



Royal Newcastle Aero Club

Windsock Tails...
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Hello Everyone,

Welcome to “RNAC Windsock Tails”, #009.

Well, this was the day of our club competition, last Sunday, 19th February, around 9:45am. Low cloud base, isolated showers and generally not suitable for the original competition.



So, that required some creative thinking... I understand two low level circuits, one with a covered up air speed indicator and the other a spot landing, followed by the regulation BBQ.



The Mob before the comp...

Just a great social meeting, lots of talk, laughter and fellowship.

Below, Doug Brooks with RNAC instructor, Mark Piper.



Above right, again the food was first class. **John Farrelly** and **Greg Scott** in the line up. A big thank you to all involved, the weather was marginal, however the flying was great, very still conditions I was told...

Have a look at the words on Doug's T-shirt, very appropriate.

Second Last word...

If you would like to be part of our monthly comp, you would be most welcome. Students and licensed pilots alike. It is more orientated around the experience and social aspects of our club whilst still providing a competitive element if that's what you want.

If you can, please come and support this club activity...

Last word...



Mammatus...

I took this photo on last Saturday, 18th February at my house at East Maitland just before one of the several thunder storms that passed through. Not such a remarkable photo but a remarkable cloud formation. For interested people, part of the **Wikipedia** definition below...

Mammatus are most often associated with the anvil cloud and also severe thunderstorms. They often extend from the base of a cumulonimbus, but may also be found under altocumulus, altostratus, stratocumulus, and cirrus clouds, as well as volcanic ash clouds.[citation needed] In the United States, sky gazers may be most familiar with the very distinct and more common cumulonimbus mammatus. When occurring in cumulonimbus, mammatus are often indicative of a particularly strong storm or maybe even a tornadic storm. Due to the intensely sheared environment in which mammatus form, aviators are strongly cautioned to avoid cumulonimbus with mammatus. They also attach to the bottom of other clouds.

Mammatus may appear as smooth, ragged or lumpy lobes and may be opaque or translucent. Because mammatus occur as a grouping of lobes, the way they clump together can vary from an isolated cluster to a field of mammae that spread over hundreds of kilometers to being organized along a line, and may be composed of unequal or similarly-sized lobes. The individual mammatus lobe average diameters of 1–3 km and lengths on average of 0.5 km. A lobe can last an average of 10 minutes, but a whole cluster of mamma can range from 15 minutes to a few hours. They are usually composed of ice, but also can be a mixture of ice and liquid water or be composed of almost entirely liquid water.

True to their ominous appearance, mammatus clouds are often harbingers of a coming storm or other extreme weather system. Typically composed primarily of ice, they can extend for hundreds of miles in each direction and individual formations can remain visibly static for ten to fifteen minutes at a time. While they may appear foreboding they are merely the messengers - appearing around, before or even after severe weather.

Very kind regards, Trevor.

Director and Life Member.
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