

Whangarei Flying Club



NEXT WFC MEETINGS –

→ Sat. 29th June 2013 – Committee Meeting at 11.00am; followed by \$5 Lunch at 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
June 2013**

In this issue:

- Next WFC Meeting
- President's Report
- CFI's Report
- Drew's News from the Web
- Other Newsletters
- Short Final

Contact details:

President: **Bob Foster**

Phone: 027 4919810

CFI: **Shaun Sutherland**

Phone: 027 2201343

Secretary: **Dave MacPherson**

Club Captain: **Lou Du Flou**

Safety Officer: **Grant Robinson**

Newsletter Editor: **Drew Barlow**

email: drewbarlow@email.com

Website:

<http://www.whangareiflyingclub.com/>

Post: **PO Box 1597, Whangarei**

President's Report:

We are certainly right into winter now – so that means fewer flying hours. However, surprisingly enough, there still seems to be about 3 hours some mornings when you can get in some good flying.

Mark has fitted 3 new Condor tyres onto WCF – these are GA certified tyres so hopefully there will be fewer punctures. We should get 500 hours on the mains and 1,000 hours on the front tyre.

With Quantum closing operations on the 27th July that means there is a need for someone else to be in charge of the low-flying area. At this stage it looks like Twin Coast Helicopter is going to take over the running of the low-flying area. We are very lucky to have a low-flying facility that is so good and handy – it's very important for our training so we must make sure it stays open.

July is a very important month for our Club – the end of July is the final merger of NDAC and WFC – all of which means we have about 60 members, a freehold hangar and club rooms, two freehold aircraft and a healthy bank account. The members should be very proud of their Club.

For the newer members, we started up in Whangarei about ten years ago with 15 members, \$1,500 in the bank, and an aircraft that was owned by debenture holders and the ASB bank. The Club has come a long way in ten years, but has had a lot of lucky breaks along the way.

We are not having so much luck with our fly-aways. These are hard to plan ahead in the winter, especially with the unpredictable weather. It might be an idea to, say, on a Thursday or Friday, if the weather looks good for Saturday or Sunday, just to ring around and see if we can fill WTF, WCF and DOP at short notice - and away we go!

Happy and safe flying.

Bob Foster

Whangarei Flying Club

CFI's Report:

Hi everyone.

Well it's been a wet and wild few weeks and this has impacted on flying with our hours down significantly when compared to last month. This is normal for this time of year, however please support your club by coming out for a fly when the weather is fine.

On the maintenance front WCF has had new aviation grade tyres installed, donated by a person who would rather remain anonymous. You know who you are so a big thank you from all our members. This kind of selfless dedication to the club is so good to see. This has resolved the problem with the constant punctures we were experiencing, so a great result here.

You will notice that there are cracks and separation developing on the wing tips of both Tecnams. WCF's left hand wing and WTF's right hand wing on the internal tip gusset. These have been reported to Mark Norgate who will investigate. Please keep an eye on this during your pre flights and if in doubt seek advice from me or one of the other instructors and don't fly. Mark will be looking into this shortly and we should have some resolution in due course.

On the safety front I still see members out on the apron chatting. Remember if you are not flying, completing your pre-flight, or refuelling, then you have no business being on the apron. Other people see you doing this and think it's acceptable and it just isn't I'm afraid. I know I harp on about this but we are all intelligent people here and I'm sure you would agree that it would only take one accident to make everyone stop this dangerous practise. At our instructors' meetings, that we hold once a month, we have a regular safety update and this item is constantly being identified as an area of major concern. Please stay off the apron and ensure the chain is up at all times when the hangar doors are open. If you see someone not adhering to this rule then you are fully entitled to ask them to move.

On a lighter note we are planning a mid-winter dinner on 31 July to celebrate the handover of the funds from the NDAC to the Whangarei Flying Club. Our merge is now one year old and has been very successful, so in accordance with the agreement signed between the two clubs, the funds will now be released unconditionally. If you haven't already RSVP'd please let me know as soon as possible so I can add your name to the list. So far I have 34 people attending, but we need 50 in order to hire out the entire restaurant. Please come and support the club and have a good feed at the same time. Cost is only \$25.00 per person plus your drinks. You can BYO as well for \$4 per bottle of wine.

Other than that, that's all from me this month. Have fun and fly safe.

Cheers

Shaun
Shaun Sutherland
Chief Flying Instructor 0272-201-343



Drew's News from around the Web:

February 09, 2013

Faced with a flight emergency, a Polish pilot pulled off a remarkable feat of airman-ship that saved hundreds of lives and made its way into aviation history. Actual video shot inside the plane's cabin show passengers in the moments before captain Tad Wrona made his incredible landing.
(767 wheels up landing, compared to the landing on the Hudson. Ed.)

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=sbV58eY0MyM

Video: Music of the Merlins

Original, Exclusive Videos from AVweb

An extraordinary assembly of Merlin-powered warbirds took to the skies over Hamilton, Ontario on Father's Day weekend, providing sights and sounds not experienced in decades. The star of the show was Jerry Yagen's recently rebuilt de Havilland Mosquito (the only one of its type flying), and it flew in formation with the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum's Lancaster, alongside two Spitfires and two Hurricanes. *AVweb's* Russ Niles spoke with Mosquito pilot Mike Spalding of the Military Aviation Museum.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9nwJ1Dym5TI>

(Nice to get some follow up on "our" Mosquito !! NZ build gets a brief mention at the end... Ed.)

You've see Disney's **Cars** – now it's Disney's **Planes** – Cartoon (should that be "Planetoon"!) in Cinemas in August. Silly, but you've got to smile!

View Trailer here... <http://www.youtube.com/watch?NR=1&feature=endscreen&v=qfnWYHO7Id4>

World's shortest scheduled flight? (Thanks to NMC Newsletter) It's only a couple of minutes!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=e9FjTNI2g00

The New Zealand Herald; 6th May.

The last surviving pilot of the Dambusters raid in World War II, Tauranga resident Les Munro, will be a guest of honour at England's 70th anniversary of the raid on May 16.

Decorated Kiwi pilot Les Munro will have plenty of time to reflect as a guest of honour at the Dambusters anniversary in England.
Photo / John Borren



Whangarei Flying Club

Tall and fit, the 94-year-old is modest about becoming an icon for a big event which commemorates bravery, defiance, technology and heavy loss of life.

"I'm not sure about that, I don't believe I will be treated any differently to the others."

He hopes to meet the two other survivors of the 133 aircrew who volunteered for the 617 squadron operation over Germany.

They took off in 19 Lancaster bombers carrying heavy mines which were designed to be dropped from a low-flying aircraft, bounce on the water and explode against the hydro-electric dams serving the industrial Ruhr Valley. A Royal Air Force bulletin says pictures of the resulting damage were a huge moral and propaganda boost for the Allies and Britain in particular. But 53 aircrew died - a casualty rate of nearly 40 per cent - and only 11 Lancasters returned.

"I'm the last surviving pilot of the originals," said Mr Munro.

He said his aircraft was badly damaged by flak while crossing the Dutch coast on the way to the target. The damage included loss of all communications equipment and they were forced to return to base.

"I was disappointed that my part in the operation had been aborted and felt quite uncomfortable in joining the celebrations by the surviving crews," said Mr Munro, who finished the war a decorated squadron leader.

On returning to New Zealand, Mr Munro became a Waitomo sheep farmer and mayor.

Sir Peter Jackson sought him out as a consultant for a remake of the 1955 film *The Dambusters*. Sir Peter's company Wingnut Films intends to produce it after the film-maker finishes producing and directing *The Hobbit* series.

Short Final - The lighter side of life...

More questions from Peter Marshal to celebrities on Hollywood Squares.

Q. Do female frogs croak?

A. Paul Lynde: If you hold their little heads under water long enough.

Q. Paul, why do Hell's Angels wear leather?

A. Paul Lynde: Because chiffon wrinkles too easily.

(OK; Sorry; I won't do any more! Ed.)

HAPPY FLYING
→ → → → → → → → →

28th June 2013