

Watts for Breakfast ?

The "Fly-In Breakfast" has always been a particularly popular aviation outing by providing pilots with a much needed excuse to go for a relatively short fly with some actual purpose. Right now in S.E. Queensland, pick any Sunday morning and chances are that within an hour or 100nm from you there will be an airfield hosting the morning meal. Eggs, bacon, beans, toast, tea, coffee - all the traditional fare.

And now, so too does Watts Bridge, thanks to the personal initiative of Mark Purdie, Katrina Duke and their merry band of willing volunteers! "Watts for Breakfast??" is a semi-regular event held on the last Sunday of selected months, intended to round out the Watts Bridge social calendar by fitting in with and supporting other events being conducted on the airfield.

The very first "Watts for Breakfast??" which was held on the 31st January, was an absolutely resounding success with well in excess of 40 aircraft making their way to the airfield, on what was in reality not a great day for flying. Think wind, cloud, rain, mud, fog etc at other airfields in the district. Aircraft attending included a wide range of recreational and general aviation aircraft as well as several war birds.

February 28th saw the next "Watts for Breakfast??" and it was equally successful, proving that the concept is being well received by pilots in the local area. There are five more breakfasts planned for 2016. See Page 3 of this newsletter for the dates or better still check the Watts Web Calendar of Events for all the details.

WATTS INSIDE

Welcome to the Autumn 2016 Edition of the Watts Bridge Newsletter.

- The President's Corner . President Phillip Cooper shares his vision for Watts and presents questions to membership regarding the airfield's future direction.
- When's Watts for Breakfast Next Served? Future breakfast fly-ins at Watts Bridge.
- Gathering of Eagles - 2016. What's in store for the airfield's premier Air Show and Fly-In for pilots and public alike.
- Calendar of Events for Watts Bridge and surrounding airfields.
- Rob Knight's poignant poem "Alive".
- Brisbane Valley Sport Aviation Club is extending their club meeting rooms.
- Red Thunder - 2016. Warbirds from the Eastern Block with a Russian flavour.
- The Core Truths About Flying. Is there really truth in humour?
- Mud wasps pilot alert. CASA's bulletin.
- Ding Duck's parachute dilemmas.

President's Corner

Dear Members,

The association has now been the proud owner of Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield for just over four months. Perhaps it is now time to reflect not just on the airfield's past, but more importantly on its future. The question is, what will the airfield look like in 10 years time? Well clearly the answer to that question is in the hands of the membership as well as those managing any change. At present the current board is focused on a 5 year plan. This plan has two major elements, firstly is the financial plan. We have a requirement to pay back the various loans that WBMA has secured to purchase the airfield. There is also a requirement to continue to run the airfield and improve the infrastructure. Secondly, with input from the membership the board needs to guide the development of the airfield so that it becomes a vibrant active airfield that meets the needs of members, whether they are involved in light sports aircraft flying or larger aircraft commercial operations.



As members are aware, the Airfield Council presented the board with a proposed restructure of airfield membership fees. This was timely as any change to the fee structure could become part of a general revision of airfield fees. Clearly the airfield requires more income to meet its operating objectives, so what are these objectives? The board has commenced a process of determining what funds it will require to pay back loans, resurface the main runway, develop the camping facilities and maintain the current infrastructure. One major issue that needs to be settled is the sub-lease with the Somerset Regional Council and the associated annual council rates that Watts Bridge pays. There have been extraordinary rate increases by the council in recent years, which by any measure appear hard to justify. The board will challenge these increases and try and get a more sustainable arrangement for the future. Once the airfield's financial requirements are known, we can work to settle on a fee structure that will meet the demands of the airfield and not impose an unreasonable cost to users. Of course airfield fees alone are not the only means of income, the airfield can be used to run events which can produce a good income throughout the year. This year, for example, the Gathering of Eagles will for the first time feature an air show. With sound planning and more advertising the airfield has the potential to substantially increase income from this event. The board is also talking to organisations about other events and potential infrastructure funding for the airfield.

The issue of releasing freehold blocks has been raised. This is a complex and costly exercise which has been placed on hold and will not feature in the current plan.

So how will the airfield look in 10 years time? Will it have a lengthened and perhaps sealed main runway? Will it have a widened grass runway for glider and vintage aircraft operations? Will there be larger commercial operators involved in warbird and civil maintenance and flying operations? Will the airfield clubs be larger and more active than they are today? And, will Watts Bridge be staging annual events to rival international counterparts? I certainly hope the answer to many of these questions is yes, but I do not underestimate the challenges ahead.

Phillip Cooper - President

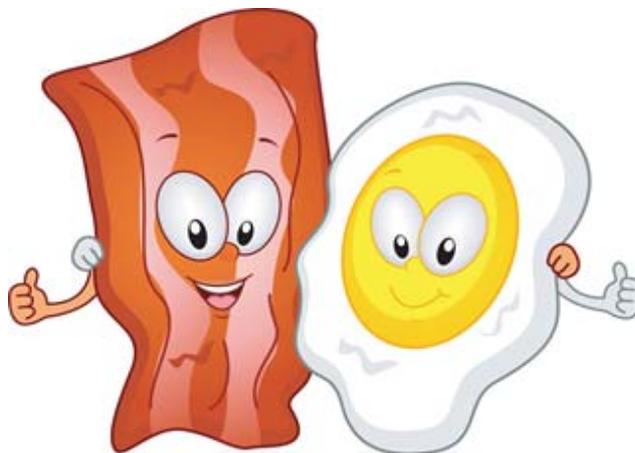
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When is Breakfast next being served ?



Fly-in or drive-in to Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield throughout 2016 for "Watts For Breakfast?"

Serving up bacon, sausages and eggs plus toast, beans, mushrooms, all washed down with bottomless tea and coffee . All members and friends are welcome.

Breakfast is served from 8:00am until 10:30 a.m. (Weather permitting on the day)

See you under the tent between Brisbane Valley Sport Aviation Club and the Australian Aerobatic Club.

29th May 2016

26th June 2016

25th September 2016

30th October 2016

27th November 2016



Contact: Mark
Mobile: 0413-646-922





AIRSHOW & FLY-IN

**GATHERING
OF EAGLES
2016**

Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield

27th-28th August 2016

Bruce - 0488 336 762

www.wattsbridge.com.au

GATHERING OF EAGLES

27th-28th August 2016



Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield invites all aviation enthusiasts to be a part of our annual fly-in the "Gathering of Eagles" which is being staged across two days, the 27th - 28th August 2016.

In addition to the Air Display and Parachute Drops, expect to see a huge variety of aircraft types including warbirds and replicas representative of WW1 and WW2, vintage, aerobatic and homebuilt aeroplanes as well as a wide cross section of general aviation and light sports aircraft.

In addition to the attending aircraft, it is anticipated there will be many vintage cars and military vehicles on display, WW1 and WW2 military re-enactors and other interesting exhibits in keeping with a major fly-in. On Saturday evening enjoy the Aussie Gourmet BBQ & Live Music.

Aircraft & Activities

- ◆ Air Display on Saturday and Sunday featuring Military and General Aviation Aircraft.
- ◆ Parachute Drops on Saturday and Sunday featuring Ramblers Skydive.
- ◆ Adventure Flights in a variety of aircraft.
- ◆ Warbirds and Replica Military Aircraft.
- ◆ Vintage, Aerobatic and Homebuilt Aeroplanes.
- ◆ General Aviation and Light Sports Aircraft.
- ◆ Aviation Trade and Organisation Exhibitors.
- ◆ Static Displays of Aircraft Construction.
- ◆ WW1 and WW2 Military Re-Enactors.
- ◆ Vintage Cars and Military Vehicles.
- ◆ Aviation Museum Exhibits.
- ◆ Children's Jumping Castle and Face Painting.
- ◆ 100LL AVGAS available on the Airfield.



Food & Entertainment

- ◆ On-field Catering for the entire weekend .
- ◆ Hamburgers, Baked Potatoes, Pizza, Sandwiches, Snacks.
- ◆ Hot Deli-style Coffee, Ice Creams, Icy Cold Drinks.
- ◆ Saturday Evening Meal - Aussie Gourmet BBQ. Choice of 4x Meats, 5x Salads - \$25 per person. Meal Tickets available on the airfield Saturday with an absolute limit of 150 diners.
- ◆ Bar facilities offering a wide variety of refreshments to accompany the Saturday BBQ and Live Music.

Admission & Camping

- ◆ Admission for all pilots and aircrew flying into the "Gathering of Eagles" is free with a no landing fees.
- ◆ For visitors attending the event on Saturday or Sunday, the Ticket cost is \$20 per person with children under 12 years free. A Family Ticket for 2 adults & up to 3 teens costs \$50.
- ◆ Camping is available on the airfield with a site fee of \$20 per night for caravans and motor homes.

The air display, air adventure and fly-in aircraft in attendance will be dependent upon aircraft availability and the prevailing weather conditions on the day.



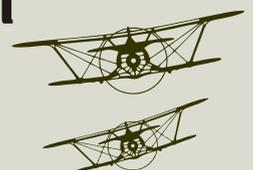
Contact & Information

If you require additional Information

Contact: Bruce Clarke 0488-336-762

Email: info@wattsbridge.com.au

Website: www.wattsbridge.com.au



Alive

Rob Knight 21 September 2000

Above the earth in a glorious space
 In a sparkling void of blue
 Released from bonds that bind and tie
 Adrift in vastness known to few
 I've spent my life in a place I love
 I've tumbled 'round the skies
 In gay abandon, freed from care
 And removed from worldly ties

My silver wings into clouds I've dipped
 And through their canyons passed
 My perspex glinting a thousand miles
 At speeds of nothing yet so fast
 Rolled and looped, stalled and spun
 And, with twisting wings so fleet
 Been aglow with life, at one with space
 And the world beneath my feet

But the time has gone when I could sit on high
 And gaze with reverent awe
 At cockpit glimpsed ground or sky,
 And the splendour that spread before
 I can only dream of being aloft
 In the ether where my wings have trod
 Where I lived and worked, reached out my arms,
 And played in the hands of God.



Events Calendar

A complete annual Watts Bridge Events Calendar can be found on the website at www.wattsbridge.com.au/calendar.php

Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield	
25th April	ANZAC Day Remembrance Service
11th - 15th May	Red Thunder - 2016
29th May	Watts for Breakfast??
26th June	Watts for Breakfast??
2nd July	BVSAC Fun Fly Poker Run
2nd July	AAC-QC Christmas in July
29th - 31st July	Queensland State Aerobatic Championships
29th - 30th August	Gathering of Eagles - 2016

South East Queensland & Northern New South Wales	
9th April	Angel Field - Murgon Breakfast Fly In
16th April	Straddie Aeroclub Breakfast Fly In
17th April	Heck Field Fly In
23rd & 24th April	TAVAS Great Vintage Fly-In, Caboolture
1st May	David Hack Classic Meet, Toowoomba, QLD
8th May	Gatton Airpark Breakfast Fly In
27th - 29th May	Old Station Fly In and Air Display
29th May	Casino Beef Week Fly In Muster

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE STEP UP !!

The Gathering of Eagles is intended to be a major fund raiser for the airfield to help finance infrastructure improvements for the benefit of all members. To ensure the success of the fly-in and air show, all members are strongly encouraged to volunteer for just a couple of hours volunteer work across the weekend.



Contact Bruce Clarke : 0427 699 239 to put your hand up.

ANZAC Day Remembrance
Watts Bridge Memorial Cairn - 10:00am
 Brunch served afterwards in the AAC-QC Clubrooms



BVSAC Clubroom Extensions

Over the last few years the Brisbane Valley Sport Aviation Club (BVSAC) has made major improvements to the club member's hangar by concreting the floor and bringing to completion the clubrooms located in the Homebase Group Precinct. With a steadily increasing membership and the certainty of tenure brought on by the purchase of the airfield, President Wayne Petty felt the time was right to expand and improve the club's meeting rooms. Committee and members agreed so the engineering was done, the plans submitted, (first to WBMA and then to Somerset Shire), and finally the approvals to proceed were granted.

Of course this always takes much longer than expected, but rapid progress is now being made with Wayne plus helpers pouring the slab for the meeting room extensions. Expect to see steady progress from here on out with steelwork going up etc etc.

Over the years BVSAC has been an enthusiastic supporter of fly-ins and other events held on the airfield. When the extensions are complete, the Brisbane Valley Sport Aviation Club will be in a much better position to contribute to and prosper from such events. For more information on BVSAC see www.wattsbridge.com.au/homebase/bvsac.php Always welcoming new members!

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RED THUNDER

The annual gathering of Watts Bridge Warbirds - **RED THUNDER 2016** - is to be held over the period 11th - 15th May 2016.

The event has been a great success over the past years, and offers an opportunity for Warbird Operators to socialise and refine piloting skills. Several 'Eastern Block' warbird aircraft take part in these events, and accordingly **RED THUNDER 2016** will continue it's 'Russian Flavour' in both it's flying and social activities.

FLYING ACTIVITIES

RED THUNDER flying activities facilitate a safe environment for continuation training for both ab-initio and proficiency pilots in the areas of;

- Flour Bombing,
- Streamer Cutting,
- Close Formation,
- Tactical Formation,
- Max Performance Handling and
- Combat Manoeuvring (Flying the Combat Position)

Once again **RED THUNDER 2016** will centre training towards the final days competition 'POEHALI' !

SOCIAL EVENTS

Several of our female Komrades (Natasha's) attend Red Thunder, and accordingly several 'Natasha' activities are being organised including ;

- Natasha's 'Glass House Mountain' Aerial Tour and Seafood Luncheon on the Sunshine Coast,
- Natasha's Gallery and Antiques Crawl - Brisbane Valley (Esk & Fernvale),
- Natasha's Kilcoy / Woodford Winery Tour, and
- Natasha's Spa Day.

Of great interest will be Saturday Night's **RED AIR SQUADRON** Dinning Inn.

A great time is always enjoyed, with participants finding the time to 'dress' for the occasion !!

KONTACT

RED THUNDER 2016 promises to be a great event, and we would encourage players to contact organiser :

Gill Vardi on **0412 963 106** to register their interest.

2016



The Core Truths About Flying

Pilots are people who drive aeroplanes for other people who can't fly.
 Passengers are people who say they fly, but really just ride.



Before each flight, make sure that your bladder is empty and your fuel tanks are full.

He who demands everything that his aircraft can give him is a pilot; he who demands one iota more is a fool.

There are certain aircraft sounds that can only be heard at night and over the ocean. Most of them are scary.



Fighter Pilots are steely eyed, weapons systems managers who kill bad people and break things. However, they can also be very charming and personable.
 The average fighter pilot, despite sometimes having a swaggering exterior, is very much capable of such feelings as love, affection, intimacy and caring. (However, these feelings don't involve anyone else.)

The aircraft limits are only there in case there is another flight by that particular aircraft. If subsequent flights do not appear likely, there are no limits.



"If the Wright brothers were alive today, Wilbur would have to fire Orville to reduce costs."
 (President, DELTA Airlines.)

Flying is a hard way to earn an easy living.



Both optimists and pessimists contribute to society. The optimist invents the aeroplane; the pessimist, the parachute.

Death is just nature's way of telling you to watch your airspeed.

As a pilot only two bad things can happen to you (and one of them will):
 a. One day you will walk out to the aircraft, knowing it is your last flight, or
 b. One day you will walk out to the aircraft, not knowing it is your last flight.

In the Alaskan bush, I'd rather have a two-hour bladder and three hours of gas than vice versa.



An old pilot is one who can remember when flying was dangerous and sex was safe.

Airlines have really changed; now a flight attendant can get a pilot pregnant.

There are rules and there are laws:
 The laws (of physics) were ordained by God.

The rules are made by men who think that they know how to fly your aeroplane better than you.
 You can and sometimes should suspend the rules, but you can never suspend the laws.

About The Rules:

- a. The rules are a good place to hide if you don't have a better idea and the talent to execute it.
- b. If you deviate from a rule, it must be a flawless performance
 e.g. if you fly under a bridge, don't hit the bridge.



I've flown in both pilot seats. Can someone tell me why the other one is always occupied by an idiot?

You have to make up your mind about growing up and becoming a pilot. You can't do both.

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Australian Government
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

AIRWORTHINESS BULLETIN

AWB 02-052 Issue : 2
Date : 23 March 2016

Wasp Nest Infestation - Alert

1. Effectivity

All aircraft.

2. Purpose

Urgently advise operators, maintainers and pilots of the dangers associated with undetected mud wasp infestation in aircraft, and the circumstances under which they can occur.

3. Background

Mud dauber wasp nests pose a significant safety hazard to all aircraft because they typically remain undetected in aircraft structure, flight controls, drains and flight instrument pitot static systems until during or after take-off. A wasp nest can completely block pitot tubes, fuel tank vents and drains.



Figure 1

Figure 1. Mud dauber wasp emerging from an uncovered pitot tube. (Source:backcountrypilot.org)



Figure 2

Figure 2. Australian Mud Dauber Wasp (Source: BrisbaneeInsects.com)

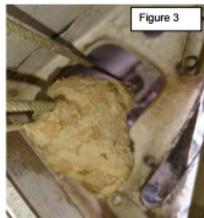


Figure 3

Mud dauber wasps will build a nest in any available cavity.
A recent SDR investigation found a number of wasp nests inside the wing of a Cessna 182, in the cavity formed between the rear spar and the flap fairing. (Figure 3).
There was also one large wasp nest entirely suspended on the flight control cables in the rear fuselage.

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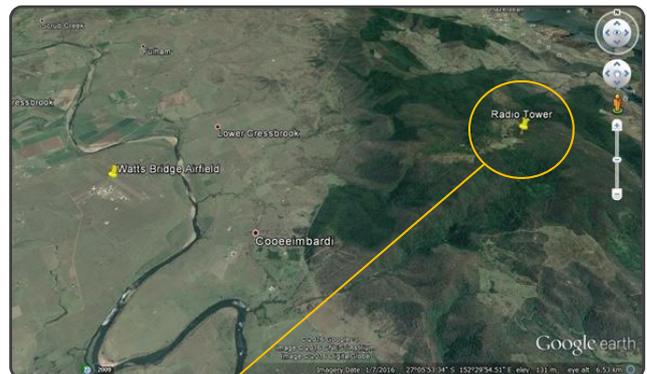
Australian Government

Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Seven situations where you should broadcast your intentions*

- 1 before, or during taxiing
- 2 immediately before entering a runway
- 3 inbound 10nm or earlier from the aerodrome
- 4 immediately before joining the circuit
- 5 on a straight-in approach, on final, by 3nm from the threshold
- 6 on a base-join approach, before joining base
- 7 on entering the aerodrome vicinity of a non-towered aerodrome, where you intend to fly through the vicinity, but not land.

* to make sure you comply with the minimum requirements of CAR 166C



New 50m Tower

A new 50m Lattice Tower has been installed on Mt Brisbane. This tower has not yet been included on the navigation charts. The tower has been built on the highest airstrip on Mount Brisbane (thus closing the strip) which is just south of the highest point on Mt Brisbane.

Google Earth indicates:
Latitude: 27° 5'19.13"S
Longitude: 152°32'5.08"E

**ATTENTION PILOTS !
Mud Wasp Infestation**



Mud wasps can present a very real maintenance challenge for all pilots and aircraft owners. These industrious little critters can quickly build a sizeable mud nest in totally inaccessible and undetectable locations in aircraft structures which could result in a significant flight safety risk. Be warned that mud dauber wasps have been particularly active in the private hangar precinct over the 2015-2016 summer season.

The mud wasps so got up CASA's nose that an Airworthiness Bulletin has been issued which is on the Watts Website at www.wattsbridge.com.au/files/downloads/awb_02-052.pdf

