



WWGC Newsletter June 2023

From the President - Simon Casey

Another short newsletter due to the weather problems that continue to plague us. So frustrating to see beautiful weather during the week only to crap out on the weekend!!

However there have been happenings which I am keen to share with you as follows.

Utilisation

No figures this month. They will be provided again once we start regular flying.

Flying from Hood Aerodrome

We are flying from Hood aerodrome at Masterton for the next couple of months at least unless the field dries out significantly before that time. This is the best opportunity to either get your tow rating or renew your tow rating while we have access to Upper Valley's tow plane. If you need to have some flight exercises signed off that require a high altitude eg stalls, spins, spiral dives etc, then you will get that at Hood. So put your intentions into the booking system so we can ensure we can help you.

Participating in Gliding Contests

What do you do when you can't fly due to the weather? You host a seminar. On Sunday 18 June, David Hirst gave a very inspiring presentation on gliding contests. It has motivated those who attended to work towards goal flying rather than aimless flying. As we get closer to summer, we will be featuring a goal on at least one day of the weekend conditions permitting.

This was followed by a great lunch featuring peanut butter flavoured pumpkin soup of which David was the chef! Very nice as you can see below!



Achievements

We had the following achievements over April, May and June: Note that I can only report the achievements of those that I am made aware of. If you do achieve something that you are proud of, let me know and let's brag about it!!

- Martien Lubberink - Solo in May. Congratulations Martien!! In the photo below, David looks stunned!!



New Caretaker(s) for our Club

With the imminent departure of Brian, we were scratching our heads as to how to replace someone who appears irreplaceable. We realised that Brian had two major roles. One was

managing flying operations and the other was acting as a caretaker for the club. We felt we could delegate the flying operations to one or more members in the club. But the caretaker operation needed someone to be onsite.

We put a post in the Greytown, Carterton and Masterton community facebook groups. It was for being a voluntary resident caretaker in return for free use of facilities at the club. Of the 4 applications, Andrea Herrick (Ondy) and Michael Bancroft (Mick) were the clear favourites. Mick will be the primary caretaker with the help of his partner Ondy.

They wish to stay in their own self contained caravan which will be moved on site in a temporary position until the camping ground dried out to allow it to be repositioned. When Brian vacates his cabin, this will become available for one of the summer crew.

Mick and Ondy are a very outgoing couple and they can't wait to get started and learn from Brian when he returns from his break down south. I think you will really enjoy their contribution to the club. When you next meet them, please introduce yourself and make them feel welcome.



Mick & Ondy with their fluffy children!

Save the Dates

- Brian's Farewell
We are having a farewell rager for Brian Sharpe on Saturday 5 August at the club house. Keep the date free and more details will follow.
- Annual Dinner
This is likely to be the first weekend in September. William Keedwell, who did a great job last year is organising this and looking to lock in a good venue.

- AGM
This is likely to be towards the end of September.

Birthday Launches

For June, the free birthday winch launches go to:

- Fritz Cooks
- Warren Dickinson
- Andrew Langton
- Kieran Cassidy
- Ana Souto
- Peter Walmsley
- Brian Sharpe

For July they are:

- Simon Casey
- Sam Higgins
- Katrina Merrifield
- Ross Sutherland
- Max Coburn
- Sol Patel

New Members

During April we welcomed the following new members:

- Max Coburn (Youth)



This month's funny side.