



Remembering 100 Years Since Gallipoli

History of the Cairn

Circa 1999. Tony Hayes had a vision that a memorial cairn be built on the airfield. The WBMA Committee of the day approved his hand-drawn concept drawings and purchased the two large sentinel stones and granite rocks for the walls. Tony had a large mound of soil piled in place and started construction in 2000. He planted a Eucalyptus Grandis sapling in the centre of the soil mound.

2001. Work proceeded slowly, but after several setbacks Tony finally abandoned the project.

2002. As the sapling had died, Rod Mill bought four Ghost Gum saplings (Eucalyptus Papina) from the DPI nursery at Bunyaville. The nurseryman thought these would be appropriate for a memorial as they don't grow too high, tolerate weather extremes, are Australian natives and they grow well when planted close together.

Rod cared for the saplings so they could grow and strengthen before being planted out.

Late in 2002 then President Gus DeLaat undertook the task of completing the memorial cairn.

2003. The four Ghost Gum saplings were planted on the cairn. The one in the front eventually died, leaving a place for the eventual planting of the Gallipoli Pine which is a descendant of the original pine tree at Gallipoli.

Continued on Page 2 →

History of the Pine

The original "Lone Pine" was the sole survivor of a group of trees cut down by Turkish soldiers at Gallipoli. However, pine cones that had remained attached to the cut branches were retrieved by two Australian soldiers.

Lance Corporal Benjamin Smith sent a cone from the battle site to his mother (Mrs McMullen) in Australia. Seeds from the cone were planted by Mrs McMullen in 1928, from which two seedlings were raised. One was forwarded to Canberra where it was planted by Prince Henry, at the Australian War Memorial in October 1934. The Yarralumla Nursery began

collecting and propagating seeds from the tree in the late 1940s.

Since then, many seedlings have been distributed to RSL branches, schools and other organisations for commemorative purposes, including the tree which has been planted at Watts Bridge.



President's Corner

Although the weather is still quite warm, we are heading into the flying season. There are more hangars being built at Watts and the development at Watts Bridge continues to move forward.

A look through the website's calendar shows that there are at least 5 major flying events dotted throughout the year. The popularity of the All-In Fly-In promises to increase with the enquiries we are receiving. Do bookmark the date on your calendar.

The local high school has asked if we can carry out the Work Experience Programme again after Easter. We will do our best to provide the local students with this service.

Blue skies,
Bruce Clarke WBMA President



← Continued from Page 1

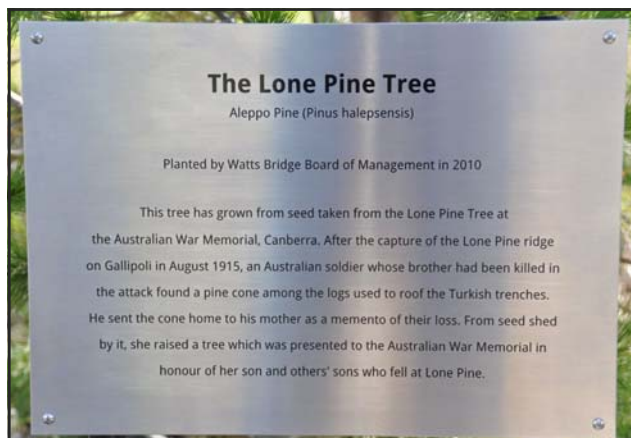
2004. Ed DeLaat negotiated with the Brisbane Valley Masonic Lodge to supply and install the flagpole in front of the sentinel stones which was presented at the Anzac Day Dawn Service.

2009. Rod Mill read an article regarding the availability of Gallipoli Pines from a specialist nursery in Canberra, to be used exclusively for planting on memorials. Mike Nelson followed up and took delivery of two saplings. One sapling subsequently died. Pete Freeman and Rod Mill nurtured the surviving pine until it was strong enough to be replanted.

2010. The Gallipoli Pine, (*Pinus halepensis*) was replanted on the cairn in front of the remaining Ghost Gums.

2015. A commemorative plaque was erected on the cairn outlining the history of the Lone Pine Tree. It is anticipated the pine will grow and flourish as a memorial to the men and women who fell in the line of duty all those years ago.

Remembering 100 Years Since Gallipoli



Attention Commercial and Private Hangar Owners !!

Did you know that vacancies in your hangar can be advertised free of charge on the Watts Bridge Website ??
For an example hangarage listing please see
www.wattsbridge.com.au/commercial.php

Just email info@wattsbridge.com.au to place your listing.

Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield Inc.

30th May 2015
9:00am - 4:00pm

ALL-IN FLY-IN 2015



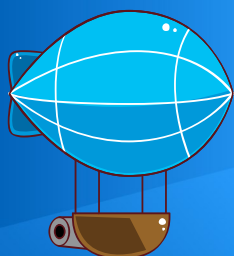
Catering By:
Kilcoy District
Chaplaincy



100LL AVGAS
Available all day

**Recreational &
General Aviation**

Warbirds Gyroplanes
Vintage Aircraft
Homebuilt Aeroplanes
Aerobatics



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.

CONTACT:

Richard
0412-317-754

Liz
0419-369-963

Or visit the website for more information.

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

Bill Finlen An Earth Rounder and a Moth Lover



Many of us know Bill as simply the "Tiger Moth Guy"

For those who are new to Watts Bridge, this article will give you a brief introduction to this incredible aviator. Bill is one of the early members of Watts Bridge – one of those early members who was there putting in the hard yakka to get this airfield to where it is today.

Bill's father was a gliding instructor so it was a normal step for Bill to start his early flying in gliders, beginning in the late 1950s with his father. Bill was active in gliding until the mid 1970s when he got his pilot's licence and started flying aircraft with a bit more go-around performance.

He is well known for his love affair with de-Havilland moths and has owned several Tiger Moths. He knows a lot about the de-Havilland Moths and flying them. He will soon be flying his beautiful Gypsy Moth.

Another area Bill is well known for is his beloved 'V' Tail Bonanza, which he flew solo around the world between April and May 2002. That feat, which took him seven weeks to go around the world, earned him an exclusive membership into the 'Earth Rounders' Group.

Bill and his wife Jen, now have a house and hangar in Boonah, right on the airstrip. He spends a lot of his time in his hangar known locally as "Bill's Bubble". He is still very active in all things aviation. He tows the gliders for the gliding club in Boonah.

We hope to see Bill's Gypsy Moth at Watts Bridge at our future Fly-Ins.

Good on you Bill !!





QVAG/AFM February Workshop

Presented by Bill Finlen

Fabric Covering using Stewart Systems Fabric Covering of Aircraft Structures

On Saturday the 28th February, the Queensland Vintage Aeroplane Group/Australian Flying Museum (QVAG) held a very successful workshop on using the Stewart System of water borne glues and paints for fabric covering of aeroplanes. The workshop was held in the QVAG Building at Watts Memorial Airfield.

Open to all (NOT just QVAG members), about 26 people attended the workshop. Bill Finlen was the presenter and he gave an introduction to the range of Stewart System products. Bill also gave a practical demonstration on using the products.

As is normal with all demonstrations, in part the demo had a few moments where things didn't go as planned, however overall it served as a good introduction to the Stewart Systems products.

Following the workshop a light lunch was provided and that too was well attended. The lunch allowed those in attendance the opportunity to continue the discussion with Bill.

This workshop was one of a series of workshops and seminars conducted by QVAG. These are held on a monthly basis. The March 28 seminar will be a talk by Pat Toole, the first female commercial pilot in PNG. Pat starting flying for Bobby Gibb's Sepic Airways in PNG in 1950. This will be a very interesting presentation by the person able to give first hand recollections of what life was a like as a commercial pilot in PNG in 1950.

The presentation is open to all and will be followed by a light lunch with the opportunity to have an informal talk with Pat Toole.





High Flight

~by P/O John Gillespie Magee RCAF

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth¹,
And danced² the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed³ and joined the tumbling mirth⁴
Of sun-split clouds⁵, — and done a hundred things⁶
You have not dreamed of — Wheeled and soared and swung⁷
High in the sunlit silence⁸. Hov'ring there⁹,
I've chased the shouting wind¹⁰ along, and flung¹¹
My eager craft through footless halls of air...

Up, up the long, delirious¹² burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights¹³ with easy grace,
Where never lark, or ever eagle¹⁴ flew —
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space¹⁵;
Put out my hand¹⁶, and touched the face of God.

FAA SUPPLEMENT

1. Pilots must ensure that all surly bonds have been slipped entirely before aircraft taxi or flight is attempted.
2. During periods of severe sky dancing, crew and passengers must keep seatbelts fastened. Crew should wear shoulder belts as provided.
3. Sunward climbs must not exceed the maximum permitted aircraft ceiling.
4. Passenger aircraft are prohibited from joining the tumbling mirth.
5. Pilots flying through sun-split clouds under VFR conditions must comply with all applicable minimum clearances.
6. Do not perform these hundred things in front of Federal Aviation Administration inspectors.
7. Wheeling, soaring, and swinging will not be attempted except in aircraft rated for such activities and within utility class weight limits.
8. Be advised that sunlit silence will be encountered only when a major engine malfunction has occurred.
9. "Hov'ring there" will constitute a highly reliable signal that a flight emergency is imminent.
10. Forecasts of shouting winds are available from the local FSS. Encounters with unexpected shouting winds should be reported by pilots.
11. Pilots flinging eager craft through footless halls of air are reminded that they alone are responsible for maintaining separation from other eager craft.
12. Should any crewmember or passenger experience delirium while in the burning blue, submit an irregularity report upon flight termination.
13. Windswept heights will be topped by a minimum of 1,000 feet to maintain VFR minimum separations.
14. Aircraft engine ingestion of, or impact with, larks or eagles should be reported to the FAA and the appropriate aircraft maintenance facility.
15. Aircraft operating in the high untrespassed sanctity of space must remain in IFR flight regardless of meteorological conditions and visibility.
16. Pilots and passengers are reminded that opening doors or windows in order to touch the face of God may result in loss of cabin pressure.



RED THUNDER 2015



The Warbird enthusiasts at Watts Bridge will be holding their annual gathering of Warbird Aircraft known as RED THUNDER.

RED THUNDER 2015 will be held from the 14th to 17th of May 2015 and is a great opportunity for Warbird Operators to socialise and refine piloting skills.

Several 'Eastern Block' warbird aircraft will be taking part in these events, and accordingly RED THUNDER 2015 will adopt a 'Russian Flavour' in both its flying and social activities.

RED THUNDER 2015 flying activities centre on promoting flight safety in flight activities which will facilitate 'POHAILIN', the RED THUNDER 2015 final day exercise / competition.

FLYING ACTIVITIES

Flying activities are designed to facilitate training and encompass ab-initio and advanced activities, including:

- Floor Bombing
- Streamer Cutting
- Close Formation
- Tactical Formation
- Max Performance Handling and
- Combat Manoeuvring (Flying the Combat Position)

SOCIAL EVENTS

Organisers encourage our female Komrades (Natascha's) to attend and specific 'Natascha' activities have been planned, including:

- Saturday Night's RED AIR SQUADRON Dining Inn Night (Toogoolawah Hotel).
- Natascha's 'Glass House Mountain' aerial tour & Seafood Luncheon on the Sunshine Coast.
- Natascha's Gallery and Antiques crawl - Brisbane Valley (Esk & Fernvale) and
- Natascha's Spa Day.

CONTACT

If you're interested in taking part, don't hesitate to contact Red Thunder organisers Gill Vardi on 0412-963-106 or Richard Waugh on 0412-006-163




B.V.S.A.C. FUN FLY POKER RUN 2015





THE EVENT

The Brisbane Valley Sport Aviation Club's Fun Fly Poker Run will be held on Saturday 4th July 2015.

Starting time is 9:00am and finishing at 2:00pm.

It doesn't matter what you fly— Recreational, Homebuilt, General Aviation, Gyroplanes — we would love to have you join in the fun !!

THE GAME

Fly to any three of the participating airfields, Bradfield, Kilcoy, Gattton Airpark or Mc Carron's Field and collect an envelope which contains a playing card from underneath the primary windsock.

DO NOT OPEN ANY ENVELOPES UNTIL REGISTERING AT THE BVSAC CLUBHOUSE — WATTS BRIDGE

You can start anywhere you like and go to the airfields of your choice in any order that suits you.

Then just fly on to Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield where you pay your entrance fee of \$5.00 and register your hand.

BBQ Snacks & Drinks will be available all day long.

THE WINNER

The organizers will have drawn two cards at random prior to the start of the game. These cards will complete the five card hands for all players.

The best Poker Hand wins the Trophy for 2015.

THIS IS FUN FLYING AT ITS BEST, SO COME ON AND GIVE IT A GO !!

AIRFIELD LOCATIONS

BRADFIELD	S 27° 25.1' E 152° 24.1'	KILCOY	S 26° 58.2' E 152° 34.0'
GATTTON AIRPARK	S 27° 35.4' E 152° 15.4'	MC CARRON'S FIELD	S 27° 05.9' E 152° 36.2'
WATTS BRIDGE	S 27° 05.9' E 152° 27.6'		

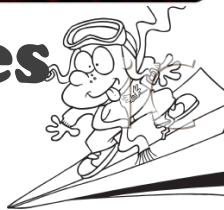
Richard Faint

Phone: (07) 5427-0816
Mobile: 0412-317-754
Email: richard@auav.org




Diary Dates

The complete Watts Bridge Calendar of Events can be found on the Watts Bridge Website.



Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield	
28th March	Pat Toole - Commercial Pilot in PNG Seminar
25th April	ANZAC Day Remembrance Service
14th - 17th May	Red Thunder 2015
30th May	All-In Fly-In 2015
4th July	BVSAC Fun Fly Poker Run
4th July	AAC-QC Christmas in July
24th - 26th July	Queensland State Aerobatic Championships
29th - 30th August	Gathering of Eagles - Australia

Australia and International	
15th March	Darling Downs Fly-In, Clifton, QLD
12th April	Barossa Airshow, Rowland Flat, SA
03rd May	David Hack Classic Meet, Toowoomba, QLD
11th - 17th July	Farnborough International Airshow, UK
20th - 26th July	EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, USA
18th September	Wings Over Warwick, Warwick, QLD

Gathering of Eagles Australia



Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield
Remembering 100 Years since Gallipoli

29th-30th August 2015
www.wattsbridge.com.au
Bruce - 0427 699 239

“Ladies and gentlemen, this is the captain speaking. Firstly, I’d like to thank you for choosing to fly Mandarin Airlines. As we taxi out to the runway, please make yourself comfortable. For those of you sitting on the right side of the plane, please look left. Thank you.... “



Maintenance Volunteers

So much of the ongoing maintenance work around the airfield is done by a small group of dedicated volunteers working tirelessly to keep the place looking all ship-shape.

Here we see Mark Foy, a member of the Aerobatics Club Homebase Group, cheerfully going about the business of mowing the taxiways. It should be noted that many of the volunteers use their own equipment which is a most generous contribution enjoyed by all who use the airfield.

Thank you everyone!!

WBMA BoM & Airfield Council

WBMA BoM	
President	Bruce Clarke
Vice President	Ron Dunn
Secretary	Liz Cook
Treasurer	Cheryl Brown
Maintenance & Infrastructure	Phillip Cooper

WBMA Council	
AAC - QC	Mark Foy
BVSAC	Richard Faint
CGC	No Representative
Lease Holders Group	John Innes
QVAG	Peter Biddle
SEQGC	No Representative



- Dad, why are there always 2 pilots?
- One has to prevent the other from doing stupid things.
- Which one is doing the stupid things?