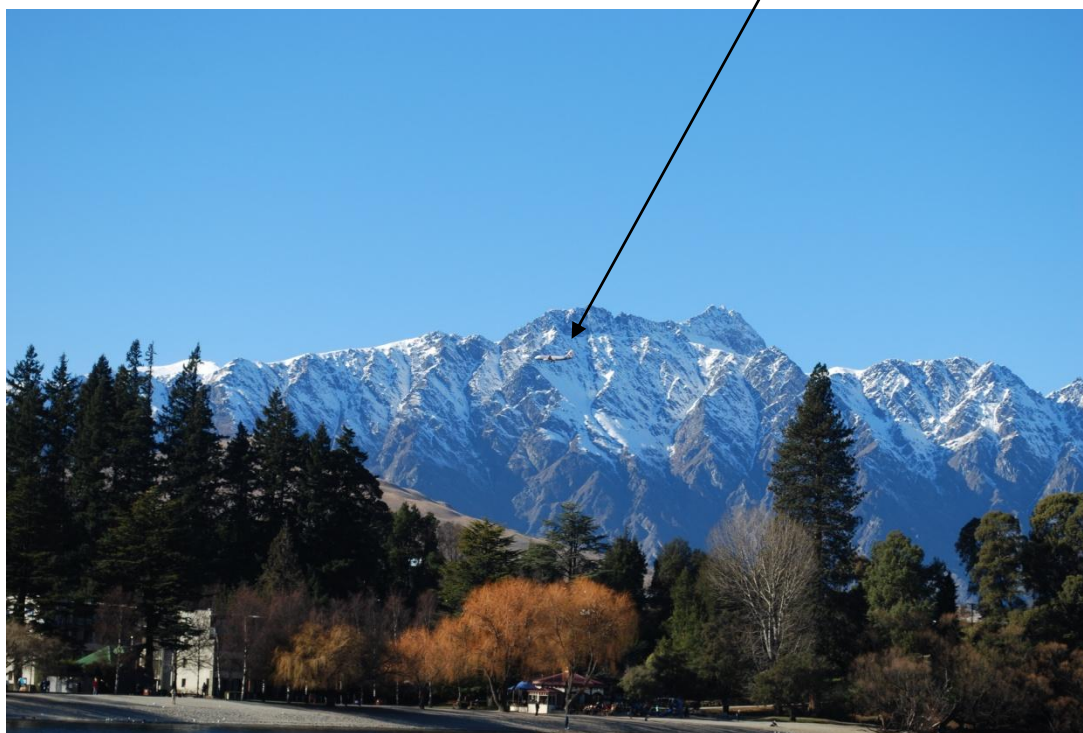
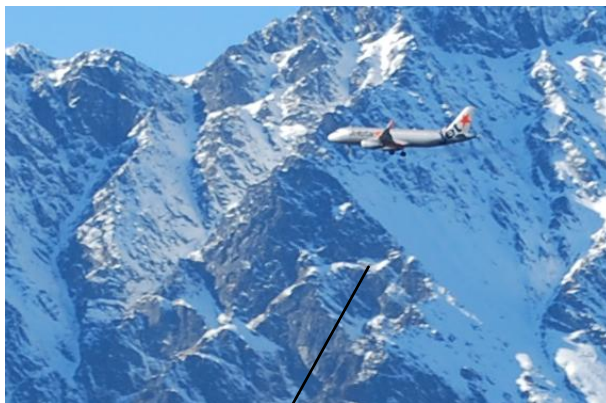




## October 2017



### A Remarkable approach.

For a pilot this has to be one of the most scenic approaches around. It can obviously get tricky especially when approaching from the North, or if the weather is rough, however coming in from the South and over the lake on a calm day must be an amazing view from the "office".

I recently spent a weekend in Queenstown, and couldn't resist sharing this photo. Unfortunately I had the camera settings wrong and my photos of the Air New Zealand A320, were over exposed, so I had to use the Jetstar aircraft. Believe it or not we had two days of sunshine ... on a weekend!

I was also able to capture some flying of a different sort. We had gone for a trip up the cable car to get a view from the top. While up there I walked to the paragliding launch site to see if anyone was going for a glide. While waiting there, a fellow walked up with all his gear on his back. I asked him if he was going, and his reply was, "Yes, but not from here, if you want you can follow me to our other launch site, its only about 10mins walk from here, but it's not that clearly marked". We'll I thought it's too good an opportunity to miss, so Anne and I joined him. I'm not sure what watch he uses but his 10mins were about 20mins plus on my watch. But ... well worth the walk, WOW. what a view from that side, plus watching several guys prepare and hurl themselves of the mountain. Altitude 2980ft AMSL.





## **From the Prez**

Hi all,

Another month slipped by. I was working out club night speakers and things the other day to realise we only have 2 more club nights this year, as we don't meet in December.

How the time has flown.

Talking about flying, the rain only departs for very short periods of time and we are now into typical blustery wind conditions for this time of year. With daylight saving now perking us up each day, hopefully the weather gods will relent and extended time at the field will be welcomed.

I'm hoping that this flying season we will be able to get a few twilight BBQs done. That had been the intention throughout last summer, but again the weather gods rained upon the plan!

Some of you will recall that at the AGM, it was mooted that we try and get some sort of public day going to encourage visitors and give people a go (especially as we had lost the Rally). We have discussed in committee at length, examined the prospect of out and out advertising and the difficulty of nominating a day or weekend. The plan at the moment is to take advantage of the 'What's on' columns in the local newspapers. If you have a look at these, they are often used as advertising for local clubs. So the plan is that when we start to get some settled weather, we will put entries into these columns encouraging people to come along and see what develops. We also discussed a handout in the form of a flyer that would be available in the club house to give to interested people. This has gone through a few permutations and it is hoped will be available there before long. We've had a few visitors to the club of late from other clubs and it is hoped we see more of them.

All in all I think the club is in good heart and look forward to sharing some decent flying days with you.

- Steve

## **Club Rules.**

Last month I talked about club rules, the evaluation and review of these, the need to follow them and the opportunity to provide input.

I am pretty happy with the response to that item. Certainly since then flyers have been more aware and it has been good to see good sense down at the patch. Whilst there has been no input from the wider membership, there has been plenty of review at committee level. I think we have everything we need, it's now a matter of making them simple. A balance needs to be struck between sensible and articulate vs verbose and nanny state. Too many rules means we don't adhere. Not being explicit enough means we have excuses for not conforming. Hopefully we will get it right.

Also, from a comment made, we have to strike a balance between being 'policemen' and being 'responsible'. The membership, by its attitude, determines which of those is going to be required. Thanks for your co-operation.

- Steve

**Daylight saving dinner.**

You've all received the invitation. I'm not sure as we speak what numbers Ross has, but this is a fine opportunity to mix with others and bring the along your better halves.

We still have a few seats available for next Saturday night's dinner, do come along and bring the wife out for a treat!

Please contact: Ross Monk 04 292 8818 leave a message or reply by email by Wednesday.

**ITS PARTY TIME !**

*Pilots and chicks come and join us in a private venue to celebrate Daylight Saving and the start of warmer flying weather.*

**When:** Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October

**Time:** 6.30pm

**Venue:** The Social.

**Where:** Kapiti Lights Complex.

**RSVP:** Please email Ross Monk confirming numbers at: [rosco.m@outlook.com](mailto:rosco.m@outlook.com) by 4<sup>TH</sup> October

**Note:** Seating may be limited so it will be on a first in first served basis.

**Club Clothing.**      **Hurry, Hurry, Hurry.-- ACT NOW**

You've been pestered and cajoled. You've been sent photographs of all the items.

Alastair does have a good number of orders for various items.

Orders will close this coming Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> October.

Alastair will then be in touch with you regards payment etc.

A deposit will be required and the balance paid before they are handed over.

Get in touch with Alastair if you want something.

## Driveway.

First of all a big shout out to Wayne Boness at GWRC and Goodmans for getting us 4 trucks of road graded gravel for our driveway. This has come from the piles outside the QEP gates, left over from the Expressway. Wayne thought of us very early on in the piece and has been pushing Goodmans to get the job done for some time. I believe more is to go onto the park in other areas.

However, the day was a comedy of errors.



Wayne rang at 8:30am on Tuesday with the news it would happen that day. Probably about 10 as there were some big rocks to be taken to the other end of the Park at Paekakariki first, so Alastair R and I turned up at around 9:45. After waiting by the gate for some time, we repaired to the club house for coffee. At 11 Wayne rang to say Goodmans were yet to turn up, he had been chasing and they should be there soon. At midday Gary, one of the Rangers, turned up with the truck driver to show him the job. Be about an hour, just had to do the Paekak job first. At about 1 Alastair and I went down to the gate to see what was happening. Digger driver was still waiting to load the 2<sup>nd</sup> lot of rocks. Ran into Gary again who told us truck had driven off the track at Paekak and got stuck. Eventually truck got out and did the 2<sup>nd</sup> load. Alastair R needed to be somewhere else so he toddled off and I went back down to the gate

sometime later to see the truck just arriving back from Paekak. So we got our first load at about 2:30. Truck driver says he was going to spread thinly as we had only 2 loads for us. I told him we had been informed we would get as many as needed.

So after 2, they managed a 3<sup>rd</sup>. Digger driver parked up the digger and departed for other places. After the 3<sup>rd</sup>, we still weren't done so driver rang his boss who rang the digger driver who got back there about 30 mins later. The 4<sup>th</sup> load just about got us up to the tramlines.

We finished at 4:45pm.

Fortunately like a good boy scout I had taken coffee and something to eat with me.

What a difference a good supply of gravel can make and well worth the wait.

*But.. wait there's more...*

Alastair and I were sitting in the club house late morning staring out the window when we saw a herd of cattle go by on the cycle track. So I sent Drew a txt to let him know cattle



were out. About 15 minutes later a very agitated Drew arrived at the club house wanting to know why we had left the top gate open. I can imagine his description of 'townies'. Unfortunately for us the cattle were up over the hill on the left as you come in the gate and even though we were down by the gate for a good period of time, we had no inkling stock was in the area. With very red faces we apologised profusely and Drew was good enough to put the cattle in the paddock on the other side so we wouldn't have a problem again.

*Lesson learnt. You don't know if they are there or not... So keep the gate shut.*





On Saturday we had a working bee to move some of the gravel around, used John M's trailer to move enough to finish up by the tramlines and raked it off the crown of the track and filled in the low spots.

Looks really good and a big thanks for those who were able to help.

Until it beds in, can we stick to the track by keeping the crown between our wheels and not swerve over the driveway. This will compact the track itself and as it compacts, we can move looser stuff back from the edges to make sure we get a good coverage where needed.

- Steve



### **Rally.**

Planning for the rally is underway although not much to do as yet.

This year, though, I would like somebody to step up and take responsibility for publicity.

Unfortunately these things always fall on the same people.

Getting the posters done is easy enough, but getting info to the local newspapers and radio stations, poster up in local information centres etc. is quite a lot of work. Whilst the wider membership does manage to distribute posters, somebody looking after and co-ordinating the other pieces of publicity would be good. Give it a thought and if it's you, get in touch.

- Steve

### **Email addresses.**

A good number of our members have email addresses that reside within Vodafone.

As you are aware, Vodafone are exiting their email services end of November.

Whilst redirection to your new account is available from them, it is best that you advise us of your new email address when created.

Best that you advise Paul Buckrell: [paul.buckrell@outlook.com](mailto:paul.buckrell@outlook.com)

He will update our records and advise committee as required,

## Club night-- September 2017

**Ross Monk** gave us a rundown of his new "Horus X-12 S" transmitter by FrSky. This one appears to do just about everything, even play music, I'm not sure if Ross was practising playing "I've got the blues" by Gary Moore or whether he is working on a flying sequence to this music.

There are a lot of new transmitters on the market boasting all sorts of features and functions. GPS, telemetry, ball bearing gimbals, colour displays, voice etc. This one even comes with its own hard carry case. Time will tell which ones are the most reliable and offer the best value.

Futaba and Spektrum have a lot of competition now... (about time), with the new transmitters offering way more features and functionality and at considerably less cost.



Rumour has it that Ross had to be "bribed" to do his talk, by the promise of some decent chocolate biscuits for supper.

**President Steve** gave us a talk on the Smith Miniplane that he is refurbishing.

The model was started by John Ellison some 30 years ago. Unfortunately time took its toll on the covering which was originally in silk, and even a light push with a finger would cause a tear. Steve is also replacing the servos, as the servos of the day were just about twice the physical size and weight of their modern day equivalent. With the covering removed you can see what good job John did with the build. By replacing and relocating some of the servos, Steve is able to both save some weight and create some more space for a full depth cockpit. The instrument panel is looking really good. Power is in the form of a 80cc ZDZ twin, so she should tick along quite nicely.



and a couple of others on display on the night ... by



John Von.

and



Terry Beaumont

### **Serious growth.**

Following on from the "fresh and frozen" photo in last month's issue , John Von sent me this one. He reckons he's never seen the grass grow that fast. Maybe Spring/ Summer is on its way after all!!



And that's it for another month folks.

Once again thanks to Steve for his contribution.

Remember if you have something that you would like to share with members , take a photo, send it to Steve or myself , and even better if you can add a short story to it.

As always , contributions always gratefully received .

Trust you all have a good month ahead.

Until then... Fly hard , land soft...

Cheers

Don  
Editor