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In recent years, the Club has been actively promoting and recruiting youth pilots with membership fees waived and subsidised aerotow launch costs. A number of youth pilots have been solo and are now ready to move on to the next stage of their training which includes FAI badge flying, cross country flying, local and National competition flying and New Zealand record attempts.

Modern gliding is all about the joy of soaring an engine less aeroplane in gliding flight and successfully using the atmosphere's natural energy to fly higher, further, faster or longer.

Flying combines the fun and excitement, which young people crave, with the fundamental need for self discipline, which when learned, is inevitably carried forward into other aspects of a person's life.

Youth benefit by using the sport of gliding to inspire and develop their imagination, character and self-determination with the excitement and possibilities of flight as a lifelong adventure sport or a fulfilling aviation related career prospect.

Our club encourages the Gliding New Zealand youth flying aims and objectives which are:

1. Introducing young minds to the potential of Aviation.

2. Developing self-confidence / motivation / self-discipline and boost self-esteem.

3. Developing more positive teenage relationships with adults.

4. Safely introducing youth to an adventure sport.

5. Enabling youngsters to realise their potential for achievement.

6. Encouraging women into flying as a sport and / or as a career.

7. Inspiring youngsters with technology; bringing mathematics, physics and computing alive.

8. Providing young people an exciting and healthy outdoor alternative activity.

9. Introducing young people to a possible career in:

    Aeronautical / Mechanical Engineering
    Aircraft / Engine Design
    Air Traffic Control
    Airline Piloting
    Adventure Aviation
    Glider Piloting and Engineering

Come and see if gliding is the sport for you in a friendly welcoming club environment!

Aeroclub members can fly at club rates where you will be taken with a qualified instructor. You will have a short ground briefing before launching. Once flying, you will get some hands on control during the flight and get to try your hand at some basic manoeuvres to get the feel of what soaring is all about. Current club rates are

$10 per towplane minute and a typical 2,000ft tow is around 9-10 minutes ($90 - $100.) Although gliding doesn't have the stringent medical constraints of power flying, a medical certificate is required before flying solo. People of any age can learn to fly.

Further details are on our club web site at http://www.glidinghbw.co.nz/ or come and see us any day we are flying.