Fly About

Northam Aero Club (Inc.) Newsletter

Vol. 54 Issue No.12

DECEMBER 2023



In This Issue

- → A Message from the President
- → Club Captain's Report
- → Christmas Luncheon
- → Membership Renewals
- → Around the Web
- → Next Club Comp
- → Classifieds
- → Club Contact List

Presidents Message

The Christmas lunch was very well attended and it was comforting to see a lot of our early members making it back to the club. John Douglas has retired from Instructing and as one of the club's first Instructors, we enjoyed his company on the day. It was fantastic to see JD and also Mike Smith another of our Instructors catching up with our members. John Masters and Bruce Smart always enjoy their time together, with JD reminiscing and I could only imagine the stories that would have been told.

Thank you to all the people that helped clean up the club rooms and put food together to make it the success that it was. We are fortunate to have such a great group of volunteers within the club. A special thank you to Paul Blain for repairing the kitchen tiles and keeping all the workers safe.

I took the opportunity to have JD present the Northam Aero Club volunteers with their Appreciation Certificates and as I stated if it wasn't for JD we would not have the club to present the certificates.

I must thank Peter Hill for feeling sorry for me coming last in the monthly flying competition by presenting me with a stop watch so I can fly more accurately and hopefully move up the ladder. Thank you Peter.

2023 has been a big year of events for the Northam Aero Club and as we move into 2024, I cannot help thinking how lucky we have been with the events that were held in May and September for the Ballooning Championships.

Our humble airfield of Northam has been the centre stage for both the National Championships and International Women's World Championships for hot air ballooning. The weather proved challenging for both events and still gave us a great result.

Thank you to all for 2023 and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Cheers, Errol

Club Captain's Report

<u>Captain's Report — Rescheduled November 2023 Competition</u>

The November Competition was held on Sunday the 26th due to storms forecast on the normal day.

The task was a Navigation Exercise to the north and east with targets mostly new. The targets were chosen in the area of the President's youth, trying to help him with his scores.

Six pilots took part. The early ones had a more comfortable flight due to turbulence building during the morning.

One pilot lost a few points when selecting a place to land, after a theoretical engine failure. He chose a stubble paddock instead of Dempster's airstrip....

Navigation and accurate flying were evident with most pilots passing two of the targets on the correct side.

All the pilots flew accurate final turns, stayed on the centre line and recovered well from the turbulence. A couple of aircraft didn't concentrate on staying on the center line after a really good landing. Perhaps they relaxed a bit after the stressful approach and flair.

- → First place James Hill C152 BFC with 119 points
- → Second place Peter Hill C152 BFC with 118 points
- → Third place Sir Errol Croft C172 JXI with 93 points
- → Equal fourth Paul Blain & Ian Berry C172 PGL with 85 points

Thanks to Marg Mac for her gourmet muffins and personing (apparently manning is sexist) the kitchen! We all enjoyed morning tea, unfortunately Ash had a prior commitment so we missed out on his scones.

Cheers
Dave McFarlane
0428 743031

Club Captain's Report

<u>Captain's Report — Rescheduled December 2023 Competition</u>

The Competition was held in gusty turbulent conditions with wind shear and sink on Runway 14. As the Captain was driving back from Cue and couldn't be back until 1100hrs the participating Pilots shared judging and scoring. Thank you. Father Christmas had an ETA of midday so to clear the airspace for his arrival, the competition was shortened to 3 circuits consisting of Flapless, Powered and Glide.

Five and a half members participated (the half being the Captain only bringing half his skills)

Winners were....

→ First: Ashley Smith C172 PGL 67 points

→ Second: Paul Blain C172 PGL 66 points

→ Equal Third: Peter Hill C152 BFC 63 points

Errol Croft C172 JXI 63 points

When we have gusty north easterly winds we should establish a temporary Club room adjacent to the Keys for the entertainment of the observers!

Next official competition will be Sunday February 11th. Briefing 0900hrs.

Sunday 14th January, if temperatures and weather look good we may have an unofficial competition. I will email you with details.

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year everyone!!!!

Dave McFarlane

0428 743031

Club Captain's Report

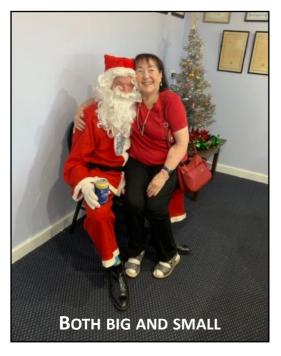






Christmas Luncheon







Christmas Luncheon



Club President Errol Croft kicks off the presentations



Errol presenting John Douglas with a retirement gift

Membership Renewals

Its that time of year and club memberships are now due. The committee is pleased to advise that the membership costs will remain at \$55 per member for 2024

Invoices will be sent out to members just after Christmas, however if you wish to pay beforehand, please ensure you include your name in the bank transaction description so we can identify your payment.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to either email me or give me a call.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and your families,

Cheers

Paul

Email: <u>nactreasurer@bigpond.com</u>

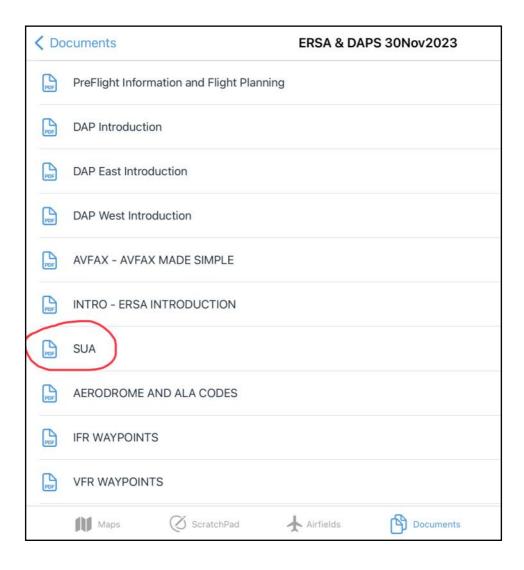
Telephone: 0427 909 412

Around The Web

ERSA Changes

Within the ERSA, you may be familiar with the PRD (Prohibited, Restricted and Danger) Areas. This has now been updated to be the SUA (Special Use Airspace) section of the document (see below).

Thanks to MJ for sharing



Membership Renewal & Apparel

Northam Aero Club Membership & Apparel Order Form

Name:	Not Renewing
Address	
Phone:	Email
Type of Membership: Adult	t \$55.00 Junior \$10.00
Club Bank Details: BSB 036-10	7 Acc Number: 69-2937
Apparel: Club Polo Shirt \$3	5.00 - SizeName on Shirt:
Mens sizes SM LXL 2XL 3XL or 5 XL	nit, snag resistant. Knit collar with contrast tipping. (185gsm standard 3 button) 2 or 24 (Ladies 215 gsm with open V with 2 press studs)
Club Cap \$25.00 plus \$8.00 postage	Caps also available from the Bar
	Total enclosed \$
If you would like to receive an invoic	e please tick
"Fly About" magazine Yes	
No O	
Many thanks, Northam Aero Club Committee	
Northam Aero Club Cap \$25.00	Northam Aero Club Polo Shirt \$35.00 personalised





Bar

The Bar will be open each Saturday evening from 17:00 — 19:00

(excluding Saturday 30th of December)

Next Club Committee Meeting

Sunday 11th February 2024 at 13:00

Wanted - Aviation Memorabilia

- Books
- Artefacts
- Photographs
- Old Aircraft Parts
- Signs

If it's old and historic—I'm interested

Adam Price-0428 611 797

NAC Club Aircraft Bookings



Enquiries — Matt Bignell

0407 873 700

Classifieds

Northam Aero Club Merchandise

Club Polo Shirts with name and club logo—\$35.00

Postage available—\$10.00 per order

Club Caps with logo—\$25.00 available at the bar Stubbie Holders—\$7.00

อเนออle คิดเนียาร—จา.00 available at the bar

Postage available—\$8.00



LEARN TO FLY

Recreational Aviation
Capital of the West





Ph Errol 0428 880 149 or Dave 0416 242 846

www.northamaeroclub.com



30 Eagle Drive Jandakot Western Australia 6164 Ph: +61 8 9332 7655 E: airspares@westernair.com.au www.pilotshopwa.com.au

FOR ALL OF YOUR FABRIC COVERING NEEDS









"For all your aircraft parts and pilots' supplies"

NAC Cessna 172—VH-PGL

Hire Fee Structure

- → Private Hire \$260 per hour
- → Dual Training \$410 per hour
- → TIF's \$205 per 1/2 hour
- → Briefing as required
- → Instructor (in owner's aircraft) \$150 per hour

Pre-paid Discounted Block Rates Available

- → 5 hours less 5%
- → 10 hours less 10%
- → 20 hours less 15%

Student pilots may use the discounted block rate for aircraft hire only. Instructor fees remain as priced above

For all further enquiries please contact:

NAC Treasurer - nactreasurer@bigpond.com T: 0427 909 412

Aircraft Bookings: Matt Bignell - 0407 873 700

Next Club Competition

Next Competition: 9:00am Sunday 11th February 2024 Cheers,

Dave McFarlane
Club Captain 0428 743 031



President

Errol Croft

E: dowref@bigpond.net.au

T: 0428 880 149

Secretary

Susan Clements

E: <u>info@northamaeroclub.c</u>

<u>om</u>

T: 0488 441 274

Club Captain

Dave McFarlane

E: mcf888@bigpond.com

T: 0428 743 031

Aircraft

Dave Beech

E: dbeech@iinet.net.au

T: 0438 016 903

Flight Training

Ray Challen

E: ray@challen.com.au

T: 0408 321 262

Editor Fly About

Paul Blain

E: paul.blain@bigpond.com

T: 0427 909 412

Aircraft Bookings Officer

Matt Bignell

E: big.matty@hotmail.com

T: 0407 873 700

Treasurer

Paul Blain

E: nactreasurer@bigpond.com

T: 0427 909 412

House & Grounds

Trevor Sangston

E: trevorsangston@iinet.net.au

T: 0417 183 160

Flight Training

Kevin Lathbury

E: Kevinlouise62@gmail.com

T: 0434 000 217

Membership Officer

Heather Deegan

E: heatther1957@gmail.com

T: 0428 738 808

