



# AVIATION NEWS

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## DICK SMITH VISITS LAURISTON

Eminent Australian and aviation enthusiast, Mr Dick Smith, paid a whirlwind visit to Lauriston in August.

His address to the Senior School assembly touched on his business career and flying adventures. These included a solo round-the-world helicopter trip which required a landing on a ship in the Atlantic Ocean.

In congratulating the Year 12 Lauriston pilots, he remarked that the girls' licences were identical to his own.

Dick Smith attributed his business success to determination, hard work and an ability to involve enthusiastic and competent assistants.

Following lunch with Meg Hansen and staff, Dick Smith spoke to the Year 10 aviation class about his plans to drive to the South Pole in late 2002. He told the girls that his sustenance will include an inexhaustible supply of Dick Smith Foods. In case of dire emergency, he plans to eat the bonnet of his solar powered electric car, which will be made of chocolate!

The School is greatly indebted to Dick Smith for being so generous with his time.

Julie Borschmann (Aviation Teacher)



Clare Davey, Anna O'Sullivan, Dick Smith, Eliza Russell, Michelle Barkley (and future pilots from the Junior School)

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### Stop Press

An information morning is scheduled for Saturday 10th November 2001 at 10.00 a.m. at General Flying Services, Moorabbin Airport. Parents of girls who are interested in commencing flight training in Year 11 will have the flight training program explained in detail by Mr Ross Carrington, Chief Flying Instructor of GFS. A tour of the facilities will be included.

## A NEW SPIN ON THINGS

The one lesson that we were probably most eagerly anticipating as part of our Year 11 flying program was the one on spinning.

We had been told that it involved learning how to recover the aircraft from a spin and the opportunity to experience aerobatics.

Both Stephanie and I had our spinning lessons in the Decathlon, a plane designed to do aerobatics, as opposed to the Cessna 172s we usually fly in.

During the first half of the lesson we practised spinning and recovering which was fun by itself, before my instructor

suggested we try something more adventurous.

We did loops, barrel rolls, inverted flying and various other roller coaster like moves, all of which defied gravity and were absolutely exhilarating.

Unfortunately we only had the opportunity for one spinning lesson, though I wouldn't be surprised to see a number of Lauriston girls getting Aerobatics endorsements and looping around the skies in the future.

Sarah Wright (Year 11)



# CASA FLIGHT SAFETY FORUM IN SYDNEY

On 1<sup>st</sup> September, two Year 11 and four Year 10 aviation students were lucky enough to fly to Sydney in a Merlin to attend the CASA Flight Safety Forum. After an early departure from Essendon Airport, we headed towards Albury, Bindook, Odale and finally to Sydney International Airport.

I was thrilled to be able to sit in the co-pilot's seat, from where I had a first hand view of everything that went on. This was especially interesting as we approached Sydney, where there were a number of commercial airliners, including a Qantas 747, lined up and waiting for us to land. This took quite a while as the runway was several kilometres long, and we had to fly most of it in order to avoid extensive taxiing.

At the Forum we heard a lecture from the Accident Investigation Bureau on various aviation incidents and accidents, one of which involved an aircraft whose nose ended up embedded in the ground with the tail protruding vertically into the air. Luckily all escaped unharmed. Further lectures covered low-level flying, aspects of meteorological safety and job opportunities (within Ansett funnily enough!). The final lecture was a highly amusing one from Dr David Newman on spatial disorientation.

It was a tiring, but rewarding day, and after a meal near the Harbour, we returned to the airport, and witnessed a fantastic electrical storm. After our instrument take off, we had an aerial view of this storm, which was a little disconcerting, but still fascinating. We arrived back at Essendon right on time, having learnt a lot from this experience and having had heaps of fun!  
Stephanie Workman (Year 11)



Chantal Delcourt, Beth Corley, Alex McCubbin, Julie Borschmann, Jaz Eckhaus, Stephanie Workman and Sarah Wright on arrival in Sydney.

## ALL SET FOR A HARD DAY'S WORK!



Lauren Mc Carthy assembles a Cessna 172 Crankshaft at Flight Safety.

### A LAURISTON ENGINEER ON HER FIRST DAY AT WORK

NOTE THE DRESS CODE AND  
ERGONOMICS:

1. IMPECCABLE GROOMING TO ENSURE HAIR IS NOT SNAGGED ON CRANKSHAFT.
2. GLOWING LIPSTICK IN CASE OF ANY POSSIBLE PHOTO OPPORTUNITY.
3. 'BABY BLUE' MOHAIR SWEATER TO TRAP GREASE MORE EFFICIENTLY.
4. COLOUR CODED HANDBAG FOR STORING TOOLS.
5. FEET FIRMLY ON GROUND.
6. LOOK OF INTENSE CONCENTRATION TO IMPRESS THE BOSS.
7. ALL THAT IS MISSING ARE THE MANICURED NAILS!



Congratulations to Anna O'Sullivan who was awarded her Private Pilot Licence in August.



Best wishes to Charlotte McCubbin and Lauren Ross who will take the Private Pilot Licence Test in December.

# Lauriston