

RAANZ AGM2015

Presidents Report

It is with pleasure that I present the 2104/15 Presidents report.

Recreational Aircraft activity is indeed the growth part of GA. The development of recreational aircraft and the operational rule framework is proving to be very attractive for a variety of reasons. Many aviation participants that had previously looked sideways at our activity are now well and truly jumping on the bandwagon and while the modern micro does perform very well it is still a low inertia aircraft compared to a Cherokee or C172. The low inertia aspect does have to be reinforced during any micro training. We must be careful that we remain responsible members of the aviation community. No better or no worse than any other group.

We must also remember that while some of our procedures may appear to be “skinny” when compared to some other spheres of the aviation world they have served us well. Please do not try and short cut any of the procedures. They work on a minimal rule maximal pilot responsibility principle. A principle we are very keen to maintain. The majority of our aircraft are owner operated and as such the owners are generally very intimately involved with their aircraft. Our freedoms allow us to roll our sleeves up and work on our aircraft. This concept is a little foreign to some GA observers. Again this is a freedom that we do not want to lose.

Regrettably we had a double fatality during the year. Our thoughts are with the families and colleagues associated with the Timaru incident.

The National Flyin at Waipukarau was enjoyed by many. The weather precluded some attendance and activity but the normal competitions and chin wagging was completed. Thanks to all those involved with the organisation of this event. Roll on Hokitika, Waitangi weekend 2016.

Thanks to all those club members throughout the country who have professionally promoted and participated in the sport, instructed new students, inspected aircraft and mentored fellow pilots. RAANZ as a club based organisation relies very heavily on people looking after their patch reducing the need for any large scale national intervention. Having said that we do need feedback of things that are not working as well as they might. The intention is to put out the small fires before they become big ones.

An ATO seminar was held in Wellington during September. It was an impressive collection of aviators totalling 849 years and 97,920 hours of experience. Any aviation group would be very proud to have that firepower. Thanks to CAA and Airways NZ for their generous sponsorship of this event.

Thanks to the executive for their participation during the year. While the majority of our business is done electronically we did have a face to face meeting over two days in Christchurch. The key people on the executive also met with CAA in Wellington after the

ATO seminar to discuss items of mutual interest. This is an important meeting for us in ensuring we have and maintain a good working relationship with the regulator.

Items discussed with CAA include;

- Development of an Instructional Techniques Course. This will potentially allow for the transferring of more Micro time towards a Part 61 Certificate
- The provision for IAs to have some currency requirements. It is anticipated this will involve attendance at a refresher type seminar.
- The ability for selected IAs to be more involved in the initial certification of some aircraft.
- The possibility of some aircraft that are of a low use nature or those that are in a rebuild nature have their participation levy reduced or suspended.

Our Part 149 delegation is due for renewal early in the new year. This delegation does involve considerable handing down of substantial authority from CAA to several key people in our organisation. I thank those people on your behalf for taking on that responsibility.

The renewal process has quite a bit of lead time and is well and truly underway.

Membership has increased by 75 members over the last year to 625 I am confident that the future of recreational aviation is healthy and confident that RAANZ is a very good platform to ensure it remains that way.

Thank You,

Rodger Ward.