

Royal Newcastle Aero Club

Windsock Tales, #31



Hello Everyone,

Welcome to Windsock Tales, #31... Christmas Edition.

A few items here today... I hope you find it informative...

Several quick messages from President John Tate, Staff and Club Captain Doug Brooks, followed by some recent activity at the Club. Enjoy...



John Tate.

RNAC President

Good morning Members,

It is regrettable that we have not been able to meet face to face during the COVID period.

Our next Members forum has been scheduled for early February 2021. I look forward to speaking with you then, as communication is always better face to face. There will be many matters to discuss. I hope by then we can anticipate the beginning of the end of the COVID pandemic.

In the meantime I would like to thank the Flying School and Office staff for working through this difficult and challenging period with great success.

I wish all Members and their families a safe and happy Christmas and a very prosperous New Year as we work together to enjoy and participate in our flying experiences.

John Tate.



Lyn Kauter

RNAC Business Manager.

Season's greetings to all our members, wishing you all a safe, happy and healthy Christmas and New Year period with your family and friends.

2020 presented with unprecedented events and I thank everyone for their patience and co-operation as we navigated through the Corona Virus, we are all looking forward to 2021 unfolding new ventures for RNAC.

Kristy has been in the RNAC office for nearly 5 years, and decided to leave us last week. We thank her for her service and wish her well in her future endeavors, wherever they may take her.

Quick note... RNAC will be closed, from 25th December through till 29th December returning to normal duties on Wednesday, 30th December 2020.

Many thanks,

Lyn Kauter



Glen Thomson

RNAC Head Of Operations / Chief Pilot

Well, the year 2020 has been a year to forget with the unprecedented events around the world with COVID-19 travel bans, lock downs but we must look towards a positive future and a much better 2021

This is just a short note to let all the members know that we have not been idle here at RNAC. The instructors and staff have been busy adding new training packages to our CASA 141 training certificate some of these are listed below:

- Multi Engine class ratings
- Multi Engine Instrument Rating
- Single Engine Instrument Rating
- Multi Engine Private Instrument Rating
- Single Engine Private Instrument Rating
- Aerobatic training
- Formation training
- Spin training

With the above training packages, I am also bringing online new instructors with a vast array of experience in both commercial/military aviation instruction which will expand the possibilities and experience on what the members can achieve with their flying career/interests and experiences.

Also, I have reinstated the RAAus flying school at RNAC as of the 6/1/2021

Over the Christmas period I wish you and all your family members a happy and prosperous new year and look forward to meeting you in the future.

All the best and have a safe XMAS

Safe Flying

Glen



Doug Brooks

RNAC Club Captain

Greetings members,

2020 has not been kind to us all but we are up and flying again with flying fun days.

We managed to get two flying fun days in this year.

On November 15th we had a good roll-up of new and old members for a great day of flying with a river-bash and spot-landing competition. A new member was the winner of the spot-landing competition. A BBQ lunch rounded off the day at the clubhouse.

For anyone who has not taken part in the river-bash it is a very exciting day of flying and I highly recommend that you come along and try it. You will not be disappointed.

On December 13th we had another good turn out with some new and longtime members joining us for a flour bomb competition. The combined lowest score after three bomb drops determined the winner. This was followed by a spot-landing competition. The competition was pretty tough for some due to a moving target.

A student member took out the flour bomb competition and a long-time member took out the spot-landing for this round. We finished off the day with a tasty BBQ lunch back at the clubhouse. Everyone had an enjoyable day of flying and we are all looking forward to continuing the flying fun days next year.



So from the Flying Sub-Committee I would like to wish all members all the best for Christmas and the New Year and remember to fly safely. We hope to see you all in 2021 when we continue the flying activities for everyone's enjoyment: young or old, new or long time members, everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy a fantastic day of fun and flying on the third Sunday of every month.



That's a 50...

Wishing you all the best

Doug Brooks

RNAC Club Captain

The Main Bellman Hangar

A recent Club working bee was under taken by several Club members. The objective was to tidy up the mezzanine floor of the main Bellman hangar. In over 40 years at our Club, I have never seen this area like this before...



Thank you to RNAC Director, Wendy Meppem and Clean Valley Waste Disposal for their very generous donation of skip bin delivery, hire, removal and tipping costs, saving a considerable expense to RNAC.

Wendy Meppem
CLEAN VALLEY (AUST) PTY LTD
1 McIntosh Drive
Mayfield West NSW 2304
Phone: 02 49648942
Email: wendy@cleanvalley.com.au



A big thank you must also go to the volunteers who assisted: Geoff Graham, Phil Naughton, Col Slupik, Bruce Robinson, Neil Cromarty, Greg Scott, Vin Pavincich, Doug Brooks, and David Gilford.

YMND – General Conditions of Use

As indicated in the last Windsock Tales, a new version of this document was intended for release on the 1st January, 2021. This has been delayed as several airfield inspections have been conducted over recent times and the Board is waiting on reports that may require further updates to this document.

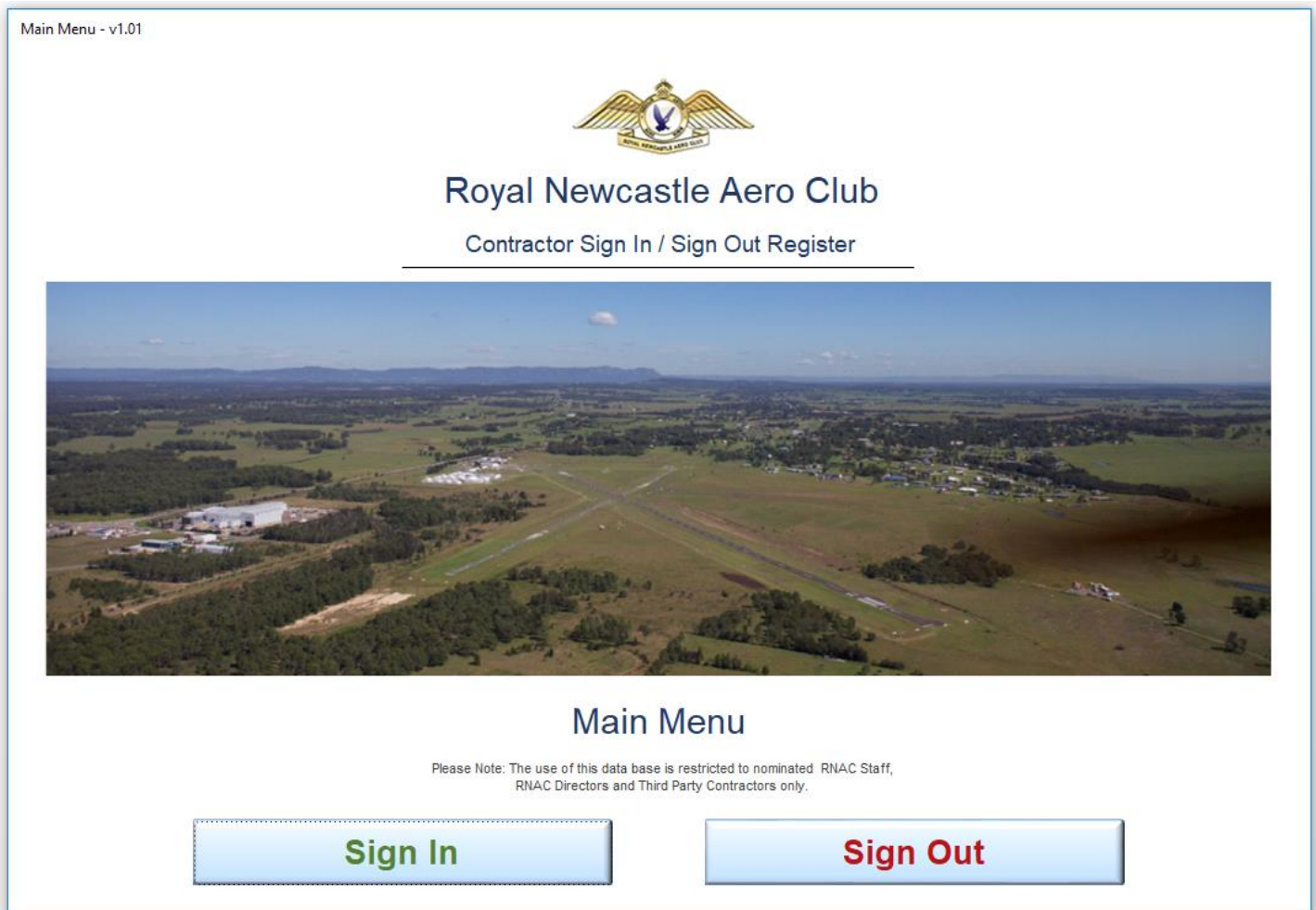
Once the final amendments are made, I shall publicise its new release date for Members and all stakeholders of the relevant additions or changes.

Contractor Site Induction and Sign In / Out.

One of the changes not too far away will be the addition of a computerised Site Induction / Sign in and Sign out database recommended by WHS.

The objective is to bring RNAC in line with similar small and medium size businesses that require 3rd party contractors to visit, and on occasions carry out work somewhere on the airfield. The database enables more accurate record keeping, particularly with regard to the Site Induction aspect.

Below is a preview of the initial Sign In / Sign Out screen...



At this time, the Club has a sign in and out folder. The new system will make the current system redundant. I would be hoping to complete the project by the end of January 2021.

Tiger Moth Activity

Maitland City Council has asked RNAC to participate in the “*Make it Maitland*” community celebrations that will occur across January 2021. Along with our friends from Luskintyre, it is hopeful we can participate in a series of “*Fly Overs*” that will take in all of the Maitland electoral wards.

The “*Make It Maitland*” initiative is due to our old friend, COVID-19. As we know, the significant impact COVID has had, particularly on traditional, organised public gatherings over 2020. As a result, both New Year and Australia Day celebrations have been significantly impacted.

Our involvement is just a small part of a much larger series of low impact social events organised by MCC.

I’m looking forward to participating in this unique, community event.

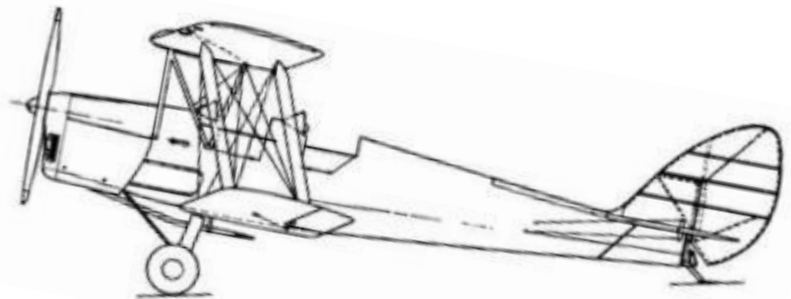


On another issue involving our Tiger, again I must thank Matt Webber for his assistance and very quick response. Matt was able to diagnose and fix an engine issue that needed attention before flight could commence. The student and I were very grateful for the result as the subsequent training flight was now able to commence.



LUSKINTYRE Aircraft Restorations

252 Pywells Rd
LUSKINTYRE NSW 2321
PO BOX 50
LOCHINVAR NSW 2321
AUSTRALIA
MOB: +61 477 120 002 (NB: new number 09/09/2020)





Trevor Bright

Well what a year we have all endured....

Without stating the obvious, 2020 is not far from the rear view mirror. I'm sure we are all looking forward to a much better and safer 2021.

With regard to the closing of calendar year 2020, I would like to share with you the following observations...

- Our Club has dedicated, loyal and resourceful staff that I believe are totally committed to the success of RNAC.
- Our Club is maintaining a strong financial position.
- Flying hours have continued to increase.
- The Flying Sub-committee has re-established and is functioning.
- Airfield management being better aligned to both CASA and Workplace Health and Safety requirements.
- The prospect of more hangars being built on the field.
- A very close working relationship with Maitland City Council.
- Your RNAC Board of Directors are all committed to looking after your Club.

I am very pleased and optimistic about our Club's future. We have a solid foundation and look forward to seeing many projects come to fruition over the New Year.

I sincerely hope you can all have a very happy Christmas with family and friends followed by a safe and successful New Year.

Very kind regards, Trevor.

Trevor Bright

RNAC Vice President

PO Box 491

Rutherford NSW 2320

Phone: 02 4932 8888

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