



GlidingVicTas

VSA NEWSLETTER MARCH EDITION



SUMMER'S ENDING

VALE – INGO RENNER

As reported on the [VSA Facebook](#) page and in [Gliding Australia](#), gliding's beloved hero, Ingo Renner passed away on 26th February 2022 at the wonderful age of 81.

Ingo was still flying up until October 2021 and encouraging and teaching his students and sharing his amazing gliding knowledge. Our condolences and thoughts are with Judy and family.



Ingo and Judy Renner at the Southern Riverina Gliding Club in February 2021.

A Memorial Service will be held at Tocumwal airport in the Sportavia hangar on Saturday 26th March, commencing at 1:00pm. GFA members and friends of Ingo are invited to attend to celebrate Ingo's commitment and success in gliding and his life in Tocumwal. *To assist with catering, please email Judy Renner by Tuesday 22nd March to advise if you will attend, at renner@netspace.net.au.*

Lumpy Paterson has created a dedicated email page as a memorial to Ingo Renner. We would like to invite you to add your story, message, photo, video or article. Please send your story or attachment to:

ingomemorial@tocumwalsoaring.com

VALE – ALAN PATCHING - A VSA Living Treasure

It is with great sadness that we advise of the passing of Alan Patching on Sat 12th March. He was 97 years old, (nearly 98), and was a Life Member of GFA. He passed away peacefully at home. To read about Alan's extraordinary contribution to the sport of gliding, see the [VSA Facebook](#) page.



To our Heroes, Fly High

VSA 2022 STATE GLIDING CHAMPIONSHIPS – WINNERS ARE GRINNERS!

The Victorian Soaring Association's 2022 Competition was held from 4th to 11th December 2021 held at Benalla. (Yes, that is not a typo, due to Covid messing with everyone's calendars, the 2021 VSA Comp was held in March 2021). The organisers, all from GCV, had been planning the Comp since July, and so everyone was very much relieved when the Covid restrictions were lifted in time for it to take place. Over 30 gliders registered for the Comp but a few had to drop out for various reasons before the start, however 27 gliders competed, including 5 two-seaters.

The Comp experimented with a modified version of a Grand Prix start and scoring system. This is a handicapped system where every glider starts behind a fixed start line at a nominated time and finishes above a fixed finishing circle at a minimum height AGL close to the airfield. (See Shaun Driscoll's article on the pro's and con's of the modified version of the Grand Prix used at this event, in [Gliding Australia Magazine No. 59](#)

The motto for the VSA 2022 Comp was to 'have fun, fly safe, play fair', which is how the Comp played out. There were 60+ people for the "winners' dinner" where the Mayor of Benalla presented the winners with the VSA's perpetual trophies for each class. The results for the VSA 2022 Comp were:

CLUB CLASS WINNER GRINNERS 😊

- 1st David Meredith 47 points Jantar Standard 2
- 2nd Jack Hart 44 points Mosquito
- 3rd Grant Heaney 41 points Janta Standard 2



15M/STANDARD CLASS WINNER GRINNERS 😊

- 1st Matt Gage 32 points Discus CS
- 2nd Mike Durrant 31 points LS8 15m
- 3rd Daniel Summers 21 points LS3



18M/OPEN CLASS WINNER GRINNERS

1st John Orton 31 points ASG29 18m
2nd Joris Vainius 30 points ASG29 18m
3rd Geoff Brown 23 points JS1 18m



VSA YOUTHGLIDE AND YESGIRLSGLIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to the VSA YouthGlide and YesGirlsGlide scholarships winners! Hamish Scothern, Jo Wells, James Spencer and Harbans Mann from South Gippsland Gliding Club, Georgie Laverick and Alex Turner from Geelong GC and Anoushka DeChalard from Grampians Soaring Club. Their applications showed diligence, focus and enthusiasm for gliding, and willingness to volunteer to help the sport and their club to grow. The Victorian Soaring Association is proud to assist them to continue their gliding and career goals. Congratulations to both Anoushka and James for being awarded a special honour of the VSA President's Award scholarship.



JOEYGLIDE – START AND STOP!

You may have heard that GCV was hosting the Australian Junior Nationals (aka 'Joeyglide') at Benalla from the week of Saturday 15th to Saturday 22nd January 2022. Many of these young pilots came from interstate and faced with prohibitive costs to bring a glider from their own region.

This competition was unballasted and is attended by Juniors of varying cross-country experience and skill levels. The atmosphere is comparable to Horsham Week, where safety is of utmost priority and all are there to learn in a relaxed environment.

The event was only able to be held for three days before the inevitable Covid19 struck a couple of entrants and it was in line with Covid safety that the event was cancelled. But onward and upward and let's make 2022 our best summer season yet.

#YesGirlsGlide MINI SERIES EVENT 1

Our first #YesGirlsGlide mini series event was held from 28-30 January 2022 at Benalla. The theme was "fun, more fun and lotsa fun!" and we had all that and more! Sooo many water pistols!! Not to mention some very "interesting" gliding hats!

Gliding goals were planned, flight prep completed, "secret women's business" spoken about in very hushed tones and lots of flying. Despite the ever-changing weather and the expected "gliding event rain", we managed some very respectable achievements including some re-solos after long breaks away due to Covid.



Thanks to all those brilliant gals in those "flying machines", the flight instructors, Richard, Graham (Butch), Matt, Jon and the generosity of Mark, Richard and Graham for the ASK21Mis, the VSA for financial assistance and the hosts, the Gliding Club of Victoria, Benalla. AND, Mini Series 2 is in the pipeline!

Water Pistols – a must!



#IWD2022

International Women's Day was celebrated by Harbans Mann and Sarah Thompson initiating an online Zoom Trivia Night on 8th March. It was hilarious to say the least with the Narromine "I'm in a Flood and very Rowdy" contingent joining in.

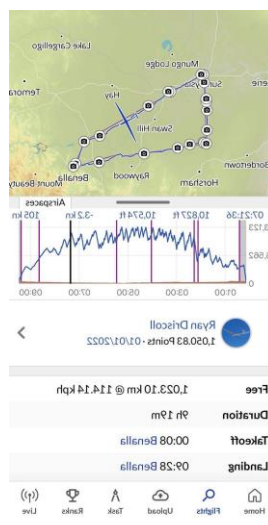
It was fun and utilised an online scoring mechanism through www.menti.com – and you needed to know your stuff and quickly as the best scores were gained by how quick you responded! We also celebrated the amazing women glider pilots we have here in Australia and putting it out there – we need MORE!!



1,000 KMS OR BUST

On 1 January 2022, four flights of over 1,000km were flown by Gliding VicTas members. Congratulations to all. What an amazing achievement!

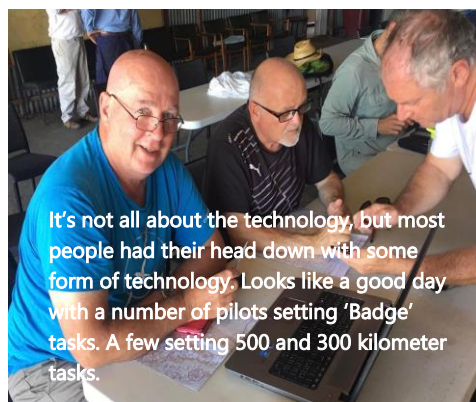
- Tobias Geiger 1,049km 122kph Ventus 2ax Gliding Club of Victoria Benalla
- John Orton 1,048km 125kph ASG 29 18m Gliding Club of Victoria Benalla
- Richard Traill 1,006km 117kph ASG 29 18m Melbourne Gliding Club Wangaratta
- Ryan Driscoll 1,023km 114kph Nimbus 3 25.5m Gliding Club of Victoria Benalla



Details of Ryan's flight can be found in the [Gliding Australia Magazine No. 59](#)

VSA Coaching Week - Horsham
Hosted by Horsham Flying Club
Held on 29 Jan – 4 Feb 2022

56th HORSHAM WEEK COMPETITION -
Hosted by Horsham Flying Club
Was held on 5th to the 12th February 2022



It's not all about the technology, but most people had their head down with some form of technology. Looks like a good day with a number of pilots setting 'Badge' tasks. A few setting 500 and 300 kilometer tasks.



Class is in at Coaching Week at Horsham Flying Club starting with a review of yesterday's flying. John Orton is leading the coaches this year.



David Goldsmith had a long day yesterday in the Ka6 with a free flight of 334km over a flight time of 6 hours 23 minutes.

Always a good two weeks at Horsham with Michael Hogan giving his thoughts on this event that has been going since 1968. Click [here](#).

Horsham Week Open / 18M Class winners, Ryan Driscoll, Michael Durrant, Terry Cubley



COROWA SOARING CENTRE – UPDATE FROM GLIDING AUSTRALIA



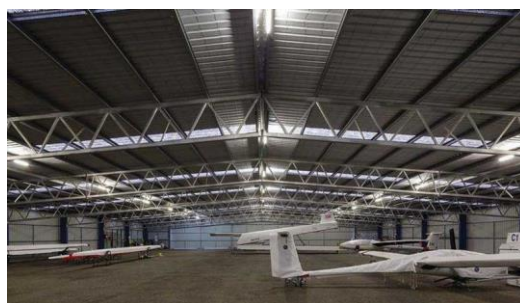
Keith Gately has purchased Corowa Soaring Centre from Francesco Bruinsma. Renowned for long distance flights, Corowa Soaring Centre was started by Francesco and has been welcoming visiting pilots from Europe and Australia for many years.

The Soaring Centre sits on 3.8 acres of Corowa Airfield. It has a large, well-appointed hangar measuring 50m x 35m, a club house and pool.

Keith is planning to continue catering for long distance pilots. He is planning to bring his 2-seater Eta from Germany to Corowa in August 2023. He also has a single seat EB 29R on order that is due to arrive in August this year. These gliders will be available for hire. He plans to use a Super Dimona as a tug and is also going to reinstall a winch for launching. The Super Dimona will also be available for scenic Trial Introductory Flights.

Keith said, 'The goal for 2023/24 season is to have top international pilots including Uli Schwenk visit to fly the Eta and offer coaching. I am planning to make onsite accommodation, food and bar facilities available. Francesco will be keeping his ASG 32 in the hangar but even with the Super Dimona, EB and Eta, there will be lots of space to accommodate visiting gliders as well.'

Importantly, Keith also said, 'The Corowa Soaring Club, a grass roots gliding club, is looking to establish before next season. Adam l'Anson, a former member of the old Corowa Gliding Club, is looking for locals to help get this new club off the ground.'



BEAUFORT AND GEELONG GC – ACCREDITED YOUTHGLIDE CENTRES

Congratulations to both Beaufort Gliding Club and Geelong Gliding Club for becoming Accredited YouthGlide Centres. This is not an easy accreditation and requires effort and dedication (as it should!) to achieve accreditation and maintain the high standards required to work with young people for inclusion, diversity and personal safety.

The proud team at Beaufort GC with their certificate of accreditation



GLIDING VICTAS WEBSITE LAUNCH

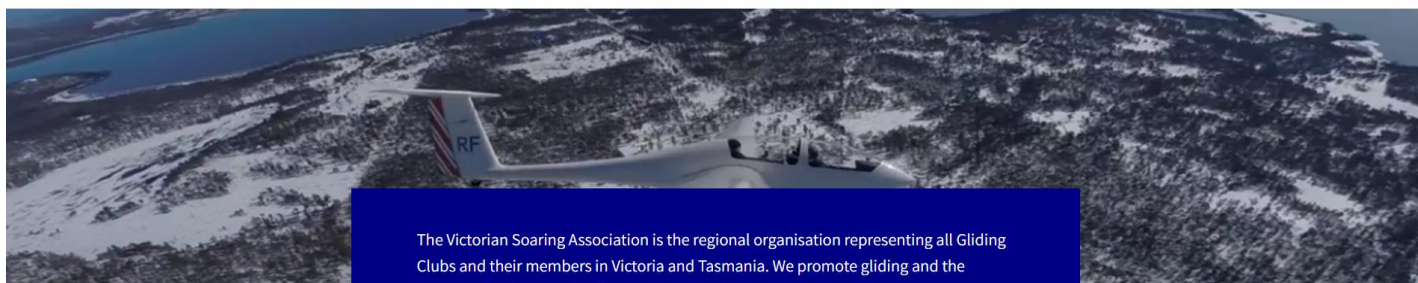
The new website for Gliding VicTas has been launched and can be found at <http://www.victas.glidingaustralia.org/>. The website will be linked to the Gliding Australia website to ensure maintenance and security are continually monitored and updated and also to provide better visibility for our region when people are looking to Find a Club in Victoria. The old website was “very old” and maintaining security was difficult due to its age. A very big thank you to Jarek Mosijewski for ensuring that our security has been taken care of over the last 3 years. With our previous Web Administrator, Marcia Cavanaugh, leaving the role after a sterling 10 years and not many people willing to undertake updating an HTML based site, it was time to move forward. We still have some minor linking to do and some updating of data, but this will be undertaken over the next few months. We hope you enjoy the new website.



About Publications Getting Started Events Members Weather Covid 19

Welcome to Gliding in Victoria

Flying for Fun Soaring Gliding



The Victorian Soaring Association is the regional organisation representing all Gliding Clubs and their members in Victoria and Tasmania. We promote gliding and the

IMPORTANT TO NOTE

SUCCESSION PLANNING *(in case you missed this bit!)*

Vivienne Drew, current VSA President and Tom Spiesser, current VSA Treasurer, will not be seeking re-election at the AGM in 2022 as advised at the 2021 AGM. The position descriptions can be found [here](#). If you can fulfill the essential criteria and have the skills and abilities to want to see Gliding Vic/Tas continue to grow and prosper into the future for all Victorian gliding clubs, please consider your willingness to be involved and bring new ideas and enthusiasm to this unique sport.

Both Viv and Tom will be available as past officials to assist the new incumbents. Please feel free to reach out to us at president@victas.glidingaustralia.org or treasurer@victas.glidingaustralia.org for any information on these roles. The future belongs to you.

SEE THE FREE POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

VSA is still seeking an Alternate Delegate to the GFA Board. If you know your sport and want to be an agent for change at a national level, this is the way to go. It's also a good career training ground for young people if they are interested in becoming a member of a corporate Board at some time in the future. You can view information on the GFA Board in the [GFA MOSP 1 Admin 05 Ver 6](#). It's a popular read! Who would've thought?! **It's your sport. If you want to change the game, you have to be in the game!**

VSA STORAGE SHED

As of February 2022, VSA and GCV have reached agreement on the use of a storage facility for the "home" of VSA assets for a period of 5 years with the ability to negotiate an ongoing extension. It was identified over the last 3 years that VSA equipment that is used by member clubs, was being stored in personal garages, was going missing, not being maintained or subject to damage that was not being reported. These assets include two expensive mobile simulators used for events, displays and in-house training, Weight & Balance Scales, Release Testers, OGN equipment, administrative records and other ancillary equipment. The replacement value of these assets equates to \$68,091, so that's a lot of money to squander.

Marketing - [#extraordinarygliding](#)

Have you checked out all the new marketing posters provided by [Gliding Australia Marketing](#)? They are free to download to print, free to attach in an email, make great giveaways, promotes gliding at your club and the best thing is, you don't have to prepare the stuff! What's available? Great Posters, Videos, Postcards, Social Media photos, Stickers and Colouring Posters for the Kids (and possibly big kids too!!)

