

WARM AIR 3 Feb 18

Aviation Sports Club Gliding Newsletter

THIS WEEKEND:	Club Cellphone 022 357 6731	www.ascgliding.org
Saturday	Instructing: Ivor Woodfield Towing: Peter Thorpe Duty Pilot: Steve Foreman	Bank Acct 38-9014-0625483-000
Sunday	Instructing: Lionel Page Towing: Graham Lake Duty Pilot: Clare Dickson	
Tuesday	Instructing: Rex Carswell Towing: Ruan Heynike Duty Pilot: Brendon Moore	

WAITANGI WEEKEND - FLYING SAT, SUN AND TUES

MEMBERS NEWS

SATURDAY

Towie Ruan Heynike.....Having been away from towing for a few months I had to quickly blow off some rust and cobwebs, so I eased into the day with a few morning circuits in RDW. This also served a good purpose in scaring off a lot of birds hanging around the grass runway. It was a fairly nice day weather wise, light north-easterlies with a bit of cloud building above 3000ft which provided fairly smooth rides up to release height. The day ended up around 4pm with 13 tows in total which was spread over 5 different gliders, not a bad effort for the first day back towing. The only complaint would have to be the temperature, was a hot weekend!

Instructor Ivor Woodfield is back from his overseas holiday.....Saturday was forecast to be very warm, with possibly some showers later in the afternoon. I duly filled my water bag with iced water [which was to prove invaluable during the day] and set off to the field. The breeze was very light and from the NE as I opened up with towie Ruan Heynike. As we started to pull things out and get ready to fly we were joined by quite a group of members all looking forward to some airtime.



We deployed the fleet to the 08 end and I was off with Kazik Jasica for his first flight of the day by 11.30. We got close to 30mins in a patchy sky which looked like it could improve at any time, and this was enough to tempt Rahul Bagchi in GVF, Kishan Bhashyam in GMP and Jonathan Pote in GLX to test

the conditions. Honours for that group went to GLX at just under an hour.

Next up was Brendan Moore in *GMW*. He was looking to consolidate some flying skills, and with the altimeter covered was able to demonstrate good height and circuit awareness. We were not able to find any lift on that flight, and neither was Tony Prentice who took *GVF* up for a short while. However next up was Ian O'Keefe in *GHS*, which he had loaded up with water expecting good things. In the end he managed nearly 3 hours which was indeed quite an achievement given the conditions - particularly the heat.

While he was away there was a succession of training flights in *GMW*. Kazik flew another couple of flights, completing the last one pretty much from start to finish himself. Rahul did a short flight and then Clare Dickson flew a couple of very successful confidence boosting circuits. The final flight of the day was with Joseph Dickson, who flew a well executed circuit ending with a very well controlled landing.

With everyone pretty much overwhelmed by the heat and humidity by now, we packed everything away, and shortly before 1700 were sitting in the shade of the hangar downing a few refreshing cold drinks before heading home. Overall 13 successful flights for the day, with at least couple of pilots demonstrating that there was small but sufficient amounts of lift available if only you could track it down and use it fully.

Thanks to everyone who sat through the heat of the day, helping with the fleet deployment, the general running of the day and the packing away at the end. Special thanks to Neville Swan who ran the books so well all day.

SUNDAY

Towie Craig Rook.... Surprising a quiet day for such nice hot weather, although the lift may not have been that great. Matt Moran would disagree as he took *MP* up for over 2 hours. Roy Whitby was keen to go up in *MP* but kindly let Matt stay up when he asked if anybody else wanted to fly *MP*. Nice one Roy.



Kazik Jasica and Rahul Bagchi were the only two to fly in *MW* with instructor Rex Carswell. Rahul and Tony Prentice took *VF* up for a spin, then Ray Burns popped in for a cameo appearance in *MP* for the final flight of the day. Neville Swan as usual stepped in and kept the books in ship-shape. 7 Flights for the day and all packed up by 3pm.

Quite a nice summer Sunday on the field with about an eight knot nor'east breeze for the day. Tony Prentice was at the gate when I arrived with the keys and we promptly set about getting things ready. It wasn't long before the ranks swelled with the presence of Roy Whitby, Neville Swan, Kazik Jasica, Matt Moran, Rahul

Bagchi, Jonathan Pote and towie Craig Rook. We trundled off down to grass '08' - opened up all the upper air space - held a short briefing and we were all 'good to go'.

The first launch was underway before midday with Kazik and I in the twin. The sky was looking quite buoyant and felt promising as we towed aloft, with Kazik in control. We enjoyed a 33 minute flight with Kazik gaining experience throughout. While we were away, Rahul launched in the PW5 but didn't catch the elusive thermal he was hoping for, and landed before Kazik and I returned. However, all good experience - and another solo flight to logged.

Matt Moran was third onto the grid and patiently waited for his launch - this being his first flight in GMP. I am proud to write that he achieved the longest flight of the day with 133 minutes - fantastic! - well done Matt. I think it's fair to comment that the remaining flights struggled for duration as the sea breeze crept in. Tony Prentice flew VF - 24 minutes only. A dual instructional with Rahul - 24 minutes also, and another dual flight with Kazik managing 17 minutes. However, there was an exception .. CFI Ray Burns rocked up and launched in MP and disappeared for 40 minutes - "pure skill" he reckoned.

With seven flights completed, everything was put away and dehydration dealt to. We departed the airfield while the sun was still high in the sky.

MONDAY

Towie Derry Belcher.....Another fine hot day with easterly winds was forecast for Monday of Auckland's Anniversary weekend as Lionel Page and I started opening up the hangar. Initial thinking that we might be short of people wanting to fly was soon put to rest as a folk soon turned up and the place became a hive of activity.

After fuelling the towplane I made a mental note to go and get the containers filled but shortly after, Geoff Leyland took the initiative to check all fuel stock and had it in hand to get it. Duty instructor Lionel gave a thorough briefing to go over the operations for the day before we set off for the 08 end of the runway. We carried out 15 flights for the day in conditions that were a little bit turbulent down low just after takeoff. The ground handling of the gliders was well sorted from what I saw, with no-one needing to be told to help.

An idea that could be beneficial on hot days to pilots getting into the cockpit, strapping in, then waiting to hook on, would be someone holding a small umbrella for shade over the pilot/s. In the middle of summer it gets very hot in the cockpit on the ground and anything that helps us enjoy our sport more is welcome.

Good to see the wood brigade up and about.. Isabelle Burr looked very pleased after her first flight in Jonathan's Ka6 GLX. (Did you know this glider did two 300 km flights on two successive days at Matamata with a previous owner?) Ray Burns flew his Ka6, and I'm picking he was surveying the upper harbour in anticipation of sunset cruises in his newly restored sailboat.

Other flights done in the singles were Rahul Bagchi and Tony Prentice in the PW5 (at different times of course), Roy Whitby in Single Astir, and Ian O'Keefe in his sleek ASW 28.

Instructor Lionel Page.....Arrived to only Derry Belcher waiting (setting a bad example for the tow pilots and arriving well before the duty instructor. Awww....DERRY.....now they will all expect towies to arrive early.....) Soon the hordes arrived and had the hangar emptied, except for poor GIV. When I saw Izzy Burr appear, I thought "great, IV will also get out" but alas Jonathan Pote lured her into flying GLX. Poor Graham was attending a family social occasion carefully planned by the Dragon for a reasonable soaring day.

Ray Burns was first up in GBU, followed shortly by yours truly with Kazik Jasica to continue with coordinated turning and circuit practice. Roy Whitby gave GMP an airing and Rahul Bagchi took GVF up.

The conditions were interesting with the wind changing from straight down the vector to a 90 degree cross, and gusting from almost nil wind to 10kts.

Brendon Moore managed to climb from 1,500ft to 2,500ft while others were returning in short order. As I said, Izzy had a go in LX and by all accounts did a picture perfect landing.

Ian O'Keefe launched in GHS and disappeared into the distance, only to return almost an hour and half later.

Next was to take Geoff Leyland's dad up for a flight and although not very long, he seem to enjoy himself and managed a large portion of the flying.

Jonathan Pote then repossessed LX which he took for a local flight.

Clare and Joseph Dickson were next with some circuit practice (the thermals were decidedly difficult to stay in and worse still climb in.)

His CFIness Ray Burns, then thankfully stepped in to relieve me, and did the final two flights with Rahul and Geoff, respectively.

A brilliant, hot day, although the soaring for most was too challenging. (A few managed to prove it was in fact soarable with some lengthy flights.)

CFI CORNER Ray Burns.....

I flew on Sunday and Monday this past weekend. My goodness it was hot. On Monday I elected to land earlier than I needed to purely because of the heat. I drank copious amounts of water but I felt it was still far too hot.

Dehydration has a significant effect on performance. With the heat we have been experiencing lately please be even more vigilant. Ensure you have plenty of water. Make a point of drinking at the top of every climb. If you are feeling even slightly less than fantastic then opt to land sooner rather than later.

Be prepared that if the instructor is flat out they may elect to take a break in the middle of the day and that may stall operations. Please be patient.

*And from Graham Lake.....*Many moons back I did my Cross Country Course. This one followed the usual format of alternate days in singles and twins. Each day started with a lecture on a pertinent topic. On this particular day I was scheduled to fly with Trevor Terry in his Duo Discus, first time I had ever flown a Duo, and Trevor was to be in the back, I was keen to impress him. Trevor led the morning lecture speaking on physiological stuff, in particular the importance of staying hydrated. I had planned to take my camelback but Trevor wasn't about to let that loose in the front with some nutter from ASC. He swapped it out for a bottle of Powerade that he would keep in the back and pass to me when needed.

Off we went and did quite well. Towards the end of the flight, about 3 hours later, down by our last TP at Tirau we were getting low, about 1500ft when I found a thermal, cranked into it and lost 100ft in some pretty ragged flying. There was a tap on my shoulder and there was my bottle of drink. First drink I had all flight and I had it all, one drink. Trevor mentioned we would have been on the ground had he continued to do nothing and watch it all develop. I thought I felt OK but was struggling to think my way through the ragged flying and what to do about it. Want to guess why we were down at 1500ft in the first place.....

UPCOMING DATES

27 Jan to 10 Feb 18 NZ MultiClass Nationals - Matamata

17th to 24th February 18 Central Districts Competition at Waipukurau

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	D BELCHER	
Waitangi Weekend	3	S FOREMAN	I WOODFIELD	P THORPE	
	4	C DICKSON	L PAGE	G LAKE	
	6	B MOORE	R CARSWELL	R HEYNIKE	
	10	I O'KEEFE	R BURNS	J WAGNER	
	11	I BURR	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	R STRUYCK	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	