

**February 2025**

**Issue No. 160**



Many thanks to the team (Roger, Stu, Allan, Warren, Ernie, Terry and Wilson) who stepped up to man the Museum over the three days of the Kapiti Heritage Clue Hunt on Anniversary Weekend. We had around 185 visitors over the weekend and, while quite a few raced in, found the clue, and raced off again, many spent time with us and talked about coming again.

### ***Marketing***

We have updated our rack cards and have introduced quality printed bookmarks to our marketing push. The rack cards need to be distributed around the other museums and other publicity outlets. Any volunteers?

### ***Barbecue***

Members, partners and friends are invited to our Summer Barbecue at noon on Saturday 15 February in the garden at Wilson & Debbie's house at 387A Te Moana Road, Waikanae. Please bring a plate for nibbles and afters. Sausages, buns, condiments and a non-alcoholic punch will be provided. Please let us know how many are coming and of any specific dietary requirements. Phone Wilson on 021 446 156

### ***Plane spotting***



De Havilland DH.84 Tiger Moth ZK-BEF at PPQ December 2024

*Stu Brown photo*

**Metlifecare Visit**

Recently we hosted a special visit from five mobility-handicapped residents from Coastal Villas Retirement Village and had a very enjoyable hour or so showing them around and reminiscing about aviation things. One lady told us about her journey from Holland to New Zealand as a passenger on KLM Douglas DC-6A PH-TGA when it took part in the 1953 London – Christchurch Air Race! This aircraft carried 60+ young brides and wives to join their partners who had already emigrated as part of New Zealand’s influx of young Dutch people in the 1950’s. The aircraft came second in the Transport section of the Race.



*Photo: Stu Brown*



PH-TGA at London being readied for the Race. Note Race #21

*Photo: RuthAS Wikipedia*

A First Flight cover carried on the same flight, from my collection. *Wilson*



## **THE BROWN ARCHIVE: BOEING STEARMAN A75N1 KAYDET ZK-KJO:**

During a visit to Omaka last March I observed Stearman Kaydet ZK-KJO loading and taking off on a joy flight. I noted with two rather well-built gentlemen as passengers, there was very little free space in the front cockpit!

Later, in December, my niece, Aileen Hiley, who lives in Blenheim observed and pictured ZK-KJO sitting outside a hangar in front of a container at Omaka with the aircraft minus wings and tailplane and with its NZ registration crudely painted out. Was this the precursor of a shift offshore?

Sadly the scene was confirmed later in the month when pictures of ex-ZK-KJO were noted on “Facebook” showing her reposing in a container in stripped down form awaiting shipment to a new owner in Perth. *Stu.*



*Photo: Aileen Hiley*



*Photo: JEM Aviation*

## **Douglas DC-3 ZK-AWP**

AirChathams brought AWP to Paraparaumu for a weekend on 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> January and did a steady trade in joy-rides around the area, for the last time before it leaves for its new home in Darwin. Lots of smiling faces on the passengers and a steady stream of onlookers at the terminal and on our Museum lawn over the weekend.



***Visitors from the Past:***

A couple of pictures found in a loose box of slides in the Museum, taken at an air show in Paraparaumu. Photographer unknown, date unknown but probably early to mid 1970's when the Wellington Districts Aero Club was operating Victa Airtourers. Can anyone shed more light on this event?



Victa Airtourer formation



RAF Avro Vulcan flypast.

