



The Old Fliers' Group

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

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NEXT MEETING

Friday June 26th

May Meeting Report

Mini-speaker

The Mini-Speaker for May was Richard Ewing who reported on what he observed while at the Avalon Airshow 2015. He said there was good representation across the spectrum from general aviation, air force, airlines and space. Security was very tight and it was impossible to get up-close to some of the high level military exhibits. The Avalon Airshow 2015 saw some of the best air show performances in both old and new aircraft – it wowed all who attended.

Richard presented a selection of slides that gave members a good understanding of just what happened, both on the ground and in the air. His photographic skills and his encyclopaedic knowledge of aircraft resulted in a presentation that was appreciated by all who attended the meeting.



The Bristol F-2.

One of the highlights was a flying display of WWI Aircraft including the Nieuport 11, Sopwith Camel, SE-5a, RE-8 and the Bristol F-2 – a variant of which, the *Tourer*, played a large part in the development of aviation in the early days of Western Australian Airways.

Speaker of the Day

The Speaker of the Day was Bevan Marshall who, in his working life, was a licenced aircraft mechanical engineer (LAME) and commercial pilot (CPL). He also worked for a range of companies from the earliest days of Jandakot Airport. His story began with the last days of Maylands, some Guildford stories and then Jandakot. He spoke of the people and characters who formed part of the fabric of aviation history over the last fifty years.

His tales included lots of humour and some doubtful 'true' stories. One story referred to a DCA official who came over from the East, talked to local officials, consulted maps, then flew off in a Tiger Moth. Over Jandakot he threw out a rock attached to a large streamer. On landing back at Maylands he announced the new airport sight had been 'chosen and marked' – the rock and the streamer were never seen again!!!



The first 'recognised' landing at Jandakot airport took place on 17 June 1963.

The *Daily News* of 18 June 1963 carried the above photograph, announcing the 'first official' landing at Jandakot which was carried out by Ian Wilson in a Cessna. Does anyone have any news on Ian? There were many 'unofficial' landings before Ian's.

Bevan's research into the Commonwealth purchase of land, the survey, the clearing and construction of Jandakot Airport was outstanding. Copies of official documents, land title, quotes and actual costs were presented.

Next Meeting

The next OFG meeting on Friday June 26th and will feature Rosemary Stevens who was a passenger on the British Airways flight that had all four engines fail due to an ash cloud over Indonesia. Bevan Marshall will return with a tale of recurring and troublesome aircraft maintenance.

The usual parking arrangements will apply between 10.30 and 2.30 on Friday June 26th, so hope to see you at the Royal Aero Club just before noon for lunch. Come early for a chat if you desire.

Brian Hernan