

PAUG Newsletter #6

20th December, 2006

1. MAINTENANCE

The TCDC are now committed to repairing the vandalised signs around the airfield. I met with Lou Mackwell of the TCDC and it seems that at last we might get some action. I have submitted a report to the Council with photographs of all the damaged signs. I now need only to itemise *exactly* the signs needed.

We also have a good chance of getting PD workers to paint the fences with paint supplied by the TCDC. Lou Mackwell has agreed that after this we can start a rolling programme to identify the parts of the fence in need of replacement. The TCDC to supply the timber and paint while I will get volunteers to do the repairs. Great progress ...

The rabbits are causing considerable damage to the airfield by digging holes that are big enough to cause damage to less sturdy aircraft. Any aircraft with light undercarriage systems should exercise CAUTION when operating on the airfield. Environment Waikato released a virus this year but only achieved a 25-35% kill. So it is going to be an ongoing problem. I have contacted a pest control expert and we will conduct a more intensive eradication program (poisoning) at the end of this summer. In the meantime, we will be trying to fill the worst of the holes prior to the end of the year.

2. FUNDING

The membership cards have proved to be too hard to administer. After Paul Jonson left the Pauanui Club it seems that the support we had left with him. I have also been so busy over the last 18 months with Air New Zealand courses that I have let things slip a bit.

Anyway, The TCDC are now OK with helping out and at this years "fly in", we will line up a bunch of Yaks to take some rides for donations to the airfield. I hope to raise up to \$3,000 with this.

In addition, I'm sure I can rely on you all to send in another \$45 each to help out. Thanks very much to those of you who have already done so.

3. EVENTS

Next Year ... Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th January, 2007

Let's make this one even better than last year! I am doing my best to get the Red Checkers and a Navy Seasprite helicopter to visit but it seems the military don't operate over the holiday season. I know they are trying to help and if they don't make it on 6th then maybe we'll see them sometime during the year.

Also, I am going to try to organise a Saturday evening social event. BBQ, drinks and a good band. Book some accommodation now if you're staying for Saturday night. We have several options for accommodation but if you have trouble, drop me a line and I'll see what I can do. You might try:

The Cottage on the Hill – <http://thehill.pauanuibeach.com/>

Pauanui Pines Motel – <http://www.pauanuipines.co.nz/>

Pauanui lakes Resort – <http://www.lakesresort.co.nz/>

Puka Park Location – <http://www.pukapark.co.nz/>

4. FEEDBACK

Any comments, complaints or suggestions I would appreciate an email at bryan@pauanuibeach.com or fill out the form at <http://airfield.pauanuibeach.com/feedback.html>.

Bryan Coppersmith