

Victorian Soaring Association newsletter – March 2018

An update on the activities of the state soaring association for our Victorian and Tasmanian club members

Arrival of the new mobile flight simulator

The new mobile simulator utilising VR technology has arrived. The simulator was designed and built by Tom Wilksch and follows suggestions from the clubs in Victoria for a mobile simulator to be available to assist training. The first VSA simulator remains available for promotional activities. It is heading up to Benalla to start with for initial assessment by Richard Cotton, who has been operating the GCV simulator. Roger Krueger is managing the mobile simulator. For more information, including if your club is interested in utilising the simulator, contact Roger.

Support for clubs

The VSA and GFA have been working with Sports Community for greater support to clubs in their management and growth. Sports Community have a range of online resources to support club governance, achieving membership growth, and encouraging greater diversity. To access these resources... [Ian – how do we access these resources?]

Airworthiness Courses for 2018

Our VSA RTO Airworthiness officers Joe Luciani and Phil Organ will offer Airworthiness training courses in 2018 (likely September/October). It is planned for there to be two one-week Form 2 Airworthiness courses held at Composite Components (Ballarat) for 5-6 candidates on each course. Preference will be given to club-sponsored candidates to continue to build the airworthiness culture in our clubs. Details on the courses coming soon.

In addition, the GFA will be sponsoring minor repair courses to be run by Authorised Maintenance Organisations in each State, including Composite Components at Ballarat.

Instructor and Coaching update

The latest week-long Level 1 instructor course was held in March at Bacchus Marsh with five attendees. Weekend refresher courses for existing instructors are continuing as well. Work on progressing a strategy for coaching in the VSA from our RTO Sports, Matt Gage, is continuing, in line with GFA work.

Progress on Open Glider Network (OGN)

Steve Trone has been progressing this project. Operational sites are now: Bacchus Marsh, Tocumwal, Mt Beauty, and Benalla, with forthcoming sites at: Horsham and Bendigo. There are also independent solar powered installations planned for Mt William in the Grampians and on Mt Buller.

Closure of VSA soaring forecast system

With the new GFA nation-wide forecasting service, we will close the VSA RASP system at the end of March 2018. Our sincere thanks to Matt Gage, GCV, for his extensive technical support of the VSA system over recent years.

Next Annual General Meeting and Presidents' meeting

The VSA AGM and Presidents' meeting will be held on Saturday 12 August 2018 at 1100 at Bacchus Marsh.

At the AGM a number of long-standing current members will resign from the VSA and so applicants from across the VSA membership are sought to continue the work of the VSA into the future.

VSA Committee update

The VSA has welcomed some new members to the Committee: Robyn Lyall, Vivienne Drew and Phil Henderson. As noted above, more new committee members will be needed at the AGM in August.

As always, if any member of the VSA has any questions or feedback for the VSA, please contact us via the President, Ian Grant (ian.grant.gliding[at]gmail.com) or Secretary, David Cleland (davidcleland[at]gmail.com).

The VSA website has all our details and much more: <http://www.gliding.asn.au/>