

Fly About

Northam Aero club (Inc.) Newsletter

Vol. 53 Issue No.3 March 2022



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Presidents Message

Hi all.

Welcome all to March edition of the Fly About. Many thanks to MJ our editor of the 100th Edition of the Fly About. MJ does a magnificent job with our magazine. Thank-you Martin.

Our inaugural member Preston Smith is celebrating his 90th birthday this month, another significant milestone. Happy Birthday Preston and thank you for all your many years of support.

I take this opportunity to thank our life member Robyn Stewart for her very generous donation to the Northam Aero Club, a handheld VHF radio and a portable Garmin GPS receiver. People like this have made our Club what it is today.

The Royal Aero Club fly in for lunch on March 12th was once again well represented by Royals and NAC pilots. A big thanks to Matt Bignell who supplied and drove the bus for our visitors to get acquainted with all at the Dome Restaurant in Northam. Thankyou Matt.

The Warbirds were also well represented with a number of the public showing up just to see the planes.

Liz Ellis has taken on the role as Licensee of the Bar at the Aero Club and is very keen to get functions happening. Any ideas just let any Committee member or Liz know.

Peter Hill has also advised the Committee that he will be standing down as Club Captain after 8 years so if anyone would like to fill the position please let myself or once again, any Committee Member know of your interest.

I mentioned to the Royal Aero Club we were looking at a fly in to Nungarin to see the magnificent museum and local market. They were so keen that they have along with NAC already made the 1st May 2022 as their Fly in. We will have to land at Konunoppin and be bussed to Nungarin. I have organized that side of the Fly in so book that date.

Cheers for now and Happy Flying, Errol

Royal Aero Club Fly In



Dome Restaurant in Northam with some of the Royals and our crew enjoying dinner



Bernie Hush with his Big Yellow Fox Bat



Some of the visiting aircraft parked up. At Northam (YNTM)



Two of the war birds that made the visit to Northam.

Club Captains Report

Our March Flying Comp was a Cross Country Air Trial conducted within a 20 N.M. radius of Northam Airfield.

TEAM NAC PILOTS overflowed various waypoints and were also judged on Radio calls and their landings etc.

"Avon Golf Tour Reconnaissance".

All Pilots were given full Maps and Comp Sheets 30 days prior as usual, so had ample time to understand/even FLY a practice run.

TEAM NAC aircrew overflowed Northam Golf Club, Baker's Hill Golf Club, El Cabello Blanco Golf Club, Wundowie Golf Club and Toodyay Golf Club.

8 Ground Targets, 5 changes of course, 8 radio calls and landing criteria.

We missed Ian, Bob, and Bo from Serpentine

who had to turn back because of low cloud over the Darling Ranges, but look forward to their company on our next Sortie 10th April Comp!

Airmanship and proficiency shown by all Competitors was excellent, and a good day was enjoyed by all Pilots and Crew!

Preston Smith, a founding Member was with us and we wished him many happy returns for his 90th Birthday, surrounded by his children and Grand Children!

"We enjoyed the landings very much". Well done all.....

Placing	Pilot	Points
First Place	Ashley Smith Dave MacFarlane	Perfect Scores
Second Place	Peter Hill	-1 point
Third Place	Peter McKay Hill	
Fourth Place	Nick Kostov	

Nick in his shiny and much flown Jabiru, is shaping up to be Club Champion this season the way he is going.

All scores were very close, Pilots flying NAC comps each month give themselves every opportunity to dust off those skills we otherwise might not revisit as often as we could.

Stay current by flying our NAC Comps!

Kind Regards,

Peter Hill NAC Club Captain 0450415947 prh@aurora.net.au

Next Club Competition

NEXT NAC FLYING COMP:

"A BRIDGE TOO FAR"

A Cross Country Air Trial appr 27 n.m. within 10 n.m. radius of Airfield.

As usual all TEAM NAC PILOTS have full Comp Sheets and Maps 30 days to go.

Hope to see all TEAM NAC PILOTS and Crew at Northam Sunday 10 th April...

Stay current by flying our NAC Comps! 9 am start time.

Usual Complimentary Morning Tea of course, see you there!

9:00, Sunday 10th April 2022

Next Club Committee meeting is:

Sunday 10th April 2022

13:00 at the Clubrooms

NAC Website access QR code

We are slowly sliding into the new technological world!

Here is the latest High-Tech way to access the NAC website.

If you are "QR" code ready then simply scan this code with your phone or tablet and you will be taken to the club website.

What will they think of next!



(QR code reader apps can be downloaded from the App store or Play store)

Next Club Competition

HERE is NEXT FLYING COMP

SUNDAY

ENJOY

PETER HILL CLUB CAPTAIN

10th APRIL



NAC FLYING COMP. "A BRIDGE TOO FAR".

A Mini Air Trial approx.. 27 n.m. within 10 n.m. radius Northam Airfield.

RADIO: STAY ON NORTHAM CTAF 124.2

SHORT FIELD TAKE OFF < 300 Metres FROM START OF KEYS 10 Pts.

CLIMB TO 2,500 Ft EAST OF FIELD. for OVERHEAD DEPARTURE

RADIO: 124.2	"NORTHAM TRAFFIC _____ Overhead Departure maintaining 2,500 Ft tracking 290 ° NORTHAM "	10 Pts.
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Crossing Gt. Eastern Hwy:

ARE GRAIN SILOS to Port NORTH OR SOUTH OF RIVER? _____ 10 Pts.

At 9.5 n.m. identify DUMBARTON BRIDGE

Is there a TENNIS COURT NORTH SIDE OF BRIDGE? Y/N _____ 10 Pts.

Now TRACK 140 degrees and CLIMB to 3,500 Ft

Identify KATRINE BRIDGE Approx. 3 n.m. downrange:

Is there a CHURCH North side of river? Yes / No _____ 10 Pts.

Before crossing Gt. Eastern Hwy:

Broadcast your position to avoid possible air traffic conflict..

(Grain Silos are Route 66 Waypoint)

RADIO 124.2	"NORTHAM TRAFFIC _____ 5 Miles South West maintaining 3,500 Ft tracking 140 degrees NORTHAM"	10 Pts.
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Down range another 6.5 n.m. from Katrine Bridge:

Find SPENCERS BROOK / AVON RIVER / RAILWAY LINE JUNCTION:

HOW MANY ROAD BRIDGES DO YOU SEE ? _____ 10 Pts.

Return to Base with INBOUND CALL :

RADIO: 124.2	"NORTHAM TRAFFIC _____ 6 MILES to the SOUTH at 3,500 Ft INBOUND ON DESCENT For CIRCUIT TIME _____ NORTHAM"	10 Pts.
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Track to overfly AVON RIVER / NORTHAM TOWNSITE.

HOW MANY ROAD TRAFFIC BRIDGES:

OVER AVON RIVER / NORTHAM CBD? (2 or 3 ?) _____ 10 Pts.

RADIO: 124.2	" NORTHAM TRAFFIC _____ JOINING MIDFIELD CROSSWIND RWY ____ NORTHAM "	10 Pts.
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RADIO: 124.2	" NORTHAM TRAFFIC _____ TURNING MID DOWNWIND RWY ____ NORTHAM "	10 Pts.
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FULL STOP LANDING BEFORE END OF WHITE FENCE : 10 Pts.

RADIO 124.2	"NORTHAM TRAFFIC _____ LANDED AND CLEAR RUNWAY ____ NORTHAM"	10 Pts.
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Next Club Competition

C	L	E	A	R	O	F	F	S
Compass	Log	Engine	Altitude	Radio	Orientation	Fuel	Forced Landing	Sartine
Compass & DG Aligned?	Altitude Markers? IET/A Logged? (ATID Logged?)	Lean Mixture? RPM? Temps & Pressures?	Hemishp? Assigned? Limitations (eg. Cloud, Terrain, etc)	Correct Freq? Transponder? Nav aids Usable? Radio Calls?	Where am I? Fix/Point if possible!	Contents? Log!	Where to go? Wind direction? Ground Elevation?	When does it expire? Does it need amending?

The map displays the Northam area in Wiltshire, England, centered around the River Avon. Key features include:

- Flight Information:**
 - VTC (Visual Terminal Control) Areas:** Indicated by large black arrows pointing towards the Northam area.
 - ML CEN 120.3 PARKERVILLE:** A green box indicating the frequency for the Northam Aerodrome.
 - ALL FL 180 C LL 8500:** A blue box indicating the altitude for the Northam Aerodrome.
 - ALL FL 180 C LL 4500:** A blue box indicating the altitude for the Northam Aerodrome.
- Geographical Features:**
 - River Avon:** The main river flowing through the area.
 - Roads:** Major roads like the A166 and A167 are shown.
 - Landmarks:** Northam Aerodrome, Northam Hill, and various other hills and valleys.
- Logos and Text:**
 - NORTHAM AERO CLUB:** Two logos at the top of the map.
 - NAC:** Northam Aero Club logo.

A Silent Killer

Back in the dim distant days of military flying training, the CO could be a daunting prospect, a fact I'm sure club members Chris Brady and Dave Kerr would agree with. The CO's name on the flying program board next to yours usually meant a bit of extra pressure on a flight test or, if you were bumping along on the bottom of the "acceptable performance" curve, a dreaded "scrub ride" and the possible end of your ambition to be a military pilot.

But an even more daunting CO is the one with that chemical symbol – the one that creeps into the cockpit from a leaky exhaust. Carbon monoxide is a by-product of combustion of anything containing carbon, including of course the hydrocarbons that power our aircraft. It's often referred to as a "silent killer" or a "hidden menace" or words to that effect, because it's colourless and odourless, so you can be unaware of it until you start developing symptoms of poisoning. Fortunately, because it's associated with combustion, you may suspect it because there are other combustion products that do have odour and colour, and if you smell or see them in your cabin you can take precautions.

It's well-known that if air for your cabin heater gets warm by being routed past your exhaust manifold, and if you turn your heater on when you have a leak in the exhaust, you can expect to get CO in the cabin. However, consider the ATSB report into the crash of a DHC-2 Beaver into the Hawkesbury River in Sydney on 31st December 2017, which found that carbon monoxide exposure was the main cause. Being NYE in Sydney, it's a pretty safe bet that the heater wasn't on, but the aircraft had cracks in the exhaust, which allowed exhaust gas into the engine bay, and three missing bolts in the firewall, which then allowed that gas into the cabin.

The US FAA considers that non-fatal CO poisoning in aviation is more common than reported. In many cases symptoms that may have been put down to fatigue or hypoxia or airsickness may in fact have been due to CO, but because no incident occurred, it was not investigated.

How it hurts you

CO has a much higher affinity for haemoglobin than oxygen does. What that means is that the haemoglobin molecules in your blood whose job it is to pick up oxygen from your lungs and cart it around your body, if given a choice between an oxygen molecule and a carbon monoxide molecule, will pick up the CO molecule and carry it around. The result is toxic hypoxia, which is hypoxia caused not by lack of oxygen but by a toxin that stops the oxygen from getting to all the parts of your body that need it.

A Silent Killer

Symptoms

The symptoms depend on what percentage of your haemoglobin is binding with CO rather than oxygen. They include:

- Less than 10 – no symptoms;
- 10 to 20 – slight headache;
- 20 to 40 – headache, faster breathing rate, drowsiness, blurred vision;
- 40 to 50 – pounding headache, confusion, shortness of breath, drowsiness, more blurred vision;
- 50 plus – unconsciousness, and death if you're not removed from the source of CO.

What to do if it happens

If you're aware of the symptoms, then any unusual smell in the cabin or any hint of incapacitation means you'll start troubleshooting. For instance, if you're at 4000 feet and you start feeling light-headed, you know it's not hypoxia (unless you're a 2-pack a day smoker, in which case you shouldn't have a medical), so you can take steps to deal with carbon monoxide:

- Turn the cabin heat off;
- Ventilate the cabin – cabin air control and vents fully open;
- Open the windows if possible;
- Land as soon as practical;
- Get medical attention once you've landed;
- Have the aircraft inspected by a LAME before it flies again.

How to avoid it

As with all potential killers, the first step is awareness, including knowing the symptoms. The other key factor is having the aircraft in good order. Obviously that means the exhaust and ventilation, but it also means the firewall being in good order and stopping anything from the engine (apart from the noise) getting into the cabin. That's a key element of a 100-hourly. In the case of the Beaver crash, heater or no heater, the aircraft defects alone were enough.

The CO detectors that change colour are useful, but only if you look at them. How often do you check your oil T's and P's, amps and suction gauge in flight? If your honest answer is "not often enough", what's the chance you're going to notice a CO detector turning brown? As with any other warning system, an audible one is better because it will get your attention regardless of where you're looking.

Happy flying, and remember CO₂ in the cabin is good – that means you're alive and breathing – but CO is not.

Membership Renewal & Apparel

Northam Aero Club Membership & Apparel Order Form

Name: _____ ☐ Not Renewing

Address _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Type of Membership: ☐ Adult \$55.00 ☐ Junior \$10.00

Club Bank Details: BSB 036-107 Acc Number: 69-2937

Apparel: ☐ Club Polo Shirt \$35.00 – Size _____ Name on Shirt: _____

100% breathable polyester jersey knit, snag resistant. Knit collar with contrast tipping.

Mens sizes S M L XL 2XL 3XL or 5 XL (185gsm standard 3 button)

Womens sizes 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 or 24 (Ladies 215 gsm with open V with 2 press studs)

Club Cap \$25.00 plus \$8.00 postage ☐ Caps also available from the Bar

Total enclosed \$ _____

If you would like to receive an invoice please tick ☐

"Fly About" magazine Yes ☐

No ☐

Many thanks,
Northam Aero Club Committee

Northam Aero Club Cap \$25.00

Northam Aero Club Polo Shirt \$35.00 personalised



BAR ROSTER



BAR ROSTER 2022

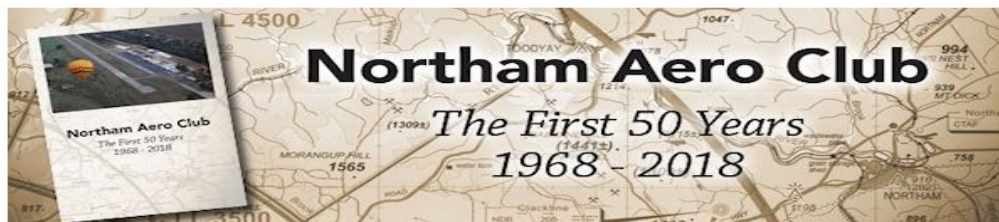
MARCH	
5th	
12th	
19th	
26th	
MAY	
7th	
14th	
21th	
28th	
JULY	
2nd	
9th	
16th	
23rd	
30th	

APRIL	
2nd	
9th	
16th	
23rd	
30th	
JUNE	
4th	
11th	
18th	
25th	
AUGUST	
6th	
13th	
20th	
27th	

Mar/April 2022



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
14 Mar	15	16	17 FLY ABOUT DEADLINE	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 FLY ABOUT DEADLINE
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



\$25.00 available from Northam Aero Club

Wanted - Aviation Memorabilia

- Books
- Artifacts
- Photographs
- Old Aircraft Parts
- Signs

If it's old and historic—I'm interested

Adam Price—0428 611 797

NAC Club Aircraft Bookings



Enquiries— Matt Bignell

0407 873 700

Classifieds

Northam Aero Club Merchandise

Club Polo Shirts with name and club logo—\$35.00

Postage available—\$10.00 per order

Club Caps with logo—\$25.00 available at the bar

Stubbie Holders—\$7.00 available at the bar

Postage available—\$8.00



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NAC Cessna 172—VH-PGL

Hire Fee Structure

Private Hire - \$240 per hour

Dual Training - \$350 per hour

TIF's - \$175 per 1/2 hour

Briefing - as required

Instructor (in owner's aircraft) - \$115 per hour

Pre-paid Discounted Block Rates Available

- 5 hours - less 5%
- 10 hours - less 10%
- 20 hours - less 15%

Student pilots may use the discounted block rate for aircraft hire only

Instructor fees remain as priced above

For all further enquiries please contact:

NAC Treasurer - nactreasurer@bigpond.com T: 0428 743 031

Aircraft Bookings: Matt Bignell - 0407 873 700

Membership Renewals

Northam Aero Club Membership Renewal due January 2022

Our Membership year runs from January to December each year.

The cost of club membership remains unchanged at \$55.00 per year.

Bank Details to make Membership payment to **Northam Aero Club**
BSB: **036107** Account No. **692937** Reference **(please use your surname to make it easier for us to find you)**

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