



**Newsletter No. 345**

**May 2024**

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.



***Clockwise Circumnavigation  
Of Australia By Seaplane***

***Club member Geoff greets first arrival Kevin***



***Cathy & David second arrival***

## ***Atherton Aero Club - Committee Contacts***

<b>President</b> Jack Cross PO Box 227 ATHERTON Q 4883 <a href="mailto:xjac@bigpond.net.au">xjac@bigpond.net.au</a>	<b>Vice-President</b> Dave Camp PO Box 227 ATHERTON Q 4883 <a href="mailto:dcamp.gvale@gmail.com">dcamp.gvale@gmail.com</a>	<b>Secretary</b> Mark Aitken PO Box 227 ATHERTON Q 4883 <a href="mailto:mjaitken54@bigpond.com">mjaitken54@bigpond.com</a>	<b>Treasurer</b> TBA PO Box 227 ATHERTON Q 4883
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Web Page <http://www.athertonaeroclub.org/>

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


Email [athertonaeroclub@gmail.com](mailto:athertonaeroclub@gmail.com)


***EDITOR'S NOTE - by Bill Gronbeck***

Hi All and welcome to edition No 345. In this issue, seaplane visitors drop in to Atherton, an update on activities at the FNQ Air Museum and upcoming events. Keep those flying adventures going and remember to send us your photos and stories.

A thank you to the NQAC, FNQAM and other Clubs and Flying Groups 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 email at - [williamgronbeck2@gmail.com](mailto: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.





The next **AAC Club Function** will be our regular monthly social get-together and BBQ Lunch on **Sunday the 16th of June 2024**.

From **10:30am** to around midday at the **AAC Atherton Aerodrome** facility.



## **RE-ENACTMENT - THE FIRST CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF AUSTRALIA BY AIR**

While the official re-enactment had Mike Smith flying his seaplane in an anti-clockwise direction, several other seaplanes were making a similar circumnavigation but in the opposite (clockwise) direction. We were fortunate to meet up with two of them at Atherton when their arrival coincided with the AAC's Sunday meeting and BBQ on the 19th of May.



*Sunday arrival at Atherton*



The following day at Donnington Airpark:



*Onward planning at Donnington*



*Christian greets the travellers*

Check out [Home | Australian Seaplane \(100asa.com.au\)](http://100asa.com.au) for Cathy and Davids Trip Diary.

## ***HISTORY OF HENRY MILLICER AND THE VICTA AIRCRAFT***

Thank you Mark Aitken for your excellent presentation at the April AAC club meet.



## ***Near collision highlights how line of sight limitations make non-mandatory radio calls essential***



The pilots of two aircraft had incorrect mental models of local traffic when their aircraft took off from intersecting runways at the same time, an ATSB final report details:

[\*Near collision highlights how line of sight limitations make non-mandatory radio calls essential | ATSB\*](#)

### ***Yak-52 Warbird Adventure Flights.***

Bookings are now open for Yak-52 Warbird Adventure Flights at Donnington Airpark over the weekend of 27-28 July. Follow the link below to select a time-slot and then follow the instructions to complete your purchase. Owner Pete Marriss is offering a discounted price of \$350 (normally \$395) for a 20-minute flight as part of our North Queensland Military Muster weekend. Don't miss out on this rare opportunity to experience flight in an historic radial-engined Russian trainer aircraft in North Queensland!



<https://widebaywarbirds.com.au/events/north-queensland-military-muster-27-28-july-2024/>

Christian D. Smith

Operations Manager, Donnington Airpark, 0418 636 727

## **NORTH QUEENSLAND AERO CLUB NEWS & EVENTS**

Thankyou to everyone that attended today's (11th May) Charters Towers fly in. And thankyou to the North Queensland Soaring Club for hosting us.



## NORTH QUEENSLAND AERO CLUB NEWS & EVENTS

### Talaroo Fly In Back On!

Good day Members,

An update for our social calendar: The Talaroo Fly In on the 13th/14<sup>th</sup> July is still going ahead! They phoned yesterday to confirm that the airstrip is in good condition and they are welcoming visiting aircraft. This will be an overnight trip with the option to camp either at an unpowered site or one of their luxurious glamping tents. We will take a tour of the Talaroo Hot Springs on the Saturday afternoon. Should be a great weekend away. Talaroo is about a 1 hour flight to the south west of Mareeba.

More details on the Hot Springs here: [Talaroo Outback Camping and Caravan Park | Talaroo Hot Springs | Einasleigh](#)



If you would like to attend we will **definitely** need to book ahead. *Bookings for campsites will be on a first in best dressed basis so if you are planning to come along please RSVP to me as soon as you can.* We will have aircraft available to hire and fly out and I'm sure there will be some spare seats available if you would like to share the cost with someone else.

Until then, Happy Flying!

**Jack Doyle**

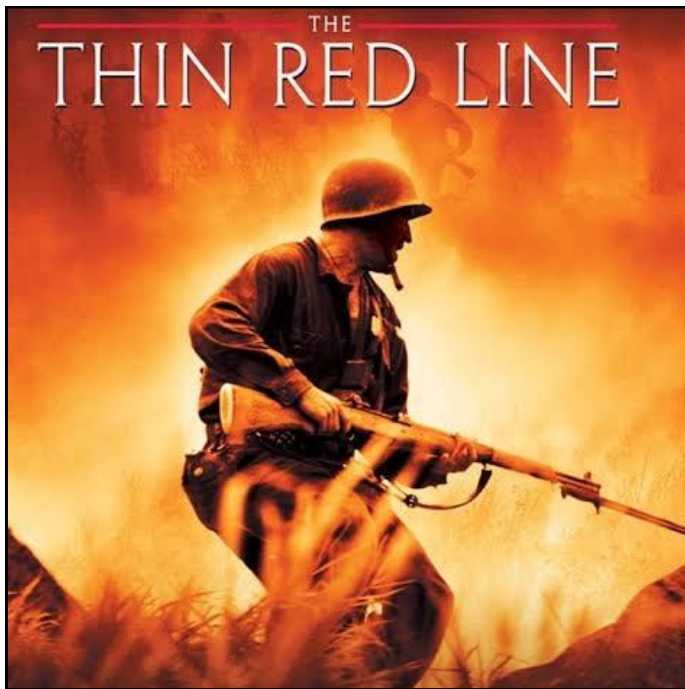
Head of Operations/Head of Flying Operations

***The weather peeps look to have the forecast spot on with light winds and blue skies. Get out there and enjoy it! Some booking slots available for private hire.***



**FNQAM NEWS**

Has anyone seen the Movie, 'The Thin Red Line?'



Our very own Dakota was used on set for this film.

Set in North Qld, Daintree/Port Douglas/Mossman and Bramston Beach area. This story draws on the experiences of the soldiers at the Guadalcanal during World War II.

**Come down and visit a part of history at the FNQ Museum in Mareeba, open on Thursdays and Saturdays 9-12.**

Early in May we picked up 4 planks of WWII marston matting.

Also known as pierced or perforated steel planking (PSP), they played a crucial role during World War II and beyond by interlocking to create temporary runways, enabling aircraft to operate in areas where traditional airstrips were not available.

How good would they look impressed into concrete!

**Thanks to the Stephen Fowler collection for this contribution of aviation history!**





### FNQAM NEWS Continued

Meet our researchers at the FNQ Aviation Museum. Joan Stanton and Ian Whyte exhibiting our new Display Boards describing aviation history in Mareeba.

Designed by Ian Whyte and built by Alan Martin and several other volunteers.



# 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.

## Sponsors



## ***Pinnarendi Station Stay & Café***

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

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# AAC EVENTS CALENDAR

*(Check Your Club Website or Facebook Page For Short Notice Changes)*

## Atherton Aero Club 2024 Events

**June**            Sunday 16th—AAC Meeting & BBQ Lunch

### Other 2024 Events

**July**            Sat/Sun 27th & 28th—Yak-52 Warbird Adventure Flights at  
Donnington Airpark



**SAVE THE DATE**

**The Old Station  
Fly-In & Heritage Show**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**23 - 25 May 2025**

Show planning is underway, 2025 will be bigger and better than ever!

- Exciting air show
- Earlier camping entry
- Improved gate entry
- More entertainment
- More food vans

*"Australia's Favourite Country Air Show"*

## Places of Interest and Activities in NQ



*North Queensland Soaring Centre*

 Find us on **facebook**

*Email us at [northqldsoaringcentre@outlook.com](mailto:northqldsoaringcentre@outlook.com)  
Or message us on Facebook*

The advertisement features a wide-angle aerial photograph of a vast, flat landscape under a clear blue sky. In the upper right corner, the tail and wing of a glider are visible. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.



**hot air**  
BALLOON

[www.hotair.com.au/cairns](http://www.hotair.com.au/cairns)

The advertisement shows a scenic view of a valley with rolling hills and scattered trees. Two hot air balloons are visible: one in the foreground on the left and another further away in the center. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The logo is in the top left corner, and the website URL is in the bottom right.



FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND  
**AVIATION MUSEUM**  
PRESERVE | INSPIRE | EDUCATE | RESTORE

[www.fnqam.com.au](http://www.fnqam.com.au)  
0422 379 964

The advertisement is split into two vertical panels. The left panel shows an aerial view of a large, modern museum building with a dark roof. The right panel shows a long line of vintage biplanes parked on a tarmac. The text is centered across the top of both panels.

# Northern Flyers

**Donnington Airpark (YDOP)**



**Burdekin Flyers (YAYR)**



**Atherton Aero Club (YATN)**



# Atherton Microlights

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



Right Circuit Rwy 33  
(All circuits to the East)

This UNOFFICIAL Map is for  
general reference purposes only

Atherton YATN  
Elevation 2460 feet

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

33

15

52

Feeney Gl

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)    [laurieq19@gmail.com](mailto:laurieq19@gmail.com)



**Atherton Aero Club Fundraising** - Club Member 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.

# ATHERTON AERO CLUB CORPORATE SPONSORS



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#### Contact details

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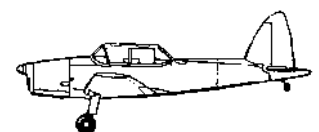


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Download on the App Store



# 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

<b>Forms to be sent to:</b> <i>The Treasurer Atherton Aero Club PO Box 227 ATHERTON QLD 4883</i>	<b>or email to:</b> <i>xjac@bigpond.net.au</i>
<b>Payments can be made by:</b> <i>EFT, Cheque, cash, or at the Bendigo Bank</i>	
<b>EFT Details:</b> <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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