



Royal Newcastle Aero Club

Windsock Tales...
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Hello Everyone,

Welcome to "RNAC Windsock Tales", #022.

Several topics today...

- **Must Read – Important...**
 - RNAC 90th Anniversary – Must read!!!
 - Rehabilitation of Runway 05/23 – Must read!!!
- Our newest private pilot.
- Our last club competition for the year.
- Did someone see Santa Claus?
- The passing of a long term RNAC member.
- New Club Developments.
- After 23 Years It's Time.
- And a Christmas / New Year wish.

Must Read – Important...

RNAC 90th Anniversary.

Notice to Members...

The RNAC board is seeking volunteers to become part of a Sub-Committee to help organise our 90th anniversary weekend. The event will occur across 22nd and 23rd of February and we need some enthusiastic members to help organise and prepare this event.

On Saturday, 5th January 2019 at 2:00pm, you are invited to attend a preliminary meeting to discuss this event. If you have some spare time, and you wish to help your club, than this may be for you. Sincerely, any help would be appreciated...

The Rehabilitation of Runway 05/23.

Background...

Over recent months, the board has received advice regarding runway 05/23. Basically, the runway has degraded to the point that rehabilitation is now required. Yes, we can postpone this maintenance however this may compound the problems and result in major earth works being needed at a greater

cost. It has been 18 years since the last two coat seal was applied, and at that time the runway was predicted to last 10 years.

Moving forward...

On Saturday, 5th January 2019, RNAC has organised a quarterly members briefing session. Along with a general overview of our performance to date, the board is seeking membership feedback regarding the restoration of runway 05/23. Obviously, significant club funds are required and several options are available. The project options impact the total sum.

The board recognises that this expenditure is necessary, however membership awareness and feedback on a project of this scale is important.

The board look forward to your contribution, so if you can, please attend this meeting.

- **Date:** Saturday, 5th January 2019.
- **Time:** 2:00pm, 90th Anniversary Volunteer Meeting.
- **Time:** 3:00pm, Quarterly Members Meeting including discussion on 05/23 rehabilitation.
- **Place:** Royal Newcastle Aero Club, Social Club Building.

Sunday, December 16th

Sam Adera became RNAC's latest Private Pilot.



Sam has been working very hard over the last two years or so on his PPL, and now he has achieved it...

Well done Sam and congratulations...

Club Competition

Also on that Sunday, the RNAC Flying Subcommittee conducted the last Club Comp for the year.

Optimal Circuit. Basically, complying with a very strict criteria, the competitor needs to complete a circuit in the quickest time. Penalties are applied if any skullduggery has been detected. I did make some enquiries on this point, however I found it very difficult to gain any insight or direct evidence into this going on. Further to this I can report that our highly esteemed Club Captain Greg Kennewell achieved the best time, and yes it did upset some of the other competitors.... Hmm...



Did I see Santa Claus?

Well it is Christmas and yes we always need a Santa Claus. I am not sure if the photo above was taken before or after Greg found out he was the comp winner. What I can say is that it seems Santa was very happy on the day...

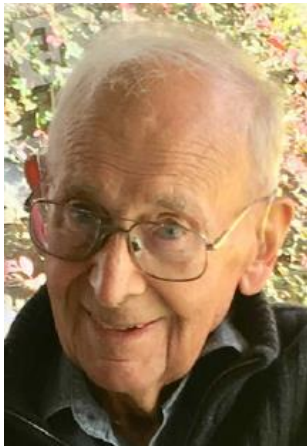
Fun and jokes aside, everyone did have a great day and enjoyed the challenge and friendly interaction that these events generate.

The photo below is just a few of the group that took part in this event.



The passing of a long term RNAC member.

Robert, (Bob) Smith.



Bob Smith passed away on the 10th of December 2018, aged 95.

Bob had been a very active, long term RNAC member beginning at Broadmeadow. I first met Bob in 1979 when I was learning to fly. During the early 80's I have very clear memories of Bob's enthusiastic involvement with the numerous Tiger Moth Air Races held at RNAC. He was the fellow marshalling the Tigers for refueling, taking the numbers and chaperoning them out of the way for the next one. I can also see him sitting in the front row of many AGM's. In a very polite, but determined way he would have his say. For the older members, he would again, in a very polite way take on Jack Fahey with issues he felt needed further action or detail. In more recent years, Bob would bring his grandchildren to RNAC to experience the Tiger or the C-152. I was delighted to accompany Bob on his last flight just a year or two ago, and yes he did take off, fly and land. It was great, Bob enjoyed revisiting his passion albeit with a little help.

At Bob's funeral and for Bob's family, RNAC provided a fly over with sincere recognition of Bob's club loyalty, spirit and genuine club involvement over many decades.

On behalf of all RNAC members, I pass on our condolences to the family and friends of Bob Smith.



New Club Developments.

New Private Hangars



At this time our new hangar development project is as follows...

- One hangar under construction.
- Two recently signed hangar license agreements with hangar construction to start in the New Year.
- One site with deposit paid.

The board is very happy with this progress and expect the remaining site to generate interest across 2019.

New Free Wireless...

Our Club Administration building now has free wireless connectivity available for all members. Connection details below...

- Service: RNAC-AP2-2G
- Password:Special604!

RNAC office staff can share this connection detail if you need it.

After 23 Years, It's Time.



On the 19th December 2018, Steve Fraser called time on a long career and a very successful period with RNAC. Of more recent years, with Dave Scully and Hunter Aerospace.

Below, photos with past RNAC President Neil Cromarty and Hunter Aerospace owner Dave Scully with presentations for Steve.

RNAC Members and Hunter Aerospace wish Steve a very happy and fulfilled retirement and pass on a very big thank you for your decades of professional workmanship and dedication to a job exceedingly well done.



A Christmas Wish.

I think this is just a wonderful time of the year...

I'm not very good at finding words that fit the occasion, and in these fast changing times, everything is on the internet. So yes, my wish for all of you did come from the net, however, I think it's what I feel and what I would like to pass on to you...

During this festive season of giving, let us take time to slow down and enjoy the simple things. May this wonderful time of the year touch your heart in a special way. Wishing you much happiness not just today, but throughout the New Year.



Kind regards, Trevor.

**Vice President and Life Member.
Royal Newcastle Aero Club**



Trevor Bright
0413 603 843