



WINGTIPS

BMAC Newsletter
November 2007

Editorial

My first task as your new editor is to thank Dave Compton for his sterling job as editor of the newsletter. Often taken for granted, this important means of keeping members in touch can be onerous. Thanks Dave for your interesting articles and thought provoking commentary. Dave is considering a move to Wagga Wagga in the future, if so, we will all have another good reason to attend their excellent WWII flying weekend.

A warm welcome to these new members to the Club:

Including.....
Roger Textor
Steven Smith
Geoff Kemp
Daniel Cowan
Graeme Coronel
And David Beake

One of the great things about this club is the willingness of "old" members to make newcomers feel at home and welcome. I well remember those who willingly gave me the time and information which kindled my enthusiasm only a few years ago. I never did thank them all, but then they probably never expected that either. Thanks fellas.

Membership now stands at 70 ..

Helpful criticism welcomed and mistakes/errors cheerfully fixed. Just let me know.
ianharman04@hotmail.com.au

GENERAL MEETING

Next General Meeting, Tuesday 13th November 2007

West's Rugby Club MACQUARIE

Start time 7:30PM

*".....Why not come early and enjoy a meal
and a drink before the meeting in the new facilities?"*

Another year another committee...

And just as well, as these blokes help keep us all flying and attend to the details. Graham Parkins has stepped up to the plate as president, with Wayne Harris as vice. Warwick Budd continues as Treasurer. Ian Harman provides some relief for Warwick, picking up the Secretary's position and editing the newsletter. Roger Pinder is our new webmaster. Col Edlin continues taking good care of the field and Roy Bray, Mike Masters (MAAA rep), Max Rixon and John Webster make up the balance of the committee.

News from our committee

Bronze wings (or the lack of). If (like me) you have passed testing for your bronze wings but have yet to receive the wings themselves, please let Grant Manwaring know ASAP and he will make it happen.

Pattern Association cancellation.

No event will be held this year but we have advised the Pattern Association that we will definitely hold the event next year, and the date on the National Calendar will be maintained.

Fun Fly Sunday December 2nd

Grant Manwaring and Ian Harman are organising a club Fun Day on Sunday 2nd December. Timed flight and carrier landing competitions, a limbo bar (streamer actually) and some novelty events plus a sausage sizzle. Mark it on the calendar and come and join in some Pre-Christmas festivity.

Is there a Safety Officer at the field?

No!. A recent incident where a member injured himself whilst starting a model, highlights the dangers inherent in our sport. We are urgently seeking volunteers to take on this important position. With vigilance and a keen eye the main requirements, the Safety Officer can help keep the link between familiarity and contempt a distant one.

Breeding like.....well....Rabbits

Recent rain has boosted growth at the field and you know what rabbits are like! It pays to check for fresh scrapes before flying and fill them for safety. The committee is investigating controls to reduce their numbers.

Web site upgrade

Roger Pinder is currently undertaking a spring clean of the website. He is calling for any photo's of interest to refresh the picture gallery. Any member who wishes to provide interesting, humorous or stunning photo's of themselves... or others, please contact Roger.

Too Much Noise!!!

Yes it just won't go away. Not if we ignore the strict requirements to have our models tested and noise certified before flying them at the Field. A member flying an uncertified and excessively noisy model precipitated the most recent complaint. The requirements are quite clear. If it isn't tested and OK for noise it cannot be flown at the Field. Please don't keep this issue alive by neglecting to do so. Committee members will assist in testing models. Just ask.

Keys Please

Less than ½ the keys from last year have been returned to the box at the clubhouse. Do your pocket a favour and drop them in when next at the field.

Pot Hunters Paradise

Mike Masters having scoured Canberra and the surrounds has collected all the trophies that the club possesses. Did you know it had any? I didn't. Some have not been awarded for some time. The committee is keen to reactivate this form of competition. Trophies cover different aspects of model flying such as Scale Model Construction, Control Line Flying and Sailplane flying. If these line up with your interests, watch for further details.

And ending on a very positive note from Grant regarding.....

Flight Training

For the last couple of years Chris Swain has had the role of the clubs Chief Flying Instructor. Chris has done an excellent job in helping newcomers to their Bronze Wings and also in getting more members accredited to Instructor rating. I will now take over this role so Chris can concentrate more fully on his aerobatic interests. I would like to pass on my thanks to Chris for his efforts during this time.

I will continue with the MAAA Trainee Pilot scheme to take newcomers through to their Bronze Wings and also encourage them to progress to Gold Wings standard. The training scheme is structured around set tasks required to operate an RC model aircraft safely and competently in the normal club operating environment. Each of these tasks are listed in the student's Log Book and tested as part of the training programme. The Log Book, together with testing is used to assess the student to either Bronze or Gold Wing standard.

At present I have two students, Lee Watson and Stephen Smith with another two about to start. Both these students are making good progress with trainer type 0.46 size models. If members require assistance or advice on training I will be only too glad to help if possible. Please use the telephone number as below or see me at the field.

The completion of these awards is to be commended, it reinforces the standard required to safely operate our models so that we are all able to enjoy this great hobby.

Coming events

Fun Fly & BBQ **BMAC Flying Field** **Sunday December 2nd 2007**

Wet and Dry
Floatplanes Latrobe Valley Vic. 17/18 November 2007



BMAC Open Day '06

“Fly often and Fly well”