



The Old Fliers Group

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

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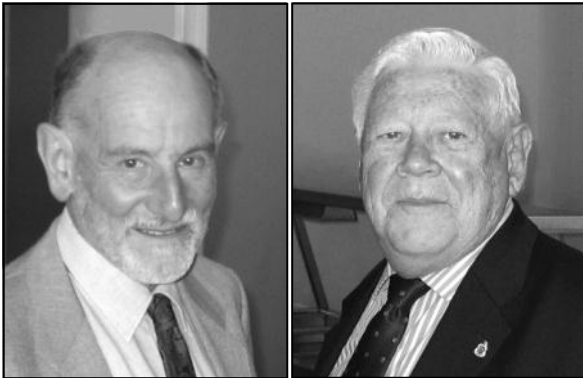
Last Meeting

We broke all records with attendance at the July meeting when ninety members of the Old Fliers Group sat down to a very pleasant lunch at the Royal Aero Club. With apologies from over a dozen regular attendees, it is predicted that the number will soon top the hundred.

Mini Speaker

The Mini-Speaker for the July meeting was David Mills who gave an excellent coverage of the aviation establishments that he visited with the Tony Munday tour group. Most of his talk, which was supported by his photos, was directed to the Airbus establishment at Toulouse in France and the construction of the new super-aircraft, the A380. David told how major components are manufactured in various countries in Europe and transported to Toulouse for assembly. The images and the technical details of weight, fuel consumption and costs were truly amazing.

David also spoke of his visit to the aviation RAF Museums at Duxford and the Fleet Air Arm Museum at Yeovilton.



David Mills

Neil Pegrum

Main Speaker

The Main Speaker of the day was Neil Pegrum. Neil spoke of his time in the RAAF, of his training and his operations as a tail gunner in a Lancaster. Also supported by a series of slides, Neil took us into an area that we hear very little about – the operations at the back end of the aeroplane.

Neil was obviously well-prepared and his talk was most enlightening and professionally delivered.

Thanks go to both speakers for their highly descriptive and entertaining contributions.

What Next?



This is the German-designed ESG strap-on rigid wing called the *Mono-wing*. It carries oxygen, navigation aids and a parachute for landing*.

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Launch height | 30 000 feet |
| Range | 120 miles |
| Speed | 220 mph |
| Glide ratio | 1:6 |
| Payload | 200 pounds |
| Wing span | 6 feet |
| Noise | Silent |
| Radar detection | Difficult |
| Materials | Carbon fibre |

*He's not wearing as much gear as Neil Pegrum did in the tail of the Lancaster!

Vale Lachlan McTaggart

It is with sadness that we report the passing of our member and past speaker, Lockie McTaggart. It was just twelve months ago that Lockie, as a Main Speaker, told members how he and Frank Burt took a leisurely flight from England to Australia in the early 1950s.

Next meeting

The day of the Fletchers! Mini-speaker will be Murray Fletcher who will tell some tales of aerial combat in WWI. Jack Fletcher will be the main speaker and will talk of his experiences in the Pacific during WWII.

Come along to the Royal Aero Club at noon on the Friday August 25th to hear our speakers and have a convivial lunch with tea or coffee for the modest sum of \$12.00.

Hope to see you there.

Brian Hernan