



RAANZ 2012 National fly-in @ Motueka

As most members know the 2012 Annual RAANZ Fly-in was held at Motueka Airfield over the 15th to 18 March weekend. Local weather could not have been better for the event with blue skies and light winds but unfortunately the same could not be said for many other parts of the country. Having said that we did attract microlights from as far away as Invercargill in the south and Hamilton in the north.

All seem to have had a pleasant flight to Motueka during Thursday, Friday and Saturday but the return flight home on Sunday was anything but smooth for some. Reports we had from those returning to Rangiora was that some had to turn back from the mountainous Rainbow Sector and detour via Blenheim then down the east coast. They still got beaten about. Those returning north it seems flew home without a care in the world.

By and large the weekend went without a hitch but there were 2 minor incidents that probably should not be mentioned but I will anyway-

The first occurred when a curtain local aviator of the farmer variety thought he was driving his tractor to the fly-in. His home airstrip is just a hay field. With the grass about ready for cutting he decided he should mow some grass with his propeller. Having wandered off the centre line a few metres the prop couldn't handle the long grass at all well and it started coming apart. That aircraft didn't leave the ground and the person arrived by car to the fly-in. Fortunately one of the local members has a spare serviceable propeller for a Rotax 912. This was fitted to his Zenith on Monday and he is back in the air again. No doubt his wallet will become a little lighter when he has to shell out for a new prop.

The second incident occurred during the spot landing competition. This person had just completed his landing roll and was clearing the field when one of the main undercarriage legs on his aircraft failed. Fortunately no other damage occurred. This owner being another farmer fixed it and flew his aircraft home the next day. Thanks to all who helped Peter fix his aircraft and get him safely away home.

On Friday morning one of our local members, Shafid Khan, led a group off to D'Urville Island. Those who took part thought it was great but unfortunately no fish were brought back for those who "stayed home"

On the more serious side Alistair Hart ran and controlled the competitions with the help of the local ATC members. Alistair organised spot landing, bombing and a navigation events.

Navigation

I have no results for this. Are they all still out there unable to find their way home?

Spot landing.. Total points possible 100.

- 1st. Shane Fleming. Zenith 601 XL. ZK-TKA. 100 / 100. Perfect score.
- 2nd. Barry Eaton. Searay. ZK-YAY. 90 / 100. Not perfect but very good never the less.
- 3rd. Stan Hyde. Zenith 601 HD. ZK-ZOT. 80 / 100. Still very good. Better than I could do.

Bombing. Total points possible 150.

- 1st. Pip Hart. Bantam J22. ZK-SER. 80/ 150.
- 2nd. Richard Manson. P&M Pegasus. ZK- CDT. 70 / 100.
- 3rd. Barry Eaton. Searay. ZK-YAY. 60 / 150.

Now the interesting thing here is Alistair Hart who is a Q 300 captain for Air Nelson and Wade Quickfall who knows a thing or 2 about the drivers seat of a 747 both failed miserably in the bombing competition. LAST EQUAL. One must ask the question- What is about professional these pilots who can't fly basic light aircraft good enough to win a simple flying competition that require only modest skills, a bit of judgment and a lot of luck yet they can get a job piloting seriously heavy metal??



The RAANZ trophies.

This year RAANZ Executive decided to present miniature take home to keep trophy's to the winners in the various categories. The reason for this is because it was felt the originals were becoming damaged in transit to the annual event's, not easy to transport and risked becoming lost as the years went on. I believe that was a good decision. In the meantime the original trophies will be held in Masterton and engraving on them will be update each year.

Best Presented Aircraft Supreme Champion.

- Chris Hagen. ZK-CUZ. Kit built Alpi 300.

Best Maintained Aircraft Supreme Champion.

- William Bennett. ZK-CON. Scratch built modified Minicab.

Best Maintained Aircraft Reserve Champion.

- Ian McLeland. ZK-CMI. Scratch built Zenith 601 XL.

The Kevin Ryan Memorial Trophy for Excellence in Microlighting.

- Alistair Hart.

Alex Charles Memorial Trophy for Most Enthusiastic Contribution to Local Microlighting.

- Shafid Khan of Motueka.

Grant Porter runs the business called "The landing Spot" from Rangiora airfield. Grant donated a very nice one off trophy for this Fly-in. It was felt a very deserving winner of this trophy was Peter Kernohan from Fielding for his supreme effort with help from Stan Hyde in getting his Pelican safely flying again after the little mishap he had with its undercarriage on Saturday. Thanks Grant and good work Peter.

At this point I would like to thank the members of the organising committee who helped run the fly-in at Motueka this year. These people were from the Motueka Aero Club, the local Microlight Club and 2 local SAC members, Kevin Allport and Ken Millward. Thanks guys.

Finally. At the presentation dinner on Saturday evening an indication was given from one of the Southland members that they just might host the RAANZ Fly-in in 2013. Hope to see you all there.

Cheers [Bob Wagner](#) Nelson.





Bettsometers anyone?

The Bettsometer is specified by many sail manufacturers (Airborne, PM Aviation, etc) as the required instrument for testing polyester (Dacron) fabric and stitch condition. It is non-destructive in that the fabric/stitch is ruptured only if it fails the pull test. CAA require that aircraft be maintained to the manufacturer's maintenance schedule, so if your maintenance schedule calls up testing using a Bettsometer, that is the instrument you (or your IA) needs to use.

RAANZ is considering a bulk purchase of Bettsometers to supply at cost to members, clubs, and IAs. We expect the landed cost will be around \$130.00. If you or your club are interested in this offer, [please let us know](#).

Pipistrel Virus 'pocket rocket'

- Pipistrel "pocket rocket" with the new fuel injected Rotax 912iS (up to 20% more economical)
- 145 knot cruise on 15 liters per hour – that's about 5.5 liters per 100 km
- Contact [Alan Clarke](#)



Events

Easter fly-in at Grant's farm, Taieri

See poster at end of this e-zine.

Membership changes

Brent Thompson	Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club	Senior Flight Instructor	Upgrade
Ayres Foster	Whangarei Flying Club	Senior Flight Instructor	Appointment
Lewis Stewart Bufton	Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club	Advanced National	Membership
Gary Marsh	Stratford Sport Fliers Club	Advanced National	FRT0
Neil Jepsen	Middle Districts Sports Flying Club	Flight Instructor	Upgrade
Trevor Claughton	Central Hawkes Bay Aero Club	Novice	FRT0
John Stewart	Southern Recreational Aircraft Club	Advanced Local	Upgrade
Christopher Glassford	Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club	Advanced Local	Upgrade
Maxwell Dixon	Hawkes Bay & East Coast Aero Club	Senior Flight Instructor	Appointment
Bernard Johnston	Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club	Novice	Joined
Don Boyd	Stratford Sport Fliers Club	Advanced National	Joined
Hamish Imber	Coromandel Flying Club	Advanced National	Joined
Tony Christiansen	Bay of Plenty Microlight Assn	Novice	Joined
Dale Finlayson	Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club	Novice	Joined
Colin Leitch	Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club	Novice	Joined
Manoj Perera	Wairarapa Ruahine Aero Club	Novice	Joined
Charles Ensor	Nelson Microlight Club	Advanced National	Joined
Stephen Mrgan	Kaitaia Aero Club	Novice	Joined
Heinz Kitzhoefer	Gyrate Flying Club	Novice	Joine

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Looking for somewhere to fly at Easter?

Tom and Jeanette Grant are hosting a fly-in on their property at Fairfield Dunedin. Some accommodation is available in their B&B at no charge. Camping or sheds are available for overflows, just take your sleeping bag. Partners and friends are welcome.

Food will be available at a nominal charge.

There are 2 runways each 1,000ft (see attached photo)

If you prefer a longer strip Taieri Airfield is only 5 minutes away and transport will be available.

Music on old vinyls or electronic organ if a player is available, so practice your short landings and come and have fun.

Advise your intention if possible.

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