



Flying in Taupo

It turns out that the Walsh flying school extends one week past the end of our Raglan camp this year. Therefore there will be no club flying at Matamata on Jan 18, 21 or 22.

Rather than cancel flying on the weekend of 21/22 Jan we have arranged to visit the Taupo Gliding Club.

We will take one of our twins to Taupo for the weekend, which can be booked through the PGC website as normal.

Please contact Dave Dennison (021 03 9167) if you are willing to tow the twin glider down to Taupo, and I am also looking for a couple of duty pilot volun-

teers.

Contact the Taupo club manager (Tom 07 378 5627) to inquire about staying at the airfield.

Normal operations will resume at Matamata on Wed 25 Jan, weather permitting.

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Raglan Camp

The Raglan camp ended one day early due to rain. Bad weather affected the outcome of the whole camp, with flying on only 7 out of 14 days.

On the good days, we had some brilliant flying, and exposed the sport to a wide range of interested people.

The Waikato Times did a short story on the camp. We were a bit disappointed (to say the least) that they didn't publish spectacular aerial shots of gliders over



the Raglan coast. On the other hand we did get a generally favorable article in a prominent place in the Saturday paper. If you missed it, you can look up the article and the interview on the internet at <http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/88190772/waikato->

times-reporter-takes-flight

Revenue for the camp came to \$12,200, which is about the same as last year; but only about 2/3 of the year before.

Thanks to all organizers and participants for contributing to the camp!

Membership Update

We currently have 65 flying members, plus 8 associate members in the club.

So far this year, we have done reasonably well on the GNZ slogan: **Recruit, Retain, Regain**. There is a mixture of new pilots, pilots returning to gliding and people coming from other clubs.

The following members have joined the club since

the start of the financial year. Please introduce yourself and make our newest members welcome around the airfield (that is part of the **Retain** in the slogan)

- Scott Montagu
- Alyce Wilson
- Jim Lyver
- Derek Shipley

- Rob Lee
- Eric Gosse
- Trev Terry
- Genny Healey
- Maurice Weaver
- David Jensen
- David Cleverley
- John Currie

Building a sustainable membership

RECRUIT

RETAIN

REGAIN

Twin Glider Update

As reported in the previous newsletter, we decided to dispose of our damaged PW-6 glider.

replacing the PW-6. There are some fundamental decisions to make regarding our training glider re-

- Sustainer, Self-launcher?

The consensus in the committee is that we should purchase one of the Tauranga Puchacz's (or possibly both).

We propose to hold a meeting for all interested members to discuss the issue at 10:00 am on Sunday 5 Feb (day after Club Class nationals end).



New DG 1001

In the short-term, the Tauranga Gliding Club has come to our rescue by leasing their Puchacz EO to us.

The committee has debated our requirements for

requirements:

- New or used?
- Basic, Aerobatic, X-Country?



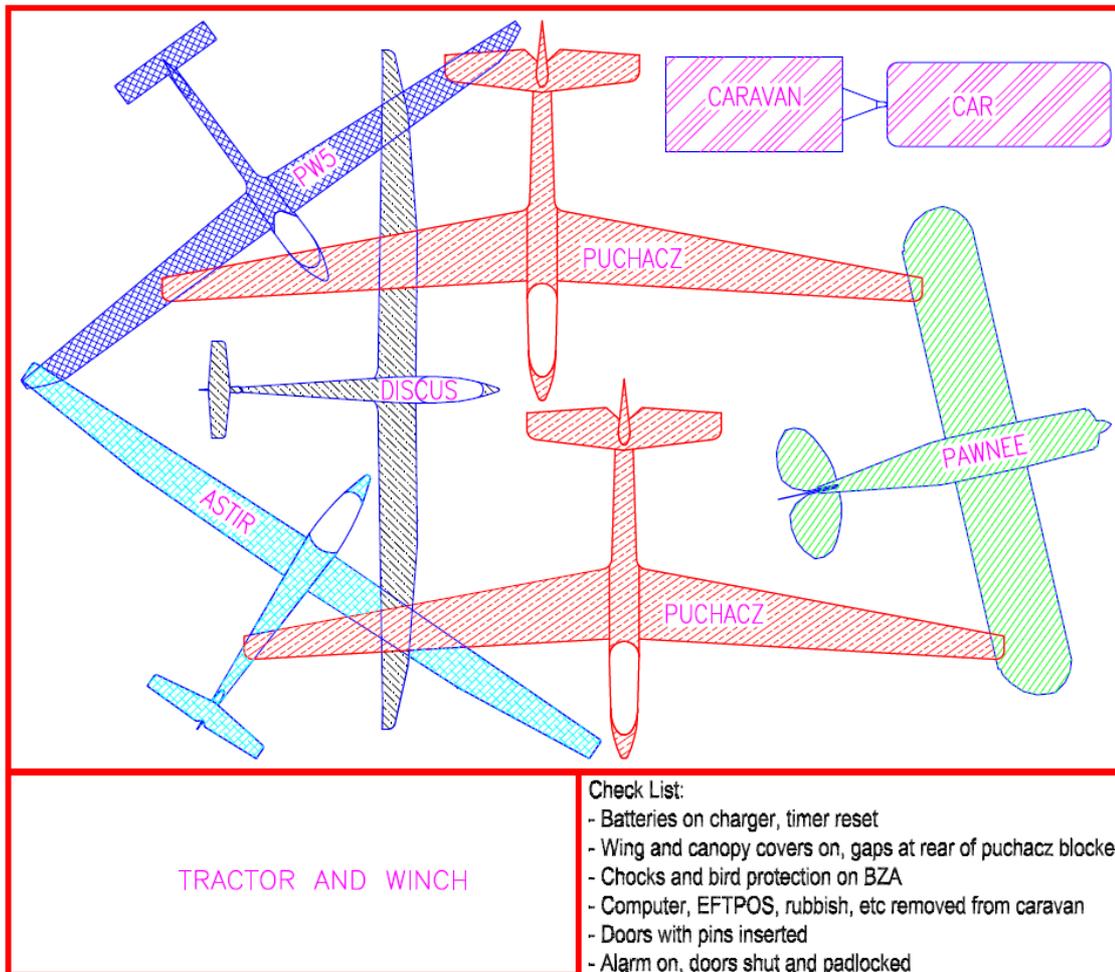
New Perkoz

Hangar Packing

Several arrangements for packing the hangar have been tried since we have had two

Puchacz's on trolleys. Ralph's arrangement, shown below, seems to be the fa-

vorite (Ralph says it was obvious!).



Field landing practice

Good thing those toe-toe's aren't a real fence!

Competition Scene

There is lots happening on the competition scene.

Firstly, the world gliding championships are on now in Australia. There are six NZ pilots competing, including PGC members. David Hirst has created a fantastic series of videos that are posted on the Gliding New Zealand Facebook page. Results are on Soaring Spot website. There is also a competition website at: www.wgc2017.com



Gray in 2nd.

Have a look at the gliders crowding into



Tim Bromhead was 2nd in the Open Class, just ahead of David Jansen in 3rd.

Tony and Tim were 2nd & 3rd, respectively, in the Central Plateau competition in early November.

We have the NZ national Club Class competition coming up at Matamata from Fri 27th Jan to Sat 4th Feb 2017. Contact the Soaring Centre if you are interested in competing, or helping out with the contest.

one thermal in the *youtube* video at the following link:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=4dMaYwlmixc

Of the 115 gliders entered, it looks like virtually all of them in one thermal! .

In local competitions PGC members have had prominent positions in top 3 placings.

Tony Davies won the top spot in the Racing Class of the North Island Regionals, followed by Bob



Piako Cross Country Weekend

We are going to have a weekend dedicated to cross country flying on 18 and 19 of February.

Each morning there will be a briefing including weather, airspace, safety, suggested (not-mandatory) task(s). Ops normal radio monitoring and land out desk will be operated as for competitions.

Pilots are encouraged to go for IGC badges, club trophies, and OLC points ;but there is no competition scoring. Local flying is OK, but priority for gliders and instructors is X-country flying.

Pilots are encouraged to stay at the airfield in campground or bunks. We will arrange for a meal on Saturday evening after flying.

This is a great opportunity to stretch our cross-country legs, and for our newly trained coaches to show what they learned at the coaching course in October.

If you are interested, please send me an email (dave.dennison@xnet.co.nz) by 12 Feb, so we can get an idea of numbers. Also, let me know if wish to use one of the club gliders. It is up to CFI to confirm that you are qualified to fly club single seaters cross-country, otherwise first come-first served.

We are hoping that other MSC member clubs will hold similar events at Matamata, later in the year.



Upcoming Events

8Jan -21 Jan: NZ Multi-class Champs at Omarama

18 Jan: No flying at Matamata due to Walsh flying school

21 Jan - 21 Jan: weekend visit to Taupo GC

27 Jan-4 Feb: Club Class Na-

tional competition

5 Feb: Club meeting to discuss twin glider options

18 Feb –19 Feb: PGC cross country weekend

March: Beginners' course, date to be determined.

March: Winch training, to to be determined.

25 April: Land-out BBQ

Let your Cub Captain know about anything missing from this list, or any events you would like to see at the club.