



OVERdaBERG

PARAGLIDING CLUB

Volume 1, Issue 5

October 2006

UP TO SPEED

New Club Members

We would like to welcome the following new members; Here's to many happy flights with the Overbergers ☺

- Nic Good – aka Moose, outdoor enthusiast especially with a camera
- Gaynor Schoeman – welcome back to flygirl
- Dave Storm – our first resident KZN member
- John Nicholas – Bambi paragliding, Mpumalanga, travelling member

The Eagle Award

Last month Peter Salomons got the OPC Eagle for his fantastic flight from SLP to Paarl. Now you really have seen Moordenaars, Jonkershoek and Simonsberg from a different perspective. Awesome flying, we loved the suntan too ☺

The Outhouse Award

Last month Peter Salomons got the OPC Outhouse for his truly blonde moment. At SLP he went with Greg to leave his bakkie at turkey, he happily got into Greg's bakkie chatting away, driving for a short time when Greg reminded him what he forgot ☺ only the other bakkie....

New Club Logo

Thanks to Greg for designing such an appropriate and stunning new club logo. This was showcased at the September meeting and first featured on the Gatskop T-Shirt. We think it's bright and lively, hope you all also enjoy the change ☺

SAPC Congratulations

Big congratulations go out to Earl for winning the SAPC 2006 Novice class and Jaco for coming third in the SAPC 2006 Intermediate Class.

All Overbergers who participated in the SAPC should be proud of their flying and for showing that the Western Cape does have some awesome pilots ☺

New SLP Weather Station Sponsorship

A BIG thanks to all of you who have sponsored a replacement for Wendy the SLP windtalker. Wendy has been replaced by one of

Russell's iWeather systems. The members who provided sponsorship (you know who you are) have allowed this transition to happen without having an impact on the club fees.

The weather data is online @

www.iweather.co.za/display.php?s_id=14

Sponsors can be seen on Adriaan's "Hall of Fame" webpage - users.iafrica.com/a/ah/ahpburn/sponsors.html

End of Year Flyaway

We have decided to be a bit different this year, and have a flyaway for the club's End of Year function. The accommodation at Pampoenfontein has been reserved for the first weekend in December, so mark the dates in your diary for an awesome celebration and lots flying (weather dependant of course...)

More details to follow soon ☺

Barrydale Site Closed

Please note that the Barrydale site is currently CLOSED. The owner has closed the site due to the frustration of site rules not being followed by paragliding pilots. ☺

Franschhoek Landing Closed

The Franschhoek landing area in the residential development is CLOSED. The developers are planting olive trees and an alternative landing site is being discussed. If you want more info contact Barry on 082 658 6710

Next Meeting

The next club meeting will be on the 29th November 2006 @ Killarney Race Track Suites from 7pm

UP AND COMING

- Wilderness (Louvain) Flyaway, 11th – 12th November
- Glen Club Fancy Dress Fly-In, 25th November
- Club EOY Flyaway @ Pampoenfontein, 1st -3rd December
- All Africa Open @ Porterville, 17th – 22nd December

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WHERE WE FLEW

This month we started seeing more consistent summer weather with warmer temperatures. The beginning of the month still had fronts passing most weeks, but by the end of the month the SE'sters were more consistent

Here is the rundown on the weather and the sites flown.

25th Sept – 01st Oct 2006

Strong winds, low cloud and a cold front. Not much fun, except for that one epic weekday

- Bettys Bay, SLP, LH, Macassar

02nd – 08th Oct 2006

A week of strong SE'sters with a huge front at the weekend.

This was the OVERdaBERG Gatskop weekend

- Macassar, Koringberg, Hermanus, Porterville

09th – 15th Oct 2006

The Cape Doctor was still in town, a week of progressively stronger SE'sters

- Hermanus, Koringberg, Porterville

16th – 22nd Oct 2006

The strong SE'sters died through the week. The temperatures consistently warmer

- SLP, Koringberg, Hermanus

Weather SA Prediction Accuracy

Wind Direction	80 %
Wind Strength	65 %

IN THE CLINCH BAG

Gatskop to feature in GoFly

Keep your eye on the GoFly for the article Greg has written. This is a great way to give the rest of the country an idea of this local event, aswell as some exposure for the Club

iWeather Stations

The iWeather stations have been let loose ☺

Incase you aren't aware, there have been several of Russell's iWeather stations installed in the last month;

Porterville, set-up at takeoff, on the left (SSW).

La Med, set-up at the Glen Club, Lion's Head landing

SLP, set-up where Wendy was, not too far from take-off

You can see all the stations data @

www.iweather.co.za/stations.php and wap.iweather.co.za

The Club is also in the process of acquiring sponsorship for an iWeather station at Koringberg.

Koringberg New Site Record

Congratulations to Craig who has set the new site record for Koringberg @ 61km's straight line. It's just the beginning of the season, so you all have the opportunity to chase his lead and break the record.

FOR SALE

- Mistral 2 (small)
Piccillo vario & pouch
Icom radio & desktop charger
Harness with integrated reserve
Clinch
White full face helmet
Leather boots – Ladies size 6
R15,000 o.n.c.o

Contact **Teresa**

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Please feel free to contribute. The more contributions the better our newsletter will be. Send any contributions to lyndaoco@gmail.com

Thanks to

Marc Lüdi, Angelo Voulgarellis & Lynda O'Connell

for contributing to this newsletter

PILOT PROFILE

MARC LÜDI

(inset picture - Marc flying @ Hermanus)



How long have you been flying?

I have been flying for about 2 years now.

Current Glider

Swing Mistral 3

Want to know more about Marc's glider, see these websites
www.swing.de/?main=produkte&sub=vorgaenger&lang=en&sub2=mistral3
www.dhv.de/odb/report.php?lang=en&qj=pub250013&item=11160

Favourite Site

That would have to be Lions Head - can't beat that view

Best Flying Moment

In Barrydale – perfect conditions – great group of people – lots of beer

Worst Flying Moment

One take off in Haystacks – too terrible to mention haha.

Why do you paraglide?

I grew up in Switzerland – for 25 years.
I was a keen abseiler and loved the mountains, having climbed all of the high peaks in Switzerland.
So I had my feet firmly on the ground, but never hesitated to admire the paragliders above me and the mountains.
I always thought in the back of my mind that someday when the opportunity arises, I will fly.
My father is also a pilot – he has had his own micro-glider (lite) for many years, so I have had the chance to 'glide' growing up.
When I settled down with my wife in Cape Town in 2000, I thought this would be a perfect place to learn and to try paragliding – with all the beautiful scenery and views. I then met Barry and got really into the sport – not only for the amazing experience of flying, but also to get to know interesting people / South Africans and to spend time with the family on flying weekends away.

My other hobby – 4x4ing then took a back seat.

My ultimate flying experience would probably be to some day fly in my home country – Switzerland – around some of the mountains that I frequently climbed when I was younger, just to experience the mountains in another perspective. One day I will be flying with my daughter and son who will hopefully also want to share in my hobby.

Something about you?

I did a 4 year Diploma in Master Carpentry in Switzerland. Following that I decided to do the 'Wanderschaft'. This means that voluntarily I could travel around the world for 3 years and 1 day – under the guidance of the 'Travelling Guild In Germany'. In this 800 year old tradition, we travel with a 'Kluft' (uniform) and only a small 5 kgs bundle of clothing, with all the tools we would require for work. For 3 years and 1 day we would not be allowed to return home within a radius of 50km's. I started my travels working in Europe, then Russia and then travelled through Africa alone. Landed up in Cape Town after the most amazing life experiences and of course working experience. I met my wife in Cape Town and we travelled together to Australia – where we worked and travelled. We finally went back to Switzerland when my 'Travelling Time Of 3 Years And One Day ' was up. This was a huge celebration as my Wanderschaft came to an end – returning home at last. After my daughter, Salina, was born and after we were married, we had an opportunity to settle down in Cape Town. I then worked for an Austrian company for 6 years, to gather experience and contacts in the 'Timber World'

This led me to finally fulfil another dream – open my own company. My company : Swissline Design is among one of the things I am really proud to have achieved. www.swisslinedesign.co.za , for more info on that.

My next dream would have to be to travel with my family through Africa with my 4 wheel drive and to take a para-motor with to be able to view all of Africa's beauty from another perspective.

CLUB CONTACTS

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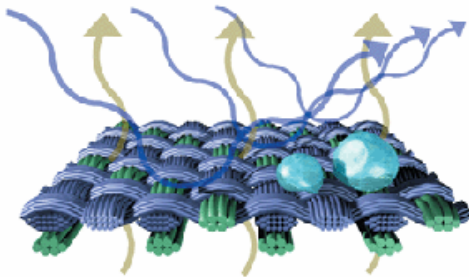
WHAT'S THAT ALL ABOUT

Paraglider Fabrics and Manufacturers

Most paragliders are made from nylon fabrics with some using Polyester.

Nylon is strong, flexible, resists abrasion and easy to dry. Polyester is more resistant to shrinking and stretching, dries quicker and is less likely to wrinkle or crease.

To reduce porosity and fading the majority of fabrics tend to be coated but can also be laminated or impregnated. The finishing process however changes the weight and flexibility of the natural fabric. The manufacturers are continually striving to find a coating that is light but still long lasting and robust. Improvements in coating technology gives paraglider manufactures the ability to produce much lighter gliders with the same if not better characteristics. The main two coating finishes are polyurethane and silicon.



Nylon fabric construction with a coating

The top and bottom of modern gliders are often made from different fabrics in order to get the lightest result without compromising on robustness and safety. The top fabric is very robust, flexible, non-porous and handles abrasion better, but tends to be heavier. The bottom fabric, which doesn't get so much abuse from UV and ground dragging, can be less robust. The ribs are normally made from a very tough and less flexible fabric which doesn't stretch easily.

Most paragliding companies use one or more of the following manufacturers to construct their gliders;

Carrington Performance Fabrics

- British Company
- Nylon fabrics with polyurethane coating
- No longer one of the market leaders (change of company focus).
- More often seen on older gliders
- Used by (and others): Nova, FreeX, UP, Gin
- www.cpf.co.uk

Gelvenor

- South African Company
- Nylon fabric with polyurethane and silicon coating
- Weight of the fabric is reducing its popularity
- Often used for top canopy, but limited in newer gliders
- Used by (and others): Ozone, Airwave, SOL, Nova
- www.geltex.co.za

Teijin

- Japanese Company
- Polyester fabric with polyurethane coating
- Small market share
- No longer really used (change of company focus)
- Used by (and others): Flight Designs
- www.teijin.co.jp/english/index.html

Toray

- Japanese Company
- Nylon fabric with polyurethane coating
- Small market share
- Commonly used for the bottom canopy
- Used by (and others): Swing, Edel, Airwave
- www.toray.com/index.html

Porcher Marine (NCV)

- French Company
- Polyester fabric with polyurethane coating
- One of the market leaders, and one who in-house manufactures the fabrics
- Used for both top and bottom parts of the canopy
- Used by (and others): Gradient, SOL, Ozone, FreeX, Nova
- www.ncv.fr/uk/ncv.php?AMenu=1
- www.ojovolador.com/eng/read/reports/porcher/index.htm

Perseverance Mills

- British Company
- Nylon fabric with silicon coating
- Withdrew from the market, but then returned. They developed a fabric with Swing which led to an exclusive contract
- Previous range may be seen on older gliders
- www.pertex.com

This is not a fully comprehensive list, but rather just an insight into the most widely used manufacturers and their common fabric types in paraglider construction.

Article compiled using information from the above manufacturer's websites, also www.crittermountainwear.com & www.worldtalkradio.com

Picture courtesy of www.pertex.com

THE SPIRIT OF THE GATSKOP

OVERdaBERG Gatskop (07th - 08th October)

By Angelo Voulgarellis

The weather forecast for the spring GATSKOP of 2006 looked dismal, but the event was arranged and there was nothing that was going to keep us from attending the battle, whether it was in the air, the wheatfields or the speed bar.

Traditionally, an interclub competition between the Overberg and Glen to settle the animosity that had built between the two clubs. The Glen club comprised of pilots with newly imported wings, brightly coloured flight suits, flying boots, Vuarnet sunglasses, radios, varios and an attitude. The members of the Overberg however flew in overalls and takkies, no sunglasses. I guess some buy into the image while for others, flying became a way of life. The blood was not good between the two clubs, a constant bickering between the pilots as to which club had the better talent. The first Gatskop was borne in the early to mid nineties when it was decided that something had to be done about this animosity and to settle this battle once and for all. The trophy was Mike du Toit's shoe. The battle has now been extended to the southern/eastern cape pilots, whom in recent years have increased their attendance numbers.



Dusk at the Flyers Lodge



Friday Night - relaxed at The Flyers Lodge

Saturday morning produced the typical summer Swartland sunrise, blue skies and calm air; there was no sign of the cold front that was going to hit us later in the day. The sun was beating down onto the golden wheatfields, the air was clear. A few pilots drove to the top of the Dasklip pass where the wind was side on and fairly strong already. Earl and loel launched and had 10-minute foefies and soon after they had landed the wind had picked up to gale force, which confirmed the coming of the front.



loel - just after taking off



Earl getting ready for his foefie

Now was the ideal time for a bit of sight seeing. Some spent their afternoon on the hiking trails and swimming at Beaverlac. Mark Marshall was bored and cycled from Beaverlac to Porterville. Others watched the rugby with the locals at the Golf club.

We all converged again that evening at the flyers lodge in Porterville. Complimentary rounds of shooters from the Overberg chairman got the party going. Greg and Craig entertained us with aerobic slide shows, videos and a virtual flight on Google Earth from Dasklip to the north, pointing out all the most common house thermals.



Enjoying the earlier, more civilised entertainment

Soon after supper was served.
 What a meal, fillet steaks to perfection, pasta and vegetable salads,
 breads and dessert.



Rob S - cutting the fillet

Later the evening saw bra-less dancing by the girls, cross dressing
 by the guys, and the usual tequila-induced streak down the main
 road. I guess Rob M should have a permanent road sign outside
 the flyers lodge warning the public of the streakers ahead, and a
 picture of Philip doing a pirouette. It rained on Sunday and
 confirmed the first Gatskop in history where the window never
 opened.

A big thank you to the following, Earl, loel, Grace, Rob S, Sue,
 Brenda, Craig R, Greg, Jacob, Rob M, Janine and Bradley for the
 organizing, hosting and making sure that everything ran smoothly.



An artist's impression of what allegedly took place on a dark street after midnight in Porterville at the Black Gatskop. The artist might have been drinking, so his memory can not be relied upon.



The Main Road Streak

Photo's courtesy of Greg Hamerton, Gary Velcich and Stef Juncker

GATSKOP PRIZE DONATORS

We would also like to say **Thank You** to everyone involved in the prize donations; the people who arranged the donations and the following companies and individuals for providing the prizes.

Body Excel



Sport Unlimited Group



Wasabi Restaurant



Madame Zingara Restaurant



Barbarellas Restaurant

Virgin Active Constantia



Mountain Oaks Winery



JC Wines

Dolphin Inn

Grand West Casino



The Really Great Brand Company (Pty) Ltd

Waterfront Boat Company



Earl Valentine

Although the prizes were not used at the Gatskop, they will be awarded to members for their achievements and at other club events.