

# WARM AIR 17 Mar 18

## Aviation Sports Club Gliding Newsletter

<b>THIS WEEKEND:</b>	Club Cellphone 022 357 6731	<a href="http://www.ascgliding.org">www.ascgliding.org</a>
<b>Saturday</b>	Instructing: Steve Wallace	Bank Acct 38-9014-0625483-000
	Towing: Craig Rook	
	Duty Pilot: Toni Thompson	
<b>Sunday</b>	Instructing: Lionel Page	
	Towing: Derry Belcher	
	Duty Pilot: Steve Foreman	

### MEMBERS NEWS

#### **SATURDAY** *Peter Thorpe writes*

The day looked promising with a light easterly and lots of blue sky so we set up on 08 and after watching an RAAF C-17 depart the first flight for us was with Geoff Leyland at 11:31. A smooth launch to 1500ft to confirm Geoff was on form and then because the conditions were so smooth I sent him off on solo flight number three. 15 minutes later he made a perfect landing and emerged with big smiles. CFI Ray Burns was on hand to ask him the mandatory 10 questions after which he was able to present Geoff with his A Cert. Well done that man.

Rahul Bagchi took VF away for 40 mins which enabled him to complete his B Cert and then Kazik Jasica spent 23 mins showing me that he is getting the hang of thermalling. Jonathan Pote and Ian O'Keefe took off in their private machines while Tony Prentice lovingly assembled his new acquisition in the form of PW 5 ZK-



GBD and then launched. Tony was away for 155 minutes so something must have been working as that was the longest flight of the day.

Clare Dickson and I took two flights to continue developing her circuit flying skills while Toni Thomson got 24 mins in MP and Brendan Moore 72 mins in VF. Ray Burns, Roy Whitby, Ian O'Keefe and Jonathan Pote all took flights in their or the club's singles while Joseph Dickson managed a

creditable 37 minutes solo in MW. Rahul Bagchi then showed me how to box the tow and thermal while Izzy



Burr took a quick flight in MP before finishing the day by taking her Dad for a 33 minute flight in MW.

It is wonderful to see the progress Izzy has made since her first flight with us on 16 Jan 2016, first solo on 20 Aug 2016 and now QGP with passenger rating at Christmas while on the Youth Glide camp at Omarama. She has ratings in at least seven different types of glider, all achieved at the age of 16. Judging from the number of flights she made with Derry in RDW on Saturday she may well

have power flying ambitions as well.

The last flight landed at 5:13, we had a lemonade or two, watched the C-17 land and headed home. 19 flights for the hardworking tow pilot to log and to put a smile on the treasurer's face.



Towie Derry Belcher adds: Saturday was one of those pleasant days out of the hat, with light Easterly winds. The tower was on for some of the day for an Australian Boeing C17 Globemaster departure which returned some time later, after which the man in the tower went home.

We flew a total of 19 sorties and at one stage had all seven gliders airborne. Tony Prentice flew his newly acquired PW5 GBD for the first time and remarked that he

was delighted with it, Ray Burns and Jonathan Pote flew their Ka6 gliders, and Ian O'Keefe also rigged and flew his ASW 28. Toni Thompson, Roy Whitby, and Isabelle Burr flew the Standard Astir GMP, while Rahul Bagchi and Brendan Moore flew our PW5 VF.

Jeff Leyland, Clare and Joseph Dickson, Kazuk Jassica, and Rahul Bagchi had flights in MW. Isabelle Burr did the last flight in MW, taking her Dad for company.

Thanks again to all helpers, especially Jeff for getting fuel and Neville on the paperwork.

**SUNDAY** Towie Fletcher Mckenzie starts us off;

I had a text from Rex Carswell the day before confirming if I could pick up the key from the gate. I replied, easy, see you just after 9:30 am (if it not raining). And so we did see each other at around 9:47 am - and no one else was around. We had a chat and got down to business, the weather looked okay and we discussed if anyone would show.

We moved out the Tug and I stared my DI, I read that Derry had a busy day on Saturday - 19 tows. After around 20mins or so, Tony and Neville turned up. I thought then I wonder if everyone was done after yesterday? Slowly we started to get organised and found out the tower was on. A RAAF C-17 was



departing at 12:30 pm. Roy Whitby turned up as did Rahul Bagchi. With a nice wind coming from the East we moved MW, MP and the tug down to Grass 08 and found Tony Prentice's new glider already rigged and tied down from the big day before.



We hung around with the team unsure about the weather, we had an old member turn up Bill Abercrombie, who flew in the 60's and 70's at Hobsonville - he donated a bunch of aviation magazines. We had a chat and I got the dream team together for a photo for Warm Air.

Finally, Rahul decided he was going to fly solo in MW and at 12:02 pm we were airborne. Dropped him in lift - semi lift anyway.

Once both aircraft were on the ground again, Rex and I walked out to push back MW and Rahul - while pushing back we watched the C-17 depart for Amberley.

Tony was next up in BD, little bits of lift observed, approaching the field the tower told me I had to hold while awaiting a Cessna on long finals. Tony stayed up and found pieces to keep him in the air.



Next up was Rex and Rahul in MW, lift was observed.

Then I had my lunch, eggs, carrots and nuts, yummy, I read about four of the magazines that Bill dropped off and everyone talked about possibly flying and occasionally giving Tony a hand de-rigging BD into its trailer. I came out and watched many helpers discuss various options for getting BD into the trailer - I couldn't see Tony but could hear him. MP had still not left the ground.

Finally, Rex and I said, if no one else comes along then he and Neville will do a 1500 tow and a hangar flight - so at 14:06 we started the last tow of the day.

Neville Swan was in the front - as I took off I saw Hobsonville, we flew past parallel - I suddenly thought wow, 30 years ago (1988) Neville taught me to fly a L-13 Blanik and now I was flying with him again. It was a memorable moment. Thanks, Neville.

As I taxied back to the hangar, I heard a radio call from Rex, "Whenuapai Traffic, Glider Mike Whisky 3500 feet - ops normal", looks like there was lift all along.



MP was towed back and the yellow tractor was kaput - so once I had squared away the tow plane Rahul and I went to find Roy and the caravan. Roy and Rahul decided to do a clutch start - very entertaining. Thank you, boys.

With the gear back in the hangar and MW finally landing, I zoomed off home to catch up with the family.

A slow day, only four tows (Derry hogged them all on Saturday, there was some lift but at least it was not raining).

PS: I did not see Lionel.

*Instructor Rex Carswell.....* Following a very busy day Saturday, it was going to be a big ask to expect a similar turnout on Sunday - given that the cirrus overcast condition wasn't providing as much inspiration for sustainable flight. However, the day was quite pleasant and we did manage four launches. First flight got

underway at midday with Rahul Bagchi in MW adding to his solo consolidation. He was back fairly quick, but did report - along with towie Fletcher McKenzie - that there was thermal activity about. By now, some cumulus was evident, so Tony Prentice went to investigate in his newly acquired PW5 (GBD). Soon after release from a 2000ft tow, he radio'd WP Tower and opened air space to 3500ft. Tony got to 3400ft and achieved a 45 minute flight.

Rahul gave it another shot in MW and took me along as well to help him with his thermalling technique. We did stay up a bit longer than his solo flight, but I was struggling to

provide better decisions in the immediate period after release. However, all was not lost - Rahul flew a well judged circuit, finishing with a tidy landing.

Roy Whitby had prepared GMP and lugged it to the O8 end, but then decided he wouldn't take it for a flight. With no further takers we decided to call it a day at 2pm. At that point, I invited Neville Swan to join me for a short 'hanger landing' flight in MW. We towed to 1500ft and released. By the time Fletcher was rolling out and taxiing to the hangar, Neville had us at 2500ft - and we didn't stop climbing until reaching the airspace ceiling of 3500ft.

With everything put away, and the day's brief stories exchanged, we departed the field by 3:20pm.



## UP COMING EVENTS

24 March 18 5 Squadron ATC flying with us

14 April 18 Piako Gliding Club celebrating 60 years of Gliding at Matamata

## ONE OF OUR GUESTS

Hi Graham,

I hope you remember our visit to your airfield on 13. January 2018.

We just arrived back home in Switzerland, back from a exciting tour through New Zealand.

The contact to your club was given by Kishan, he knows Markus (my brother in law) working for car service center named Continental Car Services in Auckland.

It was great for me to take a short flight with Lionel Page, and of course your perfect towing into the air. Enclosed some impressions from this day.



During February we went round the South Island by a Campervan. On this trip we also visited Omarama.



The weather conditions on that day was very good and I did a 3 hour flight with a Duo Discus, together with Martin as instructor. We flew about 240 kilometers and up to 9500 feet, light wave lifted us up to this level. The view to this landscape was great, different from the alps in our country (we have much more forest and rocks).

If you are interested in our club

activities in Switzerland see [www.sg-badragaz.ch](http://www.sg-badragaz.ch) and our airfield [www.lsze.ch](http://www.lsze.ch)

Please let Kishan show my mail and pictures too. Thank`s again also to Lionel. I wish you happy landings with your Libelle and a good next glider season

Anton Hirtl

## DUTY ROSTER MAR 18

Month	Date	Duty Pilot	Instructor	Tow Pilot	Notes
Mar	3	R WHITBY	I WOODFIELD	J WAGNER	<del>Jamie's last towing day</del>
	4	<del>C DICKSON</del>	R BURNS	R CARSWELL	-
	10	I BURR	P THORPE	D BELCHER	
	11	S HAY	R CARSWELL	F MCKENZIE	
	17	T THOMPSON	S WALLACE	C ROOK	
	18	S FOREMAN	L PAGE	D BELCHER	Power Section AK Area fly in Volvo race boats depart
	24	K BHASHYAM	I WOODFIELD	P THORPE	5 Sqn ATC
	25	R STRUYCK	R BURNS	G LAKE	
	30	K JASSICA	L PAGE	P THORPE	
	31	S FOREMAN	S WALLACE	D BELCHER	
Apr	1	G LEYLAND	I WOODFIELD	R HEYNIKE	
	2	J DICKSON	P THORPE	G LAKE	
	7	B MOORE	L PAGE	C ROOK	
	8	I O'KEEFE	R BURNS	G LAKE	