



The Old Fliers' Group

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

Coordinator: Brian John – Phone 9582 5233

Bulletin No 92, July 2012

June Mini Speaker

The *Mini Speaker* at our last meeting was Reg Adkins who showed a movie on the recovery of one of Jimmy Woods' Avro Ansons from a farm at York. The aircraft, *The Islander*, at the end of its useful life had been flown to the farm by Jimmy in 1962 and there it remained, in the open for 15 years. Consequently, it was in a very poor state when the removalists arrived.



The derelict Anson at York.



The Anson being prepared for transport.

Reg had taken his movie camera along to record the historic event in detail. The film showed the disassembly of the aircraft into manageable sections which were loaded on to trucks and transported to the AFA museum at Bullcreek. All who took part volunteered their services and a few "snags" caused the exercise to take a little longer than expected. It was a shame they picked one of the hottest days of the year.

Speaker of the Day

Our June *Speaker of the Day* was Richard Macfarlane who spoke about *The Morning Glory*, which is a unique meteorological phenomenon in the form of a series of parallel rolling clouds that can be hundreds of kilometres long and vary in height from 500 to over 1000 ft, often only about 500 above ground level. They occur during September and early November in the vicinity of Burketown in Queensland.

The following photographs are good examples of the cloud formation.



The Morning Glory near the Gulf of Carpentaria.



Richard Macfarlane "surfing" the Morning Glory.

In front of the cloud there is strong vertical movement of air, while the opposite occurs at the rear – this creates the rolling appearance and an effect that provides a perfect opportunity for glider pilots to "surf" along the rising air at the leading edge of a roll, often for hours at a time.

Richard's description of his experiences at Burketown, and his accompanying video were thoroughly appreciated by members. The number and quality of questions at the end of the presentation was a good indication of member interest.

Special thanks to both speakers for their excellent talks.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the OFG will be held on Friday July 27th at the Royal Aero Club. Steve Rogers will talk on the past, the present and the future of video imagery – and how we as a group can take advantage of the current technology. This will be followed by a talk by your editor on one of Australia's most "unrecognised" aviators.

As usual, lunch will get under way at about noon. Hope to see you there on Friday July 27th.

Brian Hernan