

WARM AIR 13 May 2023

Aviation Sports Club Gliding Newsletter

THIS WEEKEND: www.ascgliding.org [ASC Gliding](#) | [Facebook](#)

Bank Acct 38-9014-0625483-000

Saturday 13 May	Instructing: Towing: Duty Pilot	P Thorpe R Carswell S Chand
Sunday 14 May	Instructing: Towing: Duty Pilot	A Fletcher D Belcher N Vyle

MEMBERS NEWS

In Warm Air this Week;

- **Club News**
- **Weekend Reports**
- **Roster**

Thank you for the pictures, stories and contributions from members.

Club News

It keeps raining, but there is hope we may have a window of flying this coming weekend.

Weekend Reports

Saturday 6th May –Peter Thorpe Reports

On Saturday I arrived at 0930 but nobody there. Tow pilot Paul arrived soon after followed by Roy. The weather was stiff easterly with broken low cloud around 800ft but clearing. We chatted about things and then young Blake arrived, keen to fly. The cloud lifted enough for circuits but nobody else arrived and I decided it was not worth dragging everything down to 08 for one flight so we packed up and went home at about midday.

Sunday 7th May – Ivor Woodfield Reports

Sunday arrived with lots of low cloud and a forecast suggesting that any flying would be restricted to lower level activities.

I arrived at the field to find Craig already hard at work on brackets for his glider. Tow pilot Peter arrived and we agreed that the sky did not look great for flying. However, it was forecast to possibly improve later in the day, so we decided to wait for a while.

Craig had discussed with Neville on Saturday the possibility of relocating the fridge in the caravan, so work started on that just as Roy arrived with some knowledge of how the target section of the caravan shelving had been constructed. Duty Pilot Tony arrived, as did Kazik, both hoping to see the sky improve, and indeed by now we were seeing promising patches of blue sky, as well as a couple of showers.

While Craig continued with work in the caravan, Kazik set about fitting a flashing safety light to the roof of the new tractor, while Roy and I went to work addressing some rust issues on the GIV trailer. As the rain had now stopped and it was quite warm, we even managed to complete some rust inhibiting paint application.

Throughout the morning work continued, although no further people arrived and so early afternoon Pater and Tony decided to call it a day and go home. Before much longer Roy

and I completed our trailer work and were cleaning up. The fridge relocation had gone well, and the various wiring looms had been well tidied away under the bench. Craig had packed up his glider and the work on the tractor was into its final stages when I left around 2. Sadly another non flying day, although lots of good work was achieved, so good overall.

With the official ending of the soaring season, Steve Foreman (Hawkeye) reflects on a challenging season, which allowed him to flex his wings, and boldly go where few others have.

Seasons Memories 1/10/22 - 31/04/23 part 1

I set out this season to go to all North Island Contests, and get in the air as much as I could, As you know it was not a great season, but I was able to make the most of it by chasing the weather.

It started with a usual trip north around Kaiwaka with Ian in HS in about September, thinking this will be the start of a great soaring season. I only flew out of NZWP 5 times for the season



My goal was to beat HS's time (*4hrs 29 minutes to be precise, just saying for the record*) to Kiakohe and back. Regrettably with less than conducive weather this will have to wait till next season.

Gliders, HS, BZ and XM had a sortie north again in early October, before we headed to Matamata for Labour weekend.

The memory that sticks to me during the Labour weekend camp was when I found myself low on the hills south of Thames, a rather nonchalant radio call from Andrew Fletcher aka *Dash* declared joyfully he was well above me in a KA6. Not liking my beloved XM being disrespected or outperformed I pushed out low into a head wind to remove myself from more joyous banter.

We had 3 days of flying over that weekend, with XM flying 804km. Of course, the joyful banter increased with Dash showing OLC points for the day with the Ka6 flying further and obtaining more points than I. *Sometimes wood does better than fibre.*



I left XM in Matamata and joined in with Wednesday flying for a ridge day the following week.

I had entered in the first of the competitions in New Zealand which was the Northern Regionals in Taupo. However, due to poor weather this event was cancelled. Which was going to be a theme with most of the contests throughout the season.

After Christmas we had 3 days of flying out of NZWP and did several sorties North. As usual the scenery is always spectacular and stunning. On one of those days, Steve Wallace in KT said that a Kaikohe trip was on. So, I was in, not wanting to miss this opportunity. Unfortunately, it didn't turn out to be a great flight with the less than stellar thermal lift. From North Shore Airfield to the Kaipara Flats airfield, I didn't get above 2000ft (while KT enjoyed views from 3500ft). At Kaipara airfield I started up the Iron horse to keep up with KT, then twice again to get back home. Meanwhile Steve decided to pop in on a festival west of Wellsford and plonked into a lovely up slope paddock and enjoyed a very short landing roll when contact was made with the lovely, long and lush arrestor grass.

Next up, was the Drury Comp, but again the weather didn't play ball and we only got one day of flying. Ian and Andrew flew in HS and KT, and flew well to get to the waypoint and home again. I had pushed too far south of Matamata into a very dark but hopeful convergence. This didn't work and I had to start the turbo to avoid a landout and get to a good lifting cloud. I took the opportunity to eventually soar towards the West Coast via Huntly and then home to Drury, enjoying this tiki tour.

With not a lot of flying locally in the Auckland region due to poor weather, I joined fellow Turbo heads, Jason Shields Tim Bromhead, David Johnston and Dave Todd for a few days of flying in Taupo. The weather was fantastic, and we had an awesome time soaring for a solid 6 straight days.

On one of those days we headed to Mt Tawawera, well that's where I thought we were heading. It turned out I was in fact heading to another mountain which was in fact Mt Edgecombe. This explained why I could not see the other turbos and many radio calls trying to establish where they were. The joys of flying in new regions.

Here we are looking at Te Maika on the West Coast

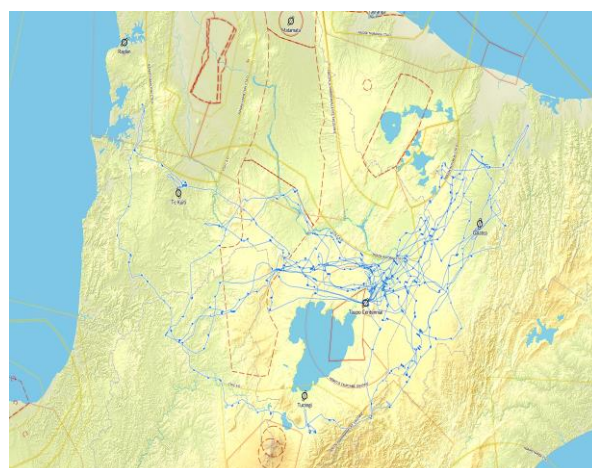




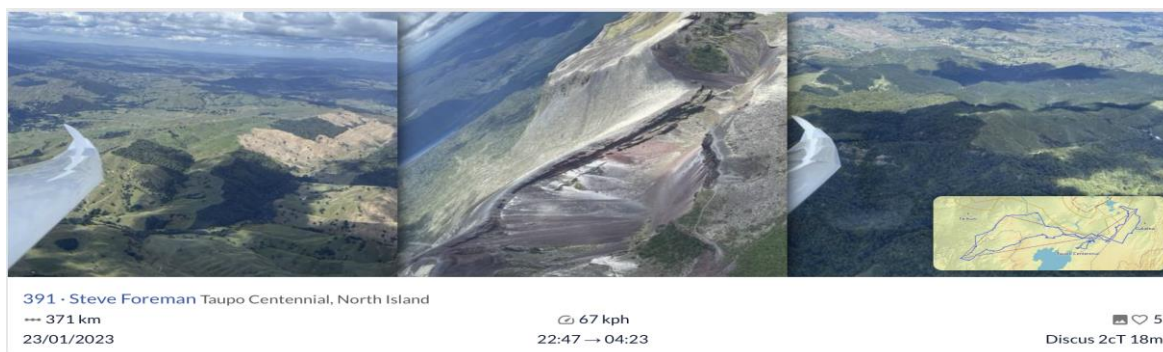
On one of the days we managed to fly around Lake Taupo. Although I did have to start the engine at Turangi, which was a little disappointing, the fact we managed to mostly soar around this area over some fairly rugged but spectacular terrain made this one of the highlight flights of the season. Truly an amazing area to soar.

I left Taupo thinking this is the best place to fly as there are so many cross-county options on all points of the compass whether North, South, East or West. A truly remarkable area.

I went back to Auckland in a buoyant mood. Having only been back in Auckland less than 3 days a call from Tim Bromhead enticed me back to Taupo as the weather was once again promising big things.. So, I rejoined Tim in Taupō. Unfortunately even Tim the master soarer could not stop a weather change which coozed the first day. Hower the second day ended up being one of my best flights at Taupo.



During this period I and XM flew 2166 km flown in 7 flights and 33hrs flight time. Pretty good effort.



Hawkeye thanks for taking the time to share your soaring adventures and picture. Quite a thrill to read and ride along with these adventures. Now this is Part 1, and Part 2 is forthcoming. I have not been able to include all the wonderful pictures due to memory size and restrictions, however will try to put in further Newsletters or on our Facebook page. Again, thanks Steve for taking the time to put this together.

Duty Roster For Apr,May,Jun

Month	Date	Duty Pilot	Instructor	Tow Pilot
May	13	S CHAND	I WOODFIELD	R CARSWELL
	14	N VYLE	A FLETCHER	D BELCHER
	20	D MCGOWAN	R BURNS	R HEYNIKE
	21	C BEST	S WALLACE	R CARSWELL
	27	R MCMILLAN	P THORPE	R CARSWELL
	28	A MICHAEL	I WOODFIELD	P EICHLER
Kings Birthday	3	R WHITBY	L PAGE	P THORPE
	4	K JASICA	A FLETCHER	R HEYNIKE
	5	R BAGCHI	R BURNS	R HEYNIKE
	10	T O'ROURKE	I WOODFIELD	P EICHLER
	11	I O'KEEFE	L PAGE	R CARSWELL
	17	K BHASHYAM	S WALLACE	D BELCHER
	18	T PRENTICE	P THORPE	G CABRE
	24	S CHAND	A FLETCHER	P THORPE
	25	N VYLE	R BURNS	R CARSWELL

