

How to get a world record for \$13.86

KEITH WILLIS



Pawel Frackowiak with Keith Willis prior to his world record flight
Photo: Keith Willis

Visiting Polish pilot, Pawel Frackowiak claimed a World gliding record on the last day of a four-week gliding holiday at Bordertown/Keith Gliding Club early this year.

Pawel flew a 100km FAI triangle on 17 February in 55 minutes 47 seconds at an average speed of 110.14km/h from Bordertown to Bunn Springs then on to Blue Hills near Telopea Downs and back to Bordertown. He used only one-and-a-half thermals for the whole task.

Flying the club's PW5, VH-ZAW, Pawel crossed the start line at just over 3,000ft, then glided about four kilometres to the first cumulus where he got a climb of 12kt to over 11,000ft. Halfway around the task he took an eight-knot climb for an extra 4,000ft for final glide, coming home on the last leg at over 160km/h.

Pawel's flight took just 55 minutes 47 seconds which, at 25 cents a minute is \$13.86. His total time was one hour 55 minutes, with the extra 59 minutes 13 seconds being \$14.89. These two figures, plus the cost of a winch launch at \$5, took the total to \$33.75!

During his time at Bordertown/Keith Gliding Club, Pawel also claimed four Polish gliding records. ✂