

WARM AIR 24 May 2025

Aviation Sports Club Gliding Newsletter

THIS WEEKEND:

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

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

Weekend Roster

Saturday	Instructing:	I Woodfield
24 May	Towing:	R Heynike
	Duty Pilot	T Prentice
Sunday	Instructing:	R Burns
25 May	Towing:	R Carswell
	Duty Pilot	R Semmens

MEMBERS NEWS

In this edition of Warm Air

Club News

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Roster

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

Events

GNZ 75th Anniversary Celebratory Gala Dinner

This is an opportunity you do not want to miss. Being held on the evening of **Saturday 14th June, in Auckland**, there are six guest speakers telling the stories of;

- New Zealand's first known glider flight in 1909
- Stories from NZ's great female glider pilots (including how grumpy the males were when NZ's first ever Silver C was achieved by a female pilot)
- Keith Wakeman's story, stunning the world in 1957, making NZ and international headlines when he flew 435km in an astonishing 2hrs 50mins, 153km/hr, a speed unheard of in the gliding world at the time. This was also the first ever crossing of Cook Strait in a glider (the second ever crossing by the way was also by Keith in none other than Ray and Andrew's K6 – ZK-GBU).
- Doug Yarrall's New Zealand (and at the time world) absolute altitude record of 37,288ft on 10th March 1968, a record which has stood for over 60 years. The New Zealand two-seater absolute altitude record by the way is held by, then Aviation Sports Club members, Peter Coveny and Roger Read (37,108ft).
- Bruce Drake talking about the World Goal & Free Distance Record of 1,254km set by himself, Dick Georgeson and Dave Speight (bottom of the South Island to the tip of the North Island's east cape).
- Terry Delore – talking about some of his incredible gliding feats, including his recent Bluff to Cape Reinga flight. If you have never heard Terry speak he is a must.

All this and much more with video and slide shows from NZ's gliding history.

We have more than 70 current and former glider pilots coming from all around the country so it would be nice to see some of our local ASC pilots there as well.

Link below with details on how to book.

<https://kor.qwilr.com/75th-Anniversary-Gala-Dinner-2Jj3C3r3TLmb>

Steve Wallace – GNZ President

Weekend Reports

Saturday – Izzy reports

I woke up on Saturday to a text from Phil telling me he had already picked up the key. This led to a realisation I was meant to be at Whenuapai in 15 minutes for Cadet flying, not in 1 hour 15 minutes as I had naively believed (red mark to me for not checking the calendar). I arrived 30 minutes late to find the glider and towplane out and in the midst of a DI thanks to Phil. We dragged everything down to set up on 08 with only a light Northerly forecast for the day. I had a total of 6 cadet flights scheduled for the day, with Lionel taking another 10 in the 109. I ended up with one extra cadet to help Lionel out as we didn't have much interest from club members. In the middle of the Cadet flights I took Deb and Dennis Warrington up for a trial flight each. They live in Riverhead and were curious after watching us fly over their house for years, so a very kind neighbour who has also been up with us bought them flights for a Christmas present. Both were keen to come back and have a go on the controls for their next flight.

On the single seater front, Dave Todd saw that there was some lift forecast so decided to take his Ventus for a spin, managing the longest flight of the day at 2:15, almost twice the length of the next longest which was Ben Sly in MP. Tony also decided to air BD for a short flight. My only club flight for the day was with Marley, where I pretended to be his big sister who he was taking up as a passenger. He did very well with the briefing and flying, although I think he decided it would be easier when flying with a real passenger and not a judgemental instructor in the back seat. *Ed:(some might say that is a Big Sister role)*

The final flight for the day was Ben G and Alex taking NF up for a quick circuit. Thanks to Gus for providing towing services, Tony for get the Jungle juice for RDW, Phil for supporting all operations and to Ian for simultaneously acting as duty pilot, tractor driver and occasional wing runner (I swear he must have cloned himself). *Yeah a busy but smooth day and great effort by all involved.*

Izzy

Sunday – Lionel reports

Forecast to be a non-flying day, only the tow pilot (Tony), duty pilot (Kishan), myself and Peter Thorpe arrived at the field.

After discovering that RDW had a flat left tyre, we inflated it and pulled it out of the hangar. We washed her and then decided to remove the cowls and cleaned them too.

Peter mentioned that the grass was quite long under the derelict trailers so Kishan and I moved trailers and mowed the grass. Peter, Kishan and myself then went to the madhut to refill water containers and give the toilet a clean.

That done, I decided to call it quits as I saw Tony take RDW for a few circuits.

I left Kishan, Peter and Tony to close up and headed home to get some more chores done.

Duty Roster For Apr,May,Jun

Month	Date	Duty Pilot	Instructor	Tow Pilot	109
May	24	T PRENTICE	I WOODFIELD	R HEYNIKE	RB (40)
	25	R SEMMENS	R BURNS	R CARSWELL	PT(40)
Kings Bday	31	P SCARBOROUGH	P THORPE	R BURNS	
	1	E YEOMAN	A FLETCHER	T STRUGNELL	
	2	A SHIPOV	S WALLACE	R BURNS	
	7	B SLY	I BURR	P THORPE	
	8	C BEST	L PAGE	R CARSWELL	RB
	14	S CHAND	I WOODFIELD	R HEYNIKE	
	15	B GAMBARO	A FLETCHER	T STRUGNELL	
	20	A MICHAEL	P THORPE	R BURNS	
	21	G STANFIELD	S WALLACE	G CABRE	
	22	K JASICA	I BURR	R CARSWELL	
	28	C HAYWARD-SLATTERY	R BURNS	P THORPE	
	29	A NEJATI	L PAGE	T STRUGNELL	