

WARM AIR 19 Jan 19

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: Rex Carswell

Duty Pilot: Simon Hay

Sunday

Instructing: Ivor Woodfield

Towing: Ruan Heynike

Duty Pilot: Toni Thompson

Monday

Instructing: Ray Burns

Towing: Graham Lake

Duty Pilot: Kishan Bhashyam

Anniversary Weekend

MEMBERS NEWS

SATURDAY *Ivor Woofield instructed*



The weather was looking promising as I set out for the field. Even though I arrived at the field before 0930 there was already a small group starting to set up when I got there, headed by our CFI. We had a visit by Sebastian Kawa scheduled, and it was hoped that a few of our members would be able to arrange a flight with him. Sebastian is a world champion glider pilot from Poland and is currently ranked #1 in FAI rankings. He is also a top gliding instructor and we are extremely fortunate to have the opportunity for Sebastian to spend a day flying with us.

Before flying even began the board was completely full of the names of people wanting to go gliding! First flight of the day was an opportunity for Sebastian, as a visiting foreign pilot, to complete a BFR with CFI Ray Burns and get the appropriate paperwork completed for flying in NZ. They launched at 1045 and after 30 mins had worked through a comprehensive workout. Next up was Troy Jeffries, who continues to impress with his quick uptake of ideas and skills in the sport.

Then Tony Prentice took the opportunity to go flying with Sebastian while Rahul Bagchi took



GVF to check out the sky. He was followed by Oliver Fletcher and Ray Burns in *GMW*, Isabelle Burr in *GMP* and Brendan Moore in *GVF*. Gradually during this time the sky began to 'blue out', and although there was still lift available, it got more difficult to find as the day progressed.

Around 1330 Dave Todd launched in his new 19m glider *GBZ* which he managed to keep airbourne for over well over an hour and a half. Craig Best was the next student to launch, showing good progress throughout his flight, and also Andrew Fletcher took a flight in *GMP*.

Then Kazik Jasica went up with Sebastian in *GMP* for a successful tour around lasting nearly an hour. Tony Prentice took a flight in his *PW5*, *GBD* and the Steve Wallace went looking for lift in *GMP* and just



managed to achieve the longest flight of the day by a few minutes.

Next there were a series of student flights in *GMW*. Geoff Leyland built on his skills and managed a good all round soaring flight and Raph Cruz, our newest junior member, made good progress with basic flying skills. Joseph Dickson had a successful flight with a good circuit and landing and then Clare Dickson had another good flight, demonstrating some good thermalling ability in a challenging blue sky and following up with a good circuit and landing.

The days flying was ended off with a first solo flight for Andrew Williams who, having been tow pilot all day

managed to show that he is also a very capable glider pilot with a good circuit following a 1500' release and then an excellent approach and landing. Congratulations to Andrew, who I am sure we will be following up with much more gliding in future.

Congratulations also to Isabelle. Following her earlier successful flight in *GMP*, Issy went across to the power section for some flying there, at the end of which she was also sent off for her first solo. Well done to you.

Overall, a very successful days flying, with a total of 19 glider launches and two club members achieving first solos. Also we had the pleasure of Sebastian Kawa who was with us for the entire day, and with whom several members managed to share some flying.

The day continued with a BBQ which had been initiated by Lionel Page and was organised and managed by another club member, Thomas O'Rourke. Unfortunately I was not able to stay around for the BBQ due to a prior engagement. However, big thanks to Thomas for all effort setting up and preparing what looked to be an excellent spread.



Towie Andrew Williams adds to the tale..... The tow plane was all ready following some maintenance at Parakai during the week. Thanks again to Thomas for doing driving duty to get me there to bring RDW back to Whenuapai on Friday.

On Saturday it was the busiest I've seen the club and by the time we were set up for the first flight there were already ten names on the board for GMW and plenty more for the singles. First up were Ray and Sebastian Kawa himself doing a BFR. They were happy with the lift on the way up so released early and climbed the rest of the way to 2500ft without need of the tow plane. Later Sebastian showed he's happy to do the climbing himself, finding some lift at 1000' near the ridge and releasing there going on to get a decent flight with Rahul. The rest of the day was a mix between Sebastian flying with a few members, Ivor taking students and seven launches in singles. The ridge was the only (relatively) consistent lift, though whenever there were clouds it generally seemed to be good at least for a few seconds. Some of the gliders managed to find good enough lift in blue sky across the river.



Oliver Fletcher and Troy came up in the tow plane too. I employed Troy to keep track of the gliders already in the air. At times we had three in close proximity so it was helpful having the extra set of eyes.

At one point in the day TWR from the power section was doing circuits. As we launched one of the gliders TWR landed and then after a quick stop at the aero club called lining up to takeoff again, but now with 'POB one'. I had heard rumours from Base

Ops during the week that sounded like someone was getting ready to go solo, and this sounded like it, so I gave her a bit of space in the circuit and on landing found out it was Izzy. Congratulations!

And over the weekend I also got to go solo, but in a glider. With Peter there to take over as towie, Ray wrote my name on the board and off I went, a bit nervous, mostly that I'd get too high on the landing as I was sometimes doing in RDW (running into lift on base leg nearly every time). But there is something about knowing you only have one shot at it that really makes you focus! So it was a great experience and I can see myself getting hooked on the feel of the lift surging and the sound of the vario. Looking forward to doing a lot more!

SUNDAY *Rex Carswell had the duty*

Sunday morning didn't look good at all - low cloud with drizzly bits amongst it. I phoned towie Peter Thorpe and we agreed to stay put and wait till a weak trough line passed through, then re-evaluate. I received messages from Dave Todd and new junior member Troy Jefferies - both expressing keenness to fly if possible, and Thomas O'Rourke who needed to get in to clean up the bbq and put away. Around midday the sky rapidly cleared so contacted those whom had made enquiries - and arranged with Peter to meet at the hangar at 1pm.

First launch got away at 2pm - with Dave flying in his Ventus 2cT GBZ. By now a good deep sou'west wind was blowing, and the sky mostly blue except for cumulus lines forming to the west of Whenuapai. Upon returning in the tug, Peter reported the air as pretty lively on tow with good areas of lift.

The tower came on watch for a short period to facilitate the arrival of an international Lear Jet. Shortly after, Rahul Bagchi launched in GVF out to the west of the airfield. A good 53 minute flight done before dashing across to the power section for another Tomahawk flying lesson.



Geoff Leyland
(20-1-19)

Just two instructional flights were made in the twin. Troy continues his excellent progress - flew the entire aerotow from take-off (with all its crosswind and turbulence) then climbed us to 3200ft. A beaut flight - another 42 minutes logged. A similar duration flight was made with Geoff Leyland aboard. A good session with Geoff utilising the lift so that we could do lots of stall revision.



Andrew Williams

Final launch of the day was with our new towie Andrew Williams taking the twin for a solo flight. He had a good smile upon landing after his 58 minute sortie.

In all, five launches for the day - 4 hours 50

minutes of gliding - Dave Todd had the longest duration with 94 minutes. Not too bad for a shortened day.

Thanks to Neville Swan for keeping the figures, and replenishing the fridge.

*Peter Thorpe did the towing.....*After a fabulous day on Saturday with Sebastian Kawa and 19 flights, I thought Sunday would be quiet and in the morning the weather looked like it would make sure. Total overcast at maybe 2000ft so Rex and I agreed we would stay at home until the weather passed by as was forecast. We knew several people needed access to clean up after Saturday so at around midday we agreed to meet at the airfield even though there was still a lot of cloud cover. To our surprise by the time we got on the road the sky had cleared leaving blue sky and a brisk SW wind. I prepped RDW and then went off to fill the fuel containers and by the time I returned David Todd had BZ lined up ready to launch so that what we did. Airborne at 2 pm into a sky that was energetic at low level but also had some nice thermals over Riverhead. Rahul Bagchi followed in VF and then Rex Carswell and Troy launched in MW. More than an hour later Rex took Geoff for a good long flight. We finished with Andrew Williams completing his second solo and staying up for 58 minutes while rest of us sat around the caravan waiting for his return. Five flights for the day and all finished by 6-30 pm.

STEVE WALLACE WENT TO OMARAMA

I headed South this year to fly the MultiClass Nationals from Omarama in a Duo Discus. My partner in crime was to be Nigel Davy. Nigel flew from the back seat and I flew from the front.



I had never flown dual in a competition before so I was a bit unsure as to how things were going to work out. As it turned out Nigel and I got on like a house on fire and we had the team work and decision making pretty well sorted from day one.



Nigel's local knowledge was invaluable and enabled me to fly in places I would not have gone by myself. Generally, I flew most of the time and Nigel looked after tactics and strategy from the back seat. Direction choices were always discussed and the most emphatic won if the decision was not one of mutual agreement.

The contest itself was very well run, with amazing Omarama weather. 9 days of flying out of 11. We had many wave days, along with ridge, thermal and rotor thermal. On one particularly good wave day I flew my fastest task ever, 186kph around 570km of an AAT. This was however only good enough for third as the winner Keith

Essex achieved 206kph over 620km. I don't think the 200kph barrier has ever been broken before in a NZ Nationals task.



We had some highs, 22,000' over Aoraki Mt Cook and some lows, thermalling away from under 2,000' at the Makaroa airstrip (elevation 1669'). We had one day win and one land out. I learnt the stations (they don't call them farms down there) are very big. It was an 8km walk to the road! I also saw some numbers I hadn't seen before. 70Kt wind speeds, 200Kt ground speeds, 14kts of up and 24kts of down! The Omarama sky is certainly very dynamic and just full of energy!

The mountain scenery is incredibly spectacular, there was lots to do for the family and everybody was super friendly with many a good evenings had swapping 'war' stories at the local airfield café and bar, The Pink Glider.

If you ever get the chance to fly in an Omarama comp in a twin with a local that knows his way around, I would highly recommend it. You'll have a massive amount of fun and many flights that you will certainly remember for a long time to come!



Oi, Mighty Libelle not Dinner Table

Duty Roster For Jan, Feb, Mar

Month	Date	Duty Pilot	Instructor	Tow Pilot	Notes
Jan	19	R WHITBY	I WOODFIELD	A WILLIAMS	-Sebastian visit
	20	I BURR	R CARSWELL	P THORPE	-
Anniversary	26	S HAY	L PAGE	R CARSWELL	
	27	T THOMPSON	I WOODFIELD	R HEYNIKE	
	28	K BHASHYAM	R BURNS	G LAKE	
	2	G LEYLAND	R CARSWELL	P THORPE	
	3	I O'KEEFE	P THORPE	D BELCHER	
Waitangi	6	M MORAN	L PAGE	A WILLIAMS	
	9	T O'ROURKE	I WOODFIELD	R CARSWELL	
	10	R BAGCHI	R BURNS	P THORPE	
	16	T PRENTICE	S WALLACE	G LAKE	
	17	R WHITBY	R CARSWELL	F MCKENZIE	
	23	I BURR	L PAGE	D BELCHER	
	24	S HAY	P THORPE	A WILLIAMS	
Mar	2	T THOMPSON	I WOODFIELD	R HEYNIKE	
	3	K BHASHYAM	R BURNS	R CARSWELL	
	9	G LEYLAND	S WALLACE	G LAKE	
	10	I O'KEEFE	R CARSWELL	P THORPE	
	16	M MORAN	L PAGE	F MCKENZIE	
	17	T O'ROURKE	P THORPE	D BELCHER	
	23	R BAGCHI	I WOODFIELD	A WILLIAMS	
	24	T PRENTICE	R BURNS	R CARSWELL	
	30	R WHITBY	S WALLACE	G LAKE	
	31	I BURR	R CARSWELL	P THORPE	