

Newsletter No. 273 – December 2013, January 2014



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.

Atherton Aero Club - Annual General Meeting

Sunday 16th March 2014 Commencing 10:30 am

DJ's Hangar, Atherton Airfield

EASTER FLY IN



See Poster Page 8

President

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EDITOR'S NOTE - by Bill Gronbeck

Hello and welcome to Newsletter No 273. In this edition:

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| +Presidents Report | +More Flight Planning Software |
| +Easter Fly-In Starke Airfield | +Navigation Refresher Workshop |
| +Christmas Party Photos | +NQAC News |
| +Dave & Connie's Christmas Trip | +Interesting Links |

A thank you to those 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

Cheers and safe flying.

PRESIDENTS REPORT MARCH 2014



Hello Everyone,

Hope you are enjoying this wonderful rain and it is not keeping you on the ground too much. With the wet season arriving later than usual we had some wonderful weather of the Christmas period. We still need more out western Queensland to help the farmers.

This is my last report for the year as our AGM will be held next month. I encourage all to attend. If you feel you would like to offer you assistance on the committee it would be much appreciated and we will be in need of a Secretary and Treasurer as Leanne and Jon will be standing down at the meeting. We have achieved some great results with a great new logo, the web site and the land option from the council. The next goal is the funding grants to build on the land. With a small number of actual flying members I would like to see more events for us all to attend and enjoy. If you would like to arrange a social/flying trip please call Ian Graham and book it in. I will stand again as President if you all will have me.

Connie and I flew more than twenty hours in the Bonanza over Christmas heading down to Brisbane to catch up with the family. We landed in Redcliffe staying a few nights then flew up to the Sunshine Coast taking family and friends on scenic flights up the coast to Fraser Island and past Rainbow Beach. We also went out to Goondiwindi where our daughter lives on a cotton farm. With the Christmas holidays all military air space was deactivated which made for easy flying around Toowoomba and Oakey. The flight home only took 5.2 hours and we stopped in Mackay for a stretch. Clear Skies and smooth flying made for a very enjoyable holiday. Once home, DJ and I started working our new hanger at Atherton, not long now as we are running out of parts.

.At last month's meeting we had visitors from Blue Water Airport north of Townsville and we really appreciate their efforts to come alone. There are some wonderful opportunities to meet more often with these wonderful people. There is a fly-in to Starkey Field over Easter and more information can be obtained from Bill Gronbeck.

In finishing I would like to thank all the committee for their efforts throughout the year. To everyone who put up their hand and cook the BBQ and to DJ for providing the location for our meeting.

Regards.

Dave Graham,, President, Atherton Aero Club



MORE FLIGHT PLANNING SOFTWARE—By Bill Gronbeck

AirNav VFR—Following on from my previous article about software for Android devices I continued to scout around for other useful flight planning software. The latest program that I have evaluated is AirNav VFR. The trial version I downloaded does not have all the bells and whistles of the full version but enough to make a good assessment of the programs capabilities.

After building several flight plans and working through the map printing options I have decided that this is the program that most suits my own individual requirements.

The most useful feature, for those who do not possess an iPad or an Android tablet, is the ability to plan using digitized current copies of Airservices WAC, VNC, VTC etc charts and then to print out the area covering the planned route. Weather and Notams can be downloaded from NAIPS and if required a flight plan submitted in the approved format. The flight plan can also be uploaded from your PC or Laptop to your GPS thus saving much duplication of effort.

iPad and iPhone users are not left out in the cold as there is also a feature for uploading the flight plan onto those platforms.

Pictured below is a simple flight plan constructed using the Melbourne VNC. The smaller window is the Checklist tool used during the process.



When flight planning has been finalized the route can be printed out on A4 sheets with a suitable overlap (e.g. three sheets required to cover this route). We then have a set of *legal* hard copy maps to use during our flight.

MORE FLIGHT PLANNING SOFTWARE—Continued

When planning, maps may be zoomed as required to enable easier reading of fine detail. The following picture of a short flight in a relatively congested area is an example of that feature.



Subscription options and pricing are available on the following website:

<http://www.sentientsoftware.com.au/index.html>

A basic subscription comes with charts for one area (e.g. all of Queensland), additional chart areas may be purchased for around \$30 per region. It should be noted that charts will become unusable after their expiry date. (This requirement has been imposed by Airservices Australia to prevent the use of out-of-date charts when flight planning).

So we now have software programs available to suit just about any user preference and/or combination of PC, Laptop, iPad, iPhone & Android Tablet/Phone that a person might have. I won't say that any one particular program is the best, they all have their pluses and minuses. Best check out the following links (in no particular order) and make up your own mind.

<http://www.commandsoftware.com.au/>

<http://www.ozrunways.com/products.jsp>

<http://www.skydemon.aero/>

<http://www.pocketfms.com/easyvfr/>

<http://www.pocketfms.com.au/>

EASTER FLY-IN STARKE AIRFIELD

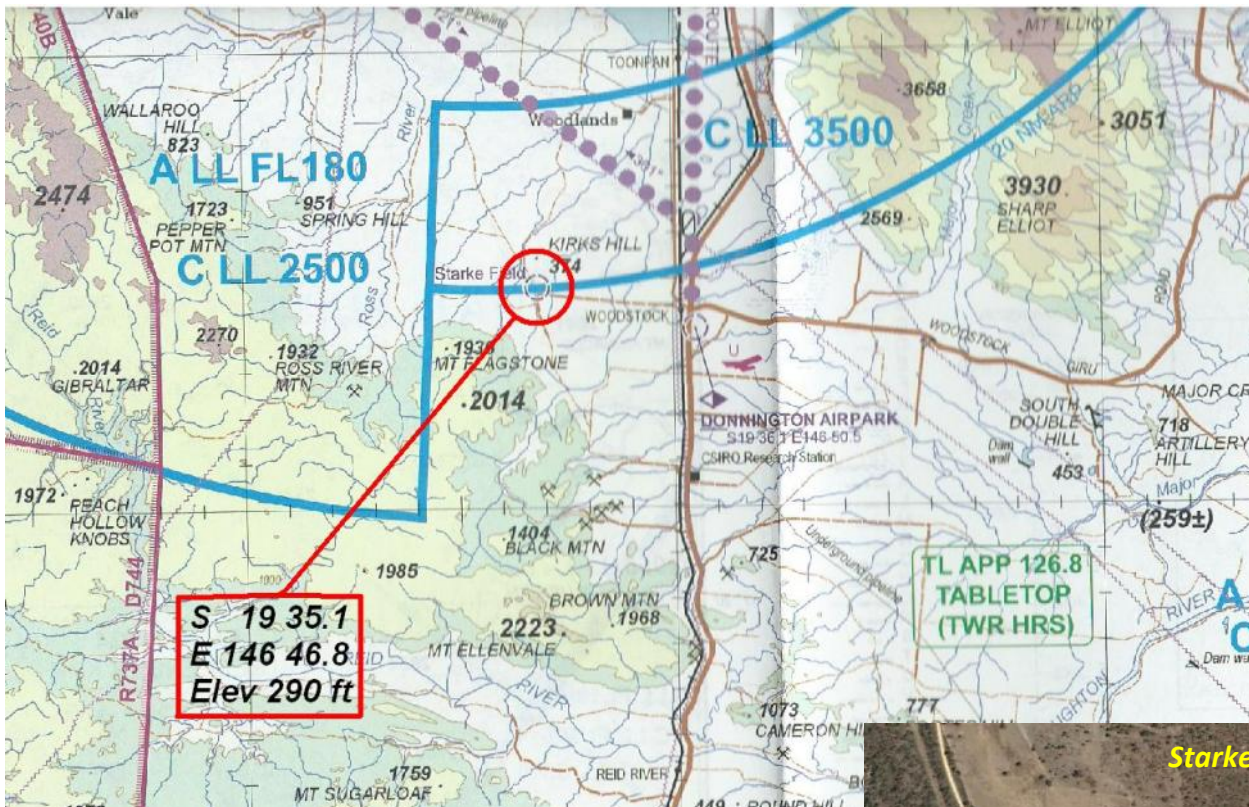
The following is an invitation to a fly-in at Starke Airfield outside of Townsville:

"..... the Easter fly-in is on at Starkie Airfield . People are free to fly in at any time. Most people fly in on Friday and leave Monday. A band will be playing on Saturday night. A few fuel runs to town will be available if required. We will prepack and sell Barbeque packs for a Barbeque on Saturday night and breakfast at \$5 per head (sausage egg and toast). Please let us know food requirements so we can stock up. Accommodation is either under the stars or caravans can be brought into the camp site at \$5/night. Showers and toilet facilities are available. A flyer will be sent out tonight. Please let as many people know as possible.

Best Regards, Robert MacKenzie, Director: ACE Aviation and Engineering

Phone 07 47788872, Mobile 0410 655159, Email rob.mackenzie@inet.net.au

Please contact Rob if you are planning to attend.



The flyer will be circulated when it becomes available.

A great opportunity for an Easter holidays flight and not too far away at that.

0000000 Atherton Aero Club FUN NAV 0000000

Poor weather conditions forced the cancellation of the planned Fun Nav on the 16th of Feb.

This event has now been re-scheduled to take place **Next Sunday the 2nd of March.**

“Atherton Aero Club is hoping to conduct a Fun Nav this coming Sunday morning (02/03/14), weather permitting.

We are hoping to leave the Atherton Airfield at 7.30am sharp for a flight to Mareeba, Innisfail and return to Atherton.

All Pilots are required to have a passenger/ navigator.

Please contact IAN GRAHAM on 0419703926 if you intend to participate”.

Navigation Refresher WORKSHOP—By Bill Gronbeck

Apologies again for the delay in getting the workshop going. I have a little free time at last and will contact those who previously expressed an interest in attending.

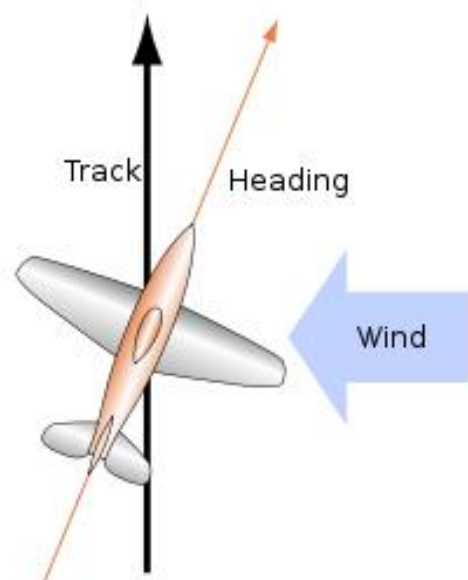
We all have demands on our time during the week so it would seem that weekends are the best time for most people. How about a short effort for starters, say 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm on a Saturday or Sunday, to see what people would best benefit from before we move on to something bigger?

Have a good think about what you personally would like help with or a refresher on and we will take it from there.

Some possible dates—Sunday afternoon on the 9th, 16th or 23rd of March?



Honeywell Bendix-King AV8OR





ACE Aviation would like to invite you to attend our Easter Fly In 18-21 April 2014.

VENUE

Fly in Friday or any time over the weekend.

Barbeque packs on sale for \$10. which includes a piece of steak, chop and sausage. Barbeque, salads, tea and coffee provided. Gold donation for cold drinks. Please phone to order barbeque packs in advance. \$5 breakfast available. Live band on Saturday night.

Notes

Starke

Latitude - 19.35.17 South
 Longitude - 146.46.86 East
 Elevation - 300 feet AMSL
 Radio frequency - 126.7
 Circuit - Left Hand
 Main strip - 33 /15 (1km grass)
 Hazards - Trees on approach, kangaroos

Facilities

Camping - Free
 Caravans - \$25/weekend
 Toilets / Showers - available

Contacts

Rob MacKenzie - 0410655159
 ACE Aviation - 07 47788872
 Liz MacKenzie - 0424262275

NORTH QUEENSLAND AERO CLUB NEWS

A great response to the clubs recent "learning to fly" promotion. As a result a dozen or so Trial Flights were booked, about half for the Cessna 152 and a half for the Jabiru.

As usual in these cases Murphy intervened and the chosen Saturday was a complete wash-out. The flights have since been re-scheduled and our fingers are crossed for better weather.



***En-route Innisfail
To Ingham in Danny
Cosgriff's Jabiru***

***Hinchinbrook Channel on a
beautiful sunny day with Bill
and Danny***

***Yes, this was well before the
wet set in***



PHOTOS FROM DAVE & CONNIES CHRISTMAS TRIP

“Connie and I flew more than twenty hours in the Bonanza over Christmas heading down to Brisbane to catch up with the family. We landed in Redcliffe staying a few nights then flew up to the Sunshine Coast taking family and friends on scenic flights up the coast to Fraser Island and past Rainbow Beach. We also went out to Goondiwindi where our daughter lives on a cotton farm. With the Christmas holidays all military air space was deactivated which made for easy flying around Toowoomba and Oakey. The flight home only took 5.2 hours and we stopped in Mackay for a stretch. Clear Skies and smooth flying made for a very enjoyable holiday. Once home, DJ and I started working our new hanger at Atherton, not long now as we are running out of parts”.



Above—On the way to Emerald



Right—Dave & Connie at Sunny Coast



Above—Sunny Coast Airport

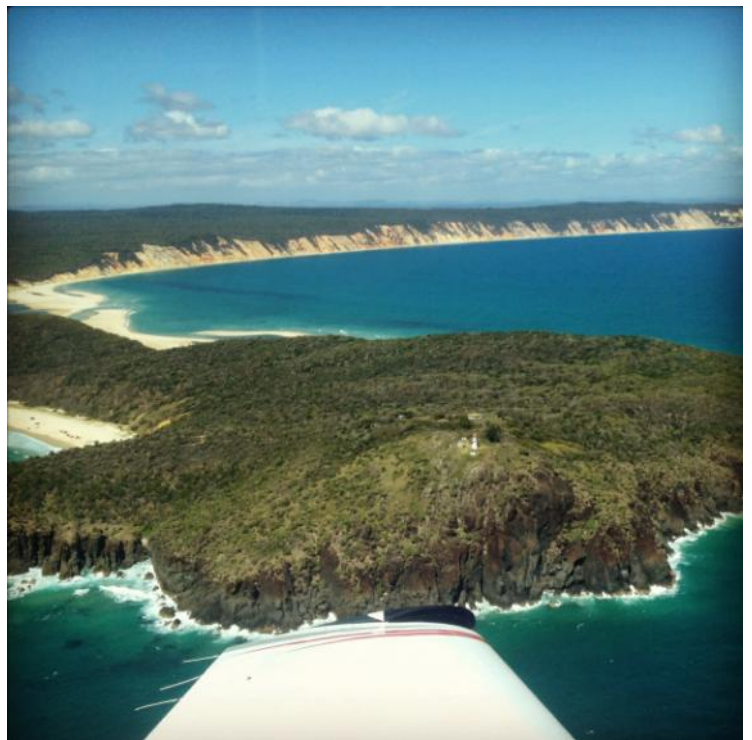


Right—Smooth flying. Check that inversion layer

PHOTOS FROM DAVE & CONNIES CHRISTMAS TRIP—Continued



Above—Colored sands at Rainbow Beach



Right—Double Island Point



Left—Parked on the AG strip near Goondiwindi

Below Left—Merry Christmas from Bella

Below—On the cotton farm



DAVE & DJs NEW HANGAR



Top Left—Hangar Start

***Top Right—DJ's helper Hunter
Fixing the first sheet***



Others—Building progresses

INTERESTING LINKS & BLOGS:

<http://www.newstalkzb.co.nz/Auckland/video/video-cockpit-view-landing-at-queenstown-airport> *Great aerial video*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUdzVnZBaoY> *Foxbat lands on ship*

<http://experimenter.epubxp.com/i/215415> *EAA Experimenter eMagazine Nov 2013*

<http://experimenter.epubxp.com/i/234576> *EAA Experimenter eMagazine Dec 2013*

<http://experimenter.epubxp.com/i/247918> *EAA Experimenter eMagazine Jan 2014*

<http://experimenter.epubxp.com/i/254584> *EAA Experimenter eMagazine Feb 2014*

<http://player.vimeo.com/video/48642618> *Water Bombing Forest Fires*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wVq3dfDDFKY> *Bird Strike from Cockpit*

<http://blog.aopa.org/opinionleaders/2014/01/14/the-waddington-effect/>
Maintenance, The Waddington Effect

<http://www.youtube.com/v/TneYPcyGbbY&autoplay=1&rel=0> *Seafire Restoration*

ATHERTON AERO CLUB MONTHLY BBQ

Our next regular get-together will coincide with the club **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** to be held on **SUNDAY the 16TH MARCH** commencing at **10:30 am** in DJ's Hangar, Atherton Airfield. The meeting to be followed by our usual BBQ lunch.

Please mark this important date in your calendar.

