



Wellington Wairarapa Gliding Club

eChandelle

December 2020

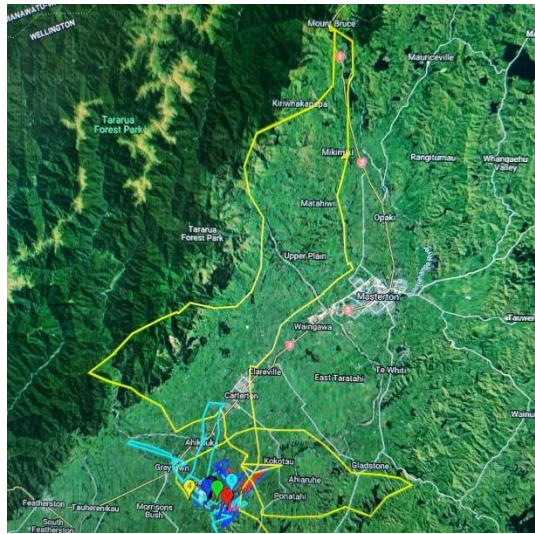
With summer supposedly having kicked off, so has the summer flying. A range of activities have occurred over the last few weeks including a To Soaring week where students had a full week of training. Multiple lengthy flights have been made this month, by both students and experienced pilots, impacting the flight stats. A number of solos this month boosted confidence in both students and instructors and a To Solo week is coming up, hopefully seeing some more great achievements. So while we wait for the bad weather to clear, have a cuppa and get ready for that 5 hour you've always wanted to do :)

Achievements

- **First Solo** - Stew Darling
- **Re-Solo** - Allan Johnson
- **Winch driver** - William Keedwell
- **Winch driver** - Mark Schillingford

Well done to all of our amazing achievers!

And a warm welcome to Azim Saed and Gabriel Paff, both are new youth members of the club so make them feel at home next time you see them.



CFI Corner

Hi All,

Now that the temperatures have officially increased and we move into more soarable weather (says he looking out the window at more rain), it's time once

again to think about situational awareness. I know you've heard many a person harping on about this but, as we recover from winter woes and get our currency back up to normal, situational awareness is one of the last skills to recover, just when the busy skies and longer flights demand it the most. Moreover, it's one of the skills that needs the most attention paid to it, lest it wither for lack of use. Keep up your active scanning, keep an eye on where you are and what's landable locally, and keep an eye on yourself. What we hope is that you're your own most demanding critic, so if you're not flying to your best (and a little voice is hopefully telling you this), do something about it. Practice, talk to people and ask for help if necessary.

Many of you have seen "that video" of a glider inadvertently going into orographic cloud. As well as the things we can learn from watching it (I refuse to say "learnings") the presence of this video, and of other in-flight videos taken by glider pilots, raises other unfortunate issues that you need to be aware of. There is no subtle way to say this. You should treat anything that you upload to the internet, even to supposedly-private social media pages, as likely to be viewed by the entire world.

Think first:

- Does this video show any contravention of club rules, the MOAP, or Civil Aviation Rules?
- Does this video show any action (inadvertent or deliberate) which endangered (or was likely to endanger) yourself or others?
- Does this video show examples of airmanship that are less than impeccable?

If you're not sure of these questions, ask others. I'm not saying that such videos should not ever be made public; most videos have a context to them which is not always apparent, so rather than attract the ire of the uninformed,

make a proper story out of it and talk to your Friendly Instructors about what we can all learn from it, THEN post it if you still think it's appropriate. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to ask.

Right-o, that's enough of the finger-wagging-CFI lecture. Enjoy the festive break, get some flying in and have fun. Oh, and do it all safely, please.

Cheers

David

To Solo Pilots

A few of our To Solo students certainly have got something to look forward to with a To Solo training week on it's way between the 4th and the 8th of January. Four lucky students get to have a full on training week, booking both the DGs. Have fun! On top of this we would like to congratulate both Allan and Stew for their achievements, they'll be moving on to their To Soaring journey now, good work guys.

To Soaring Pilots

For the To Soaring pilots an eventful week has just passed offering 4 students to sign off syllabus items. Martyn Cook took out the Dimona to allow most students to fly into controlled airspace. Based on the reports from all 4 students, they certainly had a good time and are well on their way to getting their certificate. There is a second To Soaring week on the planning for start of Feb, so be on the lookout, get your name down before anyone else does! Participants were Allan Johnson, Nick Johns, Sandy Dawson and Fergus Pitney.



To Cross Country & Task Pilots

No news for XC or Task pilots at the this stage, hopefully we'll have something to put here next month. Feel free to reach out to us with any amazing soaring flights or achievements you may have done, we are more than happy to highlight those here.

Comms & Marketing Team

The club is currently rolling out new branding, designed by Bluddy Brilliant, and is aiming to have this fully in place by the 2021/22 season. Many of you have probably already noticed the new logo on the Facebook page, if not, have a look! The name change is also incorporated with the new branding, for those who didn't get the memo, it is now Wellington Wairarapa Gliding Club Inc (WWGC).

Finance & Admin Team

The fee increase mentioned earlier in an email sent out to all club members will be taking affect as of the 1st of January and is indefinite at this point. Changes to the fees will be constantly reconsidered dependent on the debt repayment, all information as to what fees go up are disclosed in the email.

November Bravo got charged a \$25 landing fee for landing on Great Barrier Island, it was soon realized that NB never left it's hanger on that day so the cost was disputed.

The projections of no summer crew for this season show that a lot more revenue will be lost than costs reduced. While the club has managed to deal with this to date, the fee increase was necessary to reduce loans needing to be

taken out. Summer crew for 2021 and the replacement funds for the DG 1000's have to be kept in mind.

Resource Team

Martyn Cook has recently undertaken a brake assembly, which was successful. No other news from the resource team.

Service Delivery Team

Although the finances made everything look grim, there is good news for the club. There has in fact been a massive increase of flights done this November compared to Nov 2019. For the DG 1000's alone there has been an increase of 33% in launches compared to last year. The average daily service time has also increased by 9 minutes a day, showing that the club is trying to squeeze out as much flying time as possible. Again, flying days this year has gone up 29%! Amazing work by everyone helping to make this happen.

Kuranui College Program

Kuranui College's recent "Inspire" program has led to the inclusion of many unconventional out-of-school activities in the student's curriculum. Most notably, in term 4, a selection of students spent their Thursday afternoon at our very own Wellington-Wairarapa Gliding Club. Here they have been taught about the fundamentals of gliding and have even had the opportunity to go up into the sky. This group of upcoming aviators covered an age range of years 9-11 students and ranged from solo pilots to people who have never stepped foot on an airfield before. Over a period of several weeks, the students were armed

with an array of our experienced instructors and had the privilege of taking to the skies in the club's DG-1000 gliders. They also learned the basic principles of glider flying and familiarized themselves with the club's environment. After 9 weeks of successful ground and flying courses, the club has gained one new member! Talking to the rest of the students, they had an amazing time and were looking at coming back. Good news all round!

Club Statistics



* statistics based on last months club activity.
