
Airwaves



HGFA Airwaves
October 2010

Greetings!

Welcome to the October edition of the HGFA Airwaves Newsletter.
If you have any articles that you would like to see sent to the HGFA members then please email them to newsletter@hgfa.asn.au

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HGFA President's Report



G'day Pilots.

If you're reading this and thinking it's a case of déjà vu don't be alarmed it's taken me a while to adjust also.

Our President Alex Jones has resigned from that position he held since April of this year, after putting in lots of time and achieving some important critical requirements for our continued operation.

On behalf of the Committee and the membership in general, I thank Alex for his contribution and passion in keeping our organisation operating. Being a volunteer in this organization comes with the downside of early burnout, so I believe it's wise to think of it as a relay race (i.e. go as hard as you can, then pass the baton on). As long as we have people who wish to contribute we should have no shortage of people who can run for 1 year or 1 month (metaphorically speaking of course).

Of course it's better for the corporate "memory" of HGFA if we don't burn out our volunteers and to that end it's up to the committee to work on the policies and then advertise for someone in the HGFA who may wish to be responsible for that matter.

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In the words of that icon of our sport Paul Mollison "most people can handle a barrow load of concrete, but balk at trying to deal with a full mixer dumping it's load on them"

The idea behind that is to give people smaller achievable items to deal with rather than "bury" the keen new volunteer in a never ending task that sees them become disillusioned.

As a result of the committee meeting held after the AGM on 9th & 10th of October, your committee has ricocheted me back into the Presidency with a number of tasks to deal with until the election next year.

There will be a full report of the AGM and the matters arising from the committee meeting in the next month's SA but a few things we are investigating include:

1. Soaring Australia - yes it keeps coming up but we are going to deal with it in the next 6 months (in consultation with the GFA)
2. Funding of specific operational disciplines
3. Occurrence reporting - implementation of Accident Reporting System online
4. Appointment of new Operations Manager
5. Re-connection with the State/Regional associations

So I trust members do not think this is a case of, in the words of "The Who" - "meet the new boss same as the old boss.... We won't get fooled again"

The committee and I are here for the next 12 months to continue the relay with your assistance but don't be shy if you get a call from us to grab the baton for a turn.

Regards
Rob Woodward

HGFA Annual General Meeting 2010



The HGFA AGM for 2010 was held at the Holiday Inn at Melbourne Airport on 9th October.

The meeting was smaller than last year's and - thankfully - less controversial than the last couple of AGMs. The HGFA Committee and Affiliated Associations presented their various reports, which showed that significant progress has been made over the past 12 months or so. However, the meeting also highlighted that there is still a great deal that needs to be addressed in the coming 12 months too.

The draft minutes of the HGFA AGM can be found at:
www.hgfa.asn.au/articles/HGFA_AGM_Minutes_2010.pdf

Following the AGM the HGFA Committee held a meeting over the remaining day and a half. There were some very robust discussions and frank interactions - particularly regarding State Association funding - but the general feeling was one of having achieved a considerable amount combined with a productive outlook for the coming months.

The draft minutes of the post-AGM HGFA Committee meeting can be found at:
www.hgfa.asn.au/articles/HGFA_Committee_Minutes_9-Oct-2010.pdf



HGFA Committee of Management 2010-11

(L-R Standing) Brian Webb - Vice President, Greg Lowry - Treasurer,
Martin Halford - Secretary, John Twomey - Interim Ops Manager,
Chris Drake - IT.

(L-R Seated) Rob Woodward - President,
Benn Kovco - SOC & CC Rep.

Women With Wings 2 Skills Clinic



Women With Wings 2 Skills Clinic - FlySafe! FlyFun! FlyFar!

WHAT: A fun, inspiring skills clinic for Aussie women hang glider and paraglider pilots of all experience levels

WHERE: Bright, Victoria, with flying the Ovens and Kiewa Valleys

WHEN: March Mon 7th- Fri 11th, with registration on the evening of Sunday 6th.

We already have fantastic mentors, instructors and guest lecturers on board including Brian Webb and Andrew Horchner, Tove Heaney, Craig Collings and Olli Bathemeles. Our HG instructor is still being finalised but will be either Curt Warren, Rohan Holtkamp or Tony Barton.

There will be theory workshops and guest lectures on topics such as XC skills, Instruments, Dealing with Fear, Human Factors/Situational Awareness and of course lots and lots of FLYING!

Headquarters is Camp Krusty (the Outdoor Inn in Bright) with camping or cabin accommodation.

With funding to come from the HGFA, State Association and CASA, registration fee for participants will be well under \$150 for the full 5 days flying! What a bargain! There will be a welcoming barbeque plus a closing dinner, goodie bags, prizes, T-shirts and more! Airborne and Moyes are generously helping out by supplying a few loan gliders to make it more affordable for HG pilots travelling from distant states. We've also applied for funding to cover your accommodation expenses!

Stay tuned for the WWW2 website end November, and shortly a forum for participants where you will be able to introduce yourself to other female pilots and arrange carpooling, share accommodation etc.

Don't miss out on this fantastic event. You will gain skills, confidence, inspiration and friends!

For more information contact Helen McKerral on hmckerral@adam.com.au

Free Teleconferencing for HGFA Clubs



The HGFA Committee uses a teleconferencing system called GoToMeeting.

This has proved very effective in allowing the HGFA Committee to talk and collaborate together despite being remote from each other. GoToMeeting has made it possible for the HGFA Committee to get together regularly online without the need to physically meet as often, significantly reducing the costs and time for physical meetings. The HGFA Committee currently meet fortnightly online via GoToMeeting. In fact, we were meeting weekly for a number of months!!

GoToMeeting allows a conference to be convened where participants can join via the internet or they can dial in by telephone. GoToMeeting allows us to share desktops and identify who is currently talking. You can also record meetings so discussions can be reviewed at a later date. (Note: The HGFA Committee did try Skype teleconferencing but found it could only handle meetings with a maximum of 5 or 6 participants.)

As the HGFA has paid a fixed fee for an annual subscription for GoToMeeting, the Committee would like to offer its use to any HGFA Club or Affiliated Association ****FREE OF CHARGE****. The HGFA subscription allows us to meet as often as we like, with a maximum of 15 persons able to attend any online meeting.

This could be an excellent opportunity for your club or association to more effectively meet or for remote members of your committees to more easily attend your meetings. (Caveat: Monday night's are reserved for HGFA Committee use only.)

To see more info about GoToMeeting please visit:
www.gotomeeting.com/fec/online_meeting

If your club or association would like to try GoToMeeting or would like more information

about this service then please contact:
Brian Webb (brian.webb@hgfa.asn.au)

HGFA Web Site & Knowledge Base



The HGFA Committee is planning for a long-overdue refresh of the HGFA Web Site and the associated systems that are integrated with it (e.g. the HGFA Membership System called IMIS, the soon to be implemented Accident Reporting System, etc.)

Part of the Committee's commitment is to implement some kind of knowledge base system that would become a central repository of information which would allow future Committees to more easily find and store current and historical data.

If there are any individuals in the HGFA membership who have expertise in implementing or sourcing knowledge base systems and who would be willing to share their knowledge then please contact: committee@hgfa.asn.au

Upcoming PG Events & Competitions



- * [Canungra Cup](#) (Canungra, Qld) : Oct 2010
- * [Queensland Paragliding Championships](#) - Various
- * [Mystic Cup \(Bright, Vic\)](#) - Various Dates from Nov 2010 to Mar 2011.
- * [Not The Vic Open](#) (Bright, Vic) : 30 Oct - 2 Nov 2010
- * [Weekend Warriors](#) (Manilla, NSW) : Various Dates
- * [XC Open](#) (Manilla, NSW) : Jan 2011
- * [Bright Open 2011](#) (Vic) : Feb 5th - 12th 2011
- * [State of Origin](#) (Manilla, NSW) : Easter 2011
- * [Ozone Corryong Open](#) : Mar 2011
- * [Online Cross Country Comps](#) : Anytime!

Paragliding competitions registration can be done online at:
<http://ozparaglidingcomps.com/>

Please send details of other events to: newsletter@hgfa.asn.au

Upcoming HG Events & Competitions



- * [Ride the Spiral](#) (Mount Beauty, Vic) : Oct/Nov 2010
- * [Gulgong Classic](#) (NSW) : Nov 2010
- * [Corryong Cup](#) (Corryong, Vic) - Jan 2011
- * [Forbes Flatlands](#) - Jan 2011
- * [Bogong Cup](#) (Vic) - Jan 2011
- * [Wylie Classic](#) - 27th Feb to 5th March, 2011

Please send details of other events to: newsletter@hgfa.asn.au

About 'Airwaves'

'Airwaves' is the e-newsletter of the Hang Gliding Federation of Australia. It is scheduled to be sent out monthly but actual delivery dates may vary depending on events and circumstances.

If anyone has any suggestions or comments about 'Airwaves' then please send them through to: newsletter@hgfa.asn.au.

That's all Folks!!!

For further details or questions regarding HGFA Operations or Management please email the HGFA Committee (committee@hgfa.asn.au).

Sincerely,

The HGFA