



The Old Fliers' Group

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

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****NEXT MEETING****

Friday February 2nd 2018.

January meeting postponed by one week

2018 Meeting Dates

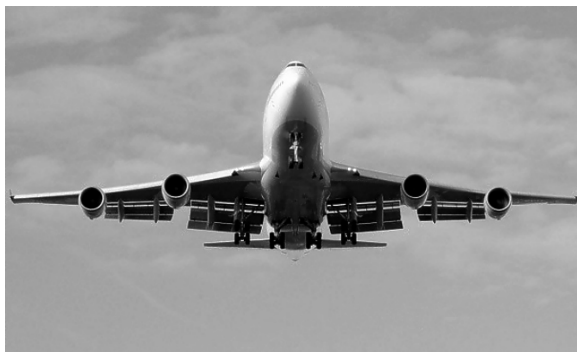
January meeting	February 2 nd
February meeting	February 23 rd
March meeting	March 30 th

Due to Australia Day coinciding with our normal meeting day, the January meeting has been put off for one week – so the first get-together for 2018 will be on February 2nd.

Last Meeting

Vern Benjamin was our November *Speaker of the Day*. Vern, who has experience both as a pilot and as an engineer, took us through a surprising number of ways of slowing and stopping aircraft.

We were reminded of lift and drag devices, such as wing flaps, slats, slots, speed brakes, spoilers, lift dumpers, etc.



The slotted flaps on a Boeing.

On the ground the following were explained: drum and disk brakes, crash barriers, arrestor wires and hooks, drag and drogue parachutes, engine thrust reduction and vectoring to include reversal, propellers at fine pitch and reverse pitch, anti-skid systems, brake temperature monitoring, and even, with GPS assistance, auto braking for the correct exit taxiway.

Then there is the old fashioned tailskid, side-slipping and ground looping!

Members appreciated Vern's meticulous presentation and showed their appreciation in the usual way.

Support Speaker

Your editor spoke about the imaginary Pilot Officer Percy Prune who was invented by the Air Ministry in 1941 to carry important messages to allied airmen during World War 2. The fictitious Prune was created, in a light-hearted way, to improve efficiency in both training and operations. Prune made virtually every mistake in the book.

Prune first appeared in the monthly "Tee Emm" (Training Memoranda) in April 1941 – and it was successful. His mistakes were widely appreciated by those who read the journal and it got the message across in the wide-ranging discussions that followed. Thanks to Chip Harvey for supplying his historic material. P. Prune still exists in a professional pilot rumour network on social media.



P.O. Percy Prune

End of Year Raffle

The free raffle for a flight in a Tiger Moth was won by Merlene Smith. Congratulations Merlene.

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, starting at noon on **Friday February 2nd**. We will start with a 'fun quiz', to be followed by Tony McGrath who will speak on early aviation in WA. This will be followed by the search for the *Southern Cross* and its crew in northern WA in 1929.

Hope to see you there.

Brian Hernan.