

THE FLYPAPER

April 2006

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From The Presidents Cockpit

It is interesting how at times a number of things point to the fact that action needs to be taken. At our last instructors meeting one of the instructors requested a review of the way instruction was delivered to the membership. So a sub committee was formed and we have had weekly meetings since to formulate some positive changes.

After the second meeting I attended the GNZ strategic Planning Meeting (see later report) which also pointed out the need for a review. While tidying the records I stumbled across a questionnaire put out prior to my joining of the club, which alluded to the desirability of a review. Planning is still underway but I can see a recommendation will go to the instructors panel and if accepted go on to the committee for its consideration. Obviously it is too early to be specific as to what may come of all this at this stage. Rest assured that the needs of all members, new and old is kept at the forefront of our minds. Personally I feel quite excited about this, for both the instructors, and the pilots under training.

A big thank you to all those who came out to help with the 'Big Day Up'. The presence of so many in the club Tee shirts all talking to different groups of visitors gave a very good impression of the club. You will be pleased to know that it has lead to at least 1 new member and I believe others are on the 6 pack scheme. Well done.

As always I look forward to seeing you enjoying one of the great playgrounds of the world.

Bill Mace

President

Dust buster Wanted

As the Club Members would like to take responsibility for their crumbs in the lounge area there is a need for a dust buster to make the job easier. While we pay for a cleaning lady once a week to clean the clubhouse, she can't actually be there to clean up after us every evening. So does anyone have a serviceable battery powered dust buster they could donate to the club?

If you can help please contact Bill.

Trawling For New Members

What do the Centre Place promotion, The Big Day Up, Introduction to Gliding Days, and participation in radio station The Breeze's Ultimate Challenge all have in common? They all lead people towards our "Learn to Fly" courses!

The End Game

The club currently needs to recruit 10-14 new members every year just to remain static in numbers. We have been working on streamlining promotion and recruiting to give a more constant flow of new members, and work is now underway to improve access to training in order to improve member retention, and for the enjoyment of everyone involved.

National Gliding Day: The Big Day Up

What a great response from club members. We had about 15 members out helping with the Big Day Up. Julian Mason did an excellent aerobatics display, Jan Mace ran a rather yummy and much appreciated café, and the exhibits and slide shows worked really well. The number of visitors was building nicely through the morning before the weather absolutely crapped out at noon and then visitors pretty much stopped arriving. But despite that we still had about 55 people come out for a good overview of our sport.

Radio Station The Breeze's Ultimate Challenge

The Big Day Up was promoted nationally by radio network Solid Gold FM in a GNZ arranged deal. After The Big Day Up I sent feedback saying that the Waikato Solid Gold people had not done as good a job as stations in other regions and they immediately came back with an offer to do a promotion free of charge via The Breeze! So for two weeks our club was the focus of The Ultimate Challenge on Dave Grove's morning show. The contest winner got a full on aerobatics flight with Gareth Pryce. The idea behind doing an aerobatics flight was to promote the sport as being more than a bunch of boring old farts floating to earth!

Introduction to Gliding Days

We have run two Introduction to Gliding Days this year, with the next one scheduled for the first Sunday of May. The first two Intro Days had 4 and 11 people respectively who spent a day at the airfield getting briefings and going for flights. The general promotions such as The Big Day Up and the Ultimate Challenge (as well as the Centre Place promotion) are aimed at getting gliding into the public eye, and building awareness and interest. The Introduction to Gliding Days are aimed at those with a more serious interest in learning about the sport of gliding and how to go about getting into the sport.

Learn To Fly Courses

All this activity leads us to the ultimate goal of getting new members and teaching them to fly! The instructor's panel will be running a Learn to Fly course starting 29 April and running for 6 consecutive Saturdays. This course is fully booked already, and a waiting list is starting for the next course.

Trevor Atkins

Club Captain

Advance Notice of the AGM

Unless advised otherwise over the next couple of months the 2006 AGM will be held at 1600 hours on Saturday August 12th. To be followed by nibbles.

Advance Notice of the Annual Club Dinner

We have been extremely fortunate in being able to engage Ben Flewett to share his experiences while flying and winning the recent Gliding Grand Prix at Omarama. Book this date now; Ben is one of the best racing pilots in the world and an incredibly enthusiastic person. A fantastic night is guaranteed.

Date: 24th June 2006

Time: 1900 hours

Venue: The Clubhouse

Catered Dinner: details later.

Apparel

Negotiations are well underway for you to be able to order direct from the embroiderer's website the articles of apparel you desire, each with a Club Logo on it. The range includes shirts, bucket hats, polar fleece sweaters, etc., but unfortunately not lightweight white flying overalls or full latex body suits.

Negotiations are proceeding so you may order by a specific date and pay on line then the combined order will be put through **in one run** with our logo.

The clothing available can be viewed on the following websites;

Hats: <http://www.headwear.com.au/hatList.cfm?pCategoryID=7>

Jackets, shirts, etc.:

<http://www.essentialsapparel.co.nz/>

<http://www.no-limit.co.nz/ANH/ANHCatalogue.html>

More details and instructions will be provided at a later date.

ANZAC Day

Today was ANZAC day which means it was also the annual 'Land out BBQ' and even though it hardly stopped raining all day we welcomed about 30 (out of 70) farmers plus another 20 or so members and their families turned up.

Who said there's no such thing as a free lunch?

Our visitors were treated to a showing of the new "Grand Prix" DVD, if you haven't got a copy of this then get one now, it's the best gliding video EVER.

CFI BITS N PIECES

Six Saturday Course

We have six new members completing a new course. You could say it is a Six Saturday Six Student Course (what a mouthful). There has been a lot of work going on in the background and I am convinced that it will be a great course and possibly a forerunner for future courses. It starts this weekend coming.

Spinning

Talk of spinning can turn some pilots very cold and there would be a good number of our membership who do little or no practice. It is a very important part of the skills that we need to develop. We are so often flying very close to the stall and the risk of a spin low down can have pretty serious consequences. The benefit of practicing spinning has to do with recognition and avoidance. Often the symptoms are disguised, particularly when focussing on other things. It is a very safe manoeuvre, so long as you have altitude. The more you practice it the easier it becomes.

Achievements

Well done Paul Castle and June Ritter for 1st solos. Also Julian Mason on getting his A cat instructors rating. We now have three A cats in the club.

Land outs

I can not recall a year where our club members have completed so many out-landings; all without incident or accident. I am sure that we are all making sure that landings are well prepared and planned.

My 2006 So Far

I have kept thinking that we have had a really bad weather so far this year. Looking through my logbook since the 1st Jan I have had 3 wave flights to 6,500ft 1 to 5000ft and a thermal flight to 6,500ft. I have had the vario pegged at over 10 kts (constant) on 3 separate flights. One 300km gold distance flight. 5 land-outs, 48 hours flying time and about 1,000km total cross country flying

The cross country flying would be pretty boring if I was doing it with no one else around. For me, my biggest pleasure is to share and encourage others to develop the skills needed to fly cross country safely.

Safe flying

Steve

Safety Tip

Time how long it takes rain squalls to travel from points like the Cambridge hills or Morrinsville to the Kaimais and also time how long it takes you to get back to Te Aroha or the airfield. Do this repeatedly and memorise these times.

Editor

Learn to Fly Course

Lots of work has been going on behind the scenes to

- improve the number of students in training
- increase the amount of time instructors spend training students relative to the amount of time spent doing trial flights
- reduce the total amount of time spent servicing the club's flying operation so we can all spend more time actually flying.

The first things you'll notice as a result of this exercise is a "Learn to Fly" course (A-Certificate) starting on 29 April and running for 6 consecutive Saturdays.

Make Bookings to Improve Your Access

During the 6 Saturdays that the Learn to Fly course is running both twins will be booked up all day for the course. During this 6 week period we will try to improve access to the gliders on the Sunday by enabling you to book a glider and instructor for any time during the day. To book a glider on Sunday or Wednesday **afternoon** during this period call the booking desk, 07 827 8841 (leave a message if you get the answer phone), or send an email to trevor.atkins@hortvision.co.nz

Experimenting

The move to training through more organised courses and making a lot more use of the booking desk is a bit of an experiment to see if we can improve the way we do things at our airfield. It will require tuning up as we go and your feedback will be needed... as will your patience!

ACCESS TO CLUB GLIDERS 29 APRIL - 3 JUNE

During this period a six Saturday "Learn to Fly" course will be running so both the club's twins and the instructors will be tied up all day. Both twins will not be available on six consecutive Saturdays starting 29 April. We will also be trying a booking experiment on the Sundays and Wednesdays during this period.

- You can call the booking desk on 07 827 8841 to book a glider for ANY TIME on Sunday or Wednesday **afternoon** during this period, or you can email trevor.atkins@hortvision.co.nz
- Bookings will be with the duty instructor until their day is filled. If you need another instructor because the first is booked out arrange a time with your favourite instructor **THEN** call the booking desk to book glider time. Don't forget you can view the current bookings on the club website www.glidingmatamata.co.nz by clicking on the Roster then Bookings link.
- If you have left a message at the booking desk make sure to check the website to confirm your booking has not conflicted with another member's booking.

We know that this system will need refining, and we will be trying to knock the rough edges off it during this period but we are looking for new and better ways to organise ourselves and this is a pretty good time of year to try a new system.

DUTY ROSTER

Date	Event	Tow pilot	Instr.	Instr.	Duty Pilot
19-Apr		Oates	Shanks		Mavis
22-Apr		Bowling	Pryce		Courtney
23-Apr		McGregor	Davies		Beale
25-Apr	Anzac Day	Petch	Jeffrey	Gray	Round
26-Apr		Oates	Mace		Mavis
29-Apr	Course	Shuttleworth	Gore	Mace	Rudge
30-Apr		Nicholson	Turney		J. Hall
3-May		Oates	Gore		Mavis
6-May	Course	Hector	Gore	Gray	Van Vleit
7-May		Small	Davies		Taylor
10-May		Oates	Turney		Mavis
13-May	Course	Scholes	Gore	Gray	Cox
14-May		Nicholson	Jeffrey		Crequer
17-May		Oates	Shanks		Mavis
20-May	Course	Davies	Pryce	Kunnemeyer	McRae
21-May		Harding	Brown		O'Brien
24-May		Oates	Mace		Mavis
27-May	Course	Bowling	Pryce	Kunnemeyer	Powers
28-May		McGregor	Scholes		Qualtrough
31-May		Oates	Gore		Mavis
3-Jun	Course	Petch	Pryce	Kunnemeyer	Cook
4-Jun		Shuttleworth	Jeffrey		Rogerson
5-Jun	Queens Birthday	Scholes	Badger		Robinson
7-Jun		Oates	Turney		Mavis
10-Jun		Hector	Davies		Reed
11-Jun		Small	Smith		Hewitt
14-Jun		Oates	Shanks		Mavis
17-Jun		TBA	Mason		Stevens
18-Jun		TBA	Brown		Marais
21-Jun		Oates	Mace		Mavis
24-Jun		TBA	Davies		Ritting
25-Jun		TBA	Jeffrey		Randrup
28-Jun		Oates	Gore		Mavis

1-Jul		TBA	Badger	Care	Medero
2-Jul		TBA	Pryce		Annabell
5-Jul		Oates	Turney		Mavis
8-Jul		TBA	Kunnemeyer		Castle
9-Jul		TBA	Smith		White

This space is available for incredibly cheap (read free) advertising. Got a hangar, a glider, a vario or any other gliding paraphernalia or service to sell then here is the place to advertise.