

SHORT APPROACH

MANAWATU DISTRICTS AERO CLUB



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF MANAWATU DISTRICTS AERO CLUB - Sept 2013

PRESIDENTIAL PATTTER

Well goal achieved, we clocked up 100 hours within a year. As I write this Padge (i.e. ZK-PAJ) is in the hangar finishing its first 100 hour check (728 hours total time). This is taking a little longer than expected as some of the required components need to be imported. All is in hand and Padge should be back on line well before you get this. Thanks to Dave Cameron for all the work he put into organizing this. Now we know the demands, the next time should be a lot more straight forward.

The AGM in July was well attended. Thanks to those who made it and a special thanks again to the Gliding Club for the use of their club rooms for the day. Special congrats to Rod Titcombe for being bestowed with an Honorary Life membership for his exemplary service to the club over many hard years.

The AGM saw the introduction of the MDAC Operations Manual and discussions on the CAA's Safety Management Systems (SMS) Drive. The Operations manual is available from the downloads section of the website and printed copies are located in the hanger. All Pilots operating Padge are required to abide by the instructions in the MDAC Operations Manual. If there are any questions about anything in that manual or suggestions for improvements please don't hesitate to contact any of the board members or one of the Instructors.

Eagle eyed pilots would have noticed a Safety Log Note book located behind the sign out sheet in the hangar. Club members are encouraged to note any concerns, safety or otherwise in the operation of the aircraft or events on the airfield. No Blame, No fault and the board will act on any concerns.

We need to remind all pilots that the Sign-out sheet must be filled out before every flight. This allows us to know who has the aircraft, roughly where it is and what time it is due back. Pilots also should be aware that any bookings logged via the booking system have prior use of the aircraft but do please try to have the aircraft back in a reasonable time before the next booking. Contact the aero club if you need a login.

November will see the 85th anniversary of the MDAC and a celebratory dinner held on Sat Nov 16th at the Travelodge. More info below.

As you may be aware, MDAC is now a member of both the RNZAC and RANZ organisations. The first weekend of March next year will see the RANZ comps being held at Feilding, an event that the MDAC is co-hosting. We will be involved with the organisation and running of several of the events and we will require support from members of the club to ensure that the event is a success. We will keep you informed as the date draws nearer.

Again I would encourage everybody to make use of Padge and as always the MDAC is always open to new members. Padge is available to anyone willing to give it a go.

Matt McArty
MDAC President

85Years - Wow

Way way back on a wet Tuesday evening in November 1928 (20th to be precise) a bunch of like-minded local Manawatu movers and shakers got together and agreed to form a 'flying club'. What happened after that is now history as they say but it is laid out in full glorious detail at:

www.aeroclub.co.nz/history

Rock forward 85years and the same organisation is of course alive and well. To celebrate that continued enthusiasm and history a dinner has been planned:

Sat Nov 16th 5:30pm at the Travelodge

Formal attire is requested please – gents that means a suit and tie just as those early club founders did 85 years ago. Free refreshment upon arrival. Pre-dinner mix and mingle before the buffet style meal. Without giving too much away we can report that a mystery guest speaker and prize draw is planned. Thanks to some sponsorship we have managed to get the price down to just \$60/head although you will need to buy your own refreshments from the bar. All past and present club members staff and guests are invited.

Payment can be made into the club bank account or cheques posted by snail mail to P.O. Box 9004- include your full name/s please. Reservations can be made by

Seating is limited for
the 85th Anniversary Dinner
So book NOW !

email to events@aeroclub.co.nz (tickets not required). Please print or share the attached nostalgic poster – which is also available in higher resolution at: www.aeroclub.co.nz/downloads/MDAC_85th.pdf

HANGAR STUFF

We have progressed the maintenance of the clubs fleet of aircraft (ZK-PAJ). This has included the usual hidden panel checks and rigging inspections, sump checks, oil, fuel and water hose replacements, EPIRB battery, fuel pump replacement and of course a generally very thorough eyeball. The missing nose wheel spat has been refitted and other touch ups done. In effect we are virtually maintaining it to both CAA Part 43 and Part 103 as this is best practise and is likely to become mandatory soon anyway. Again top marks to Dave Cameron for the very considerable time and effort this demanded of him- member of the month award!

During this overhaul, some foreign objects were found under the cockpit floor- not good at all as these all had a fair likelihood of eventually snagging on the rigging or vital moving parts (FOD). Please do NOT get into this aircraft with loose pens, stylus, tools, coins or other 'stuff' or it will automatically gravitate into the under floor cavity creating gremlin risk.

Also don't forget that when you use the last of the stored petrol topping up Padge before your flight as you do, that you grab that fuel card from the cupboard and uplift some more from the Caltex station in Feilding. The 4 digit pin # is the same as the current door combination. If you can't get the tin can into your car then at least get the 2 red 20litre fuel bottles refilled. It's both a courtesy and safety process we have adopted until we get some on-field mogas.

DAWN FLY-INS

Usually a 'Dawn Fly-In' involves jumping into something with wings and braving the cold and glare of sunrise to share aviation tales over hot tucker.

Unfortunately the Dannevirke Fly-in on 16th June didn't exactly work out that way when half the club turned up at Feilding hoping to hitch a ride over the hill. The tight clag around the gorge suggested caution so a fleet of cars scooted through the gorge instead only to be met by Alex Gilbert in a PA38 Tomahawk and John Bolton-Riley in his trusty SkyArrow who had braved the gap and landed safely amongst the clag

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AVIATION GLOSSARY



and drizzle. Thanks to the Dannevirke Aero Club for their great breakfast and generous hospitality.

The next breakfast hunt was to the Hawera Dawn Fly-In in which Matt McArty flew Padge across to on Sunday Aug 18th. Weather was brilliant as reflected in the great turnout. Thanks to the Hawera club for a splendid day. See if you can spot Matt or Padge in this wee photo (also on the MDAC Facebook page).



NAME THAT TAIL

Well done to Roger Cruikshank for being 1st to email the answer to the last newsletter puzzle. The answer was of course ZK-DNT being a Cessna 172M Skyhawk which the club leased through the mid-1970s.



Let's see who can solve this one correctly first...

YOUR COMMITTEE

Club President

Matt McCarty 0212573480 matthewmccarty@xtra.co.nz

Treasurer

Rod Titcombe 0274427413 titcombe@xtra.co.nz

Flying Director

Dave Cameron 0274422545 fpc@xtra.co.nz

Operations and Safety Director

Clyde Rowland 0272013308 air.rowCJ@xtra.co.nz

Social Director

Grant Hadfield 021430399 grant@farmsafe.telford.co.nz

Marketing Director

Pat Debney 021914733 pdebney@xtra.co.nz

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES ALWAYS WELCOME



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Sep 2013