

Fly About

NORTHAM AERO CLUB (INC.) NEWSLETTER

Vol. 56 Issue No.9



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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

WELCOME TO OCTOBER FLY ABOUT

It is with sadness of heart that we have lost a monarch in Captain Claude Meunier. Claude was a key member of the club and was honoured to become a life member in 1993. He served as the club president 4 times and was instrumental in the first website for the Northam Aero Club.

Claude recently presented the Northam Aero Club with not only a display cabinet but also many of his personal collection of Flying Memorabilia. The collection is at the Aero Club room and as Claude requested, the books must be returned after reading. Therefore we are going to maintain a loan book to record the books people want to borrow to read.

There will be a memorial held to celebrate Claude's life and achievements as per the flyer below. For the purpose of catering can you please advise Sue, Heather or myself if you will be attending.



Memorial Service
for the late
Claude Meunier
Saturday 25/10/25
1.30pm Northam Aero Club



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE CONT...

Our Fly in to Carnamah was very well enjoyed by those that flew in. My co-pilot was Malcom Egan a local farmer who was so impressed with the crops and different seeding operations we got carried away and flew to Perenjori to check out their crops and wild flowers before returning to Carnamah to pilots waiting patiently on the ground for us to land.

Carnamah is a very historical town and the big feature there is the huge Chamberlain tractor. I had seen photos of it, but until you stand against it in a photo you do not realise how big it is. See photo. I sent the photo to a friend and he says it was AI. Artificial Intelligence definitely not.

Just a little warning when landing on Runway 32 and the P.A.L. lights are on don't concentrate like I did waiting to get 2 white and 2 red lights and forgot about looking at my air speed. It was only when my stall warning came on I checked my speed and it was well down, so nose down.

I was very lucky. Another big learning curve.

Errol



CLUB CAPTAINS REPORT

CAPTAIN'S REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2025

At last we had good weather for the first time in three months!!!

The competition entailed a flight to Muresk and Toodyay racecourse previously designed by Peter Hill and last flown about five years ago, thanks Peter. Competitors were very fortunate that Captain had an ear infection and so was grounded

Ash's jam and cream scones, also Marg's muffins to go with the tea and coffee.

Five pilots took part in fine sunny morning;

→	Equal 1 st	Bob emery	89 points	AND
→	Equal 1 st	Phil Maley	89 points	
→	2nd place	Ashley Smith	85 points	
→	3 rd place	Bernie Hush	84 points	
→	4 th place	Errol Croft	83 points	

All pilots nailed the radio calls. So it boiled down to landing closest to the correct stripe.

Dave



Bob Emery making it
look very easy landing
on the correct stripe !!

CARNAMAH FLY-IN

In the early morning on Saturday 27 September 2025, I have checked the weather and wind by stepping outside the house and looked outside and said to myself, she'll be right. I jumped into my plane and roared into the sunrise and then headed north. But seriously, I didn't want to bore you with the weather & wind forecast, flight planning, Notams, and aircraft preflight blah blah blah.

That morning, I have been chatting with Errol who will be flying his C172 VH-JXI from Goomalling and Dave with his Piper Archer VH-HKA from Wongan Hills. And I'll be flying my Foxbat 23-8422 from Calingiri to Carnamah. I have also been chatting to a farmer's near Carnamah who will be hosting us. His name is Dereck and he flew his new RAAus registered Vixen A32 23-2215 and met us at the Carnamah airstrip.

My flight itself, was uneventfully for the hour and twenty minutes. Ten miles from Carnamah I broadcast my inbound call. I saw the big lake named Yarra Yarra next to Carnamah townsite, where I spotted miles before and thought, it's impossible to miss it. (I'll come back to my thought later)



CARNAMAH FLY-IN

CONT...



Dave and Marge, Piper Archer was behind me and took a while to catch up to my Foxbat and we all landed one after the other. Dereck who has been waiting patiently for us.

Whilst on the ground, we chatted, and chatted, and chatted, waiting for our, Errol and his C172 to arrive. Surely, it can't be that long as he took off shortly after Dave.

Luckily, to fill in the times, we chatted with our new friend, Dereck and there's a bit of larrikinism in him.



He's also the local farmer and flies a gyrocopter. His new RAAus Vixen is awesome with autopilot. We also chatted with another pilot in a twin engine AirCam experimental open cockpit's aircraft. He flew from Geraldton this morning, stopping at Three Spring and then Carnamah to 'thaw out' due to the cold morning.

Approximately 50 minutes later, we heard the sound of a C172 appeared from the east. Errol landing was uneventful, but his story of lateness will be published in the next fly about due to insufficient space. (My earlier thought was linked to [here](#))

CARNAMAH FLY-IN

CONT...



Once everyone accounted for we took a group photo and walked to town to see the big orange Chamberlain tractor and then our \$150 hamburger for lunch.

Throughout the day was fun, chatting and bantering with each other. More group photograph taken. Lunch was nice too.



Returning trip was uneventful, everyone landed and got to go home safe.



CARNAMAH FLY-IN

CONT...



Cheers,

Bernie Hush



NEW HIRE AGREEMENT

The criteria for hiring the club aircraft is changing with new conditions being introduced as of the 1st of December 2025.

A recent review identified that a hire agreement needs to be in place to ensure that the responsibilities of both parties (Northam Aero Club and the Hirer) are clearly documented and understood.

Therefore as of the 1st of December, you will need to :

- Be a club member (New student pilots are exempt);
- Have signed and submitted an Aircraft Hire Agreement (AHA);
- Have provided a copy of your current medical certificate; and
- Have provided a copy of your current Flight Review records.

Noting there is generally no-one on sight when you hire the aircraft, the signed agreement shall remain in force from the date of signature until the 1st of February of the following year

(But this will be 2027 in the first instance).

IN THE EVENT THAT YOUR MEDICAL OR AFR EXPIRES PRIOR TO THIS DATE, A COPY OF YOUR NEW RECORD(S) WILL NEED TO BE PROVIDED TO CONTINUE HIRING THE AIRCRAFT.

If there is no approved AHA, and records of a valid medical and AFR, then aircraft hire will be denied until these criteria are successfully met.

If you have any questions, please contact the club treasurer to discuss.

You can download a copy of the AHA here: [Aircraft Hire Agreement \(AHA\)](#)

AVIATION HUMOUR



BAR

The Bar will be open every Saturday evening from 17:00 — 19:00

LEARN TO FLY

Recreational Aviation Capital of the West



Ph Errol 0428 880 149 or Kevin 0434 000 217
www.NorthamAeroClub.org.au

NEXT CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 9th Nov 2025 @ 13:00

Wanted - Aviation Memorabilia

- Books
- Artefacts
- 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

Club Caps with logo—\$25.00

available at the bar or Postage—\$10.00 per order

Stubbie Holders—\$7.00

available at the bar or

Postage —\$8.00



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NAC Cessna 172 — VH-PGL

Hire Fee Structure

- Private Hire - \$270 per hour
- Dual Training - \$440 per hour
- TIF's - \$220 per 1/2 hour
- Briefing - as required
- Instructor (in owner's aircraft) - \$180 per hour

Pre-paid Discounted Block Rates Available

- 5 hours - less 5%
- 10 hours - less 10%

Student pilots may use the discounted block rate for aircraft hire costs only. Instructor fees remain as fixed price.

For all further enquiries please contact:

NAC Treasurer - nactreasurer@bigpond.com T: 0427 909 412

Aircraft Bookings: **Matt Bignell** - 0407 873 700

NEXT CLUB COMPETITION

9:00 am Sunday 9th November 2025

Club Captain for the day will provide the briefing

