

Manawatu Microlight Club Newsletter for August 2011

www.manawatumicrolightclub.org.nz/

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Hi folks,

Not a lot to publish this month due mainly to the dismal flying weather. Hope things improve soon!

The following article contains my opinions about the current status of the club which are not necessarily reflected by the committee.

Barry

Insufficient Flying Activity.

Although it's very frustrating when we have prolonged periods of bad (non - flying) weather, the effects on the club finances are potentially very serious. Suppliers of services such as phone, power, rent, spare parts, insurance and the finance company associated with purchasing the Hanuman completely disregard the weather and keep sending us demands for payment. One doesn't have to be an accountant to understand that zero income and high outgoings could lead to ruin.

Whilst this is not a new situation, we need to generate more income than usual to pay off the Hanuman. Although we can't do anything about the weather, there are a couple of steps which individual members could take to help the situation.

- Our constitution contains a clause which gives Life Membership to any member who pays the equivalent of 10 years (current) subscriptions as a lump sum. At the moment that equates to a one - off fee of \$400. I'd appeal to anybody who has a commitment to remaining as a club member and wants to swell the club coffers, to consider this. There may be a hidden benefit as the committee discussed raising the membership fee a few months ago, but were unable to do so because of a clause prohibiting this until February.
- On those rare club days when we get good weather, why not come to the club and take a club aircraft for a flight? Although the current charge out rates may seem high, it's unlikely that you'll fly every week, or indeed, every month during the Winter and Spring. This means that your monthly flying expenditure is likely to be very modest.
- *We need more people to use the club aircraft.* Quite simply, we don't earn enough money from the current fleet. The insurance costs alone are horrendous, so aircraft on the ground are literally eating money. Many members are aircraft owners so are hardly likely to use the club machines. We need to attract new members to the club since novice pilots usually rack up high flying hours. So, please, talk to your friends and encourage them to come and have a trial flight. Of course, if you think of other ways to generate income, please talk to a committee member.

I intend to follow my own advice and opt for the Life Membership payment and hope that others will take this option.

Barry

Masterton Fly - In



A picture of our intrepid leader posing at the recent Masterton Fly - In.

A number of our members flew South to attend the event.

Religious experience

A crusty old man walks into the local Catholic church and says to the Secretary, "I would like to join this damn church."

The astonished woman replies, "I beg your pardon, Sir. I must have misunderstood you. What did you say?"

"Listen up, damn it. I said I want to join this damn church!"

"I'm very sorry sir, but that kind of language is not tolerated in this church." The secretary leaves her desk and goes into the priest's study to inform him of her situation. The priest agrees that the secretary does not have to listen to that foul language. They both return to her office and the priest asks the old geezer, "What seems to be the problem here?"

"There is no damn problem," the man says. "I just won 20 million dollars in the damn lottery and I want to join this damn church to get rid of some of this damn money."

"I see," said the priest. "And is this bitch giving you a hard time?"

And just one more religious joke.

In church, I overheard a lady recite the following prayer.

Dear Lord,

This has been a tough 12 months You have taken my favourite actor Patrick Swayze, my favourite actress Farrah Fawcett, my favourite musician Michael Jackson and my favourite athlete Steve McNair. I just wanted to remind you that my favourite politician is Hone Harawira.

Amen

It's a bird!

If you 'thought you'd seen it all,' think again. Follow this link. It shows a video of an aircraft which flaps it's wings, just like a bird!

<http://www.flixxy.com/airplane-flies-like-a-bird.htm>

Hastings Bridge Pa Tail Dragger Weekend 17th and 18th September.

Some members may be interested in these arrangements

As we did last year we'll try to find you a bed for the night if you would like to stay with aeroclub members. Camping is fine on the field (might be a bit cold) A link to Hastings /

Havelock North motels:

<http://www.hastings-motels.co.nz/index.html>

Wild food is the Saturday lunch theme at the aerodrome. Saturday night we have a casual dinner at a local restaurant/bar on pay your own way basis.

As well as the STOL and Jail Bar bombing there's the opportunity to fly into a couple of country strips. If you need to know anything? Send an email or phone.

If you are thinking about coming let us know (helps with organisation) Ph: 06 8798860
Mobile 021769963 Email:stephanie@stm.net.nz

What are they talking about? Topics discussed at the August committee meeting.

- Thanks to Stan for making Tow Handle for Drifter
 - We may extend Hanuman loan and half repayments.
 - Life Membership can be bought on payment of 10 year's subs.
 - Papaparaumu Flight service now operating.
 - Negotiations with MDAC are ongoing.
 - Thanks to Stan for making Tow Handle for Drifter
 - No progress on resurrecting Come & Get It cup nor on repainting the club sign.
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Events Calendar.

MMC Club barbecue Noon, next Sunday (21st August)

Bridge Pa Taildragger weekend 17th & 18th September
