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August 2013 Newsletter

While July's breakfast was cancelled due to bad weather, August's breakfast on Saturday 17th was a great success with fine weather. The lightest of north-westerlies made Runway 33 the runway of choice for most of the pilots. This wind was to strengthen a little later in the morning.



This is a change from our usual runway direction but not unusual for this time of year when west to north-west winds are common.



There was a lot of discussion about Runway 33 e.g. the tendency to land a bit long and flare a bit high, its downhill slope, its better options for a forced landing off the climb out etc.



There were the usual regular visitors and quite a few first-timers, Chris and Dieter from the Sunshine Coast in a RV-10, Al Sim and Mike Truitt from Caboolture in a Super Dimona motor glider and Rob and Michelle MacAdam from Caboolture in a Jabiru J 230.



We had thirty-three planes in and served sixty breakfasts. Thanks again to Pat, Doug and Joan, Billy and Rod for another excellent breakfast, to Michael for doing his meet-and-greet and counting of aircraft and to Jenny and all the helpers for their assistance with the dish-washing and cleaning up.

Thanks also to David Wilson and Ken Cox for the stunning photos that liven up this newsletter as well as the website.



A huge improvement to the shed/clubhouse since last breakfast has been the fitting of new rollers on the front sliding glass door which now glides effortlessly at the touch of a finger.

An unusual visiting aircraft(for Straddie anyway) was a Cessna 310R from Toowoomba with four more first-timers.



The Redlands Shire Council is generously spending two days repairing and grading our 2.5 km access road aka Airport Drive. This matter has become more and more urgent as the recent rains have undermined the road and created some enormous car-swallowing potholes.

We also have added a new sign, 'Aero Club,' marking the turn-off to Airport Drive. This has already created a lot of interest if the number of cars driving up and doing a slow U-turn in the car park is any indication.

The local fire brigade, with support from the mainland fire brigade, is also doing some much needed burning off to the south of the runway and up to David Thelander's hangar.

Text by Duncan Shiels, Photos by Ken Cox and Dave and Dan Wilson.

