



The Old Fliers Group

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

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Last Month

Last month we had two great speakers. The first was Brian Walley who spoke on ditching - not once but twice and Chris Milne-Fowler who began his flying here with the RAC and after a stint with MMA and TAA moved to Swiss Air.



Brian Walley and Chris Milne-Fowler.

Brian Walley's description of the second ditching was particularly moving. It was a serious one that reminded us audience of the contribution by crews and individuals during WWII. After being "fished out" by a German trawler, he was hospitalised for six months and then spent the remainder of the war in a POW camp. Thank you Brian for your graphic description of events.

Chris Milne-Fowler spoke of his experiences with Swiss Air, but not before mentioning the Avro Ansons, Lockheed 10s and DC3s that he flew in his early days in Australia. (The mention of the Avro Anson generated some interesting comments from one or two in the audience who thought that it was a "good" aircraft). Chris became a check captain with Swiss Air and flew a large number of large jets in his 33 years with that company. He still keeps his hand in with his vintage Stinson. Thank you Chris for an insight into the operation of an airline that underwent spectacular growth during the 1950s and through to the 70s and 80s.

The popularity of both talks was evident by the number of questions asked at the end of each session.

Videos of Meetings

Each month Stan Schur captures the talks on video; later he transfers them to a CD, after suitable editing. If you miss a meeting, or wish to obtain a record of any speaker, contact Stan at any meeting and he will happily arrange a copy for you. There is a modest charge of about \$5.00 to cover the cost of materials.

News Reaches Canberra

It is pleasing to note that news of our meetings is spreading. Dennis Jensen, the Federal Member for the seat of Tangney attended the April meeting as a guest of David Currey and John Douglas. Dennis is not a flier, but is an aviation enthusiast and intends to make meetings when possible.



Dennis Jensen, M.P.

That Tour

Reports indicate that the tourists have "ticked off" Hong Kong, London, Villers Brittonneaux, Toulouse and the Airbus factory. They are now back in Britain – and coming home soon.

Next Meeting

The mini speaker will be Tom Kreig who will tell tales of Catalinas. He will be followed by Pat Dwyer who spent time in Lancasters during WWII. Come along to hear the tales and have a nice lunch with tea or coffee for the modest sum of \$11.50.

Hope to see you there.

Brian Hernan