

Auckland Soar

Radio Control Soaring Club

Issue Number 167

March - April 2012



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Editor's Notes

On the Cover: Joe Wurts receives the Soarfest 2012 trophy from C.D. Aneil Patel. (Dave Crook pic)

Hi everyone,

Not a huge issue this time around in terms of varied content, but at least it's better than if we hadn't held Soarfest 2012!

So much for a great NZ summer! As a local radio D.J. was heard to comment the other day....

"I missed summer this year, as I was in the shower at the time.!"

Enough said there, I think. Maybe next summer will be better than this last one?

Just can't remember a summer where we have been down to Ambury so little, for some years.

Even the Club Christmas BBQ fell victim to the inclement weather this year! The first time in some years we have had bad weather and have had to cancel it too! Maybe the next one will be okay weather-wise?

Thanks to all the guys in the club that made Soarfest the great event it was:

C.D. Aneil Patel.

Sound Technician Ted Bealing.

Scorers: Aneil Patel and Dave James.

Photographers: Andrew Reid, Dave James and Dave Crook.

And a cast of thirteen entrants.

My thanks to the photographers (above) and scorers without which this issue would be around only five pages total! Makes my job so much easier getting those images and copy.

A bit of slope soaring has been indulged in both at Ruapuke (see page 12) and up Mangere Mountain.

It's been a case of the wind blowing too hard to go to Ambury and sloping is the only other alternative.

Even that has been marginal at times, due to the strong winds that seem to have been blowing through this part of the country over the last few months!

Apart from Andrew Reid's new F3B Extasy (see page 4) nothing else new has been seen on the field or on the slope of late. There has been lots of time for building though, I can assure you!

Anyway, hopefully, the weather will settle down soon and we get a bit of fine and calm weather.

A reminder: Ambury will be CLOSED on 29th April for another Women's Multisport event.

Happy soaring.

Brett

Coming Events

AS - AucklandSoar championship points

March 2012			
10th/11th	Aerotow		Hawke's Bay
11th	Thermal I (HLG)		Ambury
18th	Fly for fun		Ambury
23rd/25th	SOARCHAMPS 2012	STC	T.B.A.
25th	Thermal J (2,4,6,8,10)		Ambury
April 2012			
1st	Electric Event		Ambury
1st	End of Daylight Saving		
8th	FAI F3F Electric	NDC 	Ambury
15th	Thermal D (Formula 500)	NDC 	Ambury
22nd	Thermal B (10 Minute)	NDC 	Ambury
29th	<u>Ambury Closed for Women's Event</u>		<u>Ambury Closed</u>

Prez Sez - Dave Crook



Welcome to the March/April edition of the bulletin. Soarfest has been and gone for another year and while I didn't compete I was able to attend.

While the numbers were down this year on previous years the quality of the flying was still first rate. Thanks go to Aneil for the organisation of the contest.

If you're not already aware, what has been our summer has now been and gone. I don't think we have been the only club to be affected by the weather but at least we have been able to get some flying in over the last few weeks.

And any flying has to be better than nothing.

In this regard check out the club calendar for upcoming events and come on down to Ambury if you can.

I know we're all busy, and usually stressed to the maximum most of the time. I've found that even if you haven't got the time to fly or don't particularly feel like flying on the day, just being there sometimes gets you away from life's other problems and is generally a good way to unwind for a few hours. We'll see you there.

Dave.

Ambury News



Seen at Ambury recently.....

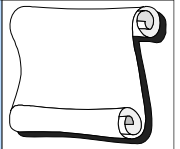


Andrew Reid's new toys:

Top left: & right: his new F3B Extasy (sourced from the U.S.)

Above: His new winch set-up (sourced from Oz.)

Club Notices



FLYING AT AMBURY

As we don't want to get on the wrong side of the Rangers.... remember:
If we do get that perfect day and you feel the need to have a fly; you get to Ambury and there are no people flying or sheep on our usual field **Do NOT** just wander in and fly.

Please, take the time to find one of the Rangers and seek their permission to fly on the field.
(See also below for a new method of contacting the farm staff)

Also do **Not** just drive onto the field without seeking permission to do so first.
(The park staff can get a bit annoyed if you just drive on in - as the field can be quite soft underfoot - especially over the winter months - and cars do cut it up a fair bit.

We have a good relationship with the Park Rangers - let's not ruin it.

Also Note - Ambury is now a non-smoking park!

Field Safety

Just remember to get another person to check that model over Before you fly, even if you have flown it last week.

Also, don't just walk a couple of paces into the field or away from the cars and just throw the model off.

Most Sunday's there are quite large numbers of people in the park including children - so you need to ensure if anything were to go wrong that you are a sufficient distance away from them for safety.

Our tenure of the site depends on our good safety record - lets not put it at risk!

To quote from an old TV program "Let's be careful out there!"

Pegboard and Spots

Yes, we know most people have now converted to 2.4 GHz gear, but there are still a few around that haven't. So if you are still using 27, 35 or 40 MHz gear - why not just get the pegboard out before you fly, just in case!

If you are First to arrive at the field - why not also just wander over to the shed and get the pegboard out anyway.

There have been several occasions lately when several members have been flying and no pegboard was in use!

Please make an effort - for safety sake, if nothing else!

Same deal at the end of the day - how about putting the pegboard / landing spots or other equipment used during the day Back in the shed.

Let's all help with this and not just leave it to the same people all the time!



A NEW METHOD OFF CONTACTING THE FARM STAFF AT AMBURY

If you have been to Ambury recently, you will have seen the small hut that has been erected off the road near the fence of the field we use. This is an information centre for the park and also contains a phone link to the farm staff.

A small point is that there is No 'handle' to pick up!

We assume you use the button below the speaker?



Thermal News



Thermal A on the 19th February at Ambury

Finally, a flyable Sunday! Seems like years since we got the opportunity to get to the field on a Sunday! As the field was not available to us on the previous weekend, I moved the scheduled Thermal A to February 19th. The usual 'mob' turned up, although one 'regular' that was 'missing' was Andrew, who has been on night shift and was sleeping.

A cloudy sky with no wind greeted those that began arriving around 9:30 am

A move into the paddock was done and the putting out of winches and setting up of gliders began.

Brett provided some well used shade by bringing out a beach umbrella and of course there was plenty of sunscreen in use over the course of the day too!

A few 'issues' encountered in the winch set-up by a couple of people.... maybe it's been way too long since their winch was used perhaps?

Anyway, we all got there.... finally; and around 11:30 am, a start was made.

Only five flew, which made for a relatively quick comp.

Round One

Everyone, except one notable - who missed by a good thirty seconds, got the time in what was good air, although you had to hunt for it. Some just made the time, others got into the proverbial 'brick lifter'. Despite the lack of recent thermal flying by some, the landing scores were quite high, the lowest being a 90!

Round Two

Everyone except Brett actually went overtime in this round (albeit by only a second or so)

Maybe it was just round one luck, but the lowest landing score for the second round was an 80!

Brett was the only one that struggled with some bad air off a low launch and never came close to making the time. He then sustained a bit of grass damage his v-tail and decided to withdraw at that point and fix the tail at home before flying the model again.

Round Three

Lots of sink around, but as Aneil found, out once you were in the lift, it was hard to get out of it!

Although, in his case a few dozen loops helped! Chris just kept the 6:01 / 100 score standard he'd set in the previous rounds. Tony encountered the sink pretty well from the launch onwards. There just seemed to be large holes of sink in the sky and he had the misfortune to find all of them. This left him with a less than satisfactory flight time.

The luminaries (Chris, Ted & Aneil) after inspecting the scoresheet at round end, decided not to fly a forth round.

Round Four.

Only Tony flew this round and actually ended up with a worse score than his previous round!

Everybody else was just indulging in some electric flying or beginning to pack up.

Pretty well everyone was then either having that last flight or departing the scene, just after 2:00 pm

Overall, just good to be out on the field again, good to be flying thermal too, just a pity some of us were so out of practice!

Congratulations to winner Chris Kaiser, who only dropped three points in three rounds!

Sorry folks, no pictures this time around. The cameraman was busy either flying the comp, timing, retrieving the winch line or just soaking up a few rays! Been a while since you could do that....

May this fine and warm weather continue....

	ROUND												FNL
	1			2			3			4			
NAME	FLT	LD	TTL	FLT	LD	TTL	FLT	LD	TTL	FLT	LD	TTL	TTL
Chris Kaiser	359	100	459	359	100	459	359	100	459	0	0	0	1377
Ted Bealing	357	90	447	354	80	434	358	100	458	0	0	0	1339
Aneil Patel	331	100	431	357	95	452	358	90	448	0	0	0	1331
Tony Gribble	353	95	448	355	95	450	254	80	334	190	90	280	1232
Brett Robinson	359	90	449	210	80	290	0	0	0	0	0	0	739
													6

Thermal News



Soarfest 2012 - Report

Aneil Patel

This years Soarfest was one of the quieter editions that we have had for a while. With Club activity low, various defections across the ditch and from other parts of country. we were only looking at 13-14 entries. Unfortunately the sportsman class that we ran so successfully last year, did not get any entries this year. We missed Les this year who always was on top off the event administration matters and also so well organised. I must thank the STC secretary Dave James for providing the scoring programme, computer and printer that made the event scoring so much easier!. Thanks also to GliderScore.com for the great event Software that we used.

As usual in the run up to the event a lot of details were up in the air; as from Auckland it is hard to find a suitable location on land in the Matamata area, that is always changing it's usage. I drove down early on the Friday before the event and met with Wilcox's Farm manager, who had just harvested onions out of a field located behind the race course known as O'Sullivan's.

Perfect field especially if you like onions (I collected about 20 kg). Thanks to AS Wilcox.

The weather started to come right for the weekend with strong westerly winds on the Friday reducing in intensity on Saturday.

Saturday.

After the traditional breakfast at Ronnie's in Matamata, we managed to set up winch lines in a direction that was reasonably into wind and the first round kicked off around 9:00 a.m.

The first two or three rounds saw a bit of carnage, even Joe Wurts scoring a 500'ish point round! Conditions were not always easy to find lift in and we all had issues. Most of the early rounds had groups that were won with times that were well off the ten minute target time too!. The scoreboard at the end of the day was sad for a lot of us with Chris Kaiser, Dave Larsen and myself almost at the bottom of the results list. Andrew Reid was the biggest surprise/achiever being right up there, in forth. Possibly just ahead of him was Sharn Davies, who with his Cobra, was in third place overall. His time spent with Hand launch gliders paying dividends.

John Dolphin had a new Perfect SL from the Flick Shaw stable and was getting used to it, often trying to scratch about from low level, perhaps having a lot of fun with low level lift. Sharn, unfortunately had a mid-air that killed the cobra for the time being. Bill de Renzy was flying my old Eraser "butter chicken," unfortunately while thermalling, it appeared to lose radio signal and was lost way down wind. It was found a couple of kilometres away in a farmers paddock, a write off unfortunately. There looked to be lots of mountains and backs to climb over for a lot of us on Sunday to get places higher up the order..... In summary, a tough days flying with a lot of groups being won by the guys who relaunched first. We retired to takeaways and showers at the aerodrome.

Sunday

The weather was much the same as Saturday, but instead of planes been broken, it was winch lines; the wind was quite breezy at times too. Joe Wurts and Peter Williams flew solidly, some of us made gains against the rest of the field, others continued to struggle. There were, however, more consistent times today. We finished up just after 2:00 p.m. after having flown a total of fourteen rounds over the two days.

Many thanks for those that assisted during the event, especially those winch line retrievers that helped so much for the contest to running smoothly.

Thanks also to those that came along and it was good to catch up again with you all.

Congratulations to Joe Wurts for winning, the AucklandSoar Soarfest Trophy now has quite a few names on it.



For the full results breakdown (and more images) click [HERE](#) to go the Soarfest 2012 website.

GLIDERSCORE

AuckSoar SoarFest

www.GliderScore.com

Overall Results

Rank	Name	Score	Pcnt	Raw Score	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Rnd 8	Rnd 9	Rnd 10	Rnd 11	Rnd 12	Rnd 13	Rnd 14	Drop1	
					Dur	Dur	Dur	Dur	Dur	Dur	Dur	Dur	Dur	Dur	Dur	Dur	Dur	Dur		
1	Wurts, JOE	13000.0	100.00	13581.5	1000.0	581.5	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	581.5
2	Williams, PETER	12895.6	99.20	13565.6	992.8	1000.0	997.1	911.4	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	670.0	994.3	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	670.0
3	James, DAVID	12330.2	94.85	12957.7	627.5	989.9	997.1	1000.0	1000.0	701.0	1000.0	683.7	991.4	998.6	994.3	991.4	997.1	985.7	1000.0	627.5

Thermal News



Soarfest 2012

Photo Gallery



Top left: Dave James at work on the scores.

Centre left: Awaiting the results.

Bottom Left: The flightline.

Top Right: C.D. Aneil Patel read out the final results.

Centre Right: 3rd Place - Dave James.

Bottom Right: another round about to get underway.

Thanks to Dave Crook, Dave James and Andrew Reid for the pics on this and the other pages .

Thermal News



Soarfest 2012

Photo Gallery



Top left: Chris Kaiser checks out the air before launching.

Top Right: Joe Wurts and Richard Thompson prepare their models.

Centre left: Ted Bealing hooking up a model.

Centre Right: Ted Bealing walks back to after a successful flight?.

Bottom Left: Ted Bealing about to launch Aneil Patel's Pike Perfect

Bottom Right: Wayne Bilham flying with Dave James assisting with the timing..

Thermal News



Soarfest 2012

Photo Gallery



Top left: Andrew Reid and Bill de Renzy waiting For the round to start.

Top Right: Joe Wurts ready to launch.

Centre left and Centre Right: Some of the many models being used at the comp.

Bottom Left and Bottom Right: Yet more of the many models being used at the comp.

Thermal News



Soarfest 2012

Photo Gallery



Top left: Joe Wurts flying and Peter Williams timing.

Centre left: Four models in a Matamata thermal.

Bottom Left: Well.... someone had to do some work (in the next field!)

Top Right: Aneil Patel in action with timer Chris Kaiser.

Centre Right: Some windy looking clouds up top?

Bottom Right: packing up time at the end of Soarfest 2012

Slope News



A visit to Ruapuke

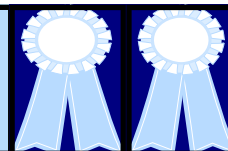
Andrew Reid

With windy conditions forecast in Auckland and a nice SW breeze down Raglan way, it was time to make another trip down to the remote but spectacular Ruapuke Beach.

Quite a few Hamiltonians out again, and speedfreak Jacko also came down two and flew his 2kW Wasp and 4kW (!!!!) Speedfire off the slope (with motor "lift assist" - i.e. 2 second bursts to attain crazy heights and then swooping down for high speed passes and acro -- brief but quite spectacular to watch flights). The wind wasn't gale-force like last time, and landing in the field behind was straightforward with no nasty rotor.



CLUB POINTS UPDATE



2011/2012 THERMAL CHAMPIONSHIP

	Thmal Thaw	Thermal A	2 Metre	Thermal A	Soarfest 2012	
NAME	12/06/2011	30/10/2011	27/11/2011	19/02/2012	25-26/02/2012	TOTAL
Chris Kaiser	8			5	5	18
Aneil Patel	6		4	3	4	17
Ted Bealing	4		3	4	2	13
Les Stockley	9					9
Dave Larsen	7				1	8
Andrew Reid		5			3	8
Brett Robinson		4	2	1		7
Laurie Jackson	5	1				6
Tony Gribble		3	1	2		6
Cai Jurasik	3					3
Denis Horner		2				2
Simon Vandy	2					2
Robert Moody	1					1

2011/2012 OVERALL CHAMPIONSHIP

	Thermal	Electric	Slope	TOTAL PTS
Chris Kaiser	18			18
Aneil Patel	17			17
Ted Bealing	13			13
Les Stockley	9			9
Dave Larsen	8			8
Andrew Reid	8			8
Brett Robinson	7			7
Laurie Jackson	6			6
Tony Gribble	6			6
Cai-Uwe Jurasik	3			3
Simon Vandy	2			2
Denis Horner	2			2
Robert Moody	1			1