



Mercury Bay Flyer

February 25

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Flying Activity:



Four of our members flew way out east to enjoy a Fly In at Te Araroa, on East Cape which was a successful event this year as weather allowed 35 aircraft to land on their airstrip. Phil Hooker arranged this sortie and was pleased with the turnout in spite of the forecast conditions putting some pilots off the adventure. Heavy rain did occur in Te Araroa, Opotiki and Whakatane at the end of the day/overnight but did allow the Opotiki BBQ to go ahead the day following at the Opotiki Aero Club, seeing four of MBAC's flyers arrive to enjoy the day.



Tauranga Classic Flyers managed a successful flying day on Saturday 18th to show us all their aircraft in the air and on the ground.....great weather certainly helped with the success of the occasion. I was also pleased to see Ivan Mudrovich is now having his Pearce Replica displayed in their museum.

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Our aerodrome has been tidied up beautifully since the last hay making exercise eliminated most of the long grass and then Murray trimmed the remaining growth and cleaned the drains to give the appearance of a full all-over grass runway.



Just look at those very tidy drains



A variety of visitors arrived on Anniversary Weekend to enjoy our Saturday fine weather day.



Mercury Bay Flyer

Coro Club Café & Venue



Phone

021 08002970

Hello@coro.club.

Specials

Phone ahead to see what delights are on offer



Serving all day brunch, cabinet food and daily lunch Specials



Notices from committee:

MBAC Committee 2024-25

President	Evan Wheeler	021 924 807
Vice President	Keith Skilling	021 333 767
Secretary	Mike Norton	021 667 866
Treasurer	Bruce Turner	021 388 343 - Hangarage enquiries
Club Captain	John Gemmell	027 498 5381

Ordinary Executive Members – Brian Wigley, Alan Coubray, James Andreae, Graeme Spurdle



Haymaking has been recently carried out on our aerodrome so the appearance of the aerodrome from the air, is that of an all over paddock/runway. Please ensure take-offs and landings are achieved by lining up between the **White** threshold markers and landings are carried out over the **White** Threshold markers as these define the current runway in use. The aerodrome was further tidied up by Murray Wheeler using the MBAC side cutting



equipment attached to one of our tractors. It sure is looking good. The final hangars are now completed with concrete apron areas now finished.



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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER.

Time flies but not so much for many of us over the last month with the constant winds kicking in most days from midday and gusting well over 20knots.

Our last two hangars in E block have been completed with TCDC now having issued the certificates of compliance. The landscaping is still to be completed we are but currently working on this with the new road crossing to be installed off Abrahamson drive and fencing with a gate, to make the area more secure.

Taxi ways are working well with Delta starting to become known to visiting aircraft and used. This new taxiway eases the wear on the main runway. It also enables landing aircraft to clear left or right from the runway allowing other aircraft to land without having to make a go around when following someone else in. Also, it allows aircraft to taxi down to the threshold at 22 without interfering with another taking off. It is still a little frustrating finding some pilots have no idea that we have the new taxiway in use or have bothered to check the landing plate in AIP vol 4 to note any changes. Time should solve this problem.

Landing fee payments for visiting pilots or those who have not purchased an annual bulk landing fee has been made easier with a Q code app. This system makes it much easier to manage from a club perspective and no longer requires pilots to have cash on hand to pay at the club house or café.

As previously mentioned, Steve Chilcott has taken on the responsibility of safety officer role for the club. We have been behind the times regarding this and need to get up to date with some of our procedures. Please don't feel offended if you happened to be approached and have something pointed out that could have been done better. We are still having problems with aircraft landing downwind when it is specifically referred to on the plate as not permitted. The two reasons are is that it means a higher landing speed and longer runout wearing the hell out of the grass. It is also confusing and/or in conflict with other traffic in the circuit or joining the airfield to land.

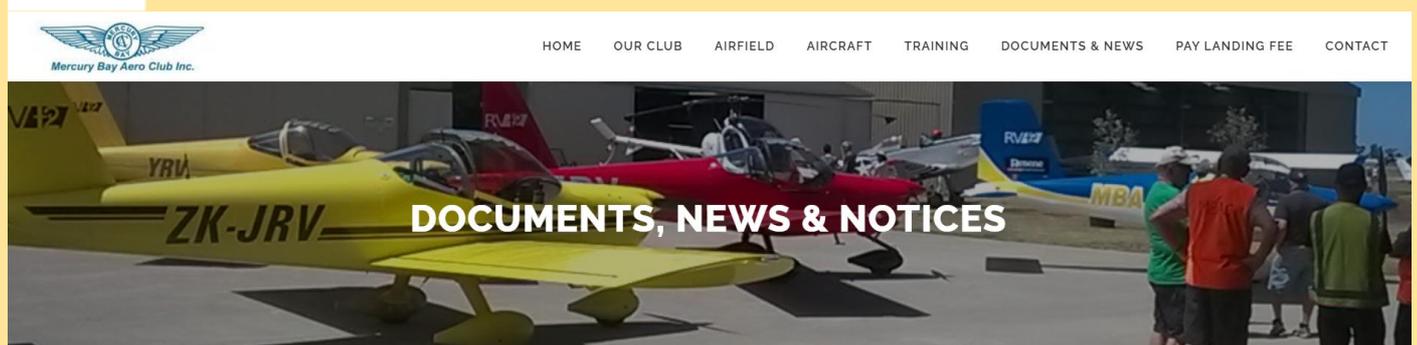
We have installed an AWIB on channel 130.5 which gives wind direction and wind speed, plus gusts. We are currently formalising this with the appropriate authority but ask that you check on this frequency to get a picture of what is happening on the ground and enable you to setup for a correct approach.

The application for an irrigation consent is still in with Environment Waikato and now requiring a few more details from us.

That's enough from me this month.

Evan Wheeler

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The **MBAC website** allows you to view the pictures within the newsletter in larger sizes if you are not receiving them on your tablet. Remember to check your *browser view* if you are unable to download the newsletter on your tablet. Recent problems have been had with our dispatch of newsletters as APPLE products do not open the WINDAT format.



Whitianga Aerodrome

Daylight saving finishes 6 April 25 at 3am!

Let's get out there in our flying machines before the changes come in!

Next Executive Meeting - Friday 21 February 2025 at 10:00am

Please Support Our Sponsors:

Whitianga Waterways – www.whitiangawaterways.co.nz

Gallagher Insurance – www.ajg.co.nz or bill.beard@ajg.co.nz

Hart & Associates Ltd – Chartered Accounts – www.hartal.co.nz

New Members

New members Steve Williams & Mike Jones have joined the MBAC this month so please welcome them into our world when next you see them on the airfield or having fun in the Savannah /Corsair or eyeing the Specials at the Coro Club.



Mercury Bay Model Club



Modellers are having a better summer than last year with settled weather that enables them to fly beautifully in the

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early mornings in Mercury Bay.



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Stop Press

Headgear, T shirts & shirts now available from Bruce Turner 021-388 343....



Our summer is here so make the most of it

James Andreae is asking for anyone interested in purchasing their own aircraft to give him a call to discuss the benefits of owning the MBAS built RV12 microlight aircraft he has. 027 2775165



Young Eagles Tauranga to Visit Whitianga 9 February

ART Deco Napier Thursday 13 – Sunday 16 February 2025



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Healthy Bastards Omaka

15 February 25



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Balloons Over Waikato 18-22 March 2025



Sat, 15 Mar at 10:00
Warbirds on Parade 2025 Rides Day
75 De Havilland Ln, Ardmore, New Ze...
☆ Interested

RAANZ National Fly-in Waipukurau Airport, 05-06 April, 2025



Marlborough Lines Classic Fighters

Omaka 25 is an action-packed, family-friendly event held every second Easter. Roll on Easter 2025. Tickets selling online now



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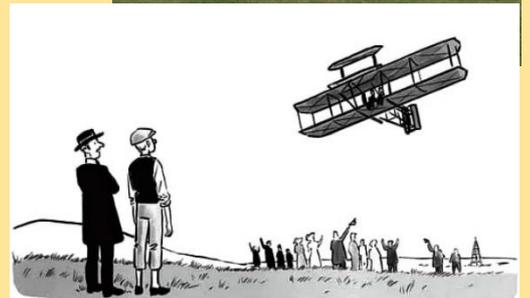
Crosscheck – Checklists Have a look as these great reminders

Will It Fly?

New Zealand's greatest historical aviation mystery is that of Richard Pearse and his early 1900's flying machine. There were many eyewitness accounts that say they saw Pearse flying his aircraft as early as 1903. 110 years on, Ivan Mudrovich, a retired automotive engineer, embarked on



an epic journey, following in the footsteps of Pearse to rebuild his aircraft and to fly it. Due to Ivan's death the aircraft has finally arrived for display at Classic Flyers NZ Museum at Tauranga Airport.



"Well, what I see is my bike not getting fixed."

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Airpark Section 4 Sale



MacGyver shows us the fun to be had out there in the summer sun.

Super Air · Follow
2d · 🌐

Flying into 2025! The team have been busy all over the country topdressing. Don't hesitate to get in... See more



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The Helsinki-Toronto flight was loaded with 400 passengers and only 200 lunches. The airline made a mistake and the crew was in a difficult situation. However, an intelligent flight attendant has come up with an idea. About 30 minutes after take-off, she announced:
"Ladies and gentlemen, I don't know how this happened, but we have 400 passengers on board and only 200 lunches!" "Anyone who is kind enough to give up food for someone else will receive a free unlimited amount of wine throughout the flight."
Her next announcement was made 6 hours later: "Ladies and Gentlemen, if anyone wants to change their mind, we still have 200 lunches available!"
Moral of the story: wine drinkers have a very big and kind soul! 😊
Credit goes to respective owner.



The latest pictures of the Sir Keith Park statue prior to shipment to Thames.



Compliments to Geoff Furkert