



Newsletter No. 326

December 2021 / January 2022

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.



On final at Atherton. An old Photo from 2012 by Tracey.



Atherton Aero Club - Committee Contacts

President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer
Jack Cross PO Box 227 ATHERTON Q 4883 xjac@bigpond.net.au	Dave Camp PO Box 227 ATHERTON Q 4883 dcamp.gvale@gmail.com	Mark Aitken PO Box 227 ATHERTON Q 4883 mjaitken54@bigpond.com	Stephen Klaproth PO Box 227 ATHERTON Q 4883 sjklaproth@gmail.com

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

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

Email athertonaeroclub@gmail.com

EDITOR'S NOTE - by Bill Gronbeck

Hi All and welcome to edition No 326. A combined Dec/Jan issue due to a shortage of suitable content. Instead some links to interesting articles from elsewhere. Who was the first pilot to fly solo across the Tasman? I had no idea! — read on for the answer. Keep those flying adventures going and remember to send us your photos and stories.



A thank you to Brendan, Simon, Paul, Maxime, the FNQAM, the NQAC and others who contributed content 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 -

williamgronbeck2@gmail.com

Watch the AAC, NQAC, Burdekin Flyers, FNQ Flyers, Donnington and Innisfail Facebook Pages for details of calendar changes and other short notice events. Check out the AAC Website for the YATN weather-cam and older AAC Newsletters.



Due to the ongoing completion work at the Atherton Club Facility, the January & February third Sunday meetings/BBQs have been **Cancelled**.

The next **AAC Club Meeting** will be our **Annual General Meeting** on **Sunday the 20th of March 2022** starting at **10:30am**.

Venue the **AAC Atherton Aerodrome** storage facility.

Visitors are most welcome.



ATHERTON AERO CLUB 2021 CHRISTMAS PARTY

A great afternoon and evening get together with friends in pleasant surroundings. An excellent venue for our end of year celebrations. Not many photos; we were too busy talking.



Photos by Brendan and Bill



And A Happy New Year To All



AROUND AND ABOUT IN THE FAR NORTH

Thanks to Simon Perkins for sending these great shots through of “Charlie” (VH-CVB), his Mooney, being baby-sat by this beautiful monster B777 at WellCamp airport during December. Such a contrast!



Photos Simon Perkins



The Case For Flight Helmets

Paul Bertorelli, AVweb, January 2, 2022



A few years ago, I had a friend stay overnight and when I showed him the guest bedroom, his immediate reaction: “Wow, you do a lot of sports that require helmets.” And there they were lined up on the shelf, helmets for motorcycling, bicycling and skydiving. My welding helmet was in the garage. I do not, however, have a helmet for flying. And I don’t have a particularly cogent explanation for that. I just never got around to it. Maxime Compagnon’s [YouTube crash video](#), which we’re featuring this week, has caused me to rethink this. He crashed at high elevation in the Austrian Alps after striking a wire.....

Follow Link to continue story: [The Case For Flight Helmets - AVweb](#)

Post Crash Analysis and Safety Gear

Vieux-Bandit (*Maxime Compagnon*)

This is a small post crash analysis about what happened to me recently.

Link: [Post crash analysis and safety gear - YouTube](#)

The target of this video is to show you which particular safety gear items increased considerably our survival chances.

I hope this will help some of you out in your flying activities?

The report from the FAA, I mention in the video is:

“Fatal and Serious Injury Accidents in Alaska. A Retrospective of the years 2004 through 2009” with Special Emphasis on Post Crash survival. By Federal Aviation Administration, Aviation Safety Alaskan Region. December, 2010

You can find the mentioned video about safety vest with this link:

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=wc_zTGv...

As well as a great article here:

<https://backcountrypilot.org/knowledg...>

A video about the updated chin strap for all MSA Gallet LH50/250 flight helmet can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/kvhNr3gwnSl>



FORGOTTEN HISTORY: The First SOLO Trans-Tasman Flight



Mr. Guy Menzies, who flew from Sydney to New Zealand in 12 hours 12 minutes, beating Kingsford Smith's record. A.P.P.

Guy Lambton Menzies (20 August 1909 – 1 November 1940) was an Australian aviator who flew the first solo trans-Tasman flight, from Sydney, Australia to the West Coast of New Zealand, on **7 January 1931 (91 Years Ago)**.

The first crossing of the Tasman by air had been achieved on 10–11 September 1928 by Charles Kingsford Smith and Charles Ulm in the *Southern Cross*.

The plane Menzies used for his solo crossing was the Avro Sports Avian that Smith had flown from England to Australia, the *Southern Cross Junior*.

Fearing he might be denied permission for the flight, Menzies informed the authorities and his family that he was flying to Perth. Instead, he left Sydney at 1 AM on 7 January 1931, and headed for Blenheim, New Zealand.

Poor weather forced Menzies off course, and after 11 hours and 45 minutes he crash-landed upside-down in the La Fontaine Swamp near Hari Hari on New Zealand's West Coast.

As soon as it became known that Mr Menzies was heading for New Zealand, Colonel Horace C. Brinsmead, at that time Controller of Civil Aviation in Australia, dispatched a message to the Director of Air Services in the Defence Department in New Zealand. He asked for word about Menzies.

"Pilot G. L. Menzies left Sydney at 1 a.m. this morning flying solo in an Avro Avian aircraft G-ABCF with destination New Zealand. This department had no prior knowledge of Menzies' proposal. I understand he had fuel for 18 hours' flight. Appreciate earliest advice of news of his arrival in New Zealand."

The day after the successful flight Colonel Brinsmead's New Zealand opposite number replied.

"Pilot Menzies made forced landing 20 miles south of Ross 3.12 p.m. yesterday. News of arrival and your cable arrived too late for early advice. Remarkable achievement, but hope no more unheralded flights of this nature."

A note on the departmental file records the time of the flight as 12 hours 47 minutes. Leslie Jillett, in his book "Wings over [sic] the Tasman" gives the time as 12 hours 12 minutes and the aviator's mother is reported to have said that his flying time was still half an hour less than that. — *The Press, Tuesday, 13 July 1954.*

Despite the unfortunate landing, Menzies had broken Smith and Ulm's time by 2½ hours.

Continued

The First SOLO Trans-Tasman Flight (Continued)



By Archives New Zealand from New Zealand - Australian aviator Guy Menzies, CC BY-SA 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=51249707>

On 7 January 1931 Australian aviator Guy Menzies crash landed in the La Fontaine Swamp, near [Hari Hari](#) on the West Coast of New Zealand

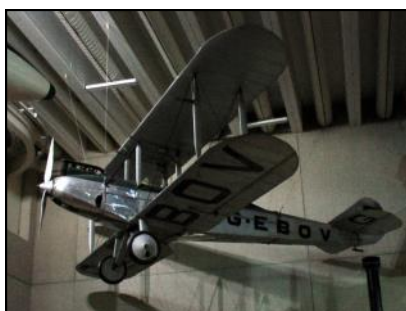
Guy Menzies joined the *Royal Air Force* in 1936, and served as a RAF squadron leader during the Second World War. He was part of the crew of one of the two Sunderland aircraft that rescued the crew of the torpedoed *Kensington Court* on 18 September 1939.

He and his crew were killed on 1 November 1940, when his *Short Sunderland* flying boat was shot down over the Mediterranean Sea en-route from Malta to Sicily. No remains of the aircraft or crew were ever found. He is commemorated at the Alamein Memorial in Egypt.

Source: Wikipedia

G-EBOV, the prototype Avro Avian flown by [Bert Hinkler](#) on some of his record-breaking flights.

Queensland Museum, Brisbane



The Definition of "Having A Bad Day"

After a small plane crashed on train tracks in Los Angeles, California, LAPD police officers pulled the injured pilot from his aircraft moments before a train hit his crashed plane.

[LAPD officers rescue man moments before train crash - YouTube](#)



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NORTH QUEENSLAND AERO CLUB NEWS & EVENTS

A new kid on the block.



Congratulations to club members Bram and Kelly Pollock on the acquisition of an RV10, VH-YSW. With 295 horses under the cowl it goes like a dream. Bram brought it down to the club this morning for show and tell.



NORTH QUEENSLAND AERO CLUB NEWS & EVENTS



Version 7.0 of the CASA Visual Flight Rules Guide (VFRG) is now available and can be downloaded as a PDF file from the CASA website.

This latest version reflects the regulatory changes brought about by the introduction of CASR Part 91 on 2nd December 2021. Other explanatory documents are also available from the CASA website.



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Hot Air Balloon Cairns. Stunning time of year to be soaring over the lush Atherton Tablelands in a hot air balloon! Balloon tours depart daily from Cairns, Palm Cove, Port Douglas, Trinity Beach, Cairns Beaches and the Atherton Tablelands with door to door transfers included in your hot air ballooning ticket.



Go Gliding!

Most weekends, by appointment!

Call Grant on 0417 076 482 or contact us via our Facebook page!

Charters Towers Airport

Air Experience Flight - \$120

An air experience flight, is a flight in a 2 seat training glider designed to introduce you to the joys and fun of gliding.

It includes an introductory GFA membership and approximately 20 minutes worth of flying with an instructor. Additional launches and flying at club rates.

North Queensland Soaring Centre



Find us on
facebook



FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND AVIATION MUSEUM



VOLUNTEER RUN | COMMUNITY BASED | NOT FOR PROFIT | LOCALLY OPERATED

The FNQ Aviation Museum is a brand new facility due to open in the near future showcasing the incredible contribution that aviation has played in Far North Queensland's history. The Museum will create employment, volunteering, educational and training opportunities that will benefit the community and boost tourism.

GET INVOLVED TODAY!

PRESERVE | INSPIRE | EDUCATE | RESTORE



DONATE

Make a tax deductible donation.



ARTEFACTS

Preserve aviation items that will be of educational or display interest.



VOLUNTEER

Variety of roles available - admin, grants, social media, design, curation, research and history



SERVICES & MATERIALS

In-kind support to assist with building construction and restoration.



RESTORE

Help our restoration team every Thursday or Saturday.



MEMBERSHIP

Show your support by becoming a member.



SHARE

Spread the word on Facebook, Instagram and join our newsletter.

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 www.fnqam.com.au
 0422 379 984



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MEMBERSHIP



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WEBSITE



A No 43 Squadron RAAF Catalina being towed from its moorings in preparation for a mine laying sortie from Cairns, Queensland in January of 1944.

43 Squadron were to move to Darwin in April 44 for operations from Doctors Gully.

Image Reference: Argus Newspaper Collection of Photographs, State Library of Victoria.

Text Reference: AWM NEA0347 *Note coloured photo.

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Hi Everyone

Pinnarendi is now closed for the season. As there is no rest for the wicked, we were straight into firefighting mode after the recent storms! We also did a fuel reduction back burn around the House paddock to keep the caravan park safe.

Thank you all so very much for visiting us this year! The craziest year ever! Here's to many more! . Enjoy the festive season with your loved ones and we'll see you next year.

We are going to open on the 6th May, after spending Easter with our family.

Ronnie, Nadine, Joy, Carol, Stacey and Kids

Pinnarendi Station Stay & Café

<https://www.facebook.com/Pinnarendi/>

Ron Atkinson 0419 201 622



AAC EVENTS CALENDAR

**EVENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO SHORT NOTICE CANCELLATION
OR POSTPONEMENT DUE COVID19 RESTRICTIONS**

Check Your Club Website or Facebook Page For changes

Atherton Aero Club—2022 EVENTS

- Jan** Sun 16th AAC Meeting & BBQ **CANCELLED**
- Feb** Sun 20th AAC Meeting & BBQ **CANCELLED**
- Mar** Sun 20th AAC Annual General Meeting—1030 Atherton

Other Clubs 2022 Events

- Feb** Sun 27th **Donnington (YDOP) Social Fly-In Breakfast** then every
Fourth Sunday of the month through to November
- Apr** 1st – 3rd **Fly'n for Fun to Parkes (NSW)** partnered with RAAus



View from Jack's Hangar

Atherton Aero Club Fundraising - Club Treasurer Stephen has arranged the Scheme ID for members who would like to donate their 10 cents Container Refund to the club. These regular small donations will greatly assist in covering our running costs.

Congratulations Atherton Aero Club Inc! You're all set.

You've joined our Containers for Change team doing our best to make a real difference in our communities and to our environment. We're super excited to have you on board.

Here's your Containers for Change scheme ID. Your scheme ID makes it even easier to return containers and receive refunds directly to your bank account.

Scheme ID

C10476716

Save your scheme ID to your mobile wallet

iPhone users



Android users



If you don't have WalletPasses installed, you will need to download it from the Play Store.

Northern Flyers

Donnington Airpark (YDOP)



Burdekin Flyers (YAYR)

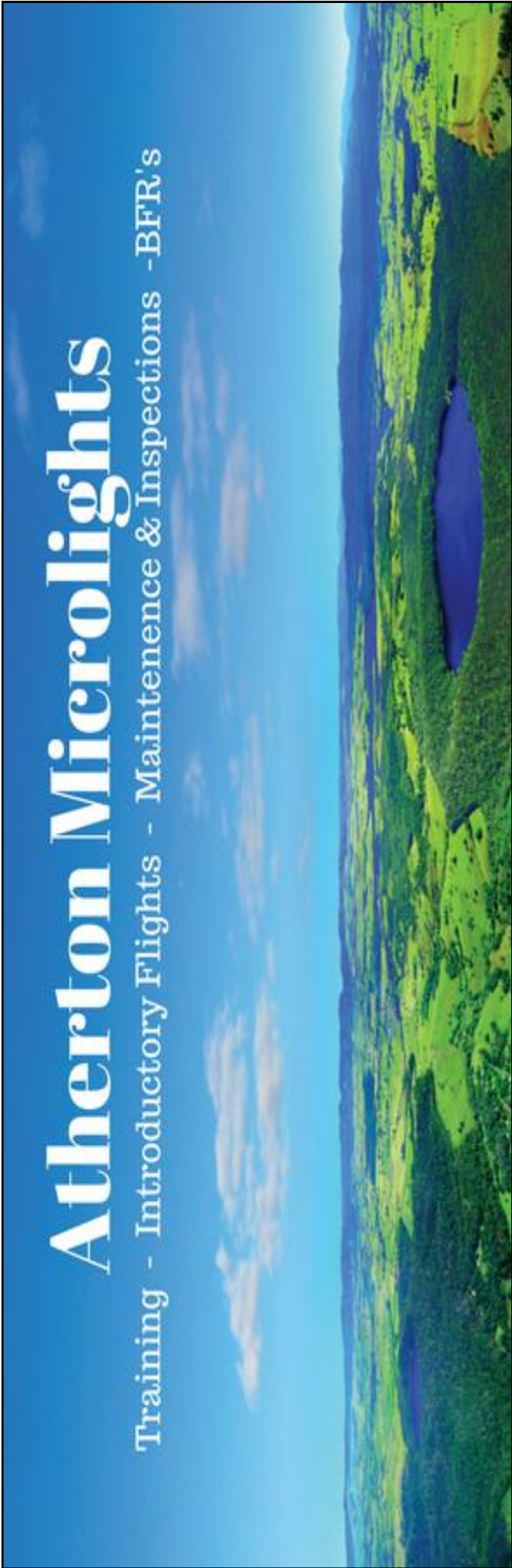


Atherton Aero Club (YATN)



Atherton Microlights

Training - Introductory Flights - Maintenance & Inspections -BFR's



Atherton YATN
Elevation 2460 feet

Flight Strip
Length 1286 mtrs Width 90 mtrs
Grass Runway
Length 1166 mtrs Width 30 mtrs

(CHECK ERSA & NOTAMS FOR CHANGES)

33

15

52

Feeney Cr

es-Hwy

NOTICE



The **Atherton Aero Club** is now an ASIC Issuing Agent for **Aviation ID Australia**.

Those seeking the issue or renewal of an Aviation Security Identification Card (ASIC) should apply directly to **Aviation ID Australia** via the following link:

<https://aviationidaustralia.net.au/application.html>

Once the ASIC card has been approved the applicant will be advised and the required “face-to-face” identity check carried out locally by an Atherton Aero Club representative. On the satisfactory completion of the identity check the local agent will hand over the ASIC card to the applicant.

AIRCRAFT FOR SALE AND WANTED

If you have, or know of, an aircraft for sale please contact me directly by telephone or email with full details. The AAC offers free advertising in the club newsletter as a service to local flyers. Direct emailing of your advert to aviators on the club mailing list is available should your advert be received after the publication cut-off date. *Bill Gronbeck, EDITOR.*



INTERESTED IN BUILDING YOUR OWN AIRCRAFT?

The Sport Aircraft Association of Australia (SAAA) is an organization that has mentored and assisted many owner builders, for both VH and Ultralight registered aircraft.

Further information on the SAAA's National and FNQ Chapter 34 websites:

<http://www.saaa.com/>

<http://www.saaafnq.com/>

Local contact is:

Laurie Wincen (Secretary) laurie19@gmail.com

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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"/>	\$ 60.00	Single Member	Single member with voting rights
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 100.00	Family Member	Two members with voting rights
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 50.00	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: <i>The Treasurer</i> <i>Stephen Klaproth</i> <i>PO Box 227</i> <i>ATHERTON QLD 4883</i>	or email to: <i>sjklaproth@gmail.com</i>
Payments can be made by: <i>EFT, Cheque, cash, or at the Bendigo Bank</i>	
EFT Details: <i>Atherton Aero Club BSB 633000 ACC 114331796 (Ref - Your Name)</i>	

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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THE LAST PAGE



Go Ahead. Make My Day!!

