



Flying boats in Wellington

I received some photos via Ross Monk , who got them from a friend of his. This got me interested so did a bit of research myself.

The first commercial flying boat service between Sydney and Wellington began in October 1950. The Wellington base was Evans Bay. Planes docked beside a small passenger terminal near Hataitai Beach. The trip to Sydney took about seven hours. The service ceased in 1954 when regular planes started flying across the Tasman Sea.

I have added this link , which offers a bit a more reading for those that are interested.

<http://theflyingboatforum.forumlaunch.net/viewtopic.php?f=42&t=1510>



I 'm not sure where the photos are from, or who took them, so can't acknowledge them properly.
I'm guessing they are from the internet and hope they won't mind me sharing some NZ history

Steve also added this fond memory.

'When I was a wee nipper, one of my Uncles was returning from Korea and flew into the flying boat base in one of these machines.

I distinctly remember all of the family going there to wait for him to arrive.

We all waited in an arrival hall of some sort. Memory is fairly sketchy, but it seemed like we waited for hours before the flying boat landed and taxied in."

Ed's note : Nothing has changed then, you can still wait for hours at Wellington airport... I'm sure parking was a lot cheaper then.

Another article sent to me...

this one from Gordon Wood via a friend, and I'm guessing via the internet.

During a private fly-in fishing excursion into the Alaskan wilderness, the chartered pilot and fishermen left a cooler with bait in the plane. And a bear smelled it.

This is what it did to the plane



The pilot used his radio and had another pilot bring him two new tyres, three cases of duct tape, and a supply of sheet plastic. He then patched the plane together, and FLEW IT HOME



Duct tape... never leave home without it.



The Presidential Podium

Hi all,

January already and I just wish we could skite about the many great flying days we have been enjoying! Not so unfortunately, and sadly I have had to miss a couple of the few good ones there have been. I'm consoled by the fact that weather this time of year isn't always flash, and hopefully some really good stuff is just around the corner!

I hope you all have enjoyed/are enjoying the festive season. For the Silver Fox squadron, the festive season kicked off in style with the Xmas BBQ. Unfortunately the weather wasn't great and numbers were down, but those that did turn up enjoyed a few 'extras', thanks to Deanne and his daughter's catering business. I noted from afar that a few managed to sneak out for a quick fly on Xmas day.

With the promise (hopefully) of some good flying weather, now is the time to take advantage and practice those flying skills you feel least secure in. It's also a grand opportunity to sit your Wings Badge if you haven't yet done so. Remember, without the wings badge you cannot fly without an observer, and definitely not at the strip alone. So if the wings badge is something you need to complete, get into it.

Wayne Boness (GWRC) fronted the BBQ in December and is hopeful he will again be able to source some metal for our driveway.

Other Stuff.

Ron's 'Retiring'

Last month I mentioned that after Feb, Ron is 'retiring' from his many tasks for the club. I gave a pretty good rundown of what we need cover for, but haven't been 'rushed' with volunteers.

Club Nights

I also mentioned last month we are looking for speakers or interesting stuff for club nights. Always open to suggestions.

New and repaired models?

I've seen a few new and repaired models at the strip lately and been asked on several occasions to carry out inspections on same. More often than not, nothing untoward is found, but I have at times found reversed servos and loose engines etc. Remember, all new and repaired models are to be inspected before flying. It's not done to catch you out, but is very much to protect your model and hopefully prevent a preventable 'Incident'. It's a safety thing and is one of our rules.

Rally 2017

The rally this year is again the 2nd weekend of March, 11th/12th. You will see from Flyers World and our website, that the ad is the same as last year, with just the dates changed.

Something I realised when thinking about this, is that the ad we use is really aimed at flyers, not a suitable 'poster' advertising the event. So this year we have designed a separate poster for the rally. (Thanks to Ernie). This is the poster that hopefully you will spread far and wide. A copy is included here for your perusal



Rally poster

Ed's note: If you would like to print some, to place around your area, let me or Steve know and we will send you a PDF copy.

FEES FOR the 2017/2018 Financial Year

In my last lot of Club Notices I mentioned the requirement for fees to be paid for MFNZ prior to 31 March. I cannot put it better than Dave has in the Tauranga newsletter, I repeat his note below. I have personally met with Jonathan Shorer on this matter and discussed it with him in detail. It is something we need to comply with.

We are currently having our membership database changed to issue a more specific invoice and I am also hopeful we will be able to email these out directly. The invoices will be issued late February for payment by 31/3.

Doing so is not outside our constitution, but what it means is that we cannot look to increase our own fee prior to our AGM. It is impractical to invoice separately for the MFNZ fee and our own.

Dave has put it this way:

MFNZ Fees must be paid by 31st March. *The insurers are taking a tougher stance than we previously operated to, and the general rule is "No insurance – No cover. No cover – no fly" after 31st March. You can expect an invoice late February for MFNZ and club fees,*

Steve

Flying Etiquette

Observation made by myself at the club, Friday 30th Dec 2016

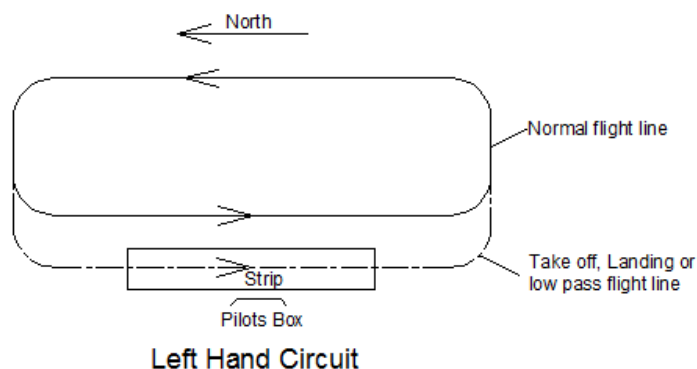
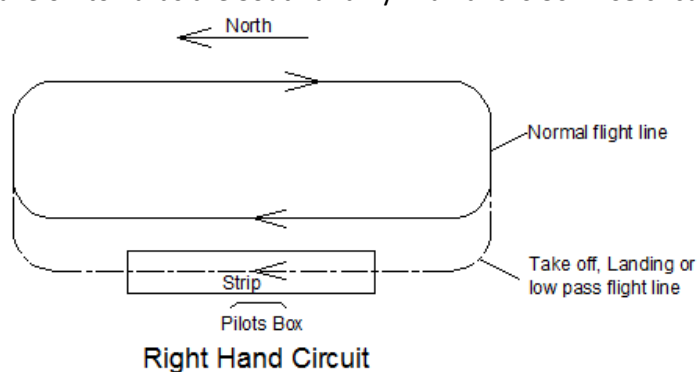
Not to sound like a nag but this irritates me and I know it does other members as well.

The wind was very fickle , swinging between a Southerly, Westerly and Northerly , only a couple of knots so nothing to really worry about ... On days like this, several members seem to get excited and forget about safety. There were three aircraft in the air, the first member up was trying to fly a circuit the other two who joined were all over the sky. No circuits, and no observers.

So guys, please talk to each other, if you are joining in, check with the people in the pilot's box that they are ok with you going up, and what circuit is being flown, if the person or persons flying appear vague , pick a circuit , communicate and agree which direction you will **all** be flying. If things change let everyone in the pilots box know in which direction you are landing. Oh yes ... please let them know that you are landing!.. For those that are unsure .

Right Hand Circuit, take off towards the North and fly in a **clockwise** circuit.

Left Hand Circuit, take off towards the South and fly in an **anti clockwise** circuit



Smoking

I thought this would have been rather obvious, but appears not... please note!!

No Smoking in the pits area.

If you see any member or visitor doing so , please tell them to move out of the area.

I was told that there were several cigarette butts found in the pits area which had to be picked up by the maintenance crew. This is unacceptable, either take your butts home or eat them, but please do not litter our club grounds.

New Year's eve... Club BBQ

Despite windy conditions , 12 people attended the New Years eve BBQ held at the club. Although the Northerly wind was quite strong , it was straight down the strip and was fine to fly. We found a sheltered spot to sit on the South side of the clubhouse, where could partake in a glass of wine and share some lies. Everyone cooked their own, and I noticed some potential chefs amongst the members , so if you are looking for someone for the Silver Squadron BBQ , I can make some recommendations. It was a great evening and everyone enjoyed themselves. Most had a fly as well.

Always keen to get people into the air, John Miller had his "electric glider" and didn't take him long to get Rae, as well as Ron to have a go .



Rae helping John with some aerobatic tips, as Ian looks on .



Not to be outdone, Ron also thought he could show John how it's done. Ian patiently waiting for a turn.

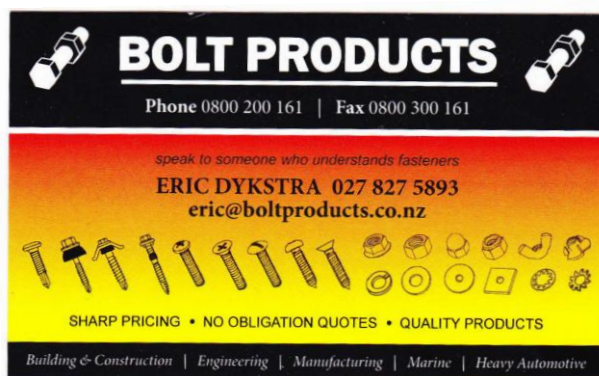
Well done, that's the spirit of the club ... get in there and have a go. Thanks John for helping out. I think we need to do more of this in the future.



Warner and Ron looking after some of the ladies

Looking for nuts and bolts

Ross sent me this business card and tells me that this guy has a good selection, including stainless screws and nuts etc. from 2.5mm, great for modellers. The shop is in Te Roto Drive, Pararau . (on the corner, right hand side heading North.) Not sure of the hours as I know he is not there full time, may pay to ring first.



Should have taken up storm chasing!.

Wondered why no one was flying yesterday (Mon 2/1/2017) ... it was quite calm at home in the morning, then I checked out the weather, mmmmh. Look at those wind figures!.

Averages ↔ updated: 18:18:47 Mon NZDT

Time	10:30	10:45	11h	11:15	11:30	11:45	12h	12:15	12:30	12:45	13h	13:15	13:30	13:45	14h	14:15	14:30	14:45	15h	15:15	15:30	15:45	16h	16:15	16:30	16:45	17h	17:15	17:30	17:45	18h	18:15
Speed	36	36	41	40	40	42	41	41	45	43	40	42	44	39	37	39	38	41	38	36	41	36	40	37	38	35	39	41	42	44	44	45
Gust (km/h)	55	56	62	57	63	68	63	63	65	59	61	68	58	59	61	61	56	58	61	51	57	56	61	56	55	51	57	62	65	63	65	64
Direction	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	
Direction (deg)	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE
Rain(mm)	(130)	(129)	(131)	(128)	(136)	(140)	(130)	(132)	(132)	(126)	(130)	(131)	(137)	(138)	(133)	(131)	(131)	(142)	(135)	(138)	(128)	(128)	(138)	(133)	(131)	(132)	(134)	(131)	(129)	(133)	(133)	(135)
Air Temp. C	18.7	18.6	17.9	18.1	17.6	17.5	17.3	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.2	17.6	17.4	17.8	18.0	18.1	18.1	18.2	18.0	18.3	18.0	18.1	18.1	18.5	18.0	17.6	17.7	17.1	16.7	16.4	15.8	16.0

The weather station is really great and saves a lot of time and petrol. Check before you pack the car, then have a quick look again before heading out, as the wind sometimes changes within half an hour or so ... don't ask how I know.

For those that have been hibernating , link to weather station below.

<http://holfuy.com/en/data/358>

And that's it guys, let's hope for some good flying in 2017.

Remember ... Rally is approaching and once again we will need helpers , please don't be shy to put your hand up to help out.

Fly hard , land soft...

Don
Editor