

# OUTLANDING

The Taupo Gliding Club's Newsletter



## September 2024

*Welcome all to this edition of Outlanding. It is getting warmer, the days are getting longer and we have gone into daylight savings! This can only mean one thing. The official soaring season is getting closer and closer by the day. So are you ready?*

*Of course, we are also getting closer to the Central Plateau Soaring Competition. We need club members to assist and if you are able to help out, your assistance would be much appreciated. For our newer members, it is a great opportunity to see what can be achieved in a glider during soaring flights and a great time to ask experienced pilots about cross country flying.*

*As the next newsletter will be at the end of October, anyone who has an article or notification to be included into that edition, please have it to Trace by 20 October 2024.*

*Fly well and have fun! Cheers, Trace*

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## President News *by Martin Jones*

### Rabbits, Rabbits and more Rabbits

Currently we have a large number of rabbits actively burrowing on the airfield and the racecourse. Anyone who has a gun licence and the time to walk around the club in the evenings to deal with the



growing problem would be appreciated. It has been approved by council but before any shooting, the local police station is to be informed.

### Outdoor Activity

I am offering free ratings for anyone wanting do some mowing with the tractor. You don't require a medical and your rating never runs out.

The tractor runs very well except it has no brakes and the hydraulics don't work and the steering is very sloppy but it's a great tractor to drive.



You have plenty of thinking time while mowing!!

### Thank You

A big thanks to Ivan and Rob for spending a lot of time setting up Zero accounting system for the club. Great work chaps.

And thanks to Geoff Thompson for spending time on the ME trailer welding up the guards.

Peter Lynch has organised some protective coating for the glass door at the bottom of the stairway to make it much safer for anyone coming down. Thanks Peter.



*AND Thank you Martin for all the work you have been doing around the club.*

### Broom



If any club members have some spray, the broom bushes on 07 need a going over as they are getting very big.

## CFI News



As we are coming into the soaring season and good soaring weather you all need to be looking at your CURRENCY, MEDICALS, and BFR'S to make sure you are legal. If you have not flown in the last 90 days (for cross country pilots and above), and for students (a month) you will need a check flight. If you require a check flight just make a booking. For those cross country pilots, before spreading your wings and going cross country you should consider practising you short field

landings. It's not just a matter of dusting off or blowing out the cobwebs, you need to get in some practice to hone those skills.

On a safety matter, I see that some of us are getting into the habit of flying the glider to the hanger (you have not finished flying until the aircraft has come to a complete stop). This is not a good practise and in some cases leaves no room for error. Therefore, as a safety precaution, **NO** club glider is to be flown to within **50 metres** of the hangars, BBQ area or other parked aircraft. I would like to see private owners exercise the same restraint.

We had a visit from the Northern Region Operations Officer, David Moody, on the weekend of the 21<sup>st</sup> of September. He carried out my Instructor Competency Review and assessed Trace Austin for his 'A' CAT Instructor rating. Trace is not yet officially an 'A' CAT instructor until he receives the paperwork and as Gliding New Zealand is going through CAA recertification, it maybe a little while before he gets it. Congratulations Trace!

## Bill Dawson – Final Glide



Sadly, in early September, the club was informed of the passing of Bill Dawson after a long struggle with cancer over the last five years. Bill was a valued member and friend and he will be remembered for his friendship and contributions around the club from; fence repairs, working bees and retrieves.

Bill also had a love of sailing and his Model 'A' Ford. He also contributed to the tourism industry promoting Taupo with his endeavours. Bill was a genuine character and will be greatly missed.

## To Pee or not to Pee by Trace

A number of experienced soaring pilots have said that if you don't pee regularly during a summer cross country flight, then you aren't drinking enough fluid, and dehydration is the inevitable result. This can then lead to poor decision making and an ugly outcome.

There are a number of 'Pee' options available, but the only ones that are acceptable from a safety point of view are those that don't require you to divert your attention inside the cockpit and hence away from lookout and situational awareness.



One simple solution requires readily obtainable items: For men, the first is a penile sheath, otherwise known as a male external catheter. They come in various sizes, so there will be one to suit you, and they can be either connected directly to a "pee tube", if one is installed in the glider, or attached to a 750 – 1000ml leg bag, strapped to your leg. The leg bags can be washed out and reused, therefore, the only disposable item is the sheath.



It is a simple and easy option that makes your cross country flight much more relaxing. Order online or ask your pharmacy.

*The above information is totally useless for female pilots, but "Depends" and "She-Wees" are an alternative option for you!*

## Training Sessions

We will be holding a couple of training sessions in October covering; *taskPilot*, LX8000 and Oudie.



These will be conducted at the clubhouse. The first session will be about the LX8000 and Oudie on Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5.30pm and the *taskPilot* session will be held on Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Season Safety Briefing

The season safety briefing will be held at Clubhouse on Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> of October. The time for the briefing will be advised closer to the date. This is MANDATORY for all flying members'.

## New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members to the club:

- Tim Harrison, and
- Stephen Wilson

## Upcoming Events

Just a quick reminder about the following events.

- Training Sessions - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of October
- Season Safety Briefing – 12<sup>th</sup> of October
- CPSC Taupo – 2<sup>nd</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup> of November
- Northern Regionals Matamata – 23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> November
- *taskPilot* Championship – 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2024 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

## A Man and his Post



Before he could sit down and relax, Phil had to replace a damaged post. Thank you Phil.

*The beer in the picture was staged, or so they say 😊*



## Daylight Savings Nibbles and Drinks

After a splendid spring day a group of members and partners got together for an enjoyable evening at the club to celebrate daylight savings. The food was delicious, drinks refreshing and the company gratifying. There will be more social evenings in the coming months.



Humour

