

FLY ABOFT



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NORTHAM AERO CLUB (INC)

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hi all, I hope everyone is well. For the farmers, harvest is well underway and from what I have heard most have frost damage but otherwise yields have been above average.

WALAC was run on the 29th October with 16 competitors, unfortunately due to very strong crosswinds the competition had to be cancelled half way through the day. This was the decision of the WALAC Instructors for safety reasons. At the time of the cancellation our very own Dave MacFarlane was equal first for the spot landing but due to the fact that Dave could not fly PGL for a fly off the following Saturday he did not get to participate. Ian Berry, Peter Hill and I made it to Murrayfield to re fly the glide approach event. See report for the results. I would like to congratulate the winners and sincerely thank the Shire of Northam for their sponsorship of the WALAC event. I would also like to sincerely thank the volunteers Kate and Ashley for the catering on the day, Matt Bignell and Dave Beech for their presence on the field. The Dinner Presentation night went ahead and was well received even though we did not present the trophies until the following week, we did present the Indiscretion Awards.

I would like to welcome our new Members to the Northam Aero Club. I would also like to welcome our new Grade 1 Instructor Murray Bow from York to our Instructing team. Murray will be available to instruct during the week only so if you would like to fly during this time give Dave Beech or our Instructors a call. If you are a pilot that flies PGL two things need to be strongly noted.

With this hot weather and the high possibility of willy-willies, PGL must not be left outside the hangar unsecured.

With the bugs around, the windscreen needs to be washed down with water to remove any bugs before the plane is hangared.

The 11th December is our annual Christmas lunch and Father X will be arriving at 11.30am so bring along your children, grand children and be a part of the Christmas cheer. Lunch will be served at 12.00pm and all are welcome. Bring a gift for your child for Father X to pass on.

So until ho ho ho time, all the best and watch out for those willy willies.

Cheers, Errol

Club Captains Report

NAC FLYING COMP NOVEMBER 2016.

Sunday 13th November dawned bright and sunny at Northam Airfield.

Our Flying Comp was a cross country air trial with Radio calls etc.

CROSS COUNTRY WITH STRAIGHT IN APPROACH RUNWAY 14 NORTHAM.

Muresk / Toodyay/mystery co-ordinate for initiation of Straight In Approach etc.

Several changes of course and altitude,plus three separate ground targets,

plus points for safe landing and also for landing on the "keys"

Runway 14, with a cross wind component and usual summer turbulence....

JUDGES:(:" We were entertained,flying was good and safe too!")

Runway: Shaun,Megan and Junior member Mikayla!

THANK YOU ...your work is great and greatly valued.

Radio; Dave Mcfarlane (Matt was away today)....

MORNING TEAS: THANK YOU MARG,MEGAN and BETH.....

YUMMO!

NEXT NAC FLYING COMP IS SUNDAY 11th DECEMBER 9 am.

TIMED CIRCUITS (2) WITH RADIO CALLS ETC.

All NAC Pilots have the full December Comp details today with 30 days to go..

plenty of time and good reason to tidy up our circuit work and

FLY A COUPLE OF PRACTICE CIRCUITS...

RESULTS: November Comp..

Equal First: Cessna 172P VH-PGL Dave McFarlane

Cessna 152 VH-BFC Peter Hill.

Equal Second PA28-235 VH-CEU Ashley Smith.

PA28-235 VH-CEU Howie Pietersie.

Third: Cessna 172P VH-PGL Trevor Sangston.

Fourth: Jabiru 19-4046 Ian Berry.

Hope to see everyone at out Christmas Comp Sunday 11th December!

Kind Regards

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

Club President in Search for Lost Local Man

Missing Farmer Pat O'Loughlin was last seen on Saturday 2nd October driving in Cunderdin. Pat was driving a white 2016 Ford utility and concerns were raised that he may have become disoriented or forgotten where he was going. A search effort was raised on the ground. Errol was contacted by a family member on the Sunday who knew that he had an aircraft and could possibly go looking on their behalf. By 4.00pm on the Sunday Errol and some of Pat's family were in the air going over the route that Pat would normally have taken around Tammin and Cunderdin. Pat was known to frequent the local area only and was accustomed to driving only a short distance to and from his property. By nightfall there was no sighting of Pat or his vehicle and all aboard were reluctant to have to wait til daylight to continue the search.

When they took off on the Monday morning they decided to change strategies, what if he turned left at the main intersection instead of right. As luck would have it this is exactly what had happened and when they found Pat a couple of hours later he was very grateful that everyone had persisted. As you can see from the photographs it was a very welcome sight when they discovered his utility..

Pat is 83 years old and he survived two cold nights lost in the Wheatbelt with no heating, no food and one bottle of water.

The plane was running low on fuel and the search party was close to heading home when they saw Pat's utility in a paddock on a farm in Quelagetting, near Goomalling.

Like the others, friend Gavin Charlton had not been optimistic about finding him in a good health.

“We kept circling for a while obviously thinking the worst, and yeah, I could not believe it when the old bugger got out of the ute,” Mr Charlton said.

“I honestly thought it would be 100 to one that he would still be alive”

It had been 48 hours since Mr O'Loughlin was last seen driving in Cunderdin on Saturday and more than 24 hours since police called for the public's help. When his nephew and friends reached him they realised he had run out of fuel and the batteries in his car and phone were flat.

The utility was now 50 km west of Pat's home in Tammin. He was treated at the scene by Paramedics and then taken to Goomalling Hospital for a check-up. Ed O'Loughlin said his uncle was “a bit worse for wear and tear” but in “good spirits”.



The first sighting of the lost mans utility taken from the search aircraft



Smiles all round as Mr O'Loughlin is found safe and well .



Patrick O'Loughlin is taken to hospital for a check-up.



Photos with thanks to Channel Seven News..... For more on this story please use the link below: <https://au.news.yahoo.com/video/watch/32791968/missing-man-patrick-o-loughlin-found-after-two-cold-nights-in-the-bush/>



CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

12.00PM SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2016

AT THE NAC CLUB ROOM

\$15 ADULT - CHILDREN FREE

ALL MEMBERS AND FAMILY WELCOME

FATHER CHRISTMAS - BUFFET LUNCH

CLUB ROOMS AIR CONDITIONED

RSVP ERROL CROFT 0428 880 149

BY 10TH DECEMBER 2015

**Payment to Northam Aero Club - Westpac
BSB: 036107 ACC NO 692937 Ref: Your Name
Or Cash on the Day**



WALAC Report

The Western Australian Light Aircraft Championships were run at Northam Aero Club on Saturday 29th October 2016,

A hearty breakfast supplied by Ashley Smith and his team of brilliant volunteers started the day nice and early. Thank you Kate, Marg, Suzette and Gail. We had a good roll up from the Royal Aero Club members considering the weather forecast.

Sixteen competitors participated on the day with three Royals aircraft and three private aircraft together with PGL our own club aircraft.

We had three instructors taking part being our own Kevin Lathbury, and two of the Royal Aero Club Instructors, Jarad Rowe and Brendan Swale.

Jim Jenkins was Chief air judge and together with our group of volunteers including Lila Tame, June Bairstow, Ray Howell, Denis Beresford and many others we were able to field an experienced judging panel. Matt Bignell took on the task of Security Officer and Dave Beech looked after the Fuelling up area.

It was a blustery, windy day and all pilots were challenged in the competition.

After lunch Instructors called it a day and plans were made to resume the next weekend at Murrayfield with what could hopefully be a better weather day.

As always safety was the main concern and the windsock was proof enough that the wind had become too dangerous to continue.

The Presentation Dinner went ahead on the Saturday night with Shire President Steven Pollard and wife Kathy in attendance, together with all volunteers on the day. Federals Football Club cooked a sumptuous three course dinner at the Clubhouse and Howie Pietersie managed the Bar, thank you Howie.

We flew down to Murrayfield the next weekend to perfect blue skies and stunning weather. The results did not go so well for Northam Aero Club and Royals took out all the honors.

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
OVERALL	ROD GARNAUT	JAMES MURPHY	
FORCE LAND- ING	CRAIG HENSLEY	ROD GARNAUT	JAMES MURPHY
SPOT LANDING	JAMES MURPHY	ROD GARNAUT	JIM DI MENNA
STREAMER	ROD GARNAUT	MIKE STENSON	

A lot more practice is required by our team to fetch those trophies back.

Thank you to all the Members that got involved. It is a big ask to run any event at the Aero Club and we, the Committee appreciate all the help we do get. Thank you also to the Shire of Northam for their support. Thank you to Simon Cooper for making the trek up to his old Presidential stomping grounds.

To the pilots of Northam Aero Club that did compete Dave MacFarlane, Errol Croft, Ian Berry and Peter Hill well done on your achievements over the weekend. Maybe a practice run with Royals next year?



Anita and David Beech, Bakers Hill, David has been flying planes for 16 years and Ian Berry, South Lake, has been flying for 54 years.



Martin Jones, Aubin Grove, has been flying since 1996 and his buddy Haydon Vernon, Swan Valley, has been flying since 1986.



Spectators and judges watching the light aircraft landings at the WA Aircraft Championships at the Northam Aero Club.



Next to the merchandise: Michael Stenson, Perth, Jim Di Menna, Perth, Rod Garnaut, Perth, James Murphy, Perth.



Northam Aero Club member Ray Howell, York, Northam Aero Club past-president Simon Cooper and Wayne Morgan, Northam.



Royal Aero Club member Steve Wilson and Northam Aero Club president Errol Croft are happy to be around fellow aviators.



Kevin Lathbury, Perth, Brendan Swale, Perth, Jarad Rowe, Jandakot, mingling and swapping flying tips at the competition.





WALAC Pilots Briefing



WALAC Spectators



A Competing Jabiru



VH-JXI on approach



VH-PGL, Looking Great!



Life doesn't stop on the farm;; note the load of hay in the background.



Our Judges hard at work!



The Jabiru taxis for takeoff



VH-FWM



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

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NEXT CLUB COMPETITION

9am Sunday 11th December 2016

The Northam Aero Club Christmas
Luncheon will be held at the club
rooms on

Sunday 11th December 2016 at 12noon