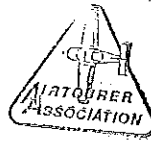


All Correspondence to: The Secretary,
Post Office Box 29,
North Essendon, 3041. Vic.
Phone: (03) 370 3348 (H)



AIRTOURER ASSOCIATION

This is what one might call our Association's first Official Circular.

Our first convention and fly-in at Griffith, N.S.W., held over the Australia Day weekend was an outstanding success. Despite the very inclement weather on the East Coast which prevented the Sydneysiders and their coastal friends from attending by air (some keen chaps drove), the attendance was excellent. Twenty-one airtourers and a RAAF CT4A Airtrainer attended over the weekend and fifty-five enthusiasts registered at the convention.

Henry Millicer arrived on the Friday afternoon with Kendell Airlines and was met by Bob Page who had driven from Sydney during the previous night and spent most of the day doing ground work for the convention. Two Airtourers also arrived that day.

The Saturday saw the remaining Airtourers arrive together with Yankee-Alpha-Yankee, the RAAF CT4A Airtrainer from Point Cook. A Bar-B-Que lunch was provided by the Griffith Aero Club for pilots and crews. During the afternoon members registered their attendance, met new friends and exchanged Airtourer talk in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. A fly-by took place with twelve Airtourers flying around Griffith and over the aerodrome.

Later in the afternoon after a drink or two at the Aero Club, members boarded a bus and travelled via a local winery to the Irrigana Motel, where concessional accommodation was arranged.

A most enjoyable dinner followed at the motel after which our patron, Henry Millicer, gave a very interesting talk on the history of the Airtourer design. His talk was supported by an interesting series of slides.

The morning saw almost (??) everyone at breakfast in time to catch the bus back to the Aero Club, where our First General Meeting was held.

Our Interim President, Harry Couzin, and Sect./Treas. Bob Page, gave their reports which were accepted with enthusiasm by those present. All posts were declared vacant and nominations called for a new committee. Voting followed with these results:-

President: "Sonny" Rankin, West Wyalong, N.S.W.
Secretary: Doug. Stott, North Essendon, Vic.
Treasurer: Bill Kelly, Bannockburn, Vic.

Bob Page announced a proposal to keep Airtourers flying and will devote his time over the next few months to this project. When his report is finalized all members will be advised of the outcome of this interesting project.

Numerous other subjects were discussed and it is felt that those present gained a lot of useful information.

Flight Lieutenants Simon Ford and Kai Hansen from Point Cook made themselves available during the weekend to discuss their aircraft and I am sure all members enjoyed their presence and appreciated the gesture of the RAAF in sending a CT4A and its crew (who, it is noted, enjoyed themselves somewhat).

A large Bar-B-Q and salad lunch was held on the Sunday with the generous help of the Aero Club and it's ladies' auxillary.

Presentations were made as follows:-

- (a) Most original Airtourer: Awarded to VH-WAU, AT100, s/n 07.
Bernard Kitchell from Echuca is to be congratulated as his aircraft has over 7000 hours, and is still in very original condition.
- (b) Best Presented Airtourer: Awarded to VH-EQA, AT150, s/n A523.
Pat Schipp from Benalla runs a flying school there with two Airtourers, both of which attended. EQ's new poly paint scheme looked really neat.

(c) Longest Distance travelled in an Airtourer to attend was awarded to Brian Hore who flew from Kadina S.A. in his AT115 VH-FHP.

After the presentations members participated in some flying activities which included some formation flying by three of the Super Airtourers present.

As the weather deteriorated in the afternoon most members made a start on the track home. All who attended enjoyed the Convention and are looking forward to the next one, which it is hoped will be bigger and better. Thanks must go to the Griffith Aero Club who were excellent hosts for such an event.

Future Activities:

It is intended to have Association participation at all major Australian Air shows and pagents. Would members please advise the Secretary if you intend to visit any such events so that group arrangements may be made to promote our Association. In the meantime, the following events are on the calendar during the next twelve months and members are asked to attend if at all possible.

- (a) Royal Newcastle Aero Club, Golden Jubilee Aviation Expo '78 Air Show. April 15th - 16th, Maitland Airport, N.S.W. Large Airtourer attendance welcomed, especially those who could not make it to Griffith. Details from Bill Hitchcock, P.O. Box 136, Maitland, N.S.W., 2320. Phone (049) 498189.
- (b) Social Weekend at Sonny Rankin's property. Dates to be advised, but about mid-year. "Yarrandale", near West Wyalong, N.S.W.
- (c) Schofields Airshow - 1978. Date about November - watch AOPA.
- (d) Point Cook Fly-in 1978. Date during late November or early December - watch AOPA. "Let's have more Airtourers there than Airtrainers."
- (e) 1979 General Meeting, Convention and Fly-in. Location and date to be fixed. Suggestions requested.

Constitution:

The association intends to draw up a constitution in the near future to protect members and lay down guidelines for the committee members. Suggestions from members regarding items to be included should be sent without delay to the Secretary. One of our members in the legal field has offered to help in this regard.

Aircraft Broker for Airtourers:

The association intends to act as a broker for the buying and selling of Airtourers and members are asked to advise the association if intending to sell as we have numerous inquiries from intending buyers. Information of value to buyers and sellers will be available to such members. Airtourers sold through the association will attract a small handling charge to cover any costs and bolster association funds.

Parts

The association is intending to make a register of owners needing various parts so that bulk orders may be made at a resulting lower cost.

The following items are high on the list: Undercarriage Legs, Fuel Cells, Fibre-glass parts, windscreens and canopy.

Please advise if you think you may need any of the above in the not too distant future or anything else for that matter.

Fuel Tanks

A feasibility study has commenced with the idea of replacing the rubber cell fuel tank with either a one-piece fibre-glass tank or modifying the tank bay to an integral tank. Full details will be circulated when available, but either way, present indications are that such a replacement tank could be fitted for a price below that of a rubber cell (\$570). Such a tank would be a permanent fixture and have none of the present problems associated with the rubber cell.

Members interested in obtaining such a tank are asked to contact the Secretary so that numbers can be anticipated if the tank enters production.

Negotiations with D.O.T.

The association has a good working relationship with the Department and in particular the Airworthiness Branch. If you have any problems contact the Sect.

Modifications

The association holds all details of approved modifications to Airtourers 100 & 115. (150 H.P. and 160 H.P. Lycoming engine etc.)

Insurance

The Association has already commenced correspondence with major Australian aircraft insurers in an effort to obtain a "better deal" for all Airtourer owners.

Maintenance

A list of organizations performing maintenance and modifications on Airtourers is to be compiled in an attempt to consolidate maintenance knowhow. Would members please advise the Secretary where they have their maintenance performed and if that organization is interested in the Airtourer and to what extent.

Affiliation with other bodies

The Sports Aircraft Association of Australia have been approached with a view to affiliation in some manner. Other similar aviation groups will be contacted in due course with a similar idea. The Aircraft Historical Society (Vic. branch) have already shown their enthusiasm by attending the Griffith convention and offering information regarding individual Airtourer history and photos.

Publicity

The association has to date had coverage in AOPA, AIRCRAFT, WINGS N.Z. and FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL (U.K.), all of which have attracted members. Other industry news sheets and aero club circulars have also given us a mention. The Griffith AREA NEWS covered the convention with photos and story both prior to and after the weekend. It is hoped that coming editions of AOPA, AIRCRAFT & WINGS will mention the Griffith convention. The association motif has so far been applied only to the badges (and jewellery) which financial members are issued with on joining. It is intended to have a shoulder patch (cloth badge) made shortly, which will be available in a similar manner.

Badges/Jewellery

Badges have been made and will be issued to all financial members in the near future. Those members that were at Griffith are already in receipt of their brooch. A cloth shoulder patch is also to be made and will be issued in a similar manner. Additional items of jewellery may be purchased through the Secretary at the following prices:-

- Stick Pin badge \$2.00
- Brooch Clip badge \$2.00
- Key Ring Medallion \$2.00
- Tie Bar badge \$2.50
- Cufflinks (set) \$4.00

Newsletter

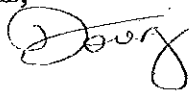
It is intended to publish a newsletter at least every three months and more often if possible. Members are invited to submit articles suitable for inclusion and which may be of interest to readers.

Minutes of the General Meeting

A copy of minutes from the Griffith meeting will be issued with this newsletter to all financial members.

Happy Airtouring,

Regards,



Doug Stott,
Secretary.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

A photo taken at the Griffith convention has been selected for the cover of the March copy of AOPA magazine.

Also.....

AIRCRAFT magazine published by the Herald-Sun in Melbourne will have a story and photos in their March edition.

AIRTOURERS FOR SALE: (Enquiries to the Secretary, P.O. Box 29, North Essendon)

- AT115 TT 7500 hrs. Engine 800 to run. Major Inspection 2 years to run. Skyphone VHF. Well looked after. \$8250.
- AT115 TT 2300 hrs. Engine 990 to run with top O/H. Major completed Oct. '77. Recent New Fuel Cell. New spinner and tyres. Cessna 360 VHF. Bendix ADF. \$9500.
- AT100 TT 4200 hrs. Engine 200 to run. Major inspection due July 1978. Narco Coma 11A VHF. Narco ADF. NVMC. Recent new prop and fuel cell. A tidy aircraft. Colour white with red. \$8250.
- AT100 TT 5800 hrs. Engine 140 to run. Major inspection due Nov. 1980. Good airframe always hangered. New tyres. Skyphone VHF. \$7000.
- AT150 Built in N.Z. 1969. TT 3800 hrs. Engine 1200 to run with top O/H. U/C legs 1500 to run. Prop 1200 to run. Major due Dec. 1980. Wing rib mod complete. Recent New fuel cell. Cleveland wheels and brakes. Recent P/E Paint. Dyna-focal engine mount. Aircraft may be fitted with a constant speed prop. An excellent unit. \$16,000.

*** See below: - - - - -

AIRTOURER ASSOCIATION ADVERTISEMENTS: Lodge with The Secretary,
Post Office Box 29,
North Essendon, Vic. 3041.
- - - - -

Independant Tyre Sales & Service P/L,
4 Fairford Rd., Bankstown, 2211.
Sydney. (02) 7082277.

500x5 McCreary Aircraft Tyres \$25.00 ea.
600x5 " " " \$29.50 ea.
Ken Hogan Rep. FOR A GOOD DEAL.

Cleveland Brakes for your Airtourer

Fit Cleveland wheels and brakes,
D.O.T. approved modification.
Pat Schipp,
Skyways of Benalla,
P.O. Box 297, Benalla, Vic. 3672.

For Fibreglass Parts, write direct to:

William (Bill) H. Miller,
Sun Street,
Moolap, R.M.D.,
Mail Centre, Geelong, 3221, Vic.
Spinners, Spats, Wingtips, Cowls,
T4 Wheel Brake Dust Covers, Wing
fillets and fairings etc. etc.

150 H.P. or 160 H.P. Lycoming

For a real boost in performance modify
your AT100 or AT115 to take 150 or
160 H.P. Lycoming Engine.
Either fixed or constant speed prop.
Peter Furlong,
Latrobe Valley Aviation Services,
P.O. Box 881, Morwell, 3840, Vic.
"The Airtourer Specialists"

Imported Wheel Fairings

Low drag wheel fairings in kit form
soon to be available to suit all
Airtourers. Supplied with D.O.T.
approval and installation drawings.
Geoff Hollins,
13 Throsby Crescent,
Narrabundah, A.C.T. 2604.

Wanted by Airtourer Association

Duplicating and photocopy facilities.
Reasonable price. Bulk orders.
Contact: The Secretary.

Aircraft Fibreglass Specialists including Airtourer Parts

High quality parts made to D.O.T. standards. Superior glider type workmanship
employed. Contact: George Morgan, Bacchus Marsh Aviation Services, 33 Franklin
Street, Bacchus Marsh, Vic., 3340. Phone: (053) 695156 (Bus. hrs.)
Hanger and workshop located at Bacchus Airfield. Drop in for a look-see.

AT115 TT 2600 hrs. Engine 300 hrs. to go. Prop. 400 hrs. to go. Major
completed February 1978. VHF COM1 11A. New U/C legs, L/H and DG.
VSB. Recent new tyres. Original paint. Interior excellent.
Overall very good condition. \$10,600.