



NHILL ANSON NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 16. 16-07-2012

Highlights in this newsletter:

- **NAHC Funding Announced**
- Flight Office News
- New Fuel Facility
- Fly-In Date
- Avro Restoration

NHILL AVIATION HERITAGE CENTRE FUNDING ANNOUNCED.

The announcement of funding for the Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre was the highlight of an informative and enjoyable community evening held in the Senior Citizens Clubrooms last week.

The Hindmarsh Shire Council Director of Infrastructure Services Mr Douglas Gowans told the gathering of forty people that the Shire allocated \$255,000 to the NAHC project (part of a State Government grant to the Shire) with another \$100,000 next year from the same source.

President of the Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre Rob Lynch said 'this is wonderful news, and most encouraging. We've been working on this project since 2009, and this funding enables us to get going even if we have to stage the actual building. At present the Avro Anson is being restored in three different sheds in Nhill, and can only be assembled when the building is in place.'

The announcement of funding is a direct result of the Nhill Aerodrome Master Plan completion. Other projects arising from the Master Plan recommendations will be implemented as funding becomes available.

The Aerodrome Master Plan is the outcome of cooperation between Hindmarsh Shire Council and representatives of the Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre, Nhill Aero Club, West Wimmera Health Service, Nhill Ambulance Auxiliary, Nhill Town Committee, Business Nhill, and Service Clubs. The volunteer Master Plan Advisory Committee completed the preliminary research and drawings prior to the appointment by the Shire of Consultants Thomson Hay Landscape Architects to draw up the Plan for acceptance by Council.

Chairman Rob Lynch, who presided over meetings for two years to complete the Plan, acknowledged the Advisory Committee's perseverance and Hindmarsh Shire Council support.

Council's Director of Infrastructure Services Douglas Gowans presenting the Plan explained the development process. Mr Gowans said the Master Plan brought together aerodrome history, present day usage and future opportunities.

Ms Gemma McMahon, Nhill Ambulance Officer, reported the progress of the Ambulance Patient Transfer Facility at the Aerodrome. The first sod was turned by the Victorian Governor Alex Chernov during his recent Shire visit. A first in Victoria, the facility will benefit patients and staff alike.

New fuel storage has been installed by Nhill Aero Club. Mr Len Creek, Aero Club veteran and NAHC Vice President, said this costly project became necessary when the old underground fuel tanks leaked. For the past few years fuel has been trucked in from Horsham. Len also explained the history of the Wimmera and Nhill Aero Clubs.

Mr Trevor Borgelt, Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre Treasurer, spoke about preserving the Aeradio Building, the proposed NAHC building project, and the restoration of the WW2 Flight Office using Commonwealth Government funds and many volunteer hours.

A Q&A session followed with Panel members Rob Lynch, Douglas Gowans, Laurie Robins, John Hudd, Gemma McMahon, Mervyn Schneider and Mick Kingwill answering questions.

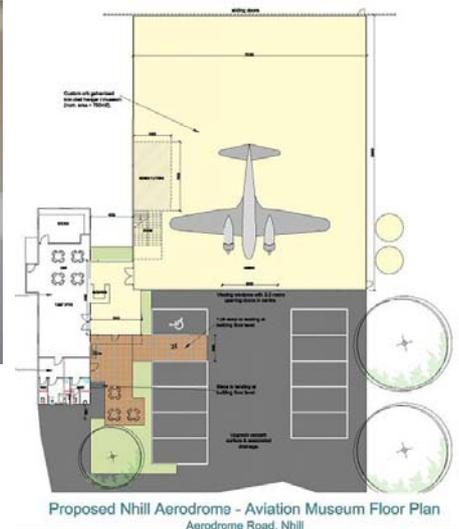
Diary dates to note: NAHC Fly-in Nhill Aerodrome Saturday 20th October 2012 and the NAHC AGM 1st November 2012.

For further information, please contact Rob Lynch 0428 911 387 or Joan Bennett 5391 1206.



Work continues on the Flight Office

Plan of proposed Heritage Centre



Most Recent News on the Flight Office

The main of the work on the Flight Office is complete but as with most renovations there are still a few small jobs to be done. The NAHC Board has appreciated the assistance of members who have continued on with the many finishing touches still remaining after the major structural changes which included a new roof, new electrical wiring and insulation and lining of the interior. Painting has been a major task. It is hoped that official recognition of the refurbishment of the building may be part of the Nhill Fly-In on October 20th this year.

Nhill Aero Club Bulk Fuel Facility

The fuel facility at the Nhill Aerodrome has been unserviceable for some considerable time and the Nhill Aero Club has been actively supporting the need for a new one. The Club has advised that a new 5,000 litre stainless steel above ground fuel tank is currently being installed to replace the obsolete underground facility. There is a good chance that it will be operating in time for the Fly-In in October.



Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre Fly-In Saturday 20th October 2012

The NAHC Board has been planning another Fly-In for Nhill for at least two years. However, it is only during the last few months that the final touches are being put into place. We think we have covered most of the requirements needed for a wonderful weekend. However, we are not able to control the weather so we are desperately hoping for fine flying conditions

As with our last Fly-In, the NAHC have decided to combine with the Nhill Agricultural and Pastoral Society Annual Show to be held on Thursday the 18th of October. Nhill has one of the outstanding agricultural shows held in country Victoria. As well as the Pavilion exhibits and the Arena events there is a large area of static displays and of course the side-show alley. This is also the day that the Vintage Machinery Club set up their major display for the year. A spectacular fireworks display is a fitting conclusion to the day.

Fly-In visitors who come early to enjoy the Nhill Show will not be forgotten on Friday. The town will be open for visitors as will the Vintage Club, Westprint Maps, Lowana Women's Centre and the Nhill Historical Centre. NAHC members will be on hand to help in any way they can.

Saturday will be our big day. We are expecting a Mustang, a Trojan, a Steerman, possibly a Winjeel a Wirraway and at least one Tiger Moth. Several Military car clubs have been invited and it is expected that some military vehicles will be on display. Refreshments will be available on-site. This is an alcohol free event.



Avro Anson Restoration

Anson restoration work is still progressing on various fronts. It is hoped that there will be numerous photos and various bits and pieces on display at the Fly-In. Please come and see for yourself the quality of the work.

Whimpey Reichelt works on an engine.



Web Site

Follow progress on our website at: <http://www.nhillaviationheritagecentre.com.au>

Membership of the Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre

This newsletter is free to anyone interested in the Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre and any of its projects. However, this newsletter is also the only way the committee has of easily sending reminders to those who wish to support our cause by being a member.

Memberships run for a financial year and are \$30 per person. Payment can be made by cheque, money order or internet transfer. Confirmation of payment will only be made if an email address is included with payment or if a notice of payment is made by email to the treasurer:

treasurer@nhillaviationheritagecentre.com.au

Memberships for the Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre Inc. are due for the current financial year: 1/7/2012 – 30/6/2013

Your support for this community organisation is highly valued and assists the Management Committee to continue with the projects aimed at preserving the aviation heritage of Nhill and District.

The \$30.00 membership is now due and payable.

Electronically to Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre Inc. National Australia Bank
BSB no. 083-752 Account No. 83325 – 2480

OR BY Cheque payable to NAHC Inc. PO Box 42 Nhill Vic 3418.

A message to our supporters

Do you have a friend who would appreciate receiving this free newsletter? Just click on FORWARD and type in as many email addresses as you like then click SEND.

This newsletter is free. However, support for this important historical project is greatly appreciated and comes in many forms including phone numbers and email addresses, contact details of former WWII trainees, parts for the Avro Anson and general memorabilia, photos etc. as well as donations of cash and labour. Although it is our intention to recognise and acknowledge this assistance through the newsletter, specific details will not be published.

New email addresses are constantly being added to our list. If you do not wish to be part of our group then please contact admin@nhillaviationheritagecentre.com.au and make your request known.

Persons who wish to make comment about the Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre or any other related issue should also contact admin@nhillaviationheritagecentre.com.au. Such comments may be published in future newsletters if considered appropriate.