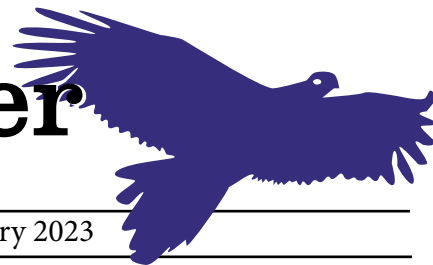


# The Wedgetail Flyer

The Advisory Circular of the Lilydale Flying Club

February 2023



## Welcome to The Wedgetail

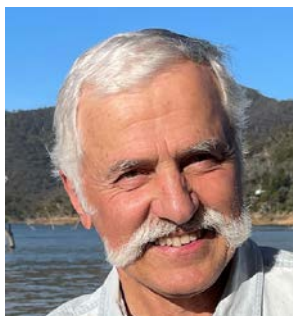
Hi from the Lilydale Flying Club.

We have decided to start an occasional newsletter to keep members and others up to date with the club's activities. I hope it can be a good way to keep you informed.

It has been a dismal last three years for many flying clubs and Lilydale has been no exception. COVID has dominated this period, and then, having been released from COVID restrictions, 2022 has been one of the wettest years on record for Victoria, and the wettest Spring ever. So we look forward to an active 2023 at Lilydale.

Cheers,

Phil Anthony – Editor



Bunny and Murray cross the line to greet the chequered flag at Serpentine.

## 2022 in Review

### Movie Night and Dinner

A Movie Night and Dinner was being planned for 2022 but was cancelled due to Covid and flu numbers. This may be an activity later this year.

### Birchip Day trip

This was planned as a simple day trip to this delightful Western Victorian town. It involves a short walk from the sealed airstrip into town and a walk around town to see the sights of Birchip. This included indulging in their renowned vanilla slices and beestings and a casual lunch. Twelve aircraft had planned to go.

It certainly was a wet spring and persistent rain resulted in many floods which included impacting our own Lilydale Airfield to render it unusable for that day and several weeks afterwards.

We will plan for this again this year.

### LFS/LFC Nav Challenge Sunday 1 May

This Nav Challenge was again another successful one. This was organised by Murray Gerraty and Steve Hitchen. The track took crews from Lilydale to Bendigo, then down to the old RAAF base at Cressy, which is home to a couple of decent grass runways and a Tiger Moth. The hanger sits on the original RAAF floor. For those that haven't been into Cressy yet, give it some thought, but make sure you get permission first.

### Serpentine Air Race March 2022

Serpentine is a tiny town NW of Bendigo and the airfield was essentially a mown grass strip in a field. The air race was a timed race around a course with Tiger Moths, and Lilydale provided two and crews for the event. A number of Lilydale aircraft flew in for the day and it turned out perfect weather, with quite a crowd of visitors arriving by car. The sensational news from the day is that the Lilydale teams took first and third places! First was Murray Gerraty and Graeme Bunn in Don Gordon's VH-GAV with Don and Tony Self getting the last place on the podium in VH-DHR.

## BBQ dates for 2023

Sundays from 12:00 -1:30 pm in front of the flying school reception. This is a very casual event where members, students, instructors or others can mingle informally for a chat and a catch-up and meet someone new. Gold coin donation for a food or drink item. Dates and hosts for the year are:

March: none, replaced by BBQ at Yarrowonga

14 May: Roger

11 June: (King's Birthday is the next day) Peter

9 July: Roger

13 August: Dave

10 September: Roger

8 October: Peter

12 November: Dave

## Upcoming Activities

March. Avalon Australian International Airshow - Industry

28 Feb – 5 March. General Public Fri 3 Mar – Sun 5 Mar.

Note there is no Avalon East to fly in. [www.airshow.com.au/airshow2023/index.asp](http://www.airshow.com.au/airshow2023/index.asp)

- 13 March: Monday Labour Day BBQ lunch at Yarrowonga airfield, hosted by Angela and Tony
- LFC Annual Dinner on Saturday 18 March at Donvale Bowls Club
- Birchip day flight. Date to be confirmed
- Nav Challenges. Date to be confirmed
- Trivia Night. Date to be confirmed.



## Yarrawonga BBQ

**Monday 13 March Yarrawonga Airport**

This is a short day flight for anyone to attend. Please let Dave Marty know by e-mail if you plan on coming to this event. It doesn't have to be a firm commitment at this stage, but rough numbers will give Angela and Tony an idea for catering. Details for their gangar location and expected time of BBQ start are to follow.

Also, if you have a spare seat, it might be handy to know as I am aware of at least one RPL student who is looking for a ride. Alternatively, if you would like a spare seat, let me know (Dave Marty).



Congratulations to LFC member Angela Stevenson, who has earned her formation endorsement after a lot of hard work and, yes, some angst, but a lot of laughs on the side. Angela is seen here with instructor Murray Gerraty and team member Julian Szaters. If you're interested in getting your formation endorsement, bail up Murray next time you see him around the airport.



## LFC Committee Members

**President – Dave Marty**

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**Treasurer – Doug Frazer**

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**Steve Hitchen**

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**Tony Self**

0418 338 228 tony.self@hyperwrite.com

**Phil Anthony**

0419 525 981 phil.anthony@anthonygroup.net

**Frank Andrewartha**

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## 2023 Dinner and Marjy Grosvenor Award

This is another event that we are re-starting. On the night we will announce the winner of the club's Marjy Grosvenor Award. This is awarded to an LFC member that has contributed to LFC or aviation in general above that which would normally be expected.

At only \$50 a head, it will be a great deal and includes roast chicken and Weber roast beef, four salads, bread rolls, a choice of three desserts, coffee and tea. The bar will be open with drinks at club prices, which are cheaper than usual bar prices.

Payment into the LFC Bank account (with identifying reference) will secure a place.

LFC Bank details:

BSB – 033 349

Account No – 572 037

Let Phil Anthony know by email once payment is made as he is coordinating bookings. Phil.Anthony@anthonygroup.net

Anyone who has dietary requirements please let Phil know.

The deadline for booking and payment is 4 March.

This dinner is always a good night and well patronised; a warm and congenial atmosphere that guarantees good socialising.

And who will win the MGA? The MGA has been awarded twice before, to Tony Collett and Bob Irvine. Their contribution to LFC and aviation was substantial, so you know the 2023 winner will be very worthy.

Make sure you're there to see the presentation.

## FunFlight 2023

**Sunday 22 October**

Lilydale Flying Club together with Yarra Valley Aviation will again run a Funflight Event. FunFlight aims to provide disadvantaged children with a day to remember by taking them for a joy flight. [www.funflight.org](http://www.funflight.org)

We last ran the event in 2019. We are now back. It would be wonderful to have as many as possible in the club involved and there are roles to suit everyone. In the past, it has been an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all involved. Last Sunday, Tyabb ran a very successful event and we intend to do the same again.

We need:

- pilots, either owners of 4-6 seaters or those willing to rent an aircraft from LFS
- airside ground staff and marshals to manage the airside loading and safety of passengers
- non-airside staff.

Murray Gerraty will be the Safety Officer for the event.

Non-airside staff will be involved in checking in our flyers and allocating them to suitable aircraft. This is where those with some aviation knowledge are needed to consider aircraft types with weight and balance. We will also run the sausage sizzle and some other ground activities.

If you think you can possibly commit to this event in some way, either let Tony Collett know (tcollett58@gmail.com) or Dave Marty.

I can assure you that we will get as much from the event as the children/families we take flying.