How to Teach Met

If your efforts to teach meteorology are met with glassy-eyed stares, look no further than the 2015 Flight Instructor Seminar.

he two-day Flight Instructor Seminars are targeted at new C-Category (Aeroplane/Helicopter), and microlight, flight instructors. However, you're welcome to register regardless of your experience level.

Greg Reeve, MetService forecaster, will present this year's seminars. He acknowledges that teaching Met proves to be a major challenge for most flight instructors.

"A lot of people approach teaching Met with a negative attitude. I think that's mainly because it wasn't taught all that well in the past.

"In these seminars, I'm going to discuss how to teach Met, how to simplify it, and how to make it interesting," says Greg.

There's no 'one size fits all' approach. Met can be taught in a range of ways and everyone absorbs information differently. It's good to have some tools up your sleeve, especially when a topic proves difficult. Greg thinks the key to getting across the concepts is to make them relatable.

"I use everyday examples, often things not necessarily related to aviation, which will help students understand the concepts. For example, you feel cold when you get out of the shower – why is that? The water on your skin is evaporating and the evaporation process requires latent heat. The heat gets taken from your body – hence the cold feeling.

"That example brings the latent heat process into a sharp focus, which is very important when learning about cloud formation and icing."

About Greg

Greg joined the MetService in 1977 as a weather observer, and spent the next eight years between the Whenuapai and Auckland city Met offices. During 1985 and 1986, he installed and maintained weather stations around the North Island.

In 1987 he trained to become a forecaster and his first day as a solo forecaster was on 7 March 1988 – the day Cyclone Bola hit the north of New Zealand.

From 1998 he specialised in aviation meteorology, until 2004 as a forecaster, then as manager of the Met office at RNZAF Base Whenuapai. At present, he works under permanent contract at Ohakea as an aviation meteorology instructor.

Greg was instrumental in the creation of the 2015 AvKiwi Safety Seminar, *WX Matters*. He's also writing a book for PPL pilots which he expects will be complete by the time his Met seminars begin.

Don't Miss Out

Thanks to sponsorship from Aviation Services Limited, the CAA has been able to keep the cost of the seminar to \$160. It includes all meals and twin share accommodation.

Flight training organisations are encouraged to contribute by sponsoring the attendance of their flight instructors.

Masterton – Solway Hotel
Hotel Ashburton
Auckland – Spencer on Byron Hotel

Registration forms are available on the CAA web site, www.caa.govt.nz, "Seminars and Courses – Flight Instructor Seminar".

