



NEWSLETTER – July, 2012

Committee 2011/2012

<i>President:</i>	Peter Evans	(0438 643 949)	<i>Public Officer:</i>	(The Secretary)
<i>Vice President:</i>	Max Rowan	(0409 011 160)	<i>Safety Officers:</i>	Noel Findlay (0412 801 287) Mat Werner (0450 483 838)
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Nick Katsikaros	(0438 559 985)	<i>Newsletter Editors:</i>	Roger Carrigg (0437 842 277) Glenn White (0412 641 188)
<i>Secretary:</i>	Jeff Dowsley	(0427 565 791)	<i>Field Maintenance:</i>	Mat Werner (0450 483 838)
<i>Publicity Officer:</i>	Matt Porter			
<i>Returning Officer:</i>	(The Secretary)			

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Newsletter Editor: Roger Carrigg.

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Note the meeting location.

The **Annual General Meeting** of BRMFC is to be held at **Findlay Engineering** on **Wednesday July 25th 2012** commencing at **7.30PM**. Please come along to the meetings and support your club and be part of the decision making process. Don't forget to bring a plate for supper afterwards.

The ordinary meeting will then be held with the newly elected committee.

Please note the meeting location: **12 Neerim Crescent, Wendouree Industrial Estate**

Agenda Items for the next meeting

1. Wind Farm
2. Field Maintenance
3. Club History
4. Membership Renewal 2012/2013
5. Xmas in July
6. Club Uniform
7. Club Fuel Stocks
8. Try/Fly Day

Annual General Meeting

As already noted above, the AGM is to be held on Wednesday 25th July at Findlay Engineering prior to the ordinary meeting. This is where the current committee, present their reports and the committee for 2012/2013 is elected.

Please do your best to make it to the meeting. It is always encouraging to see a good roll up at the AGM.

The next committee is to be decided at the AGM. Remember the club doesn't just run itself it takes the members to do so. Don't be afraid to put your hand up for one of the positions up for election.

The following positions are up for re-election. The positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer are for two year terms and try to be staggered. However the way things have panned out all positions are up for election this year.

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Safety Officer 1

- Safety Officer 2
- Publicity Officer
- Returning Officer
- Public Officer (*Is now the Secretary*)
- Newsletter Editor
- Newsletter Sub editor
- Field Maintenance Officer

Presidents Report – Peter Evans

Firstly I would like to acknowledge the contribution Matt Porter made as president of the BRMFC and from whom I took over the reins in November. I'm sure the club at large would join me in thanking Matt for the effort and energy he brought to the task over multiple terms.

Continuing on a theme I would also thank all out going and, perhaps, continuing committee members and office holders for agreeing to be involved and their contribution to the effective running of the club. In saying that, I would encourage all members to attend the AGM next Wednesday, when all positions are up for re-election, and to consider what contribution you might make to the future of the club.

Our finances are in strong position, thanks to members' contribution to fund raising events over the years and to sound investments of the resulting profits. It seems we need to maintain our efforts here due to the uncertainty of the future of our current field. Our single most effective fund raiser is the Bunnings sausage sizzle, many thanks to those that helped out on the day, and don't forget to log the next one in your schedules (Saturday 1st December 2012). Also thanks to Roger for coordinating these events.

Membership levels seem to be holding up, and we need to continue to make new members and visitors feel welcome and included in the activities of the club.

Safety continues to be an issue that we all should be constantly aware of, with thankfully few events occurring throughout the year, but none the less these and various near misses could have had potentially serious outcomes. I encourage all members to be involved in thinking about and observing for situations that could lead to injury or damage.

Thanks are also due to the guys that quietly go about the business of mowing the grass and keeping the field looking great, thanks fellas. Also on the subject of the field, please be careful on the access track in it's wet condition, driving slowly down the centre of the track will get you through safely and minimize damage ensuring it will last a reasonable time without major work being required.

Our display day this year, despite maybe a lack of publicity, was reasonably successful, particularly in terms of the weather, thanks to everyone involved. I guess we'll be ramping up for next years' event before we know it.

Another event we were involved with this year was the displaying of models at Springfest, where, despite quite miserable weather, a steady stream of people passed by an impressive collection of model aircraft.

We continue to host events for visiting special interest groups, and in the main these are well attended and appreciated by those that come. Thanks to members getting involved in running the canteen on such days, it is enjoyed by visitors, and of benefit to the club.

Members of our club continue to attend and do well at events all over south eastern Australia, with Noel Findlay taking this to an extreme level with his tilt at the world scale championship in Spain in the quite near future. I'm sure we all wish Noel all the best with travel, freight and competing at this event. Thanks also to Noel for his enabling us to meet in the comfort of the Findlay Engineering board room, much appreciated.

There has been plenty of new model action at the field over the year, which is great and adds interest in the hobby for all of us. This charge of course seems to have been led by Mat Werner, who also has been competing at many different events – congratulations Mat.

So, may our weekends align themselves with all that great weekend weather that seems to appear mid week, and all of us continue to fly safely and with the enjoyment our chosen hobby gives us.

Peter Evans,
President.

Treasurer's Report, July 2012 – Nick Katsikaros

This year has flown by with barely a chance to catch breath. Once again I have missed a number of meetings but things have been relatively straightforward from a financial perspective.

Financially the club is in a good position, with funds growing over 7% this financial year.

Club fees have covered expenses and our fund raising activities have gone directly into savings for a new field. Roughly half of our fund growth has come from our fixed term investment accounts.

Fund raising was down on last year. The display day did not do well financially; we got a slow day for the sausage sizzle and the raffle was down as well. A review of fund raising activities is required to reverse the trend of the last two years.

The single major expenditure this year was the improvement to the access road, but costs were contained by members contributing their equipment, time and muscle. Once again routine maintenance activities were carried out by a number of club members who generously donated their time throughout the year.

Looking forward the major consideration is the ongoing search for a new field. We need to maintain our fund raising activities to ensure we are in a position to take advantage of whatever opportunity arises.

Nick Katsikaros,
Prime Investment Mangler.

Secretary's Report – Jeff Dowsley

A relatively quiet year on the secretarial front, with most activity involved with membership management and VMAA reports.

We did try for some grants, but were rejected by Moorabool Shire because none of members were Moorabool ratepayers, and the City of Ballarat rejected our overtures because our flying field is in the Moorabool Shire. Talk about Catch 22.

It is nice to report that the VMAA seems to be moving to electronic record keeping.

Jeff Dowsley,
Secretary.

Editor's Report – Roger Carrigg

Publish a newsletter once a month timed to come out a couple of days before the general meeting – normally the

Monday before. That equates to twelve editions per year which poses a challenge to try and make it an interesting read.

Of course it is you the members who provide most of the "goings on" to write about. A big thank you to the members who send in articles for the newsletter! Nick and Richard have been notable scribes lately.

Most members now get the newsletter by email with only a handful being posted. One of the great features of email and the internet is the ability to send the newsletter to non-club members all in the interest of keeping the modelling fraternity abreast of what is going on in our club.

With Glenn's assistance we have now been doing the newsletter since June 1999 and after a quick tally that amounts to 154 editions.

To spice it up a bit and show we are not a bunch of "stuffed shirts" we introduced the sealed section in April 2010. Just a bit of light hearted banter and humour, with the intention of not overstepping the boundaries of what is appropriate in this day and age.

The newsletter is also posted on the club web site where it is available to the world. It really provides the only means by which we chronicle the events of the club.

Webmaster's Report – Roger Carrigg

On the 1st April we renewed the registration of our domain name brmfc.org.au through Australian Domain Registration Services www.domainregistration.com.au at a cost of \$33 (inc. GST) for 2 years. This will fall due again on 28th April 2014 and will require payment of the current rate no doubt an amount slightly in excess of \$33.

At the moment it is hosted by AspWebHosting under www.startek.com.au account so there is no cost to the club.

In the not too distant future (I said this last year) I propose to create an account for the club with AspWebHosting (most likely but not necessarily) which will cost in the vicinity of \$50-100 per year and migrate the web site to that account. This will mean that others in the club can be granted login access to the web site for administrative purposes which is a more desirable scenario in the longer term.

Googling the phrase 'model aircraft ballarat' brings our web site up at the top of the list so that should be enabling people who are interested in our hobby to find us. In the 12 month period from 26th July 2011 to 23rd July 2012 there were 19768 visitors to our site which averages 54 visits per day (slightly down on the 58 last year). This is *visits* not *hits*, the number of hits will no doubt be many times that figure if people browse around the site.

As mentioned last year we have to investigate Facebook and Twitter to see how we can have an effective presence

there – after all that is where the young people 'hang out' these days.

It would be nice to get some more videos up on YouTube relating to our club and members. Then a page can be created on our web site with these links.



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.

1. Wind Farm

- a) The club received the June 2012 WestWind Energy newsletter on 25th June. Confirms the Lal Lal wind farm is proceeding to the construction phase but no time frame is mentioned. The web site has been checked but no more detail available.
- b) Acting Secretary suggested we follow up the letter received from WestWind Energy a couple of years ago (*actually nearly 4 years ago*) which offered to compensate BRMFC for relocation expenses. The time has come to see if the offer is genuine.
- c) A letter is to be composed by the Secretary seeking clarification of their original offer and proposed construction time frame. Given the importance it is to be reviewed by the committee before being sent to ensure the pertinent questions are asked and the appropriate tone is applied.

2. Field Maintenance

Report by Mat Werner:

- a) Grass needs to be cut again – it was already a bit thick last weekend.
- b) Track in is partially underwater but the base is firm – take it very slowly to mitigate undermining the crushed rock laid last year.
- c) Glenn White thanked Len Astbury for the wood he has supplied and cut up for the heater.
- d) A high pressure water spray that will gravity feed from a tank is needed to clean the moss off the matting in both the pits and the runway. It was suggested that bleach may kill the moss; a small area is to be trialled.

3. Club History

- a) Held over until Murri Anstis is in attendance.

4. Nominations for Committee 2012/2013

- a) *At the May meeting Mat Werner (Field Maintenance) and Roger Carrigg (Editor) agreed to continue next year (2012/2013).*

- b) Nick Katsikaros advised that he is prepared to stand again as Treasurer but that should not stop others nominating. *(That goes for all positions.)*

5. Membership Renewal 2012/2013

- a) Several members have already paid mostly by direct deposit. Fees are \$200 for 2012/2013 and must be paid before 1st July or no flying.
- b) Admin fee of \$5 may apply to late payments if the VMAA affiliation fees have already been sent off for members who have paid.

6. Xmas in July

- a) *At the last meeting it was decided to hold a Xmas in July night out on Saturday July 28th and the Bunch of Grapes Hotel was suggested.*
- b) Glenn advised that the **Bunch of Grapes** has undergone a change recently to more of a night club atmosphere I guess to attract a younger clientele. It was felt that a more conventional pub would be better for our group.
- c) It was decided to book the Queen’s Head in Humffray Street for say 30 and to confirm the numbers a few days beforehand. The Atlantic and Globe in Skipton Street were suggested as backup in case we can’t get a booking. RC to make booking.
- d) RC tried to book Queens Head but booked out on that night. (Thursday 28th June)
- e) Booked **Atlantic Hotel 628 Skipton Street** (5335 8147) for 30 people on **Saturday 28th July** from 6:30PM. Will advise the Atlantic a few days beforehand to confirm the numbers.
- f) Secretary to email out RSVP to members.

7. Club Uniform

- a) Peter Evans advised that he went in to Hip Pocket Workwear to see what is available. They have some items in store and also work off catalogues to enhance the range.
- b) Base colour needs to be decided and one that works with our club logo. It was suggested that the background colour of our logo can be changed to suit (even Telstra do that now!).
- c) Noel Findlay offered to investigate further.

8. Club Fuel Stocks

Report by Mat Werner:

- a) Methanol supply is very low – maybe 15-20L.
- b) 8L Coolpower synthetic oil in stock.
- c) A small amount of Nitro remaining.
- d) RC advised we have on several occasions purchased 200L methanol (for around \$225) from:
Ozzie Traders Australia

15 McPherson St,
Maddingley, Bacchus Marsh 3340. [Show map...](#)
(03) 5367 1519

Max and Mat are to negotiate purchase and then arrange transport at an opportune time (as was done last time.)

- e) Graeme Allen to check prices of Coolpower synthetic oil & Nitro tomorrow (Thursday 28th June) and if a suitable price can be found, ring Mat W. to arrange payment with club card.

9. Try/Fly Day

- a) Mat W. raised this at the last meeting.
- b) Mat has spoken to Mike Smith (recent new member) about it. He may know of a group that would be interested.
- c) It was thought that a Saturday would be the more suitable day.



New Members

Dean Farnsworth (a former member about 5 or 6 years ago) and Tony Faulkner have both been nominated for membership and joined at the last meeting.

The President welcomed both as members and wished them success with their aeromodelling.



Raffle & Xmas in July Dinner

Don’t forget we have the Xmas in July dinner at the Atlantic Hotel this Saturday evening (28th July) commencing around 6:30PM. If you haven’t already notified me (Roger) that you will be attending please let me know ASAP and how many. Thanks to those who have already replied. At last count we have 21 on board.

Ballarat Radio Model Flying Club Inc. Xmas in July Raffle - 2012. Name _____ Address _____ Phone No. _____ Tickets \$2	 <p>Ballarat Radio Model Flying Club Inc. Xmas in July Raffle - 2012</p> <p>42" span EP Pitts ARF kit complete with Turnigy 3542/1000 motor & PLUSH-40A speed controller, 4 x HS-82MG servos and props. All you need is battery and Rx for this quality built up kit.</p> <p>Very generously donated by club member Max Fitzgerald and is valued in excess of \$250.</p> <p>500 tickets only. To be drawn on or around Friday 27th July 2012. Winner notified, name and ticket number will be posted on BRMFC's web site.</p> <p>Our flying field is located at the corner of Yendon-Egerton and Spreadagle Roads, Yendon. http://www.brmfc.org.au</p> Tickets \$2
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We intend to draw the raffle for the Pitts-EP on the same night so can you get the raffle butts and money to me before the 28th – at the meeting on Wednesday night would be handy.



Noel off to the World Scale Champs

Most of you will be aware by now that Noel Findlay is part of the team representing Australia at the 2012 FAI World Championships for Scale Model Aircraft. The event is

being held at Santa Cilia Airfield Spain from the 3rd to 12th August.

Noel and Sharon jet off on Tuesday afternoon 31st July for the exhausting trip half way around the world. Their travelling companions are David & Caroline Law and Noel Whitehead and his wife.



Noel will be flying his DH Fox Moth and David his Pitts S2A. Both models have been boxed up and have already arrived where the organizers can pick them up. Freighting a model by air to an overseas destination is no mean feat in itself. Fortunately Model Engines were kind enough to provide logistical support.

After the competition they will spend a couple of weeks exploring some of the breathtaking sites in Europe before arriving back in oz on 27th August.

Let's take this opportunity to wish Noel and David every success in what is a very demanding adventure. No doubt the standard of the models entered will be extremely high and the competition will be intense.

So come along to the Xmas in July dinner where you can wish Noel and Sharon all the best in person.



VMAA News

- VMAA is having discussions with the Echuca club regarding the purchase of the land they currently occupy. Farmer is prepared to sell the 80 Hectares for \$68k. The club is making further inquiries with the local council. *(I wish we could find 80 Hectares for \$68k. Ed.)*
- The Albury club (TCMAC) has been given a grant by the local council to install a hard runway. However additional funds are required to complete the

project. The VMAA has agreed to provide a loan of \$10k to enable the project to proceed.

- **Safety** – A few instances of hands in propellers both electric and IC. There was an incident at Keilor recently where a member used his hand to grab the spinner because the throttle cut was not stopping the engine. In doing so he knocked the throttle stick at the same time and the model lurched forward with the usual painful and bloody result. *I felt guilty reading this because I did exactly the same thing twice also at Keilor last Sunday the 22nd with my Shoestring. Keep forgetting to adjust the throttle cut – better do that ASAP. Ed.*
- **Avalon Airshow 2013** – The VMAA has been contacted through Roger Chapman by the organizers of next year's show to see if the VMAA is interested in participating. The VMAA has agreed to be involved again and Roger has volunteered to be the coordinator.



A bit of Nostalgia

I've (Roger) been going through some of my old photographs and came across some B&W snaps of a model I built in 1968/69. It was an ultra light design by an aeronautical engineer at CAC named a "Torana". I suppose in retrospect it was a bit like an Airtourer. He was a friend of my late father who also worked at CAC and that set the project in motion. Anyway in 1968 while an apprentice at CAC and by then a member of D&DARCS for a year or so, I drew up the construction plans and scratch built the model.

It was powered by an OS MAX 60 (big engine in those days and cost \$52 at the Model Dockyard in Swanston Street!!!), wing span of around 66" and had Kraft PCS radio gear with those monster kps-9 servos. It performed extremely well and I flew it on a regular basis at the D&DARCS Police Paddocks field in Brady Road North Dandenong.



Torana – powered by an OS MAX 60, wingspan of around 66". Colour scheme was white over lime green – very similar to the Beagle Glenn used to fly.

Back in those days radio gear wasn't as reliable as it is today although I have to say the Kraft PCS (brown Tx

instead of yellow – a budget model of the era) gave very little trouble and never crashed a model.

It's a pity the photos aren't a bit clearer and in colour. I guess colour would have been an expensive luxury back in those days. Hopefully there might be some more photos kicking around in the old family home in East Bentleigh.



The Torana is about to touch down on the Brady Road field – Circa 1968/69. The rectangle we used to fly off is still there today – well it was a couple of years ago when I called in to have a look while driving past. It looks like it's used for hockey or some other sport like that.

Sometime in 1969 perhaps 1970 I flew it at CAC during a lunch time which was greeted with much enthusiasm from the workers who assembled to watch. Needless to say I was a bit nervous – only being about 19 at the time. Maybe I was just being a show off, well what's changed!!! Would've been a novel way to get the sack – fly your model plane through the general manager's office window.



A line-up of an example of each type manufactured by CAC. At least ones they were able to get hold of at the time.

As you go over the Westgate Bridge and look down on the south/east side where the GAF/CAC factories were located there was plenty of room out the back. Well that is where I flew the Torana. Couldn't do that today of course!!! The photos below were taken much later – around July 1977 during a 40 year commemoration of CAC. Where the aircraft are located is where the Torana was flown.



Note the site huts still on the bridge – must be just a short while before it opened. I took these photos at CAC in July 1977 or perhaps a few months beforehand. (My film had the habit of lying around in the camera for a while; however the photos have July 1977 printed on the back.)



The prototype Avon Sabre. Photos aren't that clear, a bit hazy – back in those days there was also a lot of smog around.

Unfortunately the Torana met its Waterloo at the Wagga Wagga field (same field as today) during a D&DARCS inter club visit in 1970/71. Someone inadvertently switched on their transmitter while I was flying. It immediately went out of control and spiralled in over near the hay shed – 40 odd years ago. As a 20 year old I was devastated at the time. It was something you created yourself – you couldn't just go and buy another one. No ARF's in those days guys!!!

I have a few more old photos, some from the Bunbury Nationals in 1976/77 that I will include in the newsletter from time to time. That's where my old P39 Airacobra was first entered in a competition. Stand-off scale coming 2nd.



Fuel Supplies

The club now has renewed supplies of Methanol, Oil and Nitro. The members' price list is on the notice board in

the shed. See Mat Werner for the fuel and pay the Treasurer.



Field Maintenance

Okay you wouldn't expect to see the fire brigade at the field during the middle of winter but that's exactly what happened on Sunday 15th July. Peter Evans had teed up the Buninyong CFA to have a go at cleaning the moss off the runway with their high pressure water hose. It took a while to do and I dare say they emptied their tank. Many thanks for their hard work. Hanging on to that hose takes a fair bit of strength and determination. If you weren't careful you'd be flying across the paddock holding on to the nozzle.



Hey Mat. Just as well they didn't give the YAK a wash down with that hose. It would have been well and truly yakked.

With all the rain this year and last, the grass has been growing through the weave and moss has also been a problem – gets very slippery. I think the sheep nibble the grass off though so they have some use!!! The pits did the same but Mat was able to use a domestic high pressure water sprayer and a 1000L tank to clean it away along with some scrubbing with the wooden boat oar that we have in the shed.

Len Astbury continues to bring out firewood all cut to the right size to keep us warm at the field on those

cold Sunday mornings. Thanks Len. Mat is usually the first at the field and has the fire going by the time the rest of us arrive at a more civilized hour.

Remember the track in is still very wet so just take it easy on the way in and out. Hopefully we can get by this winter without any major expense. Given the fact that there is nowhere for the water to drain it would be very difficult to fix.



Tips & Tricks

Don't forget if you have any ideas that can be of help to others please let me know.



Events

VFSAA at Keilor 22nd July

Several BRMFC members attended the VFSAA VICSCALE competition held at Keilor on Sunday 22nd July. Perfect weather for the middle of winter, an enjoyable day and no accidents.

Max Rowan flew his Pawnee (ARF), Noel Findlay – Gypsy Moth (Scale), Mat Werner – YAK 55 (Giant Scale) and Roger Carrigg – Shoestring (ARF) and P39 (Scale).

Due to lack of time the full report with scores and photos will be in the next newsletter. I have included a couple of photos at the end of the newsletter where space permitted.

Briefly the winners were:

- Scale: David Law – Vampire
- ARF: Roger Carrigg – Shoestring
- Giant Scale: Mat Werner – YAK 55



Coming Events

VFSAA Sport scale TCMAC – Albury

A number of BRMFC members are going up to Albury over the weekend of August 25th/26th for a round of scale competition. This is a great weekend and also worth coming along just for the social side.



Event Calendar

- July 25th BRMFC AGM
- July 28th BRMFC Xmas in July – Atlantic Hotel
- August 3rd – 12th 2012 FAI World Championships for Scale Model Aircraft, Santa Cilia Airfield (Spain)
- August 18th/19th Robinvale & District Aeromodellers Club Annual Fun Fly-In – Robinvale
- August 25th/26th VFSAA Sportscale TCMAC – Albury

- Sep 15th/16th Mammoth Scale Fly-In – Shepparton
- October 13th Annual Auction – Sunbury MAC, St Andrews Church Hall, Barkley St Sunbury.
- Nov 3rd/4th Fun Fly – Ararat
- Nov 24th/25th Annual Fly-In and Swap Meet – Hamilton
- Dec 1st 2012 **BRMFC Sausage Sizzle – Bunnings Ballarat**
- March 24th 2013 **BRMFC Annual Open Day – Yendon**

That’s all for now. Good flying.
G.W & R.C.

Time for some Frivolity – the sealed section

Note: If easily offended please skip this item. It contains adult themes, but no crude language or nudity.

Two Business Men.

Two businessmen in the centre of Perth were sitting down for a break in their soon-to-be new shop...



As yet, the shop wasn't ready, with only a few shelves set up.

One said to the other, "I bet any minute now some pensioner is going to walk by, put their face to the window, and ask what we're selling."



No sooner were the words out of his mouth when, sure enough, a curious old woman walked to the window, had a peek, and in a soft voice asked,

"What are you selling here?" One of the men replied sarcastically, "We're selling ass-holes."

Without skipping a beat, the old dear said,

"Must be doing well... Only two left."



A couple of snaps from Keilor on Sunday 22nd.



Rod Mitchell's (Keilor Club) Grumman Tigercat just lifting off – awarded the highest flight score in scale.



David Law's kero burning Vampire on takeoff.



Singapore Airlines' kero burning A380 on takeoff. I think he gotta 10 too. Those power lines are very close to the field and need to be taken into consideration at all times when flying. (The A380 is about 4km away.)