

AGC Weekly News

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

From the (acting) CFI



I have just returned from an airfield inspection at Drury. The airfield generally is soft at best, deteriorating to wet anywhere off the centreline. There is standing water in the ditch along the entry road.

No private vehicles should therefore be allowed to enter the runway.

I would expect that at current condition, landing aircraft would cause deep ruts in the landing area of Rwy 18, should the current wind direction continue into the weekend.

Weather forecasts:

Today

Fine, apart from the chance of a shower from evening. Southwesterlies.

Friday

Partly cloudy with one or two showers. Southwesterlies, fresh in the afternoon.

Saturday

Mostly cloudy, with isolated showers. Westerlies, becoming strong at night.

Sunday

Occasional rain, clearing to fine in the morning. Fresh southwesterlies, easing in the afternoon.

Regards,
Russell Thorne

From the Instructors' Course

Gerard Robertson





And then Russell said "Let's get in closer "

From the NZ Met Service

Climate Drivers - ENSO remains neutral, local drivers run the show

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains neutral, and should remain this way through September, with the most influential climate drivers originating closer to New Zealand. Longer-range models are picking a near-even chance of a weak La Niña developing in the October-December time frame.

The negative Southern Annular Mode (SAM), which directed an enhanced westerly flow across the South Island over the last few weeks, is expected to remain negative over the coming fortnight, though a weakening trend is likely during the second week of September with the frequency of westerly systems dropping slightly. The Tasman Sea Index (TSI) is picked to trend slightly positive by the middle of next week, with the North Island seeing a slight respite in the active weather seen recently as high pressure moves ashore.

The second half of September is likely to show near-normal SAM and positive TSI, with hints of a drier North Island under slow-moving high pressure, while the odd front slips over the South Island to bring near-average conditions.

September 2024 Outlook – Volatile

An active westerly flow brings frequent bursts of rain to western regions over the coming days, with Westland and Fiordland seeing the highest accumulation. Expect strong but warm westerly winds to extend across eastern New Zealand in advance of these systems. The flow tips towards a cooler southwesterly later next week, with temperatures falling slightly below normal across the South Island by the weekend. Model data supports a risk of widespread frosts and snowfalls from later next week in the south, particularly for inland Canterbury and Otago.

Little change during the second week of September, with a generally chilly outlook persisting across the country. Marginally wetter-than-normal conditions are expected for western South Island, along with an elevated risk for quick-moving snow events. Cooler than average for the North Island with near-average rainfall, with the one exception being in the southwest which could see an uptick in showers.

The southwesterly flow likely eases towards mid-month as a high pressure anomaly develops and becomes slow-moving east of the country. Chilly

mornings but warming afternoons will be the norm as ridges shift across New Zealand, while a gradual return to westerlies are possible, particularly across the South Island. A front or two is likely to bring brief bursts of rain in the south

each week, with diminishing returns further north. Soil moisture content is near saturation country-wide, but this is likely to decrease during the final weeks of September, with longer spells of fine weather becoming more likely.

Members Ads



Grob 109 Motorglider for sale

Grob 109 (ZK-GOC) is available for sale at Drury.

GOC has been progressively refurbished over the past 12 years by Ian Williams and has had its comprehensive 3000 hr inspection completed by Sailplane Services. It is in very tidy condition. Will be available with a new Annual and ARA.

Features:

- Upgraded engine (L2400 Limbach) NZCAA STC approved
- New Hoffmann 3-position propellor
- ADSB out installed

Will cruise at 95 Kts. Using around 15L per hr. 26:1 with prop feathered. Excellent for early glider instruction, paddock selection instruction etc. - no towplane or winch needed. Good stock of Limbach engine spares in New Zealand.

Price \$62,000 (or reasonable offer)

Contact **Ian Williams** for more information or a trial flight. ian@agcon.co.nz Mobile 021 980 194

This edition of the newsletter was compiled by Peter Wooley