



The Old Fliers Group

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

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****NEXT MEETING****
Friday November 30th 2019.

Future Meeting Dates

January meeting postponed by one week.

January meeting February 1st

February meeting February 22nd

March meeting March 29th

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 2019 will be on Friday February 1st.

Life Membership of the Royal Aero Club

John Ridgeway was awarded Life Membership of the Royal Aero Club at our last meeting for his selfless services over many years. David Currey began the presentation. Bruce Rathbone who outlined John's extensive contribution followed him, and then John Douglas finished the event with a summary of John Ridgeway's maintenance work at Murrayfield.



John Ridgeway and John Douglas.

Happy 100th Birthday

Also, at the last meeting we celebrated Jim Forster's 100th birthday. Jim is a staunch member of the OFG and attends almost every meeting. He reached the milestone two weeks earlier on October 13th. Members and friends decorated his table with balloons, streamers, champagne and a special birthday cake.

Andrew Holden addressed the meeting and spoke about some of the milestones in Jim's life – including the family farm at Kellerberrin and his contribution to the local community.

Jim joined the RAAF during WW2 as a ground engineer and worked on a wide range of aircraft.

He saw active service in the islands to the north of Australia.

Jim owned a number of motorbikes and two classic vintage cars, which he restored to near perfect condition. He is an honorary member of the Vintage Car Club.

Speaker of the Day

Adrian Lambourne was the *Speaker of the Day* at our last meeting. His talk covered the role of the Vulcan Bomber in the Falklands War of 1982.

On April 2, 1982, Argentine forces landed and took the islands that they had long claimed as part of their territory. The British response was a sea and air attack, which included Vulcan bombers (that were close to the end of their useful life). They had to be launched from Ascension Island, over 3400 nautical miles from the target. The exercise involved 15 sorties and 18 in-flight refuelling operations to get a single Vulcan over the Port Stanley airfield with a full load of bombs.

The bombs were dropped diagonally across the airstrip. The runway, plus aircraft and ground installations were damaged. The Falkland Islands were returned to British rule.



Next Meeting

The next OFG meeting will be at the Royal Aero Club, starting at noon on Friday November 30th. It will be our last meeting for the year and, as usual, we will enjoy the traditional Christmas pudding, plus a FREE "Scratchy" Lotto ticket.

The Speaker of the Day will tell the story of Robin Miller – the Flying Nurse. Brian Hernan.