

Auckland Soar

Radio Control Soaring Club

Issue Number 187

September - October 2015



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Editor's Notes

On the Cover: Ted Bealing launches his slope model on Mangere Mountain.

Hi everyone,

Yet another 'quiet' couple of months with not much happening in the flying department!
A few of us have managed just the one slope session in that time and the Waikato F3B Champs managed to get a break in the weather, for two days as well, to allow them to run that event. (See pages 6&7)

From our view on Mangere Mountain in mid August, there still seemed a lot of sheep in our normal paddock.
As the lambing season this year started earlier than it did last year, I assume we will then be getting back on the field earlier than we did last year as well?

Have had No details/advice etc. on just if/when the annual Ambury farm Day will be run in 2015!

Can find Nothing on the Auckland Council of Ambury Farm websites.

Have penciled the 4th October in as being a possible date (same period as last year), so will just have to see what happens.

If the event does run, it will mean, of course, that No Flying will be possible on the day. But then, given the popularity of the event, it is unlikely you will be able to get anywhere near the area anyway!

My thanks to Dave Crook for his images of the F3B Event at Matamata.

Always good to get content in what ever form it is offered in, be it images, text, web links etc.

We are now almost into Spring, although you would Not know it, given the current weather we have been getting. Hopefully some better weather is not too far away!

That's all from me.

Happy soaring,

Brett



Coming Events

AS - [AucklandSoar](#) championship points

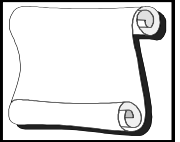
September 2015

6th	Thermal J (2,4,6,8,10)	NDC AS	Ambury
13th	ALES Electric Event	AS	Ambury
20th	Fly for Fun	AS	Ambury
27th	Start of Daylight Saving		
27th	Thermal Event	AS	Ambury

October 2015

4th ??????	AMBURY OPEN DAY - CLOSED FOR FLYING (Exact Date to be Confirmed)		
11th	ALES Event & Electric 7x7	NDC AS	Ambury
18th	F3K - Tasks B, D, G & H only	NDC AS	Ambury
25th	Thermal Event	AS	Ambury

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!

Ambury CLOSED for Lambing 19 July to 9th August

(These dates may change.)

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!



AN ALTERNATE METHOD OFF CONTACTING THE FARM STAFF AT AMBURY

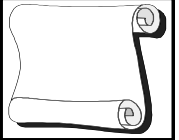
If you have been to Ambury recently, you will have seen the small hut that has been erected off the road near the fence of the field we use. This is an information centre for the park and also contains a phone link to the farm staff.

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

We assume you use the button below the speaker?



Club Notices



As per my Editor's Notes, it was discussed at the A.G.M. that there was a lot of duplication between the Newsletter and the Club website.

I have now changed this and removed the pages from the Newsletter accordingly.

Direct Links to the now updated website content can be viewed by clicking on the buttons below:
(You don't need to go to the Website homepage)

New Content Added

A new page for Slope Newz has been added with some images and a report on a recent slope session attended by three club members on Mangere Mountain.



Slope Newz Page

Ambury Antics Page

Club Points Page

Thermal Thaw 2015 Page

Any feedback on these Newsletter changes or on the web content itself would be appreciated!

Email – brettrob@orcon.net.nz



Thermal News



F3B at Matamata on 22/23 August

Photo Gallery

All photos from the camera of Dave Crook.



Top six images: the range of models in use on the day.

Bottom six images: various 'happenings' on the field.

Thermal News



F3B at Matamata on 22/23 August

Photo Gallery and Results

All photos from the camera of Dave Crook.



RESULTS

1 Joe Wurts	12997.7
2 Richard Thompson	12435.9
3 Dave Larsen	12265.9
4 Kevin Botherway	11935.0
5 Peter Williams	11727.5
6 Neal Moss	11381.6
7 Rod Hale	11018.8
8 David James	11005.0
9 Aneil Patel	10164.4
10 Peter Glassey	9304.5
11 Jono Ashton	9222.4

Top two images: Joe Wurts and his new 'Shinto' F3B model.

Top right : another completed run.

Bottom six images: yet more 'happenings' on the field.

Thanks again to Dave Crook for the images.

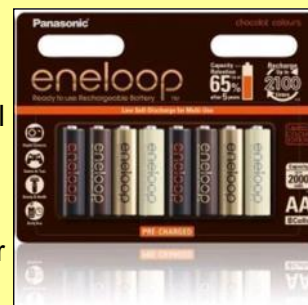


Caring for NiMH Cells

A couple of club members have recently found a cheap source of 8 pack bundles of Eneloop NiMH cells via PB technologies Computer Stores. Link is below:

<http://www.pbtech.co.nz/index.php?z=p&p=BATPAN2883&name=Panasonic-AA-ENELoop-Chocolat-8pk-NiMH-batteries-->

With this in mind a short article on caring for these types of cells is warranted. If you treat these cells as you would any "high-capacity, slow-charge" Ni-Cds, they will deliver just as many "cycles." Treat them poorly, e.g., fast-charge them, and they will self-destruct in short order. Just like small Ni-Cds, charge them at the overnight rate of C/10; in other words, 10 to 12 hours at 27 to 30mA for the AP-270AAH and 60mA for the AP-600AAH. In some models/applications, using the 600mAh cells, I can fly for more than 20 minutes on a single charge. Buy two packs and that's well over 40 minutes of flying time! Why would you need to fast-charge them at the field?



Another little tip: if you don't have a charger that will charge your 7- to 8-cell, 600mAh NiMH at 60mA, buy one! Use the charger that came with your radio! Such chargers are typically 60mA output (the face of the wall charger will generally tell you at what voltage and amperage it feeds the pack). Make an adapter to plug into the transmitter jack on the charger and then into the motor flight pack. Even though the transmitter side of the charger was intended for 8-cell packs, it is safe for 7- or even 9-cell packs. You could charge 270mAh NiMH packs on this, too, but you would have to pull them off in 5 to 6 hours instead of the usual 10 to 12 hours overnight.

Failing this, one of the best chargers for these small NiMH packs (or small Ni-Cds, for that matter) is the Ace Hobby Distributors DDVC (dual output digital variable rate charger). This can be set to as low as 5mA and as high as 500mAh for packs of up to 10 cells.



Left: An 8-cell, 600mAh NiMH pack plugged into an FMA universal adapter, which is plugged into a radio system charger (transmitter side).

Right: A standard Futaba radio-system charger plugged into the FMA universal adapter. Five types of connector are available. With this inexpensive setup, you can charge 7- to 8-cell 600mAh NiMH packs overnight and 7- to 8-cell 270mAh packs for six hours.



CLUB DVD LIBRARY



Yes, believe it or not the club does actually have a pretty Comprehensive Soaring-based DVD / Digital Library that is available to all members.

Quite a range of titles are available.

Just contact:

Ted Bealing ted@pl.net or Andrew Reid andrewrei@gmail.com