



Wellington Gliding Club Inc
www.soar.co.nz

eChandelle

7 March 2017

Upcoming Events

Sunday seminar (2 April) see below
Remaining Summer Crew leaves in Mid-April

We are pleased to welcome new members:

Romain Zagala visiting youth member from France
Victor Lenting (Flying member)
David Percy, Michael Hodgson (Non-flying members)

Achievements

Congratulations to:

- Simon Casey who re-soloed and got his winch rating
- Mark Skelly who has completed his B Certificate
- Keith Essex – on Sun 12 Feb Keith had a 1000km flight in the Wairarapa wave from Papawai: Then on Tue 14 Feb, he made a 1250km flight in similar wave conditions. Link to article: <http://times-age.co.nz/back-epic-1000km-glide/>

Clubhouse Progress

To date we have \$130,000 in grants and donations, which is a remarkable achievement since we started fundraising just 6 months ago. We have 6 members who have offered personal donations of \$10,000 each. In return, these members will receive 15 launches per annum for the next 10 years. If seven more members could offer the same amount, then we would have the full \$200,000 in hand to finish the building.

If you haven't made a donation, but would like to consider how you can help, please contact Brian Sharpe or Ross Sutherland. Every dollar counts

Sunday Seminars

Some of you may remember the well-attended cross-country seminars that Martyn Cook ran in Paraparaumu. Building on those seminars with more topics and co-presenters, we are pleased to introduce the 2017 series of 'Sunday seminars'. It does not matter whether you are up to that stage in your training or not, because everyone who is interested is welcome.

The topic for the first session (02 April) will be "Out-landing preparation, field selection, circuit planning" and will be led by Martyn with co-presenters Kevin Clark on field selection and Stewart Barton on "Tales of the Unexpected". Martyn will also speak on the use of a motor-glider to accelerate this stage of the training. Future seminar topics will be announced in due course.

Seminars will be run on the 1st Sunday of every month at the Workingmen's Club in Greytown. Seminars start at 9 am sharp and end at 11 am. On these Sundays, flying will start at noon.

Seminar dates are as follows:

02 Apr; 07 May; 04 Jun; 02 Jul; 06 Aug; 10 Sep; 01 Oct

Progress on the East – West Vector

Several weeks ago the council finished installing the culvert for Tilsons Creek, and announced they had spent their budget of 40-50k.

However, this left some major earthworks to be completed. Within a day, Jim Bicknell came to our rescue. For the past two weeks Jim, with the help of a few of the summer crew, Richard Penman in particular, have been pulling topsoil to fill the gap and grade the ground over the culvert. Although the culvert is only 20 m wide, this enough to run winch cables and make emergency landings. This is not a small exercise and Jim reckons it will still take another 1-2 weeks. He will then roll and seed the graded area. Realistically, this vector will probably not be available for winching until late spring. Jim has made some amazing progress and is keen for any club members to hop in the cab and haul some topsoil



Sale of the PW5

Last week Grae Harrison announced that our long-suffering (from lack of use) PW5 had been sold to a member of the Hawkes Bay-Waipukurau club. The money will be put to good use and the extra hanger space may even see another single-seater some day.

WG is loaded to go to a new home!



Summer Crew Updates

Gregor has returned to cold winter of Slovenia, but the northern spring is just around the corner. Sylvia has continued her kiwi travels before heading back to Aussie to visit family. Ilse has gone back to real life in Austria. All had a wonderful time of adventure and enjoyed being part of the development at Papawai.

Andy is here until around Easter, Richard is here for another 3 weeks and Lea leaves for some touring this week. Jan will come back from his touring this week. Luckily since JRs finished on 21Feb, Mark Wilson has made his fantastic ex-dental clinic available in for accommodation.



With a rapid creation of a "temporary" outside hot shower in the urinal area of the "boom box", the remaining summer crew have made the hanger precinct a nice home area. What we do next summer for accommodation will require some thought.

GNZ Email Survey

During March, Nielsen on behalf of Sport NZ will be conducting a club member **Voice of Participant** survey across several NZ national sporting organisations, including Gliding NZ. This survey aims to understand what is important to Club Members and how members view their experience with their Club. The survey output will be helpful in assisting clubs to identify where they are performing well and to suggest areas where members expectations might be better met.

If your email address is registered with Gliding NZ you will receive an email from Nielsen with a link to the survey form. For members who do not have their email addresses registered with Gliding NZ (eg non-flying and parents of junior members), the link to the survey is here:

<https://nielsenwebsurveys.com/wix2/p3652110662.aspx?sport=5>

The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete and we hope you will all take the opportunity to participate. The survey is confidential and results will be reported in a way that will not allow you to be individually identified. A summary of results will be shared with all participants.

Backlog of Papawai Experience Flights (once called Trial Flights)

Unfortunately, the poor summer weather has caused a backlog of voucher flights. Even with an increased price, we still sold over 50 before Christmas. Ross estimates about 50% of these pre-paid vouchers have not been redeemed. Experience says some percentage of these will not be redeemed, but we still have some work to do.

This has an impact on availability of the DG 1000's. Ross will prioritise club members, who book the DG's for the weekends, but members who have NOT booked may find a wait behind non-members on Saturdays. Ross will endeavour to keep Sundays clear, but he may book one or two Experience Flights if unavoidable.

Depending on their requirements, Gliding Wairarapa have kindly made their Ka13 available to approved WGC pilots to help relieve some of our backlog.

Ross is not taking any new weekend bookings for Experience Flights until June (Note that private owners or single seaters needing a launch can be easily slotted into the launching queue.)

If you are training and can come out during the weekdays, please come out then to take advantage of the summer crew (Ross, Andy, and Jan) until mid-April when they will leave.

For the rest of the summer season we have decided to make Fridays bookable. Wednesdays and Thursdays will be flying, if pre notified demand. Mondays and Tuesdays are cow-days on the strip, so only if absolutely brilliant will we look at trying to juggle the grass eaters!!!

BOTTOM LINE: If you want instructional flights on the weekends PLEASE BOOK AHEAD.

Winch Launching Fees (Reminder)

Note that the 10 and 40 launch ticket will be valid for 2 years from date of purchase.

Single launch	\$45.00	45.00 Per-launch
10 Launch ticket	\$400.00	40.00 Per-launch
40 Launch ticket	\$1200.00	30.00 Per-launch

- The tickets are not transferrable and have a 24-month currency from issuance.
- Instructor training is free until 'trained to instruct'