

# Membership Update

Comanche Tribe Australasia to 25/10/2025



This year has seen some significant changes to both the affiliation of this Tribe and our membership structure and fees following on from the already detailed changes put in place by the Executive Committee in June. Those decisions have resulted in the lower fee structure now in place, which I recommend be continued for the coming Renewal period which ends in June 2026.

Several members have retained affiliation with the historical parent body in USA, including some members of the Executive, as our Tribe Chief has already detailed, which still provides our organisation with both contact and some representation of our views and concerns. The only downside is the loss of the quarterly magazine publication which, by the time it reached our shores, was almost completely out of date. In its place, our own website now provides up to date (and some forward) information about our activities and events, plus all the records of past events and activities.

Since my last report, there have been the common changes to aeroplane ownership within and from outside the Tribe which have meant the resignation of some and the entry of several new members, but again, gains have not matched losses.

Sadly, we also lost a well known member in Ian Thompson, whose partner, Irene Lawson, preceded me in this position, while their joint contributions of visual and written reports of our fly aways remain on our website.

So we now have only 1 Life Member, 2 Honorary Members and only 92 fully paid members. Some of these share aircraft, while others are either past owners or wistfully looking!

## Resignations

ICS number	Name	Aircraft Reg	ICS number	Name	Aircraft
108378	David Boundy		106575	Matt Hall	VH-HTC (sold)
14494	Reg Darwell	VH-FFE (sold)	107178	Derek Perkins	VH-CRE (sold)
6831	John Funnell	ZK-PMC	106812	Michael van der Spek	
106696	Ray Grambower		12695	Jeff Wittig	VH-JGW (sold)

## New Members as at 25 October 2025

ICS number	Name	Email address	Postal Address	Aeroplane details
108647	Jack Doyle (Partner Mellory Aitken)	<a href="mailto:jack_doyle@live.com.au">jack_doyle@live.com.au</a>	14 Irvine St Kairi QLD 4872	VH-SMJ
108730	Dave Limmer (wife Tania)	<a href="mailto:Dtlimmer2@hotmail.com">Dtlimmer2@hotmail.com</a>	300 Magill Rd Beulah Park SA 5067	
ASROB25	Andrew Scott Robertson (wife Sarah)	<a href="mailto:andyscottrobertson@gmail.com">andyscottrobertson@gmail.com</a>	7 Snowy Cres Dubbo NSW 2830	VH-CXP

## Future Directions.

With the fee and affiliation changes, the membership part of our Tribe is now able to meet its costs without impinging on our reserves, as was the case for several years previously. Those same fees also cover the secretarial and administration costs, so I see no reason for a fee increase in the foreseeable future.

I hope to be able to seek out non-member owners of our aircraft type in a concerted effort to ensure even wider membership in the future. In your travels, if you see a Comanche parked on an airport apron, please attempt to make contact with the pilot/owner, encourage them to join or become an active member at our PPP events and our fly aways (for which we are ALWAYS seeking new destinations!). There are some excellent options on a Facebook page - Plan, Land and Stay - but please check runway conditions as some are only suitable for lighter experimental aircraft, not regular light planes like Comanches!

Fly safely in clear skies,

And please - pay your membership dues on receipt OR indicate your intention to resign - my bugbear remains with those who "put it away to pay later" - and forget!

Jan van der Spek

Membership Secretary