



# GO-ROUND

## ALDINGA AERO CLUB MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March, 2020

Editor: John Chambers

### Salute to the Stinson - 100 Years Old! *(Special treat for Ivor & Mary. Ed.)*

The Stinson Aircraft Company was founded in 1920 in Dayton, Ohio, by the then well-known aviator, Eddie Stinson. The company was successful from the very beginning and each year thereafter. This was particularly the case during the WWII years. Unfortunately Eddie did not live to see the immense success of the company that he had founded. In 1932 he received fatal injuries in the crash of one of the early SR series Stinsons. While on a sales trip to Chicago, the plane crashed due to fuel starvation.



After the prosperous WWII years, many aircraft companies floundered and the Stinson Aircraft Corporation was one of them. The company was sold several times and, in 1950, it was bought by the Piper Aircraft Corporation which continued to make the 108 model for a limited time before shutting down production of Stinsons entirely.



Piper did produce one more very successful Stinson design which became the PA-23 Piper Apache, Piper's first twin.

Readers may enjoy watching an entertaining video detailing the restoration of a 1934 Stinson SM880.

See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8RMIXtrVhrs&feature=youtu.be>

Question : What is nitrate?

Answer : Much cheaper than day rate.

#### Club Executive



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### **March's Fly-In to Hutton Vale Farm.** (Report provided by club Captain, Owen)

Our annual fly-in lunch at Hutton Vale Farm was another interesting day for the pilots and a wonderful day for the 20 people who made the trip. The weather has had a huge influence on the flying activities every time we've been to Hutton Vale, and this year was no exception. The day dawned with clear skies and light winds but the forecasts suggested stronger winds later in the day with possible light showers. By the time we were ready to depart from Aldinga, Hutton Vale advised us that the wind was picking up there with a gusty westerly at 15 to 20 knots. That and the prospect of landing on the more difficult RWY 27 were enough for three aircraft to change plans and revert to road transport. However, the other six were undeterred and all managed to arrive safely, albeit in clouds of dust.

Our hosts, the Angus family, were gracious and friendly, as always. Seated in the cool shade under grape vines, and protected from the wind and dust, we were treated to a fine lunch of gourmet pies, salads, fresh fruit, chocolates and coffee. There was also an ample supply of Hutton Vale wines for the non-pilots, and fruit juices for the pilots. Although the forecast showers did not eventuate, the stronger winds did, so the pilots all elected to make early departures. Taking off from a runway with two down hill sections followed by an uphill was certainly interesting and very dusty for the aircraft waiting for the others to depart.

Although attendance was a little lower than in previous years (possibly due to competition from the Adelaide Fringe), it was another thoroughly enjoyable day, with pleasant company and surroundings, and some interesting flying. We'll be doing it again next year, but most likely in Spring to avoid the competition from Mad March and, hopefully, to have better weather.

Special thanks to the Angus family for hosting us once again.

### **Landing Gear Stuck! What to Do?**

This Harrier Jump Jet's landing gear was stuck. What to do? Well, the Harrier has a back-up system with a nitrogen bottle to blow the gear down. But, in this event, someone significantly outranking the pilot ordered him not to use it and arranged for a pile of mattresses to be positioned as a landing pad.

Not the best of plans! The result was one trashed aircraft with mattress springs protruding out of everywhere. When the wreckage was jacked up and the nitrogen's content released, all the gear came down and locked.

### **Joby Aviation Partners With Toyota On Air Taxi Development.**

Joby Aviation announced that it has raised \$590 million in its recent round of Series C funding and formed a partnership with the Toyota Motor Corporation aimed at the certification and deployment of all-electric, vertical take-off and landing aircraft for use in air taxi services. As part of the partnership, Toyota has contributed \$394 million to the fund and will be joining Joby's board.

Joby's aim is to build a new system for transportation to transform daily life, at greater safety and, in time, at a similar cost to driving. The collaboration with Toyota represents an unprecedented commitment of money and resources from one of the world's leading automakers.



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According to Joby, Toyota will share its expertise in manufacturing, quality, and cost controls to support the development and production of its eVTOL aircraft, designed to seat four passengers and a pilot, have a top speed of around 200 MPH and a single-charge range of more than 150 miles.

## Funflight Safari 2020 Melbourne—Great Keppel Island. 12-21 August.

Spend each night with the drivers & crews of the two hundred 30+ year-old cars taking part in the 2020 Victorian Variety Bash.

Whether your appetite, here's the details for Day 1, Melbourne to Deniliquin -

We'll start at Essendon Airport, and fly to Deniliquin via Bendigo, with the option of afternoon

tea at Shepparton. Deniliquin, a popular Riverina town, is located an hour north of the NSW/VIC border and is home to over 7,000 people. Known for the Deni Ute Muster, the town almost triples each year when the fanfare rolls in every September. The event started back in 1999 when the town was struggling with a crippling drought and needed a new source of income. Ever since, the event has attracted Ute fanatics from across the country with almost 20,000 attendees each year. Get your photo taken with the famous ute statue, or the mosaic ute at the visitor information centre.

Interested? Details at [www.funflightsafari.org](http://www.funflightsafari.org).



## Boeing's New CEO Under Pressure From USAF.

The USAF has warned new Boeing CEO, David Calhoun that the 737 MAX isn't the only item on Boeing's to-do list. The U.S. Air Force is far less than happy with the KC-46, a 767-based tanker that, almost a decade in development, still isn't 'mission ready'.

"We require your attention and improved focus on the KC-46. The Air Force continues to accept deliveries of a tanker incapable of performing its primary operational mission. As one of your largest military customers, we also rely on a relationship of trust and confidence in Boeing products, as well as long-term support and development. Unless Boeing can improve its performance on this contract, we will have to acknowledge our serious concerns in two areas - trust and safety."

Boeing has responded saying that it "is fully committed to addressing the Air Force concerns with the KC-46 program and devoting resources to make the KC-46 fully mission capable."

The KC-46 has had problems with its remote-vision system (which is needed for air-to-air refueling), with the refuelling boom itself, and with defective cargo locks that caused the Air Force to prohibit the aircraft from carrying passengers or cargo. The Air Force has taken delivery of 30 KC-46s and has deployed them for crew training only, so far.



## Qantas Selects A350 for “Project Sunrise”

Qantas has selected the Airbus A350-1000 for its “Project Sunrise” program, which aims to open regular, non-stop commercial routes from the east coast of Australia to ultra-long-haul destinations, including London and New York. The airline has not yet put in an order for the aircraft, but says it is working with Airbus to prepare a contract for 12 Rolls-Royce Trent XWB-powered A350s. The other aircraft under consideration for the project was Boeing’s 777X.

“The A350 is a fantastic aircraft and the deal on the table with Airbus gives us the best possible combination of commercial terms, fuel efficiency, operating cost and customer experience,” said Qantas CEO, Alan Joyce. “The aircraft and engine combination is next generation technology but it’s thoroughly proven after more than two years in service. This is the right choice for the Sun Rise missions and it also has the right economics to do other long-haul routes if we want it to.”

Qantas has already conducted three research flights aimed at gathering data on crew and passenger well-being during ultra-long-haul flights. According to the airline, the research data will also be used as part of its discussions with CASA regarding the approval of an operating limits extension necessary for Project Sunrise flights.

The airline says it is currently in negotiations with the company’s pilots to close “the last remaining gap in the Project Sunrise business case”. Qantas plans to make the final go/no-go decision on Project Sunrise this month (March). If the project goes ahead, flights are expected to begin in the first half of 2023.

## 10 Years Ago.

In its March 2010 issue, Go-Round reported on the club’s first use of the flight simulator which we again gained supervised access to towards the end of last year. In March 2010 we were supervised by ABP CFI Martyn in our efforts to fly circuits at YADG in a PA34 Piper Seneca twin.

Also in that issue was a report that 181 women had taken part in a formation parachute jump, eclipsing the previous record of 150 and raising just under one million dollars for breast cancer research.

## Diary Dates.

**Sunday 5th April** - The club’s annual Charity Day. This year will again host the charity Heart Kids, providing scenic flights for kids afflicted with heart disease, together with their siblings, parents & carers. A good roll-up of members is required to assist with set-up, catering and welcoming our guests. And, of course, we need aircraft and pilots to provide flights. This event is organized each year by club Vice-President, Evan John. Contact Evan on 0408 804 289 for information.

Complimentary lunch provided for all club members and guests of club members.

**Wednesday 8th April** - Committee meeting at the club, 1930 hours.

**Saturday 18th April** - Robe Fly-in & Dinner. Call (08) 8768 2029 for information & bookings.

**Sunday 26th April** - **The previously advertised Goolwa Airshow has been cancelled.**

**Sunday 3rd May** - Top Hook flying competition. Pilot briefing 1000 hours. BYO BBQ lunch from 1200 hours.

Definition : **Dopeler Effect** - The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.

