

PAUG Newsletter

19th October, 2004

Hi everyone

This is the first of the Newsletters that I will be producing hopefully every two months throughout the year or more often if newsworthy events warrant.

You have all indicated that you would like to receive this newsletter but if for any reason you wish to "unsubscribe" click on the link below.

I was looking at doing fancy HTML or PDF format newsletters but for this one, at least, I will use straight text only format to save time. The fancy stuff can come later if you want to get it that way.

1. THE CONTRACT

It has been an interesting few months since the official take over date of the 1st April. The contract I have with the Thames Coromandel District Council (TCDC) is fairly straightforward. I have set up a bank account under the name "Pauanui Airfield". I will take over the administration of all "operational" matters pertaining to the airfield like mowing the grass, maintaining windsocks and issuing NOTAMS. I will do what I can to fund these activities but any shortfall in funding will be met by the TCDC.

See <http://airfield.pauanuibeach.com/administration.html> for details

2. FUNDING

To raise funds, I am soliciting local businesses to either donate \$100 p.a. or offer discounts on their products to financial members of the Pauanui Airfield User Group (PAUG). I will be contacting commercial operators who will be charged a landing fee of \$20.00.

I encourage you all to JOIN THE PAUG for the small annual fee of \$40.00. New members will receive a PAUG card valid to 31st December, 2005 and I will publish and maintain a list of discounters and benefits to members on the web site (I'll drop you a note with the address :)). Fill out the form at <http://airfield.pauanuibeach.com/usergroup.html> and I will send you a card with an invoice for \$40.00.

Also, PLEASE ENCOURAGE OTHERS to join up, or at least subscribe to the newsletter.

3. MAINTENANCE

I have negotiated a contract with Andrew Allison of Jim Allison and Sons, Builders to mow the airfield. The contract is basically to cover the cost of operating the tractor/mower (keep an eye out for it - we don't have a VHF yet!). Andrew is kindly donating his time to do this job!

You might notice that the grass is longer than it used to be. This is intentional as I think it looks nicer and it certainly keeps the dust down on dry days. It also helps to prevent damage to the airfield. I don't know how long the grass will last as inevitably it will dry out and wither over summer.

The flight Office is slowly being done up. We had the first day on it last weekend where Kimmie (my wife) did lots of weed eating and mowing while I cleaned out a ute full of rubbish. I am trying to get a toilet installed and a new deck built. I already have a willing list of donators and able bodies to help out. I will soon have a "Welcome to Pauanui Beach" sign put on the roof of the Office.

The windsock at the beach end has all but fallen apart. I have retied the sock it is nearly torn in half. A new one has been ordered and should be put on within three weeks. The vane mechanism is rusted out and we have a new one being built.

You may have noticed that the AWIB is not working. Actually it is working but for some reason I cannot get any volume from the radio. Will have someone look at it as soon as I can.

I am looking at replacing the white threshold marker boards at the South West end of the field with flush concrete markers. I am also examining the feasibility of marking taxi lanes on the southern boundary.

4. OPERATIONS

Please download and read the draft operations manual at <http://airfield.pauanuibeach.com/downloads.html>. Here you will also find downloadable PDF documents showing the new airfield organization chart and the minutes of the first meeting of the PAUG committee.

5. EVENTS

This labour weekend the "Vision Pauanui" static display will be held in the hall adjacent to the Sports Club. GO AND HAVE YOUR SAY! This event has been organised through the very hard work of Margaret McDougall and Shirley Peacock from the Ratepayers Association. It is to be used to gather YOUR input to enable us to submit to the TCDC OUR plan for the future of Pauanui. VERY IMPORTANT!

OSH permitting, we are to have a fly in at Pauanui on 2nd January, 2005. Pass the word to all your friends and colleagues and have them fly in on Saturday 1st for a great day flying on Sunday. I hope to have the Warbirds here as well and finish the day with a BBQ and live music in a marquee by the Flight Office.

See <http://airfield.pauanuibeach.com/events.html>

6. FEEDBACK

If you have any comments or suggestions I would appreciate an email at bryan@pauanuibeach.com or fill out and send the form at <http://airfield.pauanuibeach.com/feedback.html>.

Happy and safe flying . . .

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