December 2010

DEAKIN'S TRIP TO NEW ZEALAND

Facts about NZ

Two of the best fish to catch in NZ are the trout and the salmon.

It rains a lot.



Terry's glider has an engine to help it take off



DAY 4

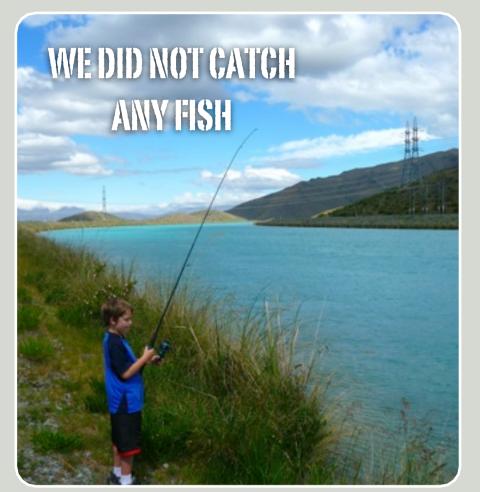
My dad is flying with Terry Delore to try to beat the record for the longest distance in a glider. The weather is not good for records this week. The record is safe for a while.

Fish eat ear plugs. No joke, they do!! In NZ instead of bait the fish eat ear plugs. Today dad went flying with Terry and we went to try to catch some fish.





That me with my dad and Terry







We started at the fishing shop. We bought ear plugs and a fishing lure for \$7.30 in NZ money. Then we decided to catch some fish.

We went to a channel and then a river and we fished and fished for salmon and trout.

We didn't catch anything so we went home. Pop said we probably did not have the right colour ear plugs.

The rivers in NZ run very fast

We got home at 5.00 just in time to see dad land the glider. We had dinner at the airport cafe.





Birds under the big sprinkers

December







Chad's Thursday Blog

I won't get too involved tonight as I need to get some sleep so I can go fishing with Deakin in the morning. Today Terry and Gavin Wills decided Milford Sound would be a good place to visit. The day looked similar to yesterday and we launched together. Before long we were just south of Lake Ohau and low, stratching away on the edge of the easterly sea breeze, trying to get into the higher range. Shortly there after Gavin and Terry went seperate ways. Gavin was close by according to Terry but I didn't see him until the way home.

We went past Mt. Aspiring again but this time on the scenic western side. To get the height to cross a range I got my first taste of cloud flying. "I'll climb up here and take you on the western side but they'll be no lift there so when we pop back out the to the south we'll be low and have to grovel". Scenic it was and grovel we did. I could see no where to land be Terry assured me there was somewhere around the corner. Maybe not big enough for an ASH 25 but we'd survive it. Yikes!

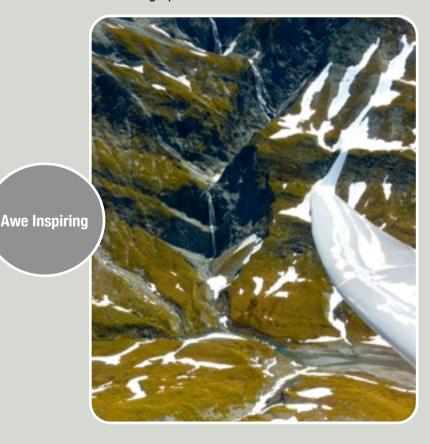
We kept heading west past where the others stopped and I got a look at the west coast between the high peaks.

We had one last ridge to cross which we came close to but Terry suggested it was not a good idea to go any further. "We'll get over but may not get back". I was happy with that. On the way back we caught up to some of the Glide Omarama Duo's and flew with them for a bit. Gavin Wills was on the radio doing beat ups of a glacier on Mt. Bruister. The previous record was 7, Gavin did 15. Some others were on the radio that they were giving some mountain climbers a bit of a thrill.

I'm not sure how we got home as most of the time I was completely lost, one time heading 90deg off track until Terry pointed me in the right direction. We came home over Magic Mountain again into the usual 20kt easterly and Terry showed me the short landing capability of the ASH. 20kt headwind, full landing flap, full airbrake and a serious side slide brought us in at a 60deg angle. Oh and of course we pulled up next the chalet.

I took mostly video today so I'll have good stuff to everyone when I get back home.

It's probably my last day here tomorrow so Ill make the most it.



NIT ASPIRING







