

# AGC Weekly News

25-26 February

The weekly newsletter of the Auckland Gliding Club at Drury, Auckland

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## Last Sunday 19th February - Winch Launching

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Light and Variable Winds, average conditions, Runway 36.

This multi-faceted event on Sunday was generally well supported with a total of 24 launches, but only nine of which were winch launches. This illustrated that the winch launching method should be supported much more, if currency of both pilots and winch drivers is to be maintained. It is a fundamental skill enshrined in the solo pilot syllabus.

Some pilots were able to commence cross country flights straight off the winch launch, while most others were just interested in becoming current after long periods of winch inactivity.

### Douglas Road Winching

The transportable No.2 winch is the only means to launch gliders off the west coast airstrip at Douglas Road and therefore a group of available winch drivers competent on this winch, are

fundamental to offer the opportunity to fly the west coast. This was the prime reason for the cancellation of the short notice visit to Douglas Road following the passage of Cyclone Gabrielle.

### Formation Flying

After an extensive briefing, conditions were not reliable during the afternoon to organise a small group of club gliders to commence formation flying. A short period of formation flying was achieved between myself in the ASK21 and Alan Pendergrast in the PW5.

PS

On other news, did you see Georgia Schofield reporting on the arrival of the Round The World yacht race to South Africa on TV1 News?

<https://www.facebook.com/georgiasphoto/>

Regards,  
Russell

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## Central Plateau Contest, Sat 4-11 March

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*Russell Thorne*

If there is sufficient interest from club members in a composite "Team Auckland" entry in the Central Plateau Contest beginning 4th March at Centennial Park Airfield, Taupo, the committee has agreed to enter the club Duo Discus. This could involve both club and visiting Summer Instructors to cover the whole event. Club pilots should nominate the days for which they will like to fly, whereupon a roster will be published.

Flying at the Central Plateau venue is different from that in the Waikato, involving bigger thermals, higher cloud bases, and no ridge-based tasks. Pilots have to adapt to fly over forested

areas, often between available airstrips, with the added interest of the Lake Taupo influence. Accommodation at Taupo is either tent, cabin or via AirBnB. Urgent expressions of interest should be directed to [cfi@glidingauckland.co.nz](mailto:cfi@glidingauckland.co.nz)

A decision will be made to go ahead on Monday 27th, should there be sufficient support.

<https://gliding.net.nz/events/central-plateau-comp-mar-2023>

<https://gliding.net.nz/cups>

<https://www.taupogliding.com/>

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## Appeal

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I have had a request from CAA to provide a "beautiful" photo of an Auckland Gliding Club glider for them to include in their updated GAP publication "In and Around Auckland".

If any club member has a high-resolution photo of

an Auckland Club glider, preferably without people included, can they please send it to me at [cfi@glidingauckland.co.nz](mailto:cfi@glidingauckland.co.nz)

Regards, Russell

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## New Member

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We say a big welcome to **Rubin Roig**, who joined the gliding club today. Welcome Rubin!

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## Altimeter Settings & Airspace

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*From the BGA Newsletter*

The French authorities have published a report into a 2019 infringement of class D airspace in France by a D-registered Nimbus 3DT that resulted in an airprox with a proximity of between 30m and 100m with an HB-registered Challenger bizjet. The Challenger crew spotted the glider and turned to avoid.

The Nimbus 3DT pilot was using the incorrect altimeter setting and as result thermalled up into the class D airspace. The resulting lack of

communication with ATC and non-use of a transponder as required in that piece of Class D airspace also contributed to the airprox.

This occurrence from three years ago reminds all pilots that it is essential to use the correct altimeter setting and to be aware of and comply with the relevant airspace rules. Most glider pilots fly using a moving map. Ensuring the software and settings are up to date and correct is critically important.

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## Weekend Weather

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Unfortunately, another period of heavy rain moves onto the East Coast of the North Island during Friday.





Periods of rain for eastern and southern regions, possibly heavy in Hawke's Bay and Wairarapa at first on Saturday, easing to isolated showers in

the evening. Mainly fine elsewhere, with isolated showers clearing in the evening.

On Sunday, isolated showers but much of the day fine.

### Hunua

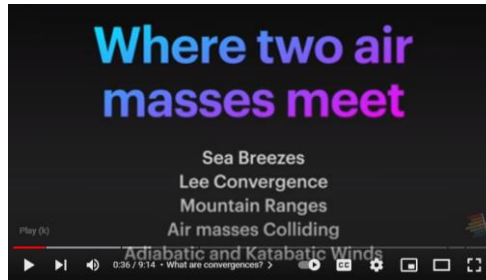
23 February 2023

 <b>Severe Weather Watch</b>			
<b>Friday</b> 24 FEB		Showers, some heavy, and a risk of thunderstorms from afternoon. Southerlies.	<b>▲ 18°C</b> <b>▼ 11°C</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 25 FEB		Partly cloudy. Isolated afternoon showers. Light winds and afternoon sea breezes.	<b>▲ 22°C</b> <b>▼ 11°C</b>
<b>Sunday</b> 26 FEB		Mainly fine, isolated showers in the afternoon and evening. Southerlies developing late.	<b>▲ 24°C</b> <b>▼ 11°C</b>

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**Pure Glide**  
**More wisdom from the irrepressible Tim Bromhead**

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQrOWBcCMNA>

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**Members' Small Ads**

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**PW5 KF for sale.** Current Annual until Dec 2022. Ready to fly. Approx 800 hours flying. Radio, altimeter, airspeed indicator, electric and mechanicals variors. Includes open trailer. **Priced to sell at \$8,000.** Ideal for single ownership or cheap syndicate. Reason for sale is that glider is surplus to requirements. Phone Murray on 0275 875 438



(file photo only)

**One share for sale in Grob G109 (ZK-GOC).** Touring type motor glider in excellent condition. Upgraded with Limbach L 2400, so has much better take off performance than the standard G109. **Price for share is \$15 000.00.** Contact Russell Jones on 021 180 5544 or email [russell.jones@orcon.net.nz](mailto:russell.jones@orcon.net.nz)

This newsletter was compiled by Peter Wooley [wooleypeter@gmail.com](mailto:wooleypeter@gmail.com)

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**Roster**

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	Instructor 1	Instructor 2	Tug Pilot	Duty Pilot	Winch Driver
<b>February</b>					
Sat 25	Jonathan Cross	Graham Cochrane		Wolfgng Schenk	
Sun 26	Nigel McPhee	Nigel McPhee		AJ Dudley	Bradley
<b>March</b>					
Sat 4	Roy Innes	Graham Cochrane		Allen Pendergrst	
Sun 5	Ross Taylor	John Bongrain		Dylan Watson	
Sat 11	Nigel McPhee	Keith Macy		Frank Excell	
Sun 12	Russell Thorne	Nigel McPhee		Geoff Green	
Sat 18	Jonathan Cross	John Robertson		Geoff Gaddes	
Sun 19	Russell Thorne	Frank Excell		Georgia Schofld	
Sat 25	Roy Innes	Graham Cochrane		Gerard Robertsn	
Sun 26	Ross Taylor	Keith Macy		Caleb Rosvall	