

QUEENSLAND ULTRALIGHT ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 2007 NEWSLETTER

Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield, Silverleaves Road via Toogoolawah, Qld

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Ron Wheeler's Scout Ultralight That Changed Aviation Forever.

In the 1960's a new sport of towing a kite on floats behind a fast power boat was developed by John Dickenson in Grafton, New South Wales, using a simple wing design by Francis Rogallo and incorporating an A-frame weight shift control system and aluminium / Dacron construction. From this basic design, modern hang gliding quickly developed with help from people like Bill Moyes and Bill Bennett. The start of a new era in sport flying quickly mushroomed world wide as designers looked at ways to build more efficient designs. Sydney boatbuilder and hang glider pilot Ron Wheeler designed the Tweetie glider in the early 1970's. The Tweetie became the Scout ultralight when a converted Victa lawnmower engine was fitted in 1975. With much encouragement from Ron, the new 95.10 ultralight legislation was released in 1976. This was the first legislation of its kind world wide and the Wheeler Scout was the first production ultralight aircraft with over two hundred examples sold. A new era in recreational flying dawned worldwide as new designs appeared overnight. This new enthusiasm has seen the cycle of light aircraft development be completely re-invented once more as new designs became heavier, faster, more practical and sophisticated. With new legislation being introduced to keep pace with this growth, what aircraft like the Scout started, has seen a total re-make of the lighter side of recreational aviation and training systems that is re-defining the lighter side of non commercial General Aviation world wide. We owe much to pioneers like Ron Wheeler in challenging the boundaries of government legislators and existing technologies to introduce this on going revolution in sport aviation.

**NEXT QUA MEETING ON MONDAY 5th NOV. AT 07.30 pm
ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS MONTH**

MYSTERY AIRCRAFT



Last month's mystery aircraft is still a mystery. It is a Verhees Delta designed and built by Bart Verhees in Belgium. The design brief was to design a very small, fast aircraft with a large cockpit space. The configuration is an all metal, delta, flying wing with a very thick wing section at the wing root. With a Hirth 65h.p. engine, top speed is 140 knots with a climb rate of 1,300 fpm. The aircraft has been taken to and flown at several air rallies in Europe and England. From the video on You-Tube a long runway is required for take off. The aircraft was registered in France as there was little interest in Belgium.



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MINUTES OF OCTOBER 2007 GENERAL MEETING

MEETING OPENED	08.00 pm
APOLOGIES	Glenda Faint, Danny Fowler, Neil McNamara, Colin Thorpe
VISITORS	Peter Foxlow
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	Moved – Mal McKenzie Seconded -- Richard Faint Accepted / Passed.
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	<p>The clubhouse project development application has been passed to the Esk Shire Council for approval. Ian Ratcliffe is preparing the clubhouse drainage plan for the E.S.C. application. The AGM has been postponed due to the audit difficulties. It is expected the AGM to be held at the next QUA meeting. Nominations for the position of Treasurer are required.</p>
TREASURER'S REPORT	<p>General Account -- \$ 4,800.00 (estimate) Westpac Account -- \$24,000.00 (estimate) Difficulties in having the QUA Accounts audited. The new accountant is to do the audit using extra information on the hangar income. A copy of last years audit to be passed to the new accountant. Apologies offered with an expectation the audit to be finalized for the next QUA meeting and AGM. Roger is unable to continue as the Treasurer due to overseas work commitments in China. A thankyou was given to Roger.</p>
SECRETARIES REPORT	<p>One advertisement from a chair / table manufacturer received. Several emails received from W.B.M.A.inc. regarding the conditions of the access roads due to the recent wet weather and the upcoming W.B.M.A.inc AGM on Sunday, October 21 commencing from 10.00am in the Queensland Aerobatic Club clubhouse at Watts Bridge. A question was asked regarding supplying proof of membership after joining the QUA. This is usually given by supplying a receipt for the membership fee and sending out the monthly newsletters by post or email.</p>
WATTS BRIDGE REPORT	<p>Due to the wet weather and airfield road conditions there has been problems moving plant and equipment around the field. Rod has been mowing again. A hole has appeared in the road way in the Clubhouse Precinct. The clubhouse sewer line pump has been installed and Energex is to connect the power. The new toilet block is being planned so the existing one can be decommissioned and demolished. One needs to consider where one drives or taxis on the airfield after it has been raining due to the potential of becoming bogged. It is planned to install road base on the main access road for a total of 350 metres from the main gate at an estimated cost of \$12,000.00</p>

OCTOBER MINUTES CONTINUED

GENERAL BUSINESS

For the WBMAinc. AGM a nomination for a QUA representative needs to be proposed.

Nominated -- Richard Faint
Proposed by -- Ivor Parsons
Seconded by -- David Ratcliffe
Accepted / Passed. Thanks again Richard.

New member Darryl Daniels spoke about his Rans 6S Coyote, that he has purchased. The aircraft is in immaculate condition with only 200 hours TTIS. This particular aircraft was built by former QUA member Peter Frazer and was originally flown from Watts Bridge. We wish Darryl many safe hours of flying the Rans Peter Ratcliffe and Co, who are building a CH701 have their converted Suzuki engine running on test to check the cooling and the engine computer. Peter described how they had to learn to set up and program the computer with little help from the suppliers. The engine idles at 800rpm, and has been test run without the propeller to set in the engine drive belts. A different radiator has been purchased to mount under the fuselage to aid the cooling. Peter, Ivor and Vern have also ordered three Zenair 601 aircraft kits that will be arriving in the new year for assembly. It is anticipated that the QUA clubhouse will also be assembled in the new year following Esk Shire Council approvals. The QUA Christmas Party is being planned again for the December Meeting on the 1st of December this year. More details will be provided at the next QUA meeting in November.

SPECIAL THANKS

to Robin Salisbury for preparing the supper this month.

MEETING CLOSED

08.40pm

POSITIONS VACANT

The QUA is in need of a suitable person to accept the position of Treasurer to replace Roger Kelly who is unable to continue in this role. Please contact Peter Ratcliffe (0418159429) or Mal McKenzie (07-33415348) if you are willing to accept this position. We welcome the input from new people to run the QUA

NEW QUA MEMBERS

The QUA would like to welcome the following people who have joined us as members in recent months.

Darryl Daniels who owns an immaculate Rans S6 Coyote.

Vern Grayson who has ordered a Zenair 601 kit also.

Bill Oates who is a commercial pilot, LAME and RAAus Level 2 and Amateur Built Inspector.

Peter Foxlow who is learning to fly.

Mervyn Ward who owns a Smith Termite that he built in South Africa which is now at Watts Bridge.

Sandy Walker who is an Airframe Engineer, Level 2, aircraft owner, Glider, PPL, and RAAus pilot.

Current QUA membership is forty five members from most parts of South East Queensland and growing.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

- November 5th QUA General Meeting at the SAAA Clubrooms from 07.30 pm.
This is a good time to meet other members, fliers and aircraft builders.
A light supper will be provided after the formalities.
- November 17th Dunwich on Straddie Breakfast Get-Together. 9,00am Breakfast at \$10.00
Thanks to the airfield owner, Pat Bowden there are Breakfast Get-togethers
planned each month on the third Saturday.
Contact Hugh Ragg on 0412299403
- November 25th Annual "Greenfield" Toy Flyin to Tony and Jane Green's idyllic setting in
the Noosa Hinterland. Whether you drive or fly into "Greenfield", the only
request is that you bring a gift wrapped Christmas Present to place under
the Charity Christmas Tree. A Barbeque Lunch amongst the Teewah
Bushland with one of the most diverse gatherings of aircraft in Queensland.
Contact Tony or Jane Green on 07 54853016 or email c165@tpg.com.au
- December 3rd QUA Christmas Party at the SAAA Clubrooms. More details next month.
- December 15th Dunwich on Straddie Breakfast Get-Together. 9.00am Breakfast at \$10.00
each. Contact Hugh Ragg on 0412299403
- December 15th QVAG Christmas Party at Watts Bridge. Commencing at Sundown.
Contact Shane Winter on 0409252252 or blackmoth@bigpond.com
Or Craig Justo on 0407740734 or craig@aeroaspects.com.au
- Dec 28 -- Jan 01 2008 Great Eastern Fly-in at Evans Head Memorial Airfield.
OH YES; IT'S ON AGAIN (many thanks to Gai Taylor)
Flying Fun Sun and Surf/ join us at this year's Great Eastern/ your flying
Holiday. Underwing/overwing camping/ caravan area/ catering (yes, Great
Coffee and Food)/ all amenities/ shuttle bus
NO LANDING FEES
Great Flying/ Air Displays/ Classic Flying Film Night/ Sunday Market/
Aviation Business/ Adventure Flights/ Models Ultralights/ GA/ Gliders/
Vintage/ Warbirds/ Mustang/ Trojan/ Beech 18/ Spitfires/ Yak 52's/
Nanchangs and more. Anything that flies/ Museum display/ fun for all the
family and lots more/ Watch this space!
Extra! Extra! A Great Eastern Special, do we have a deal for you!
If you'd like to come earlier, volunteers can join us from the 26th Dec until
Tuesday the 2nd January to help us out with all those little jobs.
We'd love to see you and remember the beach is only a stones throw away
Contact Gai Taylor gaitaylor@exemail.com.au OR 0427 825 202 and 02
6621 5592. Check out the website for detail.
- January 12 – 13th Ashford Fly-In and Music Weekend
Fly-In and music weekend to raise funds for New England Volunteer Air
Transport (NEVAT) We are inviting Aviators from all over Australia.
Contact David Roach on davidroach56@hotmail.com OR 0428 254 448

FOR SALE

Pee-Wee II with fully enclosed (Registered) trailer. Wings and elevator have just been recovered and refurbishment is complete. New paint. Excellent aircraft. Many hours of trouble-free operation.

Currently located at Bradfield.



Asking \$11,000.

Call Gavin 5426 2118 (after hours)
or on mobile 0409 265 343

NEXT QUA MEETING IS ON MONDAY 5th NOVEMBER
THE AGM IS ALSO PLANNED FOR THIS MEETING

The QUA Clubhouse Development Application has been approved by the Queensland Water Board. The application has been forwarded to the Esk Shire Council . The drainage / plumbing plan has also been submitted to the E.S.C.

PRESIDENT Peter Ratcliffe 07 33413077 TREASURER Roger Kelly 07 32799710

SECRETARY/EDITOR Mal McKenzie 07 33415348
Email mmc80789@bigpond.net.au
