

INTERNATIONAL COMANCHE SOCIETY Aust Tribe

AGM DUBBO NSW 14TH - 16TH October 2011



Friday 14th October 2011

Leaving Tyabb mid morning with Ian, Irene, Graham and Glenda on board, MMN took to the air in little cloud before landing in Dubbo at approx. 3pm. The countryside is as green as I have seen in many years with the healthy crops everywhere below us. It is about time our farmers got some relief from the drought that our country had been experiencing for years prior.

A little on Dubbo.....

The aboriginal word "Dubbo" meaning 'red earth' was traditionally owned by the Tubbagah People of the Wiradjuri Nation.

Dubbo in NSW was proclaimed a village in 1849 and a town by 1872, Dubbo officially became a City in 1966.

Dubbo today is a vibrant, energetic and progressive city with a growing population of 38,000

My thoughts of what I remembered of Dubbo from a previous visit was in an article which read "*A land of sweeping plains centred around the one of Australia's fastest growing inland cities situated on the picturesque Macquarie River. This area includes one of the best gliding area in the world, Narromine and the internationally acclaimed Western Plains Zoo at Dubbo*".

How could I have not got excited with those few words as we were going to experience both the Zoo and the Gliding over the weekend and all in the company of good friends.

As more planes arrived we were all greeted by David Miller at his office where an afternoon tea of sandwiches & cakes was warmly received. By approx. 5pm David shuttled us to the Cattleman's Motor Inn and our accommodation for the next two nights.

Dinner was a rowdy affair catching up and sharing stories with mates we do not seem to see as often as we would like to. Rest came late for a few while outside the rain began to fall.

Saturday 15th October 2011

Rain fell most of the night but with the promise of a clear afternoon we all met after breakfast for a trip to the Zoo or a chance to take to the skies for some gliding at the Narromine Gliding Club.

The bus took a group out to Narromine where David flew the tow plane taking the gliders up, up and away on flights into skies, soundless apart from the air noises. For some it was their first experience at gliding under the control of a pilot seeking a thermal to maximise altitude. Each flight took approx 20 mins.



A rather wet and bedraggled group went to the Taronga Western Plains Zoo for a "Wild Africa Encounter" We jumped on and off the bus at each animal enclosure and saw a few of the zoos residence being fed. The keepers explained a little on the breeding and eating habits of each animal. True to his word the weather man was correct as by lunch time it was clear and sunny making it a lot more pleasant for walking around. This is indeed a zoo that deserves international acclaim. Later

in the afternoon we all returned to the Motel for a freshen up before it was back on the bus and out to the Narromine Gliding Club for dinner.

A BBQ dinner out under the stars put on by the Gliding Club was both delicious and delightful followed by the drawing of raffle tickets with ICS memorabilia as prizes.

Cheryl Simpson sang along with the band playing a variety of some well known songs which got most of the group up dancing well into the night. Some folks had to be persuaded to participate but as I had been asked to make sure everyone did I will not apologise for dragging those not so willing onto the dance area. The children enjoyed the music also and even tried to teach us not so young a few new moves. Only too soon we were back on the bus for a nights sleep at the motel.



Sunday 16th October 2011

Sunny Sunday with breakfast followed by the AGM and election of new office bearers. The minutes etc are on the website www.comancheflyer.com.au

It was hard to believe that the weekend in Dubbo had come to a close as hasty farewells along with promises to catch up soon were made, the shuttle bus took a few trips to get everyone out the airport with the last flying out after a bite of lunch at the airport lounge.

The flight back for all flying south was interesting to say the least with trying to find a comfortable level away from the excessive buffeting around.

After a few good belts on the head from the roof and a very exciting landing at Tyabb we gave MMN a clean and thanked her yet again for taking us to a place where we could catch up and spend a little time in the company of ICS members, their families and friends.

We would all like to thank David Miller and John Moore for organising the weekend. Especially David who at times required to be in two places at once being that he was our bus driver, gilder tow plane etc. as well. Thanks mate!

Thanks to the Narromine Aero Club for the BBQ dinner. Special thanks to Cheryl Simpson and band for making Sat night a good one. My feet were sore Sunday morning!

Thanks also for all that attended whether it was from just down the road or as far away as New Zealand I am sure you all had a great time. Till we meet again hope you all have hours of safe flying in your beloved Comanche aircrafts.

Attendees

John Moore Bendigo.Vic Tony /Jan VanderSpek Bendigo Vic Gary Murphy Gisborne Vic
 Ian Thomson/Irene Lawson Tyabb Vic Graham Bunn/Glenda Smith Coldstream Vic
 Manfred/Allison Melloh plus the two grandchildren Berowra NSW
 Barry / Sandra Payne Taupo New Zealand
 Nigel/Margaret Wettenhall Deniliquin NSW
 John/Jan Macknight Deniliquin NSW
 Fred/Valerie Skinner Tarmoor NSW
 Ojars/Ava Balodis plus one grandchild Tyabb Vic
 Neil/Jan Mathews. Tony/Gayle Mathews Mildura Vic
 George/Maree Mills Longford TAS
 Phillip Reiss Yowie Bay NSW
 Jim Duff Tyabb Vic
 Roy Sneesby Nunderi NSW
 Geoff/Eunice Modra Wodonga Vic
 John Michell Tamworth NSW Bill Forrester Tamworth NSW
 Ken/Gayle Munn Hay NSW
 Jeff Wittig/Deanna Knutson Wangaratta Vic
 Roger/Lynda Lenne Ardmona Vic
 Trevor/Lyn Nixon Rand NSW
 Ken/Vickie Lapham Tamworth NSW
 Tony/Greta Recsei Warrawee NSW
 Jim/Vivien Peters Kenmore QLD
 Bill Bryant Westdale NSW
 David Miller Dubbo NSW
 Kevin Rankmore Dubbo NSW
 Lionel/Cheryl Simpson Dubbo NSW

