



**FNQAM Open Day**  
**Saturday 21st September**

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.

*Jack & Neil's SkyArrow Trip to William Creek*



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

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

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 347. In this issue, members taking advantage of the better flying weather, fantastic photos from their outback adventures, 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 John Martin, Neil Bates, Jack Cross, Thomas Pluss, 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 15th of September 2024.**

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



## Join Us for the 2024 FNQ Aviation Museum Open Day!

We warmly invite all members of the Far North Queensland aviation community to attend our Open Day. Whether you're a pilot of helicopters, planes, balloons, drones, R/C planes, military transport, or a classic car and bike owner/enthusiast, this event is for you! Aviation-related organisations are encouraged to showcase their products and services.

To participate, please complete this application form: [Exhibitor Registration Form](#)

If you are available to volunteer on the day please email [admin@fnqam.com.au](mailto:admin@fnqam.com.au)



# FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND AVIATION MUSEUM

## OPEN DAY

COME DRESSED IN AVIATION GEAR TO WIN BEST DRESSED PRIZES!

Free Entry  
FAMILY FRIENDLY

DONATIONS WELCOME

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SPEAKERS

DISPLAYS

EXHIBITORS

SAT SEPT 21 9AM-3PM

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The Jabiru guys from Atherton recently did our yearly flying trip, this time heading south.

This year six people in three Jabirus made the “Secret Men’s Business” trip which was planned to fly roughly south till we got to the NSW coast south of Sydney then follow the coast around Victoria, past Melbourne and along the Great Ocean Road to Portland then trek north back to Atherton.

Unfortunately, the weather was against us again for the second year in a row. When we got to northern NSW a series of cold fronts coming through from the south-west caused us to rejig the rest of the trip and we turned west.

As is our practice we selected destinations based mostly on the fact that we had not been to them before. We also limit our flying to just 3 or 4 hours per day so we get time to look around when we get there.

The first day was an easy day flying from Atherton to Springsure via charters Towers and Emerald. This was followed by another fairly short second day via Roma to Moree.

The days were clear but cold. The cold caused a bit of trouble starting one of the Jabirus but otherwise was for most of the time, not an issue. After Moree we headed west to Nyngan. It proved an interesting stop though there’s not a lot to see or do in Nyngan.

From Nyngan we went to White Cliffs where a few of us had been many years ago. But as the majority hadn’t, we headed there to enjoy the hospitality of the underground hotel. After White Cliffs we followed the Darling River south to Menindee then west to Broken Hill.

*Continued/*

## ***Jabirus Go South 2***

Broken Hill was worth a look as it had been about twenty years since we had been there. There's quite a lot to see in Broken Hill from mining stuff, to the flying doctor base tour, museums and art galleries. A perennial tourist favourite is to drive 25 km west to Silverton. This is a very small town that was the location of filming of more than twenty five movies and TV series, the most famous being the second of the Mad Max series. There is also an 1880s silver mine with guided tours, both above and below ground. The tour was quite interesting and worth seeing.



Continued/

### *Jabirus Go South 3*



We got hit with a day of bad weather on our planned departure day so we spent an extra day in Broken Hill looking at museums and galleries. On the day of our actual departure we had clear blue sky but temperatures so low we had a thick layer of ice on all the wings. That delayed departure till the ice melted off.



Continued/

### ***Jabirus Go South 4***

After Broken Hill we headed north to Cameron's Corner at the junction of the Queensland, New South Wales and South Australian borders. There's a dirt strip and road house there so it was a good place for lunch. From there it was a short trip to the Burke and Wills Dig Tree at Nappa Merrie on Coopers Creek. While that was an interesting stopover, I managed to get a burr thorn in one tyre which I didn't notice till we got to Innamincka where I then had a flat tyre. The time it took to change and fix the tyre delayed us enough that we abandoned trying to get to Birdsville that day and stayed in Innamincka.



*Continued/*

### Jabirus Go South 5

From Innamincka, the next day, we headed off to Windorah for fuel then onward to Longreach. Even though I had been to Longreach Airport multiple times I'd never been into town so we made a point of going in and looking around town.



The following day saw the group split up. My passenger had to return to Cairns to work the following day so we headed north to Hughenden then Atherton. The other guys wanted to catch up with several different friends at Isisford and at a station near Blackall. So they headed south and then having caught up with their friends headed north to arrive home a day later.

Another Secret Men's Business trip completed!

I've done a YouTube video on the trip with a lot more footage and details

Have a look at <https://youtu.be/8yZyQ9vHX2k?si=0Ccqaf-OPCK94XwK>





## ***PHOTOS FROM NEIL & JACKS JUNE TRIP***

This was a longer venture in the SkyArrow for Jack. A sightseeing tour for Jack and a working trip for Neil to conduct low-level endorsement training at various stations along the way.

The general route was Atherton – Hughenden – Longreach – Durham Downs – Clifton Hills – William Creek – Davenport Downs – Winton – Hughenden – Atherton plus a few other places. *Some great pics there guys.*



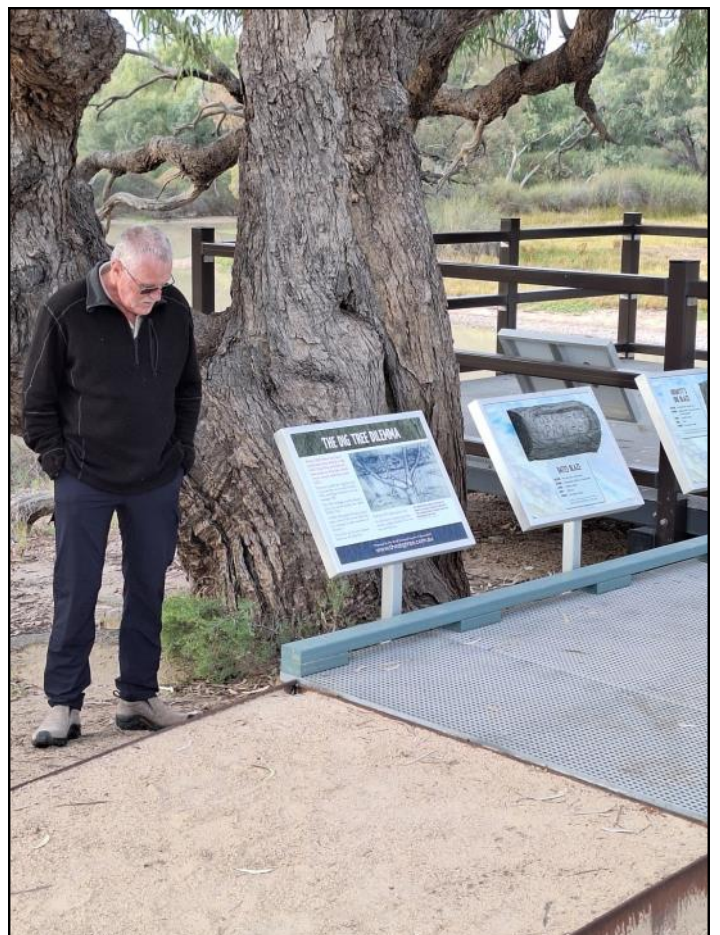
***Squatter Jack inspecting his herd***



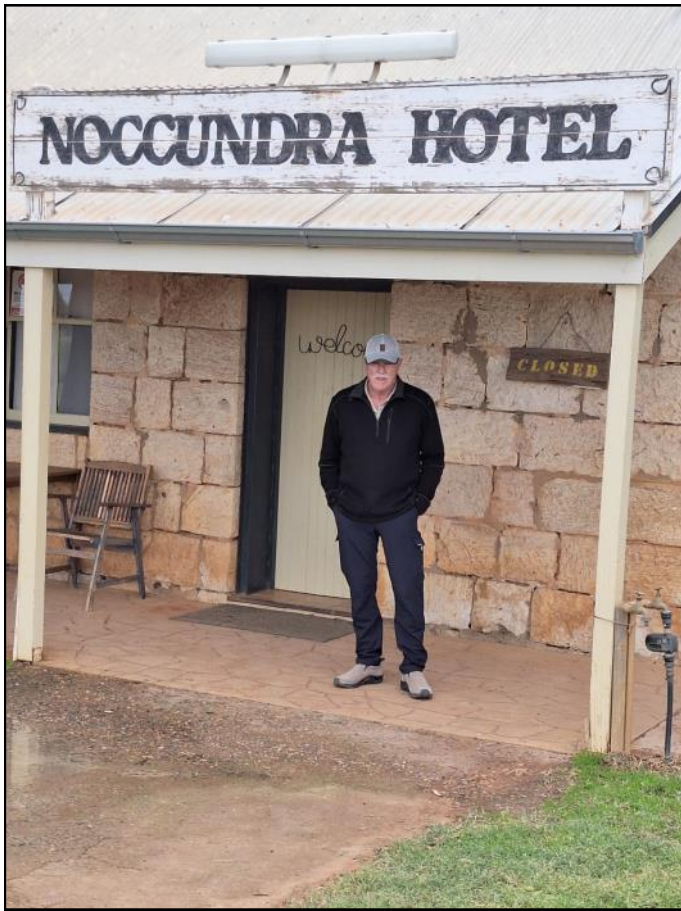
***Sunrise at William Creek***

***Jack at Dig Tree***

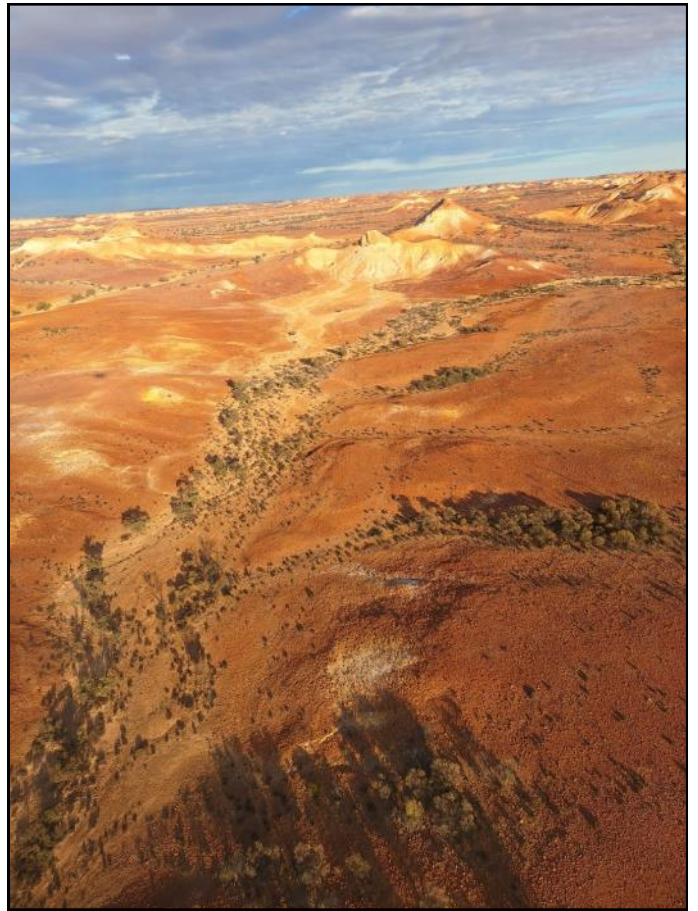
***Early departure from Davenport Downs***



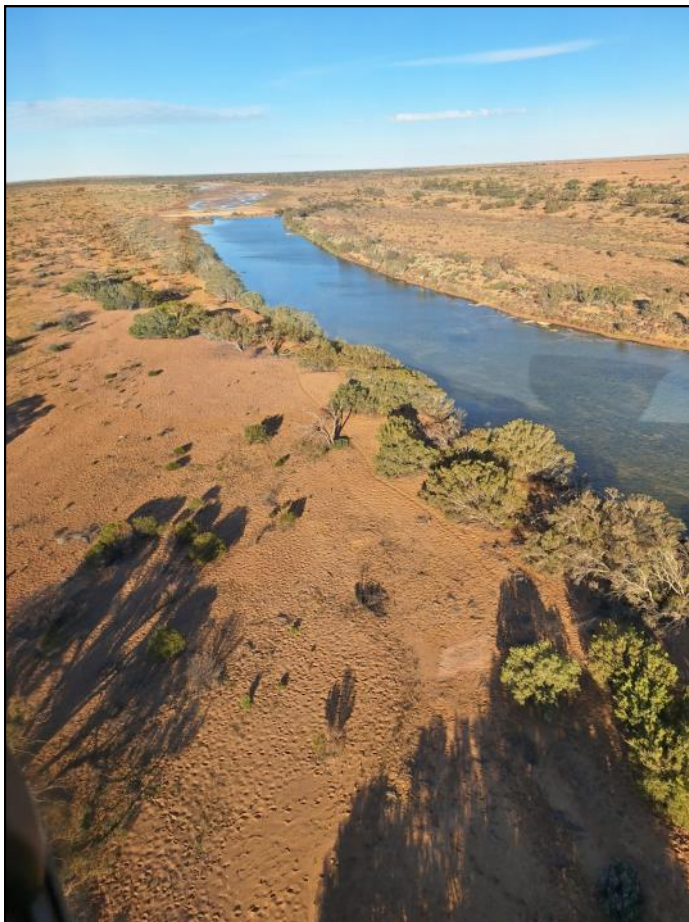
**Neil & Jacks June Trip 2**



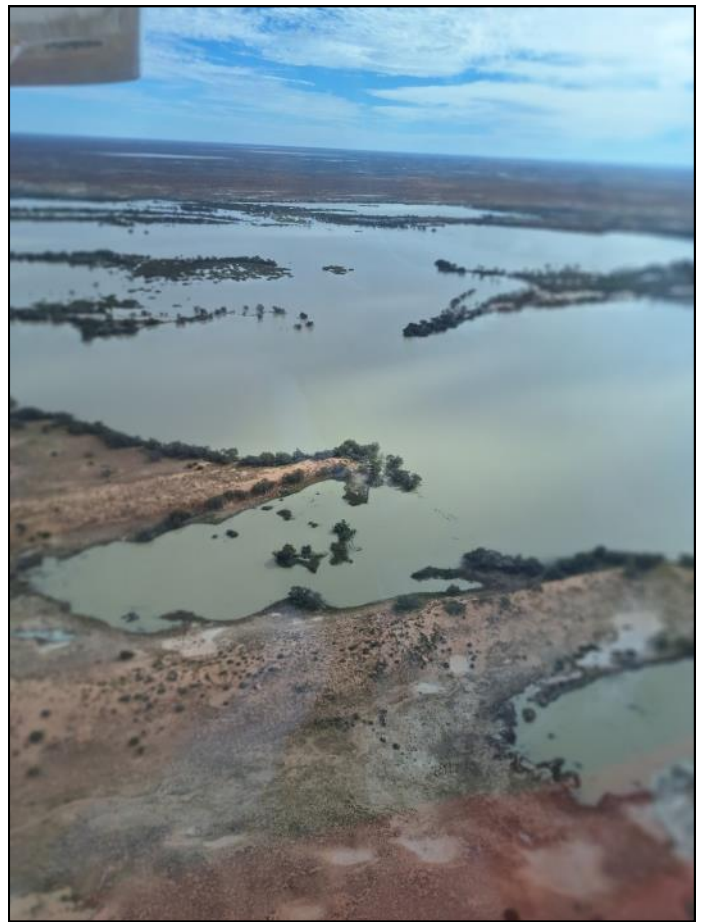
**Jack at Noccundra Hotel**



**Red Landscape**



**Warburton Groove**



**Coongie Lakes**

### Neil & Jacks June Trip 3



At William Creek with Trevor Wright



Lake Eyre



SkyArrow Cockpit

## Thomas Pluss' Spacek SD-1 Minisport Presentation

Thank you AAC member Thomas for your excellent and most informative presentation.

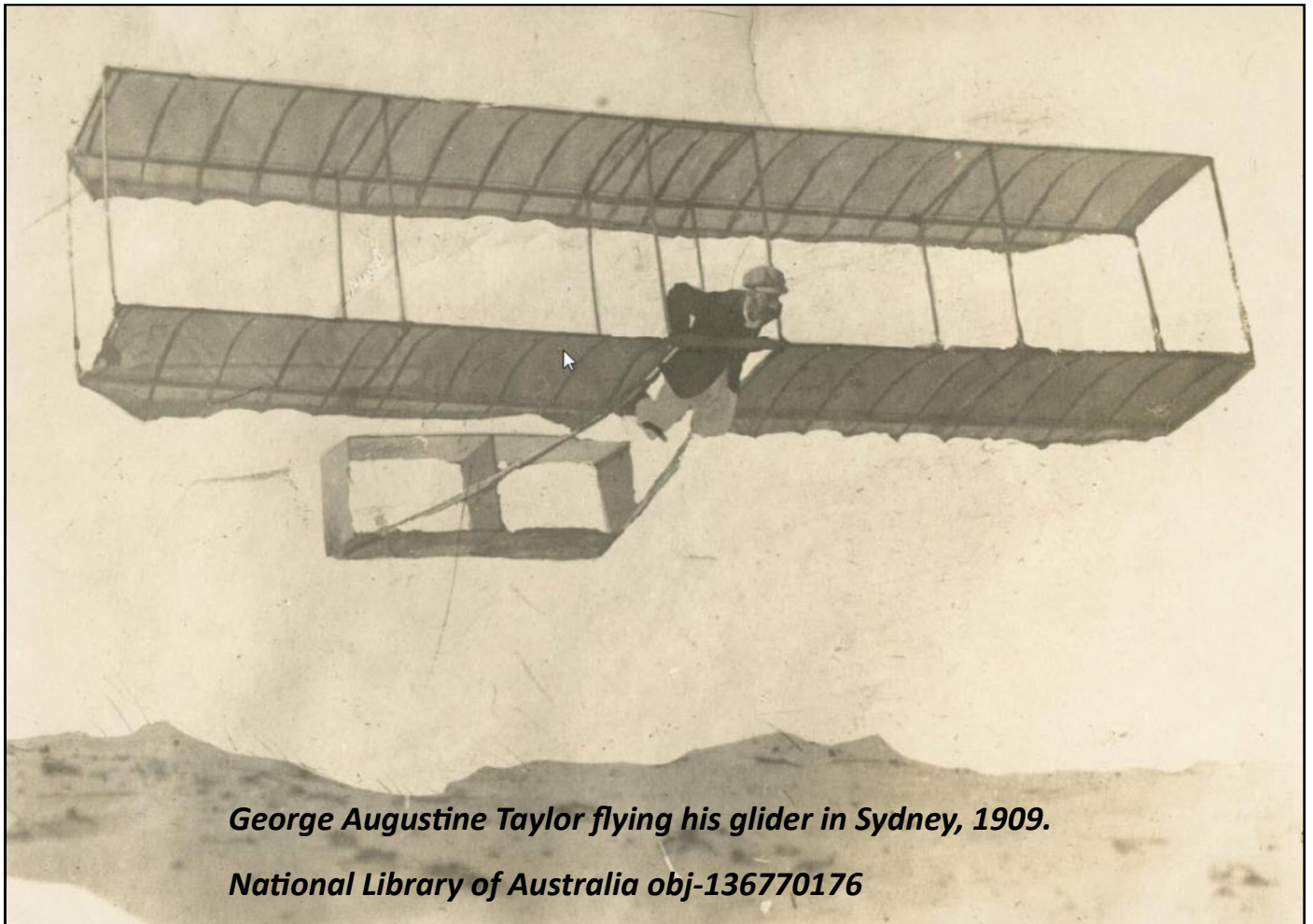
Those members who were unable to attend the August club meeting missed out on something quite special.

Perhaps Thomas could be persuaded to give another presentation at some future date.



## ***Taylor's Biplane Glider Replica***

Some aviation history for all you gliding buffs



***George Augustine Taylor flying his glider in Sydney, 1909.***

***National Library of Australia obj-136770176***

***Link: [Biplane suspended in National Museum of Australia \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)***

### ***Atherton Aero Club Merchandise - Now available***

***To order please contact Jack Cross 0418 774 163 or [xjac@bigpond.net.au](mailto:xjac@bigpond.net.au)***



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

### **2024 NQAC Ray Fry Air Race**

A great day had by all. Congratulations and thank you to all involved. Special thanks to Mel-lory for help with organising and Tony Bird for scoring and time keeping arrivals back into Mareeba.

Only 2 points separated 1st and 2nd Place!

Our route had a 'Chimney' theme this year. Flying out past Mount Mulligan and the OK Mine at Bellevue enroute to Chillagoe before returning to Mareeba.

There were great displays of airmanship and navigation log keeping.

**1st Place was awarded to Troy Hammant in VH-LHI**

**2nd Place John Martin in VH-DOD**

**3rd Place Matthew Jennings in VH-FDY**

*Photos from the air race below and on the following page:*



***Air Race Contestants at Chillagoe***

**NORTH QUEENSLAND AERO CLUB NEWS & EVENTS**



# FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND AVIATION MUSEUM

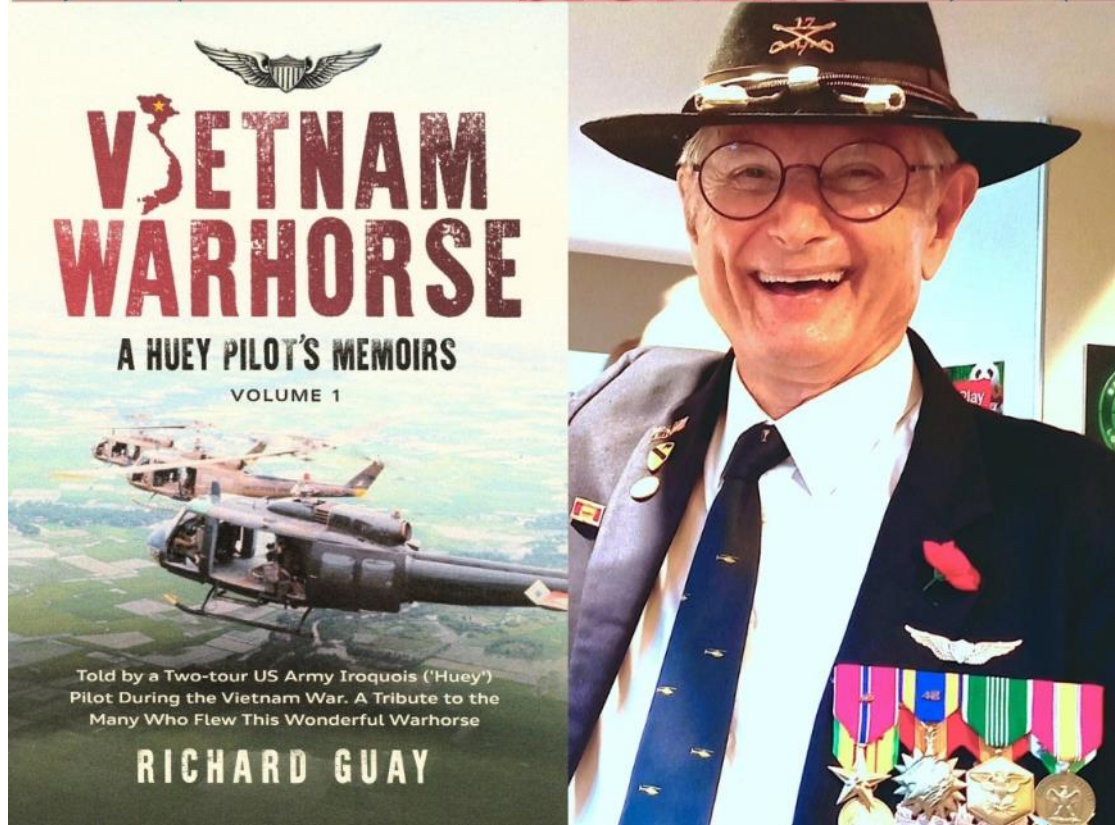
PRESERVE | INSPIRE | EDUCATE | RESTORE

## OPEN DAY



*Book*

SIGNING



Richard Guay's Book signing at the FNQ Aviation Museum Open Day, 21st September!  
Come along and get your very own personally signed copy of Richard's latest book, Vietnam Warhorse - A Huey Pilot's Memoirs.  
From enlistment to Officer and flight training, veteran pilot, Richard Guay will take you on a journey many have never witnessed.  
Sit with Richard in the cockpit of the venerable UH-1 Huey helicopter as he maneuvers the sky to accomplish missions, protecting troops and put to the test during his years of training to stop the spread of Communism in Southeast Asia.  
Through a journey of steamy jungles to war-torn skies over battlefields. Vietnam Warhorse is a thrilling memoir detailing years of US Army training, helicopter warfare tactics and piloting techniques employed during enemy engagement. Anyone interested in history or aviation during the Vietnam War will find Richard's book an incredible read.



# 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



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# AAC EVENTS CALENDAR

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

## Atherton Aero Club 2024 Events

**Sept** Sunday 15th—**AAC Meeting & BBQ Lunch 1030** at Atherton YATN

### Other 2024 Events

**Sept** Saturday 21st—**FNQ Aviation Museum Open Day** at Mareeba YMBA

**YOUR CLUB'S  
EVENTS CALENDAR  
HERE**



## 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)  
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# FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND AVIATION MUSEUM

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0422 379 964*

# Northern Flyers

**Donnington Airpark (YDOP)**



**Burdekin Flyers (YAYR)**



**Atherton Aero Club (YATN)**



## 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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Telephone: 07 4032 3311

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Phone: 07 4032 3311  
For all mail please only use our postal address.

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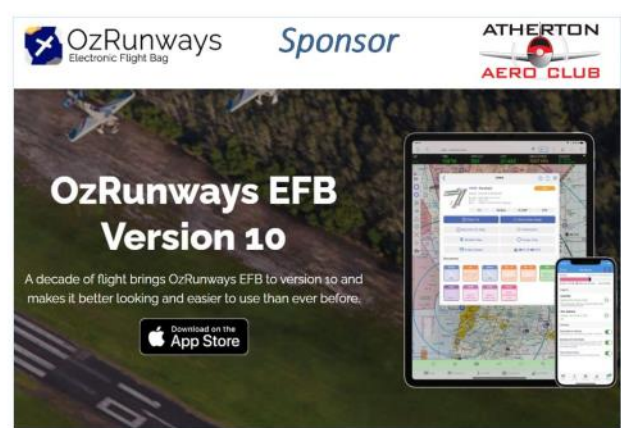
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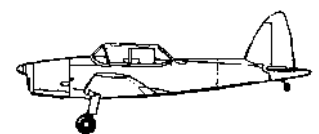
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ATHERTON AERO CLUB

### OzRunways EFB Version 10

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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

**Forms to be sent to:** *The Treasurer  
Atherton Aero Club  
PO Box 227  
ATHERTON QLD 4883*

**or email to:** *xjac@bigpond.net.au*

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

**EFT Details:** *Atherton Aero Club BSB 633000 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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