

TIGER RAG



NEWSLETTER OF THE TIGER MOTH CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND INC

OCTOBER 2020

Great weather, great organisation, great attendance, great flying, great competitions, and great company made for a memorable Taumarunui Fly in. In fifty one years a lot has changed including the passing of some of the old guard but the atmosphere and enthusiasm of the members that attended this year has not. One of those who attended the very first Tiger Club gathering at Taumarunui said the atmosphere this year was no different from that fifty one years ago. This is encouraging and bodes well for the future as the Tiger Club of New Zealand launches into its next fifty years. If the first fifty years are anything to go by then the next fifty should be just as good if not better.



Arrivals





Competitions



Briefing & Spot Landing





Jim Schmidt has discovered a better way to view the aerobatics



The Judges seats were fully utilised



Hand on head—Oh No That's a miss. Thank goodness I have another bomb on board because that was rubbish. Hold your horses. It wasn't that bad. In fact it was the best bomb drop of the day!



Other methods:

The sideways lose-grip toss (shown above)

And the

The casual back-hand flip (shown to left)

Phil Craig photos



A selection of members, young and old, at Taumarunui 2020





Above: Jan Chisum on her way to complete another bombing run in the Moth ADT—oldest aircraft at the fly-in
Below: Best spot landing (right on the spot) by Paul Corrin—this is how you do it!



Prize Giving

John & Val Hainsworth Hikurangi Challenge Trophy for Bombing

Darren Luff

Ross Duncan Red Tiger Trophy for Tiger Moth Spot Landing

Andrew Hogarth

Grant & Karen Drinkrow Trophy for a Perfect Loop in a Tiger Moth

Wayne Tantrum

Ralph Saxe Memorial Trophy for the Perfect Loop in another aircraft type

Dave Brown

Piper Cub Trophy for Piper Cub Spot Landing was not awarded as there was only one entrant: Kevin Paulsen

Ross Duncan Memorial Cup

Pete McVinney

Jerry & Jan Chisum Taumarunui Trophy for basic Aerobatics

John Baynes

Hikurangi Challenge Cup

The Tiger Moth Club of New Zealand

Many thanks to John Luff who put on a great series of fly pasts in the Venom jet fighter



UP AND COMING EVENTS

2021

5-7 Mar

AGM fly in at Thames

October

Labour Weekend

90th Anniversary of the Tiger Moth Celebration at Rangitata Island. For those members who think this far ahead, rest assured that the 2021 Taumarunui Fly-in will not be held at the same time and your committee will discuss and make their decision known. Dates and details will be published in due course.

2021 Annual Fly-in and AGM at Thames

The Sir Keith Park Memorial Airfield has been confirmed as the venue for the 2021 Fly-in/ AGM.

This is the new designation for Thames Airfield, and is in recognition of the birth place of Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Park, and his many achievements during WW11 as a Commanding Officer in the Royal Air Force. Thames is situated on the western side of the Coromandel Peninsula, and is reasonably close to several air-fields, including; Coromandel, Whitianga, Pauanui, Waihi, Matamata, Tauranga, Mercer and Ardmore. The Fly-in will be hosted by the Hauraki Aero Club, and will be held over the weekend of March 5th, 6th, and 7th, 2021.

The airfield has all grass cross runways, and a large grass area for parking. There is no airspace restrictions, gliding or Sky-diving, making it ideal for our weekend. A pro-active Aero Club and local Council are pleased we have selected it for the occasion. The town is close by, and there are good Motels within walking distance of the field. Early reservations for accommodation is advised.

Recommended Motels close to the airfield are;

Tuscany Motel, Ph. 0800 559560

Avalon Motel, Ph. 07 8687755.

Rolleston Motel. Ph. 07 8688091.

There will be a BBQ dinner Friday night at the airfield, and the Saturday Dinner will be held at the St. James Church Hall, 650 Pollen St. Thames.

Further information on the weekend will be advised with registration early in the New Year.



"Jim Schmidt recently discovered that doors on a Tiger Moth aren't as robust as you might think. A jacket was caught on the pin (indicated in the photo) when putting a passenger in the front seat and ripped the rear door clean in half. Jim has kindly offered to share his experience to warn others of this risk to their machines and recommends always closing the back door when loading passengers."



Euan Dickson (left) who flew this Avro 504K across Cook Strait, the first aeroplane to make the crossing, seen here after the flight with his passengers Mr Hewlett and Mr. Moore. The flight, on 25 Aug 1920, took 2 hours 20 minutes from Dillons Point to Trentham where they landed on the Racecourse.

On the 25th. August I watched on TV the re-enactment of the first crossing of Cook Strait 100 years ago. It brought back great memories of meeting Capt. Euan Dickson.

In January or February 1971, Bob McGarry, then of Auckland, contacted Capt. Dickson, who lived in Castle Drive Epsom, to ask if we could visit him to talk about the Avro 504K that he flew. We were very happy to accept the invitation to his beautiful home. Bob had wanted to build a Avro 504K for some time, and Capt. Dickson was most interested. He showed us many photos and beautiful trophies, including a heavy engraved silver "Cigarette Box" that was presented to him after crossing Cook Strait. From memory, the box was about 14cm long, and 6cm high. Capt. Dickson then told Bob that when he flew across the Strait in his rebuilt Avro, he would present him a cigarette box also.

Unfortunately Bob had to abandon his great idea, as it was impossible to find enough parts to complete his Avro.

Capt. Dickson gave me a "First Day Cover", (envelope) with stamps, and his photograph on it commemorating his crossing of Cook Strait. If I could find it in my house, I would have included a copy of it with this article. I will keep looking.

It was a real privilege to have met one of New Zealand's early aviators. I also thought this when I met Jean Batten in 1977.

Loretta McGarry.

Co-founder, Tiger Moth Club of NZ.

For Sale/Trade:

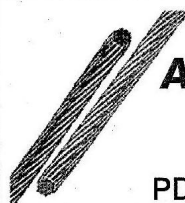
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Those involved with the commemoration flight across Cook Strait in the Fox Moth ZK-APT

Patron: Simon Spencer-Bower President: Keith Skilling
Secretary Ian Ashley (ph 021 198 1810, email: z11aox@icloud.com)
Secretarial address: The Secretary, Tiger Moth Club of New Zealand Inc,
P. O. Box 283 032, Postal Centre 14, Ardmore Airport, Papakura 2582
Website: www.tigermothclub.co.nz

LIFE MEMBERS: Simon Spencer-Bower, Jim Lawson, John Pheasant, Bob McGarry, Loretta McGarry,
John King, Alan Land, Les Marshall, Eddie Doherty, Jeanette Lei



Here's a puzzle. In 1940 the Miles Aircraft company made a fighter called the M20 utilizing as much of their Miles Master training aircraft as they could. Was this de Havilland's attempt to do likewise? The photo dates from 1940 and taken at Hatfield. But what was E2 really built for? The answer can be found in the Moths, Majors & Minors book.

One final photo from Taumarunui 2020 (from a camera held by Aaron Murphy)

