



The Barrick Kanowna 2011 WA State Hang Gliding Championships

Richard Breyley Competition Organiser

AFTER A SPELL IN 2010 THE 2011 WESTERN AUSTRALIA STATE HANG GLIDING CHAMPIONSHIPS WERE ORGANISED BY THE GOLDFIELDS DUSTDEVILS HANG GLIDING AND PARAGLIDING CLUB. THIS YEAR WE WERE LUCKY TO BE ABLE TO OBTAIN NAME PLATE SPONSORSHIP

FROM BARRICK KANOWNA, AS SUCH WE WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE A LOT MORE FOR THE COMPETING PILOTS. THE TOWN OF WYALKATCHEM WAS ALSO HAPPY TO HAVE US HANGIES BACK WITH THE SHIRE ASSISTING US WITH TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION AT THE RECREATION CENTRE.

We had a good turn-out of pilots with four teams vying for the coveted Andrew Humphries Memorial team trophy. In WA teams points are heavily weighted towards novice and intermediate pilots so the most successful teams try to have at least one novice or intermediate pilot.

Saturday was practice day and as usual the Golden (Goldfields) and the Perth (Concrete) Dusties spent the day training tow drivers. This year we grabbed Nick and George, both gap year students. I wish we had gap years when I went to uni. It looks like Nick is hooked and is trying to budget a trip to Dynamic Flight into his gap year. The other teams arrived with experienced drivers Mirek (Gero-atrics) and Gary (Team US).

The first day and we have light winds and a threat of thunderstorms. The task committee send us on a spaghetti task

around Wyalkatchem. The thunderstorms closed in surprising a number of pilots. There was plenty to talk about at the bar that night. We always love seeing PBs and Antony who is known as 'Sheep' because the sheep don't get out of the paddock either, broke his hoodoo and embarked on his maiden cross-country flight. Jason Kath set a cracking pace taking the lead and Geoff English was the best intermediate.

Nick the Dusties driver got an early nomination for Turkey award. He opened the gate to the paddock and politely let all the other cars through, closed the gate, hopped back in the car and then realised he was still on the wrong side.

Day 2 and we are off to Wongan Hills via Ejangding, the storms stayed away until after the task today. Jason Kath extended his lead and Duncan was the leading floater.

Day 3 was called off due to strong winds and we enjoyed beverages brewed by our sponsor, the Beaten Track Brewery, from Kalgoorlie. The Gibb River Rye was outstanding followed closely by the Apple and Cinnamon Cider and the Sandstone Summer Ale. As all good hosts serve food with alcohol we also had roast beef, lamb and pork.

Being well rested the next day the task committee call Dowerin – Konogoring for task number three. Richo

took the honours from Jason with Duncan again the leading floater.

Task 4 and Jason Kath extends his lead even further. We went to Dowerin, Goomalling and Northam goal. This task was a struggle with few pilots getting over three or four grand. Jason Kath needed 36 thermals to make goal (well done) and Scurge use 24 thermals and landed four kilometres short. Scurge is going to have to lift his work rate.

Task 5, and it is looking good. Cu's in the sky and thermals to 8000ft agl, we are going to Water Tank, Meckering and Northam. 'Katherine' Jason Kath falls down early opening the door just a crack for us other mug pilots to have a chance. Typically, after spending four hours trying to stay in the air we can't get down when we get to goal. Convergence had set in over Northam and two of us have to nearly fly back to Meckering to land. There's four in goal and a near miss by 'Filly' Phillip Knight.

Task 6 and the task committee gets serious and toughens it up with an out and return to Nembudding. Only one in goal, Phil Knight with Shelley the leading floater.

In the final wash-up the results are:

OPEN	
1	Jason Kath
2	Richard Breyley
3	Mark Stokoe



The winning team 'The Concrete Dusties' left to right: Drew, Sheep, Frilly, Duncan and Scurge (Capt)

Photo: Evelyn Dunn

INTERMEDIATE

- 1 Shelley Heinrich
- 2 Duncan Dekoning
- 3 Nick Holthouse

Antony Corbet was the leading novice and 'The Concrete Dusties' deservedly won the coveted Andrew Humphries team trophy.

It has been an outstanding comp with six out of a possible seven flying days. The weather gods not only graced

us with plenty of flying, but gave us an interesting mix of conditions.

Special thanks to Murray Wood who did a good job in his first shot at being Comp Director and Phillip Knight for scoring.

We also had great support from our sponsors: Dynamic Flight, Airborne, The Rigging Shed, Moyes, Beaten Track Brewery, Mintaro Wines, Goldfields Image Works and our naming rights sponsor, Barrick Kanowna.



Note the bolt of lightning in the background!

Photo: Toby Houldsworth



Two Gero-atrics in goal

Photo: Mirek Generow



Jason Kath, collecting his silverware

Photo: Lynn Webb (Goldfields Image Works)

Soaring Calendar

AUSTRALIA

Gliding Queensland AGM 22 May 2011

All GQ members are welcome to attend the Annual General Meeting of Gliding Queensland to be held on the 22 May, 2011 starting at 9:30am. The meeting will be held in the Australian Air Force Cadets' building at Bonanza Drive, Archerfield. All positions will be declared open and applications are invited. Lunch and morning tea will be provided. Please respond to [HYPERLINK "mailto:secretary@glidingqueensland.org.au"](mailto:secretary@glidingqueensland.org.au) secretary@glidingqueensland.org.au to advise of your intentions and any agenda items.

RTO/Ops Annual Meeting 21 May 2011

All CFIs and Level 3 instructors are invited to attend the annual RTO/Ops meeting starting at 9:30am. The meeting will be held at the Australian Air Force Cadets' building at Bonanza Drive, Archerfield. Lunch and morning/afternoon tea will be provided.

Please respond to Tony Scarlett at <scarletts@flexi.net.au> to advise of your intentions and agenda items.

2011 Microlight Events: Dam Busters Fly-in

Queens B'day long weekend, June 2011
Pilot Registration: \$50, incl. entry wrist band., Dam Busters cap and stubbie cooler. Your wrist band must be worn on launch. No wrist band, no flying! If you want a T-shirt or additional caps/coolers, please order via [www.ppgaaustralia.com/Dam%20Busters/Dambusters_2011_Rego.htm]. Accommodation costs are not included.

Milbrulong Fly-in 15 to 18 September 2011

Mt Beauty Gathering of the Moths 18 to 20 November 2011

Bunyan Wave Camp 2011 September 17 to 25, 2011

Bunyan Airfield (YBUY) – 15km north of Cooma NSW on the Monaro Highway. Limited clubhouse accommodation and on-field camping available, commercial accommodation available in Cooma. Access to the 'Snowy Mountain Wave Soaring Areas' available to suitably endorsed and equipped pilots. Daily weather briefings, coaching and oxygen refills for bottles with CGA540, standard medical valves or suitable adaptors for CGA540 available provided the O2 bottle is in current inspection. Pre registration is preferred for planning purposes. To register your intentions to attend, to make accommodation bookings or other camp enquiries contact Stuart Ferguson (Club captain) on 0419 797508 or <sdff01@bigpond.com>.

OVERSEAS

International events can be found at [<http://events.fai.org/>].



Thermalling away

Photo: Toby Houldsworth