September and spring and winter telling us, “Hang on a minute, I haven’t finished with you yet”. A few cold days and new snow on the ranges. We used to say that if there wasn’t snow on the ranges at the end of September, the spring would be dry. Weekend winds have stifled flying recently as well so we look forward to calmer conditions.

The AGM was reasonably well attended with no controversial topics raised. The office holders remain unchanged apart from 2 new committee members in Clem Powel and James Butler and also a new Club Captain in Ron Day.

The Hawera Dawn Raid was a no show for our team. I woke at 0600, heard rain on the roof and promptly went back to sleep. Several hardy souls were at the Club waiting for some direction and when I re awoke at 0700 and noticed them there on the webcam, I headed on over. Shortly after, several aircraft from the Wellington Aeroclub arrived having decided that the weather on our side was more attractive than on the other coast. They, along with some of our un breakfasted members, walked down to the Hatuma Café and enjoyed a nice brekky.

A couple of weeks ago, 5 of us in the 172 and the Rans, headed to Wairoa where we joined up with 7 other aircraft from Hastings and Gisborne for a picnic lunch at Wairoa airfield. A very pleasant day with magnificent weather and good company. Organised by Granville Jones, from Gisborne, it was a great initiative. Derek Simmons and Shane Jones went in CHB and took the scenic route via Puketitri and the Mohaka River. I took Zoe Hendon and Stuart Brown in FGJ and took the more conventional coastal route giving my students a taste of talking to ATC at Napier.

Granville mentioned that the new airstrip at TeAraroa is temporarily out of action due to horses being allowed on it. This is a shame as we have been thinking about a trip there to check it out. The café which is nearby closes over winter so hopefully the strip will be repaired in time for the spring opening of the café so we can plan a visit in the warmer months.

We welcome several new members this month. Steve Jeffers from Poukawa and Callum Shanks from Waipukurau. Both these guys are ab-initio students who are very much enjoying the flying experience. Jéan Boysen from Hastings, who is learning in Sean Husheer’s Cub and has just recently achieved his first solo. Also, Callum Sutherland from Omakere who has been a member for several months has now started flying with us and is at a similar stage to the others mentioned. It’s great to have several people at the same stage so that they can compare notes and share experiences. Jess Smith from Hastings who has recently completed the course at Air HB and is about to start a job dropping skydivers at Taupo. Jess and Reuben share an interest in aviation and in each other. Cedric Murphy from Dannevirke has recently purchased the ex Hastings Rans S6, KIX which is based on our field until Cedric builds a hangar at Dannevirke. Cedric is brother to James who did a PPL at Waipuk about 40 years ago.

Stuart Brown enters the “watch this space” this month for impending first solo.

The sheep have become trained to a degree but still require care when operating among them. Their deposits are finding their way into the aircraft and clubhouse so please be careful in this regard.

Terina Wardley and Reuben Hansen both recently passed their instrument ratings and have now started their C Cat instructor training. Flight Tests in December are the next milestones on the horizon.

The Wanganui Dawn Raid is due to be held on Sunday 22nd of September, This used to be held at Flat Hills but is now held at Wanganui Airfield. We will try to assemble a team to attend. Names on a list on the board at Clubhouse.

Keep an eye out for a shiny 172 on the field. Bruce and Jenny McGregor have purchased a beautiful 2001 model 172 which is pristine and virtually brand new in spite of it’s age. Bruce and Jenny have a son who is farming at Fairlie in the SI and have had one trip down there in the Club’s 172 and came back absolutely fizzing. We wish them well with their purchase and trust that they will enjoy exploring NZ in it. They will keep their new craft at Napier but hope that it will visit us regularly.

The following from new Club Captain, Ron Day:

*As this is my first report as Club Captain, I suppose I should start by*

*introducing myself. Although some of you I’ve met and got to know,*

*others will have only been introduced to me by the occasional drivel I*

*write for the Newsletter. Yet more of you are the silent majority in any*

*club that seldom attend, only briefly scan any messages received, and*

*so have little idea of who I am or what I’m about.*

*Although I have, to some ears, a distinct London accent, I have lived in*

*Hawkes Bay for 54 years and am proud to possess (somewhere) a piece*

*of paper that proclaims me a Kiwi. It is because I have chosen to live*

*here that I am almost evangelical about New Zealand and its people. Of*

*late this enthusiasm has become focussed on “The Aeroclub”.*

*I first joined in 2003 and struggled for eight hours to come to grips with*

*ETJ – something I never succeeded in doing. With the arrival of the*

*Rans, and a little more disposable income, my attempts were resumed*

*with the incentive of flying my first Jodel D9 DHZ.*

*None of this would have been possible without the relaxed friendly*

*atmosphere of CHBAC and its CFI’s inexhaustible patience.*

*I wish I could say I am achieving a life-long ambition, but in truth my*

*humble beginnings made becoming a pilot so unlikely it was never even*

*a dream.*

*I tell you all this in the hope you may understand and forgive me on*

*occasions when I perhaps become excessively passionate about*

*aeroplanes, flying and CHBAC.*

*And now to business.*

*Some of you may have noticed a growing pile of aviation related books*

*on a table in the Clubrooms. Work is underway on a new bookshelf to*

*accommodate them. They are for lending to members and our Librarian*

*Shirley Simmonds has provided a register for you to fill in details and*

*sign when you borrow one. There are some very interesting donations*

*coming in, so please contribute if you have some double-ups or no*

*longer wish to keep a book. Thank you Shirley.*

*There is also a plan over the bar of our proposed hangar development in*

*the paddock behind the Clubrooms. A couple of spots have already been*

*​reserved but there is plenty of room. Fences will be re-arranged once*

*there is action on building. If you would prefer to become part of a T-*

*Hangar arrangement (Google it) then I am happy to collect names with a*

*view to helping this happen.*

*This month the Wairarapa Aero Club is celebrating its 90th anniversary*

*on 20/21/22 September at Hood. I intend to take my Jodel FLI down one*

*day as it was constructed and first flown there. If there is any other*

*interest in joining in please put your name on the board.*

*HB&EC Aero Club has arranged to visit Lochinver Station for their*

*September club day on Sunday the 29th, and we have been invited to*

*join in. CHBAC has attempted this trip before and been unsuccessful*

*with WX so here is a great opportunity. The flying part will be about an*

*hour and a half total time. The trip will be from Hastings aerodrome over the*

*ranges and a landing at Rangitaiki, next to the Napier- Taupo highway.*

*There is a walk of about 600 metres to the cafe for coffee/lunch etc.*

*Expect magnificent views of snow covered mountains, forest and lakes*

*in the distance.*

*We will need to leave YP in time to attend the safety briefing at 10.00am*

*in Hastings. This is compulsory for everyone. Depart Hastings at*

*10.15am and return about 1.30pm. Names on the board please.*

*December 15th has been set aside for our annual Children’s Christmas*

*Party so please make a note in your diaries. We have secured a*

*variation on the “Bouncy Castle” in the form of a “Royal Carriage” which*

*looks pretty spectacular. Thanks to Wendy Milne for arranging this.*

*Lastly, I see the role of Club Captain as one of co-ordinating efforts and*

*events so if you have something in mind please get in touch on 027 2104 043. We will arrange to join in with other clubs on their jaunts*

*whenever appropriate, so I will be advertising anything I become aware*

*of during the month.*

*Ron*

Duty Pilots:

*Sep 15th Bruce McGregor*

*Sep 22nd Ross Kent*

*Sep 29th Tony Jefferd*

*Oct 6th Derek Mohi*

*Oct 13th Peter Harris*

*Oct 20th Wendy Milne*

*Oct 27th Frank Minton*

*Nov 3rd Clem Powel*

*Nov 10th Mat Durham*

*Nov 17th Ross Hatfull*

Quote for the month:

*The natural function of the wing is to soar upwards and carry that which is heavy up to the place where dwells the race of gods. More than any other thing that pertains to the body it partakes of the nature of the divine.*

*PLATO, Phaedrus*

*​*



On that note, I’ll leave you in peace for a month.

Take The Spoon Out Of The Sink.

Ross Macdonald