



OMARAMA CLUB NEWSLETTER JULY 2018

HAPPY 80th BIRTHDAY TO LONG STANDING MEMBER ROGER HARRIS



Roger; to his left is "Wiggie" Tony Hansen and Eion Coutts tucking in to the abundance of food and two birthday cakes!

Simply the best 80th birthday celebration took place in Christchurch on Friday 15th June which was even more of a special celebration than these occasions usually are as Roger was only given a couple of weeks to live about nine months ago. Just the best news that the Doctors got it wrong and Roger was able to thoroughly enjoy celebrating his birthday and topped it off the next day with a visit to Springfield Airfield.

FROM THE GLIDING NEW ZEALAND AGM – report by Sheena Naughton

At the GNZ AGM there were two remits.

The first remit was carried i.e. no glider fee for inoperable gliders.

The second remit was defeated by (from memory) 37 against, 4 in support. I voted against on behalf of our club. So we still have a magazine that's compulsory for members.

The general tone of the AGM was that the Soaring NZ magazine serves an important purpose for the movement:

- Maintaining a sense of community,
- Marketing for future members

- Dealing with the distribution of safety critical information which is a mandatory requirement under the MOAP.

Whilst it was accepted that anything urgent would be distributed by email, there is still only about 85% of members with current email addresses, so the paper process (whilst seemingly old fashioned) is still necessary.

There was general recognition that we probably do need to move to more on-line comms and indeed the magazine will be posted on line for its next issue (after the one that is coming out imminently). However there is still a cost to producing the content and that needs to be paid for by the membership one way or another.



TIM AUSTEN

Finally on the AGM formalities, we were very proud that Tim Austen was voted on as a full member of the GNZ Executive. Many congratulations Tim - well deserved recognition for everything you do for gliding.

Other Items on the Agenda for the week-end: Brian Sharp talked about a plan to keep supporting clubs with the concept of growing membership. He is planning on running 'hangar meetings' with various clubs - based on concept of toolbox meetings. Based on Wellington Club's amazing success at attracting and retaining new and younger members, we need to keep learning from those clubs who are leading the way in our sport. I look forward to learning more from Brian in due course.

Martyn Cook did a really good session on the development of the training syllabus. There was some good discussion around the pros and cons of some of the structure that he's proposing but overall very positive. Martyn is pretty clear it's still in "trial" phase at the moment in order to get it right but those clubs that are using it (including Wellington) are finding it really good. They are parallel running it with the existing syllabus and finding it transfers across really easily. With a big emphasis on the student planning and prepping for their training flight, the students are putting more in, therefore the instructors are also, so instructional flights are all becoming a far more positive experience for everyone.

Google - moodle.gliding.co.nz if you want to see more.

We saw the Youth Glide video which will be distributed to clubs with a Power Point presentation. It's intended as an aid to present to young people to encourage new membership. There was a couple of hours' general discussion led by David Jensen on where each of the clubs was at. I was reasonably upbeat about our club as I think we

have every reason to be, but did stress the biggest challenge with anything we do is around instructor and instructor succession. So this needs to be a topic for us to put some time into at our next Executive meeting.

Finally Bob Henderson gave a really great talk at the cocktail evening about taking the verbal checklist from aviation into hospitals.

South Island Regional Competition- Important - Note change of date

At the GNZ Annual Meeting the dates were changed to the 10th - 17th of November. *(This change has been noted on the OGC Booking Pages).*

Those who attended the 2017 Regionals would have enjoyed so many young pilots buzzing around and participating. 2018 will be the second year OGC has hosted the SI Regional Competition and the organising committee have obtained \$4000 from the GNZ Umbrella Trust for mentoring and coaching new pilots (*similar to last year*). Well done and thanks to GNZ



*Congratulations to Andrew Whiteside on going solo. Great news!
We hope you enjoy many hours of happy soaring.*

To The Southern Trust for a \$2,000 grant towards the purchase of a new parachute and to the Community Trust of Otago for \$1,000 grant towards the purchase of a new EDS system for UO.

We are very grateful to these fund providers who facilitate us maintaining our equipment at the highest safety levels.



WARBIRDS OVER WANAKA

Once again this 'not to be missed' aviation event lived up to its awesome reputation. The predicted rain cleared by early Saturday morning so the full three day flying programme was able to be completed. The Youth Glide NZ display in particular was well received having Discus EE there for young and old alike to sit in and get enthused.

Check out the new YGNZ video on their website - young gliding pilots sure know how to promote our sport!



FROM THE EXECUTIVE

2018-2019 Membership subscription fees

Following approval at the OGC 2017 AGM the membership fees have been increased by \$5 to \$235.00. You will receive your 2018-2019 subscription renewal notice soon. ***Thank you in anticipation of paying your subscription promptly!***

A BIG thankyou was passed to Paula for her valuable Instructing help last season.

From time to time we receive requests from NZ based glider pilots to fly our gliders under the Gliding New Zealand Reciprocal Flying agreement. The criteria the Executive have placed around such requests includes the glider cannot be booked until the request is circulated to club members who have priority. There will be a limit of four days per reciprocal member and regular or future flights will require OGC membership.

ENJOY THE WINTER MONTHS

YVONNE

