

## Press Release

18 April 2019

### YOUTH AND AVIATION TAKE FLIGHT AT PARKES AIRVENTURE AUSTRALIA 2019

AirVenture Australia today officially launched the 2019 event. AirVenture Australia is fast becoming the premier General, Sports and Recreational Aviation event in Australia.

At today's launch, David Young AirVenture Australia's Director, announced a key partnership that had been formed with Global Aviation Products that will see a Bushcat Aircraft built during AirVenture Australia in Parkes. The project leads the way in Aviation Youth Engagement projects, and will see 25 students from schools in Parkes and surrounding areas with an interest in STEM and Aviation careers being selected to build the aircraft.

David Young said, "The project will become the centre piece of a planned Careers and STEM Expo and will enable these students participating in the project to gain firsthand experience in building an aircraft. The project will assist those students to broaden their understanding of the Australian Aviation industry. Not only will they build the aircraft from scratch, they will be able to see the aircraft they built fly at the event. The project has been made possible through the assistance of engineering staff from Bushcat, Global Aviation Products with Recreational Australia's staff certifying and registering the aircraft at the event."

Errol Van Rensburg of Global Aviation Products, the distributor of the Bushcat aircraft, said, "not only will the build give students a firsthand look at what is involved in building an aircraft, it will also show the community and aviators alike, just how easy it is to build your own aircraft and get involved in aviation, for not much more than the cost of a new car".

It was also announced at today's launch that the aircraft would become the event's first sweepstakes aircraft, raffled both in the lead up to the event and at the event, with the winner being drawn and announced at the event.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Federal Member for Riverina, The Honorable Michael McCormack welcomed the news that AirVenture Australia had chosen Parkes as the event's location.

"AirVenture Australia is a great initiative for General Aviation and particularly as a forum for all aviators, including those with an interest in aviation looking to find a pathway into the aviation industry," Mr. McCormack said.

"It's also great news that the event was featuring a project engaging youth and future industry participants to showcase potential careers and pathways into the industry", Mr. McCormack said.

The Liberal and Nationals Government has identified the need to attract more people into aviation and recently announced a \$4 million initiative to attract more females to the industry.

"I know how popular this event is to the aviation community and it is great that they have chosen Parkes in the wonderful electorate of the Riverina, I hope that all participants and guests take some time to enjoy the wonderful attractions that this region has to offer", Mr. McCormack said.

In addition to the planned careers and stem expo, the event will encompass its usual educational and trade exhibits allowing visitors to come learn about the latest safety initiatives, techniques, products and services available in the industry. "50% of the event's available exhibition sites and several key sponsorship packages have already taken up by industry which shows the strong support by industry for the event", said David Young.

The event's format will alter slightly this year and will run from Friday through to Sunday, with a thrill a minute airshow on Sunday and a twilight session on Friday evening. The event will also encompass flying displays at the conclusion of each day and a range of entertainers and food vendors to provide something for everyone.

Parkes Shire Airport Committee Chairperson Cr. Alan Ward said he was pleased that AirVenture Australia approached Parkes to host this exciting event and hopes to see it grow and develop in Parkes.

"Parkes' central location and Council's vast experience in hosting major events will ensure the success of AirVenture Australia over the coming years at Parkes Regional Airport. Parkes airport already enjoys strong recognition in aviation circles and the public have also fully supported air displays at the airport previously. Hosting major events such as AirVenture Australia in Parkes all adds up to building a robust and diverse visitor economy for the Shire" said Cr. Ward.

Parkes Shire Council will work with AirVenture Australia organisers in the coming months in planning for the Parkes event and to ensure it benefits the local community.

For more information about AirVenture Australia, visit [www.airventureaustralia.com.au](http://www.airventureaustralia.com.au)

## AIRVENTURE AUSTRALIA

*The great Aussie fly in*

### PARKES REGIONAL AIRPORT

Friday 20th – Sunday 22nd September 2019

*An event for aviators, by aviators...*

**SPONSORSHIP**

Sponsorship opportunities are now available for the 2019 edition of Airventure Australia. These opportunities are limited and would suit companies wishing to associate their brand with a PREMIER AVIATION EVENT likely to attract a significant and relevant audience of aviation decision makers.

**EXHIBITION**

We invite exhibition space enquiries from aviation product and service providers. In addition, an invitation is extended to companies or organisations wishing to participate in our initial CAREERS EXPO, which will focus on STEM engagement and professional development activities.

These are opportunities not to be missed! Early engagement will ensure maximum brand association and exposure. We would welcome expressions of interest which can be registered by emailing [info@airventureaustralia.com.au](mailto:info@airventureaustralia.com.au) or calling (07) 3053 3169.

- ✈ TRADE EXHIBITION
- ✈ CAREERS EXPO
- ✈ SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS
- ✈ QUALITY NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES
- ✈ A FOCUS ON SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

[airventureaustralia.com.au](http://airventureaustralia.com.au)



***Pictured L-R:***

Natalie Williams (Parkes Shire Council Events Officer), Cr. Alan Ward (Parkes Shire Airport Committee (Chairperson), David Young (AirVenture Australia Organiser), Kelly Hendry (Parkes Shire Destination Development Manager), Les Finn (Parkes Shire Director Technology and Corporate Services)

***END OF RELEASE***