

WARM AIR 7 April 18

Aviation Sports Club Gliding Newsletter

THIS WEEKEND:	Club Cellphone 022 357 6731	www.ascgliding.org
Saturday	Instructing: Lionel Page	Bank Acct 38-9014-0625483-000
	Towing: Craig Rook	
	Duty Pilot: Brendan Moore	
Sunday	Instructing: Ray Burns	
	Towing: Graham Lake	
	Duty Pilot: Ian O'Keefe	

MEMBERS NEWS

FRIDAY Instructor Lionel Page

Early start for towie Peter Thorpe who had to collect the keys as my base pass has expired and I am struggling to get the time to renew it.

It was just the two of us for a while until the normal crowd wandered in. First up was a trial flighter, Ian who seemed to thoroughly enjoy his time in the air - tried in vain to get his wife to take a flight as well.

Kazik Jasica was up next with incipient spins and lots of turning. We managed to hook into a few weak thermals and take them to cloud base to try spinning - and then do it again and again.



Rahul Bagchi took VF for an airing and Tony Prentice took his new baby BD for what turned out to be a shorter than normal flight as the sky had cycled and staying up was increasingly difficult.

Jonathan Pote and Rahul went up in GMW to try some different thermalling techniques and it showed as they managed 28 minutes in a difficult sky. (Although they did tow to 3,000ft)

Final flight for Kazik and we put the aircraft to bed.

Thanks to all for a great, safe day.

Towie Peter.....Good Friday was a pleasant morning with a light SSW breeze but there was lots of wet paspallum grass around the hangar doors so Lionel Page got busy with the lawn mower and soon made the area more habitable. Kazik Jasica, Jonathan Pote, Rahul Bagchi and Tony Prentice duly appeared so we set up on 26 and were ready by midday. I'm sure Roy Whitby and Neville Swan also appeared but the first launch at 1205 was to 2500ft for a Trial Flight which only lasted 19 minutes. Lionel and Kazik then went off and managed the longest flight of the day at 55



minutes. Jonathan flew LX, Tony rigged and flew BD while Rahul did two flights in VF and a dual with Lionel. The last flight was down by 4-40 and Tony borrowed the ATC hangar to park BD overnight. Eight launches for the day and off home after a thirst quencher and chat.

SATURDAY

Saturday felt more like a late summers day rather than early Autumn. A nice 10Kt+ breeze straight down 26. We got underway at 11.30 with a 66 minute flight in the twin Kazik. Lots of hands on time for Kazik Jasica which was great plus lots of time and height to do spinning and spiral dive type exercises. With lots of lift around Tony Prentice took his new baby (BD) up, Roy Whitby went up in MP and Rahul Bagchi in VF, with all getting good long flights. While they were up Neville Swan pointed out what looked like a long line of wave over the west coast and we concluded that was what it must be. Neville then pointed out that it was moving towards us and as it got closer it became clear there was a lot of cloud cover behind it. Thus the conclusion changed to it must be a new air mass. Just ahead of the main cloud cover the sky came alive with spectacular wave formations and scattered thin thermal cloud that rose up and over like a surfers wave. It had everybody outside the caravan watching and enjoying the spectacle. The patchy overcast then arrived and that was the end of the good lift for the day but not the flying. A 150 pace toi toi



paddock was set up for Rahul and he did a circuit and absolutely nailed the landing. I think Roy will have some competition in the landing comp this year! John Restall then took a couple of flights to get him further back into the swing of things and brush off more of the rust after almost a year away from flying. The rain then kinda but not really arrived and that was it for the day. We retired to the hangar to rehydrate and tell war stories.

SUNDAY Instructor Ivor Woodfield gets the crayon first

The day looked good as I headed to the field. I arrived at the field at 9.30 to find people already waiting to start. It could not be because the clocks had gone back for daylight saving end? Anyhow, with a good southerly breeze we elected to set up on 26 and with several people to help extract the fleet, before too long were ready to go.

First away around 1130 was Rahul Bagchi in GVF. A good launch in a stiff crosswind and he was soon climbing away. Clearly the lift was already forming. Next up for some circuit practice was Clare Dickson who handled the crosswind well, ending with a good landing and keen to get back up for more. This time however the tow-plane did not accelerate away as expected so Clare released and I got out to see what was up. It was soon

clear that the nose wheel of RDW had a problem and a bit more checked made it clear there would be no more flying for the day.



While Tony Prentice and Steve Foreman set about derigging their gliders and returning them to their trailers, we carefully moved the tow-plane, minus it's nose-wheel, back towards the hangar and then set about packing everything away. Before long we were joined by tug-master Graham Lake who was keen to learn what had happened to 'his' aircraft.

As people gradually drifted away, a small group remained to help Jonathan Pote derig his Ka6 carefully and pack it away into the trailer. This took longer than usual as he took the opportunity to explain the whole process carefully to those folk who had not been involved in derigging previously. Once the trailer was safely parked up, a few folk sat around for a while partaking in the traditional story telling before heading home. All in all it had been a long day .. despite starting early and only getting two flights away, it was 1630 when I eventually locked up and returned the keys.

Towie Ruan Heynike (the one who broke the towplane)..explains. Sunday certainly looked like a good day for towing, high pressure, light winds and scattered clouds! Unfortunately we only managed to achieve two successful tows before the sturdy tug gave up for the day. Around 50m down the runway on the third tow I experienced a braking sensation, a quick glance in the rear view mirror seeing that the glider was balanced with no brakes out I realised that it must be the tug at fault. As I pulled back on power a graunching noise also developed. Not having much directional control and knowing that the glider was behind me I decided to slow down without brakes which gave them time to react and come to a safe stop behind. We ended up around 100m away from the launch point so luckily this all happened at a relatively slow speed. Initial inspection revealed a front wheel on an uncomfortable angle and once we had a better look it revealed that the front split rim sheared off bolts and split apart. Luckily it happened during a benign phase of the tow, the end result could have been different.

MONDAY Towie Graham Lake

Monday became an earlier start than planned as the towplane needed to be fixed. I already had the wheel reassembled and pumped up so it was just a matter of refitting the wheel to the fork and the spat over the top, then install on the nose leg. Voila, one serviceable towplane. many thanks to the folks that helped, Roy Whitby, Ray Burns (watching is helping is it not?), Joseph Dickson and Neville Swan. From there it was a matter of satisfying the hoards all of whom wanted to be dropped in lift, perhaps with the exception of my first two tows for Clare Dickson who wanted a couple of 1000ft tows to practice her circuits.

For the most part we managed to keep the customers satisfied as we found lift on all flights even after it blued out. I must say the last was a real fluke, Joseph wanted a 1500ft tow and we stumbled into lift at just the right height. From there he went on to do nearly an hour and a half terminated by the meany instructor who wanted to go home, some "do" to go to apparently.

*Instructor Peter Thorpe adds.....*Another nice day with 8-10 knots SSW so the vector was again 26. When we first arrived RDW was looking mournful without a nose wheel. Graham Lake soon arrived clutching the wheel and various bits of nose gear ready to refit the now repaired wheel that had failed the previous day. All was soon repaired and we were ready to go by 1100 but the nice man in the tower asked us to wait for the arrival of a French CASA from the air show at Wanaka on its way home to Noumea. The voice on the radio was female with quite the sexiest French accent I have ever heard and certainly got the attention of the man in the tower who couldn't do enough to help her find her parking spot. First up was Clare Dickson who wanted to do two 1000ft tows to help refine her circuit flying skills and she was able to show me some very good speed control and nice landings. Brendan Moore took VF away for 95 minutes during which time we opened the airspace to 4,500ft. Rahul Bagchi took me up to show me how to thermal and we spent a very pleasant 68 minutes reaching 4,200ft near Riverhead before he carried out a good landing into a toi toi paddock set up west of the caravan. Tony Prentice took BD away for 2 hrs 16 mins while Roy Whitby flew MP for 35 mins. Joseph Dickson needed a dual check before flying solo so we took the opportunity to brief some B cert stuff and then flew a boxing the tow exercise. Rahul flew VF for 47 minutes and then Joseph went off solo in MW for a short flight towing to 1500 ft. He returned 71 minutes later only because I needed to get away. Nine flights for the day and all locked away by 1600 with time for a thirst quencher before heading home.



Duty Roster For Apr,May,Jun

Month	Date	Duty Pilot	Instructor	Tow Pilot	Comment
April	7	B MOORE	L PAGE	C ROOK	
	8	I O'KEEFE	R BURNS	G LAKE	
	14	M MORAN	I WOODFIELD	D BELCHER	
	15	T O'ROURKE	L PAGE	P THORPE	
	21	R BAGCHI	S WALLACE	C ROOK	
	22	J POTE	P THORPE	G LAKE	
Anzac Day	25	T PRENTICE	R BURNS	R HEYNIKE	
	28	R WHITBY	I WOODFIELD	F MCKENZIE	
	29	C DICKSON	R BURNS	D BELCHER	
May	5	I BURR	S WALLACE	P THORPE	
	6	S HAY	R BURNS	C ROOK	
	12	T THOMPSON	L PAGE	R HEYNIKE	
	13	K BHASHYAM	P THORPE	G LAKE	
	19	R STRUYCK	I WOODFIELD	D BELCHER	
	20	K JASICA	S WALLACE	F MCKENZIE	
	26	S FOREMAN	R BURNS	P THORPE	
	27	G LEYLAND	L PAGE	C ROOK	
Queens Birthday	2	J DICKSON	I WOODFIELD	G LAKE	
	3	B MOORE	S WALLACE	D BELCHER	
	4	I O'KEEFE	L PAGE	P THORPE	
June	9	M MORAN	R CARSWELL	R HEYNIKE	
	10	T O'ROURKE	I WOODFIELD	F MCKENZIE	
	16	R BAGCHI	R BURNS	R CARSWELL	
	17	J POTE	P THORPE	C ROOK	
	23	T PRENTICE	S WALLACE	G LAKE	
	24	R WHITBY	L PAGE	D BELCHER	
	30	C DICKSON	R CARSWELL	R HEYNIKE	
Jul	1	I BURR	R BURNS	C ROOK	