

# Jetting to retirement



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## From wheels to wings, a former champion cyclist is retiring after a 32-year career as a pilot in Wagga

MAX Langshaw took off from Wagga airport for the final time yesterday, bringing a 32-year career as a pilot in Wagga to a close.

Mr Langshaw, who won a cycling gold medal at the 1962 Commonwealth Games, joined Wagga's Kendell Airlines in 1974. He said yesterday he had loved every minute of his time working for Kendell and its successor Regional Express (Rex).

"This is just the greatest place in the world to be," he said.

"I just enjoy being at work ... not being here will be like losing an arm or a leg or something."

He leaves Rex as the airline's most senior pilot, and Rex managing director Geoff Breust paid tribute to his many years of dedication and professionalism.

"He brought with him a philosophy and culture of customer service and on-time operations," Mr Breust said.

"Max will never leave us as the legacy of his approach and attitude will live on through all the flight crew he has trained and mentored over the years.

"While in one way this is a sad day for Rex, we are celebrating the fantastic career of a great friend and colleague."

Rex staff paid tribute to Mr Langshaw yesterday, giving the much-loved pilot a standing ovation as he boarded the Rex Saab aircraft for the final time.

He said he plans to spend his retirement pursuing his interests in cycling and photography.



**FINAL FLIGHT:** Regional Express pilot Max Langshaw yesterday flew his final flight between Wagga and Melbourne. The airline's most senior pilot, Mr Langshaw retired yesterday after 32 years of flying planes from Wagga airport. He said Wagga was "just the greatest place in the world to be".

Pictures: Les Smith