

WEEKEND NEWS 17TH AND 18TH FEBRUARY, 2007

The weekend started early with Adriaan doing a great 425 km on Friday after Paul Troskie kindly aerotowed him and Tom, who also flew. Paul then treated himself to a flight in the rotax falke with a friend.

Woxie and POP set the pace on Saturday morning by flying out of FAWC to Nadini in GZF after Ed had kindly refueled them prior to their takeoff at 06.46!

Our first Pax of the day was Brendon O'Brien from the UK, a very experienced glider pilot and aerobatic pilot. I have never seen Martin so impressed by anyone before in my life! Martin's eyes were like saucers when they returned. The man is a master of aerobatics!

Things hottet up after Alan's briefing for the Bladerunner contest – for which he really deserves accolades! Well done and thank you very much Alan. I know that all who participated had a wonderful time – albeit not all that easy in the beginning. Launching began in earnest with Mark in TIM (although he did not take part in the contest) then Cornelius (who had to re-light) Peter Farrel, Adriaan Hepburn, Reinhold and Gerhard in GVK, and Sven in the 27. These launches were interspersed with power aircraft landing for the rally and later taking off again, as well as motor gliders – GUF with Boet and Paul, Bill in OEM and Dirk and Martin in GZF. Very busy launch point! Jerry and Grove took GOK up for an hour and had a great flight. After that Grove flew paxes which kept him busy until the end of the day.

Martin Young (all the way from Knysna) had a two hour flight in GUC.

Winching got underway at lunchtime and thanks to the team as well as Michael Allen who spent an entire day helping and then did not manage a flight for himself afterall. The team managed 4 launches without a cable break and Kevin as well as John Spargo had good flights as well as Jesse Roos's friend, James, who flew for half an hour.

Congratulations to Rudi who did his rotax falke conversion!

Thanks to all those who worked so hard on Saturday and gave me a hand at the launch point. It was also nice to see Horst Mucke and Giso von Petersdorf visit us for the day. Marion and Penelope kept us company under the shade structure while Brian went flying in his Pipistrel.

Sunday started bright and early with the sound of GZG at 07.48 heading for Langebaan. Adriaan and Jacobus followed suit with a take off at just after 9.00am. Martin was launched at 10.10am by John who had stayed over and the duty pilots were bright and early, too. Martin stayed up on Vic Peak, with 2 attempts at the ridge to Villiersdorp, for over two hours. After he landed, Helmut took GUC up again for close on four hours after releasing at 2500ft over the dam hills! Tom Heaslip was not so fortunate and landed after 20 minutes. Mark Siegelberg was kept busy - first with Leigh from Getaway Magazine as well as conversions in the Rotax Falke. First Graham Anderson (nice to see!) and then Rob Tiffin. Alan Procter had a good flight in GIG – over an hour!

It was a pity that Sunday was so quiet but we certainly made up for it on Saturday – a hectic day all round with many tired pilots and helpers. Thanks again to all.

See you next weekend.

Alison

