



# The Walsh is 46

Graeme Porter calls in to check his aviation roots

FOR MORE than 45 years the Walsh Memorial Scout Flying School has pitched its camp at Waharoa airfield, near Matamata with the express aim of introducing young people to aviation.

Born out of an idea to introduce Venture Scouts to an aviation oriented camp where flight instruction was the major ingredient on the menu, the school soon established itself as an opportunity

to showcase the fact that young people and aviation did fit together well.

Support from New Zealand aviation industry leaders was quickly forthcoming and that support has grown and continued to the present day. The over arching aim of the school remains the same – to

introduce young people to aviation in its many facets. The 2012 school pitched camp and was open for business on January 10 with a school graduation dinner held on January 22. The 46th school had in camp 40 ab initio flight students, 26 students returning from previous years to undertake advanced flight instruction and a further 4 joined as student staff members. Including flight instructors, air traffic controllers, support crews (met and rescue) and the necessary headquarters team, there were upwards of 120 persons on site each day.

With the diverse range of aviation occupations represented on site students on the course can see, in real time, a range of options for aviation related career choices. A number of service club scholarships are available for students who might not get the opportunity to participate in the field of aviation and what it can offer.

“The school is not intended to be a pre flight training school,” says CFI Mark Woodhouse; “Although flight training occupies the majority of the course, the opportunity to observe other industry occupations at work during the course is seen as a benefit to the wider industry. This year the school had a detachment from the RNZAF Pilot Training Squadron with two PAC CT4E Airtrainers on-site for one week. All returning students and flight instructors were offered a flight experience with RNZAF personnel, often

in a two ship formation sortie, an activity which demonstrates the growing support (corporate and otherwise) that the School has enjoyed over the years.”

As always the weather plays a major role in School affairs. This year weather patterns around the country were far from conducive to intensive ab initio flight training but there did seem to be a consistent cell of stable weather over the

Matamata area. The School is proud of its ability to not only introduce ab initio participants to the world of aviation, but also its mentoring role towards young graduate instructors. This year saw six A category Instructors on the course. Experienced Flight Instructor Penny

MacKay was attending her first School this year; “I’d heard about the school for years but running my own business precluded the opportunity to participate. Now I’m here I can’t believe the opportunities available for the students. I’m impressed by the professional operation and processes the school aspires too. This is a tribute not only to Mark Woodhouse in his role, but to all the staff too.”

Each year always has its little dramas although these won’t usually rise to the notice of the wider community. Under the careful administration of the Executive Officer, David Jupp, any issues are efficiently dealt with in true adjutant style. There was a last minute scramble this year when a number of training aircraft allocated to the School became unavailable through company restructuring but it all turned out right on the day - a case of wider industry knowledge and a can-do attitude backed up by years of experience.

In less than five years the school will celebrate its golden anniversary. That anniversary is something the Walsh brothers could only have dreamed about when they began their flying school on the Auckland waterfront in pre WW I days. Fifty years of continuous operation is a cause to celebrate and an opportunity to look to the future. If you have ever attended the School, do plan to be there, if not in body at least in spirit.



Isaac Grigor of Auckland receives his Scout Wings from Mark Inglis, Adventure Plus Ambassador, SCOUTS NZ. Isaac also received the Walsh Trophy and \$1000 flying Award for being the best all round student plus a \$2000 Air NZ Award.



First briefing to students by Mark Woodhouse CFI.



Instructor Emma-Jane Lacy explaining pre-flights.



Daniel McDonald receives a first solo dunking.



Student Jordan Pearson from Auckland tries a CT4.



Gary Parata with student Sam Julian of Wellington.



School photo. All pictures courtesy of David Jupp.

**KiwiFlyer**  
MAGAZINE

KiwiFlyer is published every two months and delivered FREE to every aircraft operator and aviation business in New Zealand.

Retail, website and other targeted distribution assures advertisers of the widest possible market coverage. We can help prepare your advertisement or write promotional editorial about your business or new developments.

KiwiFlyer is focused on the NZ aviation community and marketplace. We look forward to working with you on opportunities to help support and promote your business.

P: 0800 535 937 E: editor@kiwiflyer.co.nz [www.kiwiflyer.co.nz](http://www.kiwiflyer.co.nz)

KiwiFlyer is published every two months by Kiwi Flyer Limited.

Editor: Michael Norton

Subscription rates: KiwiFlyer is delivered free to every NZ aircraft operator and aviation document holding business. Others may subscribe for just \$25 (6 issues).

All correspondence or enquiries to:

Kiwi Flyer Limited, PO Box 72-841, Papakura, Auckland 2244.

Phone: 0800 KFLYER (0800 535 937)

Fax: (09) 929 3079

Email: editor@kiwiflyer.co.nz

Web: www.kiwiflyer.co.nz

Advertising deadline for the May / June issue is 4th May. A rate card is available from www.kiwiflyer.co.nz

Unsolicited material is very welcome on an exclusive basis but none can be acknowledged or returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self addressed envelope. No responsibility can be accepted for loss or damage to unsolicited material. We recommend contacting the Editor first if you wish to contribute.

Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of Kiwi Flyer Limited or the Editor. All rights reserved. The contents of KiwiFlyer are copyright and may not be reproduced in any form without written permission from the Editor.

KiwiFlyer is printed by GEON & distributed by Gordon & Gotch. ISSN 1170-8018

*Solo Wings*

Service • Support • Sales • Spares  
ARAs • Restoration and Repair

Your One Stop Shop For:  
GA - Sport & Recreational Aircraft

2 de Havilland Way, Tauranga Airport  
Ph/Fax (07) 574-7973 (7 days)  
Email: info@solowings.co.nz

ROTX  
AIRCRAFT ENGINES



New Zealand's  
only authorised  
Rotax Sales and  
Service Centre

Are you fit  
for flying?

doctors

Airline Court, 320 Remuera Road,  
Remuera, Free Roof Top Parking  
Hours: Monday-Friday 8am to 6pm  
Late Night Thursday by appointment  
reception@remueradoctors.co.nz

+64 9 524 6504

- ME - 1 (New Zealand) - Australia (CASA)
- JAA (Renewals only) - Canada
- US (FAA) - Fiji

Dr Bill Daniels & Dr Anton Wiles



Book NOW for  
your Pilot Medical

[www.remueradoctors.co.nz](http://www.remueradoctors.co.nz)

COLOUR VISION AVIATORS



- Are you or do you know of a person with colour vision deficiencies (CVD)?
- Are you a current holder of a CAA medical certificate with restrictions due to colour vision?
- Do you want to train for a pilot licence, but have CVD that may affect this?

Colour Vision Aviators is a group established for:

- Research into colour vision deficiencies affecting pilots or those wanting to be a pilot.
- Establishing a representative group to provide a voice for people affected with CVD.
- Lobbying to explore a balanced approach to standards required by authorities.

Colour Vision Aviators believe there are opportunities for CVD persons to qualify to hold a pilot medical certificate, with a balanced approach to testing, such as used in Australia and the USA. If this affects you or someone you know – please feel free to contact us and join the group. We welcome all enquires.

P: 09 299 3377 M: 021 978 939 E: info@colourvisionaviators.co.nz P.O. Box 118, Clevedon, Auckland 2248

[www.colourvisionaviators.co.nz](http://www.colourvisionaviators.co.nz)