

# Ardmore Flyer

December 2022



The Safest General  
Aviation Airport In NZ

## WARBIRDS MANAGER'S LAST HURRAH

**Warbirds organisers were more than happy with the public attendance at this month's air show at Ardmore Airport.**

About 3600 spectators gathered in balmy, summerlike conditions to witness Warbirds on Parade, the last major such event that Mike Curwood, general manager for NZ Warbirds at Ardmore, will be involved in before his resignation takes effect next month.

Delighted with the turnout under the circumstances, Mike told the *Ardmore Flyer*: "I'm told numbers at our December show are always lower because we are competing against so many others [public events at this time of year]."

Mike has resigned his Warbirds role of just under a year to resume flying on a fulltime basis. Still based in Auckland, he will pilot Boeing 737s for Qantas on the trans-Tasman route.

Formerly a pilot with Cathay Pacific, Mike said: "I was very clear when I took on the job [with Warbirds] that I wanted to return to the flight deck. The Warbirds committee members were very good to me by taking me on, realising that this was an interim step." *Continued on page 3 ...*



*Spectators of all ages were able to keep an eye on a wide range of aircraft on display.*

# GREETINGS FROM THE CEO



Dave Marcellus



**What a great turnout for the airport annual Christmas celebration.**

It's always a great opportunity to catch up with everyone after a busy year.

As we welcome in the new year in a few weeks' time I hope that everyone can reflect positively on 2022 and look forward to 2023.

From everyone at the airport company, we wish you a restful and healthy holiday and a Happy New Year.

Kind Regards  
Dave Marcellus  
CEO



## In This Issue

|   |      |       |
|---|------|-------|
| Warbirds Manager's Last Hurrah                        | Page | 1 & 3 |
| Ardmore Airport Tenants and Community Christmas Party | Page | 5 & 6 |
| Ardmore Airport Christmas Message and Hours           | Page | 7     |





Mike is being succeeded as general manager by Warbirds' accounts administrator, Kim Parker, who has had a long association with Ardmore Airport.

Kim was raised in the Ardmore area, trained for her private pilot's licence at Ardmore Airport and is a former club captain of the Airline Flying Club. Some years ago she went to Hong Kong with her husband Scott, a Cathay Pacific pilot, where they raised their family, a daughter and a son.

On returning to New Zealand in 2017, Kim set up the Warbirds' accounts system. She said: "I will always be looking for opportunities to streamline things and looking for efficiencies, but I won't be looking to re-invent the wheel. This is an amazing place."

— *By John Andrews*



*Kim Parker who succeeds Mike Curwood as general manager of NZ Warbirds at Ardmore.*

*Below: Judith Collins, MP for Papakura, Mike Curwood, NZ Warbirds at Ardmore general manager, and Phil Goff, former Mayor of Auckland.*



*10-year-old Jake Ferguson, of Birkenhead, seen here in the cockpit of an Aermacchi air trainer jet, intends to follow his late great grandfather's example by joining the RNZAF.*

*There were plenty of wartime vehicles on show.*







# ARDMORE AIRPORT TENANTS & COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY



*(Left to right) Kelvin Hieatt, Papakura Local Board member, Kim Parker, NZ Warbirds at Ardmore accounts administrator, and Mike Curwood, Warbirds general manager.*



*Allan Bostock, Ardmore UNICOM general manager, with Frank Parker, president of NZ Warbirds at Ardmore.*



*From left: Leanne Butler, ICEA supply manager and technical administrator, Deanna Tatler, Heliflite Ltd maintenance planner/controller, Sylvia Sanders, Heliflite Ltd supply manager & accounts, Melanie Nelson, Ardmore Airport administration, events & reception*



*(Left to right) Dave Marcellus, Ardmore Airport chief executive, Zac Attwood, Ardmore UNICOM operator and airside supervisor, Jonah Lee, Platinum Homes construction administrator, and Dave Watt, Platinum Homes CEO*







*(Left to right) Liviu Filimon, Avionics CEO, Ryan Daum, a helicopter engineer with CAA, Graeme Wood, NZ Warbirds at Ardmore pilot, Daniel Frew, Oceania Aviation, Warren Denholm and his son Jaiden of Avspecs.*



*Long time aviation friends at Ardmore Airport, Maurice Hayes, a Papakura accountant, (left) and Dennis Thompson, of Dennis Thompson International Ltd.*



*Allan Bostock, general manager Ardmore UNICOM*

*Ardmore Airport's chief executive, Dave Marcellus, presented a Christmas hamper to the three raffle winners.*



*Christine Mooney, associate member of NZ Warbirds at Ardmore*



*Dave Bray, of Dave Bray's Chassis Shop.*



*The team at  
Ardmore Airport  
wishes you a very  
Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year*

Our offices will be closed from  
Friday 23rd December 2022  
and will reopen on  
Monday 9th January 2023  
For any urgent enquiries  
please phone: 09) 298 9544  
and answer services  
will direct your call





# ARDMORE AIRPORT

## New Zealand's busiest general aviation airport

Situated approximately 1 km from Papakura and a short 10 minute drive from the centre of Papakura business community, Ardmore Airport is a vital economic base for Papakura. Ardmore Airport was established in 1943 and became an airport for General Aviation in 1952. The majority of tenants are businesses such as flying schools and aviation related services with others including non-aviation business, private aviation enthusiasts and clubs. Ardmore Airport is primarily a training airfield and the majority of the pilots

are training for the purpose of gaining professional pilots licenses and a career in the airline industry.

In addition to pilot training, Ardmore Airport provides a home for kiwi aviation businesses on the world stage. More than 600 people are employed at the airport. Retailers and other businesses in and around Papakura benefit significantly through the employees and students being based at Ardmore. For more information visit [www.ardmoreairport.co.nz](http://www.ardmoreairport.co.nz)

### Ardmore Cafe

Situated on Harvard Lane is open 7 days with views to the main runway.

For opening times and bookings phone 09 298 4846

### NZ Warbirds Association Inc.

Have a new visitor centre on Harvard Lane, visit their website <https://www.nzwarbirds.org.nz> or phone 09 298 9207 for more information.



511 Harvard Lane, Corner Harvard & McBride Lanes  
Ardmore Airport, Auckland 2582  
[www.ardmoreairport.co.nz](http://www.ardmoreairport.co.nz) Phone: 09 298 9207





Ardmore Airport Limited  
proudly supports  
Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust,  
Kidney Kids and Burns Support Group,  
NZ Warbirds at Ardmore

## Events

If you have an event you wish to have listed here  
please contact **Melanie Nelson** on 09) 298 9544 or  
[melanie@ardmoreairport.co.nz](mailto:melanie@ardmoreairport.co.nz)



### Ardmore Airport Ltd - Team

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