



The Old Fliers Group

Royal Aero Club of WA
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Numbers were down on previous months due to inclement weather.

I invited members to bring along their wives to this talk as our speaker is inspirational. Nine members of the WA Women Pilot's Assn also attended. Balloonist/ aviator/ adventurer and author, Ruth Wilson didn't disappoint. She spoke of her early days in ballooning when chauvinism was rampant. When she began winning contests, people took notice. Ruth then entered Gordon Bennett races in America and Europe. In one event she took off in Switzerland, flew across the Alps, through Italian airspace to land near Venice in a vineyard. She spoke of the intense cold, sleeplessness and vigilance needed to survive. Ruth answered many questions posed by members.

Ruth never knew her biological father, only that he was an American Pilot. In telling her story she hopes to find him. Ruth sold copies of her book "Conquering Clouds".



Our next meeting on the 26th of August will feature helicopter pilot Rob Vaughan-Johnson who will tell us about how he rescued crew from the stricken "Key Biscayne" oil rig during a wild storm.

Hope to see you there.

Regards
Steve Rogers
Coordinator