



## NEWSLETTER – March, 2020

### Committee 2019/2020

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Note the meeting location.

The next general meeting is to be held at the **Eastwood Street Leisure Centre in the Canteen**, on ~~Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup>~~ commencing at **7.30PM** (Turn left after entry to the Complex, and the Canteen is on the left again). **Don't forget to bring a plate for supper.**

**Please note: Meetings are cancelled until further notice due the COVID-19 pandemic. We were advised on March 19<sup>th</sup> that the Eastwood Leisure Centre closed its doors at 5PM March 18<sup>th</sup> to be reviewed during the week commencing April 13<sup>th</sup>.**

### Agenda Items for the next meeting

1. Trawalla Estate Update
2. Strategic Plan
3. Field Maintenance
4. Burrumbeet Airstrip
5. Replacement Mower – club assistance

### Club position on COVID-19 (24<sup>th</sup> March)

In a nutshell we have adopted the MAAA guidelines. The club takes the threat seriously and all events & gatherings such as meetings have been suspended or cancelled.

The field is still open because we don't need to be in close contact with one another to pursue our sport/hobby and secondly it is generally only one day a week. However this virus represents a threat of serious illness or worse especially to those in the high risk categories so strict adherence to Health Department advice is mandatory.

The greatest concern is the kitchen area where we started putting names on cups on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and ensuring the benchtops and cupboard handles are clean and regularly wiped down.

The MAAA distributed hygiene guidelines have been printed and displayed prominently on the overhead cupboard doors as well as outside in the noticeboard cabinet. Most of this is common sense and things we should be doing all the time.

We were mindful of the 1.5m distance (spitting distance I guess) at all times particularly in the kitchen although it is

difficult to maintain. Do not congregate in the kitchen at all; just go in get what you want and leave to avoid congestion in the confined space. If you enter and someone is already there, go back out and wait until they leave.

Another precaution would be to wear gloves in the kitchen to avoid skin contact with surfaces touched by others. This would be another line of defence particularly if you consider yourself to be at a high risk of contracting the virus. There are the food handling gloves in one of the drawers below the cutlery drawer. Just be careful to only touch the gloves you are going to use as they are pulled from the box.

**Having said all that and considering the latest developments regarding the spread of the virus, it is strongly recommended to avoid using the kitchen facilities altogether and BYO food & drinks. Also, don't forget to keep your guard up in the compound area as well and don't touch what isn't yours.**

The reason for these measures is to protect our family, friends and fellow club members. Every member must take their own personal risk factors into account when deciding whether to come to the flying field. In particular people in

high risk categories should follow health department warnings closely and eliminate unnecessary contact.

We must do our utmost to get through this unprecedented (in modern times) crisis while trying to maintain some normality in our lives.

Watch "**What Coronavirus Symptoms Look Like, Day By Day**" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/OOJqHPfG7pA>

BRMFC Committee.



## Points of interest from the last meeting

*Extract of newsworthy items from the minutes of the last meeting. Note: Some events/activities may have concluded or been modified as circumstances change.*

### 3. Business arising from the previous meeting

J Dowsley queried the Display Day banners advertising to the public seen around town and asked if an official Display Day application had been lodged with the VMAA for approval, as otherwise, members of the public cannot be invited to the field.

It was agreed that the BRI should be requested to take down the banners.

### 5. Treasurer's report

Nil report due to absence of N Katsikaros.

### 6. Secretary's report

#### a) Incoming correspondence:

- Streatrader Class 3 permit (current to 31-12-2020)
- Membership application (total membership now 33, all classes)

#### b) Outgoing correspondence:

- \$72 cheque to VMAA for new member affiliation fees
- \$60 cheque for Streatrader Class 3 permit

### 8. General Business

#### a) Trawalla Estate Update

Additional mowing required.

#### b) Strategic Plan

Additional Start-up Table is still under construction.

#### c) Field Maintenance

Some weed control along with a scrape of strips with the gate will be required.

#### d) Burrumbeet Airstrip

Mowing of the strip is required.

#### e) Replacement Mower

Some discussion on whether to replace the mower, as the maintenance cost is increasing with age, and the current mower is not quite up to the work-load.

Members raised the possibility of funding via the Club Assistance Scheme.

### 9. Other Business

#### • Fun-fly Organisation Progress

Will require a working bee on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March to clean up before the inter-Club Fun Fly.

- Burrumbeet Working Bee 15th Feb. – rescheduled
- Fire precautions adherence.

BRMFC is required to have a prominent "No flying on days of Total Fire Ban" external sign. M Anstis to investigate.

#### • Fly-in Clash

M Rowan noted that the proposed inter-club meet with BAMI clashes with an event at Echuca on April 5 that a number of members will be attending. Secretary of BAMI to be contacted with a view to reschedule.

- Dave Lacy's application for Associate Membership was approved.

### 10. Agenda items for the next meeting.

Replacement Mower and possibility of an application under the Club Assistance Scheme

### 11. Meeting Closed at 8:30PM – Next meeting date will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020.



## VMAA News

*Information gathered from the Minutes of the VMAA Executive Committee Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 which might be of interest to members. Note: some situations may have changed since then.*

9.2 SEMAC (South Eastern Model Aero Club) Change of location: The club is moving locations to a new site due to the cost of leasing the current location has become unacceptable. Negotiating with the council for permits etc. VMAA Secretary to contact SEMAC to discuss the "Close Field Proximity Policy" MOP. *(We know how much work and cost is involved shifting field location and wish them all the best. Ed.)*

### 18. SFI Report:

18.2 **Wing Status** – For January there were six assessments completed with two assessments for February so far.

### 18.3 Instructor Notification:

143 requests received for refresher course.

30 that do not wish to continue as instructors.

65 instructors completed refresher course.

Some instructors have not responded to whether they wish to complete a refresher course. It is up to each instructor to contact the SFI.

Recertification of MAAA Instructors is to be completed by 30 June 2020. As from the 01/07/2020, those that have not completed their refresher course with have their certification revoked. (The MAAA has announced in the email to members on 24<sup>th</sup> March that the expiry date has been extended to 30/06/2021 due to COVID-19.)

19. State Field Reports:

19.1 **Darraweit Guim** – Field is good conditions with no cracks on the field. The watering system is being serviced with some solenoids replaced. Rabbit holes are now addressed as the new fence is being erected.

19.2 **Bairnsdale** - None

19.3 **Echuca** – The club is going ahead with the next part of the shelter. Materials are being sourced with the labour to be supplied by the club members.

19.4 **Mount Wallace** – Ballan Tractor Pull is held at the Ballan show grounds. The club holds its annual display day on 16 Feb 2020. The Try and fly day will be held on 01 Mar (flyers produced for the event) with a Glider towing event held on the weekend on 14/15 March 2020. The new club sign was tabled to indicate what and how it will be presented at the field. The secretary indicated the sign is also a VMAA responsibility; however, the club has sourced a supplier that can do the job and provide what is needed. The draft sample was tabled for review.

21.7 Area approvals – Current applications that are being reviewed or waiting for CASA approval: GMAA, MFWAC, BAM, CMAC, **BRMFC**, TCMAC, LVMAC and SAM600.

21.7.9 New CASA requirements. GPS coordinates of the flying area, digital map of the site, type of aircraft, size and weight.

21.9 VMAA AGM 2020: The VMAA AGM is normally held on the third Thursday of July to allow any audit action to complete. Due to the changes in CA submission process, this is not a critical requirement moving forward. It is proposed the AGM falls within the same period as per normal VMAA meetings. On completion of all discussion, it was agreed to move the AGM to the **September** meeting.

21.9.2 VMAA Committee Members Resigning: The following committee members will not be standing for their committee position at the 2020 AGM: VP Jon Goudge and Registrar, Paul Webber.



### Goin’s on at the Field



A hawk decided to take up residence on one of the field marker witches hats. Photos taken on 1<sup>st</sup> March.



Hawks are often seen circling around the field and express interest in some of the smaller foam models.



### New Models seen at field

Glenn finished off a Shoestring built by Graeme Waterhouse many, many years ago and fitted an OS 46AX engine. I’m not sure what the plan was but Graham often built models featured in magazines and scaled up the plans from the printed article.

We were test running the engine on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March but it kept on stopping. There were air bubbles getting into the fuel line between the remote needle valve and the carby which turned out to be the ‘o’ ring on the needle. The engine had never been run but was several years old and it appears the ‘o’ ring had lost its interference with age.



Glenn's Shoestring (G-String) makes its debut at the field on Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup>.



Wayne had a go trying to tune the OS46AX but it was an uphill battle with air bubbles entering the fuel line between needle valve and carburetor.



With all these helpers what could possibly go wrong!!!



This shot was taken on the 1<sup>st</sup> March before the 1.5m social distancing rule came into effect.

Glenn did some more work on it at home during the week and brought it out again on the Fly-In day (8<sup>th</sup> March) the following weekend. The engine ran perfectly this time and Glenn asked me (Roger, being a long time Shoestring pilot!) to test fly it.



The Shoestring (affectionately name G String) at the Fly-In on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

The wind was from the east and fairly strong so I elected to take-off on the rarely used east/west runway leg on the north side of the field. We had already been through all the pre-flight checks so it was time for the maiden flight. It seemed to taxi around the field okay so after that it was pointed into wind and throttled up. The OS46AX accelerated the Shoestring with ease and it transitioned into flight without any problem. You can tell pretty much from the moment a model leaves the ground if it will be a handful but this one was fine. All it needed was a fair bit of up trim but that was because it effectively had down trim to start with.

It seemed faster than my old ASP91FS powered Shoestring which is a little larger and no doubt heavier. Having said that, two strokes can seem faster because of the sound but it was more nimble to fly. After flying for 5 minutes or so I brought it in to land on the same strip without any problems so all in all a successful flight.

To round it off we had two more successful flights on the day.

Graeme resurrected an old model (Dragon Lady) and brought it out to the field on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March for a 'rebirth' flight. Since the flight he has been working on it to carry out a few mods he wanted to do.



Alan was "mechanic" for Graeme. The Dragon Lady is ready to take-off.



*And lift off – the first time in many years.*



*The SC 120 four stroke had plenty of power allowing it to gain height rapidly.*



*After few minutes flying around it was time to land. The Dragon Lady on final approach.*



*And touch down. Yes there were a couple of bounces but all in all a successful flight.*

Graeme has provided the newsletter with some details as follows.

The model is over 20 years old and has been sitting in the shed for at least the last 15 to 16 years.

I have repainted a couple of bits and lacquered the whole model now so it is fuel proof, have also coloured it up a little.

It's a Modeltech Dragon Lady with a wingspan of 66 inches and fuselage length of 53 inches.

The original motor was a 60 size two stroke, now an SC 120 size four stroke, (also trialling a Hanger 9 four stroke plug in it which is supposed to be much better than OS four stroke plugs, time will tell?)

Wing has been recovered with Oratex which is a substitute for Solartex, the fuselage was just rubbed back and undercoated before painting and Glenn did some remodelling work to the cowl for me.

Fuselage has all been reglued inside.

Weight is unfortunately about 5.8 kg in order to balance correctly.



*A photo taken at home after Graeme has done some work on it.*

**M**ax is persevering with a Jodel airframe that he bought down at Hamilton last year. Glenn has done some work on it as well by constructing and fitting the missing fin & rudder assembly. Max has fitted an ASP 61 four stroke from another model but unfortunately that motor has a problem with the exhaust stack. The thread is almost stripped in the head and it won't tighten resulting in it coming loose while test running the engine. Some work to do there I guess!!!



*Max fuelling up the Jodel for an engine test run on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March.*

Alan has a new model as well. One that he bought at the Fly-In on March 8<sup>th</sup> from a visiting modeller. Alan is heavily into the electric larger foam models so when this one was on offer he couldn't refuse.

The model is a Gee Bee R3 Special racer and in Alan's capable hands flies extremely well. I don't have any specs, but it would be 60+ inch wing span.



In flight photo of the Gee Bee R3 taken on 15<sup>th</sup> March.



Static shots taken on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.



## Tips & Tricks

A few more interesting YouTube clips arrived on my phone over the last month which I thought may be of interest.

Watch "CAC Boomerang Fighter - FoF Mechanic's Corner - Around The World" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/rctrwVkrfY>

Watch "WW2 Boomerang fighter makes the noisiest whistle of all..." on YouTube <https://youtu.be/-9-luVivamY>

Watch "F-16 Viper | The world's most popular fighter" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/OP5Xmas0Lkg>

Watch "F-18 from Cobra to Hornet |Part 1 The Navy's most versatile jet" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/VltKVhTorJc>

Watch "F18 from Hornet to Super Hornet | Part 2 Evolution of a fighter" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/Bmfq4s3fM2o>

Watch "A-10 Warthog Demo and P-51/F-22/F-35 Heritage Flight (Tuesday) - EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2019" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/Orz1s4AtZEQ>

Watch "F/A-18A Hornet aerial handling display - 2020 Superloop Adelaide 500" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/09IXYUs9vX0>

Watch "STUNNING GIGANTIC !!! XXXL SCALE 1:2.5 MB-339 CD MODEL TURBINE JET FLIGHT DEMONSTRATION" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/azaMqHazv4k>

Watch "Superloop Adelaide 500 Fa/18 Hornet Flying Display | SATURDAY 2020" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/ndzUcAAdCxI>

Watch "Rare Warbirds On Parade - Spirit of St Louis Airshow 2019" on YouTube [https://youtu.be/pBs5Q1-S8\\_I](https://youtu.be/pBs5Q1-S8_I)

Watch "The Walnut Root!" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/zySsB0zt3Vc>

Watch "F-22 Raptor Aerobatics and Heritage Flight (Friday) - Spirit of St. Louis Airshow 2019" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/BqsQUUnlaeJA>

Watch "Pilot RC factory" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/zTqgh3wFuX8>

Watch "PHOENIX MODEL FACTORY" on YouTube [https://youtu.be/Z-k\\_jfXTeko](https://youtu.be/Z-k_jfXTeko)

Watch "MESSERSCHMITT ME-163 RC SCALE MODEL KOMET ROCKET AIRPLANE" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/bMnTslJwnkc>

Watch "AMAZING DETAILED HUGE RC DH-89 DRAGON RAPIDE SCALE MODEL AIRPLANE FLIGHT DEMONSTRATION" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/ohfrk-vz2W0>

Watch "Short Sunderland - Tour Part 1" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/th1J190vQtg>

Watch "Short Sunderland - Tour Part 2" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/-XIVnG8k8Q8>

Watch "EA-18G Growler and F8F Bearcat Formation - Spirit of St Louis Airshow 2019" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/zf1Rc-kkUcU>

Watch "Understanding RC Batteries By Horizon Hobby" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/PaPpRaJrzyl>

Watch "Scary landing Twin Otter De Havilland Suavano Airstrip" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/N9qg-T8Lpd8>



## Events

March 8<sup>th</sup> Fly-In at Trawalla

We held our Autumn Fly-In on Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup> amidst cool and cloudy conditions but fortunately no rain. The wind at around 30km/h was rather annoying coming predominantly

from the east, which is rather unusual. I can't remember the last time having to take off and land into the east, but there's lots of strange things happening these days.

There wasn't a huge rollup of modellers but we thank those who did make the effort and hope they enjoyed themselves.

There was a fair bit of flying with models in the air most of the day. The only incident I'm aware of was the mid-air collision between Ricky & Alan. Alan's homebuilt foam jet model came off second best and fluttered to the ground out of control. Ricky at first was unaware they hit and was able to land safely.

This was probably the last event/gathering at the field that we'll have for quite some time.

Many thanks to those who worked in the kitchen & BBQ to provide us with food and refreshments throughout the day and once again thanks to the visitors.

To wind up, a few photos depicting the day follow on. Some have captions where appropriate. Thankyou Laurie for sending me the photos you took.



Max bringing his Cessna 182 in to land on the north side east/west runway and a smooth landing it was.



Peter Evans preparing his Piper Cub for another flight.





Alan flew Glenn's Enya 15 powered Hawk. Being grey and small it's hard to see against a cloudy sky.



No U/C so a hand launch is required.



### Coming Events

#### Sausage Sizzle Bunnings– Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>

This event has also been cancelled with the suspension of all sausage sizzles at Bunnings from 18<sup>th</sup> March until further notice due to COVID-19.

This is what would have happened had it gone ahead and was written prior to the temporary cessation of BBQ's.



We have another sausage sizzle coming up at Bunnings Ballarat Creswick Rd store on ANZAC Day Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> which is about a month away as this newsletter goes to print. As usual we

need several hands on deck to make the operation run smoothly. The old saying "many hands make light work" comes well and truly into play here.

This one is different from other sausage sizzles because stores don't open until 1PM on ANZAC day.

Here are the details: 11AM start, Bunnings doors don't open until 1PM, they want us to give the people that come in thinking we would be open free Sausages until 1PM. After that we would charge as normal, Bunnings will pay for all of our sausages and drinks for the day will also make a \$150 GC donation to say thank you to the Ballarat Radio Model Flying Club for running the BBQ.



### Event Calendar

Note: Most if not all events have been cancelled/suspended or probably will be due the COVID-19 pandemic. I have left the calendar as is to show the events that were scheduled.

The indoor flying at Haddon Hall has been cancelled until further notice.

- Mar 4<sup>th</sup> (Wed) Indoor Flying at Haddon Hall 7 - 9:30PM – BAMI
- March 8<sup>th</sup> Fly-In – Trawalla, BRMFC**
- Mar 18<sup>th</sup> (Wed) Indoor Flying at Haddon Hall 7 - 9:30PM – BAMI
- March 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> Warrnambool Annual Fun Fly – WMAC  
New Clubhouse opening Saturday 1PM.
- March 22<sup>nd</sup> Monty Tyrell Scale Rally – P&DARCS
- April 1<sup>st</sup> (Wed) Indoor Flying at Haddon Hall 7 - 9:30PM – BAMI
- April 5<sup>th</sup> BRMFC/BAMI interclub day at BAMI field (TBC)**
- April 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Echuca Moama Annual Fun Fly - EMMAC
- April 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Easter long weekend
- April 11<sup>th</sup> (Sat) VFSAA Scale comp at Trawalla.**
- April 15<sup>th</sup> (Wed) Indoor Flying at Haddon Hall 7 - 9:30PM – BAMI
- April 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> VMAA Trophy – P&DARCS
- April 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> VJAA Wangaratta International Jet Event
- April 25<sup>th</sup> (Sat) Sausage Sizzle – Bunnings Ballarat**
- May 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Twin Cities 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Scale Rally – Albury

See the [VMAA Calendar](#) for all Victorian events.

That's all for now. Happy landings.  
Roger.