

The newsletter of the Sport Aircraft Association (Auckland Chapter) Inc

# Sport Aviator

January 2020



# Committee 2019/20

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President: Gary Briggs**

**Vice President: Peter Armstrong**

**Secretary: Keith Weale**

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Bill Luther David Wilkinson**

**Gavin Magill David Campbell-  
Treasurer Morrison**

## OPERATIONAL POSITIONS

**Newsletter Editor Technical Library**  
Gavin Magill David Wilkinson

**Safety Officer Airspace Users Group**  
Norm Bartlett Norm Bartlett

**Tool Library Webmaster**  
Manfred Scherbius Warren Sly

**Catering**  
Don Wilkinson

## TECHNICAL MENTORS

Wood & Fabric - Mike Tunnicliffe  
Composites - Alistair McLachlan  
Metal Skin - Kevin Paulsen  
Avionics - Liviu Filimon

### **FRONT PAGE**

Pete Walton gets airborne in his Airdrome Aeroplanes Fokker DR1 Triplane at Whitianga on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January. Congratulations Pete on the first flight of this great looking aircraft.

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## Next Meeting

**WHEN:** Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020

**WHERE:** Auckland Society of Model  
Engineers Club Rooms  
Peterson Road, Panmure Basin  
Mt Wellington

**WHO:** Pete Walton

**WHAT:** Fokker Tri-Plane

# 3 President's Report



Happy New Year to you all.

I hope everybody had a great festive season with safe travels. The Christmas BBQ in December was a great success again thanks to David, Keith and all the others that helped out. Some of you would have noticed a fellow Sonex builder from Texas "Robert Barber". It's great to have International visitors attended our functions. Thanks to all of you for making him feel welcome.

I flew my Sonex in for the BBQ and managed to land there with a flat tyre, which was quite surprising when I could not keep it on the centreline but managed to taxi off the runway. Thanks to David for lending me some tools and a spare tube to get the Sonex back to Ardmore.

I managed to get across to Whitianga last week to see Peter Walton's Fokker which should maiden soon. He has done a magnificent job and I think it's going to be a great eye catcher wherever it goes.

Next week is the National Fly in down at Hawera and I hope to be making the event as this is going to be a busy time for me at home as Susan is going overseas and I have to sort the kids out. We hope to see the Auckland Chapter in great attendance there again.

A big congratulations to Peter Walton as his Fokker flew for the first time last week. Would be great to see it at Hawera in February.

See you all on Thursday.

Gary





Hi Everyone.

Happy New Year and welcome to a new decade.

It has been a hot, dry (and windy) December and

January with lots of flying events to attend and plenty of activity by Chapter members.

Thank you to everyone who provided updates for the Chapter newsletter. It is always great to hear what everyone has been up to over the break.

As shown on the front cover, Pete Walton managed to get his Fokker DR1 Triplane airborne last week after a significant effort by Pete. I kept taking photos of the progress of the build over the last couple of months with the intention of reporting on the progress in the newsletter, but Pete managed to complete the build and get the aircraft airborne in time for this edition.

Pete has had the help of an excellent mentor in the form of Keith Skilling to coach him in the handling of the Fokker as well as the assistance of a small team of dedicated helpers to get the aircraft covered and painted however none of it would have happened without the constant effort by Pete to keep the project moving.

In other news, I would like to pass on my thanks to David Wilkinson and the team at the North Shore for hosting and catering the Auckland Chapter Xmas BBQ in December. It was once again an excellent day with the North Shore Aero Club providing an excellent venue.

Other events over the last month have included the New Years Day fly-in at Whananaki, the Mercury Bay Aero Club Fly-In, at Whitianga airfields, and the Thames Wings and Wheels at Thames Airfield. This weekend just gone also saw the Whitianga Summer Concert which saw a huge influx of people into the Coromandel plus the arrival of some interesting aircraft at the Whitianga airfield, not least of which were two large twin turboprop aircraft which presumably brought in the starring acts.

With regards Chapter news, you will have seen the email from Evan Wheeler earlier today asking for members to make supporting submissions on the pilots medical NPRM.

I have included Evans email in this newsletter plus the link to where to make your submission. Please do action this as it is important that we get behind the NZ Aviation Federation submission to ensure this rule is fit for purpose and does not remain in the form currently being proposed.

With regards the Mystery Aircraft from November. Looking back at my emails from the November, it does not appear as though anyone identified the mystery aircraft from the photo that Don Wilkinson provided. Identifying an aircraft from a cockpit photo was always going to be a difficult task but the aircraft it was in fact an Airspeed Oxford which was used by the RNZAF for training purposes during WWII. The photo from the link below shows the full Oxford cockpit layout and there are enough details in common to confirm it is an Oxford.

[https://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/images/online\\_exhibitions/018-010LG.jpg](https://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/images/online_exhibitions/018-010LG.jpg)

Wikipedia has this to say about the Oxford.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airspeed\\_Oxford](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airspeed_Oxford)

*The Airspeed AS.10 Oxford was a twin-engine monoplane aircraft developed and manufactured by Airspeed. It saw widespread use for training British Commonwealth aircrews in navigation, radio-operating, bombing and gunnery roles throughout the Second World War.*



Enjoy the newsletter.

Cheers  
Gavin

## MEMBER NEWS

## Pete (von) Walton – Fokker DR1

By Gavin Magill

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January, Pete Walton flew his Airdrome Aeroplanes Fokker DRI Triplane for the first time at Whitianga airfield.

The pictures below are of the short hop flight that Pete took down the strip and his reaction after the fact.

Pete is building up his handling skills of the Triplane under the tutelage of Keith Skilling who at one time owned and flew a triplane.



Lined up at the end of 22.



Tail up.



And airborne



Doing that flying thing.



About halfway down the strip.



Back at the hangar afterwards.  
Thumbs up from one happy camper.

A Youtube video of the flight can be found at this link. <https://youtu.be/jRyx6smKNYc>



## CHAPTER NEWS

## NPRM 19-04 Submission

**By Evan Wheeler**

Good afternoon all SAANZ members

I trust you all have had the chance to read through my previous email regarding the submission prepared by the Aviation Federation over the Christmas New Year period. We now need all members to prepare a submission. This is easy to do using the following link:

<https://www.aviation.govt.nz/rules/rule-development-and-change/nprms-open-for-submission/>

and going to the bottom of the document where you just need to fill in the relevant boxes. In the comment section, make reference to the effect that you support the Aviation Federation submission attached documents or make your own comments if you do not.

**These need to be submitted by 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2020.**

We look forward to your support on this as the CAA have not extended the existing privileges of a class two medical as was earlier indicated to us they would and as you will have read. Their reasons for not doing so on some issues have no historical evidence or occurrence records to justify doing so.

Regards

Evan Wheeler  
President  
SPORT AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION NZ INC.

To those Auckland Chapter members who are not members of SAANZ, the above link makes your submission easy. Click on and scroll down to the submission and follow instructions. In the comment box you can say you support the NZAF submission as well as making your own comments.

Kind Regards  
Evan Wheeler

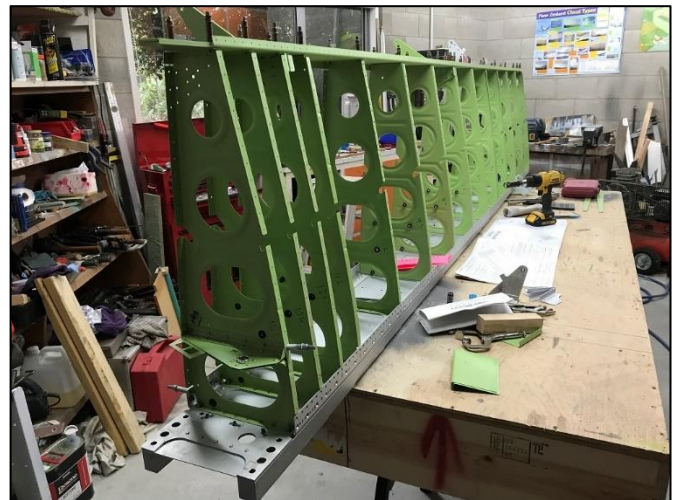
## PROJECT NEWS

## Chris Wade – RV-14

**By Chris Wade**

Chris sent through photos of the progress he has made on Pete Walton's RV-14.

With the fuselage complete and delivered to Ardmore to have its engine fitted, Chris is now focusing on building the wings.



Chris also managed to get in some flying time during January and also scored a ride in a Tiger Moth at Whitianga as well.



## PROJECT NEWS

## Jon Farmer – Electric Pelican

**By Jon Farmer**

The photograph shows the switch board which is a bit heavier than the usual homebuilt aircraft wiring. Each of the 4 switches is capable of 400Amps and each of the shunts 100Amps. The instrument panel will contain 4 digital readouts of Volts, Amps and Watts used by each of the four 50 Volt battery packs. Also, a tachometer and some sort of throttle, probably a simple rotary knob while I sort out a "pulse width modulator" to feed the ESC (engine speed controller.). Once the test stand is set up with an Ivoprop on the 20hp motor and full control of it's speed, I should be able to decide if it is worth fitting to the single seat Pelican microlight or should I build an electric go cart instead !!!



## PROJECT NEWS

## Ken Watters – RV-7

**By Jon Farmer**

Ken Watters who was Chapter secretary a couple of years ago, is on the home run with his RV7. The completion date was pushed out considerably when he replaced the hinged canopy with a sliding one and this necessitated re-doing quite a bit of wiring. With the engine bolted in place, plumbed and wired, Ken discovered that the oil pressure takeoff port was obscured by an engine mount doughnut. Nothing for it but to get out the engine lift crane, undo the offending mount, slack off the others until the oil pressure pipe could be screwed in via a 30\* elbow to clear the doughnut.

## MEMBER NEWS

## DCM

**By DCM**

Last Saturday was one of the most perfect days for anything, especially flying, so Gordon and I got the two Corbies out and off we went for a fly around Coromandel Peninsula from North Shore and around a few houses just to p.... off those who need to get there pilot license back, sorry Teagle 😊





## MEMBER NEWS

## David Wilkinson – Kawau Island

By David Wilkinson

Rodger called in for coffee today at Schoolhouse bay on Kawau Island.



Ummmm, now I'm thinking what could I do next. Nikki looked at me and said don't even think about it 😊😄😄😄



## PROJECT NEWS

## Ian Chapman – RV6

By Ian Chapman

The test flying is complete on my Vans RV-6 ZK-VNZ.

A great effort by David Wilkinson flying off the required 25 hours.

I received the Airworthiness Certificate on 24th Dec. A nice Christmas present.

Over the Christmas break I flew VNZ with instructor Grant Benns and now have an RV rating.

The pictures are when Grant and I visited David at Paunau.





## PROJECT NEWS

## Pete Hunt – RV-6A

**By Pete Hunt**

I'm pleased to report that with a lot of help from friends, my RV-6A is now on the New Zealand registry, as ZK-PCH.

Pete McCarty, Garth McGearthy, Steve Opie, Kevin Paulsen, and Darren Pennel (ICEA avionics) all had a hand in this effort. Many thanks to them!



PCH at the Thames Wings & Wheels Day.

## PROJECT NEWS

## Richard Hood – Pitts S-1A

**By Richard Hood**

Richard sent in the photo below to show the progress he has made on his Pitts Special.

He tells me he has February off, so he will no doubt be making further progress.



## PROJECT NEWS

## Gavin Magill – Sopwith Camel

**By Gavin Magill**

With time off over the Christmas / New Year period I have managed to make some good progress on the Camel build.

The tail feathers are now complete and look great fitted to the fuselage. They are now in a state that they can be covered with fabric once a supply of glue arrives from the US.



I will hopefully be able to call upon the skills of my neighbour Martin Little and his erstwhile fabric covering partner, Doug St George who helped Pete (von) Walton with the covering of the Fokker Tri-Plane and get them to assist me with covering the Camel.

In the meantime, the fuselage frame has been transported up to Pete Walton's magical hangar where it is rapidly being transformed into an aircraft fuselage complete with firewall, controls, tailwheel and undercarriage.

Sadly, some of this rapid progress will come to an end sometime in the next couple of weeks when I will likely have to go back to earning a living to help pay for the toys. Till then however I am enjoying the process of transforming bits of metal into an aeroplane.

## MEMBER NEWS

## Keith Morris – Jodel D9

**By Keith Morris**

My news is that I have flown my Jodel D9 ZK-KMM up from Stratford to Kaipara Flats with a fuel stop at Te Kowhai, and it is now based at Kaipara Flats airfield. A couple of days later I flew up to Dargaville and back. The flying conditions were near perfect with a light South Westerly and a flight time of 45 minutes each way. About half the time to drive, and without the holiday traffic jams!



Ten Nautical Miles North West out of Kaipara Flats, approaching Port Albert.



Approaching Dargaville up the Northern Wairoa River, the volcanic cone of Toka is a good landmark.



Back home at Kaipara Flats after a great day!

## MEMBER NEWS

## Jim Lyver – Foxbat Aircraft

**By Jim Lyver**

Hi Gavin

Members may be aware that I recently purchased the Lite Flight Green company from Doug King. Life Flight Green was the NZ agent for Foxbat Aircraft and since taking ownership I have since renamed the company to Foxbat New Zealand Limited with our dealership now covering all of NZ and the South Pacific.

I have to say that of all the aircraft I've conducted flight instruction in since 1970, the Foxbat is one of the best and there are many reasons for this.

One is the Rotax engine which has proven to be as reliable as any GA Aircraft equivalent. Being water cooled it is great especially in descent, as the power can safely be reduced to idle without risking shock cooling.

Owners are also able to do their own maintenance on the aircraft which is a great advantage and avoids some of the cost overheads associated with GA aircraft.

The stall speed is in the vicinity of only 33 kts making the Foxbat an excellent STOL aircraft. The flaps are joined with the ailerons making it a very safe aircraft for short field work.

As with all Microlights, being low momentum aircraft, they do have special requirements with regards speed control, but once this is mastered it's just a matter of applying these procedures to ensure safe flying and obtaining the best from the aircraft

Anyone interested in experiencing a flight in a Foxbat please feel free to give me a call.

Cheers Jim Lyver.



## INDUSTRY NEWS

## Garmin Electronic Steam Instruments

By Nev Hay

Found this interesting advert

Nev

<https://www.flyer.co.uk/garmin-launches-electronic-steam-instruments/>



Editor. Awesome except the price. Starting at \$3995.00 USD per unit.

<https://buy.garmin.com/en-US/US/p/719027>

## MEMBER NEWS

## Drawing 80% Second Degree Curves

By Rob Keith

I wondered if this would be of any interest. Peter McCarty did ask me at one time how to draw the curves but I was not able to find the info at the time.

Thorp and Sunderland drawings (T18 & S18) for the Firewall, Dash Frame and Instrument Panel are called 80% Second Degree Curves. Quite what that means, or how the given dimensions are determined is not explained. However Sunderland's Instrument Panel drawing does give an explanation on how to plot the curve. I have tried to explain the procedure on his Instrument Panel drawing as per my attached drawing. Hopefully it makes some sense.

Incidentally Sunderland explains the 80% as the ratio of AE to AD which is close to but not exactly 80% on his drawing.

Rob Keith

*(Anyone wanting a copy of the PDF instructions please contact the editor and I will forward a copy.)*

## MEMBER NEWS

## Wood &amp; Cloth

By Jon Farmer

Wood and cloth aircraft fans might be interested in this documentary called "Building Spruce bi-planes, WW1, 1918." American and a bit grainy, it starts off with a couple of guys cutting down a Spruce tree with a double ended saw then preparing the timber bulks, building fuselage, wings, engine, propeller, covering, test flying and packing for export.

Couple of downsides, the film is accompanied by North American Indian chants and the occasional written explanations flash through in less than a second. The film is 47 minutes long.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=YVG0-sbx3wA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YVG0-sbx3wA)



The documentary that automatically followed was "Building a Piper Cub" which I only watched a bit of but found the machine that scalloped the ends of the tubes in a cluster most interesting. Also, nearly all the welders were women.



Some photos from Chapter Xmas BBQ







Gary Briggs with Robert Barber from EAA Chapter 1531 in Texas USA.

The Mystery Aircraft this month is provided by David Wilkinson. A bit of a challenge for those who can identify the aircraft.





# 16 In the News & On the Web

## ON THE WEB

### First Commercial Electric Flight

**Gavin Magill**

Widely reported in the press was the first flight of a Harbour Air Beaver in Canada converted to electric engine. It will be interesting to follow up to see how this goes.



<https://www.chonday.com/38957/worlds-first-all-electric-commercial-plane-takes-flight/>

## ON THE WEB

### Flying behind the power curve.

**Keith Weale**

This grabbed my attention, especially since he's flying a C182, not a bush plane, and landing on the tiniest bits of shingle, and he does it over and over again. The one where he lands on a narrow triple track is impressive. The scenery is impressive too.

Note the HUD AOA on top of the instrument panel.



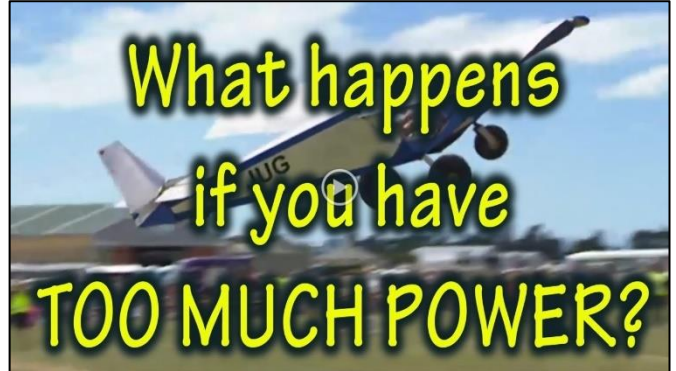
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y4b7Q\\_Ny7R3E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y4b7Q_Ny7R3E)

## ON THE WEB

### Can a homebuilt have too much power?

**Nev Hay**

Interesting to see the last item in this clip.



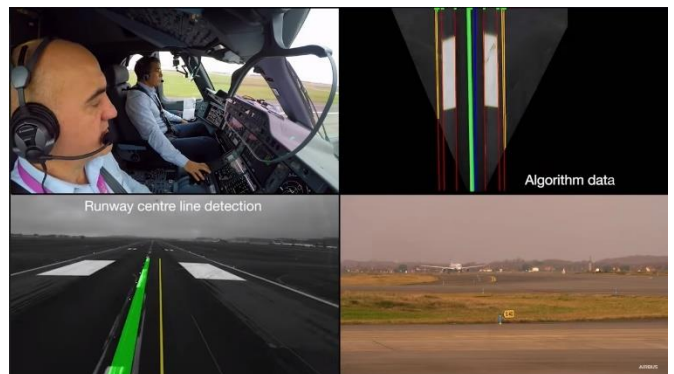
<https://youtu.be/piQNn-1kdHc>

## ON THE WEB

### Automated Taxi, Take-Off & Landing

**Gavin Magill**

I was sent this by a mate. Interesting video of testing of an ATTOL system. Automated Taxi, Take-Off and Landing. Interesting to watch the test pilot almost reaching to fly the aircraft on take off. Must be very hard to let the computer do it all.



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TIBes\\_o4abU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TIBes_o4abU)

## Chapter Events

2020

<b>Jan 30</b>	<b>Chapter Monthly Meeting</b> Last Thursday of the month 7.30pm at the Auckland Society of Model Engineers clubrooms, Petersen Dr, Panmure Basin
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## Aviation Calendar 2019

2020

<b>Every Sat</b>	<b>Dargaville Aero Club</b> The place is buzzing every Sat, wet or fine, windy or calm, and the catered lunch at 12.30 is good value, just don't be late! Club website is <a href="http://dargavilleac.weebly.com/">http://dargavilleac.weebly.com/</a> . If going as a group, please ring in advance so the cook expects you. Ph. Murray 027-478 4308 or club house on 09-439 8024.
<b>Feb 01</b>	<b>Healthy Bastards Bush Pilot Champs. Omaka Aerodrome, Blenheim</b> <a href="http://www.marlboroughaeroclub.co.nz">www.marlboroughaeroclub.co.nz</a>
<b>Feb 6-9</b>	<b>SAANZ SportAvex, Hawera.</b> Annual summer fly-in (North Island's turn), a full program is planned, including competitions, AGM, annual dinner, Wings awards presentation. Details being progressively posted at <a href="http://www.saa.org.nz/public_pages/events.php">www.saa.org.nz/public_pages/events.php</a>
<b>Feb 16</b>	<b>Turangi Airfield Fly-In. Turangi</b> \$15 which includes BBQ lunch and drink and no landing fees. Contact: President Alan Turner Email: <a href="mailto:xpdxrd@gmail.com">xpdxrd@gmail.com</a>
<b>Feb 21-23</b>	<b>Art Deco Weekend Air Event Napier</b> The Napier Aero Club welcomes private and club aircraft flying into Hawkes Bay Airport for Aero Deco Weekend, part of Napier's Art Deco festival. Visitors flying in are welcome to enjoy the aero club facilities on any or all of the above days. Contact Graham 021 499 208 with early advice if you plan to attend.
<b>Feb 29</b>	<b>Te Kowhai Summer Fly-In</b> The Fly In is being held in conjunction with the annual Te Kowhai Community Market Day Market stalls, food trucks, classic cars and a licensed bar for the non-flyers. Those flying in will receive an invitation to the Pilots Lounge where there will be a complimentary BBQ, cold drinks, and tea and coffee. Please check NOTAMS before you arrive at NZTE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jonathan 021 497516 Safety Officer</li> <li>• Pete 027 666 6637 Airfield Manager</li> </ul> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/TeKowhaiAerodrome/">https://www.facebook.com/TeKowhaiAerodrome/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Tekowhaimarket/">https://www.facebook.com/Tekowhaimarket/</a> .