

Waikato Whispers



Waikato Hot Air Balloon Club: www.waikatoballoonclub.co.nz Tel:07 856 0060

CLUB NIGHT Wednesday

No club night for October.

CLUB DAY Saturday

7th October Waihi Details to be confirmed

NEWS IN BRIEF

Club Day and other Activities:

Note the change to Saturday. We have been asked to provide baskets down the route of the trolley derby in Waihi so the plan is to dust off the baskets, fire up the burners, and have a fun day out at Waihi. Hopefully we can get four baskets across so anyone willing to help out please contact David or Linda. The trolley derby is noon to 2:30pm so we would probably need to be setting up on site around 11am.

Junior Balloonists

We had a great day – fine weather and a chance to try daisy chaining tether ropes.

Test your skill and play the fun Air Force Balloon interactive game.

Navigate your way around the countryside and see how high you can get your score.



Here is a link to the Royal Australian Air Force interactive balloon game - which helps to give a feel for the skills needed to fly a hot air balloon

<http://www.airforce.gov.au/interactive/balloon/Interactives/Balloon/Balloon.html>

RYB:

Your committee have decided that the Club need to retain RYB. We are actively pursuing sponsorship and are awaiting the outcome of some funding requests.

This year there have been a number of articles clarifying the CAA understanding of 'hire and reward' in the aviation sector. CLUB MEMBERS can book the balloon for flying, pilot training and taking part in fiestas. Note here that as a club member you can undertake pilot training (instruction) with one of our club pilots.

I cannot take a student pilot for an instructional flight in my own balloon – if they were to make any contribution to the cost of that flight, then that is deemed 'hire and reward'.

For this year we are hoping to at least break even in the operational costs for RYB.

WBC Trailer:

Looking through TradeME, tandem trailers fetch upwards from \$3000. This will be our guideline.

The trailer is now offered to Club members for \$2500. It will have a Rego and WOF which Dave will get over the next couple of weeks. We do have someone outside the club interested in the trailer at \$2750.

CAA – Legislation

The Civil Aviation Act 1990 provides for the Minister (Minister of Transport) to entrust to the CAA the following functions as per 72B of the Act:



72B Functions of Authority (Authority being the CAA)

“The Authority has the following functions:

- a) to promote civil aviation safety and security in New Zealand:*
- b) to promote civil aviation safety and security beyond New Zealand in accordance with New Zealand’s international obligations:*
- c) [Repealed]*
- ca) to establish and continue a service to be called the Aviation Security Service:*
- d) to investigate and review civil aviation accidents and incidents in its capacity as the responsible safety and security authority, subject to the limitations set out in [section 14\(3\)](#) of the Transport Accident Investigation Commission Act 1990:*
- e) to notify the Transport Accident Investigation Commission in accordance with [section 27](#) of accidents and incidents notified to the Authority:*
- f) to maintain and preserve records and documents relating to activities within the civil aviation system, and in particular to maintain the New Zealand Register of Aircraft and the Civil Aviation Registry:*
- g) to ensure the collection, publication, and provision of charts and aeronautical information, and to enter into arrangements with any other person or organisation to collect, publish, and distribute such charts and information:*
- h) to provide to the Minister such information and advice as the Minister may from time to time require:*
 - i) to co-operate with, or to provide advice and assistance to, any government agency or local government agency when requested to do so by the Minister, but only if the Minister and the Authority are satisfied that the performance of the functions and duties of the Authority will not be compromised:*
 - ia) to provide information and advice with respect to civil aviation, and to foster appropriate information education programmes with respect to civil aviation, that promote its objective:*
 - j) to enter into technical or operational arrangements, or both, with civil aviation authorities of other countries.”*

Important words here are:

- Promote aviation safety
- Investigate accidents and incidents
- Foster information education programmes

Note also the relationship with the Transport Accident Investigation Commission who can also get directly involved with any aviation accident.

Safety extends to include flight operations with the airspace; safety of the aircraft in respect of the aircraft being airworthy; safety in respect of how and when we operate an aircraft; safety in respect of how we assess the risks associated with flying and how we minimise those risks so as to ensure the safest practical flight for passengers. Hence the Rules under which we operate.

Accidents and Incidents – these happen regrettably more so due to human error. By investigating these the CAA is able to identify fundamental causes and make recommendations to all operators to help reduce a recurrence.

Education – the CAA issue publications to aid understanding of the Rules; publications to help us understand things like flight rules, air space, mountain flying; videos on safety matters; AV KIWI seminars; training courses; all aimed at EDUCATING us.

Over the past 10-15 years the Balloon Club has slowly built up a very good relationship with CAA – the aim being to help us as balloonists better understand the regulations under which we have to operate. Ignorance is not a defence when in breach of the Law. Our position is to ask for clarification, seek advice and work towards compliance with the Rules.

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