



Wings Over the Bay

Welcome to the newsletter of the Bay of Plenty Branch, NZ Division, RAeS for Jan-Feb 2020.

Recap AGM & BBQ

This News Item was sent to Tim Robinson, Editor, Aerospace magazine by Club member Grayson Ottaway which might make it to the pages of the Society's magazine. We also discovered London was enjoying cool single-digit mid-winter temperatures.

NEWS ITEM – 1 Feb20

A Bay of Plenty Branch - Hot Temperatures for First Event of 2020

It was 31degrees in brilliant sunshine when Bay of Plenty Branch kicked-off its AGM and BBQ at the clubrooms of the Tauranga Gliding Club at 6.00pm on 31st January. The Branch has continued the practice of using this venue since the Branch was setup in 2015. The elevated clubrooms are located on the north-western edge of the Tauranga Airport has commanding views of both grassed areas vectors and the western end of the main runway. The recent hot summer weather has dried off the normally lush green grass.

The AGM was delayed with a queue to renew membership subs to Treasurer, Mike Feisst, where payment 'on the night' meant free admission to the BBQ to follow. Including partners, almost 30 attended the event - more than half our Branch membership. Among those paying up was Paul Fahey, well-known motorsport celebrity who recently moved to the area, who signed up as a new Branch member. The chairman, Des Underwood MRAeS, planned a prompt AGM with the necessary documents having been distributed by email ahead of the meeting. This allowed the formalities to be completed in just 7 minutes. Among the documents, the Chairman's Report noted Branch membership had exceeded 50 members for the first time. Financially, the

Branch accounts showed both profit and accumulated funds being the highest recorded to date. The former Branch committee was re-elected, with Dr David Lyon (former Vice-Chair) re-joining the committee after almost three years in Melbourne, where he was a lecturer at RMIT. David has offered to be involved in the Branch plans for the NZ Division 'Youth in Aviation' initiative.



2020 Committee members from left Graham Lister, Wally Gee, Des Underwood, Jack Best, Mike Feisst and David Lyon. Photo Grayson Ottaway

Then, it was onto the social side of the evening event with a BBQ and time for a catchup over a few cold drinks. As we had done in past years, committee members Wally Gee and Mike Feisst had pre-cooked the hot food ahead of the AGM which meant the food was quickly available. Our two most senior members present, Bryan Cox aged 95 and Stewart Boys 83, were invited to lead the BBQ fare of hot food, salads and nibbles followed by cheese cake, cream puffs, grapes and pineapple.

Again, the well-appointed clubrooms, proved to be a popular venue for the meeting which concluded around 8.00pm with all those attending reporting how much they enjoyed the event. With a number of the committee members away in February, the Bay of Plenty Branch will start its monthly meeting program at the Classic Flyers aviation museum on Friday 6 March.

Prepared and released for publication by Des Underwood MRAeS, Chairman Bay of Plenty Branch, RAeS

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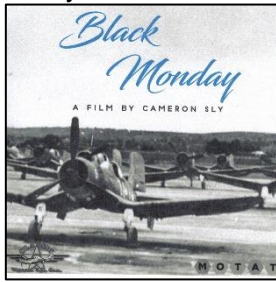
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Branch Activities - 2020

NOTE - NO MEETING IN FEBRUARY – as a number of committee members will be away

Friday 6 March – Branch Meeting
– at Classic Flyers – 5.00 join the Happy Hour – meeting to start at 6.00pm
– speaker **Bryan Cox**
– topic ‘Black Monday’

- It's 75 years since the RNZAF lost eight fighter pilots flying Corsairs in a single operation returning to Greene Island in a tropical storm in WW2
- On the eve of his 20th birthday, Bryan was on the same sortie and by chance survived while eight of his peers perished
- A DVD titled ‘Black Monday’ was compiled by Cameron Sly and features interviews by his grandfather Phil Rouse as well as Bryan



75 years after the event, please do Bryan the honour of recognising his war service by attending this presentation.

Light supper to follow - gold coin is requested

Friday 3 April – Branch Meeting – at Classic Flyers – 5.00 join the Happy Hour – meeting to start at 6.00pm
– speaker **Wally Gee**
– topic – The Boeing Stearman



Boeing Stearman E75 (ZK-XAF) at Tauranga – photo Flight Aware

Friday 1 May – Branch Meeting – at Classic Flyers – 5.00 join the Happy Hour – meeting to start at 6.00pm – speaker **Tracey Cousins**, former RNZAF C130 Captain – details to follow

Aviation Events 2020

Mon 2nd March - Tiger Moth Safari
brief lunch stop in TG before departing to OP



Sat/Sun 11th/12th April 2020 – Warbirds over Wanaka - Airshow 2020



Bay of Plenty Branch Committee

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