

DEAKIN'S NEWSLETTER



OUR BASE FOR 2 WEEKS - ITS AIR CONDITIONED. WE LIVE HERE AND AT THE POOL WHEN ITS REALLY HOT.

IT'S SO SO SO HOT

Waking up in a tent is ok but you got to find out if it's the right time to get up. Go for try number 1. Still dark. Number 2. Birds are not up yet. Number 3 - the sun is up but no human. Number 4 mmm. Still hear snoring. Number 5? Yes!!!!!! time to get up. OMG IT'S 7:00 GEE. The sun does not help at all.

We have egg's and ham because we don't have beacon. We go to the briefing and get the call IT'S OK TO FLY. So we go get KYF ready to fly AND 3 2 1 AWAY DAD GOES. KYF is off and away. IT IS SOOOOOO HOT we decided to go

to the pool. I had loads of fun with some other kids.

We get back to the camp. It's 44 degrees. Pop takes a drink from the made up cordial bottle on the table. I do too. OMG IT'S AS HOT AS TEA. We go in the club house where the aircon is on and listen to the radio for dad to tell us he is on the ground.

We race back to our camp spot when we hear KYF is about to land on RUNWAY 08 LONG. We get a cool drink for dad and make sure we have his umbrella handy.

We then race off to get dad and we help him with the glider. He lands and we help him clean the glider and tie it down for the night. Dad talks about the long flight he had today and seems to be happy about the distance he flew. He will only know how well he went today once he downloads his trace back at camp. When that was done he realised that he had flown 770 kiloneters which was the longest distance he has ever flown in any glider. Dad is very happy.

We had dinner. Can't wait to go to sleep in the hot tent again :-)



MY DREAM AIRCRAFT - YAK

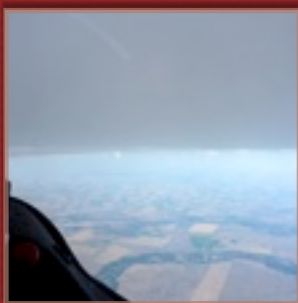


MY HOT DAD



MY SPELLING CHECKER

CHAD'S DAY



WHAT A DAY!!

Well finally I got to get away from the local soaring area today. The forecast was very promising with a trough lining up to the north but everything hinging on a number of things like temperature. There were a number of theories about what would happen by various "experts", some even chose not to fly as their models and temp trace data showed the day would be no good! I choose to follow Jenny's advice since she has been the most reliable weather source to date in my flying career. Jenny had set set Benalla-Temora-Hay-Benalla so I choose to fly the same.

Some eager pilots choose to launch early and paid the grovelling price while I waited for Jenny to give the nod. At about 12:30 we

launched just as the day got going into a blue sky but with good climbs and Cu to the north in NSW. By the time we got to Corowa we contacted Cu's and started pushing. The run to Temora was solid with 10,000ft cloud base but as soon as we turned Temora we fell into a hole. We got connected back to cloud eventually but up ahead didn't look promising with blue holes and rain ahead and the idea of canning the task was transmitted since we were 250km from home. Positive thinking prevailed and we climbed to 12,000ft at Leeton only to have to tiptoe across the large irrigation area. After a careful glide across to the other side we started connecting with the trough line bringing the cloud base up to 15,000ft at Hay.

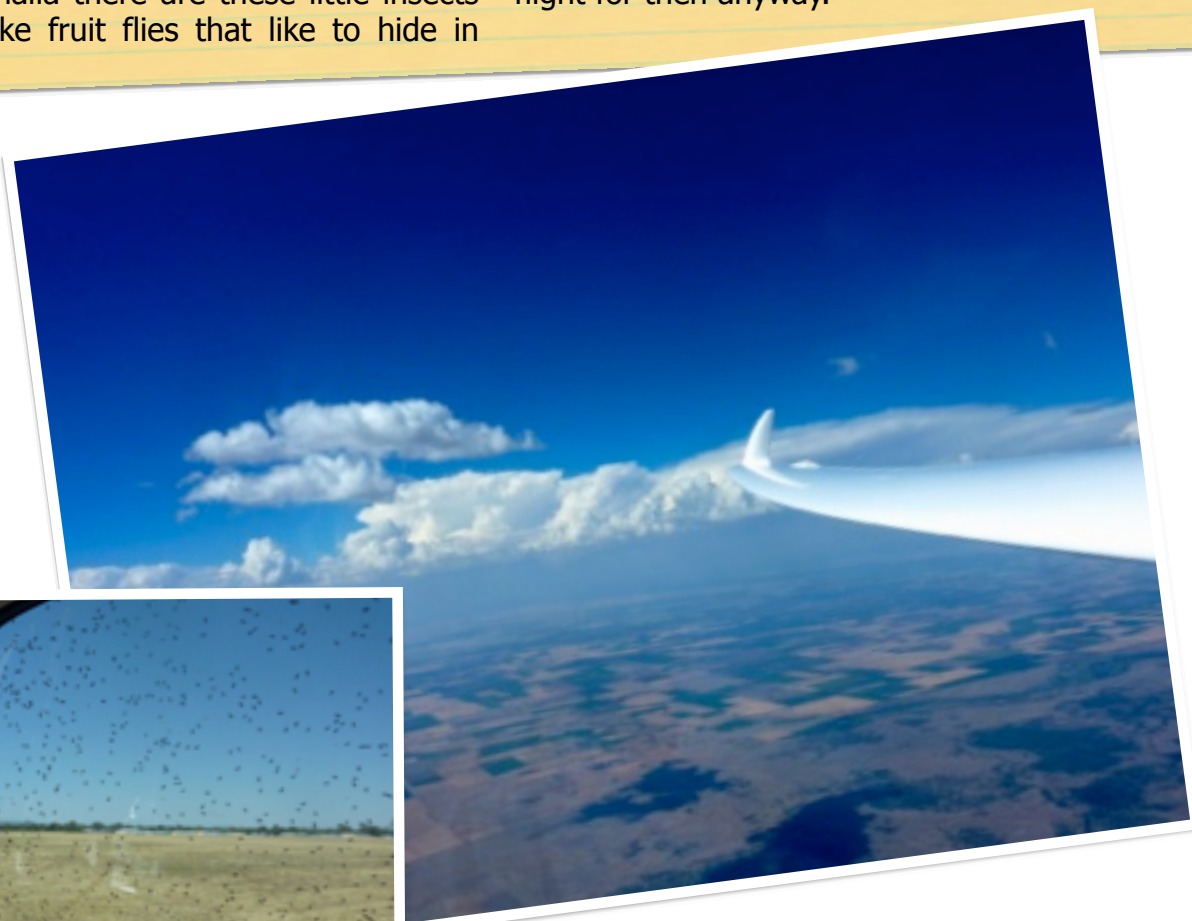
The final 250km leg home was amazing with the trough line lining up almost perfectly for us. One of my glides was 80km for and L/D of 340/1 at about 160kph! I only used three thermals for 250km and the last was not really needed in the end. With about 140km to go the Trough line veered away and there was one single cloud left between me and Benalla. 15,000ft and back to best L/D heading for the lone cloud. I was a bit over glide but was unsure if there was a southerly on the ground at Benalla so wanted some fudge factor as I didn't want to blow the last 50km. The last Cu had 5kt so I took a few turns for mum and the kids and headed home.

In the end I did a 770km FAI triangle at 124kph. Considering I've only flown the ASW20 about six times and this was only the second time with water I was happy with the flight. After I landed my trusty crew was waiting with a smile and a pat on the back.

Here at Benalla there are these little insects that look like fruit flies that like to hide in

shady places when its really hot. That generally means the shady sides of cars, inside cars, inside tents and most annoying of all, in the F#&%ING cockpit while you are trying to fly. They don't move when you try to shoe them away and after a while they walk down on your skin and bite you which gives an annoying sting requiring you to scratch. This relentless biting is bad enough but when they find your ankles they go to town as they seem to know its nearly impossible to pull your leg out while thermalling to scratch your ankle! Jenny spent the day while flying designing various killing devices for them next time and I taught them all some new swear words at altitude. They really do drive you nuts and just like flies, when you think you've got them all, the moment you get low and stressed they come out again to torture you at the worst possible moment.

The first practice day is Monday so I'll take it easy again tomorrow I think. I have a special flight for then anyway.



RUTHERGLEN BUGS