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# The Wind Bag

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## OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BATHURST AERO CLUB

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### President's Report

Dear Members,

Since the last newsletter, your Club has been very active. Apart from the usual round of flying competitions, night flying and other social events, which take a lot of time to organise we have held a working bee and hosted the Cessna 182 Society.

Each of these activities has only been possible through the hard work of members and their partners. On behalf of the Board, thank you to members and their partners for all of the voluntary work, which you have contributed to these activities. (I won't endeavour to name names because inevitably I will miss someone and cause offence.)

Activities like the working bee save money for us, the Club members. Essential maintenance around the Club and on VH-BAC can be undertaken without expense to members. The working bee on March 16 was well attended. Rotten timbers were replaced on the Club Office and painting was carried out. The grounds were tidied and looked great. VH-BAC was detailed and looked really good. Even a couple of hours of work are valuable as this day demonstrated.

The Cessna 182 Society weekend saw around forty aircraft, mostly C182's fly in from Friday April 11 onwards. Most departed on Sunday April 13. The C182 Society organised its own activities and held its AGM in the Clubrooms, ably guided by local Executive member, John Bestwick.

Bathurst Aero Club members provided catering for Friday arrivals, Saturday lunch and a Sunday brown bag lunch to allow the visitors to depart before eating. (A chance thunderstorm saw many eating in the Clubrooms.) The Club raised a substantial amount of money through these hosting and catering activities.

In May, the night flying social was well attended. Erik Mol from Smartair did the instructing duties and once again enjoyed his time at the Club.

The second and third rounds of the Club flying competitions were well attended. The third round was held on a farm airstrip on the back of Mt Panorama and attracted a lot of interest, despite the freezing weather. **See the Club website for reports on these rounds. On the homepage, click on "Information Kiosk" to take you to the reports.**

The Christmas in July on July 26 was a resounding success. On a freezing night, over 40 people enjoyed a traditional Christmas dinner with nibbles, Christmas meats, roast vegetables and Christmas pudding. Unfortunately, there wasn't an instructor available for night flying, but that didn't deter people from having a good time during and after dinner. Our new dishwasher cut the load in the kitchen substantially.

Looking forward to seeing you at our next events, which are listed on the enclosed "What's On".

Safe and enjoyable flying,

David Bull,  
President.

### Advertising with Bathurst Aero Club

Want to advertise your business with Bathurst Aero Club? This newsletter goes to over 120 members and 30 aero clubs around NSW. The Club website currently has over 150 hits per week. Talk to a member of the Board about advertising your business in the newsletter or on the website.

### Wanted: Duty Pilots

As many of you know, the Club runs on a voluntary basis. Part of that voluntary basis is the duty pilot roster. Numbers are dwindling. We need some new volunteers.

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At the moment, duty pilots are rostered on about once every five weeks. With more volunteers, we will increase the length of the cycle and reduce the number of times any person has to do it.

**Please consider volunteering to help your Club. Your name will go in the draw to win an hour of flying in VH-BAC at the end of the year. When you do your duty pilot duties, you enter your name in a book in the Office to be in the draw. The more times you are a duty pilot, the more entries you receive.**

Duty pilots spend about half a weekend day to do the following jobs:

- Greet visitors.
- Clean the Clubrooms.
- Serve fuel if needed.

### **Cleaning Windows in VH-BAC**

The windows in VH-BAC are suffering some scratch damage. When you clean the windows, please take great care. Good visibility is an important safety matter and there's nothing worse than trying to see through scratches while landing into a setting sun. To make cleaning easier, a can of Plexus and a soft cloth has been added to the equipment in the baggage hold.

### **VH-BAC and Braking**

When using the brakes on VH-BAC, please be careful not to lock a wheel. This creates a flat spot, which causes vibration and wears the tire out more quickly. Tires are not cheap and frequent replacement adds to the hire rate.

### **Trestles**

The Club owns a number of trestle tables. Although the table tops are stored safely in the hangar, the trestles are missing. If anyone has borrowed the trestles and simply forgotten to bring them back, would they mind doing so? These are an important Club asset.

### **Booking VH-BAC**

**When you book the Club aircraft, VH-BAC, please ensure that you either use your booking or cancel the booking if you can't go flying. VH-BAC is getting a lot of use. If you can't use your booking there is almost always someone else, who would like to use the aircraft.**

### **Links to Bathurst Aero Club Website**

The Board of Bathurst Aero Club thinks that linking Aero Club websites will encourage aviation activity. If other aero clubs agree with this idea, please let us know your website address and we'll add it to the links on our website and please include our website as a link on your website.

([www.bathurst-aero-club.org.au](http://www.bathurst-aero-club.org.au))

## **The Wind Bag**

### **Oil into VH-BAC**

If you put oil into VH-BAC, please ensure that you record this on the maintenance release. Monitoring oil consumption is one of the best ways to monitor the condition of the engine, so it is important that we know how much oil the engine is using. At present, we are running it on Shell oil. There is a container of oil in the cargo compartment.

### **GIFT VOUCHERS**

Ever wondered what to give someone or have someone, who can't think what to get you for a Christmas or birthday present. The Club now offers gift vouchers. This is your chance to give that special person or let them give you some free flying or buy some other Club merchandise. Please contact the Club office to buy one. You can purchase gift vouchers in any value.

### **CARE IN THE HANGAR**

**When moving aircraft in the hangar, please take great care to avoid hangar damage. If possible, find someone to help you move aircraft. As a minimum, please check the following:**

- **The hangar doors are fully open.**
- **If you are moving VH-BAC, put a front seat belt around the control column and pull the column back as far as possible to ensure that the elevators are in the full up position to improve ground clearance as you go down the ramp.**
- **On the ramp especially, move aircraft slowly.**
- **Only tow an aircraft straight into the hangar. Once inside the hangar, only move aircraft manually. Do not use the tug inside the hangar.**

### **Board of Directors 2008**

The members of the Board for 2008 and their responsibilities are listed below. If you have any problems or suggestions in any of these areas, please contact the appropriate member.

David Bull	President ( <b>Publicity</b> )
Graham Gentles	Vice President ( <b>Treasury duties</b> )
Ed Collins	Secretary ( <b>Bar</b> )

Ordinary Members:

Leigh Cutler	<b>Aircraft maintenance</b>
Brian Harvey	<b>Flying</b>
John Marston	<b>Fuel</b>
Matthew Millett	<b>House</b>
Peter Ticehurst	<b>Social</b>
Kevin Wilkins	<b>Hangar</b>