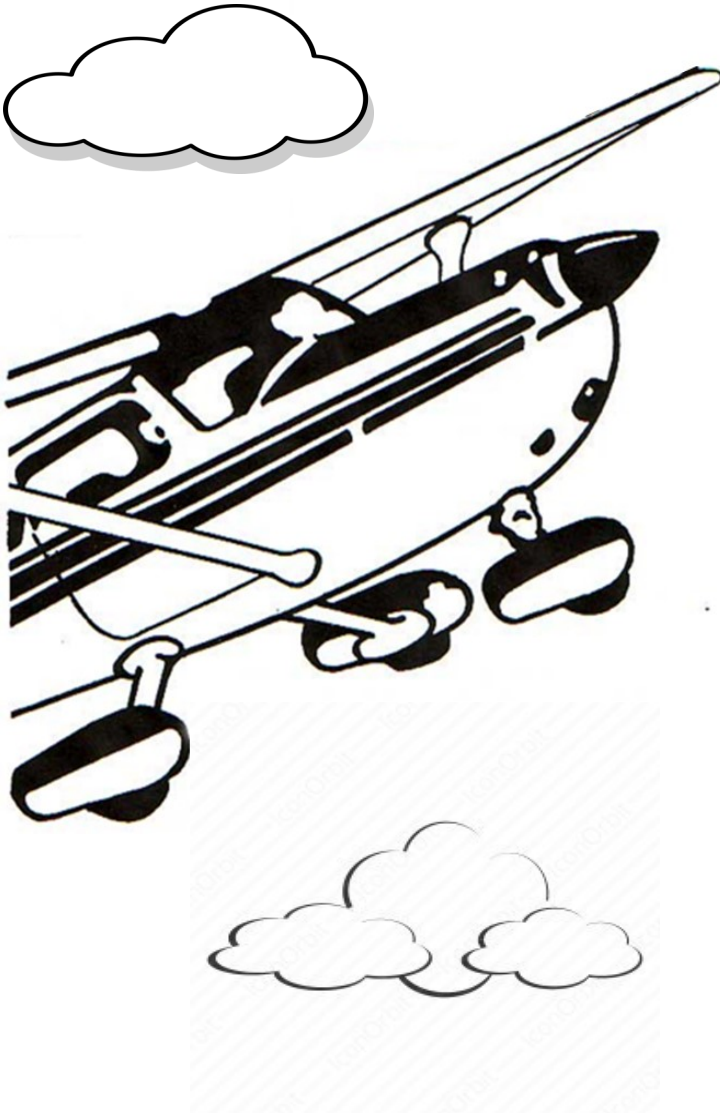


# Fly About

Northam Aero club (Inc.) Newsletter

Vol. 51 Issue No.11 NOVEMBER 2020



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- ◆ Club Calendar
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# Presidents Message

Hi all again,

This month's Fly About magazine is a little late because we wanted to get the Dawn Raid photos with Royals Aero Club and Serpentine included.

The Dawn Raid was held at Northam on 15<sup>th</sup> November. This was very well attended with more than 14 aircraft flying in. The weather improved to allow the event to be flown in the best overcast conditions. On Saturday it was touch and go if it would even go ahead because of the wet weather and dark clouds that sat heavily between Perth and Northam. Thanks to Heather and Dave who organised the barbeque breakfast which everyone enjoyed. Thank you to Beth and Marg who worked tirelessly in the kitchen preparing and cleaning up afterwards. Our Club is strong in support. Kate arrived with much loved scones, jam and cream for morning tea. It is a wonder we all made it back into our aircraft to fly home, albeit much heavier homeward bound.

It may be a bit late but our Governor, Mr Kim Beazley will be at the Aero Club on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 9.00am for a flight over the region and see the district from the air. Anyone that would like to attend the morning tea feel free to come along.

Our Christmas lunch will be held once again on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 12 noon after the Flying Competition for the day. The luncheon will be free but please bring a plate to share and a present for any of your children that will be attending on the day, Father Christmas will be there to give out presents and cheer to all.

Our Flight Instructors are still busy which is fantastic to see and if would like to purchase a flight or TIF for anyone for Christmas contact any Committee Member for more information.

Cheers, Errol Croft



# Dawn Raid



A lovely Robinson specimen departs on the Dawn Raid.



A solitary Cessna ready to take on all comers.



A fine line-up of aircraft ready to roll for the NAC Dawn Raid.



Dawn Raid participants enjoy a sumptuous breakfast at NAC



# WA Governors visit to Northam Aero Club

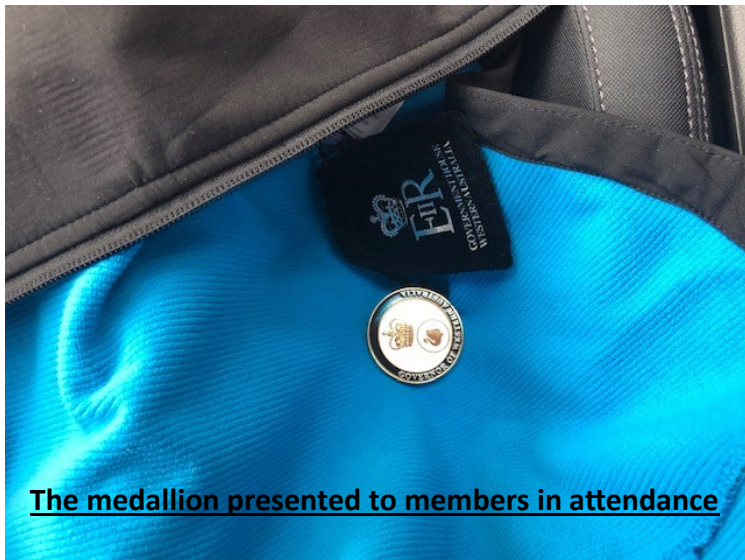
## Visit to Airfield by The Honourable Kim Beazley A.C.

How fortunate were we to have The Right Honourable Kim Beazley A.C. pay a visit to the Northam Aero Club?

The visit was planned as an opportunity for the Governor of WA to view the Northam region from the air. Unfortunately, the flight was cancelled as Mr. Beazley was to return to Perth at the last minute and called in as a courtesy to us as we had not been advised. The following people were in attendance for Mr Beazleys visit, Errol Croft, Murray Bow, Gren Putland, Claude Meunier, Denis Beresford, Dave Beech, Susan Eldridge, Heather Deegan, Kate from the Visitors Centre in Northam, Kelly Prindiville, and three officials from Government House.

Because of his interest in flight, and the world circumnavigation that Claude had been involved in, Mr. Beazley discussed the trip with Claude and the wall chart that is hanging at the Aero Club. Gren showed Mr. Beazley around the Club house and advised him of the handover to the Shire which took place 30 years ago after the Aero Club members had built the Airfield and Clubhouse. Errol presented our recently published 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book to Mr. Beazley.

Mr. Beazley presented everyone in attendance with a Government House medallion. The Governor spoke of the likelihood of more Ballooning events that may be held at Northam and advised us of his interest in being included if requested.



**The medallion presented to members in attendance**

# WA Governors visit to Northam Aero Club

Many thanks to the staff at Mr Beazleys office for the wonderful photographic memory of his visit.

Apparently, everyone from the club that were in attendance were all overwhelmed by his presence and didn't manage a single "happy snap"!

I guess they were all too involved in just "living in the moment".

I understand that Mr. Beazley was an extremely interesting man, who they could listen to all day.

He told many stories and all of them were fabulous. Below is one of them for your enjoyment.

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***Mr. Beazley visited one of our many Airforce Bases and was about to take a ride in an F111. Before the Governor was strapped into the back of the aircraft, the pilot and Governor were addressed by the Squadron Leader and the pilot was told in no uncertain terms to make sure that he was careful in the sky.***

***He was told he was not to fly upside down, not to break the sound barrier, and no general mismanagement of the aircraft as he had an important dignitary onboard.***

***Once in the air they were flying fast and free and the Governor was enjoying the experience, the pilot advised him through the radio to raise the lever on his left as he wanted to show him a manoeuvre the aircraft was capable of. Mr Beazley pulled the lever and he heard the loudest crack and was bolted forward.***

***The Governor asked the pilot what had happened and the pilot replied we just broke the sound barrier.***

***"But", Mr Beazley replied "you were told not to do that". The pilot replied, "I didn't - you did"!***

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I have it on good authority that our Instructor Murray Bow dressed himself impeccably for the day, but sadly there is no photo of him.

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Claude and Mr. Beazley



# WA Governors visit to Northam Aero Club



*Kim Beazley and Claude Meunier  
discuss the chart depicting the  
round the world trip undertaken by  
Claude*



*Denis Beresford, Pilot and member of  
the Northam Aero Club, shares a story  
with Kim Beazley, Governor of WA.*



*Errol Croft, President of Northam Aero Club  
and Kim Beazley pose for the  
Camera beside the club monument.*



*Errol Croft and Sue Eldridge  
Share a laugh with Kim Beazley  
during his visit to Northam Aero Club*



# Club Captains Report

Hello All, Peter Hill here again.  
Sunday 15th November was our monthly Flying Comp.

"H.M.A.S. NORTHAM"

Short Field Ops plus Strip Inspection etc.

Conditions; blustery crosswind, Runway 32.

Our many visitors had ringside seats for Team NAC Pilots' antics and gyrations as they tucked into a hearty breakfast shared with many Visitors from Jandakot and Serpentine airfields. This breakfast was prepared by those wonderful unspoken Heroes of our Club, Marg, Heather, Beth and Kate, impeccable!

A line of flour 300 meters from start of "Piano Keys marked the available take off distance/ "deck space" of the good Ship

"H.M.A.S. NORTHAM ".

Tasking: Short Field Take Off, standard circuit for a Strip Inspection, a second circuit for a Short Field landing on the "keys" and a Full Stop within the 300 meter deck space marked out; Radio calls were judged also. All Pilots flew well and flew safely, even though there were lots of thermals in the circuit to make life interesting, especially on Final! Only 7 points separated the whole field, Good Stuff.

JUDGES: James and Jesse. Many thanks to our judges, you are pivotal to the successful smooth running of our Flying Comps here at Northam.

## RESULTS

Equal First Place	Dave McFarlane Peter Hill		
Second Place	Ashley Smith		
Third Place	Ian Berry		
Fourth Place	Errol Croft		
Fifth Place	Jesse Stewart		
Sixth Place	Phil Malley		

# Club Captains Report

Our next Flying Comp is Sunday 13th December, followed by

Christmas Lunch in air conditioned Clubrooms.

TEAM NAC PILOTS have a full and detailed Comp Sheet for our next competition please mark SUNDAY 13 th DECEMBER 2020 on your calendars .

" STRAIGHT IN APPROACH /Mini Cross Country".

How long since YOU did a Straight In Approach?

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# Angel Flight



*Angel Flight Australia is a charity which coordinates non-emergency flights to assist country people to access specialist medical treatment that would otherwise be unavailable to them because of vast distance and high travel costs.*

## Creation of Angel Flight in Australia

Angel Flight, launched as an Australian charity in April 2003, is the initiative of Bill Bristow AM a successful businessman, experienced pilot and very proud winner of the Australian of the Year Award – Queensland 2005.

In 2009, Bill was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia for service to rural and remote communities through the establishment of Angel Flight Australia and as a supporter of charitable organisations.

Further details are available in the Angel Flight [Q&A Form](#)

## Our pilots are our heroes.

Angel Flight operates Australia-wide with a growing network of volunteer pilots. Angel Flight volunteer pilots come from all walks of life and donate their time, their skills and most of their aircraft costs\* for each flight.

The flight credentials of our volunteer pilots exceed the minimum requirements of CASA and the aircraft meet specified regulatory and insurance minimums. Please note: Our apologies, but Angel Flight is not able to introduce pilots to other registered pilots. *\* To help offset the pilots' operating costs Angel Flight Australia subsidises fuel used on flights, negotiates the waiver of landing fees at many supporting airports around the country, and arranges the credit of any air navigation charges thanks to the support of Airservices Australia.*

(Information extracted from Angel Flight Website by the Editor)

# Airport Lighting Inspection

The Airport had a visit recently from Airport Alliance, a contractor engaged by the Shire to replace the lights at the Northam Aerodrome.

Attached picture shows crew from Airport Alliance doing a complete survey of the PAL at Northam on the 2nd of November, for the Shire.

Funds are available to replace the lighting fixtures with LED's, however the survey concluded that the cabling for the lights is not in a condition that would allow the lights to be replaced without a major upgrade.

Quotes have been supplied to replace the cables, reduce the light spacing from it's current ninety meters to a standard sixty meters and replace the light fittings. The AFRU would also be checked.

The shire are currently looking into the extra funding required.



*Inspectors from Airport Alliance and Shire officers check cables and lighting at Northam Aerodrome*

# Christmas Luncheon



## CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

**SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

**AT THE NAC CLUB ROOM  
ALL MEMBERS AND FAMILY WELCOME**

**FATHER CHRISTMAS – FLYING IN AT 11.00AM  
BRING A PLATE TO SHARE  
AND A PRESENT FOR YOUR CHILD  
LUNCH 12.00PM**

**CLUB ROOMS AIR CONDITIONED**

**RSVP ERROL CROFT 0428 880 149  
BY 3RD DECEMBER 2020**



# Pilot Humour



## MURPHY'S LAWS OF FLIGHT

Loud, sudden noises in a helicopter WILL get your undivided attention.

### PRIVATISATION OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL

**Pilot:** *"Darwin Approach this is Romeo Xray Alpha, overhead Manton Dam, inbound at 6500, with foxtrot, request airways clearance".*

**ATC:** *"Thank you for calling air traffic control, your call is very important to us. Please stay on the line and we will attend to you call as soon as we can.*

*If you are calling about an airways clearance please press one*

*If you are short on fuel and require immediate assistance please press two.*

*For all other enquiries please continue to hold and an operator will be with you shortly."*

# Bar Roster

**Bar Hours - Saturday 5pm - 7pm**

If unable to do your rostered days, please make arrangements to swap with someone.

The Bar is currently scheduled for renovations.

Please check with Matt Bignell for Opening days and hours.

0407 873 700















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





***Bernie Hush has put together a private group Facebook page for the Northam Aero Club. Your annual membership gives you access to join and share your aviation stories. Be on the lookout for an email invitation from Bernie to join the Facebook page!***

***Thank-you Bernie***

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## Next Club Competition

NEXT NAC FLYING COMP is scheduled for:

Sunday 13th December 2020

Peter Hill, Club Captain NAC 0450415947 [prh@aurora.net.au](mailto:prh@aurora.net.au)

**Next Club Committee meeting at 15:00 (3pm)**

**Saturday 12th December**

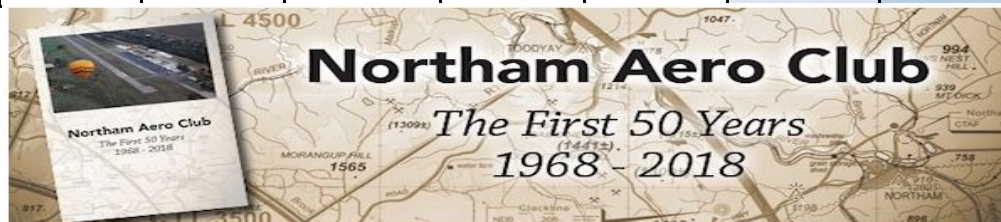
**At NAC Clubrooms**

# Oct/Nov. 2020



**NORTHAM AERO CLUB**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Club Committee Meeting	13 Xmas Luncheon	14	15	16	17	18



*\$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

## Northam Aero Club Membership & Apparel Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Not Renewing

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_ (email ) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership: ☐ Adult (\$55)

☐ Junior (\$10)

Club Bank Details: BSB 036-107 A/c Number:69-2937

Apparel: ☐ Club Polo Shirt (\$35) – 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 5XL . (185 GSM 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 (\$20) plus \$8 postage. (\* Caps are also available from the bar)

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to receive an Invoice please tick ☐

‘Fly About’ Magazine: Yes ☐ I would like to receive it by ☐ email (preferred) ☐ post

No ☐ I do not wish to receive it

Many thanks,

Northam Aero Club Committee

Northam Aero Club Cap \$20

Northam Aero Club Polo Shirt \$35 (Personalised)



# 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—\$20.00 available at the bar**

**Stubbie Holders—\$7.00 available at the bar**

Postage available—\$8.00



## LEARN TO FLY **Recreational Aviation** **Capital of the West**



**Ph Errol 0428 880 149 or Dave 0416 242 846**

**[www.northamaeroclub.com](http://www.northamaeroclub.com)**



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and pilots' supplies"**

# NAC Cessna 172—VH-PGL

## Hire Fee Structure

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*Private Hire - \$220 per hour*

*Dual Training - \$330 per hour*

*TIF's - \$165 per 1/2 hour*

*Briefing - as required*

*Instructor (in owner's aircraft) - \$100 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](mailto:nactreasurer@bigpond.com) T: 0428 743 031

Matt Bignell - 0407 873 700





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