

# Honourable Company of Air Pilots (NZ Region)



Issue 2: May 2024

## NEW MEMBERS

WGCDR Richard Beaton.

## RESIGNED

Dr Jonathan Pote

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Key events since the last newsletter (August 2023) include:

Our Deputy Chairman Bill Bennett laid a wreath at the Bomber Command Memorial Commemoration on the 20th August, and the Battle of Britain service at the Auckland Cenotaph on 17th September.

In late October/early November we hosted the (then) Master Captain Jonathan Legat and his wife Dominique. The Annual Reception at the Wellington Club was followed by an informal dinner at the Club with the President-Elect of the RAeS attending. Next day a long day of visits were accomplished, including to the Director of the CAA and the Chief of the Air Force in the morning, and the CEO Aviation Industry

Association and the CEO and the Chief Investigator of TAIC in the afternoon. A wide range of topics were canvassed at each visit and some pretty meaty proposals put to us to contemplate and digest.

This year we spent an extra day in Wellington to attend the RAeS Symposium at Parliament, where the Master made a well-received presentation. This was followed by a formal dinner in the Beehive. The Master and our Technical Director, CAPT Mike Zaystoff, had an early start next morning to get to Auckland in time for a combined ISASI/Air Pilots presentation about a Vampire accident.

The Formal Dinner at RNZAF Base Auckland was a very pleasant evening for those attending. At the dinner the Master, CAPT Jonathan Legat, took the opportunity to present awards to two New Zealand members who were unable to attend the Trophies & Awards dinner in London.



*(Left)* The Jean Batten Memorial Trophy was presented to Liveryman WGCDR (Rtd) Gordon Ragg

*(Below)* The Alan Cobham Memorial Award was presented to the Rev Dr Richard Waugh, our honorary chaplain.

In February the Chairman attended two meetings of the New Zealand Aviation Federation (NZAF) and an official dinner. We are continuing to develop a strategy to encourage other organisations to unite with us in our desire to get a review of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 as applied to the Aviation Industry, because of the devastating effect the Act is having on the flow of information to the Regulator.



Some of our technical work is ongoing, if somewhat frustratingly. The CAA Act, having been sent back to a Parliamentary Select Committee for further amendment, was finally passed under urgency just prior to the election but will require further amendment before it is fit for purpose. The 'Enabling Drone Integration' proposals have not progressed any further. On a happier note, our Technical Director is continuing to facilitate a series of interesting Technical Webinars, with increasing attendance each month.

Our annual Scholarship to help a promising pilot with Instructor Re-Categorisation was awarded at the Walsh Memorial Scout Camp in January 2024, but not formally presented due to an outbreak of Covid at the Camp (No visitors were permitted to attend the award evening). The Scholarship winner, Erin Mead, was officially acknowledged at the webinar on 13th Feb.

In April two Regional Chair Zoom Meetings were held to introduce the new Master, who was duly installed in March. The new Master, Mr Richie Piper Esq. BSc(Hons) FRAeS, will make an official visit to New Zealand in November.

## **GAPAN SWORD PRESENTATION**



In 2011, in support of strengthening ties between the Air Pilots (then GAPAN) and the RNZAF, the Air Pilots presented the RNZAF with a sword to be presented at their discretion for an outstanding contribution to the delivery of air operations. The 2023/24 award was made to (then) SQNLDR Ben Woodhouse for his exceptional work in support of the introduction into service of the P8A Poseidon. The sword was presented on 2 November 2023 by the Air Component Commander, AIRCDRE Andy Scott.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEBINARS**

Our Technical Director, CAPT Mike Zaytsoff, has continued managing a series of professional development webinars each month. You should have all received email invitations to join these webinars – if not, please contact the secretary and we'll ensure you are on future invitations. The April webinar was joined by the new Master, Richie Piper Esq, and featured a presentation by Matt Robinson, President of the Southern California Safety Institute. His presentation on underwater location and recovery following aviation accidents was extremely interesting.

Even those somewhat removed from current aviation operations will find value and interest in these presentations. You are encouraged to join the webinars.

A separate report from your Technical Director, along with details of two upcoming aviation events.

## **COBHAM LECTURE**

During the Master's visit late last year he attended a presentation on RNZAF Antarctic Operations by WGCDR Richard Beaton. The Master was suitably impressed and invited WGCDR Beaton to deliver the presentation as part of the series of Cobham Lectures, held periodically in the RAF Club in London. In May, WGCDR Beaton (a recently accepted Upper Freeman) will travel at his own expense to London to deliver the presentation. In recognition of the mana this provides to the NZ Region, the committee has provided a modest grant to offset some of the associated travel costs.



*Image from 2023 Battle of Britain Memorial service flypast preparation, in which committee member Brett Nicholls piloted his own Harvard.*

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **TROPHIES & AWARDS**

Nominations for Air Pilot awards close at the end of May. Nominations are urgently sought.

### **BOMBER COMMAND MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Sunday 9 June at 1030hrs in the Hall of Memories, Auckland War Memorial Museum.

### **BATTLE OF BRITAIN COMMEMORATION**

Sunday 15 September at the Auckland War Memorial Cenotaph

### **NZ REGION AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of the NZ Region will held virtually (via Zoom) on Tuesday 16 July. The time, along with Zoom invitations, will promulgated shortly.

### **NZ REGION ANNUAL DINNER**

Likely to be held in Auckland (venue TBA) on or about 20 November.

## MESSAGE FROM TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Good day friends. I hope you are all doing well.

### **ANZAC Day**

I'll begin by paying tribute to our brave service men and women in uniform, past and present, some of whom have made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom. I spent ANZAC Day this year visiting family in Newcastle, NSW. We attended the ANZAC Day Services in East Maitland. As I'm not originally from this part of the world, I was curious how Australia ran their ANZAC Day Services. It was moving to see the New Zealand flag flying right alongside the Australian flag. It was also moving to be able to sing the New Zealand National Anthem along with the Australian National Anthem. The ceremony concluded with a spectacular flyover by an F35 from the nearby RAAF Base at Williamstown. The attendees were especially impressed by the car alarm it set off.

On my way over to Australia, by coincidence, I happened to be on the same flight as one of our members, Chief of the Air Force AVM Darryn Webb. He was on his way to Port Moresby for a joint ANZAC Day Service there with the governments of PNG, NZ, and Australia. It sounded like a grand way to commemorate ANZAC Day and I encourage members who may not have been aware to read more in the following articles:

<https://www.postcourier.com.pg/australian-and-new-zealand-chiefs-of-air-force-visit/>  
<https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/news/2024-04-26/strengthening-anzac-and-png-bonds>

### **Monthly Webinar**

I hope you've all been enjoying the monthly webinar. I always find it rewarding to put together. I'm frequently impressed by the generosity and kindness of our guest speakers to volunteer their time and not request anything in return. If you haven't been able to attend yet, I encourage you to do so. It is on at 10am NZ Time on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

On that note, there's a strong possibility by the next time you hear from me, I will be flying for a new employer on a fly in, fly out (FIFO) rotation. Going forward, that means there will be times when I won't be around for the webinar and will need one or more people to assist running the webinar in my absence. If you think you are the right person for that assignment, please let me know right away. This would be an especially good opportunity for a younger, tech. savvy person starting out in our industry. It's a great way to meet interesting people and build a network of contacts. But if you don't meet those criteria, please don't consider that to be limiting. Any help from anyone in this area is most welcome. I will continue to be involved with the webinar project by seeking out guest speakers and helping when my job rotation permits me to. So don't feel by any means that the entire webinar project will rest on your shoulders.

### **NZSASI Conference**

This is not an Honourable Company event, but from a technical safety perspective, I highly recommend members give consideration to attending. The big draw for attendees is you will be able to speak to the actual investigators about accident investigations they have conducted. That type of opportunity does not come around very often. Capt. Alex Fisher of the Honourable Company's UK Region has been selected as one of the speakers. He will be discussing Loss of Control – Inflight (LOC-I) accidents from a meta-analysis he conducted into over 20 accident reports. It would be nice if people could attend the conference to offer their support to Capt. Fisher for the interesting and extensive work he has done in this challenging area. Unfortunately, the



conference is not free. But the NZSASI organization has kept the same prices as previous years despite how the conference venue (the Crowne Plaza hotel in the Auckland CBD) is charging more and everything else around us has increased in price.



## Aviation Safety Conference



The Annual Seminar of the NZ and Australian Societies of Air Safety Investigators is being held in Auckland the weekend of June 8 and 9

- Learn about recent accidents from the actual investigators conducting the investigations
- Learn about current safety risks and how to mitigate them
- Learn about how to get into the accident investigation profession yourself
- **MOST IMPORTANTLY: learn how to increase the safety level in your organization!**

Featured speakers include: NZ TAIC, ATSB, Southwest Airlines, RNZAF, UK AAIB, Airways NZ, and more.

For more information please see: <https://asasi.org/event/anzsasi-seminar-2024/>

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?** *Anyone interested in aviation safety. You do not need to be an expert or an accident investigator to attend. First-time attendees and/or novice aviators are especially welcome.*

Part of the conference is the meeting of the Asia Pacific Cabin Safety Working Group (APCSWG). It's called a meeting but the format is more of a seminar. The target audience is flight attendants, but any aviation safety professional is welcome to attend. This event is free. It will not be at the Crowne Plaza but at the head office of Air New Zealand at 185 Fanshawe Street in the Auckland CBD. As that is a secure location, registration ahead of time is mandatory. I also highly recommend this event to members of the Honourable Company for the technical safety value it will provide.



## Aircraft Cabin Safety Seminar



The Biannual Seminar of the Asia-Pacific Cabin Safety Working Group will be at Air New Zealand's Head Office, 185 Fanshawe St. in the Auckland CBD on Friday June 7, 2024

- Learn about recent accidents and incidents from the actual investigators involved in the investigations
- Learn about current safety risks and how to mitigate them
- Learn about how to get into the aviation safety profession at this networking opportunity
- **MOST IMPORTANTLY: learn how to increase the safety level in your airline!**

Featured speakers include: Airbus, Southwest Airlines, Air NZ, RNZAF, CASA, CAA, Australian Federal Police, and the ATSB.

This event is **FREE**, but registration is mandatory. Please see: <https://apcswg.wixsite.com/cabin/meetings>

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?** *The target audience is cabin safety professionals, but anyone interested in aviation safety is welcome to attend. First-time attendees and/or aviation safety champions are especially welcome.*