



Graeme Main and Chris Pennell do a sprightly take off in Graeme's Jodel D.18, Stephen Field's Fly-in, 15/3/2015

AGM Report

The AGM was held in the CRAC House at Rangiora Airfield on Wednesday evening. It was attended by 30-odd stalwarts, with a number staying on to socialise afterwards.

The following positions were elected:

Patron:	Wayne Wilson
President:	Mike Sheffield
Secretary:	Graeme Main
Treasurer:	Scott James
Committee:	Basil Buwalda, Viktor Dragomiretsky, Buzz Harvey, Margo Migirdichyan, Deane Philip, John McCaul
Operations Manager:	Stewart Bufton
CFI:	Tony den Haan

Tania McKinnon from the ATC 88 Squadron gave an overview of the establishment of the local unit (see article further on). The President's report spoke of the relative harmony in the club and attributed it to the maturity (emotional not chronological!) of the members, and the "underlying the strength of a group with a common interest". He thanked the retiring Operations Manager, **Dave Mitchell**, for his huge contribution to the club over the years, and **Wayne Wilson** for his continuing hard work. The Club Captain will be organising more inter-club events, the Safety Officer commented on the lack of reported incidents/accidents this year and thanked the Instructors for the high standards of training. **Roger Ward** reported on behalf of RAANZ, and pointed out that the freedoms we have in the Microlight world are a privilege, not a right, with a reminder to keep our safety standards high.

March Highlights

- Flying Hours down in March due to weather, RGA completes 36 and JOR 6.
- New Instructors being trained by CRAC and the ATO's
- Very successful fly-in to **Stephen Field's** strip (see photo gallery)
- AGM reasonably well attended and very positive
- Local Air Training Corp group formed, possible role for CRAC being investigated
- Fold-up beds purchased to allow for more overnight flyers at the CRAC house.
- Website migration completed

JOR's Rudder Cables

As reported in the Highlight's section, a sharp-eyed club member spotted some unusual wear on ZK-JOR's rudder cable during a pre-flight. Although there was no immediate risk to the aircraft it was taken out of service and the rudder cable replaced as a matter of urgency.

JOR has been released back into service following this maintenance and her successful annual inspection.



Procedure for shutting down RGA and JOR

A recent discussion at the committee meeting highlighted the difference between our Rotax engines and some GA engines. The Rotax in both of our aircraft need to be idled at the placarded minimal idle speed (3000 RPM for either aircraft) for **two minutes** before shutting down. Taxiing time counts towards this of course.

This cool down period is an important part of managing the engine wear on our precious aircraft.



Canterbury Aero Club Landing Grid

Once a month the CAC hold their spot landing competitions at Rangiora Airfield. They're quite happy for anyone to enter; radio on downwind and ask to take the grid. They're monitoring the frequency and will judge the landing.

Ice man warns that the ribbon at the start of the grid is a substantial rope and is not to be tangled with!

Fly-in to Stephen Field's strip

On March 15th club members **Stephen and Phoebe Field** hosted a fly-in to their farm strip at Blythe Valley. It was very well attended with perhaps a couple of dozen attendees, in around a dozen aircraft. The gracious hosts providing the food and drinks. Thanks to Stephen and Phoebe for hosting this event.

This is probably one of the more photographed events in CRAC/CMC history, with **Wayne Wilson and Paul Godfrey** providing photographs from the event, and **yours truly** capturing the departing aircraft.

The following album has been selected from these sources, a HUGE thanks to Wayne and Paul for the contributions. One day I will remember to give Paul's memory stick back!



Above, pre take off Safety Briefing



Right, **Glenn Martin** departing in JOR



Paul Godfrey, our hard working Club Captain, departs in his 582-powered Kitfox.

Mike Sheffield in Alpi MGK



Bruce Norrie's pristine Rans S-6



Graeme Main and Chris Pennell in Graeme's Jodel D.18



Buzz buzzes off in his new Zenair CH.701 ZK-ZUB

*All of the above photos
© 2015 Brian Greenwood*

Right, the hosts, **Phoebe and Stephen Field** at the Barbeque.

All photographs on this page courtesy of **Wayne Wilson**.



These photographs courtesy of Paul Godfrey.







Brendan Deere's Grumman Avenger and Bill and Robyn Reid's Avro Anson perform a dusk duet at Classic Fighters Omake during Easter. © 2015 Brian Greenwood

Air Training Corps

The ATC is a youth training group overseen, but not funded, by the New Zealand Defence Force (similar to the Sea Cadets and the NZ Cadet Force). A unit is being set up in Rangiora and the Committee have decided to offer support to the group.

The AGM passed three resolutions: To support the ATC 88 Squadron, to offer a \$500 one-off set up grant (from the canteen funds), and to donate 10 hours of Tecnam flying per year for three years to be used as a scholarship (or however the squadron deems fit).



ANZAC Weekend Fly in

Craig Buist (Club Captain of the Otago Aero Club) recently overnighted at the CRAC house. He very kindly wants to return the hospitality by inviting us to their ANZAC weekend Fly-in. This is being organised with our Club Captain, Paul Godfrey.

The destination is the airfield at the beautiful Poolburn Reservoir, where there is accommodation in the lodge on the end of the Poolburn Reservoir. Day flyers or overnigheters welcome.

The lodge has accommodation for 18 including 4 double beds and 10 single bunks. There should be enough pillows and blankets but taking a sleeping bag is recommended. It has a full bathroom, shower and kitchen facilities, and is well heated with two indoor fireplaces and one outdoors.

Apparently the fishing is good and there is a boat if required.



If you're interested please text **Paul Godfrey** on **027 249 8321** or email him at undergroundairways@xtra.co.nz

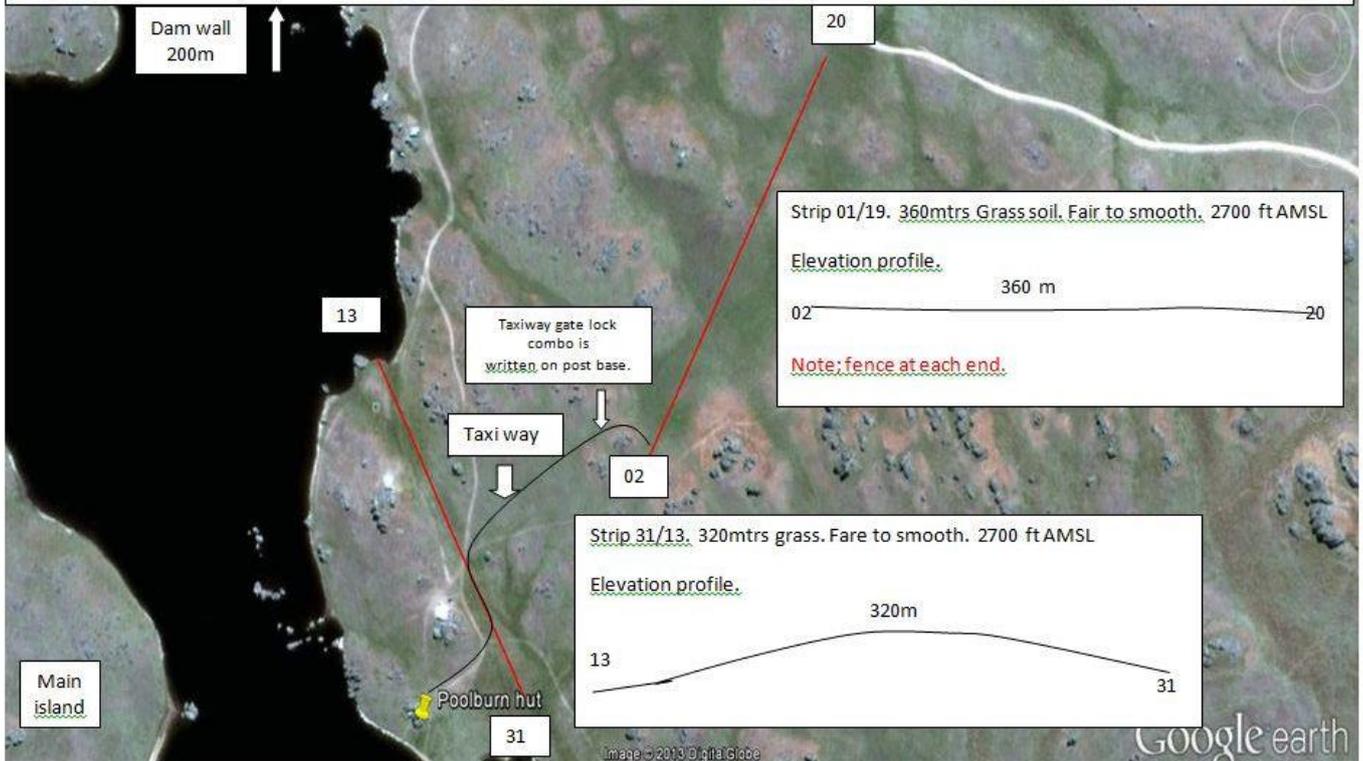
OAC Airfield plates on the next page. *Photos courtesy OAC*



Wanted: Air to Air Photography Experience

Some of you may have noticed that I'm more than a little keen on photography, especially when it comes to aviation. However my opportunities for air to air work are necessarily limited, I'm way too busy attempting to fly when I'm behind the stick. If anybody happens to feel like arranging some air to air shoots, please let me know! It obviously requires two aircraft, one being a suitable camera ship, and two pilots.

New Poolburn Strip information 2013. Please take one.



New Poolburn grass strips. Longer options available, 1.7 miles to the NNW and 2 miles WSW of hut.
 Poolburn hut sunroom and BBQ key stored on site Just contact Craig Buist 027 4877729 or craigbuist@ihug.co.nz
 Location: 45°18'35.155 S, 169°45'10.49 E

CRACWord #1 Answers

Across

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 5. Roll with it | Aileron |
| 6. Our new Registration | RGA |
| 7. Sturdy BoB winner | Hurricane |
| 8. Ruddered | Yurt |
| 12. Modern Wooden Wonder | Alpi |
| 14. Common engines | Rotax |
| 15. Early Training | Ab Initio |
| 16. Must remember to cancel | SARWATCH |
| 18. Announced when entering Controlled Airspace (3,11) | Nil Transponder |
| 19. Ignition or X-Man? | Magneto |
| 21. feature of a prop, or rotate around an axis | Pitch |
| 22. A.K.A. Conventional | Tailwheel |
| 23. Possible effect of landing into a sunset (7,7) | Flicker Vertigo |
| 26. Most of us are right in it! | RAANZ |
| 28. Useful airfield item | Runway |
| 30. Not for your coat, that's a different spelling | Hangar |
| 32. Pre-flight mnemonic | IMSAFE |
| 33. Close | Near |
| 35. _____ Rudder to cure a wing drop | Opposite |

What's a CRACWord?

Well, a Crossword it ain't! It's a mixture of aviation, general knowledge, humour, and the odd mistake thrown in (deliberately of course!) to keep you on your toes. I've also managed to break a few crossword rules (plural clue for a singular answer).

I prepared this one early last year to see if it worked, which caused a minor panic preparing it for the last newsletter. I've only learnt recently that 'Tecnam' doesn't have an 'H' in it! Trust a Tech geek to get it wrong.

Treasurer's Rant

As outgoing Treasurer I would like to make some constructive suggestions to help our new man.

The Treasurer's job is quite a difficult one, there's lots of data entry and dealing with other people's money. Scrupulous honesty, patience, and attention to detail are all requirements for the job, plus a degree of clairvoyance!

To help with the latter, please ensure your payments always match your flight sheet values (e.g. less 0.2 warm up), your FULL name, date, and Aircraft Regn are included on the pay slip (or your name is obvious on the Bank transfer details).

36. Sexy Italian
37. Yap to the Radar
38. Financial situation, post aircraft purchase

Down

1. Saviour of private aviation
2. RAF slang for landing gear
3. Feature of a CH-701 (5,4)
4. Critical to good engine life (4,2,4)
9. Camel Adversary
11. Canadian with Flare
13. Vital Baggage
17. Shape to be avoided
20. Rangiora
23. Component or tries to take off
24. Yelled frequently to start with (5,4)
25. Could have been a Schlitter
27. First switch
29. Unusual Auster
31. _____ Yaw
34. Arts from Nelson, now Wellington
37. Too dangerous to risk an instructor with

Tecnam
SQUAWK
Broke

Microlight
Undercart
Fixed Slat
Warm up time
Albatros
Zenair
Instructor
Cumulonimbus
NZRT
Flaps
Clear Prop
Rans
Master
Agricola
Adverse
Wearable
Solo

March Committee Report

The standard Committee meeting was held in early April. It was attended by **Mike Sheffield, Graeme Main, Brian Greenwood, Buzz Harvey, Wayne Wilson, Dave Mitchell, Paul Godfrey, and John McCaul, with Scott James** attending as an observer. Apologies from **Deane Philip** and **Duncan Fraser**.

There was correspondence from the District Court to say that CRAC had won the recent case it had taken to the Disputes Tribunal for \$1890 worth of unpaid Hangar rent. The amount was paid to the club on March 27th.

Progress was reported by **Buzz Harvey** (after consultation with **Mike Kinson**) on obtaining and installing a weather station.

The Bank Balance was \$50,491.94, with roughly \$40,000 committed to finishing the hangar, doors, concrete aprons and paths.

The club will also look into the correct procedure for flying the club oven, the prestart check is not obvious and some users have failed to make it fry. If it turns out to be simply a procedural thing we will place an aviation-grade check list near the oven.

Dave Mitchell reported that JOR's engine may require significant expenditure as it gets to its 300 hour check, and that RGA's tail plane will be fitted with rubber boots to avoid further stone dents.

We have two new Instructors working through the process, we look forward to welcoming them on board.

Classic Fighters Omaka 2015

A number of club members attended the bi-annual airshow at Omaka during Easter. The airshow really is one of the premier air shows, and is unique in world standards for its mix of aircraft and ability to get fans close to the action.

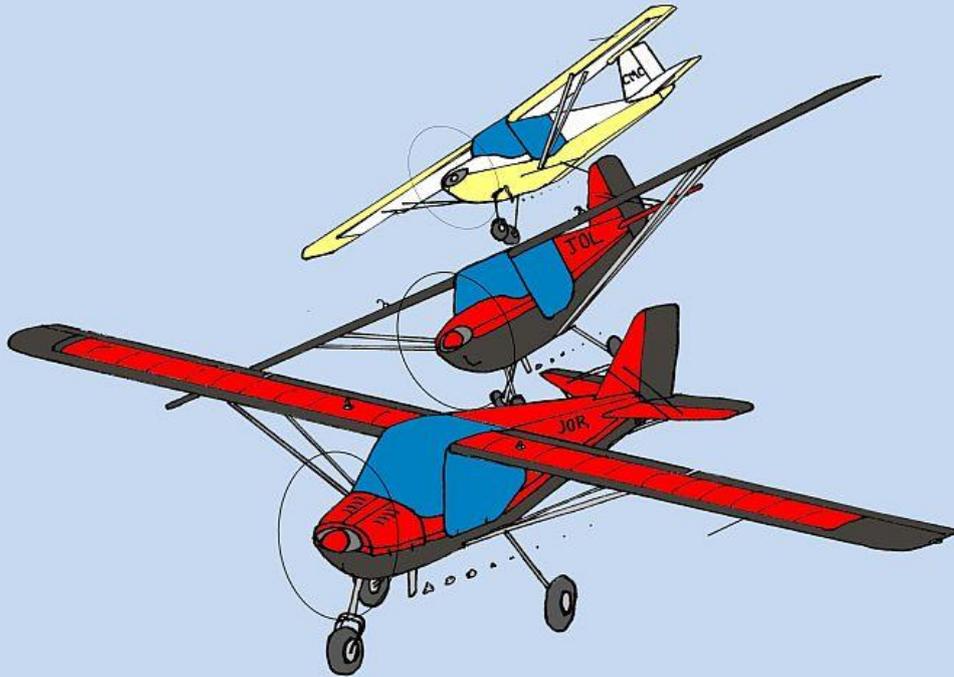
The stars this year were billed as the Chariots of Fire Collection's FW-190 A/8-N and newly rebuilt Supermarine Spitfire XIV, plus the Avro Anson 1 belonging to Bill and Robyn Reid. The show was also graced by an excellent cast of all-stars including the Old Stick and Rudder Company's Corsair and P-40E, TVAL's Sopwith Camel and new build Albatros, Doug Brooker's Spitfire TR.9 and MX-2, and many, many more. The RNZAF put on a more role-based display (great to see the Iroquois and the new NH-90 together), and the Air Post F-27 made a welcome second "Last Display".

The Flug-Werke FW-190 only displayed on the Friday due to ground looping in tricky wind conditions, but I got some pleasing photos during the excellent display. A real surprise was the attendance of the third Spitfire, the ex-Alpine Fighter Collection Spitfire XIV still on its third-only flight post-restoration. It made its first flight at Ardmore on Thursday night, and flew down to Omaka on Friday night (single engine across Cook Straight, that's confidence). The Anson 1 now drops bombs (truly!) and has smoke fitted, and there was a remarkable flight of a V1 full sized replica (sans warhead I assume).

The Friday evening dusk show is now quite an event, with separate tickets available as a more 'family' event. The concert was enjoyable (a Christchurch group called Puree) and the fireworks display was one of the best I have seen. Undoubtedly I will be filling the magazine with plenty of photos over the next few months.

2015 also saw the welcome return of Kermit Weeks, and the first visit for English Blenheim and Spitfire ace John Romain. All-in-all the airshow was brilliant, it just keeps getting better.





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Hangar Manager

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Upcoming Events

ANZAC Weekend (April 25th) – Fly in to the **Poolburn Reservoir strip**, accommodation at the Lodge. See article in this edition, text or e-mail Paul Godfrey if you're interested.

027 249 8321 or
undergroundairways@xtra.co.nz

June 2015 - Brass Monkey to Lake Station

As always, Club Captain **Paul Godfrey** may organise some local flying events that will be run with short notice (weather dependent) so keep your eye on your club e-mails and the noticeboard.

Disclaimer: The AGM report is the best efforts by the Editor from his notes, however the official minutes must always take precedence.

Thanks to everybody who have contributed to this newsletter:

Wayne Wilson and Paul Godfrey, photographs of the recent Fly-in.

Next Newsletter

Airshow Photography, Phantom Quadcopter update, more Omaka photos.

Member contributions invited.

Brian Greenwood
Editor (editor@crac.co.nz)

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Unreliable E-mails

There's been some comment about e-mails going astray. CRAC uses MailChimp for all club e-mails. For the Committee, the **committee2015@crac.co.nz** address is a closed list, which means that your address has to be in the list to be able to send to it. This is an anti-spam measure. If you want to contact the club or committee, send it to one of the addresses listed on the left for approval.

Remember to check your spam or junk folders at least once a week; note that the club has no control over the decisions that Gmail, Yahoo, or even Outlook make!

Web Site:

www.crac.co.nz

Facebook

www.facebook.com/flyCRAC

Photos

www.crac.co.nz/photo-galleries