



Windsock Slope Gliding

« ARMIDALE AND CAMPERDOWN - Windsockers in action. »

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Author

thevon

Administrator



member is offline



Joined: Mar 2007

Gender: Male

Posts: 1,277

Location: Woody Point Qld Aust

Topic: ARMIDALE AND CAMPERDOWN - Windsockers in action. (Read 95 times)



ARMIDALE AND CAMPERDOWN - Windsockers in action.

« Thread Started on Jan 25, 2009, 8:13am »



This weekend a lot of Windsockers are away in action.

CAMPERDOWN 09

Ezza is at "Mecca", a slope fest at Camperdown Vic: there's a thread about it here:

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=901173&page=59#post11414983>

He drove down early last week and went slope safari-ing on the way down, checking out some of the sites used by the Mexicans from the south. He even went to Mt Hotham and DS'ed his JW all day on the spectacular ridge. It was only 7 - 12 knots and he reckons that on a big day, you'd be worried about losing your plane from specking out - the power would be so huge. He's hoping to fly there again on the way home, so let's hope for some good wind and for someone to hold the gun for him!

There's a big crowd at Camperdown - lots of the characters who are active on RC Groups - KahnX, Swoopdown, Swoop119, Wazza, Samotage, RCJunkie, Excelpoint and lots more. They stay at a caravan park right at the slope, and the site has options for a few wind directions. It's pretty informal - no competitions - just mucking around with whatever works from floaters to electrics to scaleys to DS. They travel to other sites as well. The wind has been huge at times, but a bit off line for the DS guys who flew Johanna yesterday. It all sounds like heaps of fun and I can imagine that the stories and ales would be flowing to the early hours.

ARMIDALE SAILPLANE EXPO

Quite a bunch of the guys are at this huge event, which features a wide range of competitions and lectures/ demos from the pros. More info here: <http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=922988&highlight=Armidale>

The Windsockers I can think of at Armidale are Jirvin, Skyboyken, Sean, Chamm37, Shane, Bananaman, and also Greg (Maleny club pres) who has just bought Vanders' Fazer. I just spoke very briefly to Jeff Irvine. Apparently it's been going very well, and pretty full on. Cloud around just now so they're having DLG comps first today, then thermal. He couldn't chat but said they'd seen some awesome flying from Shane in the electrics and Sean in thermal yesterday, and everyone's planes were still all in one piece.

Brace ourselves for some good reports next week!

« Last Edit: Jan 28, 2009, 8:15am by [thevon](#) »

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ding

Administrator



member is online



Re: Windsockers away in action - brief report

« Reply #1 on Jan 25, 2009, 8:57am »



That's great! I hope everyone is having fun. I kind of miss all the travelling and competition and the hanging out with people afterwards. All great fun!

Joined: Mar 2007

Gender: Male

Posts: 583

skyboyken

> 100



member is offline



Re: ARMIDALE AND CAMPERDOWN - Windsockers in action


« Reply #2 on Jan 28, 2009, 10:06pm »



Here's my little report, moved here by admin request:

Well we got home late last night after 3 days (2 1/2 days really) of thermal glider, electric glider and hand-launch heaven at Armidale.

Joined: Dec 2007

Gender: Male 
 Posts: 233

Sean, Shane, Jeff and I were there from the Windsock crew, plus Brian and Dave from MRSSA. Chris was a last minute inclusion as well.

Special mention goes to Greg from the Maleny club who turned up at his first comp with an unflown model and never in his life having flown thermal. In fact the only time he's ever flown a moulded plane was a brief twiddle of the sticks of my X Pro the week before the comp. And all this at a 3 day away from home comp, flying against a 2 time world champion and 43 other experienced pilots.

As Greg discovered, everyone is incredibly welcoming, helpful and supportive. As we discovered, Greg reads air really well and his flying skills came on in leaps and bounds. Flying with a lot of good pilots will do that for you. Greg also made himself very welcome by pitching in right from the start and helping everywhere he could. Thanks mate.

I'm not going to attempt a blow-by-blow. Some highlights were Shane winning LEG (Limited Electric Glider), Greg maidenning his newly acquired secondhand Fazer (ex Vanders) and finding out what an excellent plane it is, Shane and I coming to terms with our Caracho's in thermal (fly faster!!), Sean really improving his air reading skills, Jeff and I winning at least one round from some highly fancied fliers, and all of us really enjoying the flying and the experience, even though you've had it by the end of each day.

Brian came fourth overall - everyone ahead of him has represented Australia at world championships - congratulations Brian!!

Jeff had without a doubt the greatest luck of anyone there. He launched his Europhia and had total lockout from the moment it pinged off the line. The plane had launch camber set so it just did continuous loops. What was really freaky was that Jeff had launched into a thermal, so we were all treated to the sight of his plane climbing as it looped and looped and drifted downwind toward the New England Highway. Several people were heard to mutter that they might try the same thing next round!

Sean and I jumped into the car and raced off down the access road to the field, which fortunately ran parallel to the plane's line of flight. It was amazing to watch, as several times it was knocked off axis by turbulence and started circling horizontally only to recover to vertical loops all by itself. Eventually it lost height and went into a cow paddock at about 40 degrees nose down, fortunately with level wings. Sean walked in to get it while I ran the car around to the highway for a quicker recovery. By the time I climbed the fences into the paddock Sean had the plane and was on the phone trying to contact Jeff. I could see the plane was in one large piece but not what damage it had. As Sean walked toward me he finished his call (messagebank) and gave the thumbs up! The plane had landed with no damage whatsoever. Incredible!!!

We opened the canopy to see that the aerial had been ripped off the receiver by the winch parachute - it had been dangling outside the fuselage. Jeff just put in a replacement receiver and away he went. He even got to keep his flight time score!

We all had a really great time, we all improved our flying, we really appreciated how the top guys like David Hobby and Carl Strautins gave freely of their time to help other pilots improve. It was a great weekend away from home.

By the way, you don't need a moulded glider to do Armidale or any other comp, or to fly thermal in general for that matter. There is always a RES class (rudder, elevator, spoiler) and at Armidale there were 4 entries, all flying planes built from kits or plans. You don't have to build your own either, there are ARF options too.

I think it's fair to say that all the slope pilots found that thermal flying is very different to slope flying and they are enjoying the challenge of expanding their skills.

If you have any interest at all in trying yourself out at thermalling then please talk with me, Jeff or any of the guys who were at Armidale, we'll be happy to show you the ropes.

Ken.


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shane
 > 0
 ★
 member is offline

 **Re: ARMIDALE AND CAMPERDOWN - Windsockers in actio**
 « Reply #3 on Jan 28, 2009, 11:17pm » 

Had a great time at the expo 
 Thanks to all the effort people put in.
 Here are a few pics ,put the Explorer pic in for you Ken.(lots of expo on this turn mmmmm)
http://i537.photobucket.com/albums/ff340/shanoagogo/IMG_3960B_1.jpg
http://i537.photobucket.com/albums/ff340/shanoagogo/IMG_3986B_1.jpg
http://i537.photobucket.com/albums/ff340/shanoagogo/IMG_3998_1.jpg
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http://i537.photobucket.com/albums/ff340/shanoagogo/IMG_4081B_1.jpg

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Joined: Jun 2008
 Gender: Male 
 Posts: 22
 Location: Brisbane

jirvin4505
 > 100
 ★★
 member is offline

 **Re: ARMIDALE AND CAMPERDOWN - Windsockers in actio**
 « Reply #4 on Jan 29, 2009, 12:08am » 


Ken and Brian Thanks for the Armidale reports.



I need to learn to launch high and hard

Post Armidale trolling on RCgroups looking for launch suggestions-
Zoom mechanics

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?p=7990761>

Joined: Aug 2007
Gender: Male 
Posts: 150
Location:
Shed...Burpengary

Zoom technique

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?p=5810854>

Hook placement

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?p=6086034>

Winch launching.

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?p=4842538>



Herrig brothers launch



I want my model to do this.....



Is this enough tension?



Simple cheap parachutes - no sewing required....

http://209.85.173.102/translate_c?hl=en&...9OHlg7a7Y PfVBw



cheers Jeff

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Working to the closest cm!

chamm37
> 250
★★★★★
member is offline

Re: ARMIDALE AND CAMPERDOWN - Windsockers in actio
« Reply #5 on Jan 29, 2009, 1:07pm »

quote

Thanks for putting the pics up Shane.....they are some really good pics you too mate!!! Nice work



Joined: Apr 2008
Gender: Male
Posts: 420
Location: the local slope...usally SC

Regards,
Chirs

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3D, 4D, Sloping, D'sing, Combat, Thermaling and women are the best things in the world

jase
> 250
★★★★★
member is offline

Re: ARMIDALE AND CAMPERDOWN - Windsockers in actio
« Reply #6 on Jan 29, 2009, 1:14pm »

quote

excellent writeup and great pics... thanks for that..

i'm just getting into thermal gliding myself. going to learn with my new fling... just gotta wait for these 30kt winds to

Joined: Jun 2007
Gender: Male
Posts: 333
Location: Yeppoon
- CQ

subside.

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My planes:
Great Planes fling
Tuffplanes Electron60 (E60)
Canterbury Sailplanes AerMacchi



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