

WARM AIR 20 Jan 18

Aviation Sports Club Gliding Newsletter

THIS WEEKEND:	Club Cellphone 022 357 6731	www.ascgliding.org
Saturday	Instructing: Steve Wallace	Bank Acct 38-9014-0625483-000
	Towing: Jamie Wagner	
	Duty Pilot: Simon Hay	
Sunday	Instructing: Peter Thorpe	
	Towing: Fletcher McKenzie	
	Duty Pilot: Toni Thompson	

MEMBERS NEWS

SATURDAY *Instructor Lionel Page was there....*

An interesting day, Saturday. First up was Graham's grandson, Caleb to have another go at gliding after a year away. He handled the conditions well and was getting used to the rudder coordination. Even managed a bit of the aerotow.

Kishan took a friend for a quick flight and then I did a quick check flight for Geoff, before sending him on his second solo. Tony aired GVF and Jonathan took GLX up for the longest flight of the day.

A few more trial flights who seemed to enjoy the "interesting" conditions - lots of sink with patches of STRONG lift that was very difficult to stay in unless you were very high.

I had the privilege to fly with a Swiss pilot, with 1,300 hrs - we managed a very creditable 43 minutes before I had to tell him to return home. He flew all of the flight except for a small period where we were heading away from the field over Kumeu and getting a little low and were downwind. At which stage, I reminded myself that I was indeed PIC and even though he may be comfortable, I was getting less so.



Caleb took a second flight continuing his progress. Last up was Rahul with a dual and we finished up with me doing a circuit and long landing with him to reposition the GMW closer to the hangar as we were flying off the 08 vector.

Great, challenging day. Thanks to all that came out and helped make it another soaring(read great) day.

SUNDAY *His CFIness Ray Burns reports*

Good lord! 2018. Happy new year everyone. I wrote a BFR expiry date last week and it had 2020 as the year. That was scary. Sort of Orwell plus Clarke and then some.



Sunday had a reasonable NE wind necessitating a 08 launch. There was quite a lot of white fluffy stuff around but we had the odd shower as well.

It was a pretty quiet day with just two launches in MW. One being Alex, a younger chap living on Herald Island. He had a great feel for the aircraft and apart from the takeoff and landing he managed the rest of the flight on his own. Keep an eye out for Alex at the gate in future weeks.

Matt flew IV, Derry VF, Roy MP and Tony and Neville took up MW. That was it for the day. We were all finished by 1430.

TIME TO TAKE A BREATH

We have had a series of small events over the past couple of weeks. Each of these in isolation would not cause much concern. However the pattern of a series of small incidents have caused those with experience in such matters to wonder if this will follow an all too familiar path and lead to a bigger event. We hope not but we believe it is timely to step back, take a figurative breath, and be a lot more careful in the coming weeks.

There are many things we all can do. Perhaps the most effective method of taking this figurative breath is to make sure everyone is aware of what needs to be done and everyone understands their role in the evolution. If you are not sure then ask someone who does know.

Take towing a glider from the hangar out to the launch point. Make sure we all know who is in charge, that someone reasonably experienced is driving the tractor, the wing runner knows what to do. The wing runner understands he or she is responsible for steering the glider. The tail wheel dolly has been removed once out on the strip. The tractor driver drives gently and at walking pace and is constantly monitoring the glider and the wing runners for the entire tow.

Take it slowly and carefully, think through the job, make sure all involved know their role and keep it safe.

AUDI CUP AND CLUB CLASS NATIONALS Steve Wallace, Steve Foreman, David Todd and Ian O'Keefe entered the Club Class nationals/Audi Cup at Drury last week. Ian sent us his impressions.....



Last week saw 4 ASC club members compete respectively in the NZ Club Class Champs and Audi Enterprise Contest held at Drury and hosted by the Auckland Gliding Club and Matamata Soaring Centre. Steve Wallace and Steve Foreman competed in the Club Class Champs and David Todd and I competed in the Audi Enterprise Contest.

There were a total of 22 pilots involved and 3 tow planes, including our own RDW which came to the rescue when one of the other tow planes became unserviceable. So a great representation from our club.

The Club class flew 7 task days and the Audi 6 task days respectively. The weather was not phenomenal for soaring considering the beauty weather we had experienced prior to Christmas. However we still flew, which made soaring challenging and landouts numerous. The club class champ tasks work on the traditional method of intersecting waypoints or getting into the circle radius via a certain sequence. The Audi Enterprise Contest is configured on distances flown, hitting waypoints to obtain additional points in a sequence of the pilots choosing. So a different strategy applies. For me personally this is the opportunity to fly cross country, gain experience and knowledge on the geographical areas and compare my performance against other gliders. Our flight tasks took us down easterly and westerly directions. The traditional areas of heading down to Matamata, Tirau, and if keen Tokoroa and using the Kaimais and the Swamp as the engines to hopefully make it home again. An area I had not flown before was via Huntly, Te Kowhai, Mt Pirongia and Te Kuiti before returning home or continuing to Matamata. This area was spectacular and I had not realised the size and height of Mt Pirongia. South of this area down to Waitomo and Te Kuiti was rugged terrain, although land out options were about, it was daunting and I was glad to be soaring high. Airspace also needed to be managed and Airways kindly granted additional airspace for the contest. However maps and flight computers needed to be consulted to inadvertently avoid these areas. I had three landouts, all successful, although one paddock was

very pugged from dairy cows and gave me and the glider a helluva shake. This was experienced by others with their landouts in neighbouring paddocks. I was fascinated by a couple of days that blue'd out and we were able to tentatively still fly and cover good mileage. It was a bit hit and miss to obtain thermals and required to gingerly make waypoints and get home. Pushing forward and looking for obvious thermal generators from factories, cow sheds etc were the secret. On one of those days I managed to place a second. Most flights were 3.5 to 4.5 hours in duration and were 160km to 280 km in distance.



The actual daily tasks and placings can be found on Soaring Spot https://www.soaringspot.com/en_gb/club-champs-audi-enterprise-contest-drury-2018/results. Needless to say Steve Wallace won the club class and this is well deserved as he made it home on 6 out of the 7 tasks in conditions that the rest could not manipulate. Steve Foreman placed a credible 5th place in club class and showed great skill and tenacity, I placed a happy 5th in the Audi Enterprise and David Todd managed to make it home on the two days he flew and when many other were landing out. He also tripled his flight hours in those two days more than the last 12 months, (he still got the mojo). It was a mentally and physically demanding contest, but well worth the experience and flying achievements. We would like to thank all the organisers, retrieve crews, the Auckland Gliding Club and sponsors (Audi, who supported the contests with daily prizes and overall prize. And no, none of us managed to win the Audi for a month, next year. That goes to Hugo, who flew the Duo Discus with great French flair. We look forward to competing next year.

As Ian said, we were asked if we could provide RDW to help out as one of the event towplanes had gone unserviceable. We were able to come to the party thanks to Towies Peter Thorpe, Fletcher McKenzie and Jamie Wagner who each "sacrificed" a day each. Well done guys and thank you for stepping up at short notice.

UPCOMING DATES

27 Jan to 10 Feb 18 NZ MultiClass Nationals - Matamata

Duty Roster For Jan, Feb, Mar 2018

Month	Date	Duty Pilot	Instructor	Tow Pilot	Notes
Jan	20	S HAY	S WALLACE	J WAGNER	
	21	T THOMPSON	P THORPE	F MCKENZIE	
Auckland Anniversary	27	R WHITBY	I WOODFIELD	R HEYNIKE	
	28	K BHASHYAM	R CARSWELL	C ROOK	
	29	R STRUYCK	L PAGE	P THORPE	
Waitangi Weekend	3	S FOREMAN	I WOODFIELD	D BELCHER	
	4	G LEYLAND	L PAGE	G LAKE	
	6	B MOORE	R CARSWELL	R HEYNIKE	
	10	I O'KEEFE	R BURNS	J WAGNER	
	11	M MORAN	R CARSWELL	C ROOK	
	17	T O'ROURKE	I WOODFIELD	F MCKENZIE	
	18	R BAGCHI	L PAGE	P THORPE	
	24	J POTE	S WALLACE	G LAKE	
	25	T PRENTICE	R BURNS	R HEYNIKE	
Mar	3	R WHITBY	I WOODFIELD	J WAGNER	
	4	C DICKSON	R BURNS	R CARSWELL	
	10	I BURR	P THORPE	D BELCHER	
	11	S HAY	R CARSWELL	C ROOK	
	17	T THOMPSON	S WALLACE	F MCKENZIE	
	18	S FOREMAN	L PAGE	D BELCHER	
	24	K BHASHYAM	I WOODFIELD	P THORPE	
	25	R STRUYCK	R BURNS	G LAKE	