



The Old Fliers Group

Attached to the Royal Aero Club of WA (Inc).

Coordinator: Brian John, Ph 9883 8001

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The meeting on May 28th was attended by:

Reg Adkins
Dennis Gordon
Chip Harvey
Brian John

Bob Russell
Stan Schur
Hal Sutton
Tony Munday

Apologies from 10 previous attendees.

The mailing list now boasts 35 members.

Vale Bugde Guthrie

John Douglas tendered his apology from Busselton after flying down in a Cessna Citation to attend the funeral of local identity, Butch Guthrie. Butch was an incredible character who was known to many aviators in the south of the state. He will be sadly missed.

Bob Russell's Talk

Bob Russell was the speaker at last month's meeting. Bob is a man who has left his mark in the Esperance district with his charter business. The slide show that accompanied his interesting talk showed a vast collection of wrecked aircraft, up against trees, tangled in fences, out in the desert and upside down! All owned by Bob but not necessarily flown by him!

Vale Roy Hamilton

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Roy Hamilton JP, OA, PHF, BA (Eng), FIE, FAIM. Roy was one of the co-founders of the *Old Flier's Group*, a keen aviator, editor of the previous two Bulletins and member of the Royal Aero Club. As a civil engineer, Roy spent many years in the north-west. The full list of Roy's achievements is too long to cover here, but among his many professional posts he was District Engineer - Pilbara; Resident Engineer at Collie, Wellington Dam, Ord River Irrigation Scheme, Kimberley Regional Manager, State Director of the Department of North West, etc. Roy packed an enormous amount into his life. Our sympathies go to his wife Rosalie and family.

Farnborough Film

Tony Munday has a 16mm movie film that he took at the 1955 Farnborough Air Show. He

hopes to convert it to VHS and show it to us at a future lunch meeting.

60th Anniversary

A luncheon was held at the International Terminal at Perth Airport on Thursday, 17th June, to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the first international service from Perth. It was exactly 60 years ago, in 1944, that Qantas Empire Airways began the Kangaroo Service with a converted wartime Liberator that left Guildford for Learmonth and Ratmalana in Ceylon.

The service was to supplement the Catalina flights from Crawley that took about 27 hours to cover the 3500 miles to Ceylon. The Cats flew 271 of the "Double Sunrise" missions, the last flight arriving in Perth on 18th July 1945.

The luncheon at Perth International Airport was attended by over 100 people who were reminded of the changes that have taken place between then and now.

This Month's Meeting

The next meeting of the group will be held at the Royal Aero Club at noon on Friday 25th June. At this meeting we will be entertained by Roy Minchin. He will talk on his involvement in D-Day, flying a Stirling, and later glider towing to Arnham. It promises to be a very interesting session. Also, in the near future, we are hoping to visit to the Club's IFR training area to look at the simulator.

Hope to see you there.

Brian