



**ROYAL  
AERONAUTICAL  
SOCIETY**

## **AERONEWS**

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

**- October 2011 -**

### **Introduction**

Our October presentation is about the ever controversial topic of aircraft noise; details below. The meeting is arranged jointly with Australian Acoustical Society.

In November the Branch will hold its AGM, a month earlier than usual. Branch Committee has decided not to hold a meeting in December because of conflict with end of year events at ADFA, and as usual there will be no meeting in January.

However, we have already arranged the presentation for February 2012! Tony Blackman, retired test pilot and author will talk about Nimrod and his new book ***"NIMROD, Rise and Fall"***. Nimrod began as a maritime reconnaissance aircraft but later had new sensors fitted which enabled a reconnaissance role for UK ground forces. Tony's book tells of the aircraft's capabilities, developmental delays and cost escalation, and sadly its recent cancellation.

You need not be a member of RAeS to attend lectures, although we encourage everyone interested in aviation to join. There are appropriate grades for all levels of involvement and membership includes subscription to the excellent Aerospace International magazine. Information and forms are at <http://www.raes.org.au> or call me on 6255 2347 to discuss.

If you do not get your own copy of this Newsletter and want it, just ask. If you are one of the few who still get it by mail and can change to the electronic version, please do so; save time, trees and money.

Martin Aubury,

Newsletter Editor

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### **October Lecture**

**Tuesday 11 October**

6.00 pm at Military Lecture Theatre, ADFA

Mr Ian McLeod, Manager Aircraft Noise Information at AirServices Australia will explain ***"AirServices' Noise and Flight Path Monitoring System"***.

This presentation covers a brief history of aircraft noise monitoring in Australia, NFPMS system architecture and performance, as well as examples of its use.

AirServices has operated its NFPMS for over 15 years; initially just at Sydney and Brisbane airports. A major upgrade during 2009 increased the coverage, analysis capability and accuracy of the data collected.

Now the latest system captures movement data (flight plan and radar) at 16 major airports, which is then correlated against noise data from 46 monitors. Noise exceedances are checked against aircraft movements and attributed to a specific aircraft, or otherwise deemed to be background noise.

NFPMS is a valuable tool to assist in the environmental management of aircraft operations in the vicinity of airports. Data from the system also benefits air traffic control planning, traffic analysis and planning for the use of airspace and runways.

Ian McLeod has a Physics degree from Melbourne University and then gained a PhD from Monash for research into sound propagation through turbulence. After consulting in acoustics he joined AirServices about ten years ago.

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

### **Report on September Meeting**

WGCDR Chris Dunstan's presentation ***"ADF Aviation Safety Management 1991-2011 - how far have we come?"*** began by explaining why 1991 was a watershed year. ADF aviation suffered six fatal accidents; a P-3C Orion, F/A 18 Hornet, GAF Nomad, Pilatus PC-9 and Porter, and even an RAAF Museum Tiger Moth. That was after 3 fatal accidents in 1990.

Since then, significant improvements have included adoption of a formal Safety Management System and of requirements for operational and technical airworthiness. Plus there have been engineering advances such as GPWS, TCAS and a structural integrity program.

WGCDR Dunstan discussed elements of ADF's SMS including a Command commitment to safety, training and safety promotion, hazard reporting and promotion of a "safety culture" that is flexible, wary and just.

## Safeskies 2011

As mentioned more extensively in August Newsletter, the 10<sup>th</sup> biennial Safeskies Conference will be held on Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 October at the Hyatt Hotel in Canberra. Its theme for 2011 is **Future Growth: Future Challenges**.

Preceding the Conference, on Tuesday evening at a Parliament House dinner, Australian astronaut Dr Andy Thomas will present the Sir Reginald Ansett Memorial Lecture. Contrary to earlier advice Dr Thomas's wife and fellow astronaut Dr Shannon Walker is unable to attend.

For more information: [www.safeskiesaustralia.org](http://www.safeskiesaustralia.org)

## Annual General Meeting

This is formal notification that AGM of Canberra Branch will be held in the Military Lecture Theatre at ADFA, 6.00 pm on Tuesday 8 November. The AGM is a month earlier than usual because the Branch altered its financial year to end in June and it is an ACT requirement that Associations hold their AGM within five months of EOFY.

AGM agenda will include Introduction and Apologies, Review of the Minutes of the 2010 AGM, (these will be distributed at the AGM or are available beforehand from the Secretary), Chairman's Report, Treasurer's Report, Election of Committee for 2012 and Any Other Business.

It is necessary to make some minor technical changes to the RAeS Constitution to reflect the fact that (a) the term "Branch member" has been replaced by the term "Branch Friend", and (b) the AGM will now be held in November of each year to meet the legal requirement to hold the AGM within 5 months of the end of the Financial Year, and (c) to update the name of the Regulatory Authority to "Office of the Regulatory Services in the ACT".

Therefore notice is given that at the AGM a motion will be put to make the following changes to the Constitution:

*Change the term "Branch Member" to "Branch Friend" in clauses 7, 8, 13, 14, 26 and 33.*

*Change the term "December" to "November" in clause 17*

*Change the name of the authority from "Registrar of Incorporated Associations" to "Office of the Regulatory Services in the ACT" in clause 29.*

The Constitution with proposed changes is on the Australian Division website at <http://raes.org.au/assets/Canberra-Branch-Newsletters-Archive/Branch-Constitution/RAeS-CBR-Branch-constitution-amended-2011.pdf>

Canberra Branch's audited accounts for 2010/2011 have also been posted on the web site.

Please note that any other motions to be put at the AGM must be advised to the Secretary at least seven days prior to the meeting. Note too that we keenly seek new members for the Committee. If interested please ask any of us for information and/or get a nomination form from the Secretary

## Weird Wide Web

I hope that all readers pay proper attention to pre-flight safety briefings. No? If you've become blasé, look at what Thomson Airways does to grab passenger attention.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CjHCC6TZhaM>

## Dates for the Diary

**Tuesday 11 October** *Branch Lecture*  
Mr Ian McLeod of AirServices Australia on "**Monitoring and Control of Aircraft Noise**".

**Tuesday 8 November** *Branch AGM*

**December 2011** *No Branch Lecture*

**January 2012** *No Branch Lecture*

**Tuesday 14 February** *Branch Lecture*  
Mr Tony Blackman on "**NIMROD, Rise and Fall**".

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

**GPO Box 1056, Canberra, ACT 2601**

**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

**Global Website:** <http://www.aerosociety.com>

**Aust. Division:** <http://www.raes.org.au>