

# WARM AIR 23 Sept 17

Aviation Sports Club Gliding Newsletter

## THIS WEEKEND:

Club Cellphone 022 357 6731

[www.ascgliding.org](http://www.ascgliding.org)

Saturday

Instructing: Lionel Page

Towing: Graham Lake

Duty Pilot: Matt Moran

Sunday

Instructing: Ray Burns

Towing: Derry Belcher

Duty Pilot Thomas O'Rourke

**WORKING BEE SATURDAY - WE HAVE DOORS TO FIX.**

**SORRY, NO FLYING THIS WEEKEND**

**MEMBERS NEWS**

### **SATURDAY** *Towie Craig Rook gets first say*

I was sitting in the Whenuapai Bakehouse & Café enjoying a nice hot cuppa coffee when it went all dark and cold, then the deafening noise of massive hail storm pounded on the roof. I called Ivor for the state of play, he claimed he was sitting in the caravan looking out at the blue sky & sun, yeah right.

Well it did clear fairly quickly and Izzy Burr and Joseph & Clare Dickson were all keen to go flying. We set up on 26 with the wind at 230/15 knots gusting 25. The tower was on and they advised during the hail storm it gusted 50 knots.

Just before midday Joseph was first up and stayed up for about 40 minutes, but they wisely came back as another front approached.

The worst of it skirted to the south of the field, but as Ivor and Izzy waited out the rain in MW before launching, Jonathan Pote held the wing down in the pouring cold rain, claiming the glider was more important than himself. Such dedication JP, nice one (it was even picketed).

After that cleared and the wings wiped dry, Izzy and Ivor did a 1000ft check circuit with the thought that she would do a solo flight after that. The wind picked up some more strength to 260/20 knots gusting 30 so we decided to call it a day and pack up before we break something, which we did.....a small problem with a door and tractor!

*Instructor Ivor Woodfield adds to the story.....The sun was shining when I set off for the field, although some clouds were towering away to the west. Soon after I opened up I had been joined by Roy Whitby, Tony Prentice, Jonathan Pote, tow pilot Craig Rook and duty pilot Brendan Moore. As Roy arrived so did a significant rain event, which forced him to wait in his car in the carpark until it had passed. Shortly afterwards we got a hail storm and some severe winds that pounded the hangar.*



Once that lot had passed, the sun came out, and while we still had strong winds, they were straight down the runway. So when we were joined by Joseph and Clare Dickson and Isabelle Burr we decided it was time to go flying. I confirmed with the tower that we would be setting up on 026, and the caravan and twin were duly moved out. We still had strong gusty westerly winds, which Joseph was keen to experience, so not long before midday we set off to test out the sky. The launch was lively but Joseph handled the conditions well, and we were soon heading out west towards Kumeu. Cloudbase was around 2500', so we moved from thermal to thermal, making sure to stay well up wind. Joseph was certainly surprised to start with at the speed at which we were carried downwind while thermalling. After around half an hour of testing flying, the tower warned us of the approach of another rainstorm and associated strong wind gusts. We therefore planned our descent back to the field, with Joseph picking a good circuit. There was a great deal of strong sink around the circuit, together with some noticeable wind-shear on final approach. All of this Joseph handled well and the flight ended with a good safe landing.

Next up was Izzy, who was keen to give things a try. We sat out the arriving rainstorm in the glider and as soon as it passed we dried the wings and made ready. It was clear that the wind was still strong and gusty behind the rain, and Izzy opted for a circuit to check out the conditions. As soon as we were airborne we could tell that the air was more turbulent than before and that we were in for a bit of a bumpy tow. We released in some tricky lift, and Izzy's skills were tested as we flew around for a while and then joined the circuit. We encountered some significant sink turning onto base and then some noticeable turbulence as we came onto finals. Following an excellent and very short landing, we could see the rain approaching once again on the horizon. A quick chat with the tow pilot and those waiting to fly and I made the call that we would cease flying. It did not look like the conditions would improve for some time.

We were packing the glider and tow-plane away, hoping to get everything in while it was still dry, when a sound from the other end of the hangar told us that something had hit the hangar door. Finishing off the packing up of the fleet, we learned that a club tractor had come into contact with the windward hangar door and pushed it into the frame, wedging it in position. Despite the efforts of several club members who were on hand, including some mechanical engineers, the door remained firmly wedged. With the strong winds and the return of the rain, the decision was made to secure the damaged door and move things around so everything could be stowed safely via another entrance. Fixing it properly would have to wait for more favourable conditions. So overall, an eventful day with some good flying experience gained despite only having managed two flights. Thanks to the many people who were on hand to help out with running the day in the wet, and who worked on the hangar door and the subsequent repacking of the hangar. Another memorable occasion.

### **SUNDAY** *Towie Peter Thorpe finally got to fly on his towing day*

At last, a flying day. Arrived at 10am to find lots of activity with Gary Patten doing a periodical inspection on the club gliders and others attempting to open the rather bent western hangar doors (I will leave that story to someone else). CFI Ray Burns was keen to get the landing competition underway so I DI'd RDW while Steve Foreman very kindly filled the fuel containers. I smeared some grease on the propeller back plate and new bolts to try to reduce corrosion but later found that centrifugal force is mighty powerful and splattered spots of grease all over the aircraft - next time I will bring the aerosol can of wax film. I also filled in time by removing some light corrosion and greasing the wing fittings on the Puchatek which is sitting on our trailer but had been exposed to heavy rain.



The AK ATIS said the wind was 300/15-20 so we set up on 26 with a brisk cross wind from the right and the first flight with Ray Burns and Geoff Leyland was airborne at 1140. That began a busy day for the tow pilot



with lots of 1000ft tows so that keen members could try their skills at landing in the toi toi paddock. In fact there were only two tows to 1500 ft out of a total of 17 launches for the day. The tower came on watch twice for overseas arrivals - a USAF C-17 and an Aussie C-130J which added some interest to the day. The first 400ft on aerotow was quite rough most of the day and in fact one tow at about 1510 was quite violent however the glider pilots all managed to hang on and no doubt learned something in the process. Last launch was

at 1635 followed by some interesting manoeuvring to get the caravan inside the hangar past the closed door but eventually all was put away in time for the traditional talk fest beside the caravan. A pretty successful day.

*His CFIness Ray burns was duty instructor for the day having carefully organised a landing contest when it was not "Warm Air's" towing day....Grr..... A look at the forecast on Friday morning suggested that we might just get a window of flyable weather on Sunday. The prediction showed high wind and rain on Saturday, an easing of the wind on Sunday and rain starting around 6ish on Sunday evening. So, I sent out the landing comp email on Friday morning.*

Full marks to the weather service. In fact as I got out of my car when I got home the 6pm news was on the radio and I felt spits in the air. How's that for accuracy?

I arrived at the field at 9:00 followed shortly by Gary to do the supplementaries on the Gliders. He had the whole fleet done in very short order while Joe Dickson and I went toi-toi gathering. We put two cones on the North side of the vector marking 100m and 150m. We had everything set up and ready for the first punter by 1130. Geoff Leyland was first up. We had a decent head wind with just a slight northerly component so ideal for the competition. The wind was just enough to make the tow out and the approach "dynamic and interesting" and there seemed to be a good chunk of sink in the circuit most of the day. So the circuit was reasonably challenging as well. 17 Punters, 17 Launches. Last landing 1640. There was a great range of performance and a few that were pretty impressive.



A C17 at 1200 and a C130 at 1600 also had a go, but they didn't even get the right runway so no marks there.

There is a winner, but to keep the suspense up (I know you are all champing at the bit) I will announce it at the AGM. I know you that all have that marked in your diaries. So now there is added the motivation to put the highlighter through it and a bit exclamation mark.

Thanks to everyone who came out. Everyone flew and all had a great time.



## UPCOMING DATES

26 September Online Competition starts for new year (OLC)

1 October Titirangi Air Scouts flying with us, early start 0900

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

## **NO FLYING THIS WEEKEND BUT WE DO HAVE A WORKING BEE SATURDAY**

Auckland has a small problem with Aviation fuel supply. Base Command has decreed no non essential flying from the Base until this is sorted. Unfortunately that includes us.

We have some hangar doors to fix and a few sundry jobs around the place. Your help will be appreciated 1000 Saturday.

## **TITIRANGI AIR SCOUTS SATURDAY 1 OCTOBER**

We are hosting the Titirangi Air Scouts on Sunday 1 Oct. It will be an early start please 0900 and we expect 13 Air Scouts.

## **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.

## **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)

Look at the picture first and then read the story:



This actually happened to an Englishman, in France, who was totally drunk.

A French policeman stops the Englishman's car and asks if he has been drinking.

With great difficulty, the Englishman admits that he has been drinking all day, that his daughter got married that morning, and that he drank champagne and a few bottles of wine at the reception, and many single malts scotches thereafter.

Quite upset, the policeman proceeds to alcohol-test (breath test) the Englishman and verifies that he is indeed completely hammered.

He asks the Englishman if he knows why, under French Law, he is going to be arrested.

The Englishman answers with a bit of humour, "No sir, I do not! But while we're asking questions, do you realize that this is a British car and my wife is driving . . . on the other side?"

## Duty Roster For Oct,Nov,Dec

Month	Date	Duty Pilot	Instructor	Tow Pilot	Notes
Sep	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	Titirangi Air Scouts
	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	Titirangi Air Scouts Rain Day
	5	G LEYLAND	I WOODFIELD	R CARSWELL	Titirangi Air Scouts Rain Day
	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	