

Spring has sprung

The weather has been a mixed bag as spring arrives. There have been days of 24 launches and days we we've sat on the ground. The ridge has worked some days and there has been days of beautiful fluffy cumulous to hone our thermalling skills for the upcoming Northern Regionals.

There has been a flurry of BFR's and on Sunday 24th September those on the ground watched as first Malcolm Piggott and then Genny Healey were put through their BFR's and Flight Test by CFI Bob Gray for their new QGP status.

Building a sustainable membership

RECRUIT RETAIN REGAIN



Watching the spins from the ground inspired Sarel Venter to go aloft with Bob and put on an excellent show to get one of the last exercises he needs for QGP completed. Dereck Shipley is now back from three months in a warmer climate and is also nearly through the syllabus, he chose to put in time in the singles over the weekend, as did Roydon Hooker, another probable QGP this coming season. Gareth Cartwright was Duty Pilot and got to do the hangar flight on Sunday and hopefully got

inspired to complete his QGP. Gareth along with Rob Munn and Noel Bailey also have little to complete before obtaining their QGP Badges but family commitments have hindered them all flying regularly. Ali Shokri is diligently flying regularly and making steady progress through the A syllabus working towards his first solo. Neil Raymond has been flying XP and it was great to see Nigel Brinkworth do the hangar landing with Norm Duke after his Duty Pilot duty on Saturday. Due to farming commitments we've not seen Nigel do much flying the past year, 3hrs only I believe and we really appreciate that although he may not be flying much he turns up to be Duty Pilot. Carl Henderson is our default Duty Pilot most Wednesdays when no one is rostered on and is enjoying the better performance of NI now the wings have been refurbished.

Dave Dennison is also back from overseas and he and David Jensen played on the ridge in YL on Saturday.

Neil Raymond is our wonderful Club Engineer and the many voluntary hours he puts in is appreciated when he also works 7 days a week on his farm. It was fortunate he was onsite on Saturday as PC is just back from her annuals and had not been flown since, there has always been play in the elevator but it is more marked than ever and he was able to give the okay to fly her. Currently we are waiting on an overseas part to reduce the play.

Some from the Auckland Club, Russell Thorne, Adam Cumberlege, Campbell McIver, Bruce Barber Sheamus Breen, Jason Shields, Rae Kerr have been flying with us at the weekend and have left their gliders at the field.



Lots of activity Saturday 23rd Sept

LEARNING FROM THE EXPERTS



Official Observers Course

to be presented by Edouard Devenoges GNZ Awards
Officer

Wednesday 11th October 7pm at Clubrooms

Edouard is the GNZ Awards Officer and is the guy that decides whether your claim meets the FAI code. All claims for those highly sought after badges must be endorsed by an OO. Any GNZ member can be an OO, you do not need to have QGP. This would be a good course for those Official Observers who want an update. It is especially helpful to have Instructors with this qualification.

Thermalling Talk

presented by Bill Mace Saturday 17th October 9am (sharp) at Clubrooms

We often don't realise that the key to good cross country is good thermal technique. It is just, if not more important than being able to point the glider in the right direction. This talk goes into the finer detail of finding and using thermals. Bill holds the record for the Care 200 and is a very experienced cross country pilot. Holder of 2 diamonds, including completing a 500km distance flight from Piako.





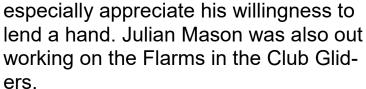
PGC Radio Course 30th Aug 2017

Those that attended Rainer's and Bob's Radio Refresher Course on Wednesday 30th August gained interactive experience, increased their knowledge and had fun. Oh for those cracker days when we are thermalling and have to call up 'no longer Christchurch' but "**Bay Approach**" to get clearance to fly above 6,000ft. As a Club we are fortunate to have a proactive CFI in Bob and experienced Instructors like Rainer willing to give us so much time. We wish Rainer well as he recovers from his recent hip surgery.

Bird Proofing No 2



The second bird proofing the hangar Working Bee has certainly slowed entry but needs tweaking as a nest was found in EO's tail last Sunday am. The car is remaining clean at least. September 3rd Ralph Gore, Sarel Venter, Roger Brown Steven Care and Genny Healey returned to complete what they started 2weeks earlier and they were joined by Scott Montaque, Rakesh Ali, Dennis Crequer, Roydon Hooker, Ali Shokri, David Johnson, Graeme Cawte, Andy McKay and Tim Bromhead. That's 22 members over the 2 weekends involved in maintaining our assets. The Club room ceilings even got a clean by Tim, Andy and Steven. Special thanks to Graeme, Piako is his second Club, he was still calving, so we







David Reed enjoying GNI



Team YL

Looking from Up High

KAIMAI WIND FARM

For those that might not be aware, there is a major proposal to build a wind farm on the Tirohia spur. There are **24** turbines planned and will be up to **679ft** tall. This is a pretty significant hazard for us, particularly returning North to South. Resource consent is expected to be processed before the end of the year.

Details are on

http://kaimaiwind.nz/



The caravan team with our newest duty pilot

Recent Flying Activity

23rd Aug 7 flights Total glider time 9hrs 51min

3rd Sept 6 flights Total glider time 50min

8th Sept 5 flights Total glider time 5hrs 6min

13th Sept 13 flights Total glider time 16hrs 53min 2 flights to Thames

Longest flight RA David Johnson 2hrs 56

16th Sept 6 flights Total glider time 4hrs 22min

17th Sept 2 flights Total glider time 27min

20th Sept 16 flights Total glider time 20hrs 14min

Longest flight VM Paul Knight 2hrs 26

23rd Sept 21 flights Total glider time 22hrs 19 min

Longest Flight RA David Johnson 3hrs 4



Gliding is a unique sport in that it is run entirely by volunteers. We each have a part to play so the Club can continue to function. If you liken the Club to the parts of a body each depends on the other to function at optimum performance and efficiency. Retaining our members is important, balance is severely affected if you loose your big toe for example. From the GNZ survey we are the happiest Club in NZ but we still do not meet everyone's needs. There will be a suggestion box at the SOSB for you to use and tell us what you would like to see improve or changed. If you feel more comfortable doing this anonymously that's okay, but better still talk to one of the Com -mittee Members about your concerns.

President: Iggy Wood Committee: Malcolm Piggott

Vice President: Nigel Brinkworth Tim Bromhead

CFI: Bob Gray Tony Davies

Secretary: Joan Wine Rob Munn

Treasurer: Dave Dennison

Club Captains: Steven Care & Genny Healey



NI's shiny new wings

Social Events

Dinner at the Club Rooms 7pm Saturday 21st October with visiting members of the Aviation Sports Club. Cost \$25/head and \$1/year of age up to 12yrs. Please contact Genny Healey ph 021973167 or genny.healey@gmail.com if you can come and join in the fun. RSVP Wednesday 18th October

Sunday 22nd October the local WAG's (wives and girlfriends) and the visiting ladies are invited to dress up and go for **high tea** at 2pm at The Zealong Tea Estate 495 Gordonton Road, Hamilton. www.zealong.com. Cost \$45 each. RSVP Wednesday 18th October to Genny. LP's (lady pilots) are also welcome

Upcoming Events

Tues 26/9/2017 Online Competition starts for new year (OLC)

Sat 30/9/2017 10am Start of Season Briefing-free lunch

Wed 4/10/2017 10-30am SOSB repeat for those unable to attend the Sat briefing

Wed 11/10/2017 7pm Official Observers rating course

Sat 14/10/2017 9am Thermalling technique presentation by Bill Mace

21st to 23rd Oct AASC at Mtm and Taupo 50th anniversary. Club dinner 21st

6th to 11th Nov Central Plateau Comp—Taupo

25th Nov to 2nd Dec Northern Regional Comp Matamata

26th Dec to 5th Jan Christmas Camp Matamata

1st to 5th Jan MSC Cross Country Course

6th to 21st Jan PGC Raglan camp

6th to 13th Jan Audi Comp Drury—Poss includes NZ Club Class Nats

10th to 24th Jan Walsh at Mtm—PGC at Raglan from the 6th

27th Jan to 10th Feb NZ Multiclass Nationals at Matamata

17th to 24th Feb Central Districts Comp at Waipukurau

Genny & Steve