

Welcome to 2010!



We start off the New Year with something special. Sue Wild, who many of you will know as the Mother of Ben Flewett and one of those 'treasures' in the NZ gliding movement, has recently made a career change to being a professional artist and has offered us the opportunity to feature her paintings in our newsletters.

I chose this painting of the Quailburn Woolshed. If you haven't done the Quailburn walk and seen this historic woolshed and the original farm house it is a great thing to do on a non soaring day. A wonderful example of the early history of our favourite place!

Quailburn Woolshed, Omarama – Sue Wild watercolour painting.

Visit www.wildconcepts.co.nz to see more of Sue's paintings.

EXCITING NEWS



It is going to happen!! We will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Wigram Aviation Sports Club/Omarama Gliding Club next year (joining in the North Otago Gliding Club that merged with OGC in recent times). Thanks to Trevor Mollard and Herb Familton, who have agreed to head the 50th anniversary celebration committee, the celebrations will be held at Omarama the first weekend in February 2011. If you know of anyone who might be interested please send their contact details to Trevor at mollard@clear.net.nz. Spread the word!!

AWESOME NEWS



The New Zealand Community Trust has kindly given us a grant of \$3,500 towards the purchase of a Cambridge 302/303 to be installed in WC. We are immensely grateful as this donation achieves our goal of standardising instruments where possible and having the same navigation instrument in both UO and WC will be of enormous assistance and benefit to all our pilots.

New members - a BIG welcome to

Keith Jessop. A member of the Canterbury Gliding Club, Keith heard of the difficulties OGC were having in finding a Treasurer and offered us his services to fill this role! Awesome!

Richard McCaw. Ritchie needs no introduction to rugby loving New Zealanders and especially to us glider pilots who see him hanging out at Omarama when he has the opportunity. Richard owns Discus Romeo Mike in partnership with his Father, Don, and following the McCaw family tradition loves flying both gliders and power planes.

What a mixture of weather we have had this season! It started off well with good weather for Jerry's X-C course and the SI Regionals and since then has been a very mixed bag with sustained periods of cold, overcast southerlies interspersed with windy westerly days. The usual hot summery days have been noticeably absent however some good flights have been done.

Congratulations to new member Ritchie McCaw for achieving his 500km Diamond Distance award. The special thing was his cousin, Youth Glide Canterbury member Alex McCaw, flew a 500km on the same day – nice one!



Congratulations to Robert Mollard for achieving his 300km award (and commiserations for just missing out on achieving a declared 500km flight due to a wet southerly front that cut off his Alexandra turn point). I was attempting a 1,000km flight the same day and after flying 883km missed out on getting to my last turn point at Waipuru for the same reason - as did several others who were attempting award flights that day. On a previous 1,000km attempt I battled 75 knot headwinds both ways - a southerly changing to a Nor Wester!! I flew about 650kms before giving in to the futility of the effort. Oh well guess it all adds to the flying experiences.



From the Annual General Meeting

Unfortunately, and sadly for the club, our President, Peter Robinson, decided to stand down as President following an outstanding contribution to the Omarama Gliding Club. Peter was held in high regard by all who came in contact with him and was a wonderful ambassador for our club. In all negotiations Peter carried out on our behalf he did so in a pleasant, non confrontational manner. He was very hands on and personally contributed to many club projects - Peter's fluent German helping no end during the process of negotiating to buy YF from its previous owners in Germany and his dealing direct with the Ediatric factory in Germany to get the displays for our Flarms. Peter was always one of the first to reply to emails and readily put up his hand to take on many projects such as hire agreements, updating forms and club records, ensuring the club records were up to scratch for the recent audit and many other projects too numerous to mention here. Peter made an enormous contribution to the club from which we will benefit well into the future. Thank you Peter for all you have done for the club and thank you for all the time, effort and professional expertise you gave to the role.

Fortunately Richard Hanschu, who has already proved himself a valuable asset to the club, was willing to take over the role as President. Richard's email contact is richardh@doneen.com.

Keith Jessop, as previously mentioned is now Treasurer. Keith's email contact is keith.jessop@emda.co.nz.

and we welcome back to the Committee, Honorary Life member, Graham Erikson, who many of you will know has already contributed 30 years of his time and effort to the Wigram Aviation Sports Club/Omarama Gliding Club.

Anyone wishing to receive a copy of the Annual Accounts or Minutes of the 2009 AGM let me know – loaders@clear.net.nz.

Tech Stuff

Thanks to Richard who has done an amazing job of providing holders for YF winglets (you will see these mounted on the adjacent hangar struts.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE – YF's batteries are different to UO's and the two sets are NOT TRANSFERABLE. Although YF's batteries do fit UO it doesn't work the other way around. UO batteries do not fit YF. Both sets are clearly noted with the aircraft registration. Please ensure you take the right set of batteries for the glider you are flying otherwise you leave YF with no batteries. The reason for this is that YF's battery box is a very tight fit and cannot fit a battery with the fuse box taped to the top of the battery.

MEMBER PROFILE – Keith Jessop



As Keith is going to be our Treasurer (hopefully for some time) and probably as yet unknown to most of you, I thought it would be nice to “introduce” Keith so when you see him you can introduce yourself and get to know him.

I have personally known Keith for many years – in fact it was my Husband, Bruce, who introduced him to gliding when he took Keith on a Pax flight on 3rd January 1986 from Killermont during the time they were working together at Firestone. Keith joined the Canterbury Gliding Club fully immersing himself in gliding purchasing a share in a syndicate owned PIK ZK-GKG (bright yellow in colour currently owned by John Robinson based at Alexandra so you have probably seen it around from time to time). Keith became a ‘C’ category instructor and flew approximately 400 hours before taking a 5 year break to establish his own business. EMDA, established in 1998 by Keith, is headquartered in Christchurch with three offices in Christchurch, Auckland and Brisbane providing technology-based business solutions to manufacturing and distribution organizations. Keith achieved his Diamond Height Gain in January 1988, has flown two unclaimed 300kms to date and is aiming on achieving his 300km and 500km awards soon, getting his instructor rating current again and completing his PPL training. (Interesting note: OGC Committee member and our webmaster, Steve Green, works for EMDA!)

Members News

Toby Read has been attending the Walsh Memorial Scout Flying Camp at Matamata where he has been under going power flying training. Toby was one of 2 on the camp selected to take a ride in a visiting Harvard as reward for his enthusiastic work around the camp. Needless to say, he enjoyed every minute of it, especially the aerobatics.



A potted guide to the Sporting Code
for club pilots wishing to gain FAI Awards and Diplomas using club equipment.
If you are after records you need to understand all of the Code.

There have been recent changes made to the Sporting Code and Trevor Mollard has taken the time to bring these to our attention.

"The FAI Sporting Code was amended in October 2009 to eliminate the use of cameras for flight verification. This is no big deal as all the club's glider have FAI approved Flight Recorders. YF has an LX5000, WC has a Volkslogger and UO is fitted with a Cambridge 302 unit. Electronic Flight Recorders need to be calibrated for all height awards and for distance flights when the finish altitude is close to the start altitude. Calibration needs to be done up to two years prior to the FAI claim flight or alternatively two months after the flight. This process is both expensive (\$80) and a hassle as the unit has to be removed from the glider and transported to Christchurch and then returned and reinstalled.

To simplify some of these problems the club has a portable blind Cambridge FR unit which Richard Hanschu assembled and this is intended to be the primary means of flight verification as it is easy to transport and calibrate.

The good news is that no paper declarations, equipment sealing or Official Observers are required at the beginning of the flight. The bad news is that an electronic declaration needs to be made first on the glider's installed FR, even though it is not intended to be used to document the FAI claim, followed by an identical declaration on the portable Cambridge FR which will be used to document the flight for FAI Badge and Diploma awards.

The reason for this is that where more than one flight recorder is carried on an FAI claim flight all the FR's need to be down loaded to verify that only one valid pre-flight declaration was made and that the traces match. It is not permitted to have multiple declarations then cherry pick after the flight. Doing so invalidates all your declarations.

If you are prepared to fly with a single flight recorder and finish at or above your start altitude then the installed recorders can be used for distance flight verification without calibration.

Learn how to insert your name, aircraft registration, aircraft type and task details electronically on the glider's FR then repeat the task on the portable Cambridge FR. Regrettably with three different types of FR installed this can be a challenge.

Declarations are like wills, only the most recent counts so it is important to do the portable unit last then resist any invitation to make a subsequent declaration on the installed glider FR. Doing so would constitute a valid declaration but the FR may need to be removed from the glider and taken to Christchurch within two months for calibration.

Diamond Height awards require no prior task declaration but if you are relying on the FR barometric trace for your claim the electronic flight record must have the correct name, rego and type recorded.

For out and return and triangle flights the Start and Finish Points must be identical. The start and finish observation zones extends for only 1000 metres whereas the Turn-Point Observation Zones extend indefinitely which can be a big help when turn points are located in sink or covered by cloud.

One change with the new code is that you have the choice of either a 500 m Beer Can or an Observation Zone at each and every Turn-Point. You can mix and match to your hearts content but each time you use a Beer Can you loose 1 Km. from your declared distance which is fair enough as you can turn nearly 500 m short of the TP.

Try and finish above your start altitude if you can as this removes the requirement to calibrate the FR and makes the Official Observers task much easier. Speed is irrelevant for FAI badges and awards.

If you do finish more than 1000 meters below your start altitude the claimable distance will be reduced by 100 meters for every single meter that you are low

When it looks likely that you will complete the declared flight call up on the radio or use your cell phone to ensure that an Official Observer will be present to observe your landing and take charge of the FR. The OO has to certify that both you and the FR were in the glider for the claimed soaring performance.

Do not touch the portable FR, not even to turn it off. That's the OO's job.

It's not that hard but you do need to take the trouble to learn how to make declarations and in the case of the Cambridge FR you will need a portable computer with the applicable Cambridge program which can be downloaded for free. Good rainy day stuff".

Thanks Trevor. Hopefully Trevor's article will encourage our members to get out there and give goal/award/record flying a go. If you need help we have an enormous resource of expertise available through Phil Plane, Don Mallinson, Trevor Mollard and Hugh Turner - all enormously supportive with their expert help and advice especially with the techno stuff. I never thought I would achieve a 1,000km but the enormous help and mentoring freely given by these guys has got me motivated and to the point of knowing it is achievable.



HAVE A GREAT YEAR AND THE BEST OF SOARING ALWAYS

YVONNE