

Honourable Company of Air Pilots (NZ Region)



Issue 5: May 2025

NEW MEMBERS

Peter Barron

REINSTATED MEMBERS

Alistair Martin (UK transfer)

RESIGNED

Nil

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Greetings fellow Air Pilots,

Our Acting Chair, Bill MacGregor, has been very busy in his other role (working on certification of Niue's airport) so I didn't press him for a report for this newsletter.

Since the last newsletter, the committee has been active in a couple of perennial areas; we have made one nomination to the Trophies & Awards committee in advance of the T&A Dinner in October, and we have begun consulting with our new Master to begin arrangements for the NZ leg of his southern tour. We have also been considering a proposal from the NZ Aviation Federation to invest in a House of Science scheme to promote aviation in junior schools (see below), while our Membership Engagement sub-committee has also been busy developing improved engagement options to both promote the Air Pilots in the wider

NZ aviation community and to improve engagement with you, our current members. More on these initiatives below.

As always, if any current members have ideas or proposals to further our profile or to engage new members, the committee would love to hear from you (via admin-nz@airpilots.org).

Upper Freeman Ron Thacker
Secretary/Administrator

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

A Membership Engagement sub-committee has met several times with a view to both increase membership, particularly among younger aviators, and to provide better engagement with current members. We reached out to our colleagues in both the UK and Australia to see what measures they found effective. The feedback we have received suggests that, as we suspected, frequent and widespread use of social media is a key factor in meeting both aims.

To this end, we have created Air Pilots (NZ) sites on Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn. We will attempt to post to these sites reasonable frequently, raising the Air Pilots profile and providing useful information on

aviation-related themes. For example, on both Instagram and Facebook we will post 'This Week in Aviation' messages, briefly summarising key NZ historical aviation events that occurred in that week. We are also keen to routinely post items provided by members relating to aviation activities, their own aviation experiences (or lessons learned), or aviation-related functions/events that you would like to promote. Any such items can be forwarded to the secretary at the email address in the Secretary's Report.

Please check out these sites, click the links to 'follow', and invite others to do the same. At the bottom of this newsletter you will find QR codes that will direct you to the respective social media sites.

Instagram: Search for 'airpilotsnz'

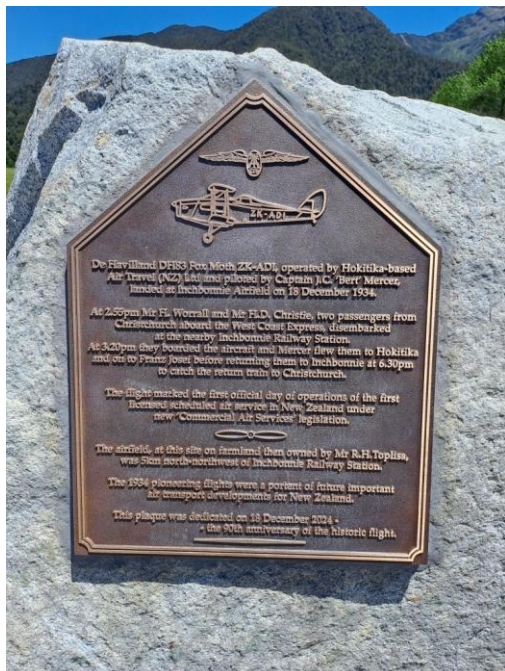
Facebook: Search for 'The Honourable Company of Air Pilots - New Zealand Region'.

LinkedIn: Search for 'The Honourable Company of Air Pilots - New Zealand Region'.

Attached to this newsletter is the Air Pilots (NZ) flyer, which is intended for wide distribution to promote the Company, its aims, and the benefits of membership. The flyer also has links to our social media channels. Please feel free to print copies of this flyer and distribute or display them as you see fit.

INCHBONNIE MEMORIAL

You may recall we supported the Inchbonnie 90 event put on by our Honourary Chaplain Richard Waugh in December last year. Rather belatedly we can share a couple of photos from that very successful event.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEBINARS

Our Technical Director, CAPT Mike Zaytsoff, continues his series of professional development webinars each month. These are conducted at 1000hrs on the second Wednesday of each month. You should have all received email invitations to join these webinars – if not, please contact the secretary and we'll ensure you are on future invitations. These presentations are conducted in partnership with the NZ Society of Air Safety Investigators (NZSASI) and are open to all who are interested.

Webinars planned for the coming months are:

- July 9: Grant Newman, an aviation engineer turned historian discussing a thankfully-not-required modification to Lancaster bombers to carry a nuclear payload.
- August 13: Corporal Dean Scott of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police discussing an ATR runway excursion in the Arctic he did the preliminary investigation on.
- September 10: Jon Lee, the Western Regional Manager for Canada's equivalent of the NZ TAIC discussing well written accident reports and poorly written ones.

HOUSE OF SCIENCE STEM INITIATIVE

The NZ Aviation Federation, along with a range of other aviation bodies, has recently agreed to sponsor the development of practical learning kits to promote aviation-related learning in primary schools. The 'House of Science' produces similar themed kits for schools across NZ but is now developing a kit that allows hands-on student learning with an aviation focus. The NZ Region was asked to provide funding support for a kit to support a region over five years, at a total value of some \$15,000. While the committee agreed that the initiative was commendable, we did not believe that such an investment was consistent with the aims of the Company. It was also noted that it would make a significant dent in our financial position, potentially impacting other outlays (including the Master's Visit and the annual instructor scholarship).

We have agreed, however, to canvas the wider membership seeking expressions of interest in financially contributing to the development of an aviation 'House of Science' kit for a region. Any combined contribution need not be a five year commitment – if members collectively contribute \$3,000 a kit can be funded for school use for one year. If anyone wishes to consider supporting this scheme please register your interest with the secretary.

Background information on this scheme, provided by the NZ Aviation Federation, can be found at the conclusion of this newsletter.

"The three best things in life are a good landing, a good orgasm, and a good bowel movement. The night carrier landing is one of the few opportunities in life where you get to experience all three at the same time."

Admiral William Harris, USN



UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The NZ Region 2025 AGM will be held over Zoom on Tuesday 15th July starting at 1900hrs. An email with the Zoom link and agenda items will be forwarded in advance of the meeting.

TROPHIES & AWARDS

The Trophies & Awards banquet in Guild Hall will be held on Thursday 23rd October. The awards ceremony is live streamed for those who wish to observe the proceedings – the link can be found on the Company web site.

MASTER'S VISIT

The new Master, John Denyer, will visit NZ over the period 13-23 November. A visit itinerary will be promulgated once finalised.

NZ REGION ANNUAL DINNER

The annual dinner will be held in Auckland in conjunction with the Master's visit in late November. Details will follow in due course.



HOUSE OF SCIENCE INITIATIVE

Strong sponsorship support enabled the NZAF Council to take the decision last week to go ahead with the investment to develop a House of Science “Flight Kit”.

NZAF are excited by this opportunity to reach out to the youngsters who will be the next generation of scientists, technicians, engineers and mathematicians in New Zealand. This is important, we believe, to NZ Inc and also it enables us to implant an interest in aviation as a future opportunity.

Answers to some frequently asked questions include:

- The kit will contain experiments to engage and educate the children about aviation. A core question which has been established is: How do aircraft fly? There are no lectures from the teachers; there are no on-line exercises; this is all intended to be hands-on fun!
- It will take until the end of October for the Flight Kit to be developed and to go through beta testing.
- The development phase includes House of Science engaging with experts from the aviation field to brainstorm the type of experiments that can be included in the kit. So, we are going to reach out for assistance.
- House of Science branches are located in the Far North, Mid North, West Auckland, South Auckland, Central Waikato, North Waikato, South Waikato, Western Bay of Plenty, Eastern Bay of Plenty, Rotorua Lakes, Ruapehu, Whanganui, Taranaki, Tairāwhiti, Hawke’s Bay, Horowhenua/ Manawatū/ Kapiti, Wairarapa, Hutt Valley, Wellington, Christchurch and Nelson.
- As a sponsor you are entitled to ask that your kit be sent to one of these branches. More information about the branches and their associated schools can be found on the House of Science website at Find Your School
- Once beta testing is complete the replication of kits will start and House of Science will be in touch to invoice for the creation of the replica kits.
- The branches are libraries where the kits are held. Once the kits are with the branches, their cadre of schools can book the kit for a two-week period after which they are returned to the library for refreshing and reissue to another school. The annual \$3,000 cost is for the on-going re-packaging of the kits and replacement of consumables (potentially 18 times a year).
- House of Science will provide regular reports to NZAF on the utilisation of the kits and these will be provided to you.