

MEET THE PILOTS



Adam Barrow VIC/NZ

Adam has been ballooning for 40 years and built the balloon he is flying. He has built 7 balloons, is an event organiser and says that he is a very average competition pilot

Balloon information
VH ZKU
Kiwi Racer
Black/ White/ Silver
Experimental BM 70



Simon Beare VIC

Simon is a private and commercial balloonist with 25 years experience in the industry. He has been ground crew for the Australian balloon team on many occasions. At 60+ years he still loves ballooning and that is why he is here in Northam. Adam Barrow very kindly has lent his balloon for the event, for that Simon is very grateful!!

Balloon information
VH OME
Blue and Orange
Barrow 69



Andrew Clements WA

Andrew is a local pilot of 25 years experience. He has flown in 3 National Championships and will be dedicating these nationals to his wife Belinda, who he met through Ballooning.

Balloon information
VH ACU
Jenna
Yellow with a multi horizontal colours
Kavanagh D 90

Pete Clements

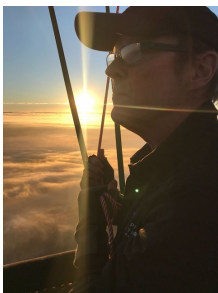
Biography coming soon



Damian Gilchrist ACT

Damian first flew the RAAF balloon in 2009 and has since gained a private licence with his 'Awesome Crew Chief Donna' and their Cameron Superlight sport 90, Solis.

Balloon information
VH LUF
Solis
Black with White brand
Cameron superlight 90
Sponsors name - "Aeronautics"



Curtis Greenwood VIC

Curtis has been working in the ballooning industry since 2007, flying balloons for 10 years, and gained his Commercial Ballooning Pilot licence in 2018. He presently flies passengers for Goldrush Ballooning in Milawa and Mansfield, in Victoria.

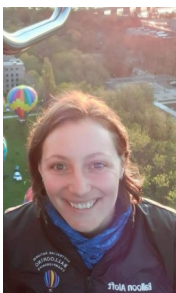
Balloon information
VH CQK
Gecko
Multi coloured
Kavanagh 77



Geoff Howe ACT

Geoff has been flying balloons for 30 years and has flown in all states except QLD. Geoff has many years experience flying balloons commercially in Canberra and also for our very own Windward Balloon Adventures here in Northam.

Balloon information
VH IGH
Poppy
Red
Ultramagic 42



Alana Kahl ACT

Alana is originally from Queensland and now in Canberra. While still new to ballooning, achieving her licence in 2018, competition was always her focus. Alana also crewed and navigated at the 2017 Junior world championships and the 2018 USA Womens Nationals and is looking forward to flying "Wattle Happen" her Green and Gold racer in her second National event.

Balloon information
VH CVX
Wattle Happen
Green and yellow
Kavanagh EX 60



Sean Kavanagh NSW

Sean is a designer and production manager at Kavanagh balloons in Sydney, Australia. He has competed all over the world since 1995 & is the current National Hot Air Ballooning Champion also winning the title in 2003. Sean has represented Australia at 7 World Championships, with best result of 15th. In 2008 he also set the Australian Altitude record of 37,838 ft in a hot air balloon.

Balloon information
VH-EXW
Antic Pants
Yellow on Golden yellow checks with black Kavanagh logo
Kavanagh EX 60

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Anton Kerr NSW

Anton is the Chief Pilot for the family ballooning business in Canowindra NSW. He is competing in the boxing Kangaroo racer and looking forward to being back in the skies over Northam.

Balloon information

VH RAU
The Roo
Green and Gold
Kavanagh EX 77



Ben Phillips VIC

Ben was sucked into the world of ballooning as a teenager and has never left, getting his pilot licence in 2019. He lives on a farm on the outskirts of Melbourne, lovingly looking after his chickens, ducks and geese. For work, he helps authors turn their words into published books, with a focus on business and thought leader books.

Balloon information

Registration VH-ZOV
Name Zolvix
Colour Red and White
Balloon make Cameron Z105



Andrew Robertson NSW

Andrew has been involved with ballooning since he was 4 and has been a pilot for 27 years. He has competed at the Worlds in 2006, 2010 and 2018 in Austria where he came 23rd. Andrew flies "Balloony McBalloonface".

Balloon information

VH WUW
Balloony McBalloonface.
Yellow with a very happy face
Kavanagh EX60



Matthew Scaife NSW

Matthew is a triple Australian Ballooning Champion, winning the Championships in 2014, 2015 and 2017; as well as 2016 Japanese Grand Prix teams event Champion. He is currently 15th in the World pilot ranking 2020.

Balloon information

Registration VH-FAW
Name Farrer
Colour Dark Blue
Balloon make Kavanagh EX 60



Nicola Scaife NSW

Nicola was two times Women's World Ballooning Champion in 2014 and 2016. She placed 9th in the Open World championships in 2018, and Winner of the 2016 Japanese Grand Prix teams event.

Balloon information

Registration VH-NKS
Name Flo
Colour Teal and Multicolours
Balloon make Kavanagh EX 60

Images coming soon

Jared Shore NSW

Jared is a second generation pilot mostly based out of Canberra and the South Coast of Batemans Bay, NSW. This is the second time competing as a pilot at a National Championships. Flying a gorgeous Kavanagh D-105 built in 2006, the largest size permitted in competition. Jared really enjoys target flying, improving his pilot skills and having a good laugh spending time with family and friends.

Balloon information

VH BJF
Tripple J/ Aurora
Red/Yellow/Blue
Kavanagh D 105



Les Springett NSW

Les has been involved in ballooning since 1979, and a pilot since 1991. He has represented Australia overseas at the highest level, including a World championship. Les has attended all Australian National Ballooning Championships since 1981. In Northam Les has attended previously as crew, an official, and since 1992 a competitor.

Balloon information

VH OTS
Hot Stuff
Navy, blue, teal, yellow and red.
Kavanagh EX 77



Justin Stein SA

Justin is a South Australian pilot with 34 years experience. He is a second generation balloonist and is the Chief Pilot for the family ballooning business in the Barossa Valley.

Balloon information

VH OXH
Yellow, Orange, Red, Violet, Blue, Green
Kavanagh



Peter Stephenson WA

"Pete the pilot" is from Perth, and has been flying balloons for 5 years, after training in Mondovi, Italy. He also flown light aircraft and hang gliders in younger years. Peter, and his navigator Brian, have been interested in ballooning since trying to set up the Nottingham University Hot Air Balloon Club in 1978. Team Mario have flown at Canberra, Canowindra and Northam .

Balloon information

Registration VH-MNS
Name Mario
Colour Blue
Balloon make Kavanagh D77