

# RAAF Amberley Flying Club

## NEWSLETTER – January - February 2011

### Welcome to 2011

Welcome back from the holiday break and I hope that everyone had a good rest from the year that was 2010.

2011 is shaping up to be a hectic year. So far we've seen the AAFC flying camp go ahead using the Tomahawks. Due to the heavy rain and poor weather not as much flying occurred as would be expected.

Nevertheless, the camp was a success with all students passing their BAK theory exams and those cadets undergoing flying training coming within arms reach of going solo.

The start of the year also brought the disastrous floods which affected the districts of Toowoomba, Ipswich and Brisbane. I'm glad to say that although Amberley suffered minor flooding the RAFC came through unscathed with no apparent damage to the clubhouse or aircraft.

Nevertheless, the floods have had an impact on us all and it would be wishful thinking that no club member suffered any loss. The Committee expresses its deep concerns for those affected and if there is any way the club can assist please don't hesitate to ask.

### EGM

The Extraordinary General Meeting is scheduled for **12 noon Saturday 12 Feb 2011** and will be preceded with a club BBQ. The club will be putting on sausages with drinks available for purchase.

The agenda for the EGM is quite simple and covers the following three items:

- **New constitution.** The proposed constitution is available on the club website. It is a high level document defining the operation of the

club and committee. The main change is that it identifies the Safety Officer as a committee officer bearer and devolves specific instructions to the SOPs.

- **Life membership – Ray Seville.** Ray has been a member of the club for a number of years. As the Senior Flying Instructor Ray has provided ongoing support to students, the committee and the junior instructors. We'd like to recognise Ray as life member for all the hard work, long hours and weekends he has given up to ensure the club is able to provide flying and flying training.
- **Committee members.** Unfortunately the nature of Defence means that we often lose members through postings and deployments. As such the President, Vice President and Fuel Officer positions are up for election.

If you cannot make it to the EGM you can exercise a correspondence/proxy vote by sending an e-mail detailing your voting preferences to [Ivan Dovana](#).

Remember to detail:

- Constitution (Yes/No),
- Life member Ray Seville (Yes/No), and
- Committee to vote on your behalf (Yes/No)

### Year Program

To assist with year planning and provide members with advance notice of events the year planner has been placed on the club website under the Events link.

The year planner is constantly being revised with additional information added as it is confirmed.

Flying Instruction days on the year planner identify days specifically set aside for Flight Training. Students should contact their assigned instructor to make a booking on those days. Where a student does not have an assigned instructor they should contact [Damien Boyer](#) in the first instance.

### Aircraft Hire Rates

As part of the on-going management of the club, the committee is required to regularly review



aircraft hire rates. This has been necessitated by the increase in fuel costs associated with moving to drum stock. Nevertheless, the committee has managed to negotiate a reduced cross hire rate for the Tomahawks from the AAFC. Club members will thus notice a change in the rates for the aircraft taking effect on 01 Feb 11. These new rates will be published at the club and be made available on the website.

## Safety Message

The recent floods have seen a number of animals displaced from their normal habitats. As a result Amberley is experiencing an increase in the number of birds and other wildlife in the vicinity of the aerodrome and runways. All pilots are thus encouraged to remain vigilant for wildlife to prevent any incidents.

## Member Support

The club does not run without the ongoing support of it's members. I'm very glad to acknowledge the significant help provided by the following members of the club:

- Tim Taylor gave up some of his leave to come down to the club and help clean, replace furniture and set up our management files. His efforts have helped the club maintain a professional appearance, be more presentable for all members and run more efficiently.
- Bart Gladysz has volunteered to refurbish the club stand alone computer. The computer will run faster and, as well as the standard flight planning software, be able to run a more up to date version of Flight Sim. This computer will be an asset for flight planning, training and for EFT payments.
- Damian Boyer, in addition to flying instruction, also acts as the flight training operations manager. He coordinates instructors, students and aircraft to maximise the efficiency on the nominated flying days.

The good work of these gentlemen is an example of how the efforts of individual members can benefit all club members. Nevertheless there is still much to do, so volunteers are sought to assist with the following tasks:

- Organising the EGM barbeque,
- Compiling the monthly newsletter,

- Organising social events,
- Managing club equipment, and
- Managing the kitchenette and fridge contents.

If you think you can assist in any way please make yourself known to the committee.

|                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Brad Close      | OIC                 |
| Ivan Dovana     | President           |
| Henry Taylor    | Secretary           |
| Brian Smith     | Treasurer           |
| Martin Hogg     | Fuel Officer        |
| Jonathan Shand  | Maintenance Officer |
| Anthony McGrath | Safety Officer      |
| Ray Seville     | Senior Instructor   |
| Damien Boyer    | Flying Instructor   |