

The Honourable Company of Air Pilots Australia Incorporated



The Honourable Company's objectives are:

- to establish and maintain the highest standards of air safety through the promotion of good airmanship among pilots and navigators
- to maintain a liaison with all authorities connected with licensing, training and legislation affecting pilot or navigator whether private or professional, civil or military
- to constitute a body of experienced airmen available for advice and consultation and to facilitate the exchange of information
- to strive to enhance the status of air pilots and air navigators
- to assist air pilots and air navigators in need through the Benevolent Fund.

How and why the Honourable Company came to be....

In the first 20 years after the first powered heavier than air manned flights there was rapid development of technology across the world, largely spurred on by military needs in World War I. Size, speed, reliability, manoeuvrability and range of aircraft increased to the extent that civil air transport became a reality.

Concerns about standards for commercial use of aircraft and government regulation led far-sighted pilots to form the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators in 1929 to

improve safety by developing the professional knowledge and skills of pilots, and promoting their standing in the community. Sir Charles Kingsford Smith, Charles Ulm and Bert Hinkler were early to join this organisation.

Following World War II, the Guild became a London Livery Company (1956), gaining recognition alongside the medieval traditions of skill, training within professions, craftsmanship and high ethical business standards. This was a great factor in increasing not only the influence of the Company - the 81st Livery Company to be formed in 800 years - but of the entire profession of pilot and navigator in the UK and overseas. In 2014, The Company received a further mark of distinction in being granted a Royal Charter in the name of the Honourable Company of Air Pilots.

Today it is the largest of the Honourable Companies with over 2400 members, and the only one to spread worldwide.

The Australian Region was formed in 1968 to look after the interests of the Australian members. It became the Honourable Company of Air Pilots, Australia Incorporated in March 2014, currently with around 220 members. Other Regions have been established in New Zealand, Hong Kong and, more recently, North America (CAN and USA).

The Company's focus is to provide members and pilots with information on how to be a better pilot/crew member, to upgrade their skills and use of safety techniques, and to have a technically competent and unbiased voice to Government and the public.



Key Benefits of Membership

- The opportunity to “put back into aviation” your knowledge and experience. Especially in the areas of safety and procedures.
- Be part of an international body of experienced pilots who are willing to share their knowledge and expertise.
- Be able to input to a respected 'calm voice of reason', representing pilots of all aircraft categories and aviation industry sectors to Government, regulatory and service agencies.
- Be able to influence Australian aviation development by contributing to Government, CASA and Airservices policy and rule development.
- Bimonthly international journal and quarterly Australian Newsletter which assists in keeping you up to date on latest developments in piloting and air navigation.
- The opportunity to liaise with members around the world and share expertise.
- The opportunity to ask questions of the Honourable Company's technical, safety and education expertise about flying and personal development.
- Meet other pilots and key industry figures at Company seminars and social functions.
- Enjoy visits to aviation locations in both Australia and overseas such as aircraft manufacturers, military bases, flying training facilities, etc that, in normal circumstances, you would not be able to visit.
- The opportunity to qualify and be awarded a 'Master Air Pilot Certificate' (MAP) or 'Master Air Navigator' (MAN) and the ability to put MAP/MAN after your name.
- To be part of an influential, professional, non-political, non industrial organisation.

What the Company has achieved for you

Australian skies are among the safest in the world because of the efforts of the professional standards of its pilots. We continue to be involved in sharing information through participating in industry seminars and consultative meetings. The Company sponsors various conferences to bring world standard speakers to Australia to discuss safety topics.

Company initiatives have included:

- co-founding the National and Regional Airspace User Advisory Committees (NAPAC/ACF and RAPAC),
- initiating the standards internationally used to calculate runway friction,
- developing the first Threat and Error Management training program available to general aviation pilots as well as airline professionals,
- contributing behind the scenes to make changes to improve safety rules being developed by CASA for operational and flight crew licensing standards,
- developing Australian standards for marking of overhead cables, and
- providing a series of scholarships to assist young pilots into the profession and to undertake advanced research.



Meeting our objectives

The Australian Region of the Honourable Company is incorporated as a non-profit association, governed by its own Constitution as an organisation in Australia of members of the Company internationally. The Australian Region is governed by an Executive Council of elected and appointed officers who represent members in various State Working Groups, as well as the functional committee chairs.

Members come from all States and Territories, and range from captains of the largest airliners, military flight crew members and former astronauts, to pilots of the smallest amateur-built and recreational aircraft, including gliders and balloons. They are united by a love of aviation and a desire to improve their own safety skills, and to encourage others and foster newcomers.

The Technical and Air Safety Committee plays an active part in regulatory development and airspace user reviews, providing comment on a wide range of proposals. They bring together expertise in technical aspects of piloting, navigation, airspace issues and other safety matters.

The Education and Training Committee brings together Company expertise in pilot education, flight training and skills administration, and administers the Scholarships the Company offers in Australia. The E & TC has access to some of Australia's key aviation educators.

Membership

Pilots, navigators and other technical aircrew from all facets of aviation can be members of the Honourable Company, as can others who have provided significant support to the objectives of the Company to assist flight crew. Membership categories relate to flying experience and are as follows:

- **Upper Freeman** - Professional pilots with five or more years experience.

- **Upper Freeman UAS** - A professional UAS pilot/operator/commander exercising a national authority (or equivalent) for five or more years.
- **Freeman** - Professionals with less than five years, and private and recreational pilots with two years experience.
- **Associate** - those who are learning to fly or have recently learned, and any member under 35 years of age.

Membership fees may be tax deductible for professional pilots - please consult your tax adviser.

More information about the Honourable Company's activities, initiatives, and a membership application form, are available from our Australian web site at: www.airpilots.org.au

New member enquiries: admin@airpilots.org.au

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