

# Aerobat



August 2012

Issue Number 4, Volume 2

ALL ARTICLES/QUESTIONS/  
COMMENTS, SEND AN EMAIL  
TO:

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# AEROBAT

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

AUGUST 2012

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## From the Editor's Desk...

*The editor is busy doing exams & assignments - so instead of his usual blurb, he'll just put a picture here instead...*

Hayden Purdy

[editor.aerobat@gmail.com](mailto:editor.aerobat@gmail.com)



## WORKSHOP LABOUR RATES MONDAY to SATURDAY \$88 /hr

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| ● IF YOU WATCH  | \$110 /HR |
| ● IF YOU OFFER ADVICE   | \$120 /HR |
| ● IF YOU HELP   | \$130 /HR |
| ● IF YOU OR YOUR MATE HAVE<br>HAD A GO FIRST                          | \$140 /HR |
| ● IF YOU OR YOUR MATE HAVE<br>HAD A GO AND YOU DON'T TELL US          | \$150 /HR |
| ● IF YOU RECKON THAT YOU ARE<br>THE EXPERT GO AWAY AND DO IT YOURSELF | N/C       |



# From the Presidential Suite

## A testing time

July the 14<sup>th</sup> was a bright sunny day, nothing unusual or remarkable, pretty much like any other day at the paddock, except for a few nervous souls hanging around Ross Mc Donnell and speaking in hushed tones nervously answering his questions and anxiously awaiting his responses.

It was the day that I cleaned my act up and took my wings test!!!!!!

Now I'm one of those people that totally falls apart when facing any form of official test, take my driving test for example the driving age in the UK is 17 so soon after my 17<sup>th</sup> birthday I started driving lessons and all went well, come the day of my test I could barely pull away without wildly lurching up the road. Obviously I failed within 10 minutes so all dejected the money I had saved for a car I spent on a motorcycle (back then you didn't need a license for any thing up to 250cc).

Eight years later with a rather pregnant wife refusing to ride on the back of the bike, I had to face my nemesis and take a driving test well five more actually!!!!

Upon passing what was my 6<sup>th</sup> driving test the examiner said

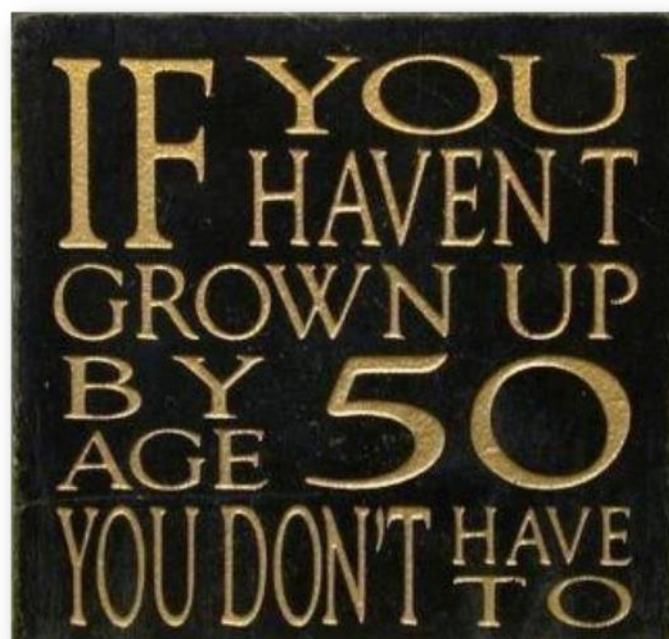
"today you have barely scraped through the test criteria" but he said "I am satisfied that you can now go away and continue to improve your driving skills" then he added "Well done" SUCCESS at last.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> July Mackenzie Carter flew a perfect wings test!

I had to use 2 planes re-fly the figure of eight 3 times, do the dead stick landing twice but after 5 years SUCCESS!!!

"Well done Mackenzie"..... and as for me I guess I ticked enough boxes to go and practice on my own LEGALLY

*Wayne Drinkwater*





## In the Next Issue...

In the next issue we are going to **publish all members names and phone numbers** so that members can keep in contact with each other.

For family members only the Family Paid (not Family Included) members will be published.

If you do not want to be on this list please contact the secretary on (09) 426-0840 as soon as possible.

## Mid Winter Christmas Lunch

The mid winter Christmas lunch at Valentines was well attended with 34 adults and 2 children attending. This gave us two long tables with a lot of people changing places between courses.

A fantastic job was done by the Social Secretary Ngaire (aka The Weather Witch) who unfortunately couldn't be there herself. The "on the day" organisation was handled very capably by Trudy Drinkwater who did a fantastic job of getting everyone organised, labelled and most importantly paid up.

The raffle that had about 8 prizes was won by a good cross section of the people present and the prizes seemed to be appreciated.

Thank you to all the people who attended for there support and with the mixers who seemed to keep the party going with jokes and antidotes to keep us all amused.

*Ross McDonnell*



# Indoor Flying

If you were at the last meeting, you would of heard about the upcoming indoor flying event. We have confirmed a venue - the Wentworth College gym in Gulf Harbour, although we have not confirmed the entry price for members (probably around the \$5 mark) or the exact date. The event will most likely be held mid to late August (ie 18th—19th), and we're pretty sure we won't need a rain date!

There are some rules however, as to ensure we are allowed back for further events:

- No powered plane with a wingspan greater than approx. 20"
- No prop larger than approx. 6"
- No powered plane with a weight greater than 60g (approx.)
- No exposed metal rod ends—spinners are a must!
- Electric/rubber powered planes only!
- Any chuck gliders are fine
- Don't be an idiot
- Have fun!

*(Do these last two sound familiar?!)*

The floors are wooden, so if you think your plane might ding, scratch or scuff the wood, you'll be out of luck! The editor reserves the right to allow/deny flight of any particular plane.

Generally any plane with "micro" or "indoor" printed on it is acceptable - an AutoKite for example would be a good plane for this venue.



Enough of the mumbly-grumbly, here are some picture of inside the gym:

Address: 93 Gulf Harbour Drive, Gulf Harbour, Auckland

Google Maps: <http://goo.gl/maps/DgoNW>

Google Maps: <http://goo.gl/maps/DgoNW>

**PRIZE:** As a bit of fun, there will be a chocolate fish prize for the best paper airplane—the furthest distance wins!

**NOTE:** I will be ringing around once a date/price has been confirmed.

'Ed

# Thermal Thaw 2012

**Report by Bryan Leeves - Hibiscus Coast 10 June 2012.**

The annual Thermal Thaw was held at the field of Hibiscus Coast Radio Fliers (Hibs) at Wainui on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June. As per normal the contest was Thermal A (6 minute flights and spot landing) and this year was run in two divisions namely 'Hot Shots' and 'Sportsman'. Basically the first group consists of those who think they are pretty good and the second group consists the rest (ER we didn't allow electrics into Hot Shot). This year sportsman allowed the use of electric power for the climb as well as the use of bungee or winch. This format is looking promising and is certainly adding to the number of entrants. It was first invented in 2011 by AKSOAR and was successful in increasing the popularity of the meet then too. This year we had 3 entrants in Hot Shot and 11 in sportsman. These people came from 4 different club's; these being the host, Hib. Coast, AKSOAR, Auckland Free Flight Club and the North Shore Club. The Hibiscus Coast club members thank those from elsewhere for attending.

Weather wise we were pretty lucky because there had been some showers overnight, but the showers stayed away for the duration of the meet and then set in again on Sunday night. The breeze from the SW was a little much during the day, though it didn't effect the full house gliders - but was a handful for those flying the likes of 2 metre lightweight towline units. This was reflected in the poor flight times for this sort of plane - but it was flyable, which was the main thing.

There were only 3 entries in Hot Shot class: Andrew Reid and Ted Bealing from AKSOAR, and me from Hib Coast. Neither Ted nor I finished, with Ted having a radio problem and me having a crash. Andrew on the other hand flew his beautiful Supra full house very well in the conditions, to score 1334 points out of a possible 1380 to win the Thermal Thaw Cup for 2012. Well done Andrew!

Sportsman class saw a variety of aircraft ranging from 2 metre gliders and one 3 metre plus span built up unit, through to various electric foamies, and one truly great home built full house Supra with electric power. This Supra was flown very well indeed by Neil Moss - its builder. Neil won Sportsman with a very creditable 1270. The very large wingspan, light weight floater was built and flown by David Ackery from Auckland Free Flight Club and performed very well in the conditions which certainly were not ideal for it.

There was some carnage though not a lot. I smashed my Sagitta trying to land. The least said about this the better but hamfistedness and lack of practice didn't help. But you get this. At one point small blue bits of 2 metre wing were seen floating downwind at a height after a fold on the launch. The culprit this time was Ross McDonnell. Happens!

A wonderful lunch was supplied by a hard working bunch of wives and partners, plus Nigel Grace on the barbecue and was enjoyed by all. Thanks folks. There was a superb vegetable soup which certainly I enjoyed.

This was a successful day and I think enjoyed by everyone. It's great to have people from different clubs having a get together. Next year it is meant to be at Ambury, but we have suggested to the North Shore club that they might like to host the event for a change. There's plenty of time for us all to discuss this possibility.

I would briefly like to mention the young people who took part in the contest. A lot of us old guys tend to worry about where the hobby is going to re the younger generations. Well today both Hayden and Scott Purdy who are both high school boys and are members of our club took part. Hayden also currently edits our club newsletter and operates our website. Neil Moss is still a very young man and who has just rejoined the club after several years away has to be congratulated for building and flying his very spectacular Supra . Neil has actually built 2 fuselages for this aircraft - one with a towhook for winch launching, and one with the electric motor up front which he used today. This is a very impressive effort Neil. I might add that a couple of weeks ago the club held a small in house contest and in that event all 4 of the Purdy family took part - Mum Linda, Dad Ross and the 2 boys all as well. Well done the Purdy's.

Thermal Thaw Results in brief:

Pilot	Club	Model	Division	Points	Position
A Reid	AKS	Supra	HS	1334	1
N Moss	Hibs.	Supra E	Sport	1270	2
C Jackson			Sport	1160	3
S Purdy	Hibs.		Sport	1151	4
D Ackery	AFFC		Sport	1137	5
E Kilgw	NZ		Sport	1084	6
Billy			Sport	1063	7
H Purdy	Hibs.		Sport	928	8
R Wood	Hibs.		Sport	747	9
D Kilsby	Hibs.		Sport	740	10
J Hall	Hibs.		Sport	584	11
B Leeves	Hibs.	Sagitta	HS	438 DNF	12
E Bealing	AKS		HS	0 DNF	=13
R McDonnell	Hibs.		Sport	0 DNF	=13

# Chocolate Fish Glider Contest

2012 Chocolate Fish Catapult Glider Contest. No 1  
Held at Wainui Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2012

The first of what I hope will be many catapult glider contests for a chocolate fish was held during this Saturday morning. The weather was brilliantly fine, cool (some might say cold) and calm - this being pretty much perfect for the event.

I am hoping that more members will be forthcoming with entries soon but the four of us who flew had fun. Actually there were 5 entries, 2 of them being Dale Montgomery from Thames - Stans brother in law who insists that there are 2 of him - But that's OK! Dale flew a Yellow Bird and a Blue Cat. Ross, Jim and I flew the PT12 catapult glider that I have been promoting. Both Ross and Jim have got their PT12's flying beautifully, and I have one which I built last summer which is flying very well too. This is proving a very successful model so have a go fellas. It really is good fun.

We flew first a standard 6 flight contest to NZMAA rules. Basically six flights with a max of 60 seconds each. I won the fish from Ross, then Dale with his Yellow Bird, and then Jim. But don't be fooled, my PT12 was sucked up by a passing thermal that secured me by pure luck a maximum flight of 60 seconds in my 3<sup>rd</sup> round. Then lo and behold I got another little lift in my next flight as well. This secured me the win. It's pretty hard to score more than 200 points in a catapult contest and I certainly don't do it very often - but this was a pretty perfect day for this activity and I had a good trot.

It transpired that Jim isn't able to pull his arm back far enough to get full stretch on the catapult so he is in future allowed dispensation to use his extended catapult rather than the standard one - that will help. I'm not sure if the problem Jim has is anything to do with age but it is true that getting old is not recommended at all by this reporter. It's got to be a silly idea. Not recommended at all - though Maurice Chevalier didn't agree with me. Remember? He declared that he was glad he was not young anymore. In "Gigi" the musical - the reason was apparently to do with the business of chasing girls and the problems this caused him. Then Maurice was French after all, like the little sparrow as well. But I digress. We followed the main contest with a mass launch. Everyone who flew in the main contest launches their planes together and the first one down drops out. This is repeated until there is only one left. This was won by Ross. So he won the other chocolate fish. The mass launch provides another dimension especially when many are flying the same model such as PT12's. The problem being that you have to be pretty careful to keep a close eye on which plane is yours. Mind you it is free flight, so you can't get into that grievous situation of controlling the wrong aircraft which has been known to happen - even at our field! It can be embarrassing if you call the wrong plane down when yours isn't down. It is going to be interesting though when we have say 10 or a dozen planes flying.



The results for 7 July.

Pilot	Model	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Bryan	PT12	25	35	60	44	24	41	229
Ross M	MPT12	26	31	39	35	30	26	187
Dale	Y Bird	21	26	11	27	35	25	145
Jim	PT12	20	22	27	20	23	25	137
Dale	Blue Cat	24	26	24	16	24	18	132

Mass Launch – Ross M the winner.

*Bryan Leeves*

## Around the Club



Well done Hayden!  
Hayden Purdy receiving his wings badge at the last meeting.

Jim Hall instructing McKenzie Carter.  
Note the very relaxed style on both.





Is cardboard still a good building material now that foam looks so good or is Stan Sumerfield's Humming Bird, (affectionately named "Dunger,") still in its Christmas wrapping?



McKenzie Carter undoes a 1.5 mm nut with a 10 inch crescent. Makes me think of a politician making a minor adjustment the budget.

# Glider Contest

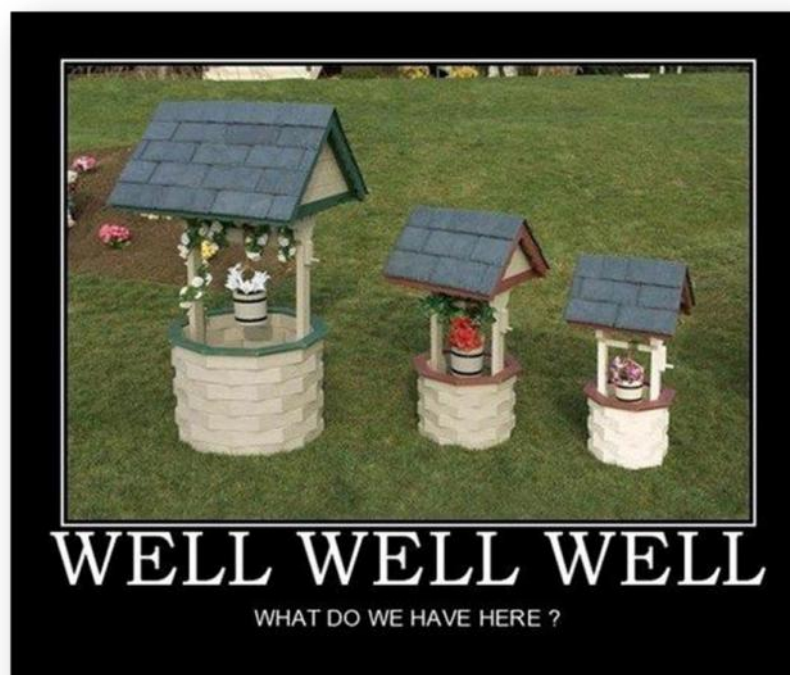
<b>Wind:</b>	10-12kn NE.
<b>Temperature:</b>	14c
<b>Competitors:</b>	6 Gliders & 4 Electric
<b>Competition:</b>	2, 3, 6 min Flights on handicap basis.
<b>Optional Task:</b>	Horizontal figure 8 = 20 plus points
<b>Scoring:</b>	Time plus landing points

While not as many starters as last time it was still a good day. Most pilots completed their figure 8 task without too much difficulty. Two pilots deserve recognition, Ian McEwen flying his electric glider consistently scored high points for both flying and landing, his 1st place was well deserved. This was only the second time Ian has competed in a competition and his result showed electric gliders can compete very well alongside sailplanes.

The other person who showed real talent was McKenzie Carter who flew Ross McDonnell's Electric Glider. Given McKenzie's age and experience his results were inspiring. The only unfortunate incident was the loss of Nigel Graces Spirit Glider on launching, however Nigel has completely rebuilt with a wooden fuselage.

<b>Results:</b>	1st Ian McEwen
	2nd Dave Kilsby
	3rd Jim Hall

*Ray Wood*





# Governments & Committees Works

Once upon a time the government had a vast scrap yard in the middle of a desert.

Congress said, "Someone may steal from it at night."

So they created a night watchman position and hired a person for the job.

Then Congress said, "How does the watchman do his job without instruction?"

So they created a planning department and hired two people, one person to write the instructions, and one person to do time studies.

Then Congress said, "How will we know the night watchman is doing the tasks correctly?"

So they created a Quality Control department and hired two people. One was to do the studies and one was to write the reports.

Then Congress said, "How are these people going to get paid?"

So they created two positions: a time keeper and a payroll officer then hired two people.

Then Congress said, "Who will be accountable for all of these people?"

So they created an administrative section and hired three people, an Administrative Officer, Assistant Administrative Officer, and a Legal Secretary.

Then Congress said, "We have had this command in operation for one year and we are \$918,000 over budget, we must cut back."

So they laid-off the night watchman.



# A Prayer for the Coming Year

Dear God,

My prayer for 2012 is for

A fat bank account & a thin body.

Please don't mix these up like you did last year.

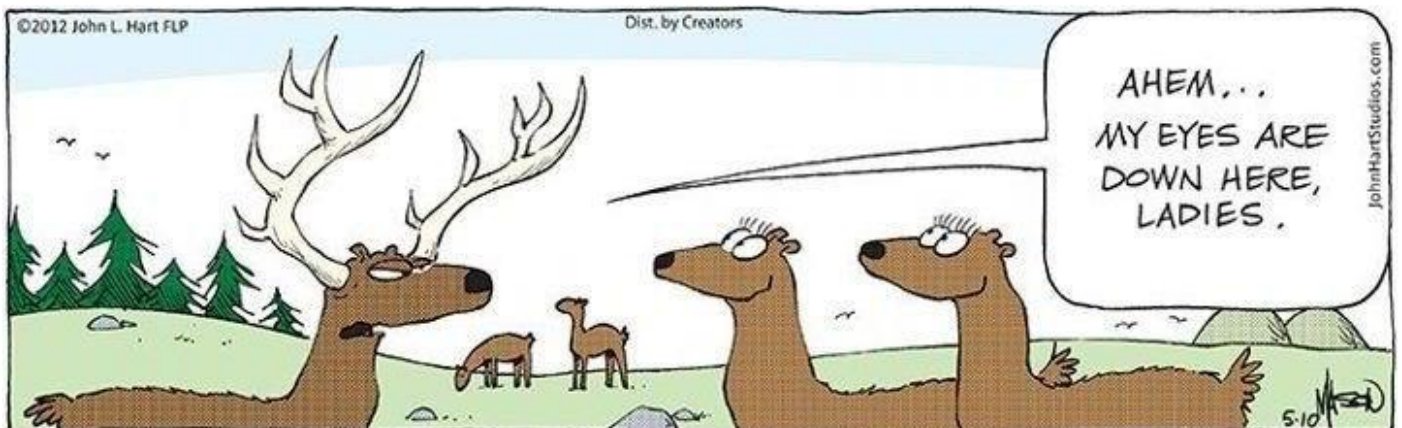
AMEN!



# Lord Barque...



*"For such a small dog he's got an incredibly loud barque."*





# Mosquito Will Fly!

Following extensive restoration over the last 8 years, the de Havilland **Mosquito FB26 KA 114** will fly later this year!

This is a truly significant event in the annals of aircraft restoration as this Mosquito will be the only one in the world, currently, able to fly!!

**On Saturday 29 September 2012, at Ardmore Airport the de Havilland Mosquito Launch Spectacular will take place from 9am – 4pm.** (Sunday 30 September 2012 will be held as a rain day, therefore tickets purchased can be transferred to this date)

NZ is home to a number of exotic and classic de Havilland aircraft from the Tiger Moth to the ultra rare Venom and Vampire Jets, the Mosquito Launch Spectacular will be a true celebration of all things de Havilland.

Throughout the course of the day the Mosquito FB26 KA114 will be joined in the sky by her WWII stable mates the Mustang, Spitfire and Kittyhawk. The Harvard Display Team will wow the crowds with stunning aerobatics and ex Military jets will be on hand to steal some cloud time too.

Being a celebration of all things British and de Havilland the day will include a collection of Classic British Cars, represented by each 'Owners Club' of enthusiastic devotees such as the Jaguar, the Aston Martin, the Classic Mini and more.

Get Tickets at <http://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/show.aspx?sh=MOSQUITO12>



# Club Calendar

## August

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## September

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Day	Month	Day of Week	What?	Where?
6 <sup>th</sup>	August	Monday	Clubnight	Whangaparaoa Guide Hall
TBA	August	TBA	Indoor Flying	Wentworth College Gym
3 <sup>th</sup>	September	Monday	Clubnight	Whangaparaoa Guide Hall

