

FLY BY

**THE AUGUST 2018
NEWSLETTER OF THE
PALMERSTON NORTH BRANCH
NEW ZEALAND DIVISION
ROYAL AERONAUTICAL
SOCIETY**



CONSOLIDATED PB5A CATALINA AT AVALON AIRSHOW

As expected we had a good turnout of Members for our visit to 42 Squadron at RNZAF Base Ohakea for our July Meeting. We all had a great time looking at the Squadrons King Air's with the bonus of having the chance to have a look at the Catalina and other warbird aircraft in the old 3 Squadron hangar. Our thanks of Squadron Leader Jim Rankin who organised the visit and briefed us on the new aircraft (and made sure we didn't break anything) ably assisted by Squadron Leader Simon Shaw. It was a great evening meeting. I'd like to record a vote of thanks to the Air Force for their support of the Branch (and the Society) going back many years.

NEXT MEETING...

Our next meeting will be held at our usual venue at the Massey School of Aviation at the Airport on Tuesday 14th of August at 7.00 p.m.

We are going to show the DVD of the PB5 Catalina that we endeavoured to play at our (notorious) February non-Meeting this year.... We were overtaken by technology then and it didn't work.

The DVD features a walk around, description and flight of the aircraft you viewed at Ohakea. We have decided to show the video as a result of the huge level of interest our Members showed in the aircraft at Ohakea.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

FUTURE PROGRAMME...

Our presenter at our September Meeting will be Squadron Leader Simon Shaw (who you met at Ohakea). Simon came to us from the RAF where he was a QFI and Pilot on the Nimrod Maritime Patrol Aircraft. He will talk to us about flying the Nimrod and RAF maritime

operations. I am really looking forward to that.

Am still in the process of organising speakers for our October and November meetings. Don't forget to keep the evening of Tuesday 11 December free for our Social Meeting at a local restaurant.



RAF NIMROD AT THE 2005 AVALON AIRSHOW.

They were also proudly displaying the Fincastle Trophy which they had won in competition with the RCAF, RAAF and RNZAF. (The RNZAF has won it 8 times!)

I understand that the format of the competition has changed to include a number of different operations rather than purely sub-hunting.

COMMENT...

I have been watching with interest (and a little wry humour) the comments around the fact that the P8 Poseidons ordered for the RNZAF will be capable of warfighting (rather than purely looking for lost fishermen in the vast reaches of the Pacific). Given the upsurge in the number of submarines operating in our corner

of the globe and our reliance on seaborne trade to survive I am pleased that they will have the capability. You never know in this unstable world when they may be needed. The bewailers remind me of the WWI politicians who opposed conscription then but were keen supporters of NZ's role in WWII.

The development work at Ohakea required to support the move of these aircraft here and the estimated transfer of a large number of people from Whenuapai can do nothing but good for the local economy.



I see that the latest versions of the F16 Fighting Falcon includes technology developed for the F22 and F35. Pity we haven't got some.

STAY SAFE AND HAVE A GOOD ONE!

Dennis O'Rourke
Branch Chairman
dennis.orourke1942@gmail.com
Phone (022) 358-5442