

February 2019
Newsletter No. 168

AIRTOURER ASSOCIATION



Dedicated to the preservation and continued airworthiness of VICTA and AESL Airtourer Series Aircraft



NEWSLETTER

<http://www.Airtourer.asn.au>

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Articles for inclusion in the Newsletter should be submitted direct to John O'Halloran at the contacts listed above.

The next Newsletter will be published in May 2019. Contributions and or advertisements are to be with JOH by 15 April 2019.

Advertisements are free for current members.

Editorial

If I knew I was going to be this busy in retirement I would have retired earlier to get on top of things!

I apologise to the members for the missing November 2018 Newsletter. Unfortunately I was overrun with various commitments and it kept slipping until it became the February issue.

This brings up an interesting topic for discussion. We are well into the 21st century where the internet, email and websites, are the main form of communication. Do we need to reconsider if a paper format newsletter, largely distributed by email, is the best way to keep the membership up to date? Is a three month interval between newsletters appropriate? Should the website be more dynamic and the first point of contact when members seek information? Alternatively, our membership demographic is older and less familiar with electronic communication. When this question was raised in the past the feedback suggested many members preferred sitting down and reading the paper version. There is no plan to change the format of the newsletter but maybe it is time to have a discussion on the future of our communication.

Related to this topic, as webmaster, I plan to update the look and feel of the site later in the year.

Safe Airtouring,
John O'Halloran

Cover Photo: Ian Close in the only "real" New Zealand Airforce Airtourer at the President's Fly-in.

Disclaimer

The views expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Publishers, the Airtourer Association or the Airtourer Co-operative Ltd.

It All Worked Out In The End: Of Old Aeroplanes And Old Pilots

Mike Fisher

This year's President's fly-in was disrupted from the originally intended programme, principally because of an unexpected wedding party sucking up most of the accommodation at Penola for one night of our two night stay. Thankfully Version 2 was able to achieve most of that was originally intended with our accommodation base moving to Narracoorte.

That is except for the missing in action; two unserviceable Airtourers, one unserviceable pilot and four international travellers. David Wearne drew the consolidation prize by driving, which is better than not at all, in any language.

But at least the weather was OK.

On our way from Kyneton in steady cruise approaching Stawell the radio came alive with overflying calls from another Airtourer and an aircraft doing a practice GPS Approach. From our position the entire approach could be observed below, the position calls filling in the complete three dimensional picture. The other aircraft and the Airtourer dutifully confirming position as requested. This is see and avoid working at its best, a symphony of aviation professionalism, pilots working together in uncontested airspace. Oddly we could not sight the Airtourer and at the reported low altitude we wondered how was he going to get over the looming Grampians? Perhaps a terrain following exercise?

No matter now, my concern is to clear the well-worn monolith, noting

that there were not too many landing spots down there. We never did see that Airtourer.

Once on the ground at Narracoorte comments were heard from the resident Aero Club grass cutter along the lines of "are all Airtourers red?" and "is all the New Zealand air force in Australia."

This last comment was because three aircraft were in NZ air force paint schemes, one being the genuine article and the other two impostors.

Arriving in Airtourer 150 VH-ECI, Tony Self and Angela Stevenson were first time attendees at an Airtourer event.

Tony has an ambition to acquire an Airtourer of his own so I hope the fine examples on show were an inspiration—even if they were all to some degree red.

The Coonawarra region is renowned for its unique "terra Rosa soil" structure, which for anyone with an interest in wine makes it a sacred site.

The wineries walking trail takes in six wineries, although I would think that it would become something of a stagger after so many tastings. Nevertheless, it was very convenient to have so many in close proximity. We all made good use of the facility.

Narracoorte is a nice tidy town with evidence of prosperity, no empty shops and plenty of activity in the town centre. This is where we spent Saturday morning searching for Goats Soap and good coffee.



The gang at the Narracoorte Aero Club for lunch.

The Council operated airport is well set up and maintained and NO landing charges. Supported by a town of some 8,000 people the airfield has more movements than Mount Gambier and supports two aerial agriculture operators on the field in addition to private hangers and the club. Facilities include a 250,000 litre swipe card fuel installation. To emphasize the point, a King Air roared in to unload a small bus load of passengers.

The aero club has been in existence since the end of the second world war and also receives strong council support being recognized as an important part of the airport.

The club hosted us to lunch, which is a regular Saturday afternoon event. If you missed this event but are passing by in the future anyone is welcome to participate, just call ahead and advise your intentions.

Gary Burgess, CEO of the Wimmera Aero Club and past President of the Narracoorte Aero club gave us a short talk on the club and its activities.

This is also one of the few remaining aero clubs to still be engaged in flight training, despite receiving that particular version of CASA persecution that has closed so many other similar clubs.

The message from Gary was very



A local aero club member who, on seeing a couple of Airtourers in RNZAF colours, initially commented he didn't think there was a NZ airforce then wanted to know if the whole NZ airforce was at Naracoorte.

clear, clubs and type organizations need to work together in order to survive in the regulatory space.

The Wimmera Aero Club covers a number of locations, operating a new Cessna 172 and Red Bird simulator. The idea is to have the best equipment available and it was very professional by any measure.

The Naracoorte Caves are World Heritage listed. Of the 28 known caves in the park, only four are open to the public. Other caves are set aside for scientific research or to protect the caves and their contents. The temperature is a constant 17 degrees centigrade and many of the caves contain spectacular stalactites and stalagmites.

We took one self-guided cave tour,

and a guided tour which was quite extensive. Our tour guide was very enthusiastic about the caves which was evident in her presentations.

Fortunately this cave did not suddenly flood so we were all able to make dinner in time.

Thanks to David Wearne and Andrew Clement for being our bus drivers over the weekend.

And thanks to John Day and Neil Jensen for organizing the event.

In the end, did anyone get to check out the action at the Venus Bar?

Airtourer Association Inc., Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Airtourer Association will be held at the Orange Aero Club, Orange Airport, at 1030 on Sunday 24th March 2019.

Agenda:

- Presentation of Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting. (Published in this newsletter, see page 8.)
- Business Arising from the Minutes.
- Presentation of Reports. (Financial statements are included on pages 16 & 17 of this Newsletter.)
- Election of Office Bearers
- Other Business

Proxies may be registered in accordance with the Rules of the Association. These Rules and the proxy form are available from the Association website under *Airtourer Association>Administration*.

Airtourer Co-operative Ltd. Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Airtourer Co-operative will be held at the Orange Aero Club, Orange Airport, at 1100 on Sunday 24th March 2019.

Agenda:

- Presentation of Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting. (Available for download from website by current Co-op members, after logging in. *Home>Airtourer Co-operative>Administration>Annual General Meeting Minutes and Financials>Minutes AGM 2018*)
- Business Arising from the Minutes.
- Chairman's Report
- Presentation of Accounts. (Accounts will be made available to members prior to the AGM.)
- Determination of Annual Subscription
- Election for retiring Board Members
- Other Business

Note: Only active members may vote at an AGM.

Proxy forms are available from the Airtourer Association website under *Airtourer Cooperative>Administration*

Airtourer Association Nomination for Election to the Committee

I nominate _____
for the position of: (*mark appropriate position*)

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Ordinary Members (three positions)

Nominated by (Signature) _____

(Name) _____

Seconded by (Signature) _____

(Name) _____

I agree to being nominated for the above mentioned position.

Signature of candidate:

Date:

Note: this form will be available for download from the Association website under
Airtourer Association>Administration

Nomination for election as Director of the Airtourer Co-operative

The Airtourer Co-operative rules require that at the AGM two Directors stand down but are eligible for re-election without nomination. Additionally, other members may nominate for election if they are either active members in accordance with Rule 18, or are a person having special knowledge of the requirements to maintain the airworthiness of Airtourer series aircraft.

Any person wishing to nominate for election as a Director should do so in writing to the Chairman prior to the AGM.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Airtourer Association (Inc.) held at Griffith on 18th March 2018.

Present:

Mr. Mike Fisher	President
Mr. John Day	Vice-President
Mr. Gerry Pels	Treasurer
Ms. Monique Gillett	Secretary
Mr. Andrew Clement	
Mr. Niels Jensen	
Mr. John O'Halloran	
And 39 members. (List attached as Annex A)	

Apologies:

13 members (List attached as Annex A)

The President declared the meeting open at 10:05AM

Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were published in the November 2017 Association Newsletter and have been available on the Association website.

Moved Elizabeth Matthews, seconded Andrew Morris that the Minutes be accepted as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Carried

Business Arising From the Minutes

All matters arising from the previous Minutes will be covered in the reports or General Business

Reports

President's Report 2018

President Mike Fisher presented the following report:

My first task is to welcome everyone to the 40th Annual General Meeting of your Association and to thank the Griffith Aero Club for their generosity in hosting us this weekend.

As is appropriate I must also thank the solid pillars on which the Association rests and that is the Committee. The work of this group is unseen by most members, which is at a cost both in time and financially to the Committee members but is essential to the continued life of your Association.

It may be well and good to spend time reflecting on past glories at the 40th AGM, but our focus must be on the future if we are to gather here in ten years' time to celebrate the 50th AGM.

In that spirit we are contemplating adjusting the date of the Presidents Fly-In to October in consideration of weather conditions, any comment will be appreciated.

Updates are in process to the web page and the newsletter.

Gerry Pels is now the Facebook Master and has already posted activities from this Event on the medium-this is real time reporting.

The business of the Association is events, first and foremost and remains the primary focus.

Moved Andrew Clement, seconded Doug Stott that the President's Report be accepted.

Carried

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Gerry Pels presented the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure, included as Annex B. These accounts had been published in the February 2018 Newsletter.

Moved John Day, seconded Susan Clarke that the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure be accepted and that any Committee Members be authorised to make the necessary certifications as required by the Department of Fair Trading.

Carried

Secretary's Report

Secretary Monique Gillett presented the following report:

It has been a busy year for the secretary with the usual processing of memberships, administration duties and correspondence with members. In addition, our Merchandise offering to members has been completely refreshed with new polo shirts, dress shirts, hats, lapel badges and stickers now available for purchase.

Memberships are continually trickling in with the membership numbers currently standing at 127 members, including 8 UK members and 5 NZ members.

Moved Rebecca Day, seconded Jon Pels that the Secretary's Report be accepted.

Carried

General Business

Election of the New Committee.

The President declared all Committee positions vacant. It was advised that the number of nominations received equalled the number of vacancies and therefore the new Committee was appointed as follows:

President	Mr. Mike Fisher
Vice-President	Mr. John Day
Treasurer	Mr. Gerry Pels
Secretary	Ms. Monique Gillett
	Mr. Andrew Clement
	Mr. Niels Jensen
	Mr. John O'Halloran

Closure

There was no further business and the meeting was closed at 10:14 AM

Annexes

- A) List of Attendees and Apologies (Not included in the Newsletter)
- B) Statement of Receipts and Expenditure (Published in Feb 2018 Newsletter)

Monique Gillett

Secretary

For Sale



Airframe - Time Since New 8174.1, Canopy replaced - 20 Sep 12, Cleveland Brakes

Engine - O-235-C1, S/N L-8768-15, Time Since New - 4686.7, Time Since Overhaul - 2090.2, Bulk strip and top overhaul June 2006, 479.4 hours ago. #1 Cylinder replaced

August 2011, 241.2 hours ago.

Propeller - McCauley IC90/LM, S/N 48953, Time Since Overhaul 1547.1

Avionics - VHF Comm - ICOM ICA210 X 2, (New installed Sep 12), Transponder - GTX327 Mode 'S' (New installed Sep 12), Intercom - SPA400, Battery - G25 (New May 16)

Last Flew: 4 October 2018, new maintenance release

More photos on the association website under For Sale.

Contact: John Hardy, jh@hardyaviation.com.au, 0418 827 682

41st Convention & Annual General Meeting

Orange, NSW

22nd to 25th March 2019

"Orange without the pips"

For this AGM we will be using Orange Airport but staying not in Orange. Instead the delightful village of Millthorpe, where most everything is within walking distance, will be our night time stay. Conveniently the airport is equal distance between Millthorpe and Orange.

The Orange district is one of the most beautiful and exciting food and wine regions in Australia. Due to its cool climate and rich volcanic soils, the produce ranges from stone fruits and sheep's cheeses to fungi and grapes and about 40 cool-climate wineries operate in the area. There many attractions from historic buildings and street-scapes to cosmopolitan cafes and restaurants in the city.

Accommodation has been a limiting factor and the cause of a date change for the event. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

Accommodation:

Millthorpe Motel

26 Victoria Street

02 63663653

15 Rooms on hold for nights of 22-24 March.

Will only be held until 8 March.

This venue is in the centre of town and within easy walking distance of all attractions and so is the best option those dependent on bus for transport.

Wirriwillah

168 Forest Reefs Rd.

0431610996

5 Rooms

This venue is out of town and not within easy walking distance and so more suitable if you have independent transport.

Booking held until 2 weeks prior.

Lastly there are a number of B&B style accommodations available if you want to do something special. No reservations have been made.

Getting To Orange Without An Airtourer

Orange is located in the Central West of NSW and is approximately 258 kilometres from Sydney.

The Dubbo XPT runs daily between Dubbo and Sydney and stops at Orange. On Mondays the Broken Hill Explorer runs between Broken Hill and Sydney and stops at Orange, coming back on Tuesday. In addition, NSW TrainLink runs daily services from Sydney to Lithgow with connecting coaches to Orange.

Regional Express Airlines have regular passenger services between Orange and Syd-

ney with 25 return flights to Sydney each week. Fly Corporate provides daily, return weekday flights between Orange, Brisbane and Melbourne.

The Program

Friday 22nd March

Arrivals At ORG and Airport Facilities:

- Aero Club rooms are open for general use. Tea/Coffee and soft drinks are available with payment.
- ORG is a security controlled airport but not unfriendly. Entry to airside will be via the side gate next to the Aero Club or terminal (code 22554). If you have one please wear you're ASIC.
- Avgas is available. Refer to ERSA for more detailed information.
- ORG is a high airport by Australian standards with an elevation of 3115 ft. so density altitude and aircraft performance need to be considered.

Registration Desk:

- Gerry Pels is the registrar.
- Please ensure you complete registration with Gerry.

Bus To Accommodation:

- For those flying in a bus will be available, not before 1630, for transport from airport to accommodation in Millthorpe.

1800-1830 Welcome Dinner:

- Dinner at the Millthorpe Railway Station.
- Tables will be set up on the Railway Station platform for a Bar-B-Que dinner. Choice of 3 meats/chicken, beef, sausage. 3 salads/seafood, pasta, garden and watermelon. Tea/coffee and cake.
- BYO Drinks or purchase from the Hotel next door.
- No need for a ticket because trains do not stop at the station any more, but some trains may pass through during the night.

Saturday 23rd March

We have the entire day available to us to appreciate this delightful little town. Be prepared with good walking shoes and a copy of the Millthorpe guide book. There are many eating out options in the town for breakfast and morning coffee after which you are free to explore. If necessary the bus will be available, please speak to the driver.

- 1100 Tour And Lunch At The Golden Memories Millthorpe Museum:
37 Park Street
02 63663980
Enter for a guided tour of the museum and a catered light lunch of sandwiches, cake, tea/coffee served in the grounds.

Committee Meetings:

Held in a mutually agreed location:

- Airtourer Association Committee meeting 1630

- Airtourer Co-operative Directors meeting 1700

1900 Convention Formal Dinner:

Tonic Restaurant

- Cnr. Victoria And Pym St
- The AGM Dinner will be a signature event of the weekend.
- Established in 2003 by owners Tony and Nicole Worland, Tonic restaurant is located in the centre of the village of Millthorpe. Over the last eleven years the restaurant has regularly been awarded a chef's hat. The menu has a seasonal focus and showcases the best from local producers such as Mandagery Creek Venison and Cowra Lamb. Over the last eleven years the restaurant has regularly been awarded a chef's hat by the Sydney Morning Herald Good Food Guide. Tony has had the honour of working beside renowned chefs Matt Moran, Michael Manners and Gordon Ramsay during his career. The experience he has gained is brought to the fore at Tonic and reflected in the quality of food produced by his team.
- Set menu with PAYG drinks from the bar.

Note: The Best Presented Airtourer Prize will be awarded at the AGM dinner or alternately at the ORG Aero Club ON Sunday morning.

- The "Goat Soap" award is also believed to be making an appearance.

Sunday 24th March

- Bus leaves the Millthorpe Motel at 0900 for ORG Airport for a group breakfast at the Aero Club. After breakfast formal meetings will be held.
- Breakfast is pay as you go.

Annual General Meetings:

Both held at ORG Aero Club rooms.

- 1030 Airtourer Association Annual General Meeting
- 1100 Co-operative Annual General Meeting

Following the meetings the bus will proceed on to Orange to partake of the many cultural attractions available in the city. Our first stop before lunch is Cook Park.

Cook Park

- 24-46 Summer St, Orange
- Originally a public reserve in 1873 the site of Cook Park was proclaimed as a park and in 1882 was officially named in honour of Captain James Cook. From the 1870s onwards the first trees were planted resulting in today's mature specimens. Andrew Patterson was the first curator employed in 1887.

The 4.5 hectare park was laid out as a Victorian style public park out in a traditional Victorian design with straight paths and rows of trees, and much of the original design still in place, with the 'union jack' clearly seen in the path layout. During your visit to Cook Park don't miss the Park Guildry. The work of local craftspeople can be found in 'Bastick Cottage', a Victorian style, heritage building. This crafts group offers a wide range of unique hand crafted goods

including pottery, knitting, woodwork, home made jams and freshly baked goods.

1230 Lunch

The Greenhouse Of Orange

- 44 Sale St
- 02 63111899
- Above the ex-services club
- The Greenhouse of Orange is a relaxed and unique dining destination, sourcing and showcasing the best food and wine the Central West community has to offer with a diverse range of dining options.
- The Greenhouse celebrates local and regional produce at affordable prices. It presents a unique dining experience providing guests with the opportunity to enjoy the complete field to fork philosophy through its carefully-orchestrated menu and well-crafted interior. Tables have been booked in the Green House Dining Room.
- Lunch orders are available until 2.30 and the pizza bar is open all day.
- Order pay for your meals and drinks from the wine bar.

After lunch we have a choice of either the Heritage Walking Trail with a total of 46 points of interest, the most notable being Number 9 “The first Power Pole” or a self-guided walk in The Orange Botanic Gardens. You may do both. Guidance material will be available for all Orange destinations from the visitors information centre which is also the start point for the heritage trail.

Heritage Walking Trail

- 151 Byng St, Orange
- A great way to discover the unique heritage of the city of Orange is by taking a brief walk along some of Orange's most beautiful streets. Firstly collect a copy of the brochures at the Orange Visitors Centre in Byng Street. The Orange Heritage Trail connects key historic sites and buildings. These are only a sample of some of the beautifully restored, historic houses and buildings that you will discover on the walk. The walk starts from the Orange Visitor Information Centre and proceeds up Byng Street, taking approximately 1.5 hours to complete. Along the walk you will encounter a series of interpretative signs that will give you additional information.

Orange Botanic Gardens

- 1 Yellow Box Way
- Orange Botanic Gardens is a natural undulating 17 hectare site which features an impressive native and exotic plant collection. The Gardens were officially opened in 1988 for the Australian Bicentenary with plantings ranging from original native and exotic trees to newly developed displays. The Orange Botanic Gardens are an ideal place in which to relax and enjoy the wonderful scenery and district views. As well as being an ideal location for bird watching, the Gardens offer the opportunity for a family picnic and a relaxing stroll. These gardens exhibit the magnificent splendour of the four seasons of Orange.

- The Orange Botanic Gardens are open daily from 7.30am till dusk and admission is free.

1800 Sunday Dinner:**Orange Ex-Services' Club**

- 231-243 Anson Street
- 02 6362 2666

Diggers Bar & Grill

Diggers Bar & Grill offers a contemporary Australian food selection, with the freshest produce from the local providores. Diggers Bar & Grill's signature is serving up the region's juiciest cuts of steak, carefully chosen seasonal produce and emphasis on quality. The bar provides a perfectly selected wine list and range of imported and craft beers to enhance your dinner experience. No booking made order and pay for your own meals. Bus returns to Millthorpe after dinner.

Monday 25th March

For Sale VH-CTM



Victa Airtourer 100/A1 msn 134 Total time: 6401.2,
Engine: Lycoming IO-320B1A, Prop: Hartzell HC-C2YL-1BF
TAS 120kts at 30 LPH at 5000ft.

Modified to 160hp in 1977. Christen Inverted Oil System. Ground power plug,
Heated pitot tube, dual landing lights and beacons.

VHF x2, Transponder, Full panel, JP Fuel Scan FS450

All AD's up to date. AD/VAT/28 and Prop o/h just completed. Misc collection of
spare parts including 500x5 tyres included.

Asking \$64,000 ono

Doug Stott

0418 596 566

djm.s@bigpond.com

Airtourer Association

Annual General Meeting
Orange NSW 24th March 2019

Statement of receipts and expenditure

1 January 2018 to 31st December 2018

	Year ending 31 Dec 2017	Year ending 31 Dec 2018
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Membership Fees	5061	7184
AGM	7258	4203
Presidents 'Fly in'	390	1835
Member RFDS contributions	225	400
Interest [term deposit]	1198	1175
Bank interest	7	11
AA Tops	632	600
Total Revenue	14771	15408
Expenses		
Bank Fees	12	12
AGM	7215	3498
President's Fly in	311	1825
Newsletter/stationery/postage	1172	1796
Public Liability/Directors insurance	2597	2457
AOPA subs	159	160
Jumba internet		120
Stationery/mail out	155	77
RFDS donation	1000	1000
Registry of Associations	45	44
AAHOF membership	75	75
AA Tops & Caps	600	1200
Hire Car		120
Total Expenses	13341	12384
Surplus(Deficit)	1430	3024

Airtourer Association
Annual General Meeting
Orange NSW 24th March 2019

Balance Sheet
31st December 2018

	31-Dec-18	31-Dec-17
Surplus/Deficit this year	1,430	3,024
Retained Surplus (Deficit)	55,041	52,017
Total Members Equity	56,471	55,041
Represented by:		
Current Assets		
Bank - current account	2,471	4,041
Cash on deposit	54,000	51,000
Total Assets	56,471	55,041
Total Liabilities		
Net Assets	56,471	55,041
<i>Gerry Pels - Treasurer</i>		<i>Ian Close - Reviewer</i>

DISCLAIMER (Common Sense Bit!)

The Airtourer Association does not conduct any public events. All flying activities are carried out at the discretion of the pilot in command or aircraft owner. The Airtourer Association is not responsible for flying operations. Safety of flight is the individual responsibility of the pilot in command or aircraft owner at all times. Familiarity and knowledge of standard operating procedures, published aerodrome regulations and operating procedures and government imposed rules, regulations or specific procedures are the responsibility of the pilot in command.

Bus transport is provided as a courtesy to all members and is not intended to be a private taxi service. Please observe the published ground transport schedule. If your needs are outside this please make other arrangements.

Airtourer Association Convention & AGM

Orange

Registration Form or Register On-line at the website.

Captain and Passenger name.....

VH..... Car/other.....

Accommodation details:.....

Arrival day..... Departure day.....

Total cost, if attending all pre paid activities, \$160 per person

The deposit for the weekend is \$50 per person

For catering and venue requirements, complete the following details indicating Yes or No.

Will you be attending Friday Dinner Millthorpe Railway Station? Yes/No

Will you be attending Lunch at Millthorpe Museum? Yes/No

Will you be attending the AGM dinner @ Tonic Restaurant? Yes/No

Will you be attending Sunday breakfast @ Orange Aero Club? Yes/No

(pay as you go)

Will you be attending Sunday lunch @ Greenhouse of Orange ? Yes/No

(pay as you go)

Will you be attending Sunday dinner @ Exies Diggers Bar & Grill? Yes/No

(pay as you go)

(1) By the 8th March send this completed Registration form to:-

Gerry Pels,
84 Santa Rosa Boulevard
East Doncaster, 3109

(2) Pay deposit by Cheque or Electronic Funds Transfer

Bank account details: Airtourer Association, BSB No. 033-028, Account No. 460085. Quote Name.

Please note: deposit non refundable

Post your completed Registration form to above address or via email:

treasurer@airtourer.asn.au

Don't forget, you can register on-line at the website

Heard at the Hangar Door

Airtourer 115 RQH which had been operated by a syndicate in Caboolture in Qld suffered an overrun accident early last year. Despite passionate lobbying by some members of the group to have the aircraft rebuilt, the syndicate considered the risk of a cost overrun was too great and a decision was made to purchase a RV6A. They have been assured the RV is welcome at our fly-ins. Speaking of RVs and the RQH group, **Chris and Sheridan Wilson** were members of the group and had joined us in the past. They also purchased a RV6A and we look forward to seeing them at Orange. **RQH will fly again.** **Rod Swallow** from WA had commenced an upgrade project on his Airtourer 100, MTE, but decided he'd get airborne quicker if he put that project on hold and instead rebuilt RQH. The Co-op has been assisting Rod with wing ribs and other items and the rebuild project is progressing well.

We've recently heard from our South Australian members **Gerry Lawson** and **Robert Zweck**. Both are involved with the South Australian Aviation Museum (saam.org.au) and have passed on interesting information. Gerry mentioned the museum obtained a Mirage III D (dual seat) that underwent a challenging move from RAAF Base Edinburgh to the museum. A quick check of the editor's log book shows I flew it a number of times but in particular on my first flight on Mirage conversion course. Robert Zweck wrote the first of a multi part article about his time with Connellan Airways in the Northern Territory in the December 2018 issue of the museum's newsletter, Props & Mags. This was followed up with part two in January and a possible part three mid year. These magazines can be downloaded from the museum website. (look under Archives on the lower right hand side.)

Gerry is still flying his Airtourer VH-MTI but Adelaide to Orange is a little too far for a 100.

Bill Beavis from the UK contacted us recently and passed on his and Marian's best wishes. Bill is a member of the 607 Group that operates an Airtourer 115. Some time ago he moved on from the Airtourer to a Diamond DA40D which he has now sold and is 'retiring' from GA flying.

Margot Rayner and her CT4, VH-CTN, missed the President's fly-in as she was invited to the farewell of the CT4 from the Australian Defence Force training at Tamworth. Margot called upon an old friend and pilot's course mate of the editor, Rod Luke, to fly with her. Rod lives near Temora and is a close friend of Bob and Pat Peak assisting Pat when Bob suddenly passed away 3 1/2 years ago. Margot also will miss Orange due to shoulder surgery, we wish her well and a speedy recovery.

We've also heard other members are suffering health challenges. We wish **Liz Matthews, George Penfound and Niels Jenson** speedy recoveries.

The Airtourer Association will be represented at the upcoming **Australian International Airshow at Avalon** at the beginning of March. Currently Airtourers COI, ECI and LVU will be on static display. If you're at the airshow drop in and say hello.

If you change your **email address** please let us know. We've had a couple of 'bounces' recently and email is becoming the best means of informing members quickly.

Calendar of Events

Convention and AGM 2019

Details page 11 of this Newsletter and the website.

Mid Year Lunch

Details to be decided, watch the website.

President's Fly-in.

Details to be decided, watch the website.

Cover photo mystery solved.



The last issue included the photo above and a call to identify the people in the photo with Henry. Thanks to Sebastian Hempel, Henry's grandson, they are Henry's family. On the left is his wife Christine, then his first daughter Joanna, then his son Richard, and then Henry. It was taken at Moorabbin in Autumn, 1960. Thank you Sebastian.

Welcome

In the last issue we welcomed Tony Self and his partner **Angela Stevenson**. Angela has now joined the Association in her own right, welcome Angela.

Greg Peters from Pullenvale in Qld who is looking for looking for an Airtourer.

Allan Dillon from Christchurch in NZ who purchased Airtourer 115 ZK-DLW which was previously operated from Wanaka by Ivan Krippner.