

# WARM AIR 16 Sept 17

## Aviation Sports Club Gliding Newsletter

<b>THIS WEEKEND:</b>	<b>Club Cellphone 022 357 6731</b>	<a href="http://www.ascgliding.org">www.ascgliding.org</a>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Instructing: Ivor Woodfield</b>	
	<b>Towing: Craig Rook</b>	
	<b>Duty Pilot: Brendan Moore</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Instructing: Ray Burns</b>	
	<b>Towing: Peter Thorpe</b>	
	<b>Duty Pilot Ian O'Keefe</b>	

### LANDING CONTEST THIS SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER NEW ROSTER ENCLOSED MEMBERS NEWS

#### **SATURDAY** *Towie Craig Rook gives a fulsome report*

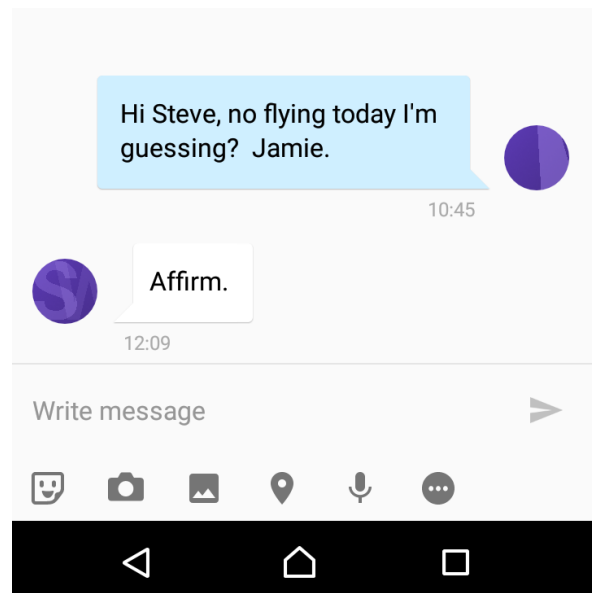
Rain, wind, hail, thunder, lightning, but no takers to go flying?

*Peter Thorpe added: My Duty Instructor report for Saturday - rain, low cloud, blustery winds with the AK ATIS saying 2000ft winds were 40 knots - definitely a stay home day.*

*Good enough for a Yacht race with 40 kts, wipeouts, a ripped mainsail, dismasting and a grounding and that is just the bits we saw. None of that to us.*

#### **SUNDAY** *Instructor Steve Wallace and Towie Jamie Wagner give a short and to the point report.*

Sunday was 30-35kts from the west with a rain radar full of heavy showers and forecast that showed a very unstable airmass. Multiple small trough lines were to zip across the area during the course of the day with associated bands of rain, hail and the odd crack of thunder and lightning. Brief thoughts of a coast run had but quickly dismissed as unwise as were thoughts of any training flights in the sunny bits between the bad bits. Spring has arrived.



On Sunday afternoon Peter Thorpe and Ray Burns met at the airfield to fix some signs to the fuel containers and the wind was cold and gusting around 25 knots with rain showers.

#### **UPCOMING DATES**

26 September Online Competition starts for new year (OLC)

7 October - ASC Start of Season briefing - everyone required to attend

17 October - ASC Annual General Meeting. Notice is given of the Annual General Meeting of the RNZAF Base Auckland Aviation Sports Club Gliding Section to be held on

Tuesday 17 October 2017 at 1900. The venue is likely to be the Walker Lounge. Notices of Motion are sought to the Secretary Ivor Woodfield not later than 10 October - Nominations are also sought for the committee.

21st to 23rd October (Labour Weekend) ASC at Matamata and also Taupo 50th anniversary

6th to 11th November Central Plateau Competition—Taupo <http://www.taupoglidingclub.co.nz/central-plateau-contest-2017.html>

25th November to 2nd December Northern Regional Competition - Matamata  
<http://msc.gliding.co.nz/events/msc-northern-regionals-matamata/>

26th December to 5th January Christmas Camp - Matamata

1st to 5th January MSC Cross Country Course <http://msc.gliding.co.nz/events/xcountry-course-jan-2018/>

The Cross Country Course is a great way to get into X country. You get to fly alternate days Dual with experienced instructors and solo with great lessons and a certain chance to get your confidence up. Well worth doing and highly recommended.

5th to 13th January Club Class Nationals and Audi Enterprise Competition - Drury  
<http://msc.gliding.co.nz/events/club-class-champs-audi-enterprise-contest-2018-drury/>

17th to 24th February Central Districts Competition at Waipukurau

## LANDING COMPETITION

This less than reliable weather makes it a good time to host the annual landing competition. The rules will be published prior to the day, or possibly on the day, or possibly kept hidden and subject to change at the whim of the CFI, right up to the last moment, probably involving palms being crossed with silver.... 1000 foot circuits to get in as many as possible in the day. This also means an early. Let's aim to have the first launch by 10:00. Open to everyone including ALL students. Handicapping will be involved.

The date for this will 17 Sept with weather days being 24 Sept. (The observant might notice that these dates neatly coincide with the CFI's duty roster!)

## MATAMATA - LABOUR WEEKEND -- 22 - 24 OCTOBER

As is our custom the club will deploy to Matamata for Labour Weekend 22 to 24 October. Naturally there are a few minor details that need some pre arranging, stuff like getting yourselves and the gliders there and back, where are you going to sleep and how to prevent starving to death in three days. There is also some gliding to be done, (with luck the ridge will be working at least one day, one will be a great thermal day and the other a wave day), *good luck with that wishful thinking although we often get two out of three*. The social promises to be pretty good too.

So let's start with important stuff, where are you going to sleep. There are a range of handy motels and hotels in Matamata and Morrinsville that are not too expensive. The most cost effective is to remember Matamata Airfield has a camping ground within the fenceline, good kitchen and ablution facilities, good cabins and plenty of space for a tent, caravan or camper. The layout of the cabins is on the Matamata Soaring Centre web site <http://msc.gliding.co.nz/accommodation/> and bookings are done by emailing Ralph Gore [Gore.Family@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Gore.Family@xtra.co.nz) Camp kitchens mean taking your own food for some or all meals and/or eating out for some or all. Genny Healey (Piako Co-Club Captain) has written recommending the Eldonwood Bed and Breakfast <http://eldonwoodbedandbreakfast.co.nz/>

Genny tells me there will be a Dinner in the Matamata club rooms on Saturday Night \$25 per head and children up to age 12 at a rate of \$1 per year of age. Sunday is a dress up day for the ladies and high tea at the Tea Plantation.

The club and private gliders need to get down and back. The owners usually tow down their own but we will need three (or six) volunteers to road tow down MP and VF as well as MW empty trailer. MW will be aerotowed down (Rahul) and back (Izzy). Those without transport can usually cadge a ride with someone who is driving down.

Please give all this thought and talk to Ray Burns on how you can help.

**ESCAPE, The Best Sport Ever! by Frank Gatland .....** Book Launch by his son and publisher, Arthur Gatland

I have recently published my father Frank Gatland's war story - he wrote it over a number of years, and I have just re-formatted it, added a few more details, an Introduction and After the War segment etc. It has been VERY popular with 300 copies sold already - and I haven't even had the Book launch yet.....

Frank was an NZ Stirling bomber pilot in the Second World War, based in UK. He and his crew carried out a number of bombing raids over Europe, and he was decorated with the DFM for a daring low-level attack on Genoa. Shortly afterwards their Stirling was shot down in France, and Frank evaded capture for 10 days, while travelling over 200km towards Switzerland. He was caught, faced interrogation by the Gestapo in Paris, then sent to a Prisoner-of-War (POW) camp. With one or more fellow POWs, he escaped multiple times, covering a total of 1,500km on foot and by train during his escapes attempts.

He was part of the Great March of POWs away from the advancing Russians at the end of the War, travelling all the way from Poland to Hamburg area by foot and train. This is a well-written and absorbing story, supported by more than 100 photos and documents, most taken at the time! Frank maintained a unique sense of humour through his exciting and challenging experiences.

**I am holding a BOOK LAUNCH presentation at NZ WARBIRDS at Ardmore Airport on Sat 16<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm to 4pm**, where I will talk about Frank's story (and by request a bit about my own flying career - including RAF Harriers, Hunter, Hawk) and Air New Zealand for 38 years (F27, B737, B767, B777 and B787), also gliding with aerobatic display experience. **ALL WELCOME!**

**Arthur Gatland 021 609 767**

A small example of anecdotes and details from the book:

- A detailed account of the bombing attack on Genoa from 100 feet (awarded the DFM)
- Actual photos from the Stirling crash site near Chauny in France
- After being caught on one escape, a German guard offering to "repair your broken watch for you" which turned up months later in a working condition (and still going today)
- During one escape, seeing "funny small pilotless aircraft on a train" which were V1 flying bombs (later reported to London by radio)
- A German officer apologising for "having to send you back to POW camp", saying "better luck next time!"
- Using Kiwi ingenuity to make a water-pump from old metal downpipe, some leather and a broom handle, to supply water to POWs during a stopover on the Great March
- And many examples of Frank's great sense of humour throughout his experiences

**"The very-best wartime escape story I have ever read"**  
**"A truly enthralling read"**

**Further Info:**



The origin of the name? During my training with the RAF College, I had undergone a 5-day escape-and-evasion exercise in Germany, travelling 80km on foot while being pursued by the British Army stationed in Germany as part of NATO. My team of three trainee pilots were the only ones not to get caught, mainly because we broke the rules by hitching rides from local farmers. Dad was keen to compare notes on "escape techniques", and for perhaps the first time he started to give us hours of detail on his escape attempts. I commented that I absolutely loved the escaping challenge, it was exciting fun, and required initiative and the ability to change plans quickly. I said to him "Of course, it was different for you during the war..." He replied with a familiar glint in his eye "No it wasn't, it was THE BEST SPORT EVER!"

After the war, Frank returned and bought his parents' farm at Papakura. He built and raced speedboats including the famous Mystic Miss and Widget, which held Australasian speed record for many years, and won Masport and Griffith Cup. He took up gliding and was the winner of a Rothman Gold Cup for first glider flight between Auckland and Wellington. He was, at times, President on NZ Speedboat Association, then Chief Flying Instructor and later President of Auckland Gliding Club for a number of years. Frank died aged 90 in 2007 after a short illness.

**BOOK LAUNCH**  
Entry Free, cash bar

**ARTHUR GATLAND PRESENTS**

# ESCAPE

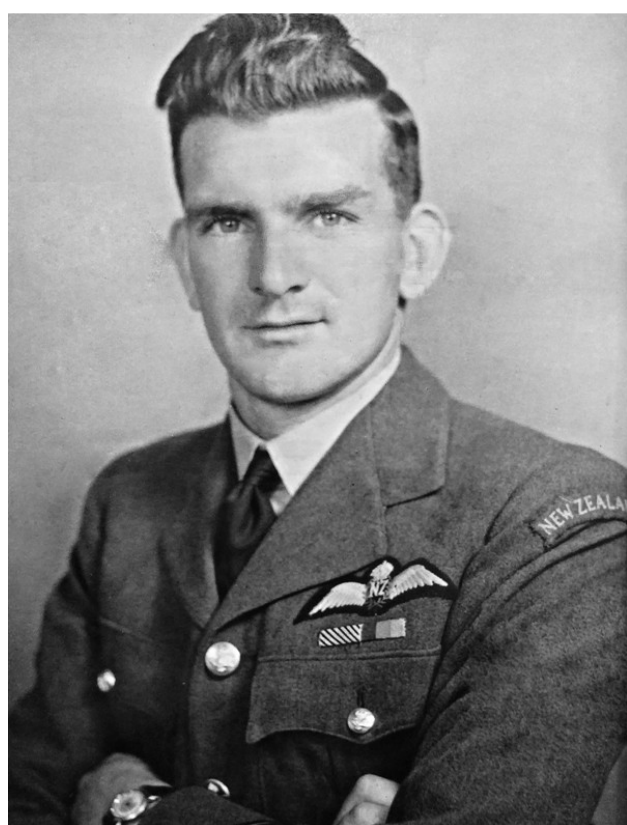
## THE BEST SPORT EVER

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16 at 2pm | WARBIRDS**  
Ardmore Airport, Harvard Ln, Ardmore, Papakura 2582

Follow us on [www.facebook.com/EscapeTheBestSportEver](https://www.facebook.com/EscapeTheBestSportEver)

Experience the challenges and excitement of escape through Nazi-held Europe as experienced by a Kiwi Stirling pilot. Hosted by Arthur Gatland, author's son. Arthur is an ex-RAF Harrier pilot, and Air NZ B777 / B787 Captain.

**There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion throughout the presentation.**



## **SOUTH ISLAND REGIONAL GLIDER RACES - OMARAMA 18 TO 25 November 2017**

Below is an invitation to participate in the 2017 South Island Regional Glider Races. It's an A4 poster so, if appropriate, please print it and post it in your club rooms.

This year there will be a special emphasis on introducing new contestants to glider racing. Tasks in the "Racing" class will be set to suit less experienced pilots. First-time participants will be encouraged to fly in high performance two seaters together with an experienced instructor. A coaching programme will also be run with pre and post task briefings.

An extensive social program of non flying activities is planned to ensure the competition is enjoyable for families, crew and pilots.

The contest is organised this year by the Omarama Gliding Club.

Entry forms and more details from the GNZ website <http://gliding.co.nz/event/south-island-regionals-2017/>

Facebook site

<http://www.facebook.com/events/1602073429843302/>

or

[clivegeddes@xtra.co.nz](mailto:clivegeddes@xtra.co.nz)



**The South Island Regional Glider Races Omarama 2017**  
18 to 25 November

"Encouraging first-timers to become champions"

- Open Class (handicapped) for the real experts
- Racing Class (handicapped) for not so experts
- Two seat and single seat coaching
- Social schedule for pilots, crew and families
- Cook Strait Ferry subsidies
- Youth Glide Scholarships
- Aussie's welcome!

Omarama Gliding Club, CD:Clive Geddes, Tasks:Gavin Wills  
Details: Facebook, GNZ website or [clivegeddes@xtra.co.nz](mailto:clivegeddes@xtra.co.nz)



## Duty Roster For Oct,Nov,Dec

Month	Date	Duty Pilot	Instructor	Tow Pilot	Notes
	16	B MOORE	I WOODFIELD	C ROOK	
	17	I O'KEEFE	R BURNS	P THORPE	
	23	M MORAN	L PAGE	G LAKE	
	24	T O'ROURKE	R BURNS	D BELCHER	
	30	R BAGCHI	R CARSWELL	F MCKENZIE	
Oct	1	K PILLAI	S WALLACE	D BELCHER	
	7	P SCARBOROUGH	R BURNS	R CARSWELL	
	8	J POTE	I WOODFIELD	J WAGNER	
	14	T PRENTICE	P THORPE	G LAKE	
	15	R WHITBY	L PAGE	C ROOK	
Labour W/E	21	T THOMPSON	S WALLACE	P THORPE	Matamata
	22	G PATTEN	I WOODFIELD	D BELCHER	Matamata
	23	N GRAVES	L PAGE	P THORPE	Matamata
	28	K BHASHYAM	R CARSWELL	J WAGNER	
	29	R STRUYCK	R BURNS	G LAKE	
Nov	4	S FOREMAN	L PAGE	J WAGNER	
	5	G LEYLAND	I WOODFIELD	R CARSWELL	
	11	V BRIJACEK	P THORPE	C ROOK	
	12	C DICKSON	R CARSWELL	F MCKENZIE	
	18	B MOORE	S WALLACE	D BELCHER	
	19	I O'KEEFE	R BURNS	P THORPE	
	25	M MORAN	I WOODFIELD	C ROOK	
	26	T O'ROURKE	R CARSWELL	F MCKENZIE	
Dec	2	R BAGCHI	P THORPE	G LAKE	
	3	K PILLAI	R BURNS	R CARSWELL	
	9	P SCARBOROUGH	L PAGE	J WAGNER	
	10	J POTE	S WALLACE	D BELCHER	
	16	T PRENTICE	R CARSWELL	C ROOK	
	17	R WHITBY	S WALLACE	F MCKENZIE	