GIPPSLAND AERONAUTICS TRIP - REPORT

The outing was very successful with 37 members travelling from Wheelers Hill with Rowville Coaches to Gippsland Aeronautics at Morwell. After a welcome morning tea on the way at Yarragon (an interesting town of antiques, crafts & cafes), we arrived at Latrobe Regional Airport.

Neil, the airport manager, talked about the airport facilities then John, from Gippsland Aeronautics, told us a bit about the history of the company. We were then taken on a conducted tour of their manufacturing facilities where they manufacture single engine aircraft that are exported all around the world for private use, tourism, cargo, and crop-dusting, producing 20-25 aircraft per year with 120 staff. After a brief visit to the Helimed 1, Search and Rescue facilities we enjoyed a 2-course lunch at the Morwell Club, followed by a bus tour of the Hazelwood Power Station, Cooling Pond and Open Cut mine, returning to Wheelers Hill around 5pm.

Pat Taylor

31st October 2008.