

Fly About

Northam Aero club (Inc.) Newsletter

Vol. 52 Issue No.9 September 2021



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Presidents Message

Hi All.

I hope you have been able to enjoy a few hours in the air. We had our Wildflower Fly in to Perenjori, see photos. We were taken on a bus tour by Paddy and Rod to see the wildflowers and wreath flowers prevalent in the area. They were spectacular. After the tour we were served a very pleasing lunch at the Wheat Bean Café, with the best coffee in the wheatbelt. It was a beautiful day out and the flying was perfect. As someone commented "That was great having someone else wait on us" Many thanks to Paddy and Rod.

PGL is getting plenty of flying hours on the tacho thanks to a couple of new pilots who have been flying to places as far afield as Exmouth and other tourist destinations, well done ladies. We do encourage pilots to hire PGL as the hire rates are more than competitive and Northam does not have landing fees.

A huge thanks goes to Denis Beresford on the picture frame he made up with photos and the history of each plane the Northam Aero Club has ever owned or hired. Next time you are in the club room check it out. Many great memories, thanks Denis.

Denis has also come up with the idea of having an outside Notice Board for information to be posted for all those using the Airfield. Not only was it his idea but he also made the Notice Board now under the Barbeque Area. Please feel free to post relevant info.

On the 16th October we are having a Presentation night starting at 1900 hours to celebrate the completion of our club room renovations. This will be a "grazing table" affair complete with hot and cold food put together by the Aero Club, please keep that date in your calendar.

Welcome to our new returning member Simon Harrison who has been a past Flying Instructor with the Aero Club, welcome back Simon.

Enjoy your flying. Cheers, Errol.

0428 880 149

Club Captains Report

"Avon Districts Airstrip Reconnaissance Tour"

To refresh our memories for any alternate landing options around YNTM.

TEAM NAC PILOTS and CREW gathered in the Flight office in good spirits with a nice cuppa and cake for the briefing, THANK YOU Beth and Kate for the delicious scones and cream, YUMMO!

A bit of crosswind but great flying conditions, Runway 14.

SEVEN TEAM NAC PILOTS enjoyed an interesting tour overflying six Airstrips in the Avon District:

Northam Airfield, Northam Army Base Airstrip, Wilding Farm Strip, White Gum Farm, Dempster Strip, Darlington International Grass Valley Strip then return to base.

Scores were again closely grouped together, pilots who fly NAC monthly Comps give themselves every opportunity to keep their flying skills current and well honed, this is reflected in the close scoring. Visitors had great seats and lots of tea and cake.

We were honoured to have a Founding Member, Preston Smith with us again also.

Judges had ringside seats and got some good action videos of take offs/landings etc.

We have a good time in at debrief assessing /judging each other's landing scores from these videos and we thank the Judges for this great addition to the transparency, You know who you are!

RESULTS

Equal First Place	Ashley Smith James Hill	C172 C152	189 pts each Out of a
Second Place	Peter Hill	C152	185 pts
Third Place	Nick Kostov	Jabiru	184 pts
Fourth Place	Phil Maley	RV	181 pts
Equal Fifth Place	Russell Steicke Peter Mackay	C172 C152	177 pts each

Club Captains Report

NEXT NAC FLYING COMP:

A Cross Country mini Air Trial "MOKINE RECONNAISSANCE"

TEAM NAC PILOTS will overfly a Dedicated Memorial site on Avro Anson Rd Mokine in tribute to four RAAF aircrew who lost their lives there at 1142 z Friday 9th October 1942.

Then we will search and locate a "downed aircraft" that has force landed 2 miles South of Bakers Hill and so on-refer Comp Sheet overleaf etc etc.

All TEAM NAC PILOTS have full Comp Sheet and Map with 4 weeks to go, plenty of time to read/print off, understand and even FLY a practice run eh?

We look forward to all Pilots and Crew joining us at Northam Airfield for next Flying Comp. 9am Sunday 10th October for another nice FLYABOUT the Avon!

Kind Regards, stay safe ...Peter Hill Club Captain 0450415947 prh @aurora.net.au



James Hill on his way to Equal First September Comp.

CLUB COMPETITION



Ashley Smith on his way to Equal First Place Sept Comp.



Phil Maley and passenger at September Comp in his lovely RV

ANNUAL DINNER



**PRESENTATION NIGHT
TO
CELEBRATE OUR RENOVATIONS
7.00PM SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2021**

\$20.00 PER HEAD

**AT THE NAC CLUB ROOM
ALL MEMBERS WELCOME
CLUB COMPETITION'S PRESENTATION EVENING**



Call Errol 0428 880 149 or email dowref@bigpond.net.au

NEXT FLYING COMP.



HERE IS NEXT FLYING COMP

SUNDAY 10th OCTOBER

Cheers PETER HILL Club Captain

MOKINE SORTIE / SITREP OCTOBER FLYING COMP.

In memory of a fatal wartime crash of RAAF Avro Anson W2262

In which 4 aircrew died at 11.42 am on 9th October 1942 and as

Part of our NAC FLYING COMP, TEAM NAC aircrew will overfly

The dedicated memorial at Clackline.

PILOT: _____

CALL SIGN: _____

Tasking: TAKE OFF AND CLIMB TO 2,500 ft EAST OF AIRFIELD.

DEPART OVERHEAD MAINTAINING 2,500 FT TRACKING 200° FOR SPENCERS BROOK.

RADIO: "Northam Traffic ___ Departure Overhead maintaining 2,500 ft
124.2 Tracking 200 degrees Northam"

10 Points.

AT SPENCERS BROOK: TRACK 253° @ 2,500 Ft.

To MOKINE MEMORIAL CRASH SITE -appr. 4 n.m.

Memorial Site is in trees just off "L" shaped bend in Avro Anson Rd

Approximate co-ordinates lat/long: 116°33.6 / 31°45 - only approximate.

MARKER—WHITE POST AND RAIL FENCE RUNS NORTH / SOUTH just West of site.

SITREP REPORT: Report activity at crash site / memorial here.

10 Points.

NOW DEPART CRASH SITE MEMORIAL, ## Change to 135.25 PERTH RADAR ##

AND CONTINUE TRACKING 253 DEGREES FOR ANOTHER 6 n.m.

AT A POSITION 2 n.m. DUE SOUTH OF BAKERS HILL TOWNSHIP:

ORBIT THE AREA AND BRING A SITREP BACK TO BASE REGARDING :

" REPORTED FORCED LANDING OF A CESSNA 172 AIRCRAFT ON A RURAL PROPERTY

SAID TO BE GLENMORE DRIVE BAKERS HILL NEAR A CROSSROAD LOCATION..... "

REPORT: COLOUR OF AIRCRAFT ? _____

10 Points.

CONDITION OF AIRFRAME ? _____

10 Points.

LATITUDE / LONGITUDE POSITION OF AIRCRAFT ON GROUND? _____

10 Points.

*** Now depart due North to BAKERS HILL TOWNSHIP..... ***

IS THERE A GOLF COURSE JUST SOUTH SIDE OF Gt. EASTERN HWY?

Yes / No _____

10 Points.

*** Depart Bakers Hill tracking North East back to Northam Airfield. ***

CLIMB TO 3,500 Ft ###.....

MAKE INBOUND CALL AT 10 MILES: **** 124.2 NORTHAM CTAF. ***

RADIO: "Northam Traffic ___ 10 miles South West at 3,500 Ft
124.2 INBOUND for circuit arrival time Northam"

10 Points.

Keep a sharp lookout for traffic inbound from THE LAKES or MT, DALE

Make appropriate radio contact for safe separation as required.

ABEAM PONDS AND EAST OF GRAIN BINS : SITREP ANOTHER FORCED LANDING
COLOUR/CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT IN INDUSTRIAL AREA YARD? _____

10 Points.

RADIO: 124.2

" Northam Traffic ___ JOINING MIDFIELD CROSSWIND RWY __ NORTHAM"

10 Points.

"Northam Traffic ___ TURNING MID DOWNWIND RWY __ NORTHAM"

10 Points.

BONUS POINTS:

LAND ON KEYS

10 Points.

"Northam Traffic ___ LANDED AND CLEAR RUNWAY __ NORTHAM".

10 Points.

NEXT FLYING COMP.



GAF and GPWT

How often did you plan a flight and find yourself puzzling over an old-format Area Forecast (ARFOR), back in the days when they were all words and abbreviations, with references to place names that are on the Planning Chart (PCA)?

You'd see "Cold front YJUR/YABA 02Z, YMRW/HDP 05Z, YPYF/YESP 09Z" and you'd have to find the places on the PCA – YJUR is Jurien Bay, HDP is Hood Point – then work out "I'm leaving at midday, which is 04Z, and the front will be between the Jurien Bay-Albany line and the Morawa-Hood Point line, and the thunderstorms will be within 100nm west of the front..." The hard bit was working out which weather applied to your flight, and which you could ignore. If an ARFOR failed the old 5-finger test, as a private pilot you probably just said, "Nah, too hard" and left the aeroplane in the hangar.

The Graphical Area Forecast (GAF) format makes the interpretation a lot easier because you can see at a glance which parts of the forecast apply to your flight. For instance, if you're planning to fly from Northam to Albany during the validity period of the GAF below, you can see pretty quickly that you'll be in Area B, including B1. So you just need to read the conditions for those areas and ignore the rest.

For the first part of your flight, in Area B, you can expect:

Visibility – 10 km or more;

Weather – nil;

Cloud – 3-4 octas of CU between 2500 and 4000 ft, 5-7 octas CU/SC between 3500 and 6000 ft. It's looking like a relatively low-level flight.

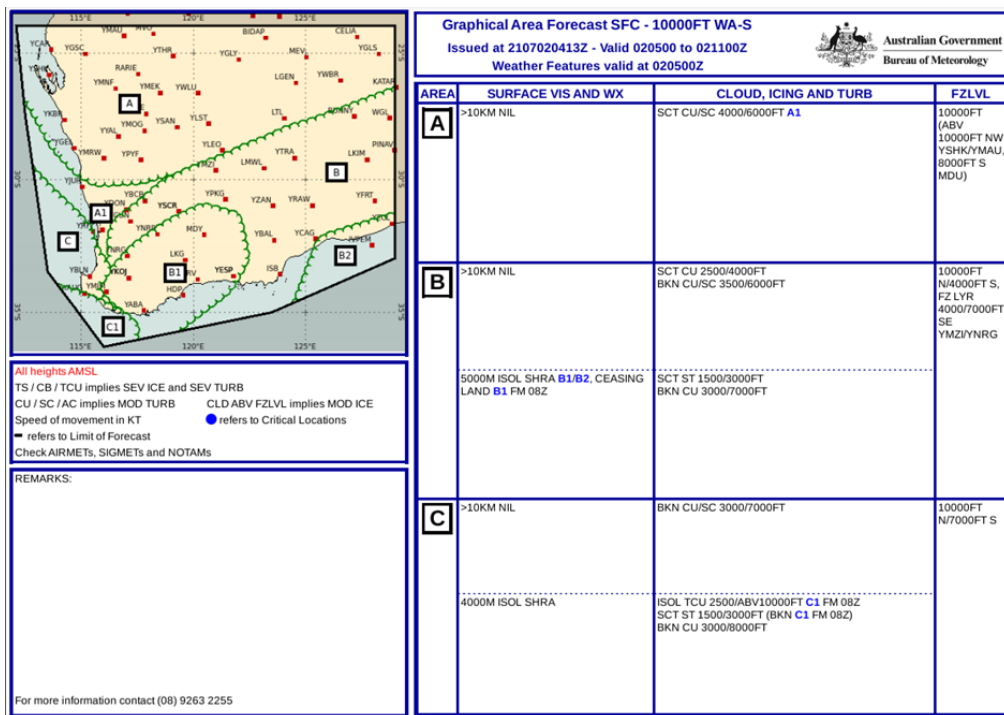
Once you're in B1 you can expect the same weather as in Area B, with a couple of differences:

Visibility and weather – 10 km or more **except** that in isolated showers of rain it will be 5000m. The showers will be ceasing from 08Z.

Cloud – SCT ST from 1500 to 3000 ft, and BKN CU between 3000 and 7000 ft. This is associated with the ISOL SHRA, so it applies in those isolated areas, not the whole of Area B1. That means if you can avoid the isolated showers, your weather will be more or less the same as in the first, Area B, part of your flight.

Note also the right-hand column. We don't tend to think about Freezing Level as much here in WA as they do in the southeast of the continent, where the mountains are higher and the temperatures are lower in winter. But on this GAF it suggests that in the south you'll be thinking about it above 4000 ft. The carby heat may get a bit of use on this flight, and not just in the descent!

GAF are valid for 6 hours, and there are always two available, to cover consecutive 6-hour periods. The abbreviations are fairly straightforward, with most being the same as on TAFs. Exceptions include MTW (mountain waves) and the cloud amounts for CB and TCU, which are given as ISOL, OCNL and FRQ as opposed to FEW, SCT and BKN. The surface visibility is 10 km or greater except where otherwise stated.

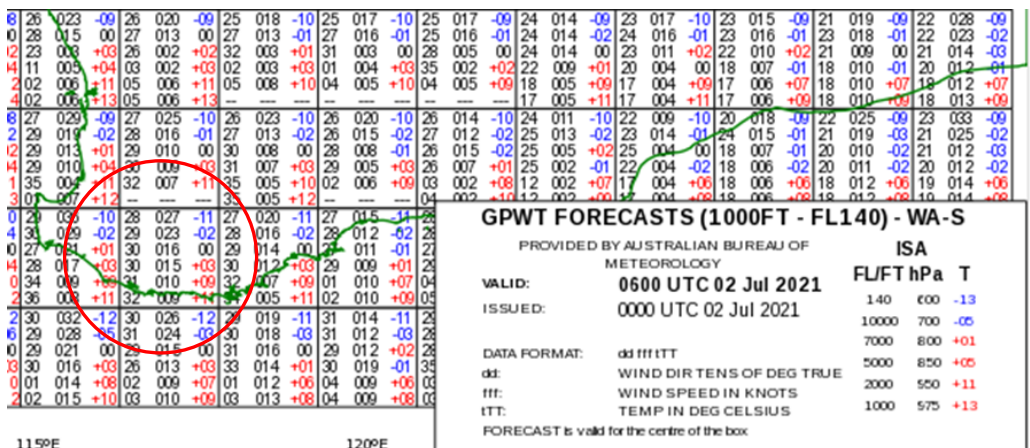


The only downside of GAF compared with the old ARFORs is that they don't include wind. For that you need to go to the Grid Point Wind and Temperature Forecast (GPWT). The ones for all of Australia show the winds and temperatures for 5° by 5° grids, whereas on the more local ones such as WA-S the grids are 1.5° x 1.5°, so for any given spot the figures may be different on the two forecasts.

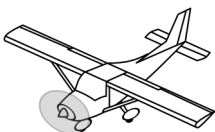
The winds and temperatures are for the midpoint of each grid, and the layout is dd fff tTT, meaning:

- dd – wind direction to the nearest 10°, in true. (As for all wind forecasts, if it's written it's true eg. TAF and GPWT, and if it's spoken it's magnetic eg. ATIS and AWIS.)
- fff – wind speed in knots. You need 3 digits because GPWT have been used for upper level forecasts since Pontius was on Pilots Course, and the winds up there are often above 100 kt.
- tTT – temperature, with plus or minus.

The levels are shown on the legend. For instance, on the extract below from a southern WA forecast, in the circled grid, the figures third from the bottom are for 5000 ft AMSL. Wind 300°T, 15 kt, temperature +03.



Happy flying, and remember if there's doubt about the weather for your flight, then there's no doubt. Stay home!

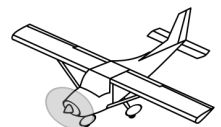


Congratulations are in order!

Matt Barrington

Has successfully completed his first Area Solo.

Well done Matt!



Great Southern Jet Rally

Great Southern Jet Rally Wagin Airfield 2nd & 3rd October 2021

This is definitely the one you have been waiting for!!!

High Speed, Remote Control Jet Action at its best as WA's top RC Jet Pilots take to the skies.

The WESTJETS Great Southern Jet Rally Gets underway with practice from midday on Friday the 1st Oct. and plenty of action from 10am Saturday and Sunday.

Entry is FREE, check www.westjet.org.au



PERENJORI WILDFLOWERS

This years trip to Perenjori to see the wildflowers was a great success. We had 5 planes and 10 intrepid travellers make the journey, Errol, Heather, Liz Ellis, Dave and Marg McFarlane, Glen Millsteed and Andrew, Nik and Dani, Bernie and Ling.

Perenjori is a small hamlet approximately 133nm north, north west of Northam, and is billed as the “Heart of the Wildflower Country”.

Perenjori, from the Aboriginal word “Perangary”, meaning water hole, is situated 350 km north of Perth and 39 km south-east of Morawa in the northern agricultural region.

Perenjori is one of nine government areas that make up WA’s Wildflower Country and is part of the “Wildflower Way Tourist Drive” that runs from Dalwallinu to Geraldton. It is extremely well known for its abundance of wildflowers and wildlife.

The best time of the year to find our iconic wildflowers is between July–October. Remember, each wildflower season is different, and we are at the mercy of mother nature. The best way to get the most out of your time in the Shire is to call into the Perenjori Visitor Centre, which is located on Fowler Street and open during the wildflower season for maps and seasonal flower locations.

(Excerpt from www.perenjori.wa.gov.au website)



A veritable Carpet of White

The spectacular colour of the wildflowers is something that needs to be seen to be believed.



PERENJORI WILDFLOWERS



“The Squadron” of 5 aircraft that made the trip to Perenjori

The entire crew outside the Wheat Bean Café, which I am lead to believe has the best coffee in the wheat-belt.



Glen Millstead took Eloelle, the new Community Development Officer for Perenjori on a flight around the area to show her the sights from above .

SERPENTINE AIRFIELD ANNUAL FLY IN



SERPENTINE AIRFIELD

ANNUAL FLY IN

17th OCTOBER 2021

Serpentine Airfield, 286 Yangedi Rd Hopeland WA 6125

Gates open 0900, event starts 1100 and finishes approximately 1600.

Theme: "Anyone Can Have A Go"



What's planned? A huge range of interesting aircraft, classic cars, bikes, traction engines, Aviation historical items. There will be food for purchase, lots of interesting ground displays. We do not have a scheduled flying display but traditionally many pilots have displayed their aircraft in the air on the day.

Cost? There is no entry fee, but we are a not-for-profit organization and a donation at the gate to help with the cost of this event would be greatly appreciated. Flying-In? AVGAS & MOGAS Available. Camping welcome. Visiting pilots check ERSAs for details (YSEN). PPR not required for this event but advice of intent to attend for planning of aircraft parking and camping appreciated.

IMPORTANT COVID NOTE: This event will be subject to changes and conditions if COVID restrictions are in place or forecast for the event date.

WEATHER CONTINGENCY: In the event of adverse weather being forecast, the event may be postponed by 1 week.

Updates will be provided via the club Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/SABCWA> and website www.sabc.org.au

Event Planner: Brad Ogden 0408 913 893 tangofiveone@gmail.com

SERPENTINE AIRFIELD ANNUAL FLY IN



BAR ROSTER



NORTHAM AERO CLUB

Bar Roster

2021

Opening Hours

Saturday 5pm - 7pm

July		2021
3rd	-	Matt
10th	-	Dave
17th	-	Howie
24th	-	Peter
31st		mike

October		
2nd	-	Croffy
9th	-	Dave
16th	-	Sue
23rd	-	Mike
30th		Peter

AUGUST		
7th	-	Croffy
14th	-	Dave
21st	-	Sue
27th-3rd Sep	-	Ballooning

November		
6th	-	Matt
13th	-	Dave
20th	-	Howie
27th	-	Croffy

September		
4th	-	Peter
11th	-	Dave
18th	-	Matt
25th	-	Howie

December		
4th	-	Mike
11th	-	Dave
18th	-	Sue
25th	-	closed

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

Next Club Competition

**NEXT NAC FLYING COMP is scheduled for:
Sunday 10th October 2021**

**Next Club Committee meeting at 13:00 (1pm)
Sunday 10th October 2021, at NAC Clubrooms**

Bar Hours

The Bar is now re-opened.
Please check with Matt Bignell for opening times.
New bar roster to be published after AGM.
0407 873 700

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)

Sept/Oct 2021



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2 WESTJET RC Jet Rally	3 WESTJET RC Jet Rally
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Club Competition
11	12	13	14	15	16 Presentation Night	17 Serpentine Annual Fly In
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



\$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—\$25.00 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

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NAC Cessna 172—VH-PGL

Hire Fee Structure

Private Hire - \$220 per hour

Dual Training - \$300 per hour

TIF's - \$165 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

Matt Bignell - 0407 873 700

FOR SALE

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0428 880 149



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