



**AUSTRALIAN
WOMEN
PILOTS'
ASSOCIATION**

Empowering & Supporting Women in Aviation since 1950



NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND AGM PROGRAM

6th -10th May 2026
Coral Sea Resort
Airlie Beach, Queensland

DAY ONE WEDNESDAY 6 MAY



GET THE APP

12:00 - 16:00

Registration

Coral Sea Resort (CSR)- Ballroom
25 Ocean View Ave, Airlie Beach

15:00 - 16:00

Air Navigation Trial Briefing

Coral Sea Resort - Ballroom

17:00 - 17:30

First-Timer Conference Attendees Gathering

Coral Sea Resort - Ballroom

17:30 - 22:00

Official Welcome:

Cocktail & Charcuterie Platters

Coral Sea Resort - Jetty + Access to CSR bar to PYOD*

Special Guest: Whitsunday Regional Council Mayor, Mr Ry Collins

**Pay Your Own Drinks*

19:00 - LATE

Dinner

Various options around town or dine at the CSR where bookings are recommended

DAY TWO THURSDAY 7 MAY

07:00 - 14:00

Air Navigation Trial

Whitsunday Aero Club (Proserpine Airport)
Lascelles Avenue, Gunyarra

Light refreshments provided at the Whitsunday Aero Club

Buses provided (book during Registration)

OR

09:00 - 12:00

AIPA Industry Forum

Speakers: Belinda Beatty & Renee Summers

Coral Sea Resort - Ballroom

Tea & Coffee available

16:00 - 23:00

LEIDOS 'Sun Sea Sky' Dinner

Northerlies Beach Bar and Grill
116 Pringle Road, Airlie Beach

Dress Theme:
summer casual



Buses: Depart Coral Sea Resort @ 4:00pm & 4:45pm

Return from Northerlies @ 8:30pm & 9:45pm

Northerlies Courtesy Bus - Call Driver 0491 203 807 or make your own transport arrangements - 13cabs App-promo code 13PILOT2026

Please note: All details may be subject to change



Royal Flying
Doctor Service

Presentation by
Fenella Jefferson
Bundaberg Base
Aeromedical Training
Academy Facilitator

DAY THREE FRIDAY 8 MAY



GET THE APP

08:30 - 15:00

AWPA Education Day-sponsored by CASA

Coral Sea Resort - Ballroom

Morning Tea & Lunch (Tea & Coffee available)

Speakers: Information available in the App & Conference Program

15:00 - 17:00

AWPA Communication Session

Coral Sea Resort - Ballroom

17:45 - 19:30

Open Air Cinema 'Planes': Fire & Rescue

Coconut Grove, Airlie Beach Foreshore

OR

18:00 - LATE

Cultural Walking Tour & Dinner

Chart your own course through Airlie Beach on a self-guided cultural walking tour. You pick your altitude and choose your destination — whether that's a waterfront table for two, a lively bar with the whole crew, or a group meander along the Esplanade. Ditch the schedule, book your own dining adventure, and let the evening unfold organically; because the best conversations happen when like-minded, women aviators are set loose on a Friday night. Airlie, you've been warned!

DAY FOUR SATURDAY 9 MAY

09:00 - 11:00

AWPA National Annual General Meeting - Members Only

Coral Sea Resort - Ballroom

Morning Tea provided

11:30 - 12:30

AWPA Group Photo ~ 'Pink & Pearls'

Dress in Pink and Pearls in honour of our founder, Nancy-Bird Walton

Coral Sea Resort - Seaside

17:15 - 22:30

Qantas AWPA Runway Presentation Gala Dinner

Sponsored by Qantas

Shute Harbour Airport, Airlie Beach

Bus provided (book at registration)

Departs CSR @ 4:30pm

Returns to CSR @10:00pm

Returns to CSR @10:30pm

DAY FIVE SUNDAY 10 MAY

09:00 - 10:30

Farewell Breakfast

The conference may be wrapping up, but the runway isn't clear just yet! Gather with your fellow aviators for one last meal before you scatter to the four winds via various departure gates. Whether you're hunting down Eggs Benedict, a strong flat white, or simply need someone to help you locate your luggage, this is your chance to exchange business cards you'll definitely follow up on, and to pretend you're not already counting the days until next year. Venue and timing are yours to coordinate — because after a week of being told where to be, and when, a little free navigation seems only fair.

AIPA INDUSTRY FORUM SPEAKERS

We express our sincere thanks to our Industry Forum and Education Day speakers for their time and generous support of the Association and National Conference. We can't wait to be inspired by your incredible stories!



Belinda Beatty



Belinda doesn't just talk about high performance - she embodies it across two dramatically different worlds.

Belinda Beatty is the authority on internal performance architecture, teaching others to thrive under pressure, not just survive it. An Air Force pilot and burlesque performer, Belinda operates at the rare intersection of elite systems and human artistry. Her work decodes the system conditions that sustain energy, sharpen execution, and amplify influence — designing the internal architecture for Performance that holds, at every edge.

In 2015, Belinda found herself in the vast, brilliant blue skies of Exmouth, WA, training the next generation of elite pilots for the Royal Australian Air Force. In the cockpit, every second mattered - executing with precision was the difference between mission success and failure. She learned that the ability to perform under extreme pressure wasn't just about technical skill; it was about mastering mental resilience, decision-making, and the ability to reset under stress.

Connect with Belinda at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/belinda-beatty/> To access resources for high-performing humans, or for more information, check out www.belindabeatty.com.au.



Renee Summers

Renee is a helicopter pilot and former Army aviator whose non-linear 20-year journey through military and civilian aviation has shaped her conviction that the most meaningful careers are built with integrity, courage, and an unwavering commitment to staying true to who you are.

Raised on her family's cattle property in central NSW, Renee joined the Army after finishing high school. Initially serving as an Artillery Officer, she pursued her interest in aviation through fixed wing flying, before transferring to Army Aviation as a helicopter pilot. She went on to fly operationally for nine years before retiring from the military, and moving into General Aviation.

Renee's career path has been anything but linear; a reality that now underpins her passion for helping others recognise their potential and build careers grounded in authenticity. Through deployments, leadership roles, navigating aviation, and some deliberate pivots, Renee developed a passion for authentic leadership, the human effect, and living with integrity.

Today, Renee works as a flight instructor and contract utility pilot, and drawing on two decades in uniform and her continued work in aviation, she speaks candidly about ambition, identity, and creating sustainable pathways that allow talented pilots to thrive across different seasons of life.

Please note: All details may be subject to change

EDUCATION DAY SPEAKERS

Sponsored by



Australian Government

Civil Aviation Safety Authority



Krystelle Venn



Krystelle Venn is a Senior Meteorologist with the Bureau of Meteorology and Manager of the Townsville Weather Services Office, bringing more than 16 years of meteorological experience across the Royal Australian Navy, private industry, and the Bureau. She specialises in both tropical and aviation meteorology, applying deep operational expertise to support safe and efficient aviation operations across northern Australia.

In her current role, Krystelle delivers essential aviation forecasting services, including the preparation of TAFs and Area Forecasts, the conduct of weather observations, and practical operational briefings for pilots. Her commitment to high-quality, timely guidance has supported aviation operations through some of the region's most complex weather events.

In 2022, Krystelle was recognised with an Excellence Award for her contribution to aviation rescue operations during the Southern Queensland and Northern New South Wales floods, highlighting her dedication to supporting emergency response efforts through times of significant weather impact.

Krystelle is passionate about strengthening collaboration between meteorologists and pilots to build safer and more resilient aviation operations.



Dr Sue Burdekin

Dr. Sue Burdekin is an organizational psychologist who specializes in human performance in well-trained, highly skilled, risky environments. She was Aviation Program Coordinator at the University of NSW - Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra for 10 years and a Senior Lecturer in Aviation Human Factors and Safety Management Systems in the School of Engineering and Information Technology.

Sue has worked with the ADF as a training course developer and facilitator and was a foundation member of the Australian Defence Force Crew Resource Management Working Group. Her research interests include human behaviour and performance in the workplace, and she has worked with the Australian Defence Force, NASA Ames, Airbus, Eurocontrol, Easyjet and Maldivian Airlines in this capacity.

Sue retired in 2022 and was appointed as a Life Member of Safeskiies Australia. She was also elected as an Honorary Member of the European Association for Aviation Psychology. She is a former co-editor of the Australasian Aeronautics Journal; and is a member of the International Society of Air Safety Investigators and the Australian Aviation Psychology Association.

Sue is a past Queensland State President of the Australian Women Pilots' Association; and a former Australian Governor of the International 99s Inc. She holds a commercial pilots license and, in a past life, flew competition aerobatics as a member of the Australian Aerobatic Club.



Rochelle Reynolds



Rochelle is an operational executive who is dedicated to safety, innovation, and customer-centric service delivery. In her role as Chief Airspace and Network Officer she has over 25 years' experience in public and private organisations in the aviation, transport and energy sectors.

Rochelle is the Chief Airspace and Network Officer at Airservices Australia, responsible for the leadership and operational oversight of airspace and network performance.

Rochelle leads multidisciplinary teams delivering safe, efficient and resilient systems across highly regulated, safety-critical environments. With a strong background in complex network optimisation, system integration and transformation, Rochelle is known for translating long-term strategy into practical outcomes.

She holds a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Commerce, is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and has completed the Advanced Management Program at Melbourne Business School. Rochelle is also passionate about diversity and inclusion and the benefits of mentoring.



Angela Garvey

NAVIGATING
AVIATION

Angela Garvey is the Founder and Director of Navigating Aviation, an aviation-specific mental health and psychosocial risk management consultancy supporting safety, culture, and female retention across the industry.

A commercial pilot and formation airshow display pilot, Angela works with aviation leaders to embed practical psychosocial hazard management into operational and Safety Management Systems. Over the past two years, she has led the federally funded Women Working in Aviation Initiative (Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts), focused on strengthening leadership, culture and visibility for women in aviation STEM roles.

The Initiative concludes in early June 2026, with draft findings completed in May in time for this conference. The draft results highlight a key challenge for aviation: attracting women is possible, but retaining them requires deliberate cultural change. Angela's work demonstrates how proactive (rather than reactive) psychosocial hazard management, aligned with Positive Duty legislation, benefits everyone and strengthens long-term workforce sustainability.



Tam 'JetSheila' Camilleri

PAN AIR
PANORAMA AIRWAYS



SRMPilot
.com
CONFIDENCE IN COMMAND

Tammy Camilleri is a highly experienced Australian pilot with a background spanning general aviation, charter, instruction, emergency operations, jet air racing, and airshow flying. She is the founder of [SRMPilot.com](https://www.srpmilot.com), a platform dedicated to improving decision-making and safety in single-pilot operations through practical, pilot-designed training.

Tammy is a passionate advocate for psychological safety, human factors awareness, and empowering pilots, particularly women, to fly with confidence, clarity, and intention.

In aviation, it's rarely the aircraft that gets us into trouble, it's the split second where everything changes. This interactive workshop explores how pilots think, react, and make decisions under pressure when operating without a crew. Designed for all experience levels, from recreational pilots to airline captains, the session focuses on the human factors that influence decision-making in real-world flying.

Using a real operational case study, Tammy will unpack the startle effect, cognitive overload, and why experience alone does not prevent decision delays. Participants will be introduced to practical Single-Pilot Resource Management (SRM) tools that help pilots slow the moment, regain control, and make safer decisions, regardless of aircraft type or operation.

This is not a technical lecture. It is a practical, relatable, and highly engaging session focused on how pilots manage themselves when they are the last line of defence.



Wing Commander Dianne Bell

AIR FORCE

Wing Commander Dianne Bell CSM leads No 37 Squadron to deliver C-130J capability for the Joint Force to support the Australian Government, safely and professionally.

Wing Commander Bell joined the Royal Australian Air Force in 1999 as an Officer Cadet at the Australian Defence Force Academy, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and Indonesian in 2001.

She completed Navigator training at the Canadian Forces Air Navigation School in 2002 and became a C-130H Hercules Navigator at 36 Squadron.

In 2007, Wing Commander Bell was posted to the School of Air Warfare and became a Qualified Aviation Instructor for the training of Air Combat Officers. Following her instructional tour, she commenced Number 220 Pilot's Course, graduating in 2010. Wing Commander Bell was posted to 37 Squadron and flew C-130J Hercules from 2012 to 2017.

During her operational flying tours, she conducted multiple deployments and exercises throughout the Indo-Pacific and Middle East. In 2017, she served as Commander of the C-130J detachment in the Middle East, which provided theatre-level air mobility effects in support of operations throughout the region.

Upon promotion to Squadron Leader, she posted to the Directorate of International Engagement at Air Force Headquarters and conducted Desk Officer duties from 2018 to 2020. During her tenure, she advanced the Air Force to Air Force relationships with Japan, the Republic of Korea, India and the United Arab Emirates, through the facilitation of senior leadership engagement at Chief of Air Force and Deputy Chief of Air Force level, as well as the management of operational and tactical level bilateral activities for which she was awarded a Conspicuous Service Medal.

Wing Commander Bell returned to 37 Squadron in January 2021 to take up sub-unit command. As B Flight Commander, she was responsible for flight supervision, risk management and development of junior aircrew to support C-130J force generation and capability outputs necessary for C-130J operational effects.

In 2023, Wing Commander Bell undertook Australian Command and Staff Course and upon completion was promoted to Wing Commander and posted to be the Military Assistant to the Chief of Joint Operations.



QANTAS AWPA *Runway* PRESENTATION DINNER



Location:

Shute Harbour Airport (Under the Whitsunday Sky)

Time:

5:15pm

Expect:

An unforgettable evening of aviation elegance awaits at the **Qantas AWPA Runway Presentation Dinner**, held at **Shute Harbour Airport**. Yes — we will be **outdoors, seated on the runway**.

As twilight settles over the Whitsundays, guests will take their seats at beautifully styled tables set directly along the runway centreline for a night that blends aviation heritage with coastal glamour.

This is our signature event — a celebration of achievement, leadership and the extraordinary women of our industry.

Expect a superb dining experience, inspiring presentations, unforgettable photo moments, and that unmistakable thrill of dining where aircraft usually take centre stage.



GUEST SPEAKER:

Sam Freebairn



Samantha is a retired Royal Australian Air Force pilot and Wing Commander with operational experience spanning combat, humanitarian relief, and strategic airlift on C-130H Hercules and C-17A Globemaster aircraft. She was the first woman in Australia to instruct in the C-17A simulator and authored the policy that enabled women to return to operational flying after having children.

In 2014, Sam won the Queensland Telstra Business Women's Award in Business Innovation for the Graduate Pilot Scheme, which doubled the number of women pilots in the Air Force in just two years after 30 years of stalled progress. Recognised by the World Economic Forum as a Young Global Leader in 2016, she has also worked as a commercial drone pilot for Google Wing.

Today, Sam oversees Aviation Safety Training at Qantas, is a keynote speaker, executive leadership coach, and a board member of the Australian Aviation Hall of Fame.

Schedule of Events

- 17:15 Arrival & Welcome Drinks
- 17:45 Guests Seated
Welcome
- 18:15 Entree
- 18:45 Navigation Trial Winners Announced
- 19:15 Main Course

Guest Speaker:
SAMANTHA FREEBAIRN
- 20:00 Scholarships & Awards Presented
- 21:30 Dessert
Raffles drawn
Dancing on the Runway
- 22:00 First Bus Departs
- 22:30 Final Bus Departs

Menu

Entree

Pork Belly Bites with Fig Glaze
or
Three Cheeses Arancini Balls with Garlic Aioli

Mains

Chicken Breast with Sun-Dried Tomato Sauce
or
Black Angus 200g Rib Fillet with rich brown gravy
Served with Roasted Seasonal Vegetables

Pumpkin and Sage Risotto (V)

Dessert

Sticky Date Pudding with Butterscotch Sauce
or
Mini Cheesecake with Berry Coulis

*Only the special dietary requests notified at the time of booking can be catered for



QLD CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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