



The Old Fliers' Group

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

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NEXT MEETING Friday February 26th

January 2016 Report **Speakers**

We had two great speakers for our opening meeting for 2016. First on his feet was Tim Jones; he started his aviation career at the Royal Aero Club. On gaining his commercial licence he flew for charter companies in Western Australia. Tim's next big move was when he joined the RAAF, where he had an outstanding career. Our second speaker was Andy Anderson who told us of his return to civil aviation after WWII. They were turbulent times as civil and commercial aviation were re-established.

Tim Jones

Tim spoke of the RAAF basic training aircraft, starting with the Winjeel at Pt. Cook, then the Macchi at Pearce before moving on to the Mirage, which he flew operationally in Malaysia.

Tim's next big move was to the Empire Test Pilots Scheme in England where he flew many advanced types of aircraft – each flown to its limit and sometimes beyond. His favourite was the Hawker Hunter.

On return to Australia Tim was posted to the Aircraft Research and Development Unit (ARDU) in Edinburgh, South Australia, where he carried out tests on the handling characteristics of a variety of types and later tested the release of airborne weapons under a variety of conditions. Tracing system errors and inconsistencies was part of the job. He also had a stint at testing of the Australian produced F-18 Hornet as they came off the production line.



The F-18 Hornet.

Tim's was an interesting and informative talk greatly appreciated by all who attended.

Keynote speaker

Andy Anderson returned to tell us more about his flying career – this time covering about a ten years span after WWII. Andy started his post-war flying with

Australian National Airways flying the DC-2 and DC-3s on the east-west run, but after about a year he returned to the UK with his family and flew in commercial aviation as it was slowly being re-established. Charter flying was the major part of the industry. British troops had to be moved to and from Europe, the Mediterranean countries, Africa, Egypt, the Middle East and Berlin. New companies were established and take-overs were common. Andy flew for Airwork, Transair, British United, British Caledonian, and more, that flew to many out-of-the-way places.



The Airwork Ltd. Vickers Viking.

At the conclusion of his talk, Andy was presented with a certificate of membership as a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society – the highest category of membership of the Society. The presentation was made by John Hinton who is Chairman of the Western Australian Branch. Andy was congratulated by all members of the OFG.

Annual Subscription

With the increase in postage the subscription for 2016 will be \$20.00. You can pay at the next meeting, or any future meeting should you wish. Alternatively, you can mail a cheque to Brian Hernan, 1 / 4 Kings Park Ave, Crawley, 6009. Cheques must be made out to "Royal Aero Club".

Parking

A parking dispensation was put in place at the eleventh hour, and will be in place for future meetings.

Next Meeting

The next OFG meeting, on Friday February 26th, will feature Andy Anderson again who will talk about his aviation experiences in the Middle East, before retirement.

Hope you can make it to the Royal Aero Club just before noon for lunch and to hear our speakers.

Brian Hernan