

# QUEENSLAND ULTRALIGHT ASSOCIATION

## JUNE 2006 NEWSLETTER

Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield, Silverleaves Road via Toogoolawah, Qld

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Tony's Himax with Chris at the controls

Tony Wright's Himax has been completed and now lives at Caboolture Aerodrome in Hangar 49. Tony is currently undergoing tailwheel training in a 1940's Piper Cub in preparation to flying the Himax. He describes the Cub as a wonderful old aircraft that is gracious and very enjoyable to fly. Well done Tony, we look forward to seeing the Himax fly.

Richard and Glenda Faint's T1 and T2 projects are also steadily moving ahead with the final stages of fit out of the electrics, instruments and fuel systems close to being completed in the T1. Once again quality of workmanship on these projects is excellent in planning and detail.

Your editor has started a Yahoo group called Oz ultralight aircraft as a forum for interested people to share their flying experiences, ideas, photos and related information with reference to building and flying recreational aircraft in Australia and SE QLD. Membership is invited.

# AIRCRAFT OF THE MONTH

## TEXAS PARASOL



The "Texas Parasol" is a design based upon Chuck Beeson's "Chuckbird". Chuck and a group of builders near San Antonio, Texas built over 60 of these open cockpit single seater Pietenpol style planes. They are made of readily available 6061-T6 aluminum angle and tube and are fabric covered.

Richard Lamb prepared a set of drawings and supporting text for the Texas Parasol that is available free of charge over the internet. While the drawings are well prepared, some details are left up to the builder. This collection is best described as a builder's manual. The package is excellent value for the price and Richard has put a lot of work into the documentation. There are several well illustrated web sites available showing plenty of construction details of Texas Parasols being constructed. The construction manual and plans are available for download from the following web site [www.matronics.com/photoshare/cavelamb@earthlink.net.02.11.2006/](http://www.matronics.com/photoshare/cavelamb@earthlink.net.02.11.2006/)

The Texas Parasol began as a quest for a simpler, stronger, less expensive alternative to the traditional "rag" ultralight airplane. Through the years, and much experimentation, the design has evolved into a truly nice flying, easy to build honest little airplane patterned after the Pietenpol Sky Scout of the 1930's. The construction, however, is thoroughly modern. Since 1980, over sixty of these little airplanes have been built by dozens of people.

Extruded 6061-T6 aluminum angle and AD type rivets make up the fuselage structure. This has proven to be so superior to pop-riveted tube in strength and ruggedness that most builders have vowed never to go back to pop-riveted tube construction. In fact, this has become the construction technique of choice around the San Antonio area.

Wings are built around aluminum tube spars with ribs routed from urethane, PVC, or Styrofoam sheets, and only take about a day to build from scratch.

The entire airplane is covered with light weight ceconite and traditional dope finishes like Randolph or Stits. Unlike the traditional covering practice, however, we are more concerned with weight than gloss. Enough finish is applied to seal the surfaces only.

Power plant options abound. Early airplanes mostly used Xenoa 2-stroke engines of about 40 horsepower. The power to weight ratio of the modern 2-strokers like the Rotax series makes them hard to beat for pure excitement, but some people still prefer heavier 4-stroke engines such as: Volkswagen, Subaru, Geo, Suzuki, BMW; you name it.

### ***DIMENSIONS and SPECIFICATIONS***

Wingspan	26 ft
Wing Chord	4.6' (56-inch)
Wing Area	125 sq. ft
Aspect Ratio	5.8
Reynolds #	1.5 to 3 million
Empty Weight	252 to 350 lb.
Gross Weight	600 lb. max.
Useful Load	250 to 300 lb.
Wing Loading	6 LB/SQ. FT
Power	30 to 90 HP
Power Load	6 to 20 lb./HP
Fuel Capacity	5 to 12 gallons

### ***PERFORMANCE***

Stall	30 mph
Cruise	55 to 75 mph
Vne	100 mph
Rate of climb	depends on engine
Take-off distance	200 feet
Landing Distance	300 feet
Service Ceiling	over 12000 feet

Preferred engine for the Texas Parasol would be a Rotax 503 or a VW conversion of 1600 to 1835 cc if kept light enough. With this design there is plenty of scope for builder customization to allow a unique example to be constructed if the main structure is not altered unsafely. Welding is kept to a minimum to allow easier assembly by a builder working in his home workshop.

# QUEENSLAND ULTRALIGHT ASSOCIATION

## ***MINUTES OF MAY GENERAL MEETING***

MEETING OPENED	08.05 pm
APOLOGIES	Bryan Schollum
VISITORS	Ivan & Jenny Parson
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	MOVED Gavin McGrath SECONDED Mike Smith CARRIED
TREASURERS REPORT	\$7,387.74 / \$15,397.5 invested MOVED Richard Faint SECONDED Gavin McGrath CARRIED
SECRETARIES REPORT	Focus magazine offered by the Fed Govt
BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES	Poker Run July
WATTS BRIDGE REPORT	Successful Anzac Day ceremony held with Squadron Leader Peter Ward. Amberley Cadets visited the previous weekend and met in air chalet and marched. New welcome sign erected at the front gate. New gate fitted to the air chalet area. E.P.A. has approved the septic system. The road around the over run area still to be finalized by the Esk Shire Council.
RAAus REPORT	A new category allowing aircraft with a gross weight of 750 kg is being planned. Nominations for the board member elections are open.
GENERAL BUSINESS / SOCIAL	Inglewood Fly-in well attended with some interesting aircraft attending, Yak 52,FW190 \$1,800 raised for charity at the Sunday BBQ. Roger has ordered a Cheetah aircraft kit and will be the QLD REP for the Cheetah. Col Thorp has a hanger at Kilcoy for rent.
SPECIAL THANKS	to Robyn for preparing the supper.
MEETING CLOSED	08.29 pm

## SOCIAL CALENDAR

- June 5 QUA General Meeting
- June 10 – 12 Heckfield, Jacobs Well Fly-in  
Open invitation to all aviators to attend  
Contact Jan Aldred on 07 55461813
- July 15 QUA Fly-in and Poker Run at Watts Bridge is being  
planned again. If it flies you are welcome to attend and  
participate. BBQ on from 10.00 to 14.00 for lunch.  
Contact Richard Faint on 07-38189888 / 0412317754
- July 30 Antique Airways Fly-in / BBQ at Redcliffe Aerodrome  
Contact Shane Winter on 0407122219 for more details.
- August 25 – 27 Festival of Flight.....The Vintage Experience  
Queensland Vintage Aircraft Group annual fly-in at Watts  
Contact Craig Justo on 07-3349003 / 0407740734 or  
Shane Winter on 07-33003357 / 0407122219

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## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE !!!

The cut off date is CLOSE!! If we don't have our fees paid SOON, one may find themselves removed from the newsletter and members list. Richard Faint is happy to accept cash or a cheque in the mail if you can't make the next meeting.

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## NEXT QUA MEETING

MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2006

Starting from 07.30 pm at the SAAA clubroom near the main airfield gate on Beatty Road , Archerfield. Same time , same place.

Everyone is welcome to make it a great night and share the supper.

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PRESIDENT Gavin McGrath 07 54262118    TREASURER Richard Faint 07 38189888  
SECRETARY/EDITOR Mal McKenzie 07 33415348  
Email mmc80789@bigpond.net.au

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**FREE 3 NIGHTS ON THE GOLD COAST**

**10-12 June 2006**

**Queens Birthday weekend**

## **At ‘HECKFIELD’ Jacobs Well**

**27.45.7 S-153.20.1 E 10/28 and 18/36 both gravel 700 meters. FQ. 126.7**

**This year the Old Station at Raglan is NOT staging a fly-in so The Gold Coast Sports Flying Club at Heckfield is extending a warm welcome to all flyers to celebrate the weekend and at the same time also invite the local community to come and see what we are all about as flyers and that ‘Recreational sports’ flying has come a long way in the last few years and that we are safe and responsible aviators.**

**We have plenty of camping under the wing or in our hangars and new clubhouse have toilets and showers and for those wanting to go to Surfers and stay we have transport and can organize accommodation. If you drive in with Caravans there is room at Jacobs Well Caravan Park 3 km away. Plenty of food and drinks will be on sale as well as a 3 course Saturday night dinner with entertainment. Fuel and oil will be available.**

**Come and help us make this an unforgettable weekend. We will appreciate if you could call our secretary Jan Aldred with an ETA for the sake of catering on 07- 5546-1813.**





# FUN FLYING POKER RUN

The Fun Poker Run will be held on Saturday the 15th July 2006 commencing at 9:00am and finishing at 2:00pm.

It doesn't matter what you fly, be it an ultralight, gyro, trike, fantastic plastic, GA Tinny, F-111, whatever..... If it flies - we'd love you to join in the fun !!

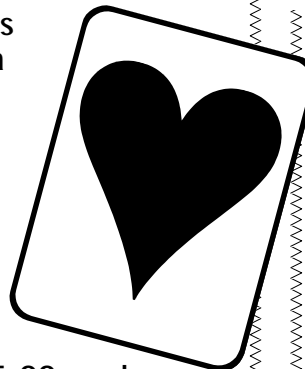
Here's what you have to do:

Fly to **ANY THREE (3)** of the participating airfields - Bradfield, Kilcoy, Gatton Ag College or McCarrons's Field and collect an envelope which contains a Playing Card from under the Primary Windsock.

**DO NOT OPEN THE ENVELOPE** at this stage.

You can start anywhere you like and go to the airfields of your choice in any order that suits you.

Plan your trip so that you end up at Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield. Pay your entrance fee of \$5.00 and collect a further **TWO (2)** Cards to complete your Five Card Poker Hand.



Have a quick snack at the QUA Saturday BAR-B-QUE at the QUA HANGAR—WATTS BRIDGE.

**THIS IS A FUN FLYING EVENT SO COME ON AND GIVE IT A GO !!**

If you have any questions please contact:

**Richard Faint**

Phone: (07) 3818-1988  
Mobile: 0412-317-754  
Email: rlfaint@auav.org

**BRADFIELD  
GATTON COLLEGE  
KILCOY  
Mc CARRON'S STRIP  
WATTS BRIDGE**

S 26° 58.2'  
E 152° 34.0'

KILCOY

S 27° 05.9'  
E 152° 36.2'

Mc CARRON'S

S 27° 25.1'  
E 152° 24.1'

BRADFIELD

S 27° 33.6'  
E 152° 20.5'

GATTON AG. COLLEGE

**AIRFIELD LOCATIONS**



# **QUA BAR B QUE**

**15th July 2006**

**10:00am - 2:00pm**

**QUA Hangar**

**Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield**

**Sausage Sizzle**

**Yummy Hot Soup**

**Tea & Coffee**

**For more information contact:**

**Glenda Faint - 3818 1988 or 0412 317753**

# **QUA BAR B QUE**