



P.O.Box 989
CRAMERVIEW
2060

Flight 27 – 3rd September 2010
Flight to Robertson – Child Welfare, Nikithemba Day Care Centre
Pilot – Chareen Shillaw
Pax – Lisl England, Saskia
Submission – Chareen Shillaw

Lisl England and I were flying from George to Stellenbosch to collect my sister, Saskia for a girl's weekend. We planned to head for Bloemfontein via Stellenbosch, to watch the rugby test match, South Africa versus the Wallabies.

It was planned to include a 10 minute detour via Robertson to deliver a load of toys, books, clothes and puzzles to Sonja Watt-Hayes the lady who runs the day care centre, Nikithemba.



After my brief but informative chat with Sonja on our recent trip to the Child Welfare centre it



became apparent that the children could use a lot more toys and educational items to entertain them in the afternoons after school. My daughter and I took on the project to collect as many items we could. Erin initiated a collection drive at her school and I offered logistical support. All items collected were kindly

donated by Adel van Wyk, Jenny Smith, Marlette Watson and Erin Shillaw for the Robertson Child Welfare. Thank you to Erin for all her efforts in putting

together this collection of items. They are certainly needed by Sonja and her children.

With lots of planning and much more excitement Friday finally arrived, Li and I met at the hangers for our girl's adventure. We took off at 8.30 and climbed to FI 045, this to get the best of the tail winds. The weather overall could not have been better! We had a slight tail wind and not a bit of turbulence, at times it gave us a ground speed in the order of 380 km/hr. We flew direct to Swellendam then made the right turn to Robertson, arriving without a hitch.



We arranged to meet Sonya and her team at the picturesque Robertson strip so they could pick up all their goods. Because of a slight hold up on our previous trip to Robertson, a call was made to Alwyn, the airfield manager, to open the gate at the airfield so that Sonya could drive up to the aircraft and collect the donated goodies.

On landing we met Alwyn and all had a cup of hot coffee with some wonderful homemade crunchies; thanks to Li. Before we knew it Sonya had arrived and was loaded up; with a big thank you and a wave we were all off again, this time heading for Stellenbosch, the first leg of our trip completed.

The overall trip was great, what a wonderful game of rugby and a pity the Springboks lost, but we had a ball!! All too soon we we're back in George airspace and getting ready to land.



There are so many more stories I could tell.... but the girls have agreed... What goes on tour stays on tour!

Funny, I am always sad to be at the ends of a flight. I could always stay up longer! Li and I were planning what diversions we could include to extend our trip the next time. In the end we agreed we just have to start planning the next trip soon!!



A big thank you to Chareen for putting this trip together, she initiated, organised and funded the entire operation herself.