



The Old Fliers' Group

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

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****NEXT MEETING****
Friday March 31st 2017.

Last Meeting

Following on from the December meeting where Frank Cocks spoke about Jimmy Woods, we had Robin McMillan tell us about his time as co-pilot for Jimmy.

Robin McMillan

Jimmy Woods purchased three Avro Ansons and began the Rottnest service in 1948. As time went by he became involved in a conflict with DCA over the minor infringement of regulations. The Department ordered Jimmy to fly with a co-pilot and that job fell to Robin McMillan, a young, newly-qualified commercial pilot. As well as assisting in the cockpit, Robin helped with the transport and transfer of passengers and their luggage.

Members were intrigued by the range of incidents that Robin recalled from his 350 crossings to and from the island.



The Anson 'Willem de Vlaming' at Rottnest.

After the meeting I was contacted by John Ridley who told me that during his school holidays he was, for a short time, a "second officer" for Jimmy.

Matt Barrett

The Speaker of the Day for the February meeting was Matt Bartlett; he gave us an in-depth look at the world of drones, or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) and their application, which has extended into military, civil, commercial and scientific areas. They are usually powered by lithium batteries and carry photographic and sensing devices that transmit data to a ground equipment.

Radio-transmitted digital commands replace physical cockpit controls. Autopilot software may be used with GPS to fly to, and hover at pre-determined coordinate or to track along a set of coordinates.

Matt, who is a drone instructor, displayed a Phantom Quadcopter (see photo) which is a popular model priced at around \$2000.



The Phantom Quadcopter.

Digital control of the RPM of the four motors allows precise control in the air.

Thanks

Special thanks to both of our speakers for the entertaining deliveries.

Annual Subscription

The annual subscription remains the same as last year at \$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".

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at the Royal Aero Club, at noon on Friday March 31st 2017. Gordon Hamilton will tell us of his time in the field of agricultural aviation. He met a wide range of characters and worked on many aircraft types in that field.

Also, two support speakers should prove to be very interesting.

Hope to see you there.

Brian Hernan.