

# Whangarei Flying Club



## NEXT WFC MEETINGS –

→ Sun. 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016 – Committee Meeting at 10.30am; followed by Lunch about noon.

→ **Please check the Flying Club website for all upcoming events as this is constantly updated.**

{The Club Breakfast defaults to the **second** Saturday of the month, and the Committee Meeting / Lunch to the **last** Saturday of the month (unless circumstances force an alteration)}. All members are welcome to attend the Committee Meetings and Lunch.



**Providing Safe and  
Affordable Flying**

**January 2016**

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## President's Report:

Happy New Year to everyone, and I think it's going to be a good one for the Whangarei Flying Club! Things are certainly moving forward, with the emphasis being on the 'Club' aspects of flying.

While importance will be placed on encouraging new membership and on the continuing safety aspects of the club, none of this makes any sense in a *recreational* flying club unless we can create a welcoming and friendly atmosphere that both encourages new membership and provides a happy place to fly so we all enjoy it!

While the CAA uses the phrase that "Aviation Safety is Everyone's Responsibility", I'm sure I've said it before, but the welcoming nature of any club is also *everyone's* responsibility! Walk into any hangar on any airport and the first contact sets the scene for how you feel about the place. One way we are addressing this is to set up a schedule of having the hangar open every Sunday lunchtime, with the BBQ on hand to welcome anybody who turns up. Hopefully this will become a recognised event that will encourage outside pilots to schedule a Sunday visit, while also getting our own members to sit and chat, or even get in the air. Regular afternoon local trips can then be planned, like the recent one to Whananaki for an ice cream!

With my move to Kerikeri I'm truly pleased to see an enthusiastic takeover of club management, particularly on the part of Tony Savage, Rusty Russell, John Healy and others. They can't be expected to do it all alone, and I would hope that others will come to the meeting tomorrow to help re-create this great club! I believe a new Facebook site is being created and some of the questions that need to be asked are – Would anybody like to take on the Newsletter? Use this template and fill in the blanks!! Also anybody who can help with the Secretary role as Mike Silvester has been taking this on in addition to Treasury and now is taking on the Web Site as well !!

Having encouraged you all to come to the meeting tomorrow I now have to say that I can't be there (what a hypocrite!), but I think it will be an important meeting to attend as forward plans are being discussed. If we want a fun, friendly flying club it's certainly worth putting in a bit, I'm sure you'll agree.

## Whangarei Flying Club

I'll be helping organise a welcome at KK some Sunday afternoon soon, so I'll see some of you then.

One final thing. Hopefully all pilots will have received notice that our old booking system on FlightSchedulePro is now defunct and has been replaced by FlyBook! FSP was costing us a fortune each year, and although paid up to early February, when told we would not be renewing they pulled the plug! Nice guys! FlyBook is free (and Kiwi!). So if for any reason you haven't received my notice about FlyBook and feel that you should be included (need login and password) as a paid up club member or active pilot, please contact me immediately!!

This Newsletter is a bit brief, but I'd like to get out one more edition after tomorrow's meeting to air the views of anybody who would like to contribute! In particular it would be good to publish the forward plans for the club, and any issues members would like to raise.

Enough from me.

Drew Barlow  
President

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## Drew's News...

*Umm... is this for real?!*

### [FAA Wants GA Hand Flying Skills Checked](#)

*By Russ Niles*

Flight instructors conducting GA flight reviews and instrument proficiency checks are being directed to make sure pilots can hand fly the aircraft well enough to get themselves out of trouble. [AOPA is reporting](#) that the FAA has issued a [new advisory circular](#) for instructors that adds emphasis to hand flying skills for the periodic reviews. It also wants instructors to make sure pilots know how to use the wonder boxes and what to do if they go dark. "The FAA reminds CFIs conducting flight reviews and IPCs to ensure that a pilot under evaluation is proficient with the automated system and knows what to do if it fails," the AC says.

The revised guidance is also concerned that pilots are relying too much on aircraft systems. "Automation can lull some pilots into complacency. Furthermore, automation bias presented a new breed of accident by creating the potential to erode a complacent pilot's manual flight skills," the AC says. "Automation bias refers to the willingness of the pilot to trust and utilize automated systems while feeling that the automation is more capable than the pilot." Instructors are urged to make sure pilots are using the automation to its best advantage without considering it a panacea.



## Coming Events...

with thanks to Brian Millett and the NMC Newsletter.

- **Tauranga City Air Show.** Two great events - Saturday, Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.  
<http://www.classicflyersnz.com/airshow.html>
- **Hauraki Aero Club Fly-in.** January 31<sup>st</sup>. Thames Airfield
- **RAANZ 2016 National Fly-in.** 6-7-8 February 2016. Waitangi Weekend. Hokitika Airfield.
- **Singapore Airshow.** Asia's largest and one of the most important aerospace and defence exhibitions in the world. Returns for its fifth edition from 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February.
- **SAA SportAvex Fly-in. 19 February to 21 February.** Bridge Pa Aerodrome, Hastings. Annual summer fly-in. Competitions, AGM, annual dinner.  
Contact Gavin Magill Ph: 09 298 7174, 027 291 0525. email: [admin@saa.org.nz](mailto:admin@saa.org.nz) [www.saa.org.nz](http://www.saa.org.nz)
- **Wairarapa Balloon Festival.** Lifting off 25<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> February. [www.nzballoons.co.nz](http://www.nzballoons.co.nz)
- **Balloons Over Waikato. Mar 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>** Innes Common, Hamilton.  
<http://www.balloonoverwaikato.co.nz/>
- **Warbirds Over Wanaka Wanaka.** 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> March. Easter Weekend. [www.warbirdsoverwanaka.com](http://www.warbirdsoverwanaka.com)
- **Oshkosh 2016.** July 25<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>. <http://www.eaa.org/en/airventure>  
Join the South African team of happy campers. <http://www.airadventure.co.za>

If anybody hears of any up coming events on the aviation calendar that you think would be of interest to our members, please let me know. Ed.

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HAPPY FLYING!



30<sup>th</sup> January 2016