

WARM AIR 22 Feb 2025

Aviation Sports Club Gliding Newsletter

THIS WEEKEND:

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Bank Acct: RNZAF BASE AUCKLAND AVIATION SPORTS CLUB 38-9014-0625483-000

Saturday 22 Feb	Instructing: Towing: Duty Pilot	R Burns G Cabre A Michael
Sunday 23 Feb	Instructing: Towing: Duty Pilot	S Wallace P Thorpe G Stanfield

MEMBERS NEWS

In this edition of Warm Air

Club News

Weekend Reports

Upcoming Events

Roster

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

Notices

A note regarding launch procedures:

A few weeks ago the instructor panel put out some clarification on launching gliders as the wing runner. As we all know, the wing runner is responsible for the safety of the launch, however that does not mean they are the only person who is allowed to stop a launch. If you are at the caravan watching a launch take place and notice an unsafe situation, you are allowed to yell stop. This could be another aircraft on very short finals, someone running or driving across the runway, or any other unsafe situation. The best way to do this is get on the radio and call "Stop stop stop". Once the launch is stopped, the situation can be discussed with the instructor and resolved. Do not try and run up to the launch to stop it as that places you in a dangerous position.

If there is something else wrong with the launch but it is not a safety issue, do not say anything while the launch is ongoing. This is likely to cause confusion and distract the pilots and wing runner. If it is something the wingrunner has forgotten or isn't doing correctly, talk to them after the aircraft has launched and help them on the next launch if needed. If it is anything else, bring it up with the duty instructor.

Thanks all,
Izzy

MP – remains unserviceable

Instructor Report Saturday – Ivor reports on the rodeo ride

Saturday started early in the Puriri cafe. Towie Ray and myself met there for coffee and breakfast, and then opened up the field early for our twin trailer, which was being returned, having been borrowed for a trip to Kaikohe. The weather was fairly wild, with a stiff easterly breeze blowing and a low looking cloudbase, although there were some patches of blue sky, and at least the breeze was generally down the strip.

A few keen people did turn up wanting to fly, including Ryan and Ben S, who ended up having 3 flights each. First up was Ryan, who quickly discovered the air was as unsettled as it looked, with cloudbase

at just over 2000' and a stronger breeze at that height meaning care was needed not to get too far away. Ryan handled it well, and after a short and unsuccessful search for lift made a well controlled and accurate landing.

Ben was next, flying confidently from the back seat and judging his circuit and very accurate landing well. On the next flight Ryan managed to find some lift amongst the sink, achieving a longer soaring flight around the encroaching rain, and then getting low north of the field and judging a direct join onto base well, while also keeping the tower clear of his intentions.

Once the rain had mostly moved through, Ben went up again, and this time the conditions were even more gusty. The flight was well controlled, with the final approach and landing being particularly tricky. As we were rounding out for the touchdown we encountered a flock of birds, which mostly managed to just rise up over the glider as it approached. However, one oystercatcher was not quick enough and got swept under the wing. We did not hear or feel anything, however on getting out of the glider we could see the unfortunate bird lying on the ground, apparently lifeless. We contacted the tower to let them know, and then went over to the bird, which was clearly still alive, although very stunned by the encounter. Someone from Base soon joined us and collected the bird, which was not really reacting, but appeared to be physically uninjured.

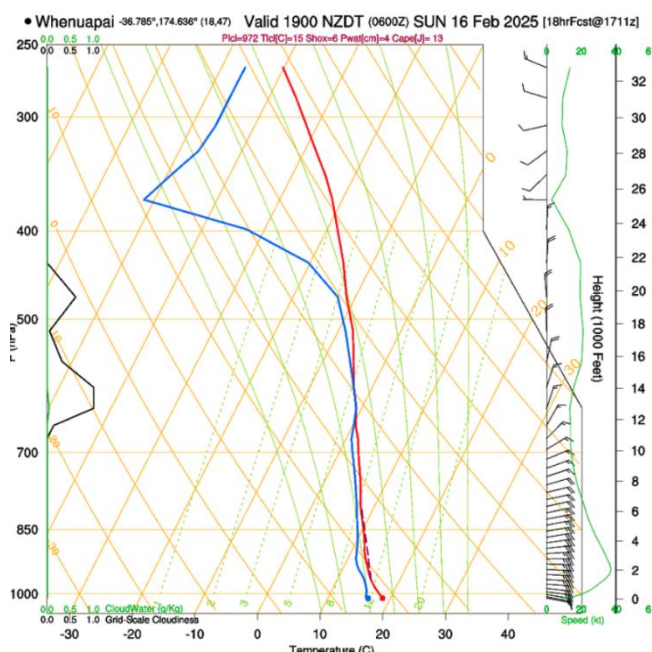
While the bird was taken onto Base, Ben went up for a final circuit to practice landing in the conditions, and this time his landing was extremely well controlled, which he was happy with. For the final flight of the day, Ryan went up for a circuit, and practiced a landing mid way down the strip, planning on stopping closer to the hangar end. An excellent first attempt, in difficult conditions. As we were getting out of the glider we got the good news that the oystercatcher, having sat for close to an hour over near the tower, finally flew strongly away, seemingly none the worse for the ordeal.

By now it was after 1600, as we had to have waited for the weather, including several rain showers, to pass through amongst the flights. Most people opted to head home, although I stayed on while Izzy and her father completed further work on her Ka6 trailer, and by the time we all left the field around 1800, the wing supports had been generally completed and the wings were both successfully fitted into the trailer. Overall a good day of flying despite the less than optimum conditions.

Instructor Report Sunday – Steve Wallace

I was meant to be filling in for Andrew but the forecast was a bit dismal rain and wind wise. It was raining at home when I checked in with Pete who was towing. Pete said it was blue to the west and broken cloud at Whenuapai. I needed to catch up with Craig who was helping Ben with his trailer so headed out. Once at Whenuapai the weather was not too bad so we got NF out and Tony gave her a DI. While the wind on the ground was only 15kts or so straight down the 08 runway it was a 20kt plus easterly up top. The forecast also had the 2,000' wind rising to 30kts then 40kts later in the day. Tony who was our only taker at this point decided he would prefer to fly on a fairer weather day so we packed everything away again and left the trailer repair club who out-numbered us to carry on with their day.

Steve



Duty Roster For Jan, Feb, Mar

Month	Date	Duty Pilot	Instructor	Tow Pilot
Feb	22	A MICHAEL	R BURNS	G CABRE
	23	G STANFIELD	S WALLACE	P THORPE
Mar	1	K JASICA	I BURR	R CARSWELL
	2	C HAYWARD-SLATTERY	P THORPE	R HEYNIKE
	8	A NEJATI	L PAGE	R BURNS
	9	M KUYS	I WOODFIELD	G CABRE
	15	M WEYNA	A FLETCHER	P THORPE
	16		R BURNS	R CARSWELL
	22	K BHASHYAM	S WALLACE	R HEYNIKE
	23	I O'KEEFE	S WALLACE	R BURNS
	29	T PRENTICE	P THORPE	G CABRE
	30	R SEMMENS	L PAGE	R CARSWELL