

# PROP WASH



HASTINGS DISTRICT FLYING CLUB NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2022 ISSUE



## GERMAN AIR FORCE TYPHOONS DEPLOYED TO EXERCISE PITCH BLACK 2022

PHOTO CREDIT: GERMAN AIR FORCE LUFTWAFFE





### Discover the Cirrus 2022 G6 SR22 GTS - the Pilot's Dream

The Cirrus team will show and demonstrate the latest Cirrus 2022 G6 SR22 GTS aircraft boasting the latest in style, technology and safety from Cirrus.

They will be on hand to discuss ownership, training, maintenance and to discuss pilot dreams where Cirrus can provide accessible regional travel solutions for Australians who want to make better use of their time, and how owning a Cirrus aircraft can help accelerate business, allowing owners to visit more locations, while spending less time on the road.

**Friday 18th November from 8am to 10am at Port Macquarie Airport**



VERONICA LIND, Editor, Marketing and Communications for HDFC

### HDFC PROPWASH AUGUST 2022 EDITOR'S NOTE

You may have heard that I will be stepping down from the HDFC committee this year due to my busy work schedule. I will continue Propwash and some of the marketing and communications work required by the flying club. It's hard to step away entirely!! If there is any member who wants to be involved in marketing, please contact me on marketing@hdfc.com.au

With over 110 hours of flying time a month at HDFC plus with the AIAC students starting flying training again, the Port Macquarie skies are indeed very busy.

Several of our members have their own aircraft and I am keen to feature them. It will be great if you could send me the following information:

1. Names, owners of aircraft, contact details
2. Type of aircraft; why this type of aircraft
3. Why an aircraft
4. Your flying adventures
5. Photos and/or videos

Businesses can now advertise on Propwash and the Brilliant -Online Magazine reaching out to over 45,000 at one single price. Yes, one ad across two magazines! Call Veronica on 040 777 9828 or email editor@brilliant-online.com

Till the next Propwash. Fly Safe,

**Veronica**



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### PLEASE CONTRIBUTE YOUR ARTICLES TO

Veronica Lind at editor@hdfc.com.au



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT AUGUST 2022

The 2022 HDFC Annual General Meeting was conducted on Wednesday 17th August. Twenty two members were in attendance with ten apologies. Here are some snippets from my report.

The HDFC experienced a highly successful year despite the influences of Covid and inclement weather. Several records were set (Reference post 1986) including:

- Aircraft utilisation of 1,416 hours
- Operational surplus of \$72,000
- Pilot achievements totalling 60 awards

## In terms of our aircraft

- Sling 1624 was purchased in June 2019. It has a total time of 2502 hours, flying approximately 683 hours in the last year. A new engine was installed at 1950 hours last October.
- Sling 8470 was purchased January 2020. It has a total time of 1669 hours, flying approximately 570 hours last year. A new engine is due by January 2023.
- Foxbat 8283 was cross hired from Brian Chow between June and December. During this time it logged 163 hours.
- A new Sling 2 was ordered in November 2021. Expected delivery is April 2023. Purchase price is USD\$159,033. This aircraft was originally planned to be registered in the new RAAus Group G with a MTOW of 700kg. However, certification and implementation is ongoing so it may have to be registered as a LSA.



*Rod Davison,  
President, HDFC.*

The HDFC Flight Training School remains extremely busy, accounting for over 90% of all flying. Under the guidance of CFI, Ray Lind, the five instructors are Mike Bullock, Steve Smith, Bob Needham, Bruce Dunlop and Rod Hall.

On the fun flying side of things, as well as private hire, the club organised monthly Pilot Proficiency Days (PPD), Fly & Spy, Flying trips to Parkes and Narromine as well as the annual CASA Safety Seminar. We must also recognise our intrepid Bobcat Formation pilots.

Aircraft maintenance remains a top priority, under the co-ordination of Jon Bown and Doug Toppazzini. Thirteen scheduled 100 hourly's were completed as well as the unscheduled maintenance. Sling 1624 underwent an engine replacement and corrosion removal with paint respray. Sling 8470 received a new sprague clutch. All members are reminded of their duty to keep our aircraft clean and tidy and to fulfil their obligation as per the aircraft washing roster.

The annual fuel usage was approximately 16,250 litres. This equates to 812 Jerry Cans of premium unleaded from the local service station. The burden of transportation has largely fallen to flight instructors Ray and Mike. The rising fuel cost resulted in the introduction of a temporary fuel surcharge of \$5 per hour from the 1st August. The hourly hire rate will remain the same with this extra charge being reviewed on a monthly basis.

Thirteen applications were received for the 2021 Flying Scholarships. Congratulations to the successful candidates, Cooper Dimon and Ollie Taylor. Both have now gained their Recreational Pilot Certificate Certificate.

Thirty four scholarships have been awarded since the commencement of this scheme in 2006.

The social scene remains vibrant with a long list of activities offered. These included the Annual Presentation Dinner, Christmas Party, Australia Day BBQ, Fly & Spy Dinner, Topgun Maverick Premiere and Dinner, Restaurant Night, Pizza & Games evening, Curry Night, 11 PPD lunches, 12 Sausage Sizzles, Friday socialising and Sunday pool.

In terms of Advocacy, the club committee has been involved in negotiations regarding the Fly Neighbourly Agreement, Aircraft Movement Threshold, Taxiway planning and construction, the GA Precinct Expansion and possible airport privatisation. All these were thoroughly discussed at the meeting.

These snippets along with many more not mentioned here indicate your club is in a strong and healthy state. I sincerely thank all those members who have supported and contributed to the success of our club. In particular, the outgoing committee deserve special recognition. They were Rod Davison, Ray Lind, Steve Smith, Bruce Dunlop, David Toulson, Veronica Lind, Steve Schwartz and Jon Bown. Apart from Veronica, all have successfully re-nominated for the 2022-23 committee. Joining them will be Steve Gooch and Doug Toppazzini.

A busy work schedule has prompted Veronica to step down following several years of dedicated, time consuming hard work for our club. Although not on committee, Veronica will continue to support the club in terms of Communication and Marketing. Thank you Veronica and all the best with future endeavours.

As we start through another membership year, I encourage all members to become actively involved. Do not be a stranger. Onwards and Upwards.

**Rod Davison, President, HDFC**

**President@hdfc.com.au**

**AUSFLY**<sup>®</sup>  
**All Aviators Under One Sky**

**15-17  
SEPT  
2022**

**NARROMINE NSW**

This AusFly Narromine event will be a HDFC Fly Away. Get Organised now.

**Check out their website - [ausfly.com.au](http://ausfly.com.au)  
Contact Rod on 0419632477 if interested**

GERMAN AIR FORCE TYPHOONS DEPLOYED TO

# EXERCISE PITCH BLACK 2022

Story source: Australian Government  
Defence, Aviation Source News and Twitter

Photo credit: German Air Force Luftwaffe



## EXERCISE PITCH BLACK 2022



19 August - 8 September

**AIR FORCE**  
airforce.gov.au/PB22

### Exercise Pitch Black 2022

Exercise Pitch Black is a multi-national simulated air combat exercise held biennially in Australia. It features a range of realistic, simulated threats which can be found in a modern battle-space environment.

This year the Air Forces of 17 nations participated in Australia's 'Top End' - the Northern Territory from 19 August to 8 September. Over the 2 weeks, more than 100 fighter jets from 17 countries take to the skies. Germany, Japan and the Republic of Korea participated fully for the first time.

They travelled to Australia as part of the Rapid Pacific deployment. The Luftwaffe arrived in mid-August with more than 200 personnel, six Eurofighter Typhoons, three A330 Multi-Role Tanker Transports and an A400M transport aircraft.

On Pitch Black 2022 open day, several thousand people, young and old, marvelled at the military planes at Darwin Air Force Base.

#### Pitch Black 2022 stats:

- 100 aircraft
- 2500 military personnel
- The IAF contingent comprises 100 air warriors, four Su-30 MKI fighters and two C-17 aircraft.

#### Eurofighter Typhoon

The Eurofighter Typhoon is manufactured



Inflight refuelling  
Photo credit: German Air Force Luftwaffe



Air Ambassador for the Rapid Pacific 2022.  
Eurofighter Typhoon aircraft.

Photo credit:  
Hans Jacob, military aviation photographer  
from Holland who lives in Singapore

by a consortium of Airbus, BAE Systems and Leonardo, the Eurofighter Typhoon is the world's most advanced multi-role combat aircraft providing simultaneously deployable Air-to-Air and Air-to-Surface capabilities. The twin-engine, canard delta wing aircraft is highly agile and was originally conceived as an efficient air-to-air 'dogfighter'.

Together with the Air Force, OTL d.R. Bodo Heinrichs has been working on the design of the Eurofighter Typhoon aircraft since November last year. We think the result is impressive!

#### Aussie F-35A Lightnings at Pitch Black

Australia deployed its F-35A Lightning II fighter aircraft at Pitch Black 2022 for the first time.



RAAF F-35A Lightning II A35-025.  
Photo credit JJ @kadonkey



A RAAF F-35 along side a RoKAF F-16 during the Exercise Pitch Black 2022. With ~180 F-16s in active service, Korea is one of the largest operators of the type in the world.

Photo credit: RoKAF

# MEET PORT MACQUARIE'S FLYING PHYSIO - ALASDAIR THOMSON!



Story credit:

**brilliant**  
ONLINE



Alasdair Thomson, Physiotherapist at work

## The Flying Doctors are, of course, an Australian institution, one of the largest, most comprehensive and revered aeromedical organisations in the world.

Well very soon Port Macquarie could have its own Flying Physio as locally-based physiotherapist Alasdair Thomson nears the end of his light aircraft training and seeks to complete and pass his official examinations!

Our careers can take us to many different places, domestically or overseas, and one of the perks of vocational relocation is it can be a great way to discover pastures new. Sometimes it can lead to a not so preferable destination, prompting an almost instantaneous yearning to want to return home, or at least elsewhere. However, sometimes we find ourselves in a place that we almost instantly identify with, that we feel settled and welcomed in and, subsequently, decide to lay down roots.

This is essentially how Sydney-sider Alasdair, better known as Al, ended up declaring Port Macquarie home.

In 2019, Al spent the final year of his Bachelor of Physiotherapy degree from the University of Newcastle on placement at various clinics and hospitals in the Port Macquarie area and, after graduating at the end of the year, decided to stay.

Al, his partner Hannah and their new addition to the family, pet dog Arlo, now call Port home and are enamoured by all it has to offer - with Al's lifelong love of aircraft and a dream to learn to fly recently becoming a reality!

"Part of the course I studied at Uni meant taking on a practical placement in a rural area during the final year," Al told us. "It involved a combination of studying, exams and practical learning at a variety of clinics and hospitals. It was a really exciting experience and an invaluable learning opportunity, actually being out there dealing with people and having a wealth of expertise to help guide and mentor me. I was constantly stimulated and learning new things, taking little pieces of information that ultimately contributed to who I am today. I chose Port Macquarie for my year-long placement and was so taken by the place that I decided to stay!"

Al grew up in Sydney and typically was active in a variety of sports while at school - cycling, rowing and rugby union were his favourites, with many hours spent watching and imitating the Waratahs and the Wallabies. This appetite for sport was a partial influence

on his chosen career path, particularly in regards to treating injuries, of which Al says he copped more than a few over the years, especially on the rugby field!

"Both my brother and I both gravitated towards wanting to work in health care which was quite unprecedented as nobody in the family had trodden that path as a profession before us," he says.

Four years at Newcastle Uni later, including that crucial final year placement in Port Macquarie of course, Al worked in various private practice, clinical research, and hospital settings before joining Leah Burton and the team at Phyx You Physiotherapy & Rehabilitation.

A dedicated team of Physiotherapists and Exercise Physiologists, Phyx You provides quality injury and sports rehabilitation encompassing areas such as sports physiotherapy, clinical exercise, women's health, rehab, workplace health and exercise physiology, amongst others.

Al felt at home and one of the team immediately and clearly loves, respects and appreciates the environment he works within on a daily basis.

"It's truly a great place to work," he beams. "The whole set-up and culture is geared towards making you the best possible professional physio you can be. The team is very driven but in a wholly positive way,



Flying Physio - Alasdair Thomson!

constantly striving to get the best out of you which, in turn, means the patient is getting the very best in treatment. We are constantly undergoing new training methods which we share among one another to ensure everyone is working at the top of their game, which we need to be, especially when dealing with patients who are athletes and whose livelihoods are very much dependent on being in peak physical condition.

"It's also a very innovative place, regularly investing in the best equipment and educational support. There is so much better quality research being conducted and published nowadays and new findings and developments are always occurring. As such we are regularly being trained and educated on best-practice approaches which, ultimately, benefits our patients.

"Many of the more senior team have their Masters Degrees in Sports and Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy and are constantly passing on invaluable knowledge and serving as incredible mentors. It's a really inclusive place with a definite knowledge exchange where everyone learns from each other - there's a fantastic team mentality and environment."

Al adds that Phyx You are not only limited to providing professional support but also encourage their team members to pursue and indulge in personal hobbies and endeavours to find that crucial work-life balance. For Al that main personal pursuit is flying.

### A fascination with flying since childhood

"Ever since I was a young boy I was always transfixed with mechanical machinery and aircraft such as Spitfires - I would watch old movies with them for hours on end, totally mesmerised and also build countless model planes," he says.

"My mother was a history teacher, a subject I have always loved, and I was able to access lots of information about World War II, specifically in relation to the Spitfire planes, which further fuelled my passion."

Al carried this passion all throughout his life until one day last year he awoke one morning and decided to actually do something about it, to turn the dream of flying his own small aircraft into reality. This led him to approach Hastings District Flying Club and School where he enrolled for lessons under the expert tutorship of the resident pilots.

"It is a very surreal experience being up there in a small aircraft," Al says with a smile. "Very different to what most of us are used to when on a large passenger jet. It's surprisingly calm, even in choppy weather. You realise how impactful the weather can be, even if it's just light winds. The realisation that you are in total control is a great but strange one - that if I tilt the wing this way or that then the plane responds accordingly."

Al pauses for a brief moment of reflection: "It's a brilliant sensation" he says emphatically!

Alasdair completed his first solo flight on January 22nd 2022 and obtained his Pilot Certificate on May 7th 2022. Alasdair flew at a very exacting and professional level. He has reached this superior standard in minimal hours of training.

There is always something really heartwarming about people pursuing and achieving their dreams and Al is very much on the cusp of realising his - at least for now as no doubt there will be many more achievements to come.

"I just think you should try and do as much as you possibly can in life, get as much experience as you possibly can as you are almost certainly guaranteed to stumble across something that you will realise is your passion," he says.

"Working in the healthcare industry as I do, you very quickly come to realise that the old adage of 'life is short' is absolutely true. So don't be afraid to take risks or follow your dreams. Likewise, I always try to maintain a positive attitude and look on the bright side of life, try not to necessarily take all things too seriously. Life is short and you've got to have fun!"

# GET YOUR COMMERCIAL PILOT LICENSE IN BEAUTIFUL PORT MACQUARIE WITH AIAC



Photo credit: AIAC

Story credit:

**brilliant**  
ONLINE



Gerard Byrne (Ged)

*AIAC offers GA training to both domestic and self funded international students*

**GERARD BYRNE (GED) IS THE HEAD OF OPERATIONS AT THE AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL AVIATION COLLEGE (AIAC) RTO: 45675, A FLYING TRAINING ORGANISATION SPECIALISING IN INTEGRATED FLIGHT TRAINING BASED AT PORT MACQUARIE AIRPORT.**

One big benefit of AIAC is that they offer diploma courses under the RTO structure.

Most of the larger flying schools in Australia are Registered Training Offices (RTO's), therefore they can offer a diploma in Flying under the Skills Network. AIAC's primary market has been the Chinese market. But moving forward, if the pandemic taught them anything it's don't put all your eggs in one basket.

So, while the Chinese market will continue to be a valuable one, AIAC is also keen to enrol both domestic and other international self-funded students.

International students can enrol individually through the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) system and obtain a visa and come study with us as a self-funded student.

**GED'S JOB AT AIAC HAS ONE BIG ADVANTAGE - BEING BASED IN BEAUTIFUL PORT MACQUARIE**

"What a beautiful place to fly," he said. "As far as I am concerned, it's one of the prettiest places to get on an airplane in Australia." He has been with the company for almost 12 years.

Port Macquarie is one of the sought-after locations on the East Coast of Australia, located about 1 hour (flying time) north of Sydney. It is a fast growing, gorgeous seaside town surrounded by spectacular hinterland. Port Macquarie is an ideal place for young adults and families to live, learn and play.

**AUSTRALIA HAS ALWAYS HAD A FAIRLY SMALL MARKET FOR COMMERCIAL PILOTS, BUT COVID MADE IT SMALLER**

When you look at the numbers, back in 2019 when things were running really well, there were only just over 1000 Commercial Pilot Licences issued for that year in the country, and 100 of those were from AIAC.

That was pre-COVID when there were international students. Becoming a pilot was a growth career path, on a steadily rising curve. The pandemic caused a road bump.

### COVID AFFECTED AIAC, WITH BUSINESS DECLINING AT A RAPID RATE FOR TWO YEARS UNTIL THEY HAD TO EVENTUALLY SUSPEND OPERATIONS LATE IN 2020

Now they are reopening to accept local and overseas students seeking Commercial Pilot licenses and Instrument Ratings.

COVID obviously put Ged in an unenviable position where he had to lay off a lot of staff. At the moment they are back to the core group of four working instructors, a safety manager, CEO, admin staff, plus a maintenance facility. Ged is confident that the improving aviation environment will require a significant investment in more instructors and support staff.

Talking about the future of aviation Ged told us, "I think COVID has changed the ballpark a little bit in that there's been a lot of forced redundancies in the industry. We already had an age top heavy pilot demographic, a lot of those senior pilots were getting towards the typical retirement age. The shutdowns resulting from the pandemic led to many pilots taking early retirement.

"Unfortunately COVID did really hit this local community and a lot of our young people especially. I'm pleased to report that all of those people have gone on and found another position, not necessarily in aviation, but elsewhere. And, again, the future looks good for those people because there's going to be all those gaps that will need to be filled fairly quickly. And so having that training and qualification, the youth is in a good position."

### THERE'S ALWAYS GOING TO BE DEMAND FOR PROFESSIONAL PILOTS AT ANY AGE

As aviation businesses start opening up again these positions will again open. There is a hole now for younger pilots to move into. "I think the future looks really good, provided we can keep a lid on all of these lockdowns and we can keep borders open and people flowing through airports," Ged said.



Check out AIAC Diamond fleet

AIAC can start people in their Professional Course from 18 years of age. Age isn't a barrier, but medical requirements do get more rigorous from age 45 onwards.

### AIAC HAS BEEN TRAINING STUDENTS FOR OVER 30 YEARS, AND MANY OF THEIR CADETS HAVE GONE ON TO FLY WITH MAJOR AIRLINES IN AUSTRALIA AND OVERSEAS

Since 2014, AIAC has specialised in training foreign students and is registered under both the Civil Aviation Safety Authority of Australia (CASA) and the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC). AIAC offers Nationally Accredited courses to Domestic and International students under the Australian Quality Framework (AQF), the RTO Standards and Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) regulations.

You can find them on the Study Australia website or head to [www.aiacollege.com.au](http://www.aiacollege.com.au) for more information.

You may have questions and concerns about the Aviation Industry and the potential to find work after your studies given the current challenges. AIAC hope to reassure you that now is the perfect time to start your pilot training as the market continues to improve and demand for pilots increases.

For more information about the Commercial Aviation Industry's prospects in Australia and overseas, please visit <http://www.boeing.com/commercial/market/commercial-market-outlook/>

### AIAC AIRCRAFT AND TRAINING FACILITIES

AIAC's fleet comprises of DA 20s DA40s and the DA42-VI, the twin for instrument rating training and multi engine training. All flight training is carried out in Port Macquarie with a commercial training period of 13 to 15 months. We have the capacity to train 40 to 50 students a year.

Ged told us, "The student number is due to the reality of a single runway and the infrastructure that we've got. Plus, we're living in an environment now where accommodation is scarce in town as well."



Training on the flight simulator

### DIAMOND AIRCRAFT

A modern design, the Diamond's up to date, glass cockpit and modern avionics are more akin to what you would see in professional pilot aircraft. Probably one of the most fuel efficient fleets in the country, they're essentially a diesel engine running on jet fuel.

"So they've got an electronic engine management system," Ged told us. "To give you an example, our DA40 is planned out at 25 litres an hour, but typically on a navigation exercise, I won't use any more than 20. That's really efficient on fuel. And contrary to popular belief, they are quite quiet compared to traditional piston engines. So that's a big advantage, but having the modern design, the modern interface, is a sign of where aviation is going in the future."

### WE ASKED GED ABOUT NIGHT FLYING TRAINING

Night flying is an essential aspect of the general aviation training.

It is an essential part of the syllabus so AIAC can't function without offering it. The whole point of the integrated course is not for trainees to get a night rating, but it's for them

to obtain the required night experience to achieve what's required by CASA's Manual of Standards.

The only way that students are allowed to go solo at night is in a circuit. That means that they must remain close to the runway, which is going to put the aircraft over the town. In those circumstances, the noisiest part is the take-off. The rest of the circuit is quite low powered, so therefore shouldn't be noisy at all, but they do get complaints when night flying is conducted.

"It's just about communicating how things are, and understanding that this is part of what we have to do and we're allowed to do under the regulations," Ged admits. "It's unfortunate we have a lot of estates that have been built on the flight path, so we do our part. Authorities will have to think about smart development."

Day or night they do try to mitigate noise, he told us. "We try to cut down on noise. Not just from a noise point of view, but also from a safety point of view. We've got a policy of no more than four people (aircraft) actively in the circuit at one time. So, one yes, that's going to reduce noise, but two, it increases separation and means that there's a larger safety factor going on there as well."

During normal hours night circuit flying will terminate at nine o'clock in the evening, and then during daylight savings time, circuit operations cease at 10 o'clock, Ged told us. This is a voluntary curfew put in place by AIAC as the runway is open 24 hours for arrivals and departures.

### RURAL AND REGIONAL ENTERPRISE SCHOLARSHIPS (RRES).

Prospective domestic students may apply for a Regional Scholarship under the QTAC RRES program to help with tuition fees. Students will need to meet eligibility criteria including, but not limited to: course commencement date, residential, and financial criteria. Visit <https://www.qtac.edu.au/rres-program/> for more information.

### SO ANYONE INTERESTED IN YOUR COMMERCIAL FLYING TRAINING, WHAT DO THEY DO?

"The best course of action for anyone who's interested is to go to our website [www.aiacollege.com.au](http://www.aiacollege.com.au). All the information is there, contacts, profiles on the instructors - it's the best place to start."





Ray is so happy to see this in the park at Wagga Wagga!!!



Ray Lind,  
CFI

## CFI REPORT APRIL TO AUGUST 2022

The year 2022 has continued with a huge amount of flying activity for HDFC. Our two Slings are continuing to fly well over 100 hours per month, despite the regular periods of unsatisfactory flying weather, unavailability of aircraft due to the very frequent 100 hourly servicing and the absence of our instructors at times. We continue to get many new enquiries about learning to fly and naturally, many of our regular students are coming to the end of their initial training as they reach their initial goal of gaining a Pilot Certificate and then moving onto Passenger Endorsements and Cross County endorsements.

Our busy Flight School always welcomes new, well-trained Instructors and in the last few months, Rod Hall has gained his Senior Instructor rating and Bruce Dunlop, who gained his Instructor Rating earlier in the year with Instructor Trainer, Bob Needham has been instructing with HDFC since March this year. He has managed to combine teaching students along with running his demanding computer business but eventually he'd like to be instructing full time.

## CFI REPORT APRIL - AUGUST 2022

### Pilot achievements

**Nirav Rajguru.** Congratulations to Nirav, who achieved his **First Solo on 10 April 2022.** A perfect afternoon backdrop, along with a perfect landing saw the completion of his first solo circuit. Well done Nirav..



**Solomon Elfar gained his Pilot Certificate on 30.4.2022.**

Congratulations to Solomon, who flew superbly during his challenging Pilot Certificate Flight Test to gain his wings. Great work, Solomon!



**Alasdair Thomson gained his Pilot Certificate on 7.5.2022.** Congratulations to Alasdair for this great achievement in flying at a very exacting and professional level. He has reached this superior standard in minimal hours of training. Pax Endorsement and Cross Country work coming up very soon!



**Chai Randive passed his Pilot Certificate Flight Test on 9.5.2022.** Congratulations to Chai who has worked extremely hard to reach the required standard for his Pilot Certificate. His perseverance and determination has paid off. Well done Chai!



**Michael Day achieved his First Solo status on 27.5.2022.** A huge congratulations to Michael Day on reaching this unforgettable milestone in his flying journey. Michael can be very proud of this achievement. Onwards and upwards.



**Jed Kirkman achieved his First Solo status on 29.6.2022.** Huge congratulations go to Jed Kirkman, for his skill in flying a faultless circuit and landing to achieve this momentous feat. Jed achieved his first solo in minimal hours. Absolutely Outstanding!



**Ethan Unasa Congratulations to Ethan Unasa, for successfully completing his First Solo flight on Saturday 11th June 2022.** Ethan is a great mate of Ollie Taylor, who was recently awarded his pilot certificate, and now Ethan is forging ahead with his own aviation journey! Ethan has only just got his learner driver's permit, so is still reliant on Mum, Dad, brother, and Sister to drive him to the airport so he can now go off flying on his own in an aeroplane. Awesome! Ethan had quite an entourage along to watch his achievement with Mum, Dad, Sister and Aunty in attendance; all very proud as can be seen in the photos. Well Done Ethan!



**Praveen Rajuladevi achieved his First Solo status on 30.6.2022.** Great stuff Praveen! Your First Solo flight is one that you'll never forget and all of your hard work and dedication have paid off. You are well on the way to enjoying flying your own Jabiru! All the best from HDFC.



**Cliff Hoeft. A huge congratulations go to Cliff Hoeft who on 20.6.2022** achieved his FIRST SOLO status! What a huge achievement from a meticulous and enthusiastic Pilot! This is a very proud moment during his journey in becoming an outstanding pilot.



**Liam Ross gained his Pilot Certificate on 6.8.2022.** Congratulations to scholarship student, Liam Ross for succeeding in passing his Pilot Certificate Flight Test. Liam flew at a very high standard to gain this qualification. His aim is now to make flying part of his future career once he leaves school. Well done, Liam!



**Naveen Lingaiah gained his Passenger Endorsement on 24.6.2022.**

He now understands the huge responsibility that this endorsement now gives him.



**Brandon Conway. Congratulations to Brandon, who on 10.8.2022,** passed the rigorous Flight Test for his Pilot Certificate. Brandon flew at a high certificate standard to gain his wings. Well done! Brandon has done particularly well as he started training in 2018 but had to stop flying for two years while he recovered from a very serious bike accident. He's now back on deck and flying extremely well. It's a real credit to his perseverance and determination.



**Cooper Dimon. Congratulations to Cooper, who passed his Pilot Certificate Flight Test on 13.8.2022.** He displayed a very high standard of skill and understanding throughout the demanding Flight Test.

Cooper, yet another HDFC scholarship student, has achieved this high standard in only 8 months of training! Many freezing cold starts at 6am in order beat any unsatisfactory weather were routine; all before he went off for another day at school!

Congratulations on achieving this high level of skill. This is true dedication!



**Piotr (Peter) Zmijan achieved his First Solo status on 16.8.2022.** He displayed fantastic flying ability in light turbulence and a 7 knot crosswind to complete the exercise with an excellent landing. He went Solo in just 13 hours. Great work!



**Rob Breskal gained his Pilot Certificate on 18.8.2022** to gain his coveted wings! Rob passed his Flight Test while dealing with some very challenging conditions and was able to achieve this wonderful feat in under 12 months of training! His boyhood dream of flying an aircraft has come true at last! Fantastic effort!



**WINGS for Darrell Nash (Nashy!) Darrell very proudly gained his Pilot Certificate on 26.8.2022.** Darrell passed his Flight Test while dealing with some challenging cross wind conditions. As a result, he felt the huge pressure of performing each of the required tasks to a satisfactory Certificate Standard. Gaining a Pilot Certificate is not easy! Darrell achieved this wonderful feat in only about 4 months of training which is indicative of his determination and perseverance. Darrell intends to quickly challenge himself further in working towards his Pax Endorsement, Cross Country Endorsement and beyond! The 'aviation bug' has indeed taken over Darrell's life. Great to see!



**Mike Wilkinson - Pilot Certificate!** Congratulations to Mike (27.8.2022) for gaining his Pilot Certificate while dealing with some very gusty conditions along with a demanding crosswind. Mike flew at a very exacting and professional level during the whole flight test, as he always endeavoured to do throughout his training. He has reached this superior standard in minimal hours of training, having only required 23 hours dual and 5 hours solo. The amazing thing about Mike's flying journey however is that it took him 7 years to complete! He started flying with us in 2015 but stopped in 2016 when he got married and started his family. Jump forward to April 2022 and Mike decided to complete his flying training! What a journey! A fantastic effort Mike and it's been a pleasure to fly with you.



**Aaron Langford- FIRST SOLO!** Congratulations to Aaron Langford who completed his FIRST SOLO circuit on 31.8.2022. Aaron completed his exercise with a perfect landing in a state of high elation! Fantastic work, Aaron.



## SAFETY IN ACTION

For every flight we do, Safety should always be at the foremost of our minds. HDFC has an outstanding Safety Record but this doesn't just happen by itself! It is every pilot's responsibility to keep himself/herself safe, as well as their passengers. The IMSAFE acronym, (Illness, Medication, Stress, Alcohol, Fatigue, Eating) is always an important self check before you come out to fly. The old saying: 'If in doubt....Don't' can cover any of your flying decisions where there is any confusion on whether to fly or not. Most of our pilots are making very good decisions. Never be pressured into a flight by others or because you have a booking you feel as though you must fly. If the conditions don't suit your level of skill or you not feel well for some reason; forget it!

Fly another day! You are the pilot in command; no one else!

Safety also means watching out for others who may slip into bad habits. Remember; very small mistakes can very quickly multiply into large mistakes which can pose a serious risk. Vigilance is the responsibility of all of us. Every flight we do holds potential safety issues, so our absolute vigilance and care is essential at all times; on the ground as well as in the air. It is our responsibility to keep all of our operations as safe as possible.

Refuelling of our aircraft from the fuel cart has become a very familiar scene for our pilots. This is another essential activity which requires absolute care. When refuelling, we are dealing with a very volatile liquid, so it's imperative to always attach the anti static line securely onto the exhaust before you put the nozzle anywhere near the aircraft. We must also take care when removing the hose from the fuel container so that we don't have any fuel spill. Any spill is always potentially very dangerous. Keeping a safe distance from any other

aircraft, at least 6m is also imperative as well as making sure that you are at least 9m from our open hangar before attempting to refuel. Distance regulations are clearly printed on the fuel cart to help you remember. Also, whenever fuel is added to the aircraft, we usually add a full 20L container with 10L in each tank. The amount must then be recorded on the flight sheet for that aircraft as well as the start fuel for your flight.

Once again, our engineers, Doug Toppazzini and Jon Bown deserve great praise in keeping us safe for each flight. The huge amounts of flying we do each month means that the 100 hourly service come around very quickly. Our engineers try to keep the downtime to an absolute minimum but sometimes we have to wait for spare parts or other problems with unscheduled maintenance may arise. We are very lucky to have our skilled engineers available to help us stay safe.

# Captain's Report

March PPD 2022

By RAY LIND,  
Club Captain Hastings District Flying Club



We enjoyed lovely, fine weather for our March PPD, 2022 but unfortunately with lots of pilots being away, we did have a limited attendance. It's always great to see several of our younger pilots now consistently getting involved as well, as they can see how beneficial these exercises are to their flying currency as well as learning new skills.

## Partial Engine Failure / Spot Landing

In this exercise we reduce the power to 3000RPM on the Downwind Leg to simulate a partial engine failure. The pilot then has to immediately assume the best glide speed and keep the aircraft in the air long enough to make it back to the runway and the scoring boxes. Jayden Barker judged the situation perfectly to score 40 points in the ground boxes and Mark Crawford also flew very well to score 30 points in the boxes. Great flying! Our highest scoring pilots were:

1st Jayden Barker 105 pts, 2nd Mark Crawford 90 pts, 3rd Mark Watson on 54 pts.

## River Bash

This is a coordinated flying exercise at low level (600') where each pilot has to fly up the Maria River. The pilot flies exactly over the middle of the river, maintains 600' and has the aircraft in balance the whole exercise. This is very exciting as you can imagine and gives you a fantastic view of this lovely Port Macquarie feature.

1st Jayden Barker 62 pts, 2nd Mark Crawford 53 pts, 3rd Mark Watson 50 pts.

## Forced Landing

The Forced Landing was carried out from above the field at 2000' and had to include all of the necessary trouble checks. This is great practice for every pilot in case the unthinkable event of a total engine failure. Mark Watson judged his glide descent very accurately to score 40 points in the boxes on the ground. Jayden Barker also showed his finesse during the glide approach by scoring 20 points on the ground. This shows exactly how accurate these pilots are because in our training, all we are trying to do in a Forced



1st Jayden Barker 235 pts

Landing is try to get back onto the landing field and land somewhere on the runway. Our PPD pilots are judging and touching down in a 10m wide box! Pretty amazing judgement and skill!

1st Mark Watson 86 pts, 2nd Jayden Barker 68 pts, 3rd Mark Crawford 30 pts.

## OVERALL

With some totally outstanding and accurate flying, we had one of our newer pilots win his first PPD! Congratulations to Jayden Barker who flew superbly to score 235 points.

2nd Mark Watson 190 points.

3rd Mark Crawford 173 points.

Congratulations to all of our pilots who participated in this important day's flying to help maintain proficiency, currency and confidence.

March Pilot Proficiency Day

**PPD Winner - Jayden Barker**  
**Congratulations to Jayden Barker for gaining the highest points score during our March PPD currency check. Jayden only completed his training last year and now this is his first very impressive win. He takes out our special trophy for the month. 1st Jayden Barker 235 pts; 2nd Mark Watson 190 pts; 3rd Mark Crawford 173 pts**

# Captain's Report

April PPD 2022

By RAY LIND  
Club Captain Hastings District Flying Club



Today we welcomed Bruce Dunlop as our newest qualified Instructor to help out with the Air Judging. Bruce is no stranger to Air Judging as he has done this for many years. However, now as an Instructor, he can fly with any of our students who would like to compete as well. Welcome aboard Bruce and thank you for donating your time for free on these important Pilot Proficiency Days.

We enjoyed lovely, fine weather for our April PPD, 2022 with the usual slight crosswinds and bumps. Today we started with the 1000' Spot Landing Exercise followed by the River Bash and finishing up with the Practiced Forced Landing Exercise.

We had five (5) pilots take advantage of the HDFC cheap flying rates to help maintain proficiency and currency for our members.

## 1000' Spot Landing

In this exercise the pilot has to fly a perfect circuit with correct altitudes, speeds and checks completing the exercise with a landing in the scoring boxes on the big white touchdown markers. This is great circuit practice for all pilots to test their accuracy and flying procedures in the circuit.

1st Steve Schwartz 100 pts, 2nd Rod Davison 84 pts, 3rd Jayden Barker 80 pts.

## River Bash

This exercise tests the pilots' coordinated flying skills at low level. Each pilot flies up the Maria River at 600', keeping the aircraft exactly in balance while tracking over the middle of the river.

1st Steve Schwartz 59 pts (with some very accurate flying), 2nd Rod Davison 56 pts, 3rd Mark Watson / Jayden Barker both on 51 pts.

## Forced Landing

The Forced Landing was carried out from above the field at 2000' and had to include all trouble checks. Three of our pilots managed to judge their touchdown perfectly to score extra points on the white landing markers

1st, Mark Watson 86 pts (Mark scored a 50 box on the ground), 2nd Rod Davison 67 pts



Steve Schwartz and Mark Watson both on 219 points.

(Rod scored 20 points on the ground), 3rd Jacob 64 pts (Jacob scored 30 pts on the ground boxes).

## Bonus Points

These points are gained for perfect landings regardless of whether the pilot is in the scoring boxes. The landing has to be smooth and take place with the column hard back at the completion of the landing whilst maintaining a position exactly in the middle of the runway to score a maximum of 20 points for each landing. Today we did two (2) landings, (Max 40 pts) and our impressive pilots were:

1st Mark Watson, Rod Davison and Jayden Barker all on 30 pts.

2nd Jacob Dowd with 20 pts., 3rd Steve Schwartz 10 pts.

## Overall

Today we had the unusual result of two pilots ending up with exactly the same score.

1st With some totally outstanding and accurate flying, our winners were: Steve Schwartz and Mark Watson both on 219 points. Steve and Mark now are each now the proud owners of the HDFC WINNERS Coffee Mug.

2nd Rod Davison, 217 points.

3rd Jacob Dowd, 203 points.

All of our scores were quite high, indicating the quality of our pilots and their accuracy in flying. Congratulations to all of our pilots who participated in this important day's flying to help maintain proficiency, currency and confidence.

**Equal Winners for April Pilot Proficiency Day. Congratulations to Steve Schwartz and Mark Watson for gaining 219 pts in the PPD. Rod Davison scored 2nd highest points on 217. Third was Jacob Dowd on 203. Well done to all of our participating pilots.**

# Captain's Report

## May Flying PPD 2022

By RAY LIND  
Club Captain Hastings District Flying Club



Today we had perfect flying weather and great flying for our May Flying PPD, 2022.

We had seven (7) pilots take advantage of the HDFC cheap flying rates to help maintain proficiency and currency for our members.

### Circuit Glide / Spot Landing

In this exercise the pilot has to fly a perfect circuit but maintaining 1000' on the base leg to the turn onto finals, also at 1000'. On finals the pilot then simulates a total engine failure by reducing the power totally when he thinks the aircraft will make it safely to the touchdown markers. This exercise is similar to what happens at the end point of a normal glide approach. Today three (3) of our pilots managed to skilfully touchdown in the scoring boxes. Our highest scoring pilots were:

1st Jayden Barker 101 pts (50 pts on the ground), 2nd Steve Schwartz 92 pts (30 pts on the ground), 3rd Jacob Dowd 86 pts (30pts on the ground).

### RIVER BASH

This exercise involves a coordinated Flying Exercise up the Maria River at exactly 600'. The pilot has to keep the aircraft in balance with the rudder (extremely important at low level) during some steep turns whilst maintaining a position exactly over the middle of the river. This is great fun but does require some intense concentration from the pilot.

1st Mark Crawford 63 pts, 2nd Jayden Barker and Steve Schwartz 62 pts, 3rd Jacob Dowd 58 pts.

### FORCED LANDING

This exercise simulates a total engine failure over the top of the runway and the pilot has to glide the aircraft safely to a suitable landing area while going through all of the trouble checks. Today, Jacob Dowd, who only gained his Pilots Certificate last year flew superbly in the Forced Landing Exercise to gain first place.

1st Jacob Dowd 84 pts (40 pts the ground boxes), 2nd Rod Davison 59 pts (20 pts on the ground),

3rd Steve Schwartz 50 pts (Steve did all of his checks perfectly).



1st Jacob Dowd 248 pts

### BONUS POINTS

These points are gained for perfect landings regardless of whether the pilot is in the scoring boxes. The landing has to be smooth and take place with the column well back whilst maintaining a position exactly in the middle of the runway to score a maximum of 20 points for each landing. Our impressive pilots today were: (Max 40pts)

1st Jayden Barker and Steve Schwartz 30 pts, 2nd Jacob Dowd 20 pts, Mark Watson and Mark Crawford 10 pts.

### OVERALL

1st With some totally outstanding and accurate flying, especially with the Forced Landing, our winner today was: Jacob Dowd with 248 points.

2nd Steve Schwartz 224 points.

3rd Jayden Barker 220 pts.

What a fantastic flying day we all had! It's wonderful to see so many of our younger pilots flying in the PPDs now. This is the best currency and confidence flying you can do and all at only \$100 an hour with no instructor charge! This is what HDFC flying is all about! Well done to all of our participants.

**Jacob Dowd wins his first Pilot Proficiency Day! Congratulations to Jacob, who only recently gained his RPC. This was an excellent flying display from our young pilot. Well done Jacob! 1st Jacob Dowd 248 pts. 2nd Steve Schwartz 224 pts. 3rd Jayden Barker 220 pts. Great flying from all of our pilots.**

# Captain's Report

## JUNE PPD 2022

By RAY LIND  
Club Captain Hastings District Flying Club



We enjoyed lovely, fine weather for our June PPD, 2022 but unfortunately with lots of pilots being away, we did have a limited attendance. It's always great to see several of our younger pilots now consistently getting involved as well, as they can see how beneficial these exercises are to their flying currency as well as learning new skills.

### Partial Engine Failure / Spot Landing

In this exercise we reduce the power to 3000RPM on the Early Downwind Leg to simulate a partial engine failure. The pilot then has to immediately assume the best glide speed and keep the aircraft in the air long enough to make it back to the runway and the scoring boxes. Rod Davison judged the situation perfectly to score 30 points in the ground boxes and Doug Toppazzini also flew very well to score 30 points in the ground boxes. Great flying! Our highest scoring pilots were:

1st Rod Davison 87 pts, 2nd Doug Toppazzini 77 pts, 3rd Steve Schwartz 65 pts.

### River Bash

This is a coordinated flying exercise at low level (600') where each pilot has to fly up the Maria River. The pilot flies exactly over the middle of the river, maintains 600' and has the aircraft in balance for the whole exercise. This is very exciting as you can imagine and gives you a fantastic view of this lovely Port Macquarie feature.

1st Jayden Barker and Steve Schwartz 65 pts, 2nd Doug Toppazzini 62 pts, 3rd Rod Davison 59 pts.

### Forced Landing

The Forced Landing was carried out from above the field at 2000' and had to include all of the necessary trouble checks. This is great practice for every pilot to prepare for the very rare and unthinkable case of a total engine failure. Jayden Barker judged his glide descent very accurately to score 40 points in the boxes on the ground. Rod Davison, Doug Toppazzini and Jacob Dowd also judged their approach with no power to score 10 points on the ground. Our PPD pilots are becoming very skilled at the Forced Landing exercise. Great to see! Its very empowering to know that you



1st Doug Toppazzini 226 points

can glide your aircraft very accurately to a safe landing if something happens during a flight.

1st Jayden Barker 83 pts, 2nd Rod Davison 60 pts, 3rd Doug Toppazzini 47 pts.

### OVERALL

With some really accurate flying, we welcomed Doug Toppazzini to his first win for a PPD.

1st Doug Toppazzini 226 points

2nd Jayden Barker 208 points.

3rd Rod Davison 206 points.

Congratulations to all of our pilots who participated in this important day's flying to help maintain proficiency, currency and confidence.

**Doug Toppazzini - winner June PPD! Congratulations to Doug for gaining the highest points score in the Pilot Proficiency Day for June! Results were: 1st Doug Toppazzini 226pts. 2nd Jayden Barker 208pts. 3rd Rod Davison 206 pts.**

# Captain's Report

## JULY PPD 2022

By RAY LIND  
Club Captain Hastings District Flying Club



Five pilots enjoyed the flying activities for our July Pilot Proficiency Day (PPD), 2022. We also had the great pleasure to welcome Steve Gooch to join us for his first PPD. Steve hasn't even completed his Pilot Certificate training yet so it shows that any of our students can fly in the PPDs, provided they have completed their Forced Landing training.

Our thanks goes to Bruce Dunlop for doing all of the air judging today as the other instructors were away.

### 1000' Spot Landing

In this exercise the pilot has to fly a perfect circuit commencing with complete taxi checks covering the brake test, instrument function test, column hard back for taxiing and the EFATO self brief. The four checks gain the pilot 20 points. Once airborne, correct altitudes, speeds and checks must be maintained, completing the exercise with a landing in the scoring boxes on the big white touchdown markers. This is great circuit practice where our pilots can test their accuracy.

1st Rod Davison 102 pts, 2nd Mark Watson 84 pts, 3rd Mark Crawford 80 pts.

### River Bash

This exercise tests the pilots' coordinated flying skills at low level. Each pilot flies up the Maria River at 600', keeping the aircraft exactly in balance while maintaining a position exactly in the middle of the river.

1st Mark Crawford 59 pts, 2nd Rod Davison 56 pts, 3rd Jacob Dowd 53 pts.

This is always a very popular exercise as it's exciting to fly just above the Maria River at such a low level and requires real pilot skill in keeping the aircraft coordinated and balanced at all times.

### Forced Landing

The Forced Landing was carried out from above the field at 2000' and had to include all trouble checks.

1st Mark Crawford 73 pts, Rod Davison 58 pts, 3rd Steve Gooch / Mark Watson 32 pts.



1st Rod Davison 233 pts

### BONUS POINTS

These points are gained for perfect landings regardless of whether the pilot is in the scoring boxes. The landing has to be smooth and take place with the column hard back at the completion of the landing whilst maintaining a position exactly in the middle of the runway to score a maximum of 20 points for each landing. Today we did two (2) landings, (Max 40 pts) and our impressive pilots were:

1st Rod Davison 40 pts. (Rod certainly protects his aircraft by doing perfect landings as most of the time)

2nd Jacob Dowd 10 pts.

### OVERALL

Congratulations to our first time competitor, Steve Gooch for his outstanding flying effort in coming third in the Forced Landing exercise.

1st With some totally outstanding and accurate flying, our winner earned himself the monthly trophy in the form of the impressive PPD Mug. Our winner was: Rod Davison on 233 points

2nd Mark Crawford 212 points.

3rd Jacob Dowd 217 points.

Congratulations to all of our pilots who participated in this important day's flying to help maintain proficiency, currency and confidence.

**Rod Davison is the winner of July PPD! Congratulations to Rod for gaining the highest points score in the Pilot Proficiency Day for July! Results were: 1st Rod Davison 233 pts. 2nd Mark Crawford 212 pts. Jacob Dowd 171 pts.**

# Captain's Report

## AUGUST PPD 2022

By RAY LIND  
Club Captain Hastings District Flying Club



Great weather certainly encouraged our pilots out for the August PPD. We had eight (8) pilots compete today who all took advantage of the great flying rates of \$100 an hour for these specialised days. Everyone gains from our PPDs which are designed to maintain our pilot's currency, confidence and competency. We also had great pleasure in welcoming two new pilots to their very first PPD. Today Chai Randive and Zac Lancaster joined us and despite their very limited experience, both flew very well and got high places in several of the events.

### Blind Circuit / Spot Landing

For this exercise today we turned the EFIS off on the downwind to simulate a total instrument failure and the pilot had to fly a perfect circuit, gauging heights and speeds using outside visual references and the backup instruments in the aircraft. The pilot then had to finish with a perfect landing in the scoring box. This activity shows the pilot that flight can take place perfectly safely, despite a total instrument failure using attitude alone. Our pilots flew this exercise extremely well with most touching down beautifully in the scoring boxes (big runway touchdown marker). This is not easy to judge! Ground points were: Rod Davison 50 pts, Mark Crawford 40 pts, Zac Lancaster and Jacob Dowd 30pts while Mark Watson and Bodhi Hinchcliffe both scored 20 points on the ground.

Our highest scoring pilots in the exercise were:

1st Rod Davison 125 pts, 2nd Mark Crawford 117 pts, 3rd Zac Lancaster 105 pts.

### RIVER BASH

This exercise involves a coordinated Flying Exercise up the Maria River at exactly 600'. The pilot has to keep the aircraft in balance with the rudder (extremely important) during all of the turns whilst maintaining a position exactly over the middle of the river. This requires a high level of concentration and focus from the pilot and is really GOOD FUN!

1st Steve Schwartz 65 pts, (Steve had a perfect score), 2nd Bodhi Hinchcliffe / Rod



1st Rod Davison 256 pts

Davison 61 pts, 3rd Jacob Dowd 59 pts. All of our pilots flew very accurately in this exercise as seen by the high point scores.

### FORCED LANDING

This exercise simulates a total engine failure while just approaching the airport. We commenced the exercise from A020 today and the pilot then had to glide the aircraft safely to a suitable landing area while going through all of the necessary trouble checks. Ground points were: Chai Randive 40pts and Rod Davison scored 30 pts. Chai judged his touchdown point almost perfectly but he needs to memorise his checks a little better to increase his total score.

1st Rod Davison 79 pts, 2nd Chai Randive 61 pts, 3rd Steve Schwartz 50 pts.

### Bonus Points

These points are gained for perfect landings regardless of whether the pilot touches down in the scoring boxes. The landing has to occur with the column well back whilst maintaining a position exactly in the middle of the runway, main wheels straddling the centre line, the aircraft rolling straight and the nose wheel coming down by itself once all the energy has been used up. These elements will earn the pilot a maximum score of 20 points for each

landing with a maximum of 40 pts for the two exercises. Our impressive pilots today were:

1st Zac Lancaster, Chai Randive, Steve Schwartz, Bodhi Hinchcliffe and Rod Davison all on 20 pts.

### OVERALL

Scores were reasonably close but no one could get near to our maestro, Rod Davison. Rod now has a handicap of 40 pts after today's win (10 for each win over the year).

**1st Rod Davison 256 points.**

2nd Bodhi Hinchcliffe 213 points.

3rd Mark Crawford 208 points.

Congratulations to all of our pilots who participated during this important day's flying. It is also very exciting to see more and more of our new pilots joining us for our Pilot Proficiency Days.

**Watch out Rod.....our pilots are improving all of the time! Consistency with improvement will win the day in the end! Let's get into it!!**

# Top Gun Maverick

26 May 2022



About 70 members, friends and families attended the movie premiere Top Gun Maverick on 26th May 2022 with many of us leaving Laurieton Plaza Cinema high on adrenaline afterwards.



EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2023

## SEE YOU NEXT YEAR

### July 24 – July 30, 2023

INFO

<https://www.eaa.org/airventure>



TOM CRUISE VISITS THE PATROUILLE DE FRANCE (THE FRENCH AIR FORCE FORMATION CREW, LIKE THE ROULETTES IN AUSTRALIA)



Stephanie Pursehouse and Ray Lind dressed for the occasion.

# Curry Night

Friday 5th August

Yummy curries to warm our hearts



# Morning Tea at Old Bar

6 August 2022

Recognise the aircraft from Jon Bown, Rod Davison and Steve Woodham?



Morning Tea at Old Bar



- 1-Parking
- 2-Caravan Park
- 3-Kiosk
- 4-Toilets
- 5-Beach viewing
- 6-Shops

Plan your trip to Old Bar. Check out their amenities.



# FUN and GAMES at the HDFC Pizza feast

Friday 1st July

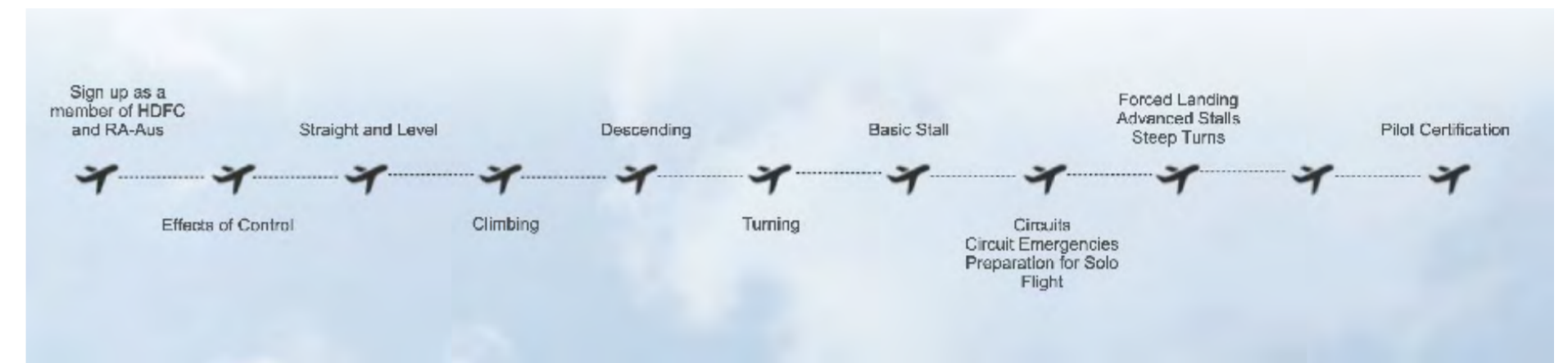


## FLYING TRAINING IN PORT MACQUARIE

The Hastings District Flying Club (Port Macquarie Recreational Aviation) is a leader in Recreational Flying Training specialising in professional pilot development.

Our enthusiastic team of highly professional and experienced flying instructors draws on experience from many facets of aviation and will ensure that your flying training is conducted thoroughly, professionally and to the highest standards.

Training is conducted at Port Macquarie Airport (YPMQ) in a friendly atmosphere.



### TYPES OF FLYING TRAINING AT HDFC

#### TRIAL INSTRUCTIONAL FLIGHT (TIF):

A Discovery Flight is a fantastic way to experience what flying is all about. With one of our professional flight instructors at your side, you will actually get to fly our aircraft! During a 40 minute hands-on flight, you will learn the basics of taxiing, take-off and maintaining straight and level flight. Best of all, you can log the flight time in your pilot's logbook if you decide to continue training. Costs \$150 when flying in the Sling.

#### PILOT CERTIFICATE:

Pilot training course conducted in accordance with the RA-AUS Operations Manual.

#### GA PILOT CONVERSION:

If you are an existing GA pilot, why not think about gaining your Recreational Pilot Certificate. Minimum 5 hours including 1 hour solo.

#### RIGHT HAND SEAT SAFETY COURSE:

An excellent course for partners of pilots who fly regularly in the right hand seat. We will teach you aeroplane handling skills, how to land and emergency procedures.

#### ENDORSEMENT TRAINING:

- Passenger Carrying
- Cross Country
- High Performance

#### BIENNIAL FLIGHT REVIEW (BFR):

BFRs are available for existing RA-Aus Pilot Certificate holders.

#### GROUND COURSES:

- Basic Aeronautical Knowledge (BAK)
  - Navigation and Meteorology
- \* Ground courses are subject to minimum number requirements. Please contact CFI for course details

#### MORE INFORMATION:

[www.hdfc.com.au/flying-training-in-port-macquarie](http://www.hdfc.com.au/flying-training-in-port-macquarie)

#### ESTIMATED FLYING TRAINING COSTS

**Recreational Aviation Pilot Certificate (total estimated at \$5,000 minimum)**

**HDFC membership (must have):**  
\$100/year

**RAAus membership (must have):**  
<18 \$189/year plus \$25 joining fee  
>18 \$275/year plus \$25 joining fee

**Basic Aeronautical Knowledge Theory Kit (BAK):**  
\$100

**BAK briefings (must do) 12 topics, about 12-15 hours:**  
\$30/hour

**Aircraft hire (25-30 hours):**  
\$150/hour plus \$5/hour fuel surcharge

**Instructor (20-25 hours):**  
\$70/hour

#### What aircraft do we train in?

All ab initio flying training are in the Sling2

For more course details contact:  
[lindflight@gmail.com](mailto:lindflight@gmail.com)

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Buy a Discovery Flight  
Voucher at \$150

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*CFI Ray Lind with the late Geoff Litchfield*

## Vale Geoff Litchfield

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Geoff Litchfield on 14.3.2022. Geoff has been flying with HDFC since 2016 and has made quite an impression on everyone that he met. Geoff was already 86 years of age when he converted to our Light Sport Aircraft. His quiet, humble and friendly manner concealed his incredible life story and remarkable aviation career. Geoff was born in 1930 at Glen Innes and joined the Fleet Air Arm in 1952. He flew from aircraft carriers including many dangerous night flights. Some of the amazing and challenging aircraft he flew included the Supermarine Seafire, Hawker Sea Fury, de Havilland Sea Venom and Gloster Meteor. Geoff's service career was followed by a 30 year career as an airline pilot, much of it flying across the New Guinea mountains in a DC3. This was followed by time in a F-27 Fokker Friendship and culminated with an Airbus A-300. Geoff has been a very keen and supportive member of our club when his health has allowed. His book and life story, 'Fly Boy' has been for sale on our website. Geoff is going to be missed greatly by his partner, Muriel and all of his friends at HDFC. Happy Flying, Geoff.



**We introduce you to The new HDFC committee of 2022/2023.**

- President - Rod Davison
- Vice President, CFI, Club Captain - Ray Lind
- Vice President, Senior Flying Instructor - Steve Smith
- Secretary and Flying Instructor - Bruce Dunlop
- Treasurer - David Toulson
- Committee - Steve Schwartz, Steve Gooch, Jon Bown (not in photo), Doug Toppazzini (not in photo)

**WELCOME NEW HDFC MEMBERS**

**APRIL 2022**

- Mort Laursen
- Steve Shaw
- Michael Wilkinson
- Mathew Whittington
- Piotr Zmijan
- Zac Lancaster

**MAY 2022**

- Mort Laursen
- Steve Shaw
- Michael Wilkinson
- Mathew Whittington
- Piotr Zmijan
- Zac Lancaster

**JUNE 2022**

- Daryl Grace
- Darrell Nash
- William Haines
- Garry Forster
- Gary Warren

**JULY 2022**

- John David
- Jack McManus

We want to feature a HDFC's member profile. Please send to [editor@hdfc.com.au](mailto:editor@hdfc.com.au)



**AIRCRAFT FOR HIRE**



Sling - \$150/hour (\$180/hour for non-members) plus \$5/hour fuel surcharge



Cessna 182 VH-DUZ - contact David Mitchell



**MEMBERSHIPS**

JOIN THE CLUB - If you wish to join us as a member of the Hastings District Flying Club, please download our Membership Kit here: <http://goo.gl/jlK4C7>

- Flying membership - \$100
- Social membership - \$40
- Junior membership - \$11

**PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Members who direct deposit account payments are reminded to reference their deposit with their name. This includes deposits made at Regional Australia Bank branches.

The bank details are:  
**Regional Australia Bank, Hastings District Flying Club,**  
 BSB: 932 000  
 Acct No: 500021367

You can also pay your account with EFTPOS or a Visa or MasterCard, but you will need to come to the club. We are unable to take such payments over the phone.

**MERCHANDISE**

- Visit our online store - [www.hdfc.com.au/online-store](http://www.hdfc.com.au/online-store)
- Shirt - \$35
- Broad brim hat - \$25
- Cap - \$20
- Cloth badge - \$4
- Come Fly With Me Book - \$5
- Fly Boy Book by Geoff Litchfield - \$20

**FLIGHTS**

- Discovery Flight - \$150 - purchase online [www.hdfc.com.au/online-store/Voucher-Trial-Introductory-Flight-p44667992](http://www.hdfc.com.au/online-store/Voucher-Trial-Introductory-Flight-p44667992) or call us
- Hangar rental - \$190 per month

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Photographer: Veronica Lind

## AIRCRAFT WASHING

It is the individual pilot's responsibility to care for our valuable aircraft. This not only involves washing and keeping them clean and tidy but also in general movement of any aircraft within the hangar. Treat our aircraft as your very own because as a member you have part ownership of these aircraft. Please take care of them and help us keep our costs down by looking after them.

### WHY AN AIRCRAFT WASHING ROSTER?

Our aircraft are our purpose. It is vital we care for these valuable assets. The benefits of regular washing and cleaning are numerous.

A roster is the best way to ensure this regularity.

### WHY ME?

This email is being sent to all regular Sling pilots. The HDFC committee believes it is the responsibility of all pilots who fly club aircraft to ensure they are maintained in a clean and tidy manner.

Sharing the load benefits all and keeps costs down.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

Two people are scheduled on a

fortnightly basis. Washing can occur at any time during this period. The first person listed should contact the other to arrange a suitable time. Book the aircraft on the calendar.

If you cannot perform your duty in the allocated time period you may arrange a swap with another team. Any changes should be clearly shown on the noticeboard roster.

### THE DUTY.

Both Slings are to be washed. This can occur simultaneously or one after the other. Division of labour is your choice.

A box of cleaning materials including instructions is in the hangar. Please read instructions especially with regard to Perspex.

When finished please **date and sign the duty roster** also found in the box of cleaning materials.

### QUESTIONS?

Please contact me if you have any questions or problems concerning this roster. I will act as the coordinator.

Thank you for your assistance in sharing the load.

**Rod Davison**

## AIRCRAFT WASHING ROSTER 2022

Fortnight Beginning	Team	Phone
29/8 to 12/9	Chris Doak	0428468564
	Alasdair Thomson	0401521717
12/9 to 26/9	Jacob Dowd	0409927763
	Bodhi Hinchcliffe	0434030017
26/9 to 10/10	Harry Freudenstein	0481294284
	Aarohi Deshmukh	0469813130
10/10 to 24/10	Jayden Barker	0478607211
	Liam Ross	0421835880
24/10 to 7/11	Steve Schwartz	0423909869
	Nirav Rajguru	0425570012
7/11 to 21/11	Rob Breskal	0466225433
	Nat Burgio	0437996233

## HOSPITALITY ROSTER

Duty is from 5pm to 8pm of a Friday evening. If unavailable arrange a swap.

Volunteers are still required for this roster. If you can help please phone Rod. +61419632477

**2nd Sept Rod Davison**

**9th Sept Ray Lind**

**16th Sept Jon Bown**

**23rd Sept Steve Smith**

**30th Sept Steve Schwartz**

**7th Oct Bruce Dunlop**



## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE & FLYING INSTRUCTORS

President	Rod Davison   T: 0419 632 477   E: president@hdfc.com.au
Vice-President / Chief Flying Instructor	Ray Lind   T: 0428 820 698   E: lindflight@gmail.com
Vice-President / Senior Flying Instructor	Steve Smith   T: 0405 775 192   E: sfrqsmith@me.com
Secretary and Flying Instructor Bruce Dunlop	Bruce Dunlop   T: 0414 594 223   E: secretary@hdfc.com.au
Treasurer	David Toulson   T: 0418 668 355   E: treasurer@hdfc.com.au
Aircraft Maintenance	Jon Bown   T: 0410264702   E: svenmanuel@live.com.au
Aircraft Maintenance	Doug Toppazzini   T: 0410185606   E: dougtoppazzini@gmail.com
Committee Member	Steve Gooch   T: 0410701662   E: stvgch@gmail.com
Senior Flying Instructor	Mike Bullock   T: 0414 580 246   E: mrbullock@iinet.net.au
Senior Flying Instructor	Bob Needham   T: 0481 327 931   E: induna191@gmail.com
RAAus Flying Instructor	Rod Hall   T: 0418 229 232   E: rod@jetfighter.com.au

### HASTINGS DISTRICT FLYING CLUB

P.O. Box 115, Port Macquarie, NSW 2444  
T: (02) 6583 1695 | E: president@hdfc.com.au

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## HASTINGS DISTRICT FLYING CLUB

is where Aviators, their families and friends come together  
to share their flying dreams since 1958

Since 1958, the Hastings District Flying Club (HDFC) Port Macquarie  
brings aviators, their family and friends together  
to share their flying dreams.

HDFC encourages air-mindedness and interest  
in aviation of the Hastings district.

It operates a flying club and recreational  
aviation flying school with a hangar and club house at  
Port Macquarie Airport on the NSW Mid North Coast.

Friday night is Club Night from 5pm,  
with a sausage sizzle every 1st Friday. Visitors welcome.

Club membership is \$100 (flying) and \$40 (social).

The club owns two Slings which is available for hire by  
HDFC Members for \$150/hr plus \$5/hr fuel charge (including GST)

A monthly flying competition to improve professional pilot proficiency  
and Steak and Sausage Sizzle lunch is held at the club house  
on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

## HASTINGS DISTRICT FLYING CLUB

P.O. Box 115, Port Macquarie, NSW 2444

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