



NEWSLETTER OF THE BALLOON AND AIRSHIP FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

BAFSA UPDATE January 2021

Welcome and Happy New Year to all balloonists and ballooning enthusiasts.

After all the havoc and disruption caused to us all as a result of Covid 19 during 2020, we are all hopeful to see many improvements from 2020 and wish everyone all the best in their various endeavours and particularly in continued good health. The following quote is most apt:

Life is like ballooning.....you never know where you will end up!

BAFSA Aviation Recreation Organisation Certification (ARO)

Our certification was renewed following a CAA audit process. The current certificate is displayed on the BAFSA website.

A successful ad hoc audit was held with CAA on 28th January 2021. Our revised and approved new Manual of Procedures will be posted on our website as soon as official signed copies are available.

Membership

BAFSA and Aero Club of South Africa membership expires on 31st December each year. To date 24 members have paid their membership.

As all pilots are or should be aware, it is a requirement of obtaining and renewing your pilots licence that you hold valid BAFSA membership. The CAA is enforcing this requirement.

Whilst being aware that certain pilots may not have renewed their membership as they are currently inactive as a result of the curfew, etc we appeal to all pilots to renew their annual membership and thank those who have done so already.

Please access the Aero Club website at: www.aeroclub.org.za and select member renewals and new memberships. The process is simple and payment can be made by card directly.

In 2020 compliance with the above by active pilots was extremely good with very few exceptions, for which our pilots are thanked.

BAFSA has, in terms of its ARO Certification, a duty to ensure compliance. Your committee has no interest or will to become a "policeman" or additional "regulator", so we once again appeal for your compliance.

Centenary Balloon Usage



Following the official launch, the balloon is now available for hire by members.

A usage protocol has been developed which will enable control of the asset.

The intended purposes of the balloon include:

- To promote the Aero Club of South Africa at aviation events
- Training of candidate pilots via ATO's
- Membership pleasure flights (non-commercial only)
- Membership use at national championships

Hire rates will be "dry". The kit is all housed on a trailer ready to be collected. Please contact a committee member should you wish to hire the balloon.

New Pilot

CONGRATULATIONS TO ANOTHER HONIBALL!

We are delighted to advise that lanthé Honiball recently completed her check out flight.

We wish her many hours of safe and happy ballooning.



Events

- **Parys Weekend 20/21 February 2021**

Contact Richard Bovell

- **South African Hot Air Balloon Championships 2021**

The dates for this years event have been set as 15/06/21 – 20/06/21.

Details of the event will be distributed once issues relating to Covid, sponsorship and venue have been advanced.

Any and all assistance in arranging this years event will be greatly appreciated. Please contact any committee member.

The committee has resolved that the results from this years event will be the selection criteria for our representative pilots (2) to the 2022 World Championships, given that no event took place in 2020.

- **Aero Club Air Week**

This will take place from 23/04/21 – 27/04/21 in Middleburg Mpumalanga. All Aero Club sections will be represented as well as the popular EAA Convention taking place simultaneously, so expect a great aviation weekend.

Watch this space for further details.

See link to Aero Club Events Calendar for all 2021 planned events:

<https://www.aeroclub.org.za/a-events/>

- **European Events**

We are aware that major European events for 2021 are continuing with their planning and arrangements including the European Championships, Gordon Bennett and more. Clearly they are positive of beating Covid prior to their summer great news!

- **GMAB 21 – METZ/Chambley France**

This event is currently under planning. Dates are 23/07/21 – 01/08/21. Several of our pilots are planning to attend.



Should anyone be interested please contact Richard Bovell.

- **FAI Ballooning Commission (CIA)**

CIA will hold its annual plenary session in March 2021 as the event will be a “e-plenary” meeting we will be able to participate with ease.

- **Annual General Meeting**

10th April 2021

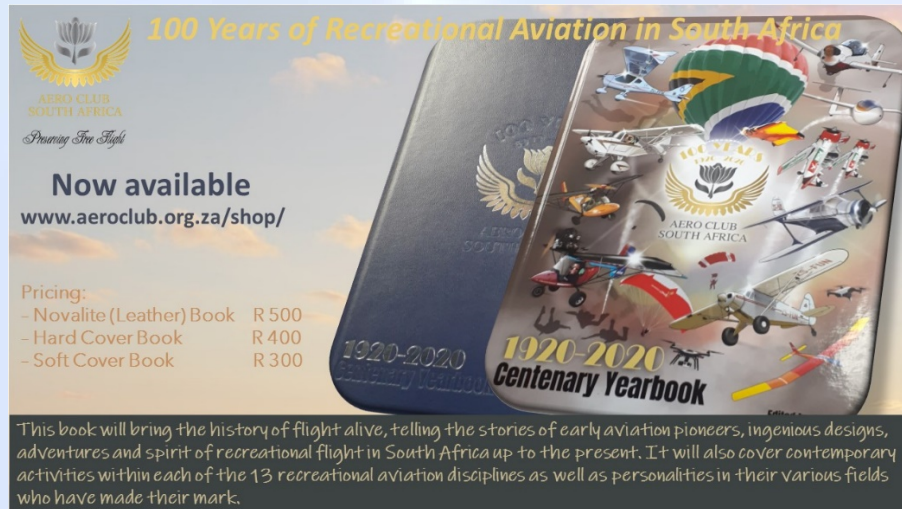
12:00

Bovell Ross Offices Sunninghill & MS Team Meeting

Aero Club Centenary

2020 was our Aero Club Centenary. Unfortunately, the majority of planned events had to be postponed due to Covid, it is hoped that many of these will now occur in 2021.

The Aero Club commemorative book is still available for purchase.



100 Years of Recreational Aviation in South Africa

Now available
www.aeroclub.org.za/shop/

Pricing:
- Novalite (Leather) Book R 500
- Hard Cover Book R 400
- Soft Cover Book R 300

1920-2020 Centenary Yearbook

This book will bring the history of flight alive, telling the stories of early aviation pioneers, ingenious designs, adventures and spirit of recreational flight in South Africa up to the present. It will also cover contemporary activities within each of the 13 recreational aviation disciplines as well as personalities in their various fields who have made their mark.

The Aero Club on-line shop can be accessed at <https://www.aeroclub.org.za/shop/>

Be safe, keep well and Covid free.

BAFSA COMMITTEE 2021

