



Stop at Te Kowhai Airfield for fuel, coffee and a chat

TE KOWHAI is a private airfield north west of Hamilton, situated near the edge of the Hamilton control zone. It is well known as the home of Micro Aviation Limited and Bantam B22 production. Less well known is the fact that in January of 2008, Air BP installed an Avgas facility at the field. Thus

of \$52 per annum is requested. Most pilots consider this to be great value for money since they can call as often as they like and enjoy a cup of coffee or cold drink in the sunshine, as well as get their fuel. Maxine Sutton of Micro Aviation comments that; "If everyone contributes, it helps us to



All passing pilots are welcome to utilise the BP Avgas facility which is available at Te Kowhai airfield.

Te Kowhai becomes a most ideal place to stop for fuel when passing through the Waikato. Pilots can avoid the congestion at Hamilton as well as avoiding the associated Airways and landing charges.

To obtain the facility, Micro Aviation spent two years compiling an estimate of annual fuel usage at the field. Then they had to eliminate any existing BP customers from the data and convince the Australasian BP Management that they could meet a target consumption of 150,000 litres per annum. Eight months after installation, they crossed the 100,000 litre milestone so are well on track to achieve this goal.

Te Kowhai airfield is uncontrolled and has a right hand circuit in consideration of the neighbouring village. They have a motto of keeping the fun in flying and have resisted the "landing fee payment" mindset. Rather, an airfield regular user fee

keep the low price in place for all users and to maintain the facility at a high standard. Irregular visitors are also welcome and we have a jar on our fridge in the flight office to put a donation in. It is really only there to encourage you to please stop in and introduce yourselves. If you would like, we can include your name on our database to receive the Te Kowhai airfield newsletter. Visitors are welcome to use the phone and we have a courtesy car available if advised beforehand."

Maxine also invites any enthusiasts who might be passing by car to call in, enjoy the hospitality and watch the planes. Te Kowhai has even become a requested destination for pilot holidays – in Maxine's words, "anything for an aviation buzz".

KiwiFlyer invites owners of other private airfields to contact us if they would like to promote their facilities to fellow aviation enthusiasts.

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