

# The Flypaper



**Mid-winter Dinner and Prize Giving Sat 24th August at Matamata Club 6-30pm** [Register form here](#)

Volume 2024, Issue 2

27th July 2024

Bob Gray, Dave Dennison and Bill Henwood with TOW on the day of its arrival. Photo Robin Britton. 6th June



Royden Hooker in GDR getting the first ever tow behind TOW.



Stacy Hart with instructor Dave Dennison after her first solo on 30th June. Also solo are Charlotte Donderwinkle and Bindi Blakeborough (no photo's). Well done ladies.



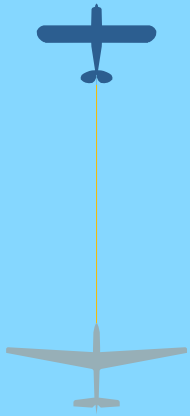
2024 PGC AGM  
6th July



Winter ridge flying. 26th June  
GPK

Inside this issue:

Pic's & News	1-3
Snippet's	4
Contests	5
Winch	6
OLC	7
Wanaka Airshow	8
Airshow pics	9
Funny's	10
Events & Committee	11



**BUILDING A  
SUSTAINABLE  
MEMBERSHIP**

**Communicate**

**Cooperate**

**Aviate**

Due to personal commitments, I am sorry for the delay in producing this Flypaper. Many exciting events have occurred in the past few months, especially the early arrival of our new tow plane.

Last year, we initially announced that the registration was going to be PGC. However, there was further discussion within the committee, and ultimately, the registration was changed to **TOW**. At least there will be no confusion about its intended use, and TOW is a memorable registration that will endure. It has more than lived up to expectations, with climb rates in the air as good as CNC even with heavy 2-seaters. It has less acceleration with a longer ground roll, especially if the airfield grass is wet or longer than usual. But it isn't any worse than many other lower powered tugs. Tow pilots are enjoying its luxury; it even has cabin heat. We are extremely grateful to the **Tauranga Gliding Club** for assisting us with PNE. They have supported PGC with Tow Planes and Gliders over many years, so a big thank you for helping in our hour of need.

CNC has been bought by 2 of our club members and is getting its wings recovered. They plan to have it as a reserve for contests and other events.

The next event on our calendar is the "**Mid-Winter Dinner and Awards Night**" (Sat 24th August). The venue is the same as previous years (Matamata Club). It's a great social time to catch up with other club members and celebrate those who have had great achievements during the year. Cost is \$45. Please put your name down 'asap' so that we can sort catering. Link is on the club web site (top of the home page) or on the front page of this issue where it says 'Register form here'.

We have two repeat milestones to be proud of. For the second year, we had the **highest number of launches** of any gliding club in NZ. We are also in **1st place in NZ** for OLC cross-country flying. (4th year in a row). More importantly, we are in **3rd place in Australasia** and very close to the 2nd place getters. There are 98 gliding clubs in Australasia.

Our summer club member **Henry Müller** is having some great success in competition flying in Germany. He has qualified at Bückeberg for the German Junior Nationals and more recently the 2 seater Nationals by coming 5th in the JenaCup. His next contest starts in a weeks time at Grabenstetten.

In April/May **Derek Shipley** ran a Mini YouthGlide Camp using the winch. It was hugely successful with several conversions and new solo's. He is currently in the UK getting some sunshine, but we eagerly look forward to his return. Well done Derek on another great effort for the club.

**BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE MEMBERSHIP**

Communicate

Cooperate

Aviate

Few may realise that the club is extremely dependant on the availability and quality of our instructors panel. Piako GC has been really fortunate that we have had an experienced base for many years and it is the envy of many others. The only way that we can get such quality is by carefully selecting and inviting the right candidates into the fold. Phil Rees has recently upgrading his C Cat rating to a B Cat and there are 3 others going through C Cat training. **Brett Slater, Gareth Cartwright and Charlie Irvin.** Our current rostered panel is Norman Duke, Bob Gray, Steven Care, Dave Dennison, Tim Bromhead, Rainer Kunnemeyer, Dennis Crequer, Derek Shipley, Phil Smith, Phil Rees and Sarel Venter.

We have had a number of new members join since the last Flypaper. A very recent welcome to Derry Belcher, Scott Jeans and other not so recent members Rob Richardson, Caleb Wadsworth, Jack Anderson, Bindi Blakeborough.



Our very own **Roger Brown** is President of NZ Vintage Kiwi. Earlier this year they had their 21st birthday celebrations at our airfield. It was well attended with pilots from all over NZ. There was lots of flying, tall stories and fun had by all. My apologies for lack of many photos that could have been taken, but weren't.

**SUBS**

Our annual subs are due and if you are like me, I'll get a Round Toit sometime. With the inclusion of 2 brand new aircraft to the fleet in the last couple of years, this year our treasurer is quite keen to not sail too close to the wind. Round Toits need to be asap. There has been a small increase (most are only 2 or 3%).

The easiest way is to direct credit the clubs bank account and include your 'name' and 'subs' in the reference fields.

Piako Gliding Club 02-0360-0025367-000

Fee Class	• • •
<b>Glider Pilot</b> Includes Gliding New Zealand affiliation	\$625
<b>Glider Pilot - Excused Duty</b> Includes Gliding New Zealand affiliation. Pilot is not included on duty roster	\$1,700
<b>Glider Pilot - 2nd club</b> Flying member who pays GNZ affiliation fee through another club	\$480
<b>Family</b> One adult plus one Student living at the same address. Additional family members pay GNZ fees only.	\$925
<b>Youth</b> Glider pilot less than 26 years of age as of 31 October	\$300
<b>Tow Pilot</b> Tow pilot member, Includes Gliding New Zealand affiliation	\$310
<b>Tow Pilot - 2nd club</b> Tow pilot member who pays GNZ affiliation fee through another club	\$165
<b>Life</b> Flying member granted Life Member status by Piako Gliding Club	\$150
<b>Associate</b> Includes invitation to social events, and occasional non-solo flying	\$85

## SNIPPETS



MSC AGM 29th June



Another TOW photo.  
This time towing GPK

BUILDING A  
SUSTAINABLE  
MEMBERSHIP

Communicate

Cooperate

Aviate

Another new glider at our club. A very nice DG 100 GUY. New owners Iain Anderson and Paul Blackmore in April. This DG has particularly nice handling and has great performance in its class as well.



### Historic YouTube Videos

I am not sure if either of these links will work. The first one features PGC's club glider FN in the opening scene with a very young **Ralph Gore** in the back seat.

[1 Landmarks \(1981\) A Land Apart](#)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dfW3U8cd\\_Cc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dfW3U8cd_Cc)

The second features PGC and Matamata Airfield in a gliding derby around the same era.

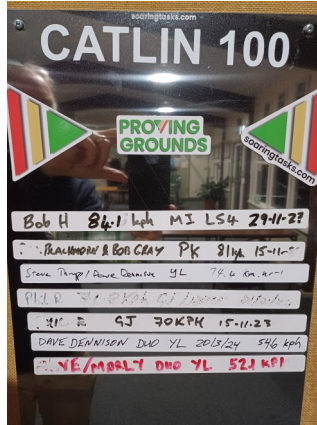
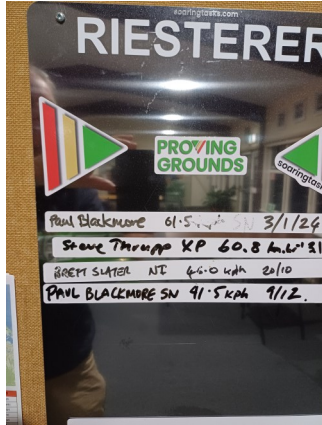
[First Gliding Derby 1979 Auckland to Paraparaumu over 4 days](#)

<https://youtu.be/WEdwUO40CsE?feature=shared>

If the links don't work, just type in the titles onto YouTube.

## CLUB TROPHIES

Lots of competition on Proving Grounds



BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE MEMBERSHIP

Communicate

Cooperate

Aviate

Tim is in the lead for the Care 200 at a staggering 149.6kph.

Might have to give this prize to the 2nd placegetter. It's difficult to read who is in 1st place. eh Tim.



Yes it was a while ago "March" but **Dave Dennison** was again Contest Director for the 2024 MSC Grand Prix. It has a quite different format of sailplane racing and is becoming more popular as the years go by. 19 entries this year.

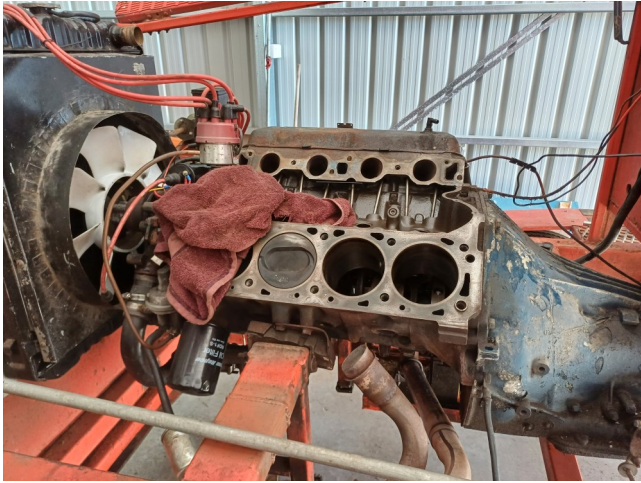
**Class A**  
 1st Brett Hunter  
 2nd Dave Johnson  
 4th Bob Gray  
 6th Sarel Venter  
 7th Neil Raymond

**Class B**  
 1st Steve Care  
 5th Derek Shipley  
 6th Iggy Wood



Brett & Steve with the large shared cup.

# Winch Matters

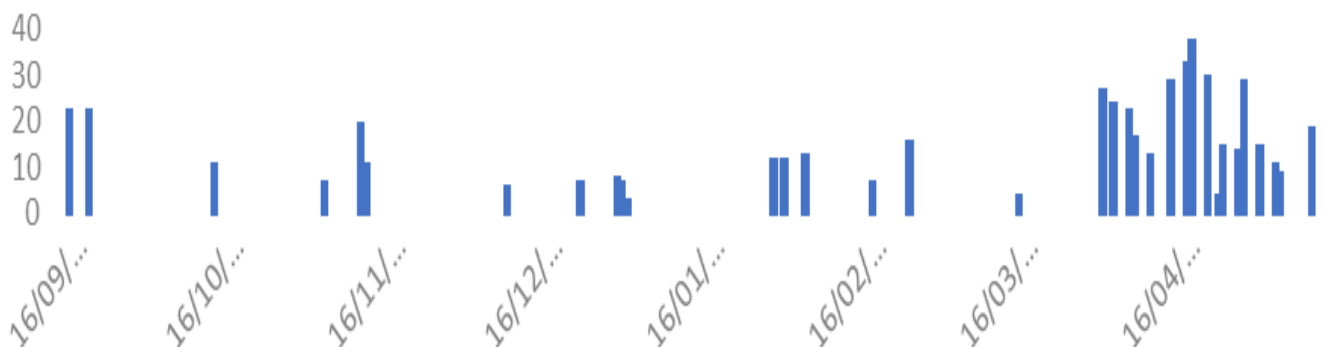


In April we were in an unfortunate (or maybe fortunate) situation where we didn't have a tow-plane. The winch saved the day and actually generated a lot of activity. Winch Master Neil Raymond did a lot of the winch driving, but it was clear that the engine was not performing its best and needed some quite significant work. Neil took it upon himself to give it some much needed attention after we were able to access Tauranga tow plane PNE. He knew which cylinders were giving problems and after removing the head, found 2 broken pistons. It has now been re-assembled and should be back in operation within the next week or two. Well done Neil for such a huge contribution to the club and I am sure many are looking forward to getting back into winching.



The club completed 506 winch launches over the past 12 months, many of them during April. That is significantly more than we have done over previous years where the winch was mainly being used for groups. It does take more to set the day up, but it's a great launch method for training and the more you use it the more familiar it becomes. There are 3 clubs in NZ that are winch only and an additional 3 that are winch and aerotow.

## Chart Title



# On Line Competition

## The World

30<sup>th</sup> 75,449 points Piako Gliding Club

## Australasia

1<sup>st</sup> 144,957 points Beverley Soaring Society 145 members

2<sup>nd</sup> 74,605 points Tocumwal Soaring Society PGC ahead on world list

3<sup>rd</sup> 72,870 points Piako Gliding Club

## New Zealand

1<sup>st</sup> 72,870 points Piako Gliding Club (1<sup>st</sup> place for 4 successive years)

2<sup>nd</sup> 29,737 points Auckland Gliding Club

	Flights	Hours	Points
<a href="#">Tim Bromhead (NZ)</a>	34	145:31	11,849.13
<a href="#">David Johnson (NZ)</a>	36	142:05	10,943.80
<a href="#">Sarel Venter (NZ)</a>	63	142:53	9,575.22
<a href="#">Philip Rees (NZ)</a>	51	128:47	7,927.73
<a href="#">Henry Müller (DE)</a>	27	94:04	7,240.26
<a href="#">Brett Slater (NZ)</a>	43	118:13	6,671.62
<a href="#">DP Jensen (NZ)</a>	19	76:25	6,452.28
<a href="#">Bob Gray (NZ)</a>	12	27:12	2,222.70
<a href="#">Ian Wood (NZ)</a>	14	35:46	2,007.34
<a href="#">Bob Henderson (NZ)</a>	14	30:40	1,873.08
<a href="#">Colin Kelly (NZ)</a>	15	28:48	1,701.25
<a href="#">Charlie Irvin (NZ)</a>	11	19:38	1,333.55
<a href="#">Steve Thrupp (NZ)</a>	13	22:00	1,315.20
<a href="#">Paul Blackmore (NZ)</a>	21	30:23	1,161.04
<a href="#">Ross Hyndman (NZ)</a>	8	22:42	1,128.53
<a href="#">Royden Hooker (NZ)</a>	14	20:04	1,121.48
<a href="#">Steven Care (NZ)</a>	7	11:56	925.39
<a href="#">Neil Raymond (NZ)</a>	1	4:42	0.00

It's really impressive to see that we have **5 pilots** that have done more than **100hrs** this year (just on OLC). It seems Henry Müller is still adding to our success (from Germany) as well. Thanks Henry! We might beat Tocumwal yet. Season ends in September.

## NZ Glider Launch Stat's

As previously highlighted, Piako Gliding Club has had the largest number of launches (around 1800 in 2023) in NZ for the last 2 years running.. (Calendar year to 31-12-23)

I had the great pleasure of attending Warbirds Over Wanaka 2024, just over a month ago, taking place over the Easter weekend, from Friday until Sunday. This was the first time the airshow has been able to happen in six years, after the 2020 and 2022 shows were cancelled due to COVID-19. Indeed, having two cancellations in a row made a significant impact on not only the 'Warbirds Over Wanaka' event, but also the local Wanaka economy. Over the years, the airshow has become larger and more significant, in terms of the aircraft in attendance and the number of people attending throughout the weekend. The last airshow to be held, in 2018, saw just over 50,000 people in attendance throughout the weekend. The airshow just gone, WOW 2024, welcomed over 60,000 spectators, with both the Saturday and Sunday shows being completely sold out several weeks prior and only limited tickets available for the Friday show.

First and foremost, the weather throughout the entire event was perfect. Friday saw some relatively thick overcast conditions set in from noon onwards, however wind speeds were close to nil and the temperature, for Wanaka, was relatively warm. Saturday and Sunday were both stunning days, with crystal clear blue skies, light winds, and warmer temperatures, highlighting even more the picturesque landscape surrounding Wanaka Airport.

I would have to say that this airshow was comfortably the best airshow I have ever attended in New Zealand. In terms of the aircraft in attendance, there were several 'significant guests' being flown throughout the weekend. I would say most notably, the newly restored de Havilland Mosquito, restored by Avspecs up at Ardmore in Auckland. Time was of the essence for the group of incredibly talented individuals at Avspecs to have the Mosquito test flown (this only happened a couple of weeks prior to the show) and in good shape for the debut of the first Mosquito appearance at any Warbirds Over Wanaka airshow. The flying was done by world renowned and highly experienced warbird pilot Steve Hinton Sr, also the president of the Planes of Fame Museum in Chino, California. Other significant aircraft included the debut of Brendon Deere's newly restored P-51D Mustang NZ2423, the last public display of renowned warbird pilot Graham Bethell in his Mustang, international aerobatic champion Jurgis Kairys, the four-ship L-39 team, flown by four American pilots who all fly for the Patriots display team in the United States and last but not least, the most anticipated display from throughout the weekend, the Pacific Air Forces F-16 Demo Team. This list only covers about 20 percent of the aircraft in attendance, all of which were fantastic and were all flown and displayed superbly. It was also great to see Doug Hamilton display the ASH25 glider, which really caught the attention of the spectators, of course most notably probably due to the lack of any engine noise. Described as 'incredibly graceful' by many in attendance.

Last but not least, I had the great privilege of being able to meet and talk with several world renowned and highly experienced pilots in attendance throughout the weekend. These consisted of Steve Hinton Sr, Mosquito test pilot (as noted above), F-16 Demo Pilot Ethan "Bantam" Smith, two ex USAF Thunderbirds pilots, also flying two of the L-39s, Dean "Wilbur" Wright and Paul "Sticky" Strickland as well as ex civilian and commercial pilots John "Bordz" Posson and Randy "Howler" Howell, both of which were flying the other two L-39s. International aerobatic champion Jurgis Kairys, familiar warbird display pilots Mark O'Sullivan and Graham Bethell and last but not least, Squadron Leaders Sean Perrett, Michael Williams and Stu Anderson.

An overall incredible weekend full of fantastic aircraft, incredible people, and awesome weather!





They say that money can't buy happiness.



Me, extremely unhappy in a Jonkers JS5

What I think i'm doing



What i'm really doing



**BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE MEMBERSHIP**

**Communicate**

**Cooperate**

**Aviate**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

24th Aug	PGC Mid Winter Dinner and Prizegiving
Early Oct	Compulsary Start of Season Briefing
Oct sometime	CAA seminar at MSC Clubrooms
26th to 30th Oct	MSC Cross Country Course
23rd to 30th Nov	Northern Regionals (Matamata)
9th to 13th Dec	National ATC Course (Matamata)
16th to 22nd Dec	YouthGlide Camp (Matamata)
26th Dec to 5th Jan	Matamata Christmas Camp
6th to 23rd Jan	PGC to Taupo during Walsh –9th to 23rd Jan
1st to 9th Mar	MSC Grand Prix (Matamata)

### PIAKO GLIDING CLUB COMMITTEE 2024/2025

President:	Iggy Wood
Vice President:	Tim Bromhead
Secretary:	Charlie Irvin
Treasurer:	Sarel Venter
Club Captain	Steven Care
Chief Flying Instructor:	Norman Duke
Chief Tow Pilot:	Phil Rees
Bar Manager:	Sarel Venter assisted by Derek Shipley
Maintenance Officer:	Colin Kelly
Committee:	Genny Care, Phil Rees, Gareth Cartwright, Colin Kelly
Seconded	Bob Gray
User Group Rep:	Dave Dennison
Winch Master:	Neil Raymond