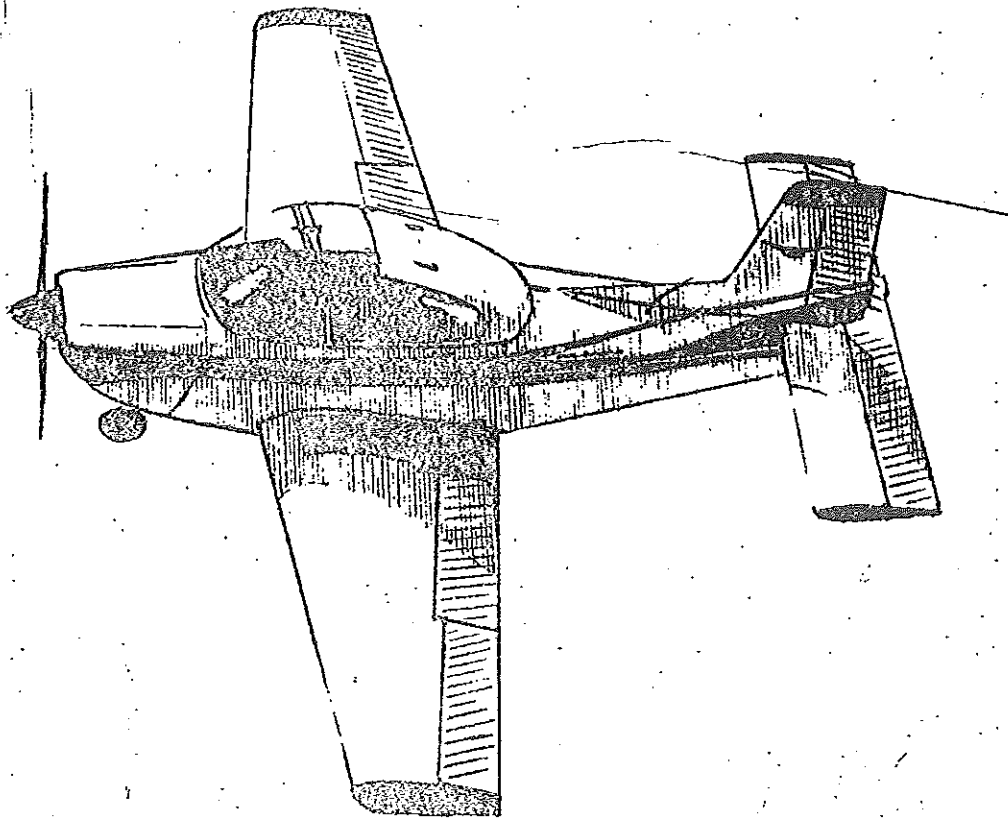


AIRTOURER ASSOCIATION

PATRON - HENRY K. MILLICER (AIRTOURER-DESIGNER)



NEWSLETTER

Registered for Posting as a publication Category B.

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NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly and as required

EDITOR: Alex. Hood, P.O.Box 200, Morwell, V., 3840

Articles for inclusion in the Newsletter should be submitted direct to the Editor.

Advertisements by members are included free of charge

Advertisements by non-members are accepted, space permitting, and a donation to the Association is requested.

EDITORIAL

A new year - a new decade by now a well-worn cliché.

There is no logical reason for it but the new year always seems an appropriate time to stop and assess our situation, our merits and demerits, successes and failures, our hopes and aspirations for the future, and our sometimes despair at the reality of it.

As we take stock we should think about our Association, our industry, and ourselves, and how each affects the other.

The greatest challenge facing the Association is, of course, the 'Project', now rapidly approaching its culmination.

As for the industry there is the prospect of ever increasing fuel rises, its diminishing supply and rationing.

There is also the spiralling A.N.C.s. Even as private pilots, whether sport, recreation or business, we are to be more rigidly regulated. The latter, of course, includes the proposed "Biennial Flight Review" of which you no doubt have seen a lot written in some aviation magazines recently.

The problems are there, but are they insurmountable? Last year the Association made representation to the "Cost Recovery Inquiry" proposing lower A.N.C.s for Airtourer owners. The Association has investigated bulk insurance to obtain lower premiums. The 'Project', if successful, should ensure continued supply of spares etc.

The challenge continues, but it remains for you to decide if flying still means that much to you that you will continue to fly despite the difficulties; that aircraft ownership still offers that flexibility and convenience to justify the cost; that the Airtourer still offers the best compromise in private aircraft to persist with operating and maintaining an Australian designed and built aircraft.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORProposed Biennial Flight Check

by Doug. Stott

A lot has been said and written over the last few months regarding the proposed biennial flight check. Whilst not wanting to take sides, it is of concern that perhaps not all the facts of the proposal have been understood by members of the General Aviation community.

Briefly though, the proposal calls for a flight check by qualified flight instructors every two years. It is intended to rewrite the recent experience requirements of the various pilot licences to include words to the effect that prior to undertaking a flight as pilot-in-command, a pilot must have successfully completed a check with an approved person within the last twenty-four months.

The A.O.P.A. have attacked the DoF. for wanting to introduce the check without apparent good reason or any proof that it will do any good. What good does the Department think it will do? It is claimed that it might reduce the private accident rate by making us all a bit more safety conscious. If it does, is it not worth it??

If one is faced with a check flight in the near future, the majority of us will try and cram a little extra knowledge from our VEG or AIP in an effort to be in front of the test officer's questions, and perhaps we might have a few practice sessions beforehand.

Even though most of us are "amateur" pilots we are responsible for the control of sophisticated pieces of machinery when flying our aircraft. The environment we operate in is one shared by a lot of others, including the "professionals" and anything less than a professional attitude will reduce our standards.

Objection to the proposed check is an indication of our lack of professionalism in not wanting our standards criticised or ability improved.

(Members are invited to write their thoughts on this matter to the Editor)

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Well, the Eighties are with us and the Airtourer Association, like so many other aviation groups, must tread carefully and positively into the next decade.

Some of our Airtourers will be twenty years old this year and most of the others not far behind. In retrospect it is a tribute to all Airtourer owners as it shows the type of enthusiasm we have amongst us in being able to keep our aircraft flying. This is especially so since production of the aircraft stopped almost ten years ago in New Zealand.

Our hopes of the last eighteen months in being able to purchase back the Airtourer Project from New Zealand will have its chance during the next three months. The Airtourer Co-operative Society's 'Prospectus' is expected to be distributed in early February. You are all invited, and indeed urged, to participate in this venture and help keep our Airtourers flying at a reasonable cost.

I must here make a special thank-you to our N.S.W. representative, Harry Couzing, and his wife Eunice, who, together with other members of his family, helped make our Hospitality Tent a success at the recent Schofields Air Show. The amount of work and time that Harry spent arranging our facilities was certainly noticed and appreciated by those members who attended.

The next Annual Convention and Fly-In is to be held in Parkes, N.S.W., over the Easter week-end. The format will be very similar to the highly successful Mildura Convention last year, and we are looking forward to a good attendance. Full details can be found later in this Newsletter and we ask you to contact Tony Matthews regarding accommodation requirements as soon as possible.

As can be seen, I now have a new address, brought about by a change of employment. However, I wish to assure all members that I will continue as Secretary from the "Top End" until the Parkes meeting and I anticipate being available for selection again next year. Also, any members wishing to nominate for the committee should advise the President or Secretary, in writing, by the 31st March.

There is no truth in the rumour that the next Fly-In is to Darwin. (Not yet, anyway.....)

Barb and I cordially invite any member intending to visit Darwin and the Territory to contact us for any info. on flying in the Territory and to remember the 'Welcome' mat will always be at the door. Our hangar doors never close

Doug Stott, Honorary Secretary

PERSONAL :

WEDDING BELLS - As some of our members may already know, in September last year our Secretary, Doug Stott, left his position as Air Ambulance Pilot with Executive Air Services to take up a position with the Northern Territory Police Air Wing at Darwin.

Before leaving Doug announced his engagement to another popular member of our Association, Barb Keenan.

On 6th January Doug and Barb were married at St. James Old Cathedral, Melbourne. Representing our Association on this occasion were President 'Sonny' Rankin, and Committeeman Erle Johnson, and their wives.

On behalf of the Airtourer Association I take the opportunity of wishing both Doug and Barb all the best for their future happiness.

NOTE

On a sadder note, we learnt of the death last year of Lavine Robertson, wife of Wedderburn (Vic.) member Charlie Robertson (VH - DDZ A.F. 100) to whom we extend our sincerest sympathy.

ANNUAL CONVENTION AND FLY-IN - PARKES, EASTER, 1980

AN INTERESTING AND ENJOYABLE WEEK-END IS PLANNED FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR CO-PILOTS

REGISTRATION

The Registration Fee is expected to be \$50 and includes all planned activities and transport to and from the airport, around Parkes and tours etc. Liquid refreshments, breakfast and accommodation are not included.

If you wish to attend please complete and return the attached slip by 1st March, 1980.

ACCOMMODATION

The Association has pre-booked motel accommodation in Parkes for Easter, at the following motels - on Share Twin basis (subject to change):-

- Bushman Motor Inn - \$16.00 per person per night
- Moonraker Motel - \$13.00 " " " "
- Best Western Motel - \$12.50 " " " "

NOTE: Refund will be paid if cancellation is in writing and received prior to 1st April, 1980.

FACILITIES

Parkes Aero Club facilities will be made available to the Association during the week-end.

FUEL

Plenty of 80/87 Octane (and hopefully 100/130 Octane) available.

COMMUNICATION

Area Frequency 125.0 to 512.1 M.S.U. Satisfactory down to 500' A.G.L.

Parkes Aero Club - 119.1

ENQUIRIES

To member Tony Matthews, P.O. Box 74, Parkes, N.S.W., 2870
Phone.: (068) 621766

I shall be attending the 1980 Parkes Convention and request that accommodation be allocated as indicated below:-

NAME :

ADDRESS :

..... Postcode

CO-PILOT :

GUESTS (1):

(2):

(3):

HOTEL/HOTEL (Private) CAMPING (Sleeping Bag Brigade)

HOTEL/HOTEL (Shared) MAKING OWN ARRANGEMENTS

I enclose Twenty-five dollars (\$25) per head deposit, which will be credited towards my Registration Fee/s on arrival at Parkes, plus an additional five dollars (\$5) per head deposit for accommodation, if required.

Make your cheque payable to AIRTOURER ASSOCIATION No.2 ACCOUNT

(Signed) (Date) AIRTOURER : VII-

TENTATIVE PROGRAMMEAIRTOURER ASSOCIATION - ANNUAL CONVENTION AND FLY-IN - PARKES, N.S.W.Good Friday, 4th April, 1980

1200 - 1700 hours Arrivals and Registrations
 1800 hours Informal get together and barbeque at Parkes Aero Club

Saturday, 5th April, 1980

1030 hours Annual Meeting and Election of Committee
Parkes Leagues Club
 1500 hours Smorgasbord Luncheon - Parkes Leagues Club
 1430 hours Inspection of Radio Telescope
 1830 hours Convention Dinner with Guest Speaker -
Parkes Golf Club

Sunday, 6th April, 1980

1100 hours Flying Day - Parkes Aerodrome
 Picnic Lunch at Aerodrome
 Mini Navigational Exercise
 Formation Flying
 Aerobatics, etc.
 1800 hours Barbecue - Parkes Aero Club -
 Films and Presentation of Trophies

Monday, 7th April, 1980

Departures for home

RETURN THIS SLIP TO :-

PARKES 1980,
 AIRTOURER ASSOCIATION,
 P.O. Box 74,
 PARKES, N.S.W., 2870.

MAROONDAH AIR SHOW - LILYDALE AIRFIELD (VIC.) SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, 9, 10 FEBRUARY

The Airtourer Association has promised to support this Airshow with a static display of Airtourers. We would like to see as many members as possible in attendance. Proceeds from this Airshow will go to Rotary Community Service Projects.

The Airshow Committee has promised to fill fuel tanks of those assisting, prior to departure at the completion of the Airshow.

Further information from Ian Smith, Static Display Chairman (Phone.: (03) 8782050(H)
(03) 6997199(B))

MOREE AIR SHOW

From Phillip Hurst, Moree

I am writing to you regarding an airshow to be held at Moree, N.S.W., on 19th April, 1980. This airshow will be conducted by the Moree Aero Club, which has conducted many airshows since its foundation in 1934.

As the son of an Airtourer 115 owner, and having done all my flying training in the beloved "family" Victa (some 70 hours) VH-MUZ, I feel it would be tremendous if some number of Airtourers could fly in for the airshow and show the public what a wonderful plane the Victa is.

At this stage, my father (Des Hurst) will be flying "MUZ" in the programme, in a "dog-fight" against a Cessna Aerobat. I feel sure the outcome of this debacle will be of interest to all, as both pilots are instructors and have several thousand hours flying experience, and therefore it will be the better 'plane that wins.

Besides this there is a cabaret at night, which at Moree, is always first class. It would be greatly appreciated if you could draw attention to the airshow by way of an article in the Airtourer Association Newsletter. R.A.A.F. participation is very probable.

Could you please direct all enquiries to :-

Moree Aero Club,
C/o. The Secretary,
P.O. Box 10,
Moree, N.S.W., 2400.

If any further information is required don't hesitate to write or 'phone (067 - 522017) myself or my father here in Moree.

Any assistance would be tremendous as a large number of Victas anywhere is good.

REPORT ON SCHOFIELDS AIR SHOW, 1979, by Harry Couzins

1979 Schofields Air Show was well attended by our members and friends. Over the two days thirteen aircraft were directed to our enclosure to be put on display. Many members arrived by car, due to I.F.R. conditions, even by road over the mountains.

Directors told me that we had the second largest private display at the Show and were happy to present me with the promised \$200 towards expenses.

Due to these fund-raising efforts we can present our Association with a cheque for \$313.25, made from the sale of food and badges, and a raffle.

We had twenty-five people for lunch on Saturday, and sixty on Sunday. All commented on the lunch as a banquet. Mr. Alan Wood praised our ladies for their efforts.

Alan's daughter, Ann, won our raffle. She was so thrilled as it was the first raffle she had ever won. Hugh Knox (VH-WHO) won the canopy cover. He only passed his flying test on Friday and was given special permission to join us on Saturday. Winning the cover made his day.

SCHOFIELDS AIR SHOW (Contd.)

Most of the lads who flew in camped in the marquee and were glad to keep somewhere out of the usual rain.

All in all it was hard work but rewarding.

Trophies were presented to:

- VH-MOA Oldest aircraft to attend and the first Airtourer to be put into general service at L.V.A.I.C.I., 1962-3.
- VH-KHP The Airtourer with the most hours logged, some 7,000, (I trained on K.H.P. and it was great to see it looking so good).

SCHOFIELD ATTENDANCES

N.S.W.	PIP	Mick Garrett
	BQW	Fred Teiffel
	MTP	E. Johnson
	MOA	A. Pfoeffler
	MUN	Gerry Walshe
	RNV	Les Carter
Q'LD.	RQG	Ray Abernethy
	RQH	? (One of the twelve owners)
VIC.	MKL	Ian Donavan
	KUP	John Treble
CAR		Brian Leech and Mark Tony Matthews Lindsay Marshall Hugh Knox Harry Cousins Alan Wood Guy Main

(Unfortunately the official attendance list was misplaced and the above was completed from memory. If any member who attended is not mentioned please accept our apology for the omission.....Ed.)

BOOK OFFER

Test Pilot and Round-the-World Airtourer Pilot, Cliff Tait, has written another book entitled "Water Under my Wings". This book, due for release in April, contains 350 pages about Cliff's experiences involving aircraft manufacturing, weather, survival, navigation, and other subjects. Stories of the many ferry flights are related (90 to date) and actual flight reports. Additionally, there are 40 pages of photographs and illustrations, and a foreword written by Wing Commander George Bates, O.B.E., D.F.C., A.D.C., R.A.F.

As a special offer Cliff has made this book available to Association members at the special price of \$14.00 (Aust.), including postage, for written orders received before MARCH. Orders should be sent to -

Cliff Tait,
Peacocke Road,
R.D.2,
Hamilton, N.Z.

State number required and whether autograph is required. Remember to include Airtourer Association membership number.

PUBLICITY

Airtourers featured in the last issue of "Australian Aviation and Defence Review". The article - "The Airtourer Story" by Mac Job - contains some photographs taken at the "Yarrandale" Fly-In last September. Copies are still available on most newsagent's bookstands.

AIRTOURER PARTS

NAV. LIGHT COVERS - Available from Aerospace, N.Z.

Kevin Wilson,
Supply Manager,
Aerospace,
R.D.2,
HAMILTON, N.Z.

The price is \$10.00 (N.Z.) plus postage

CANOPY PERSPEX

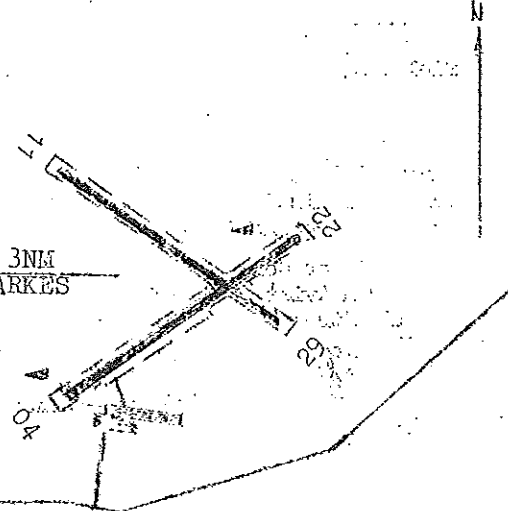
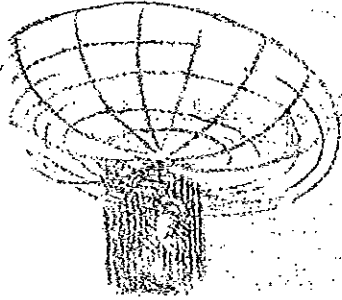
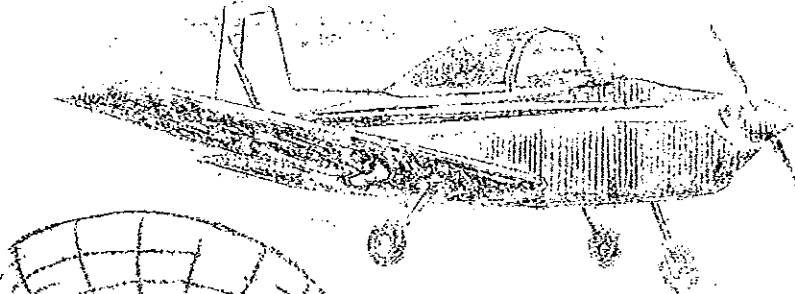
W.A. member, Ian Byers, has had a new canopy (perspex) made for his aircraft. If you are interested in new panels contact Ian on

(09) 321 9334

for particulars. (The moulds are held by the company he had make them)

See You

at



PARKES

EASTER 1980

PARKES AERODROME

ELEV.
1056 FT.

ADVERTISEMENTS

LODGE WITH EDITOR (A. HOOD), P.O. BOX 200, MORWELL, VIC., 3840

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Made to order. Protect your canopy and upholstery with a close-fitting, weatherproof and lightweight cover. Supplied with bag for when not in use.

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AIRCRAFT PHOTOGRAPHER

Adrian H. Pfoeffler (Owner MOA)

P.O. Box 1134, North Sydney, NSW, 2060
(02) 504929 A/H

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W.H. (Bill) Hiller,
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Spinners, Spats, Wingtips, Cowls, Wheel
Brake Dust Covers, Fillets & Fairings, etc.

CLEVELAND BRAKES

Fit Cleveland Wheels and Brakes to your
Airtourer. DoT. approved modification.

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P.O. Box 297, Benalla, Vic., 3672

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(02) 7082277

500 x 5 x 6-Ply McCreary (Tube) \$25
600 x 5 x 6-Ply " " \$29.50

Ken Hogan, Rep.

TYRES

500 x 5 x 6-Ply (TUBELESS)
Available from Dunlop Tyresales,
Airport West, Melbourne.
Mr. Ken Trollope (03) 3381533

WHEEL MODIFICATION

Modify your wheels to take tubes.
DoT. approved drawing and loan of
special tool available from member
KEITH NOLAN (03) 336 2563

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Parafield, S.A.
(08) 2582209 A/H. (08) 2641354

FIBREGLASS PARTS

All aircraft, including Airtourers and
Gliders specialised in.
Glider-type workmanship employed.

George Morgan or Colin Smith,
Bacchus Marsh Aviation Services,
33 Franklin Street, Bacchus Marsh,
Vic., 3340.
(033) 695156 (Business Hours)
Hangar and workshop located at Bacchus
Marsh Airfield.

AIRTOURER 100 FOR SALE - VH-MOH

Smart appearance. Excellent order.
Further details - Ron Campbell, P.O. Box 29,
Leongatha, Vic., 3953.
(056) 551661 or (056) 642350

AIRTOURER 115 - FOR SALE - VH-MTN

S/No. 113 TT 4752 hours Eng. 680 HTR
Prop. 784 HTR. Comm. 11A. KR 86 ADF
\$11,500 o.n.o.
Canelands Flying School, P.O. Box 815,
Bundaberg, Q'ld., 4670. (071) 723733

AIRTOURER 100 - FOR SALE - VH-MTI

TT about 2400. Engine, prop. and under-
carriage about 400 hours old.
Narco Comm. 11A. 100-hourly and major
will be completed in mid to late November,
after which the plane will be available for
\$10,500.
Phone. (062) 958117, or write to Geoff
Hollins, 13 Throsby Crescent, Narrabundah,
A.C.T., 2604.

AIRTOURER 115 - FOR SALE - VH-MRI

S/No. 1158. TT 2830 Hrs. Eng. 370 HTR.
Prop. 870 HTR. A.W.A. Skyphone. ADF, NVMO.
\$11,500.
Contact Kym Brougham, Box 209, Whyalla, S.A.,
5600. (086) 457711 Bus.
(086) 458301 Home.

AIRTOURER 100 - FOR SALE - VH-MBH

TT 4360 Hrs. Engine to run 1000 hours.
Prop. to run 1300 hours. Major inspection
due June 1981. Fresh 100 hourly. Inter-
con fitted and NVMO
\$10,000.
Phone. (03) 3184948 or (057) 921296

AIRTOURER 115 - FOR SALE - VH-MUV

S/No. 96. TT 4,400 hrs. Eng. 1 450 HTR
Prop. 200 HTR. U/C. Legs 1500 HTR.
Recent Fuel Cell.
DoT. Survey and Major completed -
October 1979.
Comm. 11A. Some Spares.
\$10,800
or consider forming group.
(03) 3362563

AIRTOURER 115/A1 - VH-MOI - 1968

Converted to 150 H.P. TT 4600 hours
Eng. 1400 HTR with Top O/H.
Major Inspection due August 1980
Comm. 11A. Cleveland Wheels and Brakes.
Contact - Latrobe Valley Aero Club,
P.O. Box 200, Morwell, Vic., 3840.
(051) 742591.