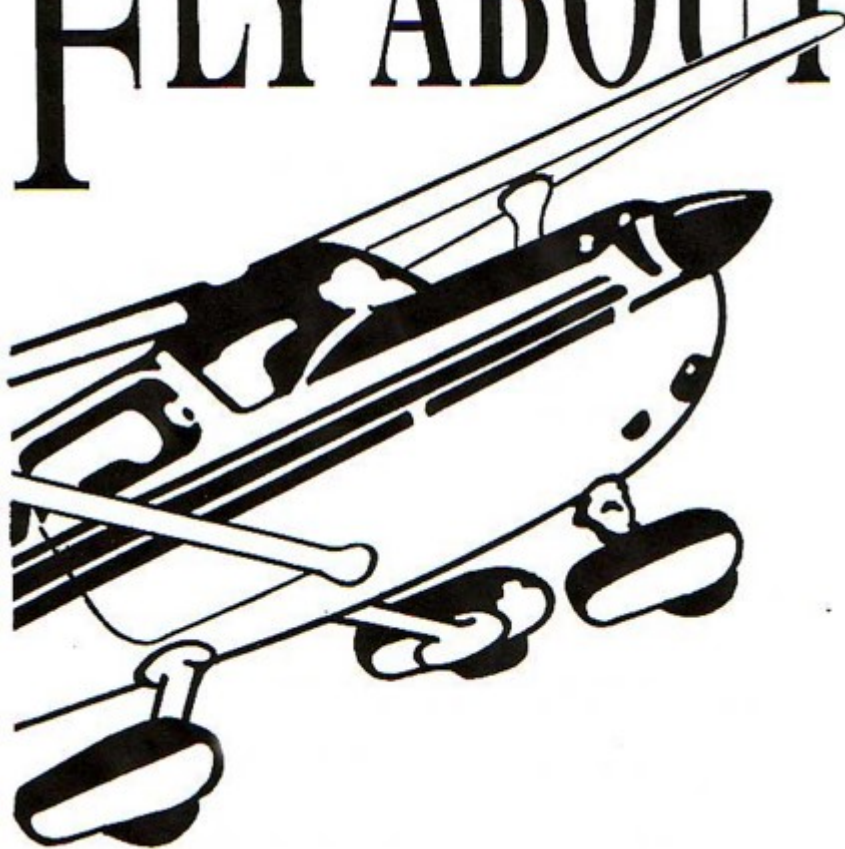


FLY ABOUT



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NORTHAM AERO CLUB (INC)

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hi all, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone.

Northam Aero Club held the annual Christmas lunch last Sunday.

It was fantastic to see a great number of people role up, including some very excited children who welcomed Santa arriving in a helicopter.

Father Christmas did the rounds talking to all and I noticed Grace Bignell attracted special attention with a special kiss from Santa, how lucky was Grace.

After Father Christmas presented and departed I was so impressed with how the children sat in a circle and proceeded to play with their toys, well done kids. The scrumptious lunch was presented by Heather, Marg McFarlane and Sally Woods, followed by desserts and of course, icecream (very popular). Howie manned the bar and that was well appreciated. Thanks to all that helped out and attended and once again, thanks to Matt and Claude.

Those people that attended the Christmas lunch witnessed the large fire on the outskirts of Northam and had front row seats to the landing, loading and taking off of the water bombers, very professional operation. These activities highlight the importance of the airfield location and facilities.

Our Instructors have been doing TIF's and instructing. We have had new members coming onboard so once again all the best for Christmas and the New Year and don't forget to push PGL when not in use as it is willy-willy season and they could flip the plane over.

Merry Christmas, Errol.

Club Captains Report

Sunday 11th December was our monthly Flying Comp.
TEAM NAC HAD NINE PILOTS,
FLYING FOUR DIFFERENT AIRCRAFT JOIN US FOR SOME GOOD FLYING.
TWO CIRCUITS ,RADIO CALLS & NOMINATED TIMES WAS OUR COMP.
EACH PILOT NOMINATED HIS OWN INDIVIDUAL TIME SO NOT A RACE
JUST A VERY INTERESTING AND SAFE COMP.

JUDGES : RADIO : MATT BIGNELL--THANK YOU MATT.
TIMES: TONY ROSER .. THANKS TONY.

"SCORES WERE VERY VERY CLOSE,ALL PILOTS WELL UP TO SPEED...
RADIO CALLS PERFECT AND ALL FLEW SAFELY."

RESULTS:

EQUAL FIRST: VH-CEU PA28-235 HOWIE PIETERSIE.
VH-PGL CESSNA 172P GEOFF WINSOR.
Howie was NAC "Rookie of The Year" in 2016.
Geoff was NAC "Rookie of The Year" in 2015!
WELL DONE HOWIE AND GEOFF!

EQUAL SECOND: VH-BFC CESSNA 152 PETER HILL.
VH-PGL CESSNA 172P ASHLEY SMITH.
EQUAL THIRD: VH-PGL CESSNA172P DAVE McFAR-
LANE.
VH-PGL CESSNA172P STEWART WINSOR.
FOURTH: 19-2708 ZENITH BOB EMERY.
EQ FIFTH: VH-PGL CESSNA172P IAN BERRY.
VH-PGL CESSNA 172P TREVOR SANGSTON,

THANK YOU TO THE TWELVE GREAT PILOTS WHO HAVE JOINED US
OVER THE SIX COMPS JUNE TO DECEMBER 2016!
THERE IS NO COMP IN JANUARY 2017 -TOO HOT--MOST PEOPLE AWAY
ETC.
NEXT COMP IS SUNDAY 12th FEBRUARY 9 am, AVON GOLF TOUR Mk2
THANK YOU ALL ON TEAM NAC ! ESPECIALLY OUR-- LADIES for MORN-
ING TEAS!
HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A GREAT NEW YEAR :)

BEST WISHES,PETER HILL, CLUB CAPTAIN 0450415947
prh@aurora.net.au

Christmas Party 2016

The Christmas party was a huge success. The children waited patiently for Father Christmas all morning and after a couple of false alarms the distinct sound of whop whop whop by the helicopter found them rushing to the front lawn to see his arrival.

Santa had presents for all and it was good opportunity to get some great photos. After all the warnings about possible storms, we had the best weather for the Club Competition and the arrival of Santa. Thank you to Santa's pilot service provided by Captain Claude and thank you to Santa for giving up your day off before the rush.

It was lovely to see all the Members that made it to the lunch catching up with each other. This is the time of the year that we all appreciate having the services in house with our kitchen and air conditioned dining. A time to remember all the work that has been put in by various members over the many years since the Club's formation. A time to say thank you to all of the Committees and hard work by so many people. We have NBN in the Club room now and while it was being installed I found a couple of curiosities in the back of one of the cabinets. One of them was a sign created by one such member of Santa on his sleigh and the words Merry Christmas. I dragged it out and cleaned it up for use this year but would love to know who put it together so that we can reframe it for future use.

Another piece of history found was the landing/departure of Bert Hinkler in Northam back in 1928, the picture was taken from a newspaper clipping. If anyone knows the landing field that was used back then, please let us know at the Club.

Thank you to all the ladies and gentlemen that have helped over the past twelve months in putting together the events and helping out around the clubhouse. We look forward to an exciting 2017 with the National Ballooning Championships and more fly-ins planned.

A big thank you to Errol, Heather, Marg, Sally and Howie and all the helpers for the Christmas Lunch.

Merry Christmas



Santa arriving in his Helicopter overhead



Dont fall out Santa and
hit the Susie Marie



Safe on the ground





Present time thanks
Santa



Grace and the girls



SANTAS LEAVING





THE ROYAL FEDERATION OF AERO CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA

A.C.N. 008 634 044

2320

(Incorporated in the A.C.T.)

P.O. Box 164 RUTHERFORD NSW

604 New England Highway Rutherford NSW 2320

Tele: 02 4932 0200

Email:

rfaca@ozemail.com.au

Webb: www.rfaca.com.au

Australian Light Aircraft Championships

TO BE HOSTED BY LATROBE VALLEY AERO CLUB
TRARALGON AIRPORT

THURSDAY 30 MARCH – SATURDAY 1 APRIL 2017

Entries are invited for the above Championships and are open to amateur pilots holding a minimum of a current GFPT/RPL and to former professional pilots who have not engaged in commercial or military flying in any form for a period exceeding two (2) years prior to the commencement of the event. All entrants are subject to the Rules of the Australian Light Aircraft Championships 2017.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

LATROBE VALLEY AERO CLUB		–	WEB: www.latrobevalleyaeroclub.com.au EMAIL Address: lvac@latrobevalleyaeroclub.com.au Jam_Tin@speedweb.com.au john@kaystreeteyecare.com.au Address: Airfield Road, Traralgon, Victoria 3844
SUNDAY 26 MARCH	1600 1800		RFACA EXECUTIVE MEETING – Latrobe Valley Aero Club WELCOME BBQ AT AERO CLUB
MONDAY 27 MARCH	0830 Traralgon 0900 1830		REGISTRATION – CENTURY INN - 5 Airfield Road FLYING TRAINING CONFERENCE CONFERENCE DINNER - CENTURY INN
TUESDAY 28 MARCH	0830 1700		FLYING TRAINING CONFERENCE CONTINUES HAPPY HOUR – for Conference Attendees
WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH	0830 1300		WINGS INTERNATIONAL ALAC Practice
THURSDAY 30 MARCH	0800 1800		ALAC PRACTICE MAYORAL RECEPTION
FRIDAY 31 MARCH	0600 0630 0730 1030 1730		Breakfast Briefings - Streamer Cutting & Forced Landing STREAMER CUTTING START FORCED LANDING START BBQ at Latrobe Valley Aero Club
SATURDAY 01 APRIL	0600 0630 0700		Breakfast Formation Briefing FORMATION FLYING

[fly AERO CLUB](#)

0900	Aerobatics Briefing
0915	AEROBATICS
1000	Spot Landing Briefing
1030	SPOT LANDING
1900	ALAC PRESENTATION DINNER – TRARALGON VINEYARD

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. RULES

The Championships will be conducted in accordance with the Rules of the Australian Light Aircraft Championships 2017.

2. ENTRY FORMS are attached. PLEASE NOTE CLOSING DATE OF **01 MARCH 2017**.

Any changes to the details given on the Entry Form must be notified in writing to the RFACA Championship Secretary prior to the start of the Championships. **Late entries** may be accepted only at the discretion of the Championship Secretary.

Entry Fees will normally be refunded only in the event of the championships being postponed or cancelled. However where the circumstances beyond the control of the competitor compel withdrawal after the closing date, the entry fee may be refunded at the discretion of the RFACA.

3. RFACA TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

RFACA Member Clubs and Associations wishing to compete for the Federation Trophy must complete and submit a Team Championship Nomination Form for each of their Teams, in addition to a Competitors' Entry Form for each nominated Team member. Forced Landing is mandatory.

4. OVERALL CHAMPIONSHIP

To qualify for this a competitor must compete in NOT LESS THAN THREE EVENTS, excluding Formation Flying. Forced Landing is mandatory. The three events must be nominated before the commencement of ALACS. The three events may include those entered as a member of an RFACA Club/Association Team.

5. AEROBATICS

There will be two levels of Aerobatic Competitions. Level 1 Graduate sequence and Level 2 Sportsman Sequence. The aerobatic sequences will be conducted in accordance with the ALAC and Aerobatic Club Rules. Sequences are available from the RFACA office OR WEBSITE www.aerobaticsaustralia.com.au. The winner of Level 1 in each ALACs will only be eligible to compete in Level 2 in subsequent years.

6. STREAMER CUTTING

The Handicap factors are unchanged. Please contact the RFACA Office or the Darling Downs Aero Club or download from RFACA website: www.rfaca.com.au

7. AIRCRAFT SHARING

Pilots in the Forced and Spot Landings are requested to share their Aircraft with no more than one other competitor in these events.

8. PRESENTATION DINNER

The Trophies for the ALAC's will be presented at a dinner to be held on **SATURDAY 01 APRIL 2017** at **TRARALGON VINEYARD** cost \$60 per head. Please be sure to indicate on the Entry Form the number attending. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Latrobe Valley Aero Club on arrival.

9. ACCOMMODATION - Please Note: You MUST quote "Aero Club" for discounted rates.

- Century Inn** - 5 Airfield Road (Cnr Princes Hwy) Traralgon Victoria 3844
 Web: www.centuryinn.com.au - Tele: 03 5173 9400 - Email: frontdesk@centuryinn.com.au
 Continental Breakfast \$10.00 - Cooked Breakfast \$15.00 Standard Queen Room \$139, Executive Queen Room \$159, Executive Studio King Room \$179
- Comfort Inn & Suites Latrobe** - 5601 Princes Hwy Traralgon Victoria 3844
 Web: www.comfortinnlatrobe.com.au/ - Tele: 03 5173 7500 - Email: info@comfortinnlatrobe.com.au
 Standard Room (2 people) \$119, King Room \$139, Deluxe Queen Room \$149, 2 Bedroom Suite (4 people) \$179 - Continental Breakfast \$10.00 - Cooked Breakfast \$15.00

Australian Light Aircraft Championships

LATROBE VALLEY AERO CLUB

AIRPORT TOOWOOMBA

THURSDAY 30 MARCH – SATURDAY 01 APRIL 2017

COMPETITOR ENTRY FORM

Please use Block Letters

1. Name of Competitor (Please print)

.....
Surname Preferred First Name

Address.....EMAIL:.....

Phone(H).....(B).....(M).....

Representative or Member of.....

Name of Club/Association/Flying School

2. a) Please circle Yes or No beside the events you wish to enter in the 2017 ALACs

b) If you wish to enter the Overall Championship please indicate with a cross in the "Overall" column the three events you wish to have counted towards this. (FORCED LANDING IS MANDATORY)

c) If you are entering any events as a member of a Team in the RFACA Team Championship please indicate these with a cross in the "Team" column.

		Overall	Team	Aircraft Type	Regn.
FORCED LANDING	Yes/No	()	()	
SPOT LANDING	Yes/No	()	()	
STREAMER CUTTING	Yes/No	()	()	
AEROBATICS					
(Level 1) Graduate	Yes/No	()	()	
(Level 2) Sportsman	Yes/No	()	()	
FORMATION FLYING	Yes/No	()	()	

Leader's Name.....

No. 2.....

No. 3.....

3. CERTIFICATION BY CFI of.....

Name of Club/Flying Training Organisation

I hereby certify that the above named entrant is qualified in accordance with the Rules for the event/s as nominated and considered to be competent to compete in the events as nominated.

.....
Name (Please Print) Signature Date

4. NOTES:

A Competitor may enter any or all of the Five Championship events

(i) A Competitor may:

(a) Compete in each event only once.

(b) Represent only one Club/Association or Flying Training Organisation in any one ALAC.

(c) Represent only one Team in any one ALAC.

(ii) To be eligible for the Overall Championship Trophy, a Competitor must enter **THREE EVENTS** one of which must be the Forced Landing. The three events must be nominated before commencement of ALACs.

Formation Flying does not count towards the Overall Championship.

Please mark an X in the "Overall" column brackets beside the **THREE** events chosen.

(iii) If you have been nominated for any events as a member of a Team for the RFACA Team Championship please indicate with an X in the "Team" column brackets beside those events.

(iv) For the Formation Flying event a separate Entry Form must be submitted for each Formation team member.

5. ENTRY FEES INCLUDE GST

Paid by 01 March 2017

Paid after 11 March 2017

Members of RFACA Clubs/Associations
& Individual Members of RFACA

\$32.00 each event

\$38 each event

Others

\$45.00 each event

\$50 each event

6. **SPECIAL EVENT FOR THOSE ARRIVING BY MONDAY 27 MARCH 2017**

The **CONFERENCE DINNER** will be held on Monday 27 March at Century Inn. Tickets \$55.00 each. Tickets must be purchased in advance so if you wish to participate in this get together, please include number you require and payment.

ALAC events @ each \$.....

"CONFERENCE DINNER" Tickets @ \$55.00 each \$.....

ABN 27 008 634 044 TAX INVOICE TOTAL: \$.....

PLEASE NOTE: ALAC PRESENTATION DINNER TICKETS - Will be available for purchase at Darling Downs Aero Club on arrival

VENUE: Traralgon Vineyard - 140 Burnets Road, Traralgon.

PLEASE NOMINATE NUMBER OF TICKETS YOU WILL REQUIRE (for Catering Purposes only)

Or: Charge above TOTAL to my VISA or MASTERCARD (Please Circle One)

NUMBER.....

NAME ON CARD.....EXPIRY DATE.....
(Please Print)

SIGNATURE OF CARDHOLDER.....

Please send COMPLETED FORM & CHEQUE OR CREDIT CARD DETAILS TO:

ALAC Secretary, RFACA, PO Box 164 RUTHERFORD NSW 2320 OR
SCAN & EMAIL: rfaca@ozemail.com.au

By 01 MARCH 2017 TO AVOID LATE ENTRY PENALTY FEES

Australian Light Aircraft Championships

LATROBE VALLEY AERO CLUB

TRARALGON AIRPORT - VICTORIA

MARCH 30 - APRIL 01 2017

RFACA TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS NOMINATION FORM

1. The.....
(Please Print) Name of RFACA Club/Association

of.....
(Address)

nominates the following competitors in the three events as shown for its Number
Team in the RFACA Team Championships Competition.

	Surname	Preferred First Name
FORCED LANDING (Mandatory)
SPOT LANDING
STREAMER CUTTING
AEROBATICS (Graduate - Level 1)
(Sportsman - Level 2)
FORMATION FLYING LEADER
No. 2
No. 3

2. NOTES:

- (i) The scores for the competitors in the three events shown above are those that will constitute the score for this Team in the RFACA Team Championships.
- (ii) There must be a minimum of two competitors in each team.
- (iii) A competitor may only represent one team in any one ALAC.
- (iv) A competitor's Entry Form must be submitted for EACH of the above competitors, including one for each member of a Formation Team.

3. Please indicate whether your CFI will be attending and available to act as an official during the Championships: YES/NO

4. Number and type of aircraft available for cross hire by other competitors during championships:
Number Type Regns

.....
.....

Authorised by
Name Position in Club

THIS FORM, TOGETHER WITH A COMPLETED COMPETITORS ENTRY FORM AND ENTRY FEES FOR EACH OF THE ABOVE COMPETITORS IS TO BE RETURNED TO:

THE ALAC SECRETARY, PO BOX 164, RUTHERFORD NSW 2320
OR SCAN & EMAIL: rfaca@ozemail.com.au TELE: 02 4932 0200
BY 01 MARCH 2017 TO AVOID LATE ENTRY PENALTY FEES

SPECIAL NOTICE

ALL COMPETITORS & SUPPORTERS are invited to join Conference delegates and local pilots at the Conference Dinner on MONDAY 27 MARCH 2017 .

The Dinner will held at -

CENTURY INN - TICKETS \$55.00 PER HEAD

THE FUN OF OWNING AN AIRCRAFT



The very sad picture of my beloved "Rattles" sitting on the apron at Elcho Island in Far East Arnhem Land NT with the engine removed. She developed very rough running after landing (thank goodness) and the engine has been removed for a rebuild. Such a sad, sad picture.

Below is the engine all packed up for the Barge trip back to Darwin and the long road haul to Platinum 300 in Yarrawonga!

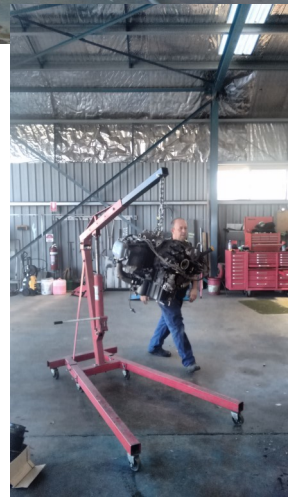


Well it didn't get any better!!!

Our other little girl was found to have a worn camshaft beneath the number 1 cylinder. And guess what!! The engine has been removed for a rebuild!! Looks like it will be home made pressies all round for the family this year..... I hope all our members have a very merry and super safe Christmas and New Year. Thanks for all of your contributions throughout the year, they have made my job as editor very easy.

Keep them coming for next year.

Light winds, clear skies and safe returns, MJ.



FIRE IN THE AFTERNOON AND THE WATER BOMBERS
ARRIVED FOR A TOP UP AT NORTHAM AIRFIELD



OUTBACK DRAWBACKS

One of the drawbacks to outback flying is the theft of avgas from aircraft parked overnight.

Petrol sniffing is rife in some remote communities and with un-sniffable opel fuel being the only thing available for vehicles, aircraft become a target. Local offenders climb up on the tailplane and along the fuselage, over the windows and wings to the fuel tanks.

I recently lost 200 litres over three nights.

Zoom in and have a look at the footprints on this aircraft, a C182 I had on cross hire for two weeks.





BAR ROSTER 2016—2017

August		
6th-7th	-	Peter
13th-14th	-	Howie
20th-21st	-	Matt
27th-28th	-	Mick

November		
5st-6th	-	Howie
12th-13th	-	Dave
19th-20th	-	Matt
26th-27th	-	Mick

September		
3rd-4th	-	Crofty
10th-11th	-	Dave
17th-18th	-	Peter
24th-25th	-	Howie

December		
3rd-4th	-	Crofty
10th-11th	-	Dave
17th-18th	-	Peter
24th-25th	-	Closed
31st		Closed

October		
1st-2nd	-	Matt
8th-9th	-	Dave
15th-16th	-	Mick
22nd-23rd	-	Crofty
29th-30th		Peter

January		
1st	-	Closed
7th-8th	-	Dave
14th-15th	-	Howie
21st-22nd	-	Matt
28th-29th		Mick

Bar Hours

Sat. 5pm—7 pm

Sun. 5pm—7pm

IF UNABLE TO DO YOUR ROSTERED DAYS PLEASE
MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO SWAP WITH SOMEONE

THE NORTHAM AERO CLUB (Inc.)
PO Box 247 NORTHAM

SURFACE MAIL
POSTAGE PAID
AUSTRALIA

TO:

"FLY ABOUT"
PRINT POST APPROVED PPN: 100018823

NEXT CLUB COMPETITION

9am Sunday 12th February 2017

The Northam Aero Club Committee
meeting will be held at the club rooms on
Sunday 8th January 2017 at 1:00pm
