

TARMAC TALK



Steve Hepworth supports his son **Ben** by driving the 16 year old to Cambridge so he can fly a plane, solo. Ben can't drive yet but he can fly. So far, Ben has clocked up 27 hours in the Jabiru since starting back in early October last year, of which four hours is solo. Ben



is an achiever having joined the Australian Airforce Cadets 502 Squadron at age 13, he is now Cadet Under Officer which is the highest ranking for an Airforce Cadet.

His Dad, Steve said "Ben came down to the Aero Club to do work experience and it wasn't long before the pressure was on from Ben to let him learn to fly. Once I got over the shock that flying is expensive!, we got him started with the more affordable RAA and the Jabiru with his hours being counted when he switches to General Aviation."

Ben is looking for a career in Aviation.

Above left Pilot **Jim Connolly** and mate **Gary Rushton** got to enjoy some of the per-



fect "still air" Autumn flying with a popular trip for Club members, a scenic over the City. Jim learnt to fly with the Par Avion Flight Training Centre and has now been with the Aero Club for eight years.

Right: A welcome face at the Aero Club, **Kerry Bird** undertaking his BFR for RAA in **Rob Allcock's Skyfox**. Kerry was the first instructor to fly a Skyfox when Par Avion bought the first commercially operated machine in Tasmania. Kerry's name is recorded in many Pilots log books.



Above: **Philip Jones**



learnt to fly with the Aero Club in 1973 with Nick Tanner and Patrick Coe. He flew the aircraft of the era like VH-TSS, TSR and obtained his licence in VH-RIS. Philip went on to get his twin engine endorsement with Nick Tanner and John Pugh on the Aero Commander. Philip now flies with the Royal Victoria Aero Club and was back in Tasmania to visit his 82 year old Mum. After a checkride from Instructor, **Rod Haigh**, Philip took a bit of time out to go flying over familiar countryside.

Gary Burr has sold his Victa 115



TWE to Fogarty Aviation on the Sunshine Coast for one of their students to complete their commercial licence.

Chief Flying Instructor **Sam Merlo** and Flying Instructor **Rod Haigh** with a keen group from Adult Education experiencing Aviation for the day.



Tasmania Fire Service, was ferrying fires to and from King Island for training and used the Clubrooms as a meeting spot awaiting the chartered Banderante.

