

Airwave



February 18th, 2010

Flying in Manilla

Raef writes:

I contacted Godfrey by email a week before the NSW State Titles started to see how the weather was shaping up. His response was short and sweet, "On for the next 3 to 4 days". That's all I needed. I pulled my trailer into the garage and started loading up my camping gear. No point waiting too long.

Dave arrived on the Tuesday and come Wednesday morning we were gone. Looking back we perhaps should have left Tuesday night. The sky was pumping all the way down and on Thursday it was the same. We waited for the first cloud then headed up the hill.

A few pilots from Tasmania and Newcastle had been flying over the last few days and flew 130km the day before. We set up quickly on the western launch and got ready to go. It was amazing how text book the launch was, the wind had been quite strong up the face with pressure building up as the last thermal moved over to the back of the hill.

We didn't have to wait too long for the next thermal. First, the wind up the face stopped and the streamer at the top started to suck forward. There were no other obvious sign that the thermal was just in front of the launch but it was there. I could just make out the windsock in the bomb out field pointing away from the hill, then after a few minutes it was pointing toward the hill. Still there was no wind on launch, but the trees down the front of launch started to move. It had to be there.

I launched straight into a chick chick boom 600 fpm up that only got better as I got higher. We didn't have a driver and had already discussed flying out to Halls Creek and back to town. We climbed out from launch with a couple of paragliders then I lost sight of them. One paraglider had a collapse and threw the reserve. I decided to head for the chicken sheds as there were two big cues forming over them.

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In other news

NSW State Titles

Results are found [here](#).

HGFA Management On-line

See [here](#) if you want to know what is going on with the HGFA BOD today.

For Sale

[Hang Gliders for sale/wanted](#)

[Paragliders for sale/wanted](#)

[Trikes for sale/wanted](#)

[Other things for sale/wanted](#)

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It was a headwind to get back. I slowly made my way back to town and found my best smoothest climb on the outskirts. I got up to 5000', and cloud base was higher, probably 7000'. I then flew out toward Halls Creek, but I turned around after getting low. I scraped it back into the caravan park landing area and packed up in the shade with a cold beer.

It was one of the smoothest joyful flights I've had here at this time of year and would thoroughly recommend to any pilot who wants to get some air time to be here this time of the year. Heaps of pilots started turning up after this flight, however we were stuck with a trough.

Blaino on aerotowing

Raef writes:

Blaino is here at Manilla and he comments that there was a change in aerotow launch technique during the Forbes Flatlands. This change provided for better roll control through higher speeds. In the past lack of roll control has been the main cause for whack ins. We got a thorough description of best practice over a couple of beers. Grab a beer and listen in.

Blaino's talk can be found [here](#).

New Newsletter Name

Raef writes:

The HGFA newsletter has been renamed "AIRWAVES" as voted on by HGFA members from December 25th, 2009 to January 11th, 2010. They voted [here](#). Thanks to all who sent in their name suggestions.

Congratulations Andrew Clark the person who nominated the name will get \$50 off next membership renewal.

The editor notes: The graphic above says "Airwave"

Easter Fly-In

<http://www.warrenwindports.com.au/blog/2010-easter-national-fly-tumut.html>

When: Easter, Friday 02 April 2010 to Monday 05 April 2010

Where: [Tumut, NSW Australia](#)

- **Great free-flying with friends**

[your options.](#)

Sponsors



Besides flying, there's always a chance for a kayak derby in the river if there's too much wind or rain

- **Free Thermaling and XC Assistance**

I'll be there helping out overtime for pilots (hang gliding & paragliding) looking to improve their in-land soaring skills. If conditions permit, I hope to even offer some air-to-air assistance on the radio. I'll be bringing my hang glider and maybe my paraglider, too. Overall, the loose agenda is going to be getting some FUN and safe AIRTIME. Be sure to [contact me](#) if you are interested in attending this aspect of the event. Also, more info 'bout this at the bottom.

- **Free Camping at the Tumut Aerodrome.**

Just find an empty spot...the camping area is on the outskirts of the parking lot. It's primitive and basic but there are showers and toilets are on site. Also, there's a pilot's kitchen and lounge, making everything a bit easier. Rumor has it that accommodation/camping in Tumut is already booked out.

- **Free BBQ's**

It should taste good if we fly all day...

- **Spot Landing**

Nothing formally organized yet, but what's a Fly-In without a spot to target at some point during the day?

Upcoming Competitions

The HGFA Competition Calendar



[Weekend Warriors Series](#), C, 4th Feb - 4th Apr, Manilla, NSW, [James Thompson](#)



[State of Origin](#), C, 4th Feb - 4th Apr, Manilla, NSW, [James Thompson](#)



[Bright Open 2010](#), AAA, 6th - 12th March, Bright, VIC, [Ben Kovco](#)



[Dalby Big Air 2010](#), B, 14th - 20th March, Dalby, QLD, [Darron Hodder](#) (Organizer), [Annie Crerar](#) (Director)



[Ozone Corryong Open](#), AAA, 14th - 20th March, Corryong, NSW, [Peter Bowyer](#) (Organiser), [Rohan Holtkamp](#) (Director)



[Flatter than the Flatlands](#), B, 10th - 13th April, Birchip, VIC, [Wesley Hill](#)