

KŌRERO

SPRING 2020 | ISSUE 3

Queenstown Airport is 85 years old

Celebrating our history and looking to the future



QUEENSTOWN
airport

WANAKA
airport



Message from Colin

Kia ora koutou katoa

The past 6 or so months have certainly been tough for all of us and our region. Many challenges caused by COVID-19 have been faced and it has been heartening to witness the way the airport communities at Queenstown and Wānaka have pulled together and worked alongside each other to respond to such a significant change in our operations and our lives.

On 14 August, we celebrated Queenstown Airport's 85th birthday, albeit in very different circumstances than we anticipated when we began planning this milestone at the start of the year.

The airport has been an integral part of the district's fabric throughout its history supporting and contributing to a vibrant and prosperous place. As we mark its 85th birthday, it is timely to reflect on the gumption and pioneering spirit of those who founded the airport and developed it into a premier alpine aviation base over the decades. I'd also like to acknowledge and thank the many people in our community who work at the airport now or have in the past. Read more about our history on p3.

In early September, Winter Pride went ahead under Alert Level 2 and proved to be a great success. At Queenstown Airport we were proud to 'roll out the rainbow' and provide a warm welcome to visitors. The airport was awash with rainbows, as was the town, as the wider community came together to celebrate diversity and inclusion.

In Wānaka there has been a very positive local response to the proposed introduction of a Wānaka - Christchurch scheduled service, operated by Sounds Air. We all look forward to welcoming this regional service at Wānaka Airport later this year and once final approval has been granted by QLDC.

Looking ahead, we recognise the important role we can all play in supporting the recovery of the district and the broader region. I believe, as I know many of you do, that there is now a unique opportunity to reflect on the recent past and to come together and plan for sustainable infrastructure, including airport infrastructure, to support the district and the communities within it.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all again for your contribution and commitment to both Queenstown and Wānaka airports. Let's keep working together in the positive spirit that is our hallmark.

Nga mihi

Colin Keel

Chief Executive

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Happy Birthday To Us

Queenstown Airport began serving the communities of the Southern Lakes region 85 years ago making it one of the oldest commercial airports in New Zealand operating on its original site. Through the decades the airport has evolved from an airstrip to the international airport it is in 2020.

In 1935 the population of Queenstown was about 1,000. Today it is approximately 28,000. The airport and the businesses operating here have grown with the district as both the resident population and visitor numbers have increased over time. It is a unique situation -- a small population hosting an international airport, and because of the thriving general aviation activity in and around Queenstown, one of the busiest airfields in the country.

Air New Zealand Group General Manager Airports Leanne Geraghty said: "We've been flying to Queenstown since the 1960s and have since worked closely with the airport to achieve several milestones like night flying in 2016 and most recently the Required Navigation Performance (RNP AR) technology on our ATRs which means bad weather will have less of an impact on our flights. Queenstown continues to be a popular destination for Air New Zealand customers,"

"We look forward to continuing to work with Queenstown Airport and the local community to support the region's long-term success."

Queenstown Lakes District Mayor Jim Boulton said: "Queenstown Airport has developed over the last 85 years to be a vital gateway for the district's economy, for locals to visit friends and whānau, and as a starting point for worldwide travel. And as well as serving up one

of the most stunning entry points to our area, it also provides an essential lifeline in times of crisis and emergency. How wonderful it is to have our airport so close to us, and I'm not surprised at the number of locals who frequently comment to me about its convenience. I, for one, am delighted the airport has endured and I am sure will be here for future generations to enjoy whatever advances in flight technology are in store in the decades to come."

Auckland Airport Chief Executive Adrian Littlewood said: "Happy birthday and congratulations to Queenstown Airport, celebrating 85 years of connecting people with one of our country's most beautiful destinations. Few places on earth are as spectacular and as aviation gets past its current challenges, we know the airport will continue to serve the people of Queenstown and Central Otago for many years to come."

Colin Keel said: "Community has been at the heart of Queenstown Airport throughout the decades and the airport is literally at the heart of the community. As we pay tribute today to those early aviation pioneers, I'd also like to acknowledge and thank the many people in our community who work at the airport now or have in the past,"

"We all carry forward an important legacy as we continue to adapt and innovate in shaping the future of Queenstown Airport for generations to come."



Queenstown

Airport Over the Decades

1935 - Queenstown Airport was first granted its license to operate by the Civil Aviation Authority on 14 August 1935.

1937 - The Frankton Aerodrome Board was established, made up of representatives from the Lake County, Borough of Queenstown and Borough of Arrowtown (it was disbanded in 1958).

1938 - In anticipation of new airfield use, Queenstown-Mount Cook Airways Ltd was formed in October 1938 by the Wigley family and secured a licence to operate from the newly prepared Queenstown Aerodrome.

1946 - Post-war, in December 1946, Bill Hewett commenced charter operations from Queenstown, calling the company Southern Scenic Air Trips. Renamed Southern Scenic Air Services, Hewett was soon joined by other ex-servicemen; Tex Smith, Fred 'Popeye' Lucas and Barry Topliss.

1950s - By the 1950s, commercial flights in and out of the airport were commonplace, with the majority going between Queenstown and Milford Sound. Pioneering regional airlines Southern Scenic Air Services, Ritchie Air Services, West Coast Airways, Tourist Air Travel and Mt Cook Airline, introduced scheduled services, scenic flying, floatplane flying, supply drops, agricultural work, scheduled services, float planes and tourist work.

1964 - Mount Cook Airlines secured a license to fly its DC-3 aircraft into Queenstown, and the Frankton Aerodrome was extended to accommodate these larger aircraft. This included the opening of the first small terminal building and lengthening the grass runway to 1500m.

1969 - Public demand for services to and from Queenstown was increasing and work began on plans to expand the airport terminal and amenities available.

1973 - In January construction began on a new terminal building with cafeteria, baggage claim area, booking area and carpark.

1989 - Ansett New Zealand started the first jet aircraft flights (BAe 146 Whisper Jet) into Queenstown Airport.

1992 - Air New Zealand introduced Boeing 737-200 flights into Queenstown. The aircraft were fitted with hush kits to reduce the impact of aircraft noise for local residents.

1995 - Queenstown Airport welcomed its first international flight on 1 July 1995 (Air New Zealand from Sydney) connecting Australians to New Zealand's home of alpine adventure in time for the ski season.

1996 - A new control tower was constructed in 1996 and plans commenced for a new terminal building.

2001 - The overlay of the 1,911m runway was completed and a new \$6 million terminal building opened.

2005 - Qantas commenced direct services to Queenstown from Australia in July 2005.

2007 - The terminal building was expanded as part of a \$33 million upgrade. The aircraft apron hard stand area was expanded to 10,000m, a new fire appliance (fire engine) was purchased and new fire station building constructed. The car park was expanded, and border and security controls upgraded navigation systems were also upgraded to minimise flight disruption.

2009 - We welcomed Jetstar and Pacific Blue (now Virgin Australia) to Queenstown in June and September respectively.

2010 - The jet blast fence was installed at the end of Runway 05 and the new Baggage Makeup Unit (BMU) opened. Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) acquired a 24.99% shareholding in Queenstown Airport Corporation Limited (QAC).

2011 - The new crosswind runway and the new onsite fuel farm opened. Construction was also completed on the \$10 million Runway End Safety Area (RESA).

2012 - Airways (Air Traffic Control) introduced Performance Based Navigation (PBN) and Required Navigation Performance-Authorisation Required (RNP AR) technology. This has dramatically improved the reliability of jet services and has increased airspace capacity and operational efficiency at the airport.

2016 - The first domestic after-dark flight (from Auckland), operated by Air New Zealand, and the first international after-dark flight (from Melbourne), operated by Jetstar, touched down on 23 May and 24 June 2016 respectively.

2018 - A \$7 million project to reseal the aircraft parking area (apron overlay) was completed. A new generation lower carbon asphalt was used which was primarily made from 1.5 million recycled glass beer bottles and 330,000 waste printer ink toners.

2020 - Planned runway maintenance works were completed during April and May when the country was in 'lockdown' in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic. Because of limited aircraft movements the maintenance works were completed under budget and in shorter time frames.



Above: Amelia Earhart

1935 Aviation News

- Amelia Earhart becomes the first person to fly solo from Hawaii to California
- Howard Hughes, flying the Hughes H-1 Racer, sets an airspeed record of 352 mph (566 km/h).
- Airplanes are banned from flying over the White House in Washington, D.C, USA.
- Robert Watson-Watt first demonstrates the use of radar to detect aircraft, at Daventry in England.
- The Douglas DST, prototype of the Douglas DC-3 airliner, first flies in the United States. More than 16,000 of the model will eventually be produced
- Queenstown Airstrip opens.

(1935 is also the year Elvis Presley, Julie Andrews and the Dalai Lama were born.)

Board Update



Image: Left, Adrienne Young-Cooper.
Right, Simon Flood.

The Queenstown Lakes District Council recently confirmed Adrienne Young-Cooper as the new QAC Chair and Simon Flood as our Deputy Chair. The former QAC Chair, Prue Flacks recently resigned from the board to support a member of her immediate family through an unexpected illness.

Adrienne said, "Prue made a valuable contribution to the company as its Chair. The QAC directors and management greatly appreciated her leadership during her time with the company and we wish her and her family well."

Adrienne was appointed to the Board of Directors in November 2017. She brings more than 30 years' experience in resource management and planning to the role with particular specialty in spatial planning, metropolitan growth and management, including infrastructure planning and large projects.

Adrienne was founder and managing director of Hill Young Cooper Limited, a consulting company until 2010. In this role she worked on strategic policy advice to governments and large projects. She led the first major community planning exercise "Tomorrow's Queenstown" in the early 2000s and a similar project for Wanaka as well as being involved in planning for Queenstown Airport.

Simon Flood was appointed to the Board of Directors in January 2020. He is an experienced business leader, with more than 25 years' experience in the global investment management industry having held a variety of senior leadership roles in London, Hong Kong and Singapore. Simon and his wife Ei-Mynn live with their two children in Queenstown.



Image: The Kōwhiri rich dry woodlands that used to be prolific in the Wakatipu Basin are one of the most threatened ecosystems in New Zealand, and also one of the least protected.

Conservation Week

Queenstown Airport is proud to support the Wakatipu Reforestation Trust (WRT).

Conservation Week was held in August this year and originally launched in 1969 by the New Zealand Scout Association, with the goal to promote greater interest in the environment and encourage people to take practical actions to look after it. It is now run by The Department Of Conservation and every year Conservation Week sees thousands of New Zealanders getting involved through doing conservation activities at home or attending one of many events hosted across the country.

Queenstown Airport has been a supporter of the Trust since 2016. The Trust's vision is the protection and restoration of the native biodiversity of the Wakatipu Basin through revegetation projects, collaboration, education and advocacy.

According to WRT, since humans first set foot on New Zealand, our native forests have reduced by 70 percent while our native bird species have been reduced by 30 percent. The Kōwhiri rich dry woodlands that used to be prolific in the Wakatipu Basin are one of the most threatened ecosystems in New Zealand, and also one of the least protected.

QAC's community sponsorship is part of the company's sustainability programme and contributes to for the day-to-day operations of the Trust. This year the team at QAC will be taking part in planting days with the Trust as part of our wellbeing programme.



A Remarkable Sweet Sixteen

The Remarkable Sweet Shop turns sweet 16 in November and for owners Jono Palmer and Lucy Hunt, the shop's presence at Queenstown Airport has been a huge part of the company's success.

Born in 2004 in Arrowtown, The Remarkable Sweet Shop quickly expanded into Beech Street in Queenstown. In 2013 they opened their third branch at Queenstown Airport.

At the heart of their business is delectable fudge, which is handmade by their fudge ninja, Kyoko Hirst who has been whipping sugar, butter, and chocolate for 12 years straight. "Fudge is one of our best sellers," says Lucy. "We have new flavours each month and free tastings in store. This month it's pina colada and we also had a rainbow fudge for Winter Pride."

The sweet business was started by Jono and his parents who retired in the middle of 2019. Lucy bought their half of the business and things had been going great for the new partnership until COVID-19 hit.

"We are hoping to ride it out. The airport has been great. They're very accommodating, helpful, and good to work with," said Jono.

Lucy said, "Kiwis like to have a treat and have fun. I think everyone needs a treat at the moment."

Jono added that their product is about the experience, "it's not just buying lollies at the dairy."

"It's a bit of magical experience for people of all ages... It's nostalgic for older people and making memories for younger people. It's a traditional crammed-packed store and searching the shelves is the fun part."

Jess Watson, Commercial Manager at Queenstown Airport said "The Remarkable Sweet Shop creates a wonderful experience for our customers in the terminal. We are proud to showcase an iconic local business."

Jono and Lucy are both grateful to be part of the airport community and are looking forward to the next social function. "Those are always fun!" said Jono.

Image: Jono Palmer and Lucy Hunt, celebrate 16 years of The Remarkable Sweet Shop.





High Five to our performers, Flame Entertainment, who received funding to be here from CLM.

Winter Pride a Local Winner

Queenstown Airport was proud to partner with Winter Pride again this year and to 'Roll out the Rainbow' at ZQN. The festival ran for 10 days in late August and early September and it was a "fantastic success" according to Festival Director, Martin King.

"All of the feedback we have received is that people were so grateful that we went ahead, and people made the most of their time no matter what they did. Winter Pride created a super inclusive festival and brought people together from all corners of New Zealand. The special vibe we always create — we did it again!"

King estimates there were around 1000 people at the festival at some point over the ten days.

"Without international visitors we attracted lots of first-timers to the festival, and even first-timers to Queenstown. People came from a wide range of locations across the country. We missed our Aussie cousins, but the vibe was incredible, even with just Kiwis."

The event calendar was jam-packed with a wide array of events

but King says the top three were the Ski Charity Race at Coronet Peak, Pride Flag Parade at Cardrona, and The Prohibition Speakeasy Shows on Saturday night.

COVID-19 made organising the festival extra challenging. "It's hard to describe the detail, the planning, the safety requirements, and getting everyone into seated events. We know we did it, we 'nailed it' and it was worth it. Seeing guests come from all over the country despite these challenging times — it shows how important Pride is to people, and maybe more important than ever before."

"Thank you Queenstown — you really turned it on in very difficult times. We look forward to coming back in 2021!!"

At Queenstown Airport, the QAC team wore rainbow face masks — a sign of the times — and the terminal retailers went all out and embraced the rainbow theme.

PROFILE: Jo Learmonth



Image: Jo Learmonth, Operations Manager for Wānaka Airport.

Jo Learmonth took on the role as Operations Manager at Wānaka Airport on March 1, 2020 after two years at Queenstown Airport in the project management team.

“Timing eh?” she said. “I live in Wānaka and spent the last few years commuting to Queenstown Airport. I now have a seven-minute commute against the traffic on a straight road, no chains required! It’s a massive difference for me.”

Jo is an experienced business manager and is adept at managing many moving parts and working with many different people. Wānaka is a busy little airport and the tasks for its Operations Manager are varied. Being adaptable and thinking laterally helps, said Jo.

Jo takes the opportunity to include perimeter checks in her fitness regime and runs the perimeter regularly. “I might be biased but this is the most beautiful airport in the world so it’s nice to be able to take in the view and complete daily checks.”

Things are easing back to a ‘new normal’ now and Jo has noticed that while many operators rely on international tourism, Kiwis have been exploring their own backyards.

“It has obviously been quieter over the last several months especially for the businesses here who rely on tourism. However, the school holidays have been great and some days are just as busy as last year. That’s all been domestic tourism which has been really encouraging.”

“Pre-COVID there were approximately 64,000 aircraft movements per year – that’s a lot... that’s 100 to 200 movements each day. We’re a busy little airport. We were the second busiest general aviation airport in New Zealand, after Ardmore in Auckland.”

The Wānaka and Queenstown airport teams work together to ensure safety and compliance across both airports. There are a number of hot-desks set up at the Wānaka Operations hub and Queenstown-based staff members are always welcome to work from Wānaka.

Despite the uncertainty at the moment due to COVID-19, Jo is optimistic that things will recover. “We are lucky to have an amazing and collaborative community here at Wānaka Airport. There are about 30 businesses operating here and the majority are locally owned. It’s been tough but the people here are working together and looking ahead. Life will get better and aviation will play a significant role in the recovery of Wānaka,” said Jo.

The passion of **Brendon Deere**

Warbirds Over Wānaka attracts display aircraft from around New Zealand and overseas to the biennial airshow at Wānaka Airport. Warbirds Over Wānaka remains indebted to the select band of aircraft owners who, often at considerable personal financial cost and sacrifice, own and keep operating the magnificent historic aircraft. One of those is Brendon Deere from Marton.

For most warbird aircraft owners it seems you can never have enough aircraft. Just ask Brendon who recently added a P51D Mustang to his collection which already includes a Spitfire, Grumman Avenger and T-6 Harvard.

Brendon's love of warbirds started when at the age of six he met his uncle, Air Commodore Alan Deere, for the first time. Alan Deere was a highly distinguished New Zealand fighter ace who served with the RAF for 40 years. "After the visit, he returned to the UK and sent me out some photos of RAF aircraft and I've been hooked ever since," says Brendon.

While many warbird aircraft owners will start with more modest aircraft Deere's collection started at the top when he purchased a Supermarine Spitfire IX in 2001. The Spitfire underwent many years of restoration, including being painted in the colours of his late uncle, before its Warbirds Over Wānaka debut in 2010.

After the Spitfire came Harvard 37 in 2005 and the TBM-3 Avenger in 2012. The fourth aircraft in the collection, the P51D Mustang NZ2423, was added this year. This aircraft had been part of the late John Smith's collection at Mapua near Nelson and will be restored to flying condition over the next few years.

The aircraft are kept in a couple of hangars owned by the Biggin Hill Trust and situated on RNZAF Base Ohakea near Palmerston North. The first hangar built was called Biggin Hill in honour of his uncle who led the RAF's Biggin Hill wing in mid-1943. The second is called Palikulo after the

main RNZAF servicing base on Espiritu Santo during WWII.

"A lot of the credit for that goes back to Squadron Leader Pete Cochran who initially suggested we test fly the Spitfire at Ohakea. Afterwards no one seemed keen for the aircraft to leave the base so it was suggested we try and get permission to build a hangar to house it and eventually we got approval from the Chief of Defence to be based there. We continue to work closely with the RNZAF and hope it is a mutually beneficial arrangement for the long-term future for these historically significant aircraft," says Brendon.

The RNZAF also keep a number of their older aircraft types in the Biggin Hill hangars including a De Havilland Devon and Aermacchi MB339 along with an Iroquois and a Sioux helicopter.

When it comes to flying his aircraft Deere is not your typical warbird owner. He finished his Harvard flying career recently with around 175 hours in his logbook, flew the Avenger solo only once and has never flown the Spitfire.

"I prefer to leave the flying now to the highly capable pilots at Ohakea. When it came to the Spitfire I made a conscious decision not to try and fly it as I felt it was too precious to risk. Others might find this decision hard to understand but I thought it was the right one taking a long-term view of the aircraft."

Brendon says airshows such as Warbirds Over Wānaka are an integral part of why the Biggin Hill collection exists. "Not only is it an opportunity to show our aircraft off to the public but with a successful airshow it's an opportunity to contribute something back to the costs of keeping these aircraft flying," says Deere.

As for future additions to his collection Brendon says he has always admired the Mosquito.

Now wouldn't that be something?





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WELCOME TO WANAKA AIRPORT

soundsAIR

Wānaka to Christchurch

sounds like a great idea



Images: Flights from Wānaka to Christchurch will be on a nine-seater turbo-prop Pilatus PC12 aircraft.

Tickets are now on sale for a new flight service between Wānaka and Christchurch.

Sounds Air CEO Andrew Crawford said the scheduled services will commence on 2 November 2020.

“We are planning to fly every day of the week with 12 return flights a week at this stage, using our turbo-prop Pilatus PC12 aircraft. This aircraft is ideal for an airport like Wānaka and will require no additional infrastructure to be built there. It has a comfortable, pressurised cabin that will be able to take up to nine passengers at a time on the 45-minute journey between Wānaka and Christchurch airports.

“The November start date allows for the Queenstown Airport Corporation to seek the necessary approvals from its majority shareholder, Queenstown Lakes District Council, through the submission of its revised Statement of Intent, while also allowing us to help to get people and businesses moving at a time when this is most needed thanks to the impact that COVID-19 is having on tourism and business. The regional connectivity that this flight service will bring will enable locals to travel more easily, support domestic tourism, aid local business recovery and improve access to health services,” Mr Crawford said.

Social media response to the announcement was overwhelmingly positive with hundreds of comments expressing the same sentiment: “That’s awesome,” “Fantastic news Sounds Air congratulations!”, and “That is soooo exciting!”

Colin Keel, Chief Executive of Queenstown Airport Corporation said: “We are pleased to be working together with Sounds Air on their proposal to introduce scheduled services between Wānaka and Christchurch before the end of the year. It has also been great to see the positive local community response to the proposal. We are mindful of the current commitment we’ve made to our majority shareholder regarding the introduction of scheduled services at Wānaka Airport and look forward to welcoming Sounds Air to the airport community when the necessary approvals are in place.”

A test flight took place in September and went smoothly. Ticket prices will vary but are expected to be in the range of \$159 - \$279 one way. Fares are on a 3-tier ticketing system, where the price increases as the flexibility of the ticket increases. Sounds Air reports that ticket sales are going well.



Support for Wellbeing

Te Wā Tuku Reo Māori

We took part in Te Wā Tuku Reo Māori - Māori language moment as part of our recognition of Te Reo Māori Language Week and to support the goal of having one million of us in Aoteroa New Zealand speaking, singing and celebrating te reo at the same time.

waka rererangi plane

taunga rererangi airport

tauranga terminal

tīkiti eke boarding pass

whenua land

rangi air



Practical help is at hand in the Queenstown Lakes district. Whether it is assistance with health, employment, living costs or repatriation to your home country, there are systems in place to support you.

Health

If you can't speak to your doctor, or you do not currently have a doctor, call Healthline for free advice and information – 0800 611 116.

For mental health advice free call or text 1737 at any time. This helpline has trained mental health counsellors and can talk with you in your language.

Home

If you have no support and are unable to meet basic needs such as food and other essentials like winter clothing, firewood, pet food, or accessing medicines, there are options available to you. If you are a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident you may be able to access support from the Ministry of Social Development. You can find out what support may be available to you at www.msd.govt.nz, or call MSD on 0800 559 009. In Wānaka there is assistance from Community Networks' foodbank, and in Queenstown, there is assistance at the Salvation Army foodbank.

If you are from overseas on a temporary visa, you may be eligible for support via the Visitor Care Manaaki Manuhiri programme from the Department of Internal Affairs and NZ Red Cross. To be eligible you must be unable to meet basic needs and have exhausted all other options including accessing a flight to return to your home country. For information about what support may be available to you visit foreignnationals.services.govt.nz or call: 0800 RED CROSS (733 276)

If you're from overseas and need advice about your visa status, contact Immigration New Zealand www.immigration.govt.nz or call 0508 558 855

Work

If you're looking for work or have a vacancy that needs to be filled contact Work and Income New Zealand jobs-during-covid.workandincome.govt.nz/hello or call: 0800 779 009 (Job Seeker's line). You can also try the Work for Seasons website worktheseasons.co.nz/hello for information about seasonal job opportunities that may be available.

Returning home

If you're from overseas, it is recommended that you contact your embassy to see what support is available. If you need help contacting your embassy, a list of these is available on the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade website mfat.govt.nz/en/embassies/.



#internationaldogday

Mindy and Diesel were all smiles at Queenstown Airport for #internationaldogday on social media.

New Technology on Air New Zealand Turboprop Flights



Image: RNP-AR technology enables pilots to fly to lower altitudes with a more precise and efficient route into the airport, saving fuel and emissions and helping reduce the impact of bad weather on services.

Queenstown Airport welcomed the introduction of Required Navigation Performance (RNP AR) technology on Air New Zealand's turbo-prop fleet in August. The technology enables pilots to fly to lower altitudes with a more precise and efficient route into the airport, saving fuel and emissions and helping reduce the impact of bad weather on services. The technology has been operational on larger aircraft flying in and out of the resort since 2012.

In 2016, the airline entered into a partnership with aircraft manufacturer ATR to equip its 68-seat turboprop fleet with

RNP AR.

Air New Zealand Chief Operational Integrity and Safety Officer Captain David Morgan says RNP is now operational on the airline's ATRs operating to and from Queenstown.

"While all aircraft were upgraded with the necessary equipment last year, we have been working through a programme of training with our pilots, with oversight from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). We have now reached a major milestone with this project in receiving approval from the CAA to proceed with full RNP AR operations into

and out of Queenstown."

"This is fantastic news for our customers. The benefits of the technology mean that, even when the weather at Queenstown Airport is poor, disruptions to ATR passenger services are expected to be significantly reduced."

The airline has 27 ATR 72-600 aircraft in its fleet. The airline's larger A320 aircraft, which also operate to and from Queenstown, are already RNP AR-enabled.



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