



The Old Fliers' Group

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

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Next Meeting
Friday November 29th

Report on the last meeting

October Speaker of the Day

Last month Robin McMillan spoke to us about his experiences while flying, mainly Fokker aircraft, in Western Australia and South East Asia.

(You may remember Robin previously talked to us about his time as a co-pilot with Jimmy Woods on the Avro Anson Rottneest service.)

After joining MMA in 1964, Robin first flew the Douglas DC-3, gaining his endorsement on the type from the noted Captain Colin Cook.

He spoke of the difficult flying conditions, of adverse weather and fog at various airports, of jet streams and wind shear which affected navigation, magnetic compass irregularities, caused by the huge iron ore deposits in the Pilbara - and of a few unruly passengers who were encountered from time to time.



The Douglas DC-3 landing at Wittenoom.

When the Fokker F.27 *Friendship* arrived in 1966 a number of DC-3 pilots converted to the type. Eventually Robin's turn came for the F27 conversion and later he transferred to the F28 Fokker *Fellowship* – which he rated very highly.



The Fokker F27 Friendship, VH-MMO, at Perth.

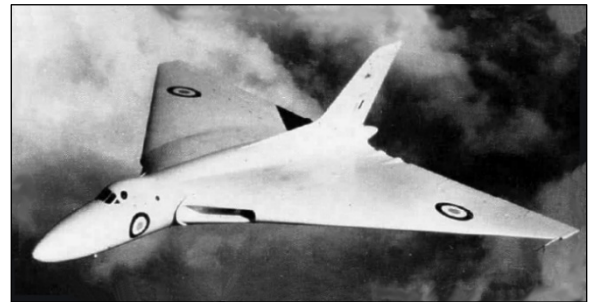


The Fokker F28 Fellowship in outback W.A.

Robin has much more to share so we have invited him back again in the New Year.

Historic Flight

The first aircraft to fly non-stop from England to Australia was a Vickers Vulcan that departed Scampton, Lincolnshire, in June 1961. After three in-flight refuellings it landed at RAAF Richmond near Sydney after a journey of 18,507 km, flown in 20 hours and three minutes. (The in-flight refuelling technique proved its worthwhile during the Falklands conflict.)



The Vickers Vulcan.

Next Meeting

The next OFG meeting will be at the Royal Aero Club, starting at noon on Friday November 29th. It will be our last meeting for the year and, as usual, we will enjoy the traditional Christmas pudding.

The speaker at the November meeting will be Richard Moore, who will talk about the first ever flight from England to Australia by Keith and Ross Smith, who made it in 1919, in a Vickers Vimy. They departed London on November 12 and arrived in Darwin on December 10. They carried the first ever air mail from England.

Hope to see you for lunch and Christmas pudding on November 29th.

Brian Hernan.