great success. We had plenty of club members working throughout the weekend. I even heard a few members say that they were so busy that they didn't even really get a chance to see any of the aircraft that flew in. There is no doubt with over 120 aircraft on the field over the weekend that the event was the biggest aviation weekend in Tumut. It was also fantastic to see so many people from the local community venture to the airport and take a look around as well.*



*I would also like to extend thanks to Rob Mangan for firstly supplying an Avgas tanker for us as well as organizing a few aircraft including Kenny Love in his Piper Cub and one of the Temora Aviation Museum's aircraft, the Ryan STM S2. Thanks also to Doug Martin for having his collection of Mini's on display, to the musical performances from the 'Sing Australia Choir', the 'Tumut District Concert Band', Amiee*

Breward, and Andrew Raynor and Emily Calder. If you missed the fly-in weekend see the video of the event on the club website [www.tumutaeroclub.org.au](http://www.tumutaeroclub.org.au)

## **Fuel facility**

Since the last newsletter we have received approval for the fuel facility and construction begun straight away with the slab being poured within a week of approval. After the concrete was allowed to cure fully, both the Avgas tank and the Jet A1 tank were lifted into place via crane from Skyfuel. The committee decided that with the fly-in at the end of August and more high rainfall, that further construction be held off until after the fly-in to avoid aircraft damage due to ruts in the ground. Since the fly-in the bund blocks were laid in place mostly by Graham Smith and David Francis. We are still aiming for completion date later this year. We did apply for a grant to assist with the cost of this facility however we were unsuccessful due to the high number of grant applications; to help lower numbers funding was not available to infrastructure programs.

At the fly-in I had a chance to talk briefly with the Tumut Shire Council's general manager Bob Stewart who was happy talking about the fuel facility and also the work the council will be undertaking shortly, including the taxiway extensions and the airport lighting. The taxiway extensions will take the taxiway up past the Errol Tod Hangar though to the top row of hangars along with the hardstand area for the Fuel.

Completion of the Apron lighting is also expected shortly which will make night operations possible at our little airport.



A recent fuel facility working bee

## **Flight Training**

Since our last newsletter, the club now has a new CFI. Guy Bowley has just relocated from Jamestown in South Australia to Temora. Guy is a professional pilot and holds a commercial pilot's license with over 7500 hours experience in gliders, ultralights General aviation aircraft. Guy grew up in Tumut and learnt to fly with the Tumut Aero Club in the 1980's. Ironically, club instructor Graham Smith was one of Guy's Gliding instructors in Guy's early flying days. The 'Aircraft with three rudders' has been doing plenty of flying in recent months, and Graham has been spending almost all of his weekends doing either ground theory or doing circuits around the airport.



If you would like to get back in the air again or are just starting out, you can contact Graham at [flying@tumutaeroclub.org.au](mailto:flying@tumutaeroclub.org.au)

One of the people that have been utilizing the club aircraft is John Lowther. John also flew gliders and the Auster back in the gliding days of the club. John is really enjoying flying the J170 and can't wait to get his RAAus license.

Club instructor Graham Smith with John Lowther after a recent training flight.

## **1st Sunday Breakfast**

*The numbers to our Sunday breakfast over the last six months have been great. On one occasion with terrible conditions we had around thirty people drive in. It's fantastic to see all the members of the club getting together for a great social breakfast. We have also had aircraft fly in from Bankstown for breakfast as well as the usual surrounding club visitors. Don't forget that anyone is welcome to attend the breaky, so be sure to bring your family and friends along.*

## **'Barby Bee'**

*We are going to trial a barbeque breakfast followed by a one hour working bee. This will be held on the third Sunday of each month to ensure some of those little things are getting done around the place. Breakfast at 8:00am till 9:00am followed by a short working bee from 9 until 10am.*

## **New Members**

*It's great to see new members joining the club as well as past members of the club getting involved again. If you are a new member, or you haven't met some of the new members, make sure you come along to one of the social events to meet some other members. Some recent accepted members are Kerry Pearce, Bob McCormack, John Lowther and Guy Bowley.*

*Kerry Pearce was the first pilot to land at the airport in Tumut. Whilst on a training flight, Errol Tod pulled the power on Kerry and they landed on the airport before it was completed.*

*Bob McCormack is currently working in Tumut and is looking to bring his RV-9a here whilst in the area.*

*John Lowther is really enjoying being back in the air again. John has recently purchased a Piper Cub and is also working towards his RAAus license.*

*Guy Bowley has recently moved to Temora after living in Jamestown in South Australia. Guy really enjoyed the Fly-in where he caught up with the Mayor Trina Thompson. Trina and Guy went to school together here in Tumut.*

## **Club Attire**

*The club has just finished an order for club attire. We do have some extra club caps if you missed the order. Grab one today for \$25 at the clubhouse.*



## **Tumut Aero Club Open Day**

*On the Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November the club will be having an open day, opening up our facilities to the community. There will be the opportunity for people to take trial flights as well as look around the hangars to allow locals to get a feel for what our club is all about. We will be looking to have a sausage sandwich lunch. There will be more information regarding the open day on the website shortly.*

## **AGM**

*Please note the AGM date will be the Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> November at 5:30pm held at the Tumut Aero Club clubhouse. If you wish to nominate someone for a committee position, these must be given to the secretary seven days prior to the AGM. Please see end of the newsletter for nomination forms for committee positions. If you require a copy of the new constitution, this is now available on the TAC website.*

## **Passing of Bill Lowther**

*Bill Lowther who had been involved with the club from the late 1950's recently passed away after a long battle with cancer. Bill was a member of the committee this year and always had the best interests of the club at heart. At the funeral a fly-over was organized by the club. Bill will be sadly missed by all.*



*Bill Lowther alongside his Pilatus B4*

## **Passing of Victor Bartonette**

*Victor Bartonette was one of the individuals responsible for the founding of the club. Vic was a ground staff member in the R.A.A.F during WW2, and still lived in the Tumut region. Vic was heavily involved with the club in early years. Some of the other club members including John Sturt and Fred Kell used to regularly visit Vic until the time of his passing.*



*Victor Bartonette (Far Left) pictured with Tumut Aero Club members in May 1957.*

## **Just to finish**

*If you have any pictures or anything you wish to have added to a newsletter please email [president@tumutaeroclub.org.au](mailto:president@tumutaeroclub.org.au)*

*On a lighter note, Barry Anstey told me a while ago that I needed to add a few more photos to the newsletter. Well Barry, this one is for you! I have had this one for some time and really thought I should use it some time, so I guess this would be a good opportunity.*



Regards,

Simon Smith  
President  
Tumut Aero Club

---

**TUMUT AERO CLUB INC**

I \_\_\_\_\_ being a member of Tumut Aero Club Inc

nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for the election to the committee

for the position of \_\_\_\_\_ for the year 2012 for the Annual General Meeting  
to be held on the Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

Signed (Nominator) \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Signed (Seconder) \_\_\_\_\_

I accept nomination for the Tumut Aero Club committee as listed above

Signed (Nominee) \_\_\_\_\_