

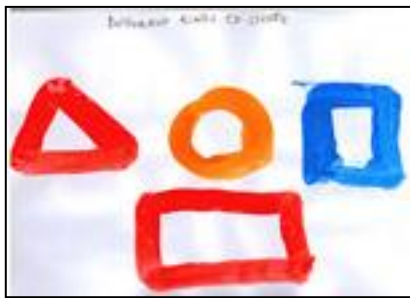


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Flight Ops 30&31 – October 2011
Flight to Child Welfare Kimberley –
GALESHEWE EDUCARE AND WARREN SYMCOX EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT
CENTRES
Pilots – Keiran Bell & Wesley Kimber

Introduction – Mike Ehrman

A donation of educational toys was donated to us by the Thusanani Childrens Foundation, an organization whose primary goal is “to identify and provide therapy for children who are developmentally delayed or disabled and who are growing up in a children's home or place of safety”. My next step was to find a worthy recipient organization which catered to the needs of children under the age of 6 years.



Child Welfare Kimberley runs a good community based project which seemed to have a number of suitable projects. As part of our win-win approach Zandri a therapist from Thusanani joined us on our delivery to Kimberley with the aim of giving an educational talk to their ECD Practitioners. The feedback has been great the

ECD practitioners learnt a lot regarding; child development, institutionalization, attachment, bonding with a child, developmental milestone of a child from birth to 6 years, and the sort of things that can affect the development of a child.



Due to the logistics we made the delivery in 2 separate flights, here are the experiences of the 2 pilots who assisted us on this venture.

Flight Ops 30 on the 23rd October 2011

My Experience as a Pilot for the Rainbow Airbridge Trust.



My passion for aviation is so immense that I have always jumped at any opportunity to fly. Since qualifying for my Private Pilot's License in May of this year, I have been privileged to offer others opportunities to fly.

A few days ago Ernie offered the opportunity to conduct a flight for the Rainbow Airbridge Trust. Ernie briefly explained the basics of the organization's operations. We arranged to meet

at Rand on Friday for an early morning departure.

The precious cargo of the day: second-hand toys. Zandi, an occupational therapist from the NGO Thusanani that donated the toys, joined us. We were soon on the ground in Kimberley and on our way to one of two child welfare center's we would visit that day. Elmien, the manager of the welfare center's was our 'guide'. Zandi discussed issues with social development and interacting with the children, with the staff at Galeshwe Educare Centre.



The time we spent at both the Galeshwe Educare, and Warren Symcox Childhood Development center's was extremely humbling and educational. Seeing these children of all ages, most of which are either HIV positive or AIDS orphans was heartbreaking. We also met some children suffering from Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. These children have very little in terms of love, caring, health or material goods,

but they had some of the biggest smiles I have ever seen.

After about two hours, it was time for us to leave. Our time in Kimberley was very well spent. I look forward to working with the Rainbow Airbridge Trust again in the future!

Kieran Bell



Flight Ops 31 on the 4th October 2011

Yesterday the flight went well to FAKM, I got airborne out of FAGM at 08:43 local and climbed up to 7000' on my way to GAV. Once overhead the beacon I set heading for Kimberley and upon crossing the Johannesburg TMA got hold of FAJS information south, where I chose to fly at FL065. I had a 10-15kt headwind and turbulence was rather uncomfortable for majority of the flight. When tuned into FAJS central it confirmed my thoughts that it was not the best of days turbulence wise as Comair, SAA and 1time were all striving to find the most passenger friendly level.

The people at the airport where very helpful, I even had a security guard who went to fetch a big trolley and helped me offload. Luckily I was allowed to put everything through the staff entrance/exit so Jackie just parked her car on the other side of the gate about 2m from the door.



On the way back I went up to FL075 and the flight was just as turbulent perhaps a little less turbulent than on the way down, but a 10kt tailwind speed things up a tad.

All in all was a good flight and was nice to do something for a worthy cause. Look forward to doing more flights in the future

Wesley Kimber