

HAWAII

SIGGY AND HEATHER | TRIP TO CANADA / HAWAII | 18-19TH OCTOBER 2016

Aloha cup

A late start. Again. We are on holidays. After lazing around eating breakfast for a couple of hours we decided to spend some time at the drone competition. Today was the preliminaries for the Aloha Cup - the last chance for pilots who missed out being selected for the "Worlds" to be included in the competition.

We found the venue and watched in awe as we got out of the car to see Chad get mobbed. Totally!! Heather and I went to the pilots tent to put names to some of the faces we have come across on Facebook. I was particularly interested to catch up with MinChan Kim, the young 13yo ace from Korea who has literally won every race in Asia. He speaks little english but I was so taken aback when he saw me looking at him and said "Hello. Nice to meet you, you're Chad's dad."

We watched a number of the heats and bumped into a number of well known pilots and had a brief chat to each. It was so great to see them in person. We spent time checking out the leader board and watching a number of the team crews working feverishly in the pits. The tables in the tent were filled with lots of quads and a whole range of various components.



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An important aspect of these competitions is about the pilots and how they interact. There is little to interest the spectator trying to watch and keep up with tiny little specks flying around a twisty course. Watching a split screen showing what each pilot sees is better but still not very satisfying. Strip away the competitive aspect and the rows of tables bristling with the latest quadcopter related technology and you are left with a group of like minded people from all walks of life from all over the world all excitedly sharing a common interest. The buzz is palpable - more so when Chad arrives. I have witnessed it - all hell breaks loose. Amazing to watch the "magnet" effect. Unbelievable!!



PRETTY BIRDY? So nice to see gorgeous strikingly coloured birds here in Hawaii. Their bird song is so loud too - so different to Canada



EASTER ISLAND? This statue is a prop from the "Jurassic Park" film. Pictured against the sheer mountainous backdrop gives the photo an ethereal quality.



QUEEN BEE? This lady told us she is known as the Queen of Lanakai beach. She has looked after the offshore islands for years AND is related to the queen of England My Heather runs rings around her.

Driving south

Each time we looked back at the gate Chad had not moved more than a meter. Everyone, and I mean everyone, wanted to take a selfie with him - such is his Rotor Riot notoriety. Our son is a great ambassador for the sport.

After a few hours we rescued Chad and drove our rental car to the office near the airport. We swapped our car for one rented by Chad and Kathleen. We, luckily, have a car from the house swap

home. It is a little Porsche Boxster - a two seater. Boom!!

In the evening we met up with the Australian pilots and Tommy, Steele and Kevin from Rotor Riot. We spent a fun night crying with laughter at Australian words and phrases that the Americans had no idea about. Made me realise how much we take slang for granted.

Too late to write a newsletter.

Today we had a lazy breakfast, a short walk on the beach and then, after lunch, a leisurely drive in the fun little two seater car to the southern part of the island. It is relatively undeveloped. At numerous points we parked our car and took in the ambience. We even took a longer walk up to a high point overlooking the sea with the islands in the background. We stopped at a great beach. The waves were really dumping right onto the beach. Lovely day.



Our house swap house a block away from Lanikai beach.

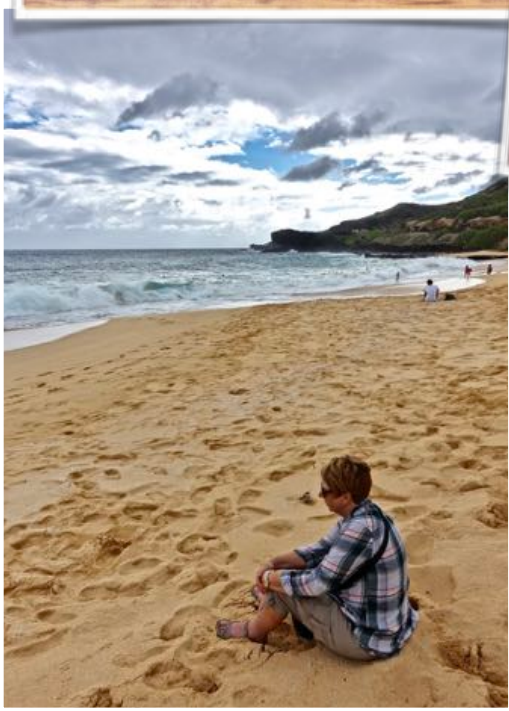


Famous Lanikai beach.





PHOTOS



Asian Jedi Master

