

# Bush Pilot Champs at Omaka



Jack Griffith about to land right on the line to take out the precision landing section.



Two lovely Carbon Cubs flew this year, ZK-PBC was flown by Peter Clulow.



Deane Philip takes off to try his hand at the precision landing competition.

THE annual Healthy Bastards Bush Pilot Champs was held at Omaka on January 31 and was hugely popular once again with dozens of aircraft in attendance from around the country. This event has become a favourite with pilots young and old, keenly competing for top honours in the precision landing and/or the Short Take Off and Landing categories.

This year the precision landing section was taken out by Jack Griffith flying the family Super Cub - in itself a stunning example. It was great to see a young pilot step up and take that event out, especially amongst the group of very experienced pilots flying on the day. To win this section you need to achieve the smallest distance measured from a white line to where the main gear touches down - and you can't bounce. Jack's result was amazing; he achieved a 0.00 bang on the line. That's not something that is achieved very often.

Jack's father Nigel went on to take top honours in the Light Touring section (1326-2550lb) of the STOL section flying the same aeroplane. Two take-offs and landings are recorded with the best take-off and landing combined to produce the overall score. Nigel came in at exactly 100 metres. In the light STOL section (0-1325lb) Chris Anderson won, flying his Zenith CH701 with a combined score of 72 metres. Finally in the heavy STOL group (2550lb+) Nick Rowe won in a Murphy Super Rebel with a score of 142.5 metres - a great result in a big aeroplane.

During the lunch break ten lucky people from the crowd were chosen to go for a free flight in a Sounds Air Caravan and while they were away the rest of us were treated to a display by Bill Reid flying his magnificent Avro Anson.

Also of interest and among the first of types to appear this year was a totally restored 300hp Fletcher. This aircraft really turned heads - perhaps an Ag section for next year?



A long day for the Judges was ended with a well-deserved beer.



10 members of the crowd were treated to a flight in the Sounds Air Caravan.



Chris Anderson won the microlight section of the STOL competition.



Nick Rowe on finals to win his section in the Murphy Super Rebel.

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**Geoff Hards - Rotary Sales - Australia/New Zealand**  
Tel: +61 2 9708 8691 Mobile: +61 478 306 327  
Email: geoff.hards@hawkerpacific.com

**Mathew Hardy - Rotary Sales - Australia**  
Tel: +61 2 9708 8610 Mobile: +61 404 886 810  
Email: mathew.hardy@hawkerpacific.com

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