

# Programme for the RAANZ National Fly-in hosted by the West Coast (SI) Microlight Club and the Hokitika Aeroclub.

## **Friday**

- members on hand from 1400hrs to assist arrivals
- marshalls will assist with aircraft parking and camping areas

## **Saturday**

- marshalls will assist with aircraft parking and camping areas
- 0900 pilot briefing
- hangar food available from noon
- Public Open Day. Supervised access to airport apron from 1100 to 1300 hrs
- Competitions start at 1400 (nominated take-off roll, bomb drop, precision landing).
- official welcome and optional hangar BBQ dinner.
- wet day activities

## **Sunday**

- hangar breakfast available
- 0900 pilot briefing
- cross country flights and / or competitions
- group flight to Okarito
- Buffet group dinner at Hokitika's Beachfront Ocean View Restaurant. \$49.00 per person.
- wet day activities

## **Monday**

- hangar breakfast available
- 0900 pilot briefing
- cross country flights and / or competitions
- group invited to dine at any of Hokitika's great eateries
- wet day activities

## **Tuesday**

- hangar breakfast available
- members on-hand to assist departing visitors and airside clean-up

**Wet day activities** include a visit to a local gold mine, a visit to a local jade carving outlet and very easy access to the fabulous Westland Industrial Heritage Park. Here is a huge range of vintage machinery, aviation displays, the replica Fox Moth used in New Zealand's first scheduled commercial airline, and start-up of some very large diesel industrial engines.

**Another aviation-related event** is happening over this same weekend and we hope the two events can be enjoyed by all parties:

## 100 YEARS OF AVIATION IN WESTLAND TO BE CELEBRATED OVER EXTENDED WAITANGI WEEKEND - FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR

A small group comprising representatives of Destination Westland, Destination Hokitika, Heritage Hokitika and the Hokitika Aero Club has been coordinating a series of events over Waitangi weekend to recognise the centenary of the first flight on the West Coast - Captain Maurice Buckley from Christchurch took off from Hokitika Beach on the 30th of December 1923 in his Avro 504k biplane. This represented the beginning of a remarkable 100 years of aviation in Westland, including the first licensed schedule air service in New Zealand - Captain Bert Mercer's Air travel (NZ) Ltd. airline which commenced operation in December 1934.

Planned events during Waitangi weekend include:

A fly-in of recreational aircraft to Hokitika from throughout New Zealand, Saturday 3rd to Tuesday 6th February with aircraft on display and various activities based at the airport. This event has been organised by the Hokitika Aero Club.

A visit to Hokitika by a de Havilland DH9 Dominie. This is the actual aircraft used on the South Westland Air Service in the 1950's, now based at Croydon Aerodrome in Southland. It is hoped that joy rides will be available to the public from Saturday 3rd to Monday 5th February.

An evening of aviation history and reminiscences at Hokitika's Regent Theatre on Saturday 3rd February, with presentations by prominent aviation historians Rev Dr Richard Waugh QSM and Bishop Stephen Lowe, (both raised in Hokitika), followed by a panel discussion with a line up of Westland aviators.

Historic aviation documentaries are to be shown on the big screen at the Regent, schedule to be announced.

A re-enactment of the first flight to Franz Josef Glacier/ South Westland in January 1924 is planned as part of the recreational aircraft fly-in event.

A new aviation display is to be launched at the Westland Industrial Heritage Park on Saturday 3rd February.