

MEDIA ALERT 2 July 2010

**Mia Mia Black Tie dinner commemorates centenary in Australian aviation**

Hundreds of aircraft and thousands of visitors including The Governor of Victoria will flock to the Victorian town of Mia Mia on 16-17<sup>th</sup> of July to commemorate 100 years since Victorian man John Duigan built and flew Australia's first aircraft.

Friday's opening ceremony and unveiling of the restored Duigan monument will be led by Governor of Victoria, Professor David de Kretser A.C. with guests John Duigan, son of Reginald Charles Duigan and air force and aviation representatives.

A flyover of antique aeroplanes and three ex-RAAF training aircraft including two Victa CT-4s and a Winjeel aircraft with 450 horse powered engine will pass over the ceremony.

At 7pm the Black Tie Centenary dinner will be held at Spring Plains, Mia Mia – the original area where the first flight took place - to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Duigan achievement and future innovation in Australian Aerospace.

John Duigan and Regional Director of Flight Safety Paul Fox will officially launch of the Duigan Aerospace Innovation Challenge.

The Aviation Fair begins Saturday with an even larger fly past of more antique and modern planes including a tiger moth, Auster aircraft, a Yak-52 and Nanchang aircraft.

Highlights will include helicopter and hot air balloon rides, radio controlled model planes, local food and wine and Veteran and Alvis Car Clubs antique car shows including John Duigan's fully restored Pierce Arrow motorcar.

All media are welcome to attend the dinner.

RSVP to Jill James Secretary of Mia Mia Committee (03) 5425 3150 or 0418 388 919.

**BLACK TIE DINNER - THE AUSTRALIAN CENTENARY OF FLIGHT 2010**

Date: Friday July 16, 2010

Time: 7:00pm – formalities to include speakers John Duigan (son of original Duigan brother Reginald Charles Duigan) and Flight Safety Director Paul Fox. The launch of the Duigan Aerospace Challenge - an annual program held at Mia Mia to foster innovation in aerospace in Australia.

Venue: Chris and Deb Agnew's property - Nungarra 3300 Burke and Wills Track Mia Mia 1 Km South of the monument from Mia Mia. North-western town of Mia Mia, 45 minutes drive from Bendigo and 1.5 hours drive from Melbourne.

Photo Opp: John Duigan launching the Duigan Aerospace Challenge and the Duigan family celebrating the centenary.

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