

Flight to N.Z.

British flier Sheila Scott plans to leave Sydney today for New Zealand.

At her city hotel yesterday she said she would take off from Kingsford Smith Airport between 6.15 a.m. and 6.45 a.m.

She is on a world-circling flight in a single engined Piper aircraft.

She will fly to Auckland via Norfolk Island, where she will rest and refuel her plane.

Delay for woman on solo flight

British pilot Miss Sheila Scott, who is on a solo flight around the world, postponed her departure from Sydney yesterday when bad weather developed over the Tasman Sea.

She was to have left Kingsford Smith Airport for Auckland at 7 a.m., but the Department of Civil Aviation advised her to delay her departure until this morning.

Miss Scott agreed, although she is four days behind schedule.

Her tiny Piper Comanche aircraft is due to take off at 5.30 a.m.

Solo flight woman in N.Z.

AUCKLAND, Monday.—British solo pilot Sheila Scott, who is flying around the world, arrived here from Sydney today.

Miss Scott left Sydney late last night after bad weather over the Tasman Sea forced her to postpone her scheduled early-morning departure.

After a day in Auckland she will fly to Norfolk Island. She is expected to reach Honolulu by June 12, San Francisco two days later and New York on June 18.

Miss Scott took seven hours 20 minutes on the flight from Sydney. She said the journey was the best she had experienced since she left London on May 18. (A.A.P.)

Woman pilot lands in Fiji

SUVA, Tuesday.—British pilot Sheila Scott, who is flying around the world, arrived at Nadi this evening and will leave early tomorrow for American Samoa and Canton Island.

She said in Fiji that she was tired but had had no mechanical trouble with her Piper Comanche aircraft since leaving Sydney. (A.A.P.)

WORLD FLIGHT

SAN FRANCISCO.—British actress-flier Sheila Scott landed yesterday at San Francisco international airport, 154 hours after she left Honolulu in her quest to become the first British woman to fly around the world alone.

LAST LAP

LISBON.—British airwoman Sheila Scott left here for London yesterday on the last lap of her round-the-world solo flight in a single-engined plane. She aims at becoming the first Briton to fly round the world alone.

Flight ends in collapse

"Sun" Special
LONDON, Tuesday.—Round-the-world flier Sheila Scott collapsed twice after landing at London Airport last night to complete her 28,656-mile journey.

She smiled as she climbed from her single-engined Piper Comanche but then broke down in tears of exhaustion. She again collapsed on her way to a Press conference.

After the conference a doctor gave her sedatives.

Miss Scott, a 38-year-old former actress, arrived back in London 33 days and three minutes after leaving.

Her flight, the world's longest solo effort, has left her \$A15,000 in debt.

She borrowed money to buy the plane and has until October to pay it back, the "Daily Sketch" reported.

MODEL SETS AIR RECORD

LONDON, Tuesday.—A tiny mud-spattered plane taxied across the runway of London Airport yesterday at the end of a world record solo flight.

Its pilot, former actress and model Sheila Scott, 38, had covered 28,000 miles during a 33-day trip at an average speed of 36 m.p.h.—a world record for a woman.

The flight has cost her \$A62,500. She raised \$A30,000 herself, partly by selling her jewellery.

Visibly exhausted, she broke down three times in her airport hotel before meeting the Press.

Miss Scott said she

averaged three or four hours sleep a night and kept herself awake by playing tape recorded music, drinking black coffee and studying Spanish.

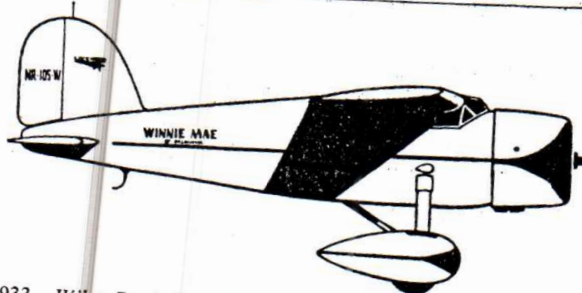
Her worst experience was being caught in a monsoon between Calcutta and Singapore.

But she is still \$A15,000 out of pocket and may have to sell her Piper Comanche, called "Myth 2," to pay off the debts. She said: "In spite



SHEILA SCOTT

of all the hell I have been through in planning and taking this trip, I would still do it again because of the fantastic friendship I found in all parts of the world." (A.A.P.-Reuter)



1933. Wiley Post's Lockheed Vega: 27 ft long, 41 ft wing-span, one 450 h.p. engine gave it a maximum speed of 185 m.p.h.

Going it alone

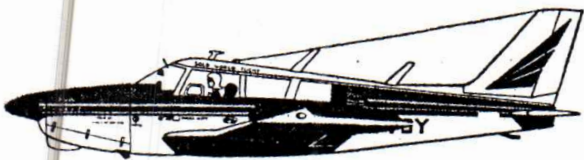
WHAT is it that attracts women to solo flying? If Sheila Scott, now trying to fly round the world, makes it more women than men will have completed the trip solo.

Wiley Post was the first person. He did a 15,600-mile circuit, New York-Moscow-Alaska-New York, as long ago as 1933. It was nearly 30 years later, in 1961, that Max Conrad became the second. He did a longer trip, Miami-Honolulu - Singapore - Lagos-

Brazil-Miami, in a twin-engined Piper Aztec.

Since then it's been women all the way. Joan Merriam Smith and Mrs Jerrie Mock both flew round in 1964. Joan Smith in a twin-engine Piper Apache, Mrs Mock in a single-engined Cessna 180.

Sheila Scott in a single-engined Piper Comanche is trying to beat Mrs Mock's 30-day record, set up a 30,000-mile record for the longest-ever solo flight and become the first British pilot to solo the world.



1966. Sheila Scott's Piper Comanche: 25 ft long, 36 ft wing-span, its single 260 h.p. engine gives it a maximum of 170 m.p.h.

SURPRISE RECEPTION FOR BRITISH AVIATRIX SHEILA SCOTT

British flyer Miss Sheila Scott's Piper Comanche 260B touched down at Mascot aerodrome at 5.51 p.m. on Thursday, June 2, from Brisbane on her solo round-the-world flight. She looked all-in and she said all she wanted was lots of coffee and plenty of sleep.

Instead, after a one-hour press reception, she stayed on till 10 p.m. at a reception organised for her by the club and Ansett General Aviation at Flight Facilities.

The reception, attended by about 100 club officials and members and flying personalities, came as a surprise to Miss Scott who sipped champagne and chatted and shook hands all round.

Mr. Peter Lloyd, President of The Royal Federation of Aero Clubs of Australia and President of The Royal Aero Club of N.S.W., club Vice-President Mr. Jim Minahan, Secretary-Manager Mr. Charles Edmondson and Committee members Messrs. Bill Roberts, Bill Abbott, Brian Butler and Jim Taylor were among those present.

Mr. Ken Holt, General Manager of Ansett General Aviation, which recently took over the

Australian Piper organisation, was also present.

Looking attractive in her floral blouse, blue jeans, and gold slippers, Miss Scott had a word with almost everybody present - including some 30 enthusiastic women pilots.

Mr. Edmondson attended the reception to officially sign Miss Scott's documents as part of her flight record.

The plane, which had been having navigational equipment troubles, was later flown to Bankstown for a further overhaul and Miss Scott flew out of Sydney the following Monday morning for Auckland.

She later radio-ed that the Piper was "flying like a dream and radio range excellent".

Footnote: Miss Scott - although she didn't know it - had a close personal friend at the reception. She didn't meet him until nearly the end. He was Mr. Charles Masefield who had himself flown out from Britain a few days before on a Beagle 206 delivery flight for Helicopter Utilities Pty. Ltd. Charles is a member of the R.A.C. of N.S.W. and a fellow club member of Miss Scott's in Britain.



British Flyer Miss Sheila Scott is greeted by Club Officials on arrival. (Picture by courtesy of Mirror Newspapers Ltd)

Royal Aero Club of N.S.W. June 1966 NSW



Sheila Scott

Flight had to wait

SINGAPORE, Monday.—British actress Sheila Scott took time off yesterday from her round-the-world flight to have a hair-do.

Miss Scott, 37, arrived in Singapore from Rangoon on Saturday on the tenth leg of her 30,000-mile flight.

She is due to take off today for the Indonesian island of Bali.

Miss Scott said that her Singapore stop was her first chance to have her hair done since leaving London 12 days ago. She spent the morning supervising the refuelling of her Piper Comanche aircraft by mechanics of the Royal Singapore Flying Club. A.A.P.-Reuter

ROUND-THE-WORLD FLYER IN DARWIN

"Sun" Special

DARWIN, Wednesday. — British flyer Miss Sheila Scott landed in Darwin last night from Bali.

She is flying her Piper Comanche around the world.

"I've never been so tired in my life," she said.

Miss Scott said that nowhere along route from England had she had more than four hours' sleep.

"GALLONS OF COFFEE"

"I've had all kinds of trouble with my equipment," she said.

"But people have been marvellous—even the international airlines have been calling me up and wishing me good luck.

She said that to help keep

her awake during long hours in the air she played lively music on a tape recorder, had been dictating a book and doing crossword puzzles.

She has also been learning Spanish from a recorded course "and drinking gallons of black coffee."

She has completed about one-third of the flight and has already been in the air more than 60 hours.

Her troubles have included radio failure near Rangoon when she had to descend through a monsoon.

Miss Scott leaves today for Mt Isa, Brisbane and Sydney.

World flier in Darwin

DARWIN, Tuesday.—British pilot Miss Sheila Scott landed here tonight after flying for eight and a half hours across water from Bali in a single-engine aircraft on a round-the-world flight from England.



MISS SCOTT

WOMAN PILOT FLIES IN

British pilot Miss Sheila Scott reached Sydney last night on her world-encircling solo flight.

She will stay in Sydney for two days. Miss Scott was cheered

at Kingsford Smith Airport by a group of Australian women pilots whose Gypsy Moths had escorted the pioneer aviatrix Amy Johnson on the last leg of her historic 1930 Britain-Australia flight.

Miss Scott was tired after flying from Mt. Isa by way of Brisbane.

She said her single-engine Piper Comanche 260B had had "a lot of technical problems" that began between Calcutta and Bangkok.

"They are being straightened out here," she said.

She has travelled 12,000 miles and has about 19,500 miles to go on a trip that would make her the first British pilot to fly alone around the globe.

Already a few days behind her schedule, Miss Scott plans to leave on Sunday for Auckland, then to cross the Pacific Ocean and the United States.

FRIDAY, DAILY TELEGRAPH JUNE 3, 1966

IN A PLANE SMALLER THAN A MOMENT

AT Mascot's light aircraft strip yesterday the small boy listened intently as his transistor radio addressed the approaching pilot: "Golf, Oscar, Yankee turn to 160 degrees and report when you see the landing strip."

"That's her now," announced the small boy with some satisfaction as his transistor caught the control tower frequency and picked up the reply from the well modulated feminine English voice.

He was right. Britain's ace woman flier, Sheila Scott, was ready to descend on us on her 16th stop-over in her round-the-world flight.

What sounded like a small sigh of relief went up from the crowd which had gathered to meet the blonde former actress who followed—as far as world politics allowed—Amy Johnson's memorable lone flight to Australia.

There were dozens of pilots and well-wishers at the airport, but most interesting among the greeters were four women who 36 years ago welcomed Amy to Australia.

They are Miss Meg Skelton, of Bellevue Hill

Mrs. Bobbie Terry, of Edgecliff, Miss Evelyn Pollett, and Miss Julia Holland.

The first three flew from Sydney in their Moths to greet Amy in hers over Gosford.

We waited together and it wasn't long before Miss Scott's Piper Comanche—looking smaller than a moment—noised its way across the tarmac and came to a halt in front of the greeting party.

Miss Scott had arrived from Brisbane.

"She does look tired"

First person to greet her was a Customs man. She had already been through Customs at Darwin and Brisbane and murmurs among the crowd sounded like: "Do they think she's picked up some contraband on the way down." All the officer wanted was her health certificate.

Miss Scott eased herself out of the paraphernalia-laden plane as a small cheer went up from the watchers.

Dressed in blue stretch pants, silver shoes and a light blouse she shivered on the steps of the aircraft as TV and Press

cameras clicked. She was photographed inside and outside, draped over the nose, with men, with women and with a mixture of both. And there was the inevitable "Last shot, please, Miss Scott."

Her monde hair fixed in place with a blue band was unruffled and she was the same way. She stumbled a little as she moved towards the lounge, and women whispered: "She does look tired."

Miss Scott had good reason to be a little jaded, but she soon shook it off as she faced the battery of microphones and reporters' questions that go with fame.

Miss Scott was once an actress: "I loved it, out I wasn't very good," she laughed. "And when I wasn't acting I was a model, because that's what a lot of actresses do when they are out of work."

She started flying only six years ago and has logged a massive 2000 hours since then. While doing this she also picked up 15 world flying records—no

mean feat in such a short time.

She thinks she has established three records so far on the 30,000-mile journey—"but I can't remember what they are. She has been dogged by mechanical trouble and bad weather, but she is determined to go on.

Why does a woman attempt a solo flight, like this? "Well," she answers "Why do people cross the Atlantic single-handed in a boat—or climb mountains?"

Taking a more serious tack she admits she has been fascinated by Amy Johnson's flight, and there is also a challenge in an attempt of this sort. "If people stop doing this sort of thing we might as well give up altogether," is her

philosophy. She also hinted that there were some "personal reasons" for the lone ride, but she was not elaborating.

The attractive divorcee said she didn't have any romantic interests at her ports of call, but if she met a male she fell "violently in love with" during the voyage he could either follow her to her destination or she would return and join him.

Her plane is fitted out with taped recordings for listening during the long hours the craft is on automatic pilot. She even has some Spanish lessons to study, but hasn't yet found the time. And she is finishing the last two chapters of a book about her flying experiences.

She says she is not superstitious — 13 is her lucky number — but she carries an insignia "Myth" on the side of the plane and always has.



SHEILA SCOTT standing on the wing of her plane after getting out of the cockpit on arrival at Mascot yesterday.

"It means female moth, if you like, but there is a bit more to it than that." What she would not say.

The single-engine plane is fitted with special long-range fuel tanks for the trip, and the five other seats are taken up with her day-by-day living equipment.

Accent on femininity

Although she had part of a night's sleep at Mt. Isa on the way to Brisbane she had little before that as she swooped over the Middle East, the jungles of Malaysia and Indonesia.

She had asked to be allowed to go to bed last night at 8.30, but a cup of coffee and a couple of cigarettes saw her talking on.

She believes women can fly just as well as men — and has her records, including plane racing — to prove it. But she doesn't like to see women competing with men.

"I think women fliers should try to remain as feminine as possible. They should look after their appearance in the air as well as on the ground," she maintains.

She put almost everything she owns into making the flight a success and although the cash rewards may be good when she lands on the final strip she won't be rich. She believes

the worst part of the trip — one-third of it — is over, and has no qualms about facing up to the lonely expanse of the Pacific on the leg to America.

If the long-legged Miss Scott makes it round the world she will be the only woman apart from American Amelia Earhart to have performed the feat. She has planned the journey for two years and although she had difficulty in financing it at the start, she got off the ground 15 days ago. Her next leg, probably on Sunday, will be to New Zealand.

Asked her age Miss Scott got a little truculent. "I've been asked that question so many times I now answer that I'm 19 or 29."

She is in fact 39 and was only three when her heroine, Amy Johnson, bounced off the tarmac to visit Australia. Miss Scott needed no urging to head for her bed in a city hotel and I went out into the night.

And there was the little boy still listening to his transistor as the tower continued to broadcast its messages.

— Leslie Wilson

SHE'D LOVE TO MEET A MARTIAN!

ELIZABETH FINLEY hasn't seen a flying saucer but she wouldn't be very surprised if she did.

As a scientist she believes there is life in outer space because of the countless billions of other planets with the chance of conditions like ours.

"It is highly egocentric of us to fancy that we on this tiny speck in the cosmos are the only living creatures," she says.

"From a purely mathematical point of view it is inconceivable that there is not intellectual life elsewhere in the universe."

If, when, how, or why beings from outer space might visit the earth is another matter.

