

Newsletter No. 280 – May 2015



The Atherton Aero Club is an organization of aviation enthusiasts who promote the sport of aircraft building and flying. The organization is associated with *Recreation Aviation Australia Inc.* The Club meets at Atherton Airport every third Sunday of the month. Food and drinks are available and visitors are most welcome.



Anzac Day Fly-Over

Balgol Beach RSL Dawn Service



Anzac Day Fly-Overs

Townsville Strand,

Woodstock & Kelso Services

<p>President David Graham PO Box 425 TOLGA Q 4882 0407 008 896 davidg@fnoc.com.au</p>	<p>Vice-President Ian Graham PO Box 858 ATHERTON Q 4883 0419 703 926 iandkgraham@gmail.com</p>	<p>Secretary Tracey Hayes PO Box 608 KURANDA Q 4881 0418 963 796 info@azurephotography.com.au</p>	<p>Treasurer Jon Collins PO Box 1360 ATHERTON Q 4883 0438 634 411 jc4487@gmail.com</p>
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PRESIDENTS REPORT MARCH 2015

Hello everyone.

Welcome to this edition of the newsletter and my latest report.

We have had some wonderful flying conditions and a few of us are making the most of it.



Last month we flew to Undara and stayed in a carriage for the Rock and Blues festival. Jack and Jenny drove out as they were a bit nervous to leave their trike beside the runway as it is not fenced and apparently cows love to munch on Dacron. Connie and I flew out and back in the Glasair. Quick trip but a bit of advice, although I had called and confirmed a landing time, it pays to fly over and let them know you are arriving. We just landed on time but know one came to pick us up so we started walking till we found a nice mound of rocks which I climbed to get phone signal. Gave them a call and they arrived in no time. After settling into our little room we met up with Jack and Jen for dinner and the music. They had a total of 5 bands play and they were all amazing with a super atmosphere of drinking and dancing with a wonderful backdrop of the Aussie Bush. After several roadies we headed off to bed. The next morning we walked out into the bush for a special bush breakfast. Bacon Eggs Toast coffee etc. We then went for a couple of short walks and back to the resort for a cool drink and listen to more music, these guys were so good and combined bands off and on playing through to we departed around 2.30. thanks to Jack and Jenny for coming we had such a good time and can't wait till next year.

We have also been down to Airlie Beach with the Innisfail boys for a breakfast and swim on Sunday.

I also flew Gary out to Cloncurry and back so he could fly his aircraft back.

The next day North Queensland Aero Club held their annual Norship Air Race.

This year we had to fly from Mareeba, Mt Mulgrave and then land at Lakeland. Answering questions on the way. Once everyone arrived we then took off again back to Mareeba via Mt Mulligan.

We had to nominate a time for our trip and the closest won. We were only seconds off our nominated times and absolutely nailed it, making Connie and I the 2015 Champs. Thanks to all the organisers and sponsors for a great day.

This weekend we have a few aircraft heading down to Old Station near Gladstone for their flyin. They are expecting over 200 aircraft so it should be a great weekend. I will give you all the details of our trip in the next newsletter. The weekend after is the trip to Greenvale so plenty of activity for you all to enjoy.

I would like to welcome some new members, Greg McNab and Jack and Jenny Cross. Thanks for joining and we look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting.

As I had to work last weekend, I would like to thank everyone for their help with the last meeting and to Ted for the BBQ. As mentioned we are sharing the venue for our meeting and BBQ and the next one will be held in Jon Collins Hanger on the Sunday 21st June.

Until next time.

Fly Safe,

***Dave Graham,
President,
Atherton Aero Club***

THIS MONTHS COVER

From Dave Henry: "Photos of myself in VH-RRO and Graeme Atchinson in his vintage Tiger Moth performing a small formation fly past over several Townsville area Anzac day events. We performed our first fly past over the Balgal Beach RSL dawn service (just after first light) and later on in the day over the Strand in Townsville, Woodstock and Kelso Anzac services".

EDITOR'S NOTE - by Bill Gronbeck

Hello and welcome to Newsletter No 280. A thank you to Bob Hayes, Dave Henry, Danny Cosgriff, Dave Graham and others who contributed to this edition. Please contact me with your newsletter contributions on any of the following: (07) 4036 2868 or 0408 073 142 or by email at - billgron@bigpond.com

Keep an eye on our club's Facebook Page and Website Calendar for the latest on coming events.

Web Page <http://www.athertonaeroclub.org/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AthertonAeroClub?ref=hl>

Regards and safe flying.



AMENDMENT TO CAO 95.55

Changes to regulations sometimes slip by without us noticing. Here is a recent amendment that will be of interest to the owners of Certified (Factory Built) Aircraft.

It is now possible to (legally) modify a Certified Type RAAus registered aircraft (but **not** an LSA Type). The amended CAO outlines a process by which approval **might** be obtained to, for example, re-locate a switch or instrument to a position that is more convenient to the pilot.

NOTE that a formal application process **MUST** be followed and an approval received **before** any modifications can be made.

The following example may help to clarify the Certified Vs LSA thing. The Factory Built Jabiru J160C and earlier are CERTIFIED, the later Jabiru J160D is LSA.

Refer to Page 16 of the May 2015 edition of Sport Pilot and to the Amended CAO 95.55 for the complete details.

THE CANBERRA BALLOON FESTIVAL 2015—By Bob Hayes



This year marked the 29th year running of the Canberra Balloon Spectacular, although for us it was only our first. If we had known how good it is, we would have made the effort to get to a few more before this one! This year, approx 35 hot air balloons of all shapes and sizes, and from all points of the compass, made their way to Canberra to enjoy some incredible flying and great hospitality.

We arrived in Canberra a couple of days before the start of the festival, to find our feet and get a sense of the city. It has been many years since we had visited the city, so it was good to be back, doing the touristy thing.

I will now attempt to compare and contrast between the Canberra balloon spectacular and an 'average' fixed wing fly in.

To attend the 'average' fly in, you will be required to pay for the fuel used during the event, because the fly in is usually out the back of nowhere, the fuel is abnormally expensive, and difficult to get. Canberra offers free fuel to all participants, for the duration of the event, available at any service station.

Sleeping arrangements at an average event consists of either a tent (if you have a big aeroplane) or under a wing, not necessarily yours. Canberra offers 4 star hotel accommodation for crews, again, free of charge. Breakfast at a fly in might be a quick cup of coffee, with a smart look around before a fly. Breakfast at Canberra was a choice of bacon, eggs, toast, sausages and beans or pancakes, washed down with proper tea, coffee or hot chocolate, all cooked by the local lions club, before or after a fly, again free of charge for pilot and your crew.

Average fly in, out in the boonies, 50 miles from the nearest bitumen road. Canberra balloons launch smack in the city, out front of old Parliament House, only a short stroll from the breakfast tent. Special permission is granted to drive on the manicured lawns.

Average fly in, the weather briefing is a wet finger stuck in the air to determine wind strength and direction. At Canberra, a retired meteorologist spends half the night chasing helium balloons around the country side, then punches the numbers using some slick secret computer programs that then spat out weather that was incredibly accurate, with wind speed and direction every 500ft to 3,500ft, all in an impressive power point presentation.

At an average fly-in, you might get a local wander over for a look. In Canberra, in 10 days we had over 30,000 spectators!

The average fly-in does not normally have storm troopers! Canberra did, they were guarding the Yoda balloon that had travelled from Belgium! (although I don't think the light sabres were real....)

Continued/

THE CANBERRA BALLOON FESTIVAL 2015—Continued

Granted, we didn't have Karaoke, and the dancing girls were a bit thin on the ground, but we did get to see the Canberra symphony orchestra play a tribute to the Anzacs, and the 1812 overture accompanied by artillery lined up along Lake Burley Griffin! (As the composer Tchaikovsky said, it might not be memorable, but it will be loud!).



The flying?

Ah yes, the flying...

We flew 9 days out of 10; the only day we didn't fly was because there wasn't enough wind! The water police said they were happy to come out on the lake and tow us in, they just didn't have 35 boats!

Canberra balloon flying is pretty testing. The festival has a special airspace clearance to 3,500 ft amsl, with an operating line that must not be crossed to the east of the city. To give you some idea, the top of the Telstra tower on Black Mountain is 3,200ft amsl, with ground level around 1,300ft amsl. So, not a lot of height to change speed or direction, add to that the gigantic lake right in the middle of everything, mix in minimum height restrictions over certain places, along with 35 other aircraft, also with no steering, and you can see that the flying is technical and difficult. Perfect for low time pilots such as Curtis and myself!

What could possibly go wrong?

Well, in the end, not much actually!

We took a little long to make a few key decisions and a slowing breeze meant we had to land on a road in a pine forest on the first day, and on the last day we took three hours to disassemble the balloon envelope, basket, burners and tanks, and then lift it all over a locked gate, finishing just as the ranger turned up to open said locked gate!

Another day we landed on a boat ramp, between some very expensive vehicles and lots of pointy poles and street signs.

Continued/



THE CANBERRA BALLOON FESTIVAL 2015—Continued



Other places we landed included a cricket pitch (no game interrupted, fortunately) and a running track beside the lake.

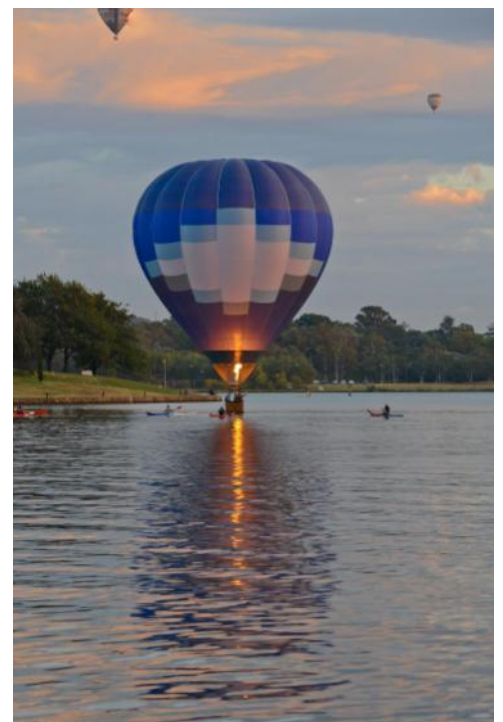
My favourite landing place was a small park beside Parliament House, actually called the Magna Carta park, which we landed in after a scenic approach that included the British, American and Chinese embassies! Those diplomats must watch a lot of television, judging by the amount of satellite dishes on their roof-rooftops! We did glow slightly that night!

The Telstra tower is a distinctive landmark, able to be seen from pretty much every part of the city. Being in a hot air balloon tracking straight towards the great big pointy tower certainly gets the pilots attention. My Mum thought it was lovely and that I was very clever to get her so close to the tower....! After the flying, the choice of places to visit and things to do is almost unlimited. Between 4wd tours given by the local club volunteering as crew, to the War Memorial, to the National Museum, there is always something to do.

Canberra surprised us with its hospitality. The event is incredibly well organised, the weather was great, the people amazing and the flying spectacular.

We will definitely be going again next year.

Video link here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6PmjjEYMYEg>





CANBERRA BALLOON FESTIVAL 2015

Photos: Tracey & Bob Hayes

UNDARA MUSIC WEEKEND—Photos by Dave and Connie Graham.

See the Presidents Report on page 2.



Undara Airstrip



Dave, Connie, Jenny & Jack



MORE PHOTOS FROM THE UNDARA MUSIC WEEKEND



The Montgomery Brothers performing at Undara



NORTH QUEENSLAND AERO CLUB NEWS

A great day had by all in the 2015 Norship Air Race. Blue skies and smooth air for the seven aircraft participating over the race route Mareeba—Mount Mulgrave—Lakeland—Mount Mulligan—Mareeba.

And The Winner Is

Dave and Connie Graham

Congratulations to Dave and Connie who were only a few seconds off having a perfect score. Commiserations to Bob and others who had to withdraw at the last moment for mechanical and other reasons, better luck next year.



2015 Norship Marine Air Race Competitors, Organizers & Supporters

PHOTOS FROM THE 2015 NORSHIP AIR RACE



Above & Below: The Line-up at Lakeland Downs



One of the race tasks was for crews to take "selfies". Here are some of the results.



Bottom Right: A big job for the Judges in calculating the race results.



More PHOTOS FROM THE 2015 NORSHIP AIR RACE



DAVE GRAHAMS PHOTOS—Airlie Beach & Lakeland Downs



***Dave, Connie and the Innisfail Boys at Airlie Beach.
Making the most of the good weather.***



Dave & Connie arrive at Lakeland Downs (a whole one second late)

DAVE GRAHAMS PHOTOS—Cloncurry Trip



A quick trip to Cloncurry and back



DANNY COSGRIFF'S AMERICA TRIP

Dan is a *big* C&W Music fan which was the main reason for the trip to the States that he and brother-in-law Andrew undertook last March. However, Dan being the aviation enthusiast he is, there were also some other interesting sites visited during their travels. Here are a few of Dan's photos from the Houston Space Centre.



Left: Danny checks out the Space Shuttle cockpit.

Thinks "I wonder if I can scrounge any of this gear for my Jabiru?"

Below: The Houston Control Centre preserved exactly as it was during the Apollo Space Program that saw man land on the Moon.

Below: The Ultimate "Gate Guard", Space Shuttle "Independence" and Boeing 747 carrier (minus engines).



DANNY COSGRIFF'S AMERICA TRIP—Continued

An exact copy of the International Space Station (dis-assembled so it will fit in the building of course) is maintained in working condition for equipment evaluation and to assist with fault finding on the actual station. If any of equipment is added, modified or re-located on the orbiting station the change is duplicated on this earthbound copy.



DANNY COSGRIFF'S AMERICA TRIP—Continued

Right: Fancy a trip to Mars? Only a one way ticket at present. Could be a bit of a problem with cabin fever for the crew in this capsule.

Below Left & Right: Various Mars surface transport and accommodation designs.



***Right and following page:
The various components of
the Saturn V rocket used
during the Apollo Moon
Landing Program.***

***Again much too tall for the
building so the stages are
exhibited disconnected and
in a horizontal position.***



DANNY COSGRIFF'S AMERICA TRIP—Continued

Dan and Andrew were given access to some areas that are not normally made available to the public. It pays to have the contacts.



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Engine compressions good.

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GPS – Garmin Aera 500 (touch screen) attached to top of dash.

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Contact: Jon Collins 0438 634411 or jc4487@gmail.com



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Contact Barry Smith on 0457 816 761 for further details.



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AIRCRAFT FOR SALE

Piper Cherokee PA-28-140
1971 Model
Registration VH-RRO

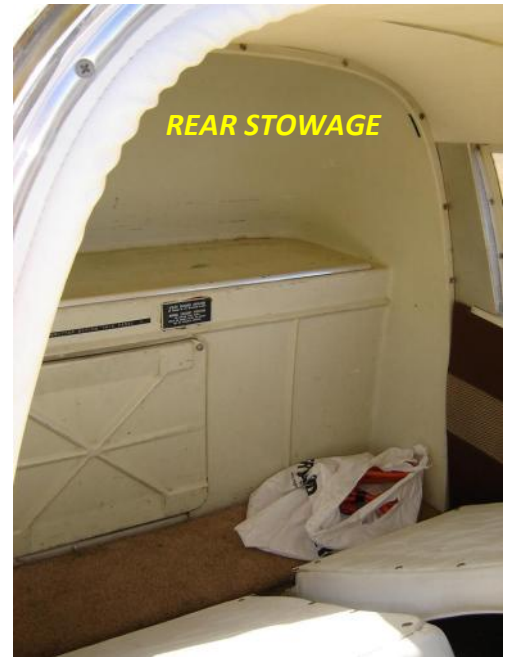
Price: \$36000 no GST



150hp, TTIS 7800hrs approx., Prop & engine 700hrs TBO approx., fresh 100 hrly, located Townsville QLD, excellent maintenance history, all ADs complete, rebuilt ailerons, new wing walk skins, new spinner, AGM battery, near new carpets, Met-Co-Aire Hoerner wing tips, NTVFR. Bendix King KX 170, NARCO COM 11A, Bendix ADF-T12c, King KT 78 Transponder, AvMap EKP IV 7" GPS. View wingtip modification information at:

http://www.metcoaire.com/technical/tech_hoerner_design.shtml

Contact: David Henry 0407 400 783



INTERESTING and/or USEFUL LINKS:

<http://experimenter.epubxp.com/i/492505-apr-2015>

EAA Experimenter eMagazine April 2015

http://jabiru.net.au/images/Jaba_Chat_March_2015.pdf

Jabiru Chat Newsletter March 2015

<http://www.flightsafetyaustralia.com/2015/04/>

Flight Safety Australia Magazine April 2015

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6PmjjEYMYEg&feature=youtu.be>

Canberra Ballooning Spectacular 2015

<http://www.bbc.com/travel/bespoke/story/20150424-a-view-that-puts-window-seats-to-shame/index.html>

Aircam Flight Photos

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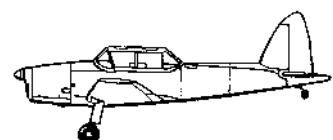
1 Jack Street, ATHERTON QLD 4883

We deliver throughout the Far North

ATHERTON AERO CLUB MONTHLY BBQ

Our next get-together will take place on **SUNDAY the 21st of JUNE** commencing 10am. The usual get-together and chat followed by a BBQ lunch.

Venue: This month at **Jon Collin's Hangar**, third on the left inside Atherton Aerodrome.



Atherton Aero Club

AAC—2015 EVENTS CALENDAR

May *Fri 22nd to Sun 24th—Old Station Fly-In & Heritage Show.*

May *TBA—Possible Bowen Fly-In (not the first weekend).*

(See RAA Web site for other RAAus 2015 Fly-Ins).

North Queensland Aero Club

NQAC—2015 EVENTS CALENDAR

June *TBA—Tarmac Black Tie Ball.*

July *Sat 4th & Sun 5th—Fly-In (Einasleigh or Statten River).*

August *Sunday 16th—Spot Landing Competition, Atherton.*

October *Sunday 4th—AGM.*

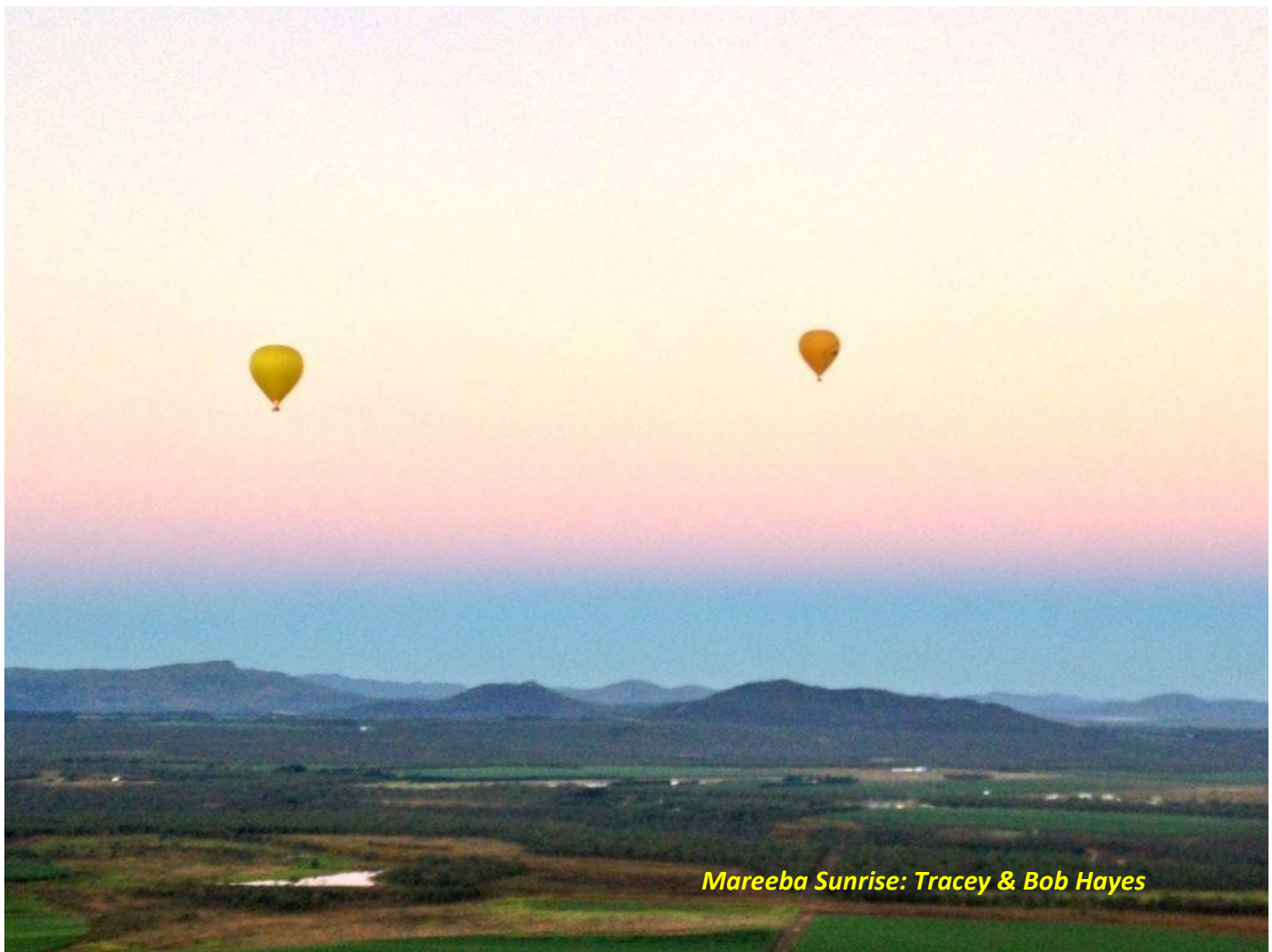
November *Sunday 15th—Fun Night.*

December *Saturday 5th—Wings Night, Cairns Casino.*

Other regular club events:

BBQ—First Friday of each month,

Evening BBQ/Afternoon Tea—Mareeba hangar 2nd Saturday Afternoon of
each month.



Mareeba Sunrise: Tracey & Bob Hayes



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Atherton Aero Club - Membership Application / Renewal

New Member

Returning Member



PERSONAL DETAILS

Full name				Date of Birth			
Street address				State		Postcode	
Postal address				State		Postcode	
Email address				Occupation			
Telephone	ah		bh		mobile		

MEMBERSHIP

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 45.00	Single Member	Single member with voting rights
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 55.00	Family Member	Two members with voting rights
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 35.00	Associate Member	Single member with NO voting rights
<input type="checkbox"/>	no charge	Student Member	Single member with NO voting rights

PAYMENT

Forms to be sent to: *The Treasurer* or email to: treasurer@athertonaeroclub.org
Atherton Aero Club
PO Box 227
ATHERTON QLD 4883

Payments can be made by: *Cheque, cash, EFT or at the Bendigo Bank*

EFT Details: *Atherton Aero Club BSB 633108 ACC 114331796 (Ref - Your Name)*

I hereby apply for membership to the Atherton Aero Club and agree to abide by the Constitution and any rules and regulations thereof. I further agree that my contact details may be made available to other members of the association as the Management Committee deems necessary.

Signed _____ Dated _____

Print name: _____ Print name: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Membership type		Receipt No		Fee Paid	\$
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