

FLY ABOFT



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NORTHAM AERO CLUB (INC)

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NORTHAM AERO CLUB

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Club Presidents Report

Sunday 13th December is our Christmas Luncheon.

The Flying Competition will start at 09:00 hours.

There will also be around 10 Warbirds flying in between 10.30 and 11.30am. Father Christmas will be arriving around 12.00 noon on his way north. All parents, grandparents and children make sure you are there before 12:00 hours. He may have presents to give out. Once we see Father Christmas back on his journey we will commence Christmas lunch followed by some entertainment provided by Bob Emery and his musical friends.

WALAC took place on Saturday 7th November but unfortunately I could not make it because of bad weather. Simon Cooper did make it however so please take the time to read his interesting report of the day included in this edition. Flying in WALAC is always a lot of fun but it is always good to catch up with fellow competitors and old friends.

Northam Aero Club have been asked to hold next year's WALAC competition in Northam so we will keep you posted.

Welcome to our three new members, Blair Norrish, Raymond Holdsworth and Jim Rodgers. We hope you enjoy the club's hospitality and facilities.

On the 21st and 22nd November Royals Aero Club are having a fly-in to Jurien Bay. PGL is out of action due to corrosion on its belly so it may not be ready or available for that weekend. Anyone interested in going, whether just for the Saturday or for the whole weekend let me know.

Speaking of PGL it is a good time to remind everyone that with the hot weather on its way, do not leave Poppy out of the Hangar unsecured.

If a willy-willy comes through it will damage or even flip the plane over.

Peter Hill the Club Captain is still having good numbers of pilots flying in our monthly Flying Competition. I have contacted the Gliding club in Cunderdin with the intentions of Northam Aero Club competing in a flying competition with them at Cunderdin. We will keep you posted.

Happy Flying, Errol.

Club Captains Report

Sunday 8th November was a beautiful day for flying!

NAC Pilots gathered in the flight office for our Flying Comp briefing:

" Straight-in Approach and Short Field Opps."

All pilots as usual were given a full and detailed Comp Sheet at our previous Comp debrief 11th October.

So all Pilots had 30 days to read/study/practice this Comp.

We all enjoyed the flying,scores were very close.

Our many visitors appreciated the flying and good company too!

Thank You Ladies for a great morning tea again-

Marg,Beth,Heather!and Kate.

Delicious as always.

Thank You Judges also,your work is highly valued!

Judges Comments:

"Safe flying by all Pilots,we enjoyed the ring side seats!"

Judges:

Radio : Mr. Sean Bazely

Runway: Junior Member Mikala! and Mum Megan.

RESULTS: all Pilot's scores were extremely close...

FIRST PLACE: Four Pilots had perfect scores today...

Howie Pietersie PA 28-235 VH-CEU.

Bob Emery Zenith 24-7108.

Peter Hill C152 VH-BFC.

Errol Croft C172 VH-JXI.

SECOND : Ian Berry C172 VH-DGM.

THIRD : Dave McFarlane PA28-235 VH-CEU.

Ashley Smith PA28-235 VH-CEU.

Next Comps:

December Comp: Timed Circuit--- OR -- IFR NORTHAM !

January -no comp -too hot,too many people away etc.

February 2016: Brooklands Sortie organised by Dennis?

CLUB AIRCRAFT IS AVAILABLE 24/7-ring Matt 0407873700.

By the time you read this Papa Gulf Lima ,our trusty club aircraft will be back on line after deep maintenance SIDS .

Thanks to Roger and Crew at Northam Air Services.

Our next Comp is Sunday 13 th December, 9 am.

Come and spend a nice morning with us at Northam Airfield, there are seats available if you wish to fly with us eh?

Thanks everyone,until then --- Merry Christmas!

FLY THAT SKY! Peter Hill,Club Captain. 0450415947 prh@aurora.net.au



"Sunday 8th November Comp de-rief in NAC Flight Office...

Left to right: Preston Smith, Dave Beech, Bob Emery, Ray Howell, Dave McFarlane, Shaun and Megan, Howie Pietersie, Peter Hill and Ashley Smith.



Photos by:
Club
member
Mikala,
thanks
Mikala,
keep them
coming, MJ

Founding Member Preston Smith chats to Judge Shaun, Runway 14



CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

12.00PM SUNDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2015

**AT THE NAC CLUB ROOM
\$15 ADULT - CHILDREN FREE
ALL MEMBERS AND FAMILY WELCOME**

FATHER CHRISTMAS - BUFFET LUNCH

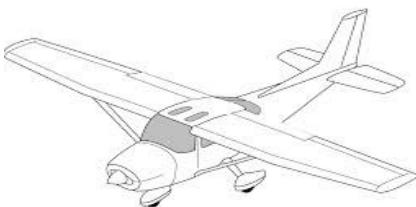
CLUB ROOMS AIR CONDITIONED

**RSVP HEATHER DEEGAN 0428 738 808
BY 10TH DECEMBER 2015**

Payment to Northam Aero Club - Westpac
BSB: 036107 ACC NO 692937 Ref: Your Name



NAC welcomes new members:
Blair Norrish, Raymond Holdsworth and Jim Rodgers



We hope you will enjoy the flying,
social activities and fellowship at the Club

WARBIRDS OF WA



Arriving at Northam Aero Club
On
13th December at 10.30am

WALAC 2015

So the Western Australian Light Aircraft Championships 2015 was held in Bunbury, on Saturday 7th November. I thought I would pop along to check out the action, given Errol's kind invitation. Having not flown since February this year, and missing my AFR/BFR in May, I kept my inexperience up my sleeve. I arrived at Bunbury Aero Club just before lunch, and quickly discovered the schedule had changed from what was expected, due to weather. 'You're too late' they said, the inclement weather had mixed up the order of the day. Having rung President Croft to tell him he had thrown me under the bus, the very accommodating team at RACWA slotted me in at the last minute. Unfortunately, Errol was not able to make it over the ranges due to thunderstorms in the East. I guess he is still working on that Private IFR.

As is my usual form after a few Friday night brews, I downed a couple of black teas and strapped myself into Aerobat Romeo Whiskey Juliet, a Cessna 152. The order of the day was two lots of precision circuits with spot landings, 50 points for landing right on the money. I informed the affable Andrew Eldridge (President RACWA) that I felt a little unprepared, given I had missed the briefing. My other feeble excuse was that I had not flown a 152 for some time, "it hasn't changed since the last time you did", was the reply. Heaven was kind to me, switching the wind around from 25, (which had been used to that point), to 07, causing some confusion with how ground judging might be arranged. Imagine my surprise, having counted on that little advantage, to discover ground judges Jim Jenkins and friends had swiftly relocated to the 07 end of the runway. Those guys can really move when they have to.

Having been warned by Andrew of a nose shimmy issue with RWJ, it was lots of back-stick on the take-off. Unfortunately, this meant we were less than graceful on departure, assuredly not helped by my rapidly expanding girth these days. The book says the runway is allegedly 1200m, but it surely felt more like 1200 feet. Thankfully, the ruthlessly efficient ground judges were not able to assemble the pretend fence at the other end in time for our arrival, and I did NAC proud with my first landing. Second time around was not as precise, but I felt more confident as I got back into rhythm.

A hearty lunch and whimsical stories preceded the afternoon event, two lots of practiced forced landings. I felt encouraged by some of the antics on display; trying to land from 50 ft, approaching very short-finals from 90 degrees, Skippy impersonations, last minute pull-ups before the pretend fence etc. Are the points really worth it, I pondered?

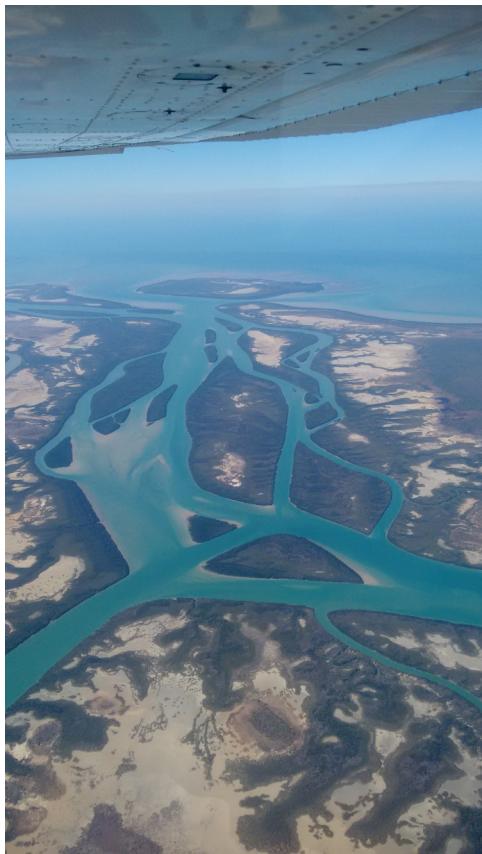
I reassured Andrew that although my methods can sometimes be unorthodox, I always get the bird in. And so it was, managing to descend from a 1000ft final, with some sneaky slide-slipping with flap, (how outrageous), and clearing the fence, we got home in one piece. It reminded me of the time in the early 90's when going for my RPPL with Tom Talbot, he remarked, 'Who taught you how to do that?' (side-slip with flap). And I told him, 'one of your instructors', and he replied 'well when I'm in the plane, you don't'.

A thoroughly enjoyable day, well organized and catered, and a great bunch of people made the journey from Busselton well worthwhile. Thanks to Errol, Andrew Eldridge, Craig Hensley, Jim Jenkins and the Bunbury and RACWA folks.

Simon Cooper

A Note from the Editor

Hi All, I had the fortunate opportunity to be on a ferry flight for a Cesena 206 from Elcho island NT to Darwin with a stopover at Jabiru for a quick “splash and dash” (fuel stop). Below are some of the happy snaps I took with my phone camera enroute.



Above: Approaching the coast from the NE of Jabiru.

Right: spectacular rocky outcrops on approach to Jabiru..

If you have never done any outback flying then I can highly recommend it to our members, especially in the Northern Territory. “Territory VFR” consists of just barely minimum flight visibility from smoke haze and huge towering CB’s at this time of year. It doesn’t matter how tight the seat belt is, at times you will still rise well out of your seat! But I can guarantee the spectacular scenery is worth every bump you feel, MJ.





The view from downwind on rwy 09 at Jabiru NT

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NORTHAM AERO CLUB

BAR ROSTER 2015—2016

AUGUST		
1st-2nd	-	Matt
8th-9th	-	Ashley
15th-16th	-	Howie
22nd-23rd	-	Peter
29th-30th		Crofty

NOVEMBER		
1st	-	Peter
7th-8th	-	Crofty
14th-15th	-	Matt
21st-22nd	-	Ashley
28th-29th		Howie

SEPTEMBER		
5th-6th	-	Ashley
12th-13th	-	Matt
19th-20th	-	Howie
26th-27th	-	Peter

DECEMBER		
5th-6th	-	Peter
12th-13th	-	Crofty
19th-20th	-	Matt
26th-27th	-	CLOSED

OCTOBER		
3rd-4th	-	Crofty
10th-11th	-	Ashley
17th-18th	-	Matt
24th-25th	-	Howie
31st		Peter

JANUARY		
2nd-3rd	-	CLOSED
9th-10th	-	Ashley
16th-17th	-	Howie
23rd-24th	-	Peter
30th-31st		Crofty

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.)
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NEXT CLUB COMPETITION

9am Sunday 13th December 2015

NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next Northam Aero Club Committee Meeting
will be held at the club rooms on
Sunday 10th January 2016 at 12.00 noon
