



By Marc McGowan, Star News Group

When Peter travels the plane goes, too

WHILE other 75-year-olds are winding down, Pakenham's Peter Spiller continues to move up – literally.

Peter, who still works at his pallet racking business in Dandenong South, has been fascinated with being in the air for almost two decades and has made the transition from a microlight trike to a three-access ultralight aeroplane. But making his pastime even more interesting is the fact he puts his latest addition – a Eurofox – on a custom-built trailer and tows it behind his motor home, which Peter created from a former school bus.

“My wife Jan and I are usually in it just about every weekend. It's stationed down at Tyabb and I take my bus down there and live in the bus,” he said.

“I'd like to go around Australia, up the east coast to the Cape York Peninsula and Western Australia. “You can go over there in a bus and you can't see a lot of things, but if you take an aeroplane you can fly around – it's a good place to look around.”

The sight of Peter towing his Eurofox, which can stay in the air for four hours, continues to amaze onlookers, but it is just a regular passion for him.

“It's a very comfortable aeroplane. I chose this aeroplane because it's not unique, but it's one of the very few of quality that fold up and can be trailed simply,” he said.

“It only takes half an hour for it to be off the trailer and in the air.” Peter enjoys the attention he receives towards his inventive contraptions but it is the basic joys of his hobby that keep him interested.

“People tow boats and cars but you never see an aeroplane behind a bus,” he said.

“I just love the freedom and achievement of being able to fly.”