

# “Soaring Victoria”

VSA NEWSLETTER PRE-SEASON EDITION

## Congratulations Tassie!

The [Soaring Club of Tasmania](#) is now up and running at Tunbridge Airfield!

Alan Payne, Vic RMO and Chris Thorpe, EMO, recently visited to undertake the Operations Audit to get them into the skies. Alan said that it was a great site and a group of really good people. The Tassie crew are so enthusiastic and we know that they will do some really good things for the sport. They also have a [Facebook](#) page too.

It has been a difficult road for them but they have persevered and now it's “all systems go! If you are heading to Tasmania for a holiday, make sure that you call in and say hi and take a flight or two!



## VICTORIAN LOCAL SERIES TAKES OFF

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October, the Australian Junior Gliding Club ran the Victorian Local Series at Bacchus Marsh Airfield thanks to help from the Melbourne Gliding Club! Sixteen fresh juniors took to the skies for a fun afternoon of trial instructional flights. Many smiles were around after picturesque views and some nice and gentle aerobatics.

The 2019 AJGC Local Series is an initiative designed to boost engagement and mateship within the junior ranks. To do this, the Australian Junior Gliding Club is very grateful for the support of various clubs and regional associations. Better support and resources mean more opportunities for junior glider pilots in Australia.

Next up - Western Australian Local Series – Narrogin Gliding Club! Want to take part, contact James Nugent at [AJGC](#) or check out their [Facebook page](#).



## South Gippsland Gliding Club

Congratulations to South Gippsland Gliding Club for holding its 56th AGM on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October and it was the best attended for many a year and followed by a very pleasant BBQ.

Congratulations also to the whole of their training team (8 in all) who gained their Working with Children certification. South Gippy are focused on gaining Junior members, so that is a great start and will give peace of mind to Mums and Dads leaving their children at the airfield. Well done everyone!

## 2020 National Australian Gliding Multi Class Competition

### *Volunteers invited to be part of this event!*

Tocumwal Soaring Centre is hosting the 2020 National Australian Gliding Multi Class Competition held at the Sportavia WW2 Hangar, Tocumwal, NSW from the 9<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> of December 2019. TSC would like to invite volunteers to be part of this exciting event. Roles might include set up preparations, general operations, airfield assistance or crewing for pilots.

Previous airfield experience is favoured, but not essential. TSC have set aside a few camping and caravan sites for volunteers at Sportavia. Please let Sharon or Lumpy know if you are available. They would love to see you and to share being part of this great sporting event.

Kind Regards  
Sharon and Lumpy

**Tocumwal Soaring Centre**

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*Lumpy Paterson and Sharon Dennis: 129 Burma Rd: PO Box  
411, Tocumwal, NSW, 2741*

*Mobile: 0487 531 265: 0409 405 538:  
[www.tocumwalsoaring.com](http://www.tocumwalsoaring.com)*

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## Hot Weather Resources

Looking ahead to this summer, The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) has reported that daytime temperatures are likely to be above average across most of Australia between October-January.

Over the past three years, Vicsport, in partnership with the Australian Centre for Injury in Sport and It's Prevention, has developed a suite of new resources to assist sport and recreation organisations to mitigate against the risks of exertional [heat illnesses](#) in sport.

Resources include:

- Hot Weather Guidelines for Sport & Active Recreation
- Policy templates for State Sport Associations, Regional Sports Assemblies, clubs and associations
- Posters / fact sheets to promote individual preparation, first aid treatment and identification of the signs and symptoms of heat illness

**Print out these resources and put on your club noticeboard....not everyone is an old hand at gliding, and waiting for a launch or working on the airfield in the heat can cause heat illnesses that affect your members' safety.**

## Play for Purpose Charity Raffle – endorsed by Sport Australia

This program is supported by VicSport and has been developed to assist clubs to raise much needed funds. [Sign your club up today](#). You can also access through SportAus - [https://www.sportaus.gov.au/grants\\_and\\_funding/play\\_for\\_purpose](https://www.sportaus.gov.au/grants_and_funding/play_for_purpose)

[Play for Purpose Charity Raffle](#) is an online not-for-profit raffle. Tickets are just \$10, with a minimum of \$5 from every ticket purchased supporting a Charity or Sporting Club of your choice...that could be YOU!

There are thousands of prizes on offer in every draw, ranging from Gold Bullion, Cars, Holidays Packages plus many more! With a 1 in 34 chance of winning a prize while supporting a good cause, Play For Purpose is the ultimate Win-Win Raffle!

### HOW IT WORKS....

#### SUPERCHARGE YOUR CLUB FUNDRAISING

A minimum of 50% of every ticket sold will support your club. Sell tickets through 3 different channels. This main website, your own dedicated customised website and peer-to-peer sites where individuals or teams can fundraise on your behalf.

## IT'S A WIN-WIN

Not only does the raffle allow your community and members to support your club, they have the opportunity to win over 7000 prizes, valued at \$500,000! It's the ultimate win-win.

## IT'S FREE TO JOIN!

It's free to participate and the prizes are sourced and guaranteed. You also receive access to a powerful self-service portal that allows you to manage your pages. **The raffle is endorsed by Sport Australia and all funds raised will be distributed to your club via the Australian Sports Foundation Charitable Fund.**

## Volunteering

You'd probably agree that volunteers are VITAL to your club's success. They help with events. They serve on committees. They do all manner of things to keep your club active and growing.

But you'd also probably agree that volunteers are tough to come by. And once you do have them, there's always the fear of them burning out.

So how can you better recruit AND retain volunteers at your club? Download the [Ultimate Guide to Volunteer Management](#) for a few tips and best practices!

## VSA Secretary Position

Swan Song! After many years as VSA Secretary, David Cleland will be vacating the position in 2020. Please consider the opportunity to undertake this volunteer role and the strengths you can bring to the VSA Committee. Further information on this position can be obtained by contacting David at [DavidLCleland@gmail.com](mailto:DavidLCleland@gmail.com) or looking on the VSA Website for the [Secretary position description](#). You do not have to be a flying member to undertake this role and as VSA is mandatorily required by the State Government to have 40% women on the board to maintain our funding we would be interested to have involvement from any of our female pilots or family members.

## Accredited VSA YouthGlide Centres...coming soon!

### What is a VSA Accredited YouthGlide Centre?

A VSA Accredited YouthGlide Centres (VSA YGC) initiative is based on the British Gliding Association Junior gliding centres and with the kind permission of the BGA, we have been able to utilize the framework to develop our own. What does all this mean?

Any VSA club that has received accreditation as a VSA YouthGlide Centre can demonstrate to parents and the community that it has policies, procedures and support systems in place to encourage pilots aged under 25 and that they will be treated with inclusion and respect. The club will have demonstrated an ongoing commitment, as part of their club activities, to pursue excellence with a focus on Junior Pilots.

Accreditation Requirements will be advised to Club Presidents shortly.

## Juniors doing it by themselves.....

The [Kingaroy Soaring Club](#) is living up to its name, giving budding pilots a flying start with their high school education. Check out the video and reach out to the club and see how they did it.....

Also check out their website; it's pretty spiffy with some good pics!

<https://www.facebook.com/7NEWSToowoomba/videos/1181575092050249/?t=23>

## Our Junior Members' Safety is everyone's responsibility

Yes, it's been advised a number of times, but just to go over it again.....

It is fantastic to see so many juniors coming up through the ranks and taking on gliding and going solo and beyond! **BUT**....our young people are minors and we must *Play by the Rules*. Please complete the [Child Protection online courses](#) provided for free by Victorian State Government to ensure that you know what the rules are in relation to working with children and your responsibilities to your young club members.

Please also ensure that you have the [VSA Child Safety Statement of Commitment](#) (VSA About/Governance) on your noticeboard or use this to create your own club statement as part of your club rules.

## VSA Policies

As you know, VSA has been busy developing Codes of Conduct and other policies reflecting the governments initiatives to ensure all members of gliding clubs are treated fairly and with respect. These policies are now available on the [VSA Website/Documents/Policies](#) and I urge you read them and be familiar with those requirements.

**Are you a Fair Play club?** - To find out, use the [Fair Play Code Club Self-Assessment Tool](#)

## 7 Musts for New Member Onboarding

A member's first three months with your club are perhaps the MOST important. That's when they get the lay of the land; a true feel for whether it's for them or not. They either start taking advantage of your club's offerings...or they don't. (And that matters heavily when renewal season rolls around.)

So, what are you doing in your members' first three months? Do you have a standard onboarding process in place?

If not, or if there's room for improvement, check out the VSA Website Documents/Development [7 Musts for New Member Onboarding](#). From creating an effective new member welcome pack to organizing new members-only events (on a budget!), the guide can provide tips to get your members immersed and engaged.

## Is your club Female Friendly?

Is your club “female friendly”? Check out the information from [Sport & Recreation](#). Just because it doesn't have glider on the front, doesn't mean it's not relevant.

## VSA Website upgrade

VSA is commencing the groundwork to upgrade our very old website. We recognize that it contains a lot of useful information thought it is not easy to find your way around and is not particularly visual for today's digital climate. A work in progress, but we start....

# What's on next!!

## Calendar of Events for Victoria

| Date                 | Event  |
|----------------------|--|
| 11-15 November       | <a href="#">"Flying Further" Course 1</a> - GCV Benalla<br>Extend your flying further and improve your cross country skills with certified coaches.<br>Contact the office: 03 5762 1058  |
| 6-9 November         | <a href="#">Australian Gliding Museum Courses</a><br>Minor Wood Repair Course  |
| 10-13 November       | Fabric Covering Course<br>Materials provided. Course fee \$450 each.<br>Contact: Jim Barton on 0419 562 213  |
| 23 - 30 November     | <a href="#">VSA State Championships</a> - Benalla  |
| 2-6 December         | <a href="#">"Flying Further" Course 2</a> - GCV Benalla<br>Extend your flying further and improve your cross country skills with certified coaches.<br>Contact the office: 03 5762 1058  |
| 9-21 December        | <a href="#">Australian Multi-Class Nationals</a> - Tocumwal Soaring Centre<br>The entry list is now open. Head to the TSC web page to register or to see who will be racing this December....<br><b>Volunteers required to support the competition Contact: Mobile: 0487 531 265 or 0409 405 538</b> |
| 3-17 Jan 2020        | <a href="#">10<sup>th</sup> FAI WWGC - Lake Keepit</a> (to support the Victorian women's gliding team, donations can be made with the <a href="#">Australian Sports Foundation</a> .)  |
| 25 Jan - 1 Feb 2020  | <a href="#">Horsham Coaching Week</a> - at Horsham   |
| 1 - 8 February, 2020 | <a href="#">Horsham Week</a> - at Horsham  |
| 15- 22 Feb 2020      | <a href="#">Two-Seat National Championships</a> - Horsham  |

### 7 Day a Week Courses

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Nov 2019 - Mar 2020 | Weekday "Flying Start" courses - Gliding Club of Victoria, Benalla<br>Course dates <a href="#">located here</a> |
|---------------------|---|

We know you've got planning in the pipeline for the soaring season, so share your event to the VSA Facebook page and/or send an email to [president@gliding.asn.au](mailto:president@gliding.asn.au) for inclusion in the VSA newsletter so that other pilots in Victoria can share in what your club has to offer.

If I've missed any event, let me know – nicely!

Viv Drew  
VSA Prez