

Aviation Historical Society of Australia (NSW) inc Smith Centenary Celebration Group

From Tom Lockley, secretary

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For light aviation enterprises giving public service:

Between 8 and 22 March 2020 groups of light, historic and ultralight aircraft will make their way from Darwin to Adelaide. This will recognise the centenary of the flight by Ross and Keith Smith, James Bennett and Walter Shiers across Australia in 1919-20, in their Vickers Vimy aircraft. Participants may fly the whole route or sections of the route, or even just have a presence at any of the stopping places below,

One of the aims of this event is to highlight the wonderful contribution that the aviation industry is making to Australian life, The event will attract considerable publicity and it would be good for the rest of the country, and indeed the world, to know more about this.

We hope that this will provide opportunities for publicity for enterprises such as the Flying Doctor, Careflight etc. If you would like to have a presence at any stopping point you will be very welcome. The participants will be very interested and we are confident that we will get good media coverage.

Please contact me if you would like further information: phone 0403 615 134 or email ahsanswsmithflight@gmail.com or use our [contact form](#) . Our website is <http://ahsansw.com/>

- Darwin airport / Darwin Aviation Museum (start, morning of Sunday 8 March)
- Emkaytee airfield, home of Top End Flying Club, staging point Sunday 8 March*
- Daly Waters, overnight 8/9 March
- AACo stations Anthony Lagoon, Brunette Downs, Avon Downs 9 March
- Cloncurry overnight 9/10 March*
- Longreach overnight 10/11 March*
- Charleville overnight 11/12 March*
- Caboolture overnight 12/13 March, full day 13 March*, overnight 13/14 March
- Bourke midday 14 March*
- Narromine overnight 14/15 March, whole day 15 March*, overnight 15/16 March
- HARS Shellharbour overnight 16/17 March full day 17 March* overnight 17/18 March
- Temora Australian Aviation Museum en route stop 18 March* Cootamundra* overnight 18/19 March
- Henty (private airstrip 19 March en route stop)
- Benalla*19/20 March overnight
- Lilydale* and private airstrips at Little River 20/21 March
- Nhill* en route stop midday 21 March, Gawler overnight 21/22 March
- Aldinga* final fly-in 22 March

A .pdf version of this page, ideal for printing, is available [here](#).

As aviators, you will realise that these dates may have to be altered because of bad weather. At the time of the event this page will be constantly updated,



One of the lead aircraft for the flight is Michael Smith's state-of-the-art Sea Bear Amphibian, in which he flew from England to Australia, arriving in Darwin on December 10, 2019, the hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the Smith flight in 1919. He is returning to Darwin complete the journey made by the Smiths. Michael was Australian Geographic Adventurer of the Year 2016 for his round-the-world flight in his Searey amphibian.