



Cat. No. 0018

Ted Pascoe's EP-1 "Spruce Goose", c. 1955

This exhibit was designed and built by Ted Pascoe in 1955 as a smaller than average single seat sailplane that could be operated by two or three people. At times it was launched by auto-towing by Ted Pascoe and his wife without the aid of a third person at the wing tip. The glider exhibited good soaring capability and was used for some cross country flights. For instance, in 1956 Ted Pascoe succeeded in a 36 mile goal flight during which he attained a maximum height of 4500 feet. It was flown at the Mt Gambier Gliding Club from 1956 until about 1961. The Log Book shows that it was flown at Everard in 1961 and at Everard, Waikerie, Gawler and Keith in 1962. There is a gap in flying record for this aircraft from 1962 until 1967. From 1967 to 1972 it was flown regularly at various places in South Australia including Whitwarta, Stonefield, Renmark, and Gawler. For many years it was owned and flown by Mervyn Gill of the Balaklava Gliding Club.



[Ted Pascoe with the EP-1 at Mt Gambier on 26 November 1955: photograph from A. Ash Collection – also published in AG January 1956, p.27]

“The gliding section of the display was provided by an aero-tow launch of the Grunau Baby and a winch launch by Ted Pascoe of his new home-designed EP-1 (which should not be confused with the EPB-1 of American design). Ted’s machine (more popularly known as “The “Spruce Goose””) looked sleek and neat in red, black, yellow and white. By far the most technicolour sailplane ever seen.” – From: “Successful Pageant at Mt. Gambier” Australian Gliding, January 1956, pp 26-27.



[A more recent photo of the EP-1 – with one wing stripped for repairs: photograph – Geoff Hearn]