



# ROYAL NEWCASTLE AERO CLUB

## Windsock Tales – #36



### RNAC Newsletter for Members – March 2022

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**Trevor Bright.**  
**RNAC President**

Hello Members,

Welcome to Windsock Tales #36.

As COVID continues to dominate our everyday lives and activities, I sincerely hope you and your families are all well and able to navigate this dreadful pandemic. It feels like everyone I know, has had a close, or personal experience with COVID.

The past four months has been very busy. All Directors are working hard, and significant business is being achieved. I can with confidence, share with Members that your Board of Directors is an effective team. I have great respect for them all.

As mentioned in previous Windsock Tales, the following pages are just a “*Snapshot*” of recent activity that I hope you find informative and of interest. It is your Club, and I would encourage everyone to participate in whatever capacity you can. You would be most welcome...

## Lyn Kauter

**RNAC Business Manager**

### End of an Era...

Further to a members notice some weeks ago; Lyn has decided to call time after 25 years of loyal and devoted service with RNAC.

It is with mixed feelings of congratulations and melancholy that Lyn's retirement will begin from 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

Reminiscing with Lyn recently it was interesting to gather some insight into her time with our club. Consider the following...

- Lyn's career started in November 1996 with Bernie Sarroff being the incumbent RNAC President.
- 7 Presidents were to follow.
- 7 Chief Flying Instructors, (HOO).
- 22 different RNAC Boards.
- Over the University training years 1998 – 2004, 9 instructors, 7 maintenance engineers and 9 directors.
- Several air shows, Tiger Moth air races and a significant number of community events.
- The start and finish of the Joint Venture, 2000 – 2022.



In addition to the above, as well as being an excellent business manager, Lyn has gone above and beyond reasonable expectations.

Lyn has made herself available 24/7, 365 days a year. A psychologist, a confidant, a facilitator, an advisor, a mediator, a RNAC historian, a taxi driver amongst a myriad of other duties. Lyn is a very special person and a great friend. Lyn was awarded RNAC Honorary Life Membership several years ago in recognition of her considerable contribution to our club.

Although Lyn's retirement starts soon, we all hope she is not too far away...

Congratulations Lyn. On behalf of the RNAC members, staff, and board I would share a sincere, heartfelt thank you and wish you happiness, fulfillment, and good health for the future.

Trevor Bright, President, Royal Newcastle Aero Club.

### Message from Lyn...

With just a few short weeks to my retirement at the end of April, I would like to sincerely thank everyone involved in my association with RNAC for over 25 years.

To all current and previous Board members, members and staff I appreciate the support and friendship provided to me. Through the years there have been many challenges to overcome, and most of them we have!

I have been at RNAC for about 40% of my life - a large chunk of it, I am excited for what my retirement will bring but leaving does have some bittersweet elements. I am honoured to be a Life Member of RNAC and I plan to keep in touch.

With over 90 years of history already, I wish RNAC well into the future, and look forward to the centenary celebrations in 2028.

Thank you all for my time at RNAC.





## Glen Thomson

### RNAC Head of Operations / Chief Pilot

To commence with I hope you and your families are well.

Hi there

Over the last couple of months, the weather has not been the best for flying, there has been the odd few days of good weather, but our students have had their eyes down in the books completing their CASA RPL and CPL exams.

In the last two months the flying school has been busy completing the following licences. Our CPL student is off to the US job hunting with an American Airlines.

- 1 CPL
- 3 PPL's
- 1 RPL

We also currently have 5 students completing their navigation exercises in the Cessna 172 and the Piper Archer. We now have new students doing their Private IFR ratings to expand their options.

### From My previous windsock tales...

“When I started at RNAC I said that I intended to return the RNAC flying school to operational environment where a student could complete any endorsement. This enables a pilot to progress from a private pilot to a commercial pilot with the below ratings where the student is prepared for their future aviation career or other personal flying goals.

I am pleased to say I have achieved this goal and now RNAC has the CASA approval to conduct Multi Engine/Single Engine Command or Private Instrument ratings. We have also developed a new Private Pilots theory course that was scheduled to commence prior to the lockdown but now will be commencing early November”

As from 12th March 2022 I am pleased to advise that after long absence RNAC are now offering a Multi Engine Class Rating on the Beechcraft BE76 that we have online. This has been applauded by some members to see this aircraft the back. We have had members come back and have renewed the acquaintance with this aircraft, we already have students doing their MEA class rating, and this aircraft will be used for the MEACIR and MEAPIR. The aircraft is also available for private hire.

### CASA Regulatory Update

On a regulatory requirement note I have been working on the new Part 135 and 138 which has to be completed by the June 2nd, 2022, what I am doing as part of this change is expanding RNAC opportunities into different areas of aviation. Also, I would like all members to be mindful of the airspace changes that will be occurring around Maitland Aerodrome and surrounding areas. Also, for those who hold IFR ratings there may be some changes to our RNP-W in the near future I will keep you updated.

### COVID-19 Awareness

Just a reminder COVID is still out there, please be mindful of your health and the safety of others.

### Pilot Recency

Our instructors are committed to training high quality, highly skilled, capable and safe pilots, as many of us have not flown for some months or even longer you may wish to do some pilot recency training with one of our instructors please just call the office to arrange. Just remember CASR Part 61 — Recency of Flight Experience

RNAC has commenced developing safety plans for the recommencement flying training operations.

So Safe flying...





## Doug Brooks RNAC Club Captain

Greetings Members

2022 is here and we are back in the air again with the club days. We have managed to get through the first 3 months without any problems with weather on our club days and hopefully this trend will continue for the rest of the year.

In January we had a good roll up of members and plenty of sunshine. The event for that day was an optimum circuit followed by a spot landing and a BBQ lunch to end the round.

February was the first round of the club championship with an instrument climb, forced landing and spot landing with 14 members competing on the day then rounding out the day with a BBQ lunch.

In March we threw in a new exercise to challenge everyone. We started with an instrument climb and steep turns then finished with a jammed column on entry into the circuit. Everyone found this to be a good challenge to navigate around the circuit with only using throttle, router and a little bit of trim.



I must give a special thanks to the instructors for their time. They are our air judges and safety officers and without them we would not be able to hold our club days .



We will be looking to hold a trivia night within the next couple of months. For those who are interested I will be sending out an email later with more information on this event.

The next club day has been moved to the 2nd Sunday 10-04-2022 as the 3rd Sunday is the Easter long weekend. All members and student members are welcome to come along and join in with the activities, catch up with some friends, and have a good day of flying and a BBQ lunch with fellow aviators.

Regards  
Doug Brooks  
Club Captain



## Tiger Tales VH-RNI



Our very close friends at Luskintyre staged a belated, (*due to COVID restrictions last October*) Birthday party for all Tiger Moths. Seventeen, (17) Tigers were able to congregate at Luskintyre for the event held on Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022.

It's been 90 years, back on the 26th October 1931, since the first flight was made by a Tiger Moth.

Brian Zeederberg, from Luskintyre was the main instigator of this event with many others lending a helping hand.

On behalf of the Royal Newcastle Aero Club, thank you for the invite and participation of VH-RNI. I would also take this opportunity to acknowledge the close friendship between our two great establishments.

The bond is strong and will continue to grow as time goes on.

### Drone shot from above...



### Panoramic view...



## Memorabilia

Recently, RNAC was contacted by Craig Carpenter from south east Queensland. In 1937, Craig's father, Thomas William Carpenter started work with Newcastle Aero Club. He was 16 years old.

Craig has provided our club with some memorabilia from his father. The items including personal notes, photographs, memoirs, tools, documents, letter heads from the period. The collection also included a framed Newcastle Aero Club decal from the side of a fabric covered aircraft.

On behalf of all RNAC members, thank you Craig for this contribution and fascinating insight into your fathers, and Newcastle Aero Club history.



**Thomas William Carpenter**



**Newcastle Aero Club - 1939**



# 2022 RNAC Airshow

Dear Members....

## EXCITING NEWS!!!!

The Board of Directors has approved an “Air Event” sponsored by the Club on the 16th – 18th September 2022!!

It has been a long time since we have celebrated aviation in this way, so we are pulling out all stops to make sure this is a premier event. AND... WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We have some basic ideas on the activities which may include, but not limited to:

### Friday

- Airfield Open to transient aircraft
- Camping spots available
- Welcome BBQ
- Young Eagle Flights



### Saturday / Sunday

Ground Displays and Events including;  
Member and antique aircraft, vintage cars, bikes, etc

- Concessions, including food, wine, craft markets
- Aircraft manufacturers and supply companies
- Helicopter and tethered balloon rides
- Kids activities
- Band and BBQ (Saturday evening)



### Air Display

- Paul Bennet Air shows
- Military participation



## BUT WE NEED HELP!!

A Subcommittee has been established to coordinate the “Event”. Members include:

Wendy Meppem, Richard Morrissey, Ed Pitrolo, David Princehorn

We would like to increase member participation in the planning and coordination by setting up sub-groups within this committee. We envisage these small groups to help work the detail required within each area (things like camping facilities, welcoming BBQ, band selection, Young Eagles coordination and execution, grounds upgrade, etc, etc).

If you are interested in participating in the creation and development of this exciting opportunity to showcase our airfield and club, please forward your name to [wendy@cleanvalley.com.au](mailto:wendy@cleanvalley.com.au) and we will get you involved in our next meeting !!!!!

Thank You,  
Wendy Meppem, Director, RNAC.



## Final Word...

### **RNAC – New constitution**

In the very near future, the RNAC board will be calling a special general meeting. The purpose of the meeting will be to vote on a proposed new constitution. This represents a landmark occasion in our history, and I would encourage all members to participate in this event.

On a favourable result, the new constitution will bring our club up to date from both a legal and practical perspective. I anticipate full board support and will need a minimum of 75% membership support for the new constitution to be successful.

A dedicated notice will be sent to all members with the applicable information attached.

### **RNAC - New Business Manager**

With Lyn's retirement, our new Business Manager, Andrew Wagner will start on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April. A full introductory email from Andrew will be forthcoming.

I would invite all members to meet, greet and make Andrew feel welcome to our club.

### **Future Events**

[Maitland Steamfest](#) will be held across 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of April. The Great Race will be on Sunday. VH-RNI and Vintage Aviation Tiger Moth, VH-BBC, weather permitting, will be involved.

**Late mail:** 2022 Steamfest has been postponed until July 30 / 31.

[ANZAC Day](#), 25<sup>th</sup> April, RNAC Tiger Moth VH-RNI and our friends from Luskintyre hope to be part of the memorial event for both East Maitland and Maitland parades. This is yet to be confirmed; however, it was well received in both 2020 and 2021 so we are hopeful to participate once again.

### **In closing**

Again, I would like to thank our Staff, Volunteers, Club Captain, Flying Sub-committee, Members and Directors for your support and Club spirit towards this very special organisation.

We have a lot of change ahead of us that I feel very enthusiastic and optimistic about. I sincerely hope all members can embrace change with a similar view...

Very kind regards, Trevor.



### **Trevor Bright**

**RNAC President**

PO Box 491

Rutherford NSW 2320

Phone: 02 4932 8888



**Royal Newcastle Aero Club**

