

DEAKIN'S NEWSLETTER



THERE IS LOTS TO DO TO GET THE GLIDER READY TO TAKE OFF. EVERYTHING HAS TO BE CHECKED.

DAD USUALLY CHECKS EVERYTHING TWICE.

SUCCESS AT LAST

The day started well. After eggs and bacon on toast (yummy) I helped dad wipe down the glider. Dad was ready to fly fast today.

We watched him from the car as he rose into the air. This was to be his day. I went to the cinema to watch a film and then waited in the club house for him to come back.

We got the call - Kilo Yankee Foxtrot is coming in. We raced out to the airfield and watched the sky. Dad came in with water dropping out of his wings. He smiled and we knew he had a good day. He told me about flying in wind waves and said it was exciting for him.

At the end of the day we found out that he had come

third. He beat Peter Trotter who is the best pilot. Overall Dad is coming 7th which is great.

Tomorrow may not be a flying day. Dad would like it to be so he can get more points and catch up to 5th position. We are ready for an exciting finish. I like it when he is happy about his flying.



DISCUSSING THE WEATHER



HARD AT WORK



WATERING THE GRASS

CHAD'S DAY



MID LEVEL WAVE CLOUD

A BONZA DAY

Day 10 (Thursday)

Today the weather guru's were quite confused as the weather models didn't match with other data so they set two very different tasks. We all ended up with the A task but the weather started turning into the predicted B task model with mid level cloud closing in. All classes had launched so we went off to do our A task anyway. All classes had a similar task of about 400km but different start lines which once again helped with congestion.

The wind was westerly and you could see a wave influence in the mid level cloud that was affecting thermals. Some pilots were having a rough time but I found the cloud a good indicator of where to fly and where not to fly on the first and part of the second leg. I saw Peter Trotter start early but decided not to get caught in the gaggle

thing again. About 10 minutes later I saw Terry Cubley leave and waited a few minutes before chasing after him. Not being stuck in a gaggle I made good time and caught Terry before the first turnpoint and managed to lose him shortly after. I then caught and passed another gaggle before catching up with a second gaggle with Peter Trotter in it. People seemed to be flying rather cautiously in the wave affected air. Up ahead had 7 eighths mid level cloud as we headed towards Jerilderie so I decided to stay with the gaggle for some company. I should have kept going in hindsight as Terry caught the gaggle a near Jerilderie.

Turning for Urana I knew I would beat Peter if I could stay with him but needed a couple of minutes on Terry to beat him also. As we turned Urana for Glenrowan

Peter and Terry had 500 feet on me but went different directions and I knew I had to go a different way to Terry to lose him so followed Peter we found a climb each but nearing Glenrowan I lost Peter as he had glide but I needed one more climb. I flew over my outlanding paddock and onto the Warby's (mountain range) and found 2kts to climb up to glide for the final 30km. Unfortunately Terry entered the same thermal just above and beat me home. In the end I did 108kph and third for the day with 960 odd points but did manage to just beat Peter Trotter which is satisfying. Today was enjoyable for me as it was one of the few proper racing days where it was up to the individual rather than the gaggle that won the day.

Unfortunately Jenny outlanded at Urana which I'm sure did not do her spirits any good as she is having a bummer of a comp. Jenny, you and I are going flying together when we get back to the club.

I don't know about the weather tomorrow but the last I heard the change coming through may cancel the day. This would be a pity as I still have two more spots on the leader board in my sights.

Jenny's Outlanding Story

Well here I sit in the Urana Bowling Club. I landed at the town airstrip and for the uninitiated look at Urana on Google Earth. There's not much around here. After walking about 2kms into town in 38 degrees heat at 7pm you can imagine my dismay to find the pub shut down. About another 10 mins down the road and I found the bowling club and being my lucky day they close a 9 tonight not 8. It is probably as far away from Benalla as I could have planned. My crew arrives around 8.30pm.



WINTON RACEWAY



URANA - PUB WITH NO BEER

Final day of competition (Friday)

The last day of competition was overcast but very very hot. All gliders were readied as per usual except for XY and JT. Robert & Griffo were not at all enthusiastic and Jenny had simply had enough.

At the morning briefing meeting pilots were again given the day's task. The B task was very short. Ground crew and pilots gridded and then everyone waited and waited. The air was so hot you could cut it with a knife.

The Competition Co-ordinator decided to send Chad and another pilot up to "sniff" the air. Both came back rather too quickly. The front was coming through but there was very little lift. The conditions continued to be unpleasant and everyone was listless. The day grew longer and longer. Finally, well into the afternoon, and after 4 hours of waiting idly in the heat, the day was finally cancelled much to the jubilation of the leaders. Pilots vying for places were, as expected, very disappointed. Only 40 points separated 7th from 6th in the 15m class. In other classes the points between top placings were even closer.

Final Placings 15 Metre

#	CN	Pilot	Team	Glider	Total
1.	IIC	Peter Trotter	Qld	ASW20A	6832
2.	LG	Peter Temple	SA	LS8	6596
3.	WVX	Terry Cubley	SA	LS3	6523
4.	K7	Miles Gore-Brown	Qld	LS8	5711
5.	XHC	Geoff Brown	ACT	ASW20B	5645
6.	TF	Marta Najfeld	Vic	ASG-29E	5577
7.	KYF	Chad Nowak	Qld	ASW20a	5537
8.	TB	Andy Smith	UK	Ventus 15M	5505
9.	VTM	Tim Bromhead	New Zealand	Ventus C	5495
10.	IZE	Matthew Scutter	SA	LS4a	5393
11.	UP	Ian McCallum	NSW	Ventus C	5361
12.	JT	Jenny Thompson	Qld	ASW27b	4316
13.	MT	Jacques Graells	NSW	LS6	4175
14.	WQF	Jaroslaw Mosiejewski	Vic	PIK-20B	3340
15.	TD	Phil Eldridge	NSW	ASW20B	1791

Blue Skies

The day is looking awesome
Gliders lined up tip to tip
Pilots preparation at its peak
They're flying the Nationals Championship

Many hours of organisation
Cleaning and checking now all done
Stress levels almost stabilised
Will it be hot enough out there in the sun?

The weather's looking reasonable
Wind blowing 2 knots from the west
Take off time delayed 10 minutes
Pilots mentally focussed for the test

Tug planes revving up their engines
Pull ropes rolled out and done
The noise and the expectation
Fliers all ready to have some fun

Then the radio starts to crackle
The starting time unfortunately further delayed
The sweating now starts again in earnest
Umbrellas don't give anyone much shade

The thermals swirl in anticipation
The dust circles round and round and up
Everybody starts looking skywards
Who will win this year's Nationals Cup

Despite the heat, the dust and the cursing
The final message sadly comes on line
Dreadful news. Oh bugga
Another day cancelled, due to lack of time.

Siggy
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