



CYBER MOTH

October 2025

Hi Everyone.

Please find below the update for the upcoming events notably the Taumarunui Fly In this weekend and the Annual Fly In at Kaipara Flats in March 2026.

Taumarunui Fly In

Here is an update for you all prior to this weekends Fly In at Taumarunui. Keith Skilling has some important briefing notes for those of us flying into Taumarunui. We have had very good registration numbers for this weekend and thank you to everyone who have done so. It is not too late yet to register but please do that asap for catering purposes.

- The fly-in is permanently scheduled for the weekend before Labour weekend each year. This year it is this weekend - 17th to 19th October 2025.
- **Booking of accommodation is the responsibility of the members themselves.**
- Friday night is a club get together night with a fairly casual meal at the **Taumarunui RSA at 7pm**
- Saturday is competition day. **Compulsory pilot briefing at 9:30am Saturday at airfield.**
- **Saturday night dinner is at the Golf Club. Pre- dinner drinks from 6pm and dinner at 7pm.**
- Results and winners will be announced at a club dinner on Saturday night. **Trophies are presented so please return them from last year.**
- Sunday normally has no planned activity except members departing for home.
- The weekend will always be held regardless of the weather. You may just have to take the road.
- A registration form can be accessed through the link below. The registration process is **important to enable the caterers, transport and fuel providers** to plan so please use the form asap.

Here is the link to the registration form for Taumarunui..... (hold down the ctrl button and select the link below).

<https://forms.gle/PjP8hjyoZ8KyEqKg7>

Last year's trophy winners, please have your hard-won trophy on hand engraved and polished ready for you to win back!

Pilot Notes Pre-Briefing

Prior to arriving at TM please ensure that you are practiced, you and your aeroplane are current and up to date with all necessary requirements. TMC requires that all aircraft attending carry \$2m third party liability insurance.

Before we get to the competition requirements, a recent Harvard fatality in the US highlights some very important points for us all to consider. A Harvard was being flown by a very experienced pilot with his



wife in the back seat, at a fly-in very similar to what we do annually at TM. The Harvard was following two Stearman on a left base to land. The Harvard was observed to be flying very slowly as number three when it suddenly stalled, flicked and was too low to recover...you can guess the rest.

The accident investigators found that the Harvard was flying too slowly and got into the wake turbulence of the Stearman. Pretty obvious you say but what the investigators emphasized was that the Harvard pilot mis judged the slow speed of the preceding biplanes along with the "excessive wake turbulence" put out by them. The moral of this part of the story is clear, biplanes put out a lot of wake turbulence and they go slow, don't get too close behind them ... Judgement required!

Obviously you think, but there is more. For those of you who have flown in big formations, you will understand the importance of keeping the preceding formation aircraft in sight, and in order, around base leg and landing. In the case above, video evidence shows that the Harvard pilot may have mistaken the first biplane as the second one, and at the last second spotted the number two aircraft and realized a potential collision. This may have caused the Harvard pilot to make an instinctive turn for avoiding action, and already being slow, caused the stall, flick, spin, burn scenario. This all happened in clear blue skies in flat country with no background hills.

This accident is being emphasised because our operations at TM will inevitably put us in similar situations, regularly. Biplanes and wake turbulence, dissimilar types and speeds, several aircraft in the circuit, poor visibility looking through several wings and wires and an extra gotcha....hills and land in the background against which aircraft become much more difficult to see.

The message is clear, give yourself space, fly the aeroplane and ensure that the aeroplane that you are following is really the aircraft that you are supposed to be following. Some call it airmanship.

Now to the fun part. Weather permitting, on Saturday the following competitions will be flown. Bombing, spot landing, perfect loop for DH and others, and the novice aerobatic trophy.

Briefing will be at 0930 and by then we expect to have all participating aircraft pre-flighted to ensure a prompt start after the briefing. For safety reasons we will not accept late entries after the briefing. We've allowed some in the past but it has caused changes and delays to the programme and a possibility that vital points of the briefing will be missed.

Entrants must be listed on the sheets provided prior to commencement of the briefing and these sheets will be available at the Friday evening function. Please help with this as in the past late entrants have caused disruptions and difficulties for other contestants and it is a requirement within our risk assessment for the weekend.



We remind you of course that you participate entirely at your own risk and that the Tiger Moth Club of NZ accepts no responsibility for damage or incidents.

Looking forward to a safe and fun weekend.

Cheers Keith

(Retiring competition coordinator)

Deerness Awards:

Last chance to enter the photo competition

The Literary section of the Awards has now closed but the photography section has been extended until Saturday 18th October.

At the Dinner on Saturday night, we will not only be awarding the prizes for competition flying but also the Ray Deerness Awards for **Photographic and Literary merit... Two separate categories.** Please send your entries to tigermothclub@gmail.com It is limited to club members.





2026 TMCNZ AGM FLY IN WEEKEND.

KAIPARA FLATS AIRFIELD, NEAR WARKWORTH.

Just a reminder to everyone on the plans for next year's AGM which are well underway already.

We are set to enjoy a great weekend at Kaipara Flats Airfield from the 6th - 8th March next year.

The registration forms will follow at a later date.

We have gone ahead and selected accommodation options you might like to take advantage of in Warkworth which is very near the Kaipara Flats Airfield.

We suggest you book now as any necessary cancellation later is easier than finding out too late that accommodation is all gone.

We have held accommodation on our behalf until the dates listed below:

- **Members must make their own accommodation bookings. Be sure to say that you are with the Tiger Moth Club.**
- **Please email or phone the motel. Make sure you mention you are with the TMC.**
- **Booking on-line will show it as unavailable. We have block booked the listed motels until the dates shown below.**

The options are:

Bridgehouse Lodge

16 Elizabeth St Warkworth

Email: bridgehouse@bridgehouse.co.nz

which has 14 rooms available held on our behalf until the **30th Nov 2025**. Please email them if you are keen to book there and mention you are with the Tiger Moth Club, and they will respond accordingly. They have a 72hr cancellation policy with this booking. As a side note we will be having our Annual Dinner at the Bridgehouse Lodge on the Saturday night. The rooms are \$175 per night.

Warkworth Lodge

Email: service@warkworthlodge.co.nz

8 Falls St, Warkworth

which has 16 rooms available held on our behalf until **15th December 2025**. Please email them if you are keen to book there and mention you are with the Tiger Moth Club, and they will respond accordingly. They have a 72hr cancellation policy with this booking.

Walton Park Motor Lodge **Email:** info@waltonpark.co.nz

Has a variety of room sizes and styles. Their website shows the options.

www.waltonpark.co.nz We have reserved basic rooms until **15th December**.



Other options that we have NOT reserved:

Snells Beach Motel

Email: snellsbeachmotel@xtra.co.nz

5.6km from Warkworth. Suitable if you have your own car and have great reviews but we have not made any arrangements with them.

Salty Dog Inn

Email: bookings@saltydog.nz

As yet we have not confirmed the registration cost or meal arrangements for the weekend but will keep you posted nearer the time.

Tiger Rag Contributions

Janic is always on the lookout for members contributions to produce our club newsletter. We all know what a great job he makes of it. Keep in mind to capture some great photos and stories this weekend while you are all at Taumarunui for the Tiger Rag and our Christmas calendar.

That's all for now. Please send any remaining **registration forms** in asap. We do offer a cancellation option.

For those new to the club, this email contact is what we call a Cyber Moth Bulletin. It is sent out whenever required to keep you up to date with upcoming events and messages. This one is a revisit of the previous bulletin with important notices. We urge you to get in early with your **registrations and accommodation bookings** for our upcoming club activities as this makes a huge difference for the people organising.

We look forward to your company at Taumarunui and hope to catch up with you there.

Best Regards,

John Baynes

p.p. TMCNZ Committee.