



ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

[www.raes.org.au](http://www.raes.org.au)

**AeroNEWS**

**Newsletter of the Canberra Branch of RAeS, Australian Division Inc.**

**- January/February 2011 -**

## Introduction

On behalf of Canberra Branch Committee, we wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year. Our first meeting for 2011 is on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February, and our speaker will be Mr. Michael Monck, a proponent of *"Canberra's Second Airfield"*.

The following month there will be two special presentations. On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March the Branch is co-sponsoring with Engineers Australia an Eminent Speaker's visit by Dr Mark Stuart. Dr Stuart recently retired as Director for Structures & Materials at NASA Langley Research Center. His lunchtime presentation on *"Advanced Composites Technologies for Heavy Lift Launch Vehicles"* will be at 12 noon for 12.30pm start, in the Auditorium, Engineers Australia, 11 National Cct, Barton. On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, Mr Steve Roberts of Martin Baker will give an evening presentation at ADFA on ejector seats, with special reference to the JSF. More details of both in next Newsletter.

In March, because of the availability of our overseas presenters, there will be no lecture on the normal second Tuesday. Mr Jim Coyne of CASA has graciously agreed to postpone his scheduled presentation on Civil UAVs.

Please distribute Newsletter widely, publicize lectures and urge colleagues to attend; lectures are open to all. However, if you are not a member of the Society please consider joining. There are Grades to suit all levels of involvement with aviation and the many benefits are summarized at <http://raes.org.au/membership>, along with application forms. Or phone me and discuss.

By now members of the main Society should have received subscription notices for 2011. Subscriptions for Friends of the Branch will be notified in the next Newsletter.

If you do not get this Newsletter electronically and can, just ask. It saves time, trees and money. Conversely, ask to unsubscribe if you are no longer interested in Branch activities.

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## February Lecture

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February**

6.00 pm at Military Lecture Theatre, ADFA

Mr. Michael Monck on *"Canberra's Second Airfield"*.

Mr Monck is the Vice President of the Canberra Region Aviators Association. The Association aims to establish an airfield close to Canberra that is more suitable for recreational aviators than Canberra International Airport. The main airport has grown to such an extent that operating smaller aircraft there is not economically viable; partly as holding times in the air and on the ground are becoming too long and tiresome.

Instead CRAA is promoting the need for a field that better caters for aviators whose primary focus is non-commercial; including those who fly under the auspices of general aviation, Recreational Aviation Australia and the Gliding Federation of Australia.

Michael Monck holds qualifications in economics and is studying towards an MBA. He has worked closely with government and private organisations in a consulting capacity for a number of years. Having moved to Canberra some 5 years ago, he takes a particular interest in difficulties facing local aviators and puts his professional knowledge and experience to assisting pilots and enthusiasts secure the future of aviation in the Canberra region.

Michael has flown since the mid 1990s and comes from a family of flyers, with 3 brothers who all hold flying qualifications including military, commercial and private licences.

Before the lecture please join your colleagues for refreshments in the Officers Mess and afterwards you are welcome to join the Committee and speaker for dinner.

## Report on December Meeting

Approximately 16 attended the Branch 2010 Annual General Meeting at which the Chairman presented his report, emphasising the wide range of lectures during the year, and the Treasurer tabled audited

accounts for the financial year. A Committee was elected for 2011 and is listed in the box at end of Newsletter. Formal Minutes of the AGM will be available shortly.

After the brief AGM, the scheduled speaker on turbine blade fatigue was regrettably not available. Instead, and at short notice Mr Varun Prakash described his development of data acquisition from a free flying body in UNSW@ADFA's hypersonic shock tunnel.

Conventionally, models are mounted in the flow of a tunnel on a boom-like "sting". This is satisfactory for measuring flow parameters near the nose but the mounting can corrupt values elsewhere. What Varun is attempting is to drop a test body into the very short duration (one millisecond) of stable hypersonic flow in the tunnel, and during that time capture up to 2000 heat measurements from a thin film sensor on the side of the model. The technology will eventually be applied to design of thermal protection systems on re-entry vehicles. The presentation was supplemented by an impromptu visit to the hypersonic tunnel and an explanation of its function and capabilities.

## Awards at ADFA

Each year the Branch awards prizes at ADFA, partly in recognition of the facilities provided for our meetings. OFCT David Ghali won the 2010 AVN Noble undergraduate prize of a medallion and \$200, and Robert Hruschka the TFC Lawrence postgraduate prize. Congratulations to both.

## Technical Workshop & Forum on Continuing Airworthiness

In Sydney on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March the International Federation of Airworthiness is offering a free Workshop and Forum on Continuing Airworthiness. Topics to be covered include:

- change of ownership issues
- training and licensing of engineers
- communication between flight deck and maintenance engineers.
- outsourcing
- human factors
- lessons learned from accidents

Full details of speakers, times, venues and registration requirements are at <http://www.ifairworthy.com/safety.php>

## Weird Wide Web

To avoid the constraints of airfields (and the need for a second one in the ACT region) every child and many adults crave a personal, strap-on jetpack. Various such devices have been around since the 1950s and the latest one is being developed by Glenn Martin in NZ. <http://www.martinjetpack.com> has technical info and video clips.

An alternative is the JetLev Flyer, which cleverly uses water jets for lift - see <http://www.jetlev-flyer.com>. Though at almost \$200,000 the device is eye-wateringly expensive!

## Dates for the Diary

**Tuesday 8 February** *Branch Lecture*

Mr. Michael Monck on "*Canberra's Second Airfield*".

**Tuesday 15 March** *Eminent Speaker Lecture*

Dr Mark Shuart on "*Advanced Composites Technologies for Heavy Lift Launch Vehicles*"; luncheon at Engineers Australia,

**Tuesday 22 March** *Branch Lecture*

Mr Steve Roberts on "*Martin-Baker ...the JSF story so far*".

**Tuesday 12 April** *Branch Lecture*

On "*Project Wedgetail*", to be confirmed

**Canberra Branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society, Australian Division Inc.**

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**Committee 2011**

**Chairman:** Jon Pike

**Vice Chair:** Eugene Holzapfel

**Secretary:** Neville Probert

**Treasurer:** Robin Stanier

**Committee:** Rick Agnew, Martin Aubury, Sue Burdekin, Keirin Joyce, Robert Lee, Dilip Mathew, Ian McIntyre, Andrew Neely