

# PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2018



## 1. Campground

Camp revenue was about 3.5% down on last year, which was good for a 'non-Nationals' year.

The 11 kV power line into the camp is causing headaches. We trimmed the trees two seasons ago, but the problem has resurfaced because the trees grew back very quickly and were even 'bushier' than before. The acute angle between the power lines to the transformer and the adjacent tree line is the culprit. Options appear to be:

1. Remove about 15 trees and replant with shorter species, or
2. Put a new ground-based transformer just west of the present transformer pole and trench between there and the road for an underground 11kV cable down from a new pole on the north side of the road. So the present airfield power line would be removed entirely from overhead the camp and the only remaining span would be over the road to the existing pole opposite the Speights house.

In September we had an on-site meeting with a lines company engineer, with a view to deciding on the best long-term option. The engineer has undertaken to provide a quote, saying the company would pay for a new transformer, but we would pay for everything else, probably in the region of \$30K. However, as this is the feed for the whole airfield, OSC should be able to part-share that cost with the other electricity users.

## 2. WiFi

After 5 years of successful internet WAP operation, the system became U/S about the middle of May. Our IT consultant strongly suspects the server was hacked and rendered useless. Or the cause could be just equipment failure. Either way, the Mikrotik equipment was out of date and not as well protected from hacking as the latest Unify mesh radios.

So, rather than try and fix the Mikrotik, we spent about \$2.7k to upgrade to new Unify radios, which were installed in early October. A bonus is that the Unify equipment does not have the Security Certificate problem of the Mikrotik router, whereby users have been getting an annoying security warning when logging on – apparently this has been because the Mikrotik software couldn't handle the more modern security certificate standards.

The PayPal interface has been discontinued and intending users now need to contact either Brian Savage or Max Stevens for a voucher code to gain access, paying either by eftpos or online banking. We are offering three subscriptions, 1 month for \$30, 3 months for \$60, or 1 year for \$100; and have dropped the 1 day and 1 week subs as they had very little take-up in the past.

### **3. Omarama Airfield Ltd**

The Rwy 27 access road has been filled with AP20 followed by heavy rolling, which has produced a much improved surface. The company has enjoyed a modest growth in revenue, with costs being held below budget. The WDC's plan to run a waste-water sub-surface discharge onto the airfield has progressed. The disposal lines will run parallel to SH 8, inside the 09 threshold, which should be of no consequence to airfield users.

The Kahu Café has been substantially upgraded and leased to a new tenant who has installed a commercial kitchen. The lease is for 12 years, and the café is now up and running under the new name, 'The Pink Glider Café'.

### **4. Camps and Competitions**

Competitions this season will be the Regionals 10-17 November, run by the Omarama Gliding Club, and the Multi-Class Nationals 2-12 January, run by OSC. 'Jerry's course' will be run by Glide Omarama in the week prior to the Regionals, and the Youth Soaring Development camp will be 6-15 December.

### **5. OSC Committee**

The other committee members are Pete McKenzie (VP), Neal Irwin (Secretary), Alex Boyes, Brian Savage, Oliver Winkler, and Warren Dickinson; with Laurie Kirkham as our Treasurer. I thank them for their efforts during the year.

Craig Keenan has also agreed to join the committee and we very much look forward to his contribution.

Max Stevens  
OSC President

16 November 2018