

TARMAC TOPICS

Official Publication of the Royal Aero Club of Western Australia (Inc.)

November/December 2020



Featuring:

- ◇ WALAC
- ◇ NEW Aircraft being added for Member hire and Training
- ◇ Christmas festivities
- ◇ \$100 Hamburger club Man-jimup



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of Western Australia



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Welcome to our New Club Members!



To download our Members Guide visit our Website

A Big Welcome to our New Members

Adam Bettles
Andrew Cox
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Colin McGill
Connor O'Neil
Craig Lines
David Hart
Donald Seubert
Edward Jones
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Michael Pappalardo
Paul Jewell
Philip Hardless
Raelene O'Brien
Ronald Dunlan
Ronald Morgan
Rony Hicks
Simon Willmott
Thomas Watts
Zhenghao Li

Featured

11 New Addition to the Fleet

Talk to our Instructors today about flying our newest addition to the fleet. A beautiful Cessna R182 aircraft in excellent condition and just a bit Retro!

12 Western Australian Light Aircraft Championship

With fierce competition, and selection to represent WA up for the taking, read all about what happened at the WALAC's.

14 Christmas Aplenty

With the return of the Members Christmas Party and a successful staff party to end the challenging year of 2020, It has been celebrations aplenty.

15 Manjimup dinner—\$100 Hamburger Club

Hear from one of our new Members about his introduction to this novel experience with fellow Club members. A great experience for all.

Regulars

4 CEO Editorial

With a big year behind us, hear what CEO David Currey has to say about the challenges faced by the Royal Aero Club Western Australia throughout the year. Catch up on all the events over the last few months.

6 Club Captain Report

WALAC, Dawn Raid and the Greg Hill trophy. Club Captain Mick Harcourt gives insight to it all, and more.

8 Congratulations to our Achievers

A warm RACWA, congratulations to all our aviators achieving goals over the last few weeks. A special big congratulations to Flight instructor David 'Dad' Schneiker.



Fresh RPL Student? Want to take your friends and family overseas? Get approved to fly our Aircraft to Rottnest, with our Rotto Training syllabus. Safe operation in a CTAF and Signed off to use our A/C with knowledge and guidance.

RACWA

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Front Cover: Our Mooney's flying the Dambusters Raid at one of our popular member events.

CEO's Editorial

“Club activities saw an increase in participation at monthly competitions, popular free member seminars, the re-introduction of an event to welcome new members and a well attended fly-away to Ninghan Station” **David Currey**

Positive thinking has become an imperative for 2021. With the rest of the world struggling under the burden of the pandemic, Western Australia is probably one of the best places in which to live.

Although the Club did suspend flying training for two months, and despite the doom and gloom echoing around the world, we have achieved a lot this year. We were certainly faced with many challenges, some of which we had never faced before.

Thanks to a 'can do' attitude by staff, we emerged from the shut-down in a stronger position. We need to recognise the efforts of staff and members that contributed to this success. In addition, thanks to generous Federal and State Govern-

ments, our bottom line has not been too badly affected.

The hangar, briefing rooms and instructor room all received a fresh coat of paint. For the hangar, this was a five-week project. We refurbished RWJ and BOF and increased our fleet with the purchase of a new Frasca simulator, M20J MWE and R182 MNX. Significant avionic upgrades have been undertaken to both Partenaviast and G5s were installed in EEP.

Club activities saw an increase in participation at monthly competitions, popular free member seminars, the re-introduction of an event to welcome new members and a well attended fly-away to Ninghan Station. There has been a large increase in club formation flying, with a

number of new 'formicators' taking part in the monthly formation flights. Some of the social events were a very popular quiz night, increasing attendance at the bar on Friday afternoons and a successful Christmas party held in the hangar.

WAAC continued to experience a decrease in enrolments throughout the year, as the market perception for commercial flying training is for VSL (vocational student loans) funding from government. During the year, we allocated considerable resources to apply for approval to deliver VSL funded training.

The Department of Education, Skills and Employment approved the College's application in December, so we expect to see a significant increase in enrolments



Formation ships crossing paths at the one of the Member events 2020

in 2021 which will boost our flying hours.

During the temporary cessation of flying training, the RPL and PPL notes and presentations were upgraded to ensure we continue to record above average pass marks and pass rates. Our ground lecturers have established a good reputation for going 'above and beyond' to help our students. We are currently working on the CPL notes and presentations.

The 'wish list' for 2021 is comprehensive and will keep us very busy. Both the Club and college need to ensure that we continue to deliver the safe, high quality training at affordable rates. At the same time, we need to ensure that training and private hire is affordable. The inexorable increase in bureaucracy continually places pressure on our margins, which we try to absorb.

On the positive side, the price of avgas has remained relatively stable which has allowed hire rates to remain unchanged for six months. Thanks to Air Ser-

vices Australia not charging for terminal navigation charges, the cost of flying from Jandakot has actually decreased!

2021 promises to be a busy year. The combination of Club Captain Mick Harcourt and Club Manager David O'Brien will ensure that we will be offering many flying and social activities for our members. I wish all our members a Happy New Year,

and look forward to a successful 2021.

Congratulations to the instructor team who managed to secure the Greg Hill Memorial Trophy. A great time was had by all and it is hoped that this increase participation in monthly Club competitions

David Currey



Our very own Father Christmas John Douglas at the Staff Christmas Party
(on top right) Club member Gary Evans with his Decathlon TQO after a comp flight

Club Captain's Report

"The Australian Light Aircraft Championships (ALAC) are going to be held in March 2021, at Echuca in Victoria. In an effort to help the Team selected for this competition from RACWA to achieve it's best results we are need to help sponsor not only their flying, but also the ability to travel and house themselves their too."

Mick Harcourt, RACWA Club Captain.

Happy New Year everybody! And not to dwell on the past, but this year should see us turning the corner and getting back to some semblance of 'normality'

First off, let's see what's up and coming in the new year.....

The Bunbury Fly-in is gaining momentum with both Vaughan Emery and myself making a couple of trips to that city, to tee things up for a great get together with not only the Bunbury Aero Club (BAC), but also Busselton (BuAC), where we are scheduled to have breakfast the following morning-

So here's the gen:

Brief at 9:00am
Book your aircraft from 10:00am on Saturday 16th January till 12:00 on Sunday 17th January
Plan to arrive at YBUN by 11:30 the latest (Fuel available at YBUN)
BBQ Luncheon with BAC
After 2:00pm transfer to BUNBURY HOTEL Koombana Bay (9721 0100 for bookings) and have the afternoon free to do as you please, before meeting up for Dinner in the City (TBA)
Sunday morning, transfer to YBUN airport, fly to Busselton for Breakfast with BuAC, before heading back to Jandakot, returning before 12:00 – (Airfield transfers are arranged)

You will need to register by ringing the Club or placing your name on the notice board Sheet, please.

Should be a good fun relaxing fly-away – and perhaps a bit cooler than in Perth around that time!

Competitions:

During these summer months, we are going to try and include a Breakfast at Jandakot before the comp, therefore, be aware that the times for the JANDAKOT Comp have been changed.

There will be:

BREAKFAST 0830, Register 0900, Brief 0930, Launch 1000
Murrayfield comps, whilst similar times, are remaining the same, however, we would ask that you register your intention for breakfast at either location so we can cater for those numbers, please.

The Murrayfield (10th Jan) and Jandakot (31st Jan) Comps are both HMAS types comps, featuring a Performance Take-off and Short Field Landing. We can only 'guesstimate' the distances at YPJT, due to not being able to stand around the landing area, but it is a fun comp and gets you back up to speed with the performance of the aircraft you are flying.

GRAND RAFFLE:

The Australian Light Aircraft Championships (ALAC) are going to be held in March 2021, at Echuca in Victoria. In an effort

to help the Team selected for this competition from RACWA to achieve it's best results we are need to help sponsor not only their flying, but also the ability to travel and house themselves their too.

One way to help achieve these goals is with an in house raffle, that is to say, one that is advertised within the Club, but not exclusively for just Club members. The tickets will be available by the time you read this and the prizes will feature many facets of aviation from Tiger moth Flights to Formation Flights as well as an Hour in a B777 Simulator.

Need more information with anything? Contact me and I'll help as best I can.

Cheers,

Mick Harcourt, Club Captain



Michael Stenson Receiving the WA-LAC AWARD from Legendary instructor John Douglas



Western Australian Light Aircraft Championship Formation Comp (Above) and Participants of the day (below)



Achievers

First Solo



Craig Lines

Well done on your First Solo



Jaike Page

Nice Job on your First Solo



Mike Le

Good work your First Solo



Camille Vissouarn

Outstanding job on your First Solo

Recreational Pilot's Licence (RPL)



Cody Roberts

Great Result on your RPL



Daniel Kotronis

Congrats on your RPL



Dean Fleming

Well done on your RPL



Hooi Ling Teoh

Outstanding achievement on your RPL



Israel Tan

Excellent work on your RPL



James Hill

Well done on your RPL



Kyle Duncan
Congrats on your RPL



Timmy Naylor
Congrats on your RPL



Veeran Morar
Well done on your RPL

Private Pilot's Licence (PPL)



Adrian Denny
Congratulations on your PPL



Leonard Chua
Congratulations on your PPL



Patrick Smythe
Great result on your PPL



Richard Smith
Congrats on your PPL



Stefan Shircore
Well done on your PPL

Commercial Pilot's Licence (PPL)



Craig Hardy
Excellent work on your CPL



Josh Carter
Well done on your CPL

Achievers Continued...



Patrick De Rooy

Well done on your CPL

Instructor Rating



Charles Antoine Gaudreau

Exceptional work on your G3 FIR



Charles Wardojo

Congrats on your G3 FIR



Connor Jardine

Well done on your G3 FIR

A Big Congratulations to all our Achievers over the last few Months! Wishing you blue skies & tail winds

David Schneiker



A big congratulations to David Schneiker. After a few years experience, he has managed to "Follow the Rule" one more time and achieved a well deserved, Grade 1 Flight Instructor Rating.

David is like a father to many of the instructors, He's a great mentor who's earned the respect amongst his peers.

If you see David around, don't be afraid to say hi, ask him any questions you have, get some wise words, flying guidance or even get yourself an AC sign out. With this Grade 1 power, comes great responsibility. So definitely look to David for all the answers to your questions.

David now joins the ranks of other Grade 1's like Legendary Master Instructor, John Douglas pictured here with David. If you see David, give him a big CONGRATULATIONS!

New Addition to the Fleet

R182 VH-MNX

VH-MNX has been added to the RACWA fleet, replacing the cross-hired JMF.

The past few years has seen an increase of the utilisation of the R182 to the point where it justified owning a R182. Additional hours will be flown by commercial students opting to utilise MNX instead of a Mooney.

Many pilots refer to the R182 as a C182 RG, but the correct designation is R182. After months of searching, an ideal model came onto the market – low hours and in excellent condition. The only problem was that it was

in NSW, requiring the pilot to undergo 14 days quarantine on their return to WA.

The initial plan was to have the aircraft ferried to SA, where a RACWA pilot would collect it and return to WA without having to quarantine. Murphy's Law prevailed and a few days before the ferry flight, SA encountered an outbreak of COVID-19 and WA re-imposed the quarantine period. Plan B was hastily drawn up whereby MNX would be ferried to Alice Springs for collection by RACWA.

For once everything went to plan and Ray Challen flew via Darwin to Alice Springs. After a very long day, MNX arrived at her new home. The aircraft is in pristine condition, but with old avionics.

In keeping with the Club's intention to ensure members enjoy modern avionics, Glen Caple is upgrading MNX by installing G5s, a G430W, KX155 radio, ADSB in/out and an ELT. It is expected that MNX will be available for hire in early January. This is an ideal aircraft for members wanting to obtain a retract and CSU endorsement.



Ray Challen Arriving at Jandakot with VH-MNX after a long ferry from Alice Springs.

Need a Touch up on your Theory?

Contact Merrilee Greenaway Today to find out when our next course is on!

Email: mgreenaway@waaviationcollege.com.au

Western Australian Light Aircraft Championship (WALAC)

"In the 1970s, the then Instructor, soon to have served as Club Captain and Current Old Fliers Group presenter, Brian Hernan, thought it wise that we should find skilled and competitive pilots to represent WA in the Australian Light Aircraft Championships, held annually around the country." **Mick Harcourt**

WALAC 2020

HISTORY

In the 1970s, the then Instructor, soon to have served as Club Captain and Current Old Fliers Group presenter, Brian Hernan, thought it wise that we should find skilled and competitive pilots to represent WA in the Australian Light Aircraft Championships, held annually around the country.

So a "local" competition was set up and the many Clubs that operated in WA at that time, sent their best representatives to compete, usually at (a less busy) Jandakot around January.

These Competitions became known as the Western Australian Light Aircraft Championships or WALAC

WALAC 2020 had been in the planning stages for some months with a host of Volunteers as well as Competitors required to help out in the production and running

of the event.

In an effort to not only educate, but encourage Club members to participate in the event, we scheduled a "WALAC Workshop" on Sunday 4th October, those attending enjoyed the various presentations made by past and current champions. This was followed by some musical entertainment by the Duo "Lonely Hearts" with yours truly accompanying them! In the meantime, several formation sorties were being flown by at least four teams, with the hope of competing in the Formation Competition on Friday evening, 6th November. This we did in reasonable flying conditions, with the ground judges having to interpolate from the roof of the RACWA building!

Saturday 7th November, aircraft and crews made their way to Murrayfield for the bulk of the competition taking place there. The Aerobatics, both ENTRY level and SPORTSMAN level were per-

formed as soon as the competitors and ground judges alike were ready to go. To ensure that we had a good flow, the Streamer Cutting commenced soon after, slightly to the north and east of the field, negating any conflict with the aerobatics taking place in the "BOX" to the south of the field.

Meanwhile a team of several volunteers, headed out to the runway to mark off the spot landing positions and erect the "fence" that would be used for the Practice Forced Landing (PFL) and Low Level Spot Landing (SPOT). After a lunch break, we herded all the Instructor Air Judges and Competitors into the hangar for the PFL and LL Spot briefing – this done, the afternoon's competitions began in earnest with the PFL followed by the SPOT.

Once the last flight had taken place the volunteers dis-erected the Spot landing markers and fencing and a slightly sunburned and tired crew returned to the



Aircraft parked up ready for the WALAC competition

Murrayfield Clubhouse, for a quick drink of water before heading home and readying for the Presentation Dinner later that evening at Jandakot.

Muzz Buzz prepared a wonderful meal for the forty or so attendees of the Dinner, during which, the results were starting to come in as to who won what.

It was my pleasure to not only announce these winners, but also to invite our Treasurer, Bruce Rathbone, to present the trophies. Bruce was representing the Club in the absence of our President Ray Challen, who could not attend the event due to other commitments.

The Results:

The overall Champion, Michael Stenson, was presented with his trophy and prize by John Douglas on behalf of Margaret Whitter, widow of Austin Whitter, a strong supporter of many competitions including **WALAC**



Coming in for the landing competitions at YMUL—2020

Winners:
OVERALL CHAMPION – Michael Stenson
PFL – Michael Stenson
Spot Landing – Michael Stenson
Streamer Cutting – Michael Stenson

Aerobatics ENTRY – Anthony Buckley
Aerobatics SPORTSMAN – Gary Evans
Formation Team – KIWI BLUE – Gary Evans, Rob Burns, Brad Gilchrist



Our 2020 Judges, watching intensely from the airfield flight line

Christmas Parties

Member Christmas Party:

The 2020 Club Christmas was a resounding success. The committee organising the event opted to use the hangar as the venue, and this proved to be an excellent decision. Vaughan Emery's creative skills provided a professional backdrop for the stage and the band.

It was very heartening to see a wide cross section of our membership attend the event. For the club to grow, we need to provide activities that appeal to everyone.

The event epitomised what a club should be – members stepping up to organise an

event for all members to enjoy. Many members need to be thanked for their efforts, from organising the event, setting up and taking down, helping with the bar, providing the catering, organising the entertainment and a myriad of other functions. There are already discussions on next year's Christmas Party.

Staff Christmas Party

2020 has been a year in which everyone has been challenged by 'the new normal'. RACWA staff have stood up to these challenges which has resulted in the Club recording a successful year.



Some Friendly Competitive Team building



Adventure World for the staff Christmas party, Staff Christmas photo



Members Christmas Party, with Club Captain Mick Harcourt showcasing his music skills



Tug O War for team building at the Staff Christmas Party.

Manjimup - \$100 Hamburger

Matthew Longhorn

“Being a new member to the Royal Aero Club I attended the New Members/Wings presentation in the members lounge and was immediately welcomed by the committee and the other members of the club. After some introductions and watching the new pilots get their wings (and envisioning being in their shoes!).

I was asked by Ray if I would like a seat in an airplane for the upcoming Manjimup fly in, an offer I leapt at without hesitation! Not believing my luck at the invitation to my first “\$100 hamburger” I eagerly awaited the event.

The flight down in the Airvan was beautiful, VFR and clear skies all the way. Still in minor disbelief at the distance we had just covered in such a small amount of time, a sentiment shared by the owner of the restaurant we dined at, we landed at Manjimup airport and made our way to the restaurant.

Upon arrival, burger ordered and seats taken, the Airplane talk ensued and I witnessed first-hand the passion shared by this group of aviators. To round out the event we flew back

IFR in the dark which was another first for me which led to me mentally adding “Instrument rating” to my growing list of pilot plans. Once all was said and done and I had time to reflect on the event and the people in attendance I had solidified my desire to keep training with the RACWA so that one day perhaps I could participate in a similar event as a Pilot!”

Matthew Longhorn



Approach into Manjimup before the \$100 Hamburger club evening in town

RACWA Members Calendar

For more information on upcoming events contact our friendly staff at the ops desk

Email: Operations@royalaeroclubwa.com.au or Phone: (08) 9417 0000

January	February	March	April
1 <i>New Years Day</i>	1	1 <i>Labour Day</i>	1
2	2	2	2 <i>GOOD FRIDAY ROT-TO BUN RUN</i>
3	3	3	3 <i>Easter Saturday</i>
4	4	4	4 <i>Easter Sunday</i>
5	5	5	5 <i>Easter Monday</i>
6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9
10 YMUL Comp HMAS Murrayfield	10	10	10
11	11	11	11 YMUL Comp
12	12	12	12
13	13	13	13
14	14 YMUL Comp	14 YMUL Comp	14
15	15	15	15
16 YBUN Fly-in	16	16	16
17 YBUN Fly-in - YBLN B/fast - YPJT	17	17	17
18	18	18	18
19	19	19	19
20	20	20	20
21	21	21	21
22	22	22	22
23	23	23 ALAC - Echuca	23
24	24	24 ALAC – Echuca WINGS Internat.	24
25	25	25 ALAC - Echuca	25 YPJT Comp BREAKFAST
26 <i>Australia Day</i>	26	26 ALAC - Echuca	<i>ANZAC Day</i>
27	27	27 ALAC - Echuca	26 ANZAC Day Holiday
28	28 YPJT Comp Breakfast	28 YPJT Comp Breakfast	27
29		29	28
30		30	29
31 YPJT Comp Breakfast		31	30