

Gordon commenced his flying with the RAAF in 1942. He trained on the Wirraway at Temora EFTS and continued his flying training at ATS Uranquinty. Gordon says that he completed his flying training without any "blemishes" being recorded in his progress reports.

Gordon spent a short time after graduation waiting for his posting, as many pilot's did. One day, he was selected for a check ride, where he was graded as not suitable for graduation. Reasons cited were not all that clear, and Gordon was one of a number of pilot's that were scrubbed during the life of the course.

In 1943, after leaving the RAAF, Gordon joined ANA where he worked as a commercial pilot. In 1944 Gordon left for India as a candidate selected for Officer Cadet in the Indian Forces. Just before he was commissioned, the war ended. This put the brakes on Gordon's military aviation career, but was the first formative steps in a civilian flying career that has been rich and diverse and with many interesting experiences.

Gordon's civilian flying career has included operating Flying Boats from Rose Bay and many other operations both in Australia and overseas.

Gordon will speak to the Australian Aviation Club about his "war" career 1941-1945 and his civilian career from 1946-1972.

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Title of speech:

My "claytons" war record and civilian flying career.