

Waikato Whisper



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

CLUB NIGHT Wednesday 5th October Megan Thomas from ATC Hamilton. 7:30pm Woodworkers Guild Hall Storey Ave.

CLUB DAY Sunday 9th October Flying from Innes Common. Meeting time to be posted on facebook

NEWS IN BRIEF

Crewing

The CaZoo Balloon Team have put together a Crew Training guide on their web site for all to access.



<http://www.cazooee.com/crewing/>

However, it is important to note that:

-  Each balloon system is different
-  Different pilots use different techniques
-  Be sure to follow your pilot's instructions!

It is well thought out and easy to navigate.

2016/2017 Flying Season

Yes – soon we can be out flying again. But before we do so, everyone should check out their gear. For crew, gloves, maps, footwear etc. For pilots not only is it the portable items such as radios, altimeter etc but what is the condition of the balloon!

Time to get your crew out and do a preliminary tether to check everything is in order. No crew! – then bring everything down to Innes Common on Club Day and we can help each other out.

Power Lines – they are everywhere and we need to be vigilant in looking out for them and planning our approaches to landing so that we are not putting ourselves at risk. Will they ever know what happened in Texas, or can we only deduce what might have happened and why. Distractions – when in landing mode don't allow yourself to become distracted from the task. The primary rule of flying: AVIATE.

Don't take risks – there is always tomorrow and we want to all remain friends and be here tomorrow.

As they say:

IT IS BETTER TO BE ON THE GROUND WISHING YOU WERE UP THERE, RATHER THAN UP THERE WISH YOU WERE ON THE GROUND.

Artificial insemination under way so if flying please be mindful of this and try to stay within the city limits. Should all be completed by the end of October.

For our Younger Members: (Ref: Kids Learning Resources by Cameron Balloons)

5) How do you know where you are going?

The quick answer is, we don't exactly... but what we do know is; where the wind is blowing from and how fast it is blowing, as meteorological (weather) reports can tell us that. We can then use that information to draw an imaginary line from our take-off point, to where the wind is predicted to go on our map and if we take, say 30°, either side of that line we know we are going somewhere that way.



We also know, how much fuel we have at take-off and we know how long that is likely to last, so we can work out (using a simple speed, time, distance calculation) how far we could fly before our fuel runs out and then we have to make sure we have lots of good landing opportunities on the way, so we can land before that happens!

You can work out the speed, distance or time by re-arranging the equation. Which one of these equations (sums) you use depends on the information you know and the information you need to find out...



Remember, balloons ALWAYS fly along with the wind - a bit like a sail-boat.



Speed = distance ÷ time
Distance = speed x time
Time = distance ÷ speed

For our Junior Balloonists: Balloon Spotting

Between now and 1 February 2017 we are running a balloon spotting competition for our Junior Balloonists. The prize will be free membership for 2017.

So what do you need to do:

- Take photos
- Write a story about being up early to spot balloons
- Tell us about your experience out ballooning.

At the AGM at the end of February the prize winner will be announced.

Get your friends involved.

Local Airspace Changes:

Changes take effect in November when the new Visual Navigation Charts are published. Come and hear what the changes are and how they affect our flying within the Hamilton zone and out in general airspace where new radio frequencies will be in effect.

Megan Thomas from Air Traffic Control will take us through the changes. 7:30pm Wednesday 5th October.

President	Nicholas Norris	021 213 8861	norris@ihug.co.nz
Chief Pilot	Dave Norris	021 351 957	nenya@ihug.co.nz
	Mark Brown	021 912 679	
Secretary - temp	Linda Norris		bellan@vodafone.co.nz
Treasurer - temp	Dave Norris	021 351 957	
Whispers	Dave Norris		nenya@ihug.co.nz

Warning: Camera on board?

Alarm bells are ringing about the CAA's surveillance of social media, with CAA spooks allegedly looking for mostly amateur videos that might provide evidence of poor aviating. This means GoPro® cameras are a No-no, unless you're a supremely confident aviator seeking publicity. The CAA is apparently interested in passengers who unwittingly shoot footage that might show a departure from the rules.



You never know who's watching...

This is a minefield for the CAA, because interpreting such footage requires an in-depth knowledge of camera and video technology that the Authority has probably not yet mastered (but your expensive defence counsel hopefully will). While technology advances at a pace the CAA cannot match, we offer a few words of advice:

Don't fit a camera to your aircraft or use it, unless you have total confidence in your flying ability. You might provide evidence of a transgression to the CAA via that thrilling Youtube video.

Don't allow any passenger to take pictures or video footage unless you have their written agreement to neither publish nor sell such images. If you are a Private Pilot and you don't do this, you may find your privileges threatened by a CAA prosecution for engaging in a commercial flight. This has happened – and the outcome was not good.

Copied from the GAA Newsletter September 2016