

ANZAC Day at Watts Bridge



The new threshold markers for 12R (12April)

UPCOMING EVENTS

The following events are advised for your information.

LOCAL EVENTS		INTERNATIONAL EVENTS	
10 & 11 May	Air Experience Day – Archer Falls Airfield www.archerfalls.com.au for details.	May 17 & 18	Red Bull - Malaysia
11 May	Gatton Airpark Breakfast – 0730 start	July 19 & 20	Farnborough Airshow UK
24/25 May	Old Station	July 26 & 27	Red Bull - Poland
31 May	All In fly-in Watts Bridge	July 28 to Aug 03	EAA Oshkosh USA
5 July	Fun Fly Poker Run BVSAC – Watts Bridge	Aug 16 & 17	Red Bull - Ascot UK
5 July	Christmas in July AAC – Watts Bridge	Sept 6 & 7	Red Bull -Fort Worth USA
		Sept 10 to 14	Reno Air Races USA
		Sept 13 & 14	Duxford Air Show - UK
		Oct 11 & 12	Red Bull – Las Vegas
		Nov 01 & 02	Red Bull - Shanghai

We welcome details of any events that you are aware of, including contact details.

ALL IN FLY IN – CALL FOR MARSHALS

We need volunteers on 31 May to act as aircraft marshals. No experience necessary, you will be briefed, a sexy high visibility vest and ping pong bat paddle will be provided. I am looking for two teams of 4-5 volunteers each, one team to cover the 0800 – 1000hrs timeslot and a second team to cover 1000 – 1200hrs. Please let me know on if you are willing to help.

PETER BIDDLE petergeoffrey.b@bigpond.com

Right: Peter flying his Cessna 170 over the Brisbane River near Watts Bridge.



PRESIDENTS CORNER

The All-in Fly-in is not far away and it is intended that we will have a number of visitors from the local district. This has come about by the introduction of the Work Experience Program initiated by Watt Bridge Board of Management. The Toogoolawah State High School students have been busy picking up aircraft building skills and they hope to build their own aircraft here at Watts.

On another note, thanks go to Ron Dunn, Peter Freeman and Craig Thompson for making, painting and placing the markers which are now appearing on the runways and taxiways.

Nick Potter and Peter Freeman continue to carry out the mowing which is now required due to the spurt of growth after the heavy rain. The airfield is now looking fresh and verdant.

Until then, keep safe and fly safe



Bruce Clarke

President BoM

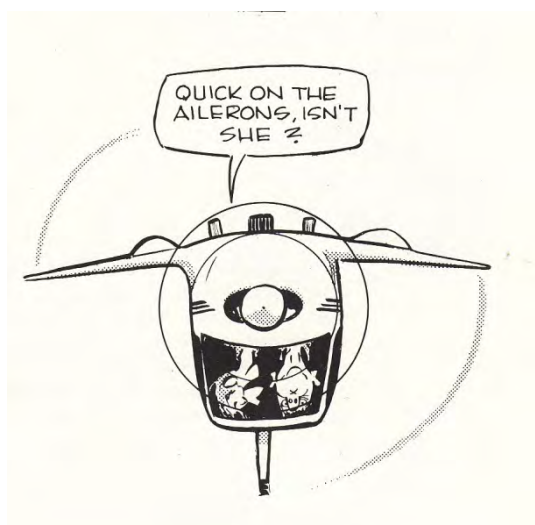
Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield Council		Board of Management	
Richard Faint	BVSAC	President	Bruce Clarke
Steven Hudson	Aerobatic Club	Vice-President	Ron Dunn
Peter Biddle	QVAG	Secretary	Liz Cook
Mal McKenzie	Lease Holders group	Treasurer	Cheryl Brown
		Maintenance & Infrastructure Officer	Rod Mill

Thanks for the contributions, please keep them coming. We plan to continue with a planes and people theme – you might be next! *Doug & Lorraine Stott*

NEXT 'WATTS NEWS' DEADLINE – 5 JULY 2014 Please send articles and pictures to: dnl.s@bigpond.com

AMBERLEY AIRSPACE

Pilots operating from Watts Bridge are reminded that the Amberley Military Airspace can be active at any time of the day or night. Pilots planning to operate in any Amberley airspace should check the status of the control zone and the restricted and danger areas prior to flight. Amberley ATC have recently advised that some of the times of activation are changing, especially on weekends due to new tasking requirements. The airspace boundaries have not changed but the regular or routine activation times have. **Remember to always check the status of the airspace, especially on weekends.**



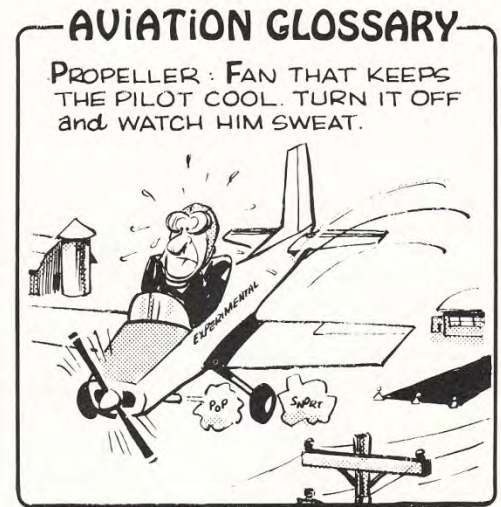
Phil Cooper in his Airtourer over the Brisbane River Valley

Courtesy Bob Stevens

Road Sealed to the Airfield Entrance



The recently sealed access road to the Watts Bridge entrance.



Courtesy Bob Stevens

Vetiver Grass – Before and After

Peter Freeman organised the cutting and transportation of the vetiver grass on Thursday 10th to Saturday 12th April. Thank you Peter for once again undertaking this work.

The vetiver grass is initially cut with brushcutters and the grass falls between the rows of grass. This work was undertaken by Peter, Greg Robertson and Ken Hulse on Thursday and Friday mornings.

On Saturday, the vetiver grass is raked up and placed in the ute trays and box trailers for transportation off site. Several members provided their utes and trailers for this work. Once the majority of the grass is removed the rows of grass are trimmed, the area raked and the remaining grass transported off site.

Thank you to the following volunteers who assisted on Saturday – Peter Freeman, Nick Potter, Mark Galletly, Michael McFadyen, Richard Faint, Bob and Robyn Dennis, Peter Biddle, Rob Plackett, Darryl Hardy, Denzil Brunner, Chris Taylor and John Gross, Steven Hudson and Liz Cook.

Contribution by BoM





Ron Dunn in his pristine 1944 Boeing Stearman joins the Watts Bridge circuit

Photo: Doug Stott

FLY NEIGHBOURLY

A reminder that pilots operating at Watts Bridge should be aware of the details of the Fly Neighbourly map provided on the web site and operate in such a manner, so as to minimise exposure, especially noise in the nominated areas. Repetitive operations over the same area/s should be avoided. If inviting pilot friends to visit Watts Bridge, you should include details of the local Fly Neighbourly policy in your invitation.

ANZAC Day Sequel

More than five years ago, Rod Mill discovered that the Federal Government had propagated seedlings from the original lone pine at Gallipoli. These were available at a nominal cost provided they were used at War Memorials. Rod suggested to the Board that we buy two and this was adopted.

Rod and Peter Freeman lovingly tended these two tiny seedlings and after six months or so they were planted in the small cluster of trees behind the Memorial Cairn.

Despite their best efforts, our harsh summers caused one of them to die but the other remains. Currently it is a small insignificant sapling. However it is growing and will in time become the most significant tree of the group.

So next time you pass by have a look and remember it began life as a tiny seed at Gallipoli.

Contribution by BoM.

ANZAC Day at Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield 25 April 2014



Photographs: Doug Stott

THE DECISION TO BUILD...?? Part 2

(from previous Newsletter)

Then there is the “fit-out” phase - “90% finished 90% to go”.

I was working like the proverbial drover’s dog, but the neighbours began to complain about the noise; the fan club dissolved and...you get the idea. There was one guy that dropped in every 2 weeks just to tell me that I haven’t done much – if they don’t build a swimming pool in the back yard, they won’t find him!

The fit-out phase covers the firewall forward (the engine and plumbing) and firewall back (instrument panel, instrumentation, wiring etc.) bits. What is great about building an aircraft is that one becomes an expert in so many varied and interesting fields...AND absolutely none of it is any good for anything else in life!

After 10 months of full-time work Rebel 472R was finished....almost - “The aircraft only flies when the paperwork weighs as much as the aircraft”. It took 4 months of bureaucracy to get my Rebel VH-BHI its Certificate of Airworthiness Thanks to the SAAA for wasting my time! In the end I pulled Stephen Dines out of Sydney who signed it off on the same day he inspected it.

Mark Galletty volunteered to do the initial test flight, which I was impressed with, until he suggested I go with him.

What did Groucho Marx say? “I refuse to *join* any *club* that *would* have me as a member”. I was thinking the same about flying in an aircraft that I built!

8th March was the supposed to be the big day...but due to magneto problems on run-up,...it didn’t happen. Eventually Rebel 472R, VH-BHI did its “Inaugural” on the 19th March.

BHI has now completed 22 hours and has not missed a beat. The Rebel is better than I thought it, and as the test phase winds down, I’m enjoying flying it more and more.

As a final note, I would really like to thank members of Watts Bridge for assisting me during this project. Unfortunately, there are too many people to mention individually. However, the point I would like to make is that there is a real sense of fraternity on this field, especially if you are thinking of building your own aircraft.

Nick Potter

Photographs: Doug Stott



NEW CONCRETE FLOOR FOR BVSAC

Richard Faint

The Brisbane Valley Sport Aviation Club recently completed major improvements to their club hangar with the pouring of a concrete floor. The hangar was one of the first constructed in the Private Hangar Precinct and has provided to be cost effective hangarage for club members for almost 20 years.

Local tradesmen Kevin Werner Builders and Hulby's Concreting were contracted to do the work, which they completed in a most professional manner. BVSAC members Peter Freeman and Mike Smith were the primary "shakers and movers" within the club who organized and oversaw the operation. Well done to all concerned.



RECENT VISITORS TO WATTS BRIDGE MEMORIAL AIRFIELD:



Ron & Annabelle Lawford from Darwin, passed through in their RV6 on the way home from Temora. Ron has been an enthusiast since his days in the RAAF. His previous aircraft was a Long-eze that he built in Darwin and is now in the museum there. His RV6 has the ability to go anywhere in Australia with just one stop and a few years back he flew it to NZ. *Photographs: Doug Stott*

NEW PROJECTS

Darryl Hardy now has his project at Watts Bridge, so we can all watch it grow!! (or is that grow!?)



ALL-IN FLY-IN 2014



Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield Inc
31st May 2014
9:00am - 4:00pm
Catering By: Beyond Limits
Supporting Youth For Education

All pilots and aviation enthusiasts are invited to the Watts Bridge Airfield Open Day, showcasing the diversity of all forms of recreational aviation. The All-In Fly-In is an all day event with on-field catering and coffee available. Entry is free with no landing fees. Aviation fuel is available on the airfield.

Richard 0412-317-754 Liz 0419-369-963

If it flies - It's welcome at Watts Bridge !
www.wattsbridge.com.au

