

# a little CRC...

## Australia's Youngest Solo Glider Pilot

The NCRC and Northcliffe recently had the vicarious pleasure of celebrating the achievements of our youth sponsorship recipient, Michael Keller. With financial assistance from our NCRC Youth Sponsorship, Michael celebrated his 15th birthday in style, at high altitude, both during and after Narrogin Gliding Club's Wave-camp 2015. On 5th October Michael became Australia's youngest solo glider pilot.



Touchdown after making history.

Michael shared some of his thoughts from the day:

*Around midmorning a gap in the weather appeared and some pale blue sky showed through the grey and the decision was made to commence flying. Chief Flying Instructor Dayle Found approached me about flying while the weather was reasonable and we promptly took a launch and landed soon after. We then notified the tow-aircraft that 'we' would be taking another launch, whereupon Dayle stepped out of the aircraft. Not until Dayle began to tell me about increased aircraft sensitivity that I realised that 'it' was happening - I was going to fly solo! Everything appeared in perfect clarity as I carried out my checks and gave the thumbs-up to the wing-runner.*

*Following the tow-aircraft - it almost seemed like a normal flight although my heartrate had increased noticeably. Everything quietened as I released from the tow plane. I rolled the aircraft slightly, had a good look over my shoulder and grinned. Where's the instructor gone?! (I later wrote this in my logbook) The feeling of finally being up there on my own was indescribable. I had wings and freedom was mine.*

*After a little while the weather looked to be deteriorating again so I made the decision to land. The touchdown was a little rough but the feeling was euphoric.*

This is the second time we have sponsored Michael through Northcliffe CRC's Youth Sponsorship. The first time was three years ago when we provided assistance for Michael to kick off his 'Wings Over Northcliffe' Remote Control flying event. This event is now making its third comeback and we encourage all to make a trip out to the Keller farm to get a taste of the joys of flight (top right).

## 5th and 6th December

The Keller family's annual RC flying weekend.

RC = 'remote control'. These flying machines vary from tiny up to 1/3 size (or more) scale models.

Vintage and new, WWI and WWII...

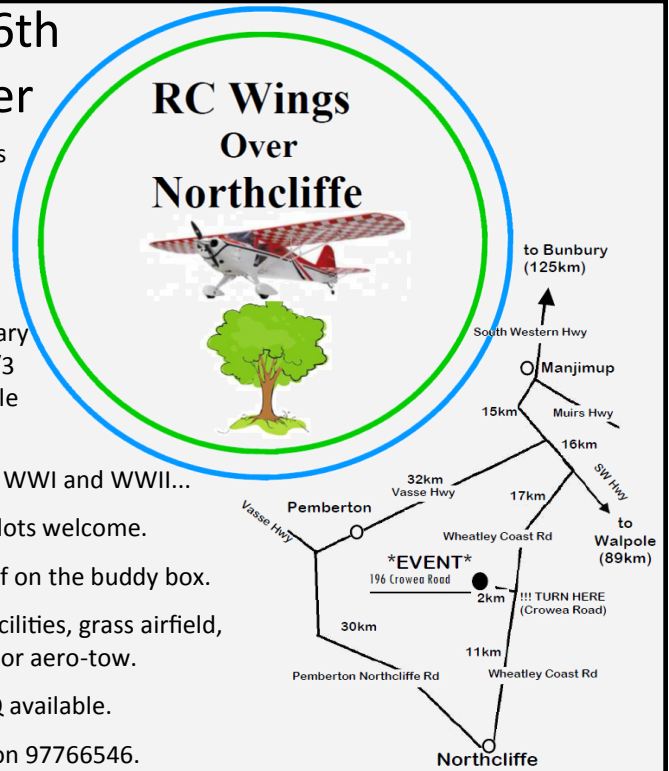
Spectators and pilots welcome.

Have a go yourself on the buddy box.

Excellent flying facilities, grass airfield, perfect for winch or aero-tow.

Camping and BBQ available.

Contact Michael on 97766546.



## 2014-15 AGM Report

We would like to thank NCRC Members for returning their AGM proxy forms. Our AGM was held on 26th October. After some discussion the proposed constitutional amendments were not passed however we may make some changes based on feedback and re-propose amendments to members next year.

For the coming year we have a committee of seven. Any other members interested in joining the committee as a volunteer should talk to us as positions are available.

This year we debuted our Annual Report which will now be a regular part of our reporting to the Department of Regional Development, as well as to our members and other interested parties.

The report features colourful photos and charts documenting a surprising amount of activity which took place in a year during which we recorded 6409 visits to the CRC.

The Annual Report also includes our Chairman, Manager and Tresasurers' reports. Members and other interested parties are welcome to drop in to view (or take away) a copy.



Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10 am to 5 pm • Thursday 10 am to 6 pm • Friday 9 am to 6 pm • Saturday 9 am to 12