

# REPLICA 1929

# PIETENPOL

# STAR OF THE TAC FLY-IN



Lovingly built over ten years Simon McCormack's replica 1929 Pietenpol created great interest at the TAC all Clubs Christmas BBQ fly-in at the Longdown property. His aircraft is virtually how they were back then



1928 Model A Ford engine with original rods, cam and crank. New bearings, Pistons and oil system.

except his machine has brakes a steerable tail wheel and seat harnesses. "You can't buy a kit for them, you've got to source all the materials, and put them together - it's back to grass roots flying the Barnstorming days I guess!" joked Simon.

The Pietenpol cruises at 60kts, stalls at 33kts, burns 2.5 US Gallons per hour, is a two seater, with wooden prop, spoked wheels and powered by a 1928 Model A Ford water-cooled car engine.

The Fly - in to Longdown was a very relaxing affair with a substantial barbecue and salads catered for by the Tasmanian Aero Club from Launceston. The Longdown property boasts a lengthy well kept grass airstrip and taxiways to a parking area surrounded by established leafy trees providing shade and a most ideal spot for a Barbecue get together.

27 planes flew in from all over the state to join in the Christmas cheer, also people were able to drive into the property from the Midland Highway with the route clearly marked, as there is plenty of room to get lost on the Mills Northern Midlands mixed farming property.

"It's a stick and rudder aeroplane, docile with no real bad characteristics, and quite nimble for it's era, quite a well coordinated aircraft really." said Simon.

"I'm a GA pilot now, but when I started building the aircraft I was flying Ultralights. I got Brian Green from the TAC to do the test flights, Brian has a vast amount of experience and therefore feel for the aircraft."

In the cockpit, "the rev counter is out of a Tiger Moth, the altimeter and air-speed from a Piper, the oil pressure gauge, when the engine is running works at 6 PSI, water temperature, compass, left and right mags and a primer for the fuel and you're away!" said Simon.

*"You can get just as much enjoyment seeing the smile on someone's face, as if you've done a good landing, that gives me the biggest buzz"*



Blue and silver Rans owned by Peter Freeman from the Georgetown Airport. Mouldings neatly finish a roomy interior.



VH - ARW replica 1929 Pietenpol



Harry Sherriff TAC Peter Freeman Georgetown

The ACST would like to thank Joe Miller, Paul Heron and Marcel Jansen for their invitation to celebrate Christmas at Longdown and Joe's wife Keren and her band of helpers who put on a terrific barbecue spread enjoyed by all the Pilots and their guests.