



BALLARAT RADIO MODEL FLYING CLUB Inc.

Web site: www.startek.com.au/brmfc

Inc. No. A0001288M

NEWSLETTER – October, 2007

Committee 2007/2008

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The next meeting of BRMFC is to be held out at the flying field on Wednesday October 24th 2007 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.

Agenda Items for the next meeting

1. ARF Scale Comp Sub-Committee Report
2. Field Maintenance
3. Playground Equipment
4. Xmas Breakup Party
5. Xmas Raffle
6. Council Community Grants 2008
7. Helicopters at Field

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. ARF Scale Comp Sub-Committee Report

The Secretary advised that he sent out the promotional flyer to our pilot listing by email on 5th September, also asked VMAA Secretary to include in next minutes and VMAA Editor to include in next newsletter due out shortly. The sub-committee is to hold the last meeting on Wednesday October 10th at a place to be determined. June Waterhouse has offered her help in the canteen on the day.

Action: Sub-committee is to hold the last meeting on Wednesday October 10th at a place to be determined

2. Field Maintenance

- a) Max stated that he is holding off laying the field tarps, until after the ARF comp.
- b) Someone has put some more gravel down to fill the pot holes in entry track – suspect it was Geoff Fisken (Landowner).
- c) Geoff Fisken advised last Sunday that he sprayed the field a few days ago in an effort to rid or at least slow down the cape weed.
- d) Graham Waterhouse mentioned that we used to have a whipper snipper to trim around the edges. Since it was lost in the robbery members have brought theirs out on working bees etc but this is not really satisfactory. The meeting authorized Max Rowan to investigate the purchase of a whipper snipper (straight shaft model) up to the value of \$250.
- e) Russell Aggett pointed out that it would be convenient to have an old mower in the shed to be used by anyone who comes out to fly and finds the

grass on the runway a bit too long to take off. They could simply mow a strip which would enable them to fly. Max said that he has some old mowers at home and will donate one to the club. We need to be careful with 2 stroke/4 stroke fuel to ensure that the correct fuel is used in the equipment. Suggest that two stroke fuel is only stored in 5L containers and plainly marked, while 20L containers are always used for 4 stroke (plain unleaded) fuel. Never fill the 5L containers without adding the 2 stroke oil.

Action: Max to investigate the purchase of a whipper snipper (straight shaft) up to the value of \$250.

Action: Max to bring one of his old mowers out to field and organize the fuel containers.

3. Indoor Flying

This was mentioned at the last meeting and placed on the agenda. The President raised the point that it is not an objective of this club and is really a Special Interest Group and is up the members of this club and the other clubs in Ballarat who are interested to get together to find a venue.

4. Playground Equipment

The Secretary advised that he received a reply from the VMAA Secretary via the MAAA Secretary to the question of whether the MAAA public liability insurance policy would cover playground equipment at the field. The MAAA Secretary contacted the insurance broker and they advised that the policy would cover playground equipment but like all structures, this is subject to it meeting Work Place Health & Safety and Local Government Council guidelines.

The meeting felt that a swing, slide and sand pit would be adequate. Gordon Hicks will be asked to price a domestic swing/slide set on his return from overseas and report to a future meeting. (Domestic is thought to be adequate as we

are not providing the equipment to the public combined with the amount of use it is going to get.) It will need signage stating that it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to supervise the conduct of their children and that the club does not accept any responsibility other than to ensure it is maintained in a safe condition.

Action: Gordon Hicks to price a domestic swing/slide set and report to a future meeting.

5. Xmas Breakup Party

Friday the 14th December seemed to be a suitable night for our Xmas breakup party. The Queen's Head Hotel, Black Hill Hotel, Buninyong Hotel and Zagami's were mentioned as possible venues. Zagami's would be nice but it was thought that being a gaming house they would not like our raffle draw (and sales) taking place. Everyone seemed to enjoy the Blackhill Hotel last year although the set meals were a bit on the small side. Know doubt that can be resolved by paying a bit more. Glenn is to check with the Blackhill Hotel tomorrow. (The date needs to be set ASAP because we draw the raffle at the party and the draw date must be stated on the raffle tickets.)

Action: Glenn is to check with the Blackhill Hotel to make a booking for Friday 14th December.

6. Xmas Raffle

The meeting seemed to be satisfied with the customary Wheel Barrow full of Xmas Cheer as our Xmas Raffle prize. Malcolm Miles advised that he and Veronika are happy to have it in their shop (Stitched Up-On Curtis) from say the week beginning the 19th November. Secretary is to have some tickets printed by October 13th so we can sell some at Bunnings and the Hobbies and Interests expo. Max is to purchase the Barrow after the ARF event on October 28th.

Action: Roger to print raffle tickets by October 13th.

Action: Max is to purchase the Barrow after the ARF event on October 28th.

7. Sausage Sizzle

The Secretary reiterated that we are booked to hold a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Wendouree on Saturday October 13th. Bunnings trading hours on Saturday are from 8.00AM to 6.00PM and they ask that we are operational between 9.00AM and 4.00PM as a minimum. That being the case, we need to arrive by 8:15-8:30AM to give us plenty of time to setup and be running by 9.00AM. The finish time will depend on what happens after 4.00PM. At least two shifts will be needed with a minimum of 5 members/partners there at all times. Last year's event was held on October 21st where we sold 550 between 9.00AM and 2.00PM. This year we expect to sell 650-700 given the longer time period. Several large car fridges and ice will be needed. Max has a powered fridge as does Rick – need to check with Rick to see if we can borrow it.

Action: Secretary to order 700 sausages from Ballarat Meats the week before for pickup on the Friday.

Action: Secretary to email Bunning guidelines for conducting sausage sizzles to members.

8. Hobbies and Interests for Men & Boys Expo

We were invited by the Rotary Club of Wendouree back in May to participate in the inaugural Hobbies and Interests for Men & Boys Expo to be held at the Wendouree Netball Stadium on Sunday October 14th (the day after Bunnings Sausage Sizzle) to which we accepted. The event is definitely on and is being extensively advertised on the radio. The name of the event is now *Rotary MENZONE Men's and Boys Hobbies and Health* and should be an excellent opportunity to promote the club and aeromodelling so we will need a commitment from several members. Graham Waterhouse, Murri Anstis, Noel Findlay, Glenn White, Roger Carrigg all indicated that they will attend. A range of models will be needed from trainers to scale models to show the public what they start with and what they can aspire to. It was agreed that we need more info from the organizers regarding space, tables etc, etc. We have just received the promotional flyer in PDF which will be emailed to members.

Action: Secretary to email contact in Rotary for more info.

Action: Secretary to email promotional flyer to members.

9. Council Community Grants 2008

The Secretary advised the meeting that while perusing the City of Ballarat Community Magazine September 2007 edition he noticed the Council's 2007 Community Grants section. It stated that the Council allocated \$150,000 to 56 recipient organizations in August this year out of 84 applications received. The grants are part of Council's Annual Community Development Grants Program which traditionally supports grass-root community initiatives. Of the 56 recipient groups listed many would be generically similar to BRMFC in their objectives so there is a chance that we might qualify if we put in a submission for the 2008 grants program (Assuming that there is a 2008 program). It appears that the grants are made for specific projects rather than simply boosting club coffers. The Secretary suggested that someone take this on as a project, the President then suggested that Nick would do a good job tackling this task.

Action: Secretary to request Nick Katsikaros investigate the Councils 2008 Community Grants program on behalf of BRMFC.

10. Helicopters at Field

This was raised by Max Rowan at the last meeting and discussed at length. Max was asked to formulate a set of rules governing possible helicopter operations at BRMFC field and to present to a future meeting. At this stage the constitution forbids rotary wing unless invited to participate in displays.

Max presented his strategy for introducing rotary winged aircraft to the meeting for appraisal and discussion. It contained Club Rules, Helicopter Safety Rules, location of the hovering pad and the MAAA Helicopter Bronze Wings checklist.

Max's plan was then discussed at length with members taking an objective point of view. However the memories of the problems that arose some 10 or more years ago back at Bowes Road when helicopters appeared resurfaced,

making many members wary of going down this path again.

The main issue is that rotary wing and fixed wing cannot operate off the same runway at the same time without causing conflict. It was suggested that we could set designated days for rotary wing operations where there would be shared use of the field between rotary and fixed wing, all other days would remain exclusively fixed wing. If rotary wing was allowed it could be on a probationary period – say 12 months. We need to get a feel for how many in the club are interested in rotary wing.

While we all wish to remain objective about this proposal, the concern is that the club which is fixed wing based could effectively be ‘hijacked’ from within. The proponents maintain that if the correct rules are put in place there won’t be a problem but the members who experienced the difficulties last time are not so sure.

Subject held over for further discussion and refinement of the proposal.

11. Methanol Supply

Max reported that when he went back to R&J Batteries to get another 200L drum of methanol the price had risen dramatically due to some tax reasons faced by the supplier. Max checked with Aussie Traders in Bacchus Marsh (we bought a drum from them some time back) and found that we can pick up a 200L drum for \$203.50 Inc GST. The difficulty is picking it up between their trading hours of 8.00AM to 5.00PM. If anyone can assist let Max know. (Our current drum is almost empty.)

Aussie Traders, 15 McPherson Street, Bacchus Marsh Ph: 5367 1519.

Action: *Need someone to transport methanol from Bacchus Marsh to field between 8.00AM to 5.00PM.*

12. South Pacific Scale Masters – March 28th-30th 2008

Glenn gave the meeting an outline of this competition to be held at Shepparton over March 28th-30th 2008 which is being run by Brian Green of RCM News. For more info go to <http://www.rcmn.com.au/> and click on the Scale Masters link. As of now 3 Ballarat members have entered namely, Mike Faulkner, Glenn White and Roger Carrigg.

13. Bowylie Large Model Scale Rally – Apr 12th/13th 2008

When Glenn and Roger attended the scale comp on August 26th they found out about the Bowylie **Large Model Scale Rally** to be held at the property of Dick Smith near Gundaroo NSW. Since then four of our members namely, Noel Findlay, Graeme Allen, Glenn White and Roger Carrigg have pre entered the rally which is limited to 100 pilot entries. (Entrants can have more than one model.) For more info go to <http://www.fsaa.cjb.net/> and navigate to the ‘Bowylie’ page – watch out for the popups.



Field Maintenance

This time of year it’s hard to keep the grass down. We must thank Graham Waterhouse again for the great job he’s doing keeping the field mown so that we can all fly at the weekend.

Thanks to Max for donating the hand mower which is housed in the shed for any members to use during the week when the grass on the runway may be too long for them to take off on. Make sure you use the two stroke fuel provided. Please clean after use.



VMAA News

- A model being flown at the State Field stopped responding to controls and flew away. (*You don’t often hear about ‘fly a-ways’ these days.*)
- Fence at State Field has now been repaired. A new fencing contractor was sought because the chosen contractor was unable to give a firm completion date. As it turned out the new contractor was cheaper. Final Cost \$5,450. The VMAA has paid the full amount, half being a grant, while the other half is a loan to be repaid by the NFG.
- An extensive report was tabled at the last VMAA meeting on how to Promote Aeromodelling. The VMAA Executive was impressed with the array of ideas and may form a sub-committee to implement them.



New Web Site

If you don’t already know, the club’s web site has been revamped recently.

One item of interest is the photo gallery. We’re using Google Picasa Web Albums to store photos. Glenn and I (Roger) have each created a Google Picasa Web Album account which is free. You get up to 1GB of free storage which is about 4000 250kb photos. If you want more than 1GB storage you start paying for it.

The plan here is for members who are interested to create their own account, download Picasa Web Albums, then provide me (Roger) with the Google link to their account so that it can be included in the Photo Gallery web page. This way the owner of the account is in control of what photos are displayed. The Picasa software which is a free download is brilliant and it does a first class job of cataloguing all the photos on your PC as well as photo enhancements. You then use it to upload selected photos to your Google Picasa Web Album account. By default albums are public which means they are viewable by the ‘world’ but you can also make them private so they are restricted to specific users via a password.

If you go to <http://www.startek.com.au/brmfc/PhotoGallery.aspx> and click on either of the galleries it will open the Google Picasa Web Album page. At the top of the page there is a link titled [Sign up for Picasa Web Albums](#). You have to supply your email address along with your preferred album name. To confirm that your address is genuine the registration process automatically sends back an account activation link by email that you click on to finalize your account setup.

I propose to upload more general club photos to the account I created shortly.

If you have any thoughts about other information that the web site should convey please don't hesitate to let me know.



New Models in the Workshop

Glenn's working flat out at the moment on his new Me 163 Komet. I think he's now up to the painting stage so a test flight won't be far off now – Stay tuned.



I guess we'll get terrorized by this one like we did with the first one Glenn had several years ago!!!



New Models seen at field

Max had purchased a model to fly in the ARF comp which is fast approaching leaving him short of time to get some practice in as he would be away on holiday for the week before the competition. Taking advantage of a reasonable Saturday afternoon (October 6th) it was decided to test fly the model which is a CAP 232 powered by an OS 46AX.



Max's new OS46AX powered CAP 232 shortly after its maiden flight.

Thinking he would have the field to himself Max was surprised to see Matt Porter out there, also about to test fly his new ARF model. (See the following article).

Max fired up the 46 which seemed to have ample power and after final pre flight checks model was taken out to the runway and pointed into the wind and away she went. Model was very twitchy for the first circuit until Max got it trimmed out – it was obvious that the control throws were excessive. Once trimmed, the CAP flew as expected and Max was throwing it around to get a good feel for it. The engine was all noise and not much speed pointing to the fact that the propellor was way too small.

After a good flight Max attempted to land the CAP but with the excessive throws it was a heavy landing flattening the typically weak ARF U/C. No damage was done Max just readjusted the U/C, changed the prop, refueled then waited for the rain to stop before he had a second uneventful flight.

As we said before, Matt was also out for a test flight of his new ARF model powered by an OS 55AX. It's a cross between a pattern ship and a 3D model. As expected the model has ample power, the 55AX drags it around effortlessly. Model flew with no vices whatsoever. The wheels that it's supplied with are way too small particularly at this time of year when the grass is thick. Pity it's not a scale model then it could have been entered in the up coming scale event.



Matt's new Great Planes Reactor ARF model powered by an OS 55AX.

We asked Matt for some extra details: It is a Great Planes Reactor .46/.70 ARF designed for 3D/Pattern/Sport flying, I'm running an OS 55AX with a BCM Pitts muffler, APC 12.25 X 3.75 prop, JR radio gear, on board voltage display, blah blah blah.... Flight wise it is the easiest to fly plane that I have flown (not that I have flown that many). There seems to be absolutely no stall characteristics, has plenty of vertical, performs nice big loops and will fly as slow as you like. I'm still tuning the 55AX at the moment as it seems to be flat spotting through the mid range, but that's no big problem. This engine is what appears to my 'reasonably inexperienced' self to be a perfect match for this model which weighs in at 2.5kg. One gripe I do have with this model is the Monocote covering, which has a tendency to peel the clear layer away from the colour which then has to be glued down constantly. All in all though it is a top little plane and at this stage of its potentially short existence (could be if I get too cocky), I would certainly recommend it to anyone wanting to move out of their trainer type models to something with a little more zing! Thanks for that Matt. Ed.

On Sunday 7th October Rick surprised us with a small F86 Sabre. The model is from a Kyosho fibreglass kit with 1000mm wing span powered by a .15 ducted fan engine. The motor makes s#@t load of noise but sadly very little thrust. While A1 had a firm grip on it (the model that is) Rick pulled the starter cord and the motor sprung into life. It must have been doing 50,000 revs while A1 still had a

firm hold of it. Finally Rick asked Graeme to let go and he said he already had. The model just sat there! It didn't move an inch on the grass. It was then taken out to the runway where the grass is shorter but the F86 refused to move. It looks like it needs a billiard table surface or a long bungee cord to get off the ground.



Rick's Kyosho F86 powered by a .15 ducted fan. Looks Good, just needs some more 'oomph'!



Crash Report

Sunday 23rd September wasn't a good day for Glenn. There was a really strong north wind blowing and it wasn't a good day for flying at all, but Glenn wanted to run the OS 120 FS motor once more before he took it out of his old pattern ship. Throwing caution to the wind Glenn decided to put the model in the air and flew it around for about 10 minutes then attempted to land. On the first attempt model got buffeted strongly on its approach and Glenn decided to power on and do a go around. The motor coughed a couple of times and picked up then stopped giving him no chance to make the runway. The model was well over a 100m away and when it's coming straight at you, you have no perception of air speed. When the model was about 10 feet off the ground and obviously flying too slow the left wing stalled and it spiraled into the ground causing major damage to the light airframe as you can see in the photos.



Murray Johnson caught Glenn's pattern ship on video during its dying seconds.

Model is repairable but Glenn is not interested – he's had his moneys worth out of it and has too many other projects in hand. If anybody wants it to repair contact Glenn before it goes in the bin.



The aftermath of an altercation with mother earth!



Tips & Tricks

If anyone has any good tips please pass them on so we can include them in the newsletter.



Events

Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Wendouree – October 13th

Seeing as the club doesn't have any wealthy benefactors we find it necessary to run a few fund raisers throughout the year to bolster our finances, thereby keeping subs as low as possible. Over the years we've run several sausage sizzles at Coles & Safeway but Bunnings is definitely the way to go now. This is the 2nd one we've run at Bunnings (the 1st was exactly 12 months ago) and this time we managed to increase the profit by some 50%.



This shot must have been taken early on or during one of the few quiet moments.

They supply the BBQ facilities all under a 3 sided gazebo which provides protection from the weather. All you have

to get is the food and a few consumables. Bunnings provide the community group running the event with an information pack so you know exactly what your obligations and responsibilities are. Of course you must obtain the Council Temporary Food Permit and Bunnings also require public liability insurance of which our MAAA insurance has sufficed.

I (Roger) arrived a few minutes after 8.00AM just as some Bunnings staff members were setting up the BBQ. (They set it up every Saturday morning for the Community Group and pack it away before closing time) All seemed to be going well until they found one of the support struts in the gazebo was broken preventing it from staying up safely. Just then Glenn arrived and I told him the bad news, it looked like we wouldn't have a roof and side curtains and it was going to be a cold day, but a few minutes later they came out with a new frame and had it all set up in about 10 minutes.

While they were finalizing the BBQ setup, A1 (aka Graeme) arrived so we started getting things ready. The Duty Manager then asked to see our authorization paperwork, council permit etc – all very official. Once that was all over with, Glenn fired up the hot plate and Graeme started cutting up onions. Peter Evans then arrived on his motor bike and started laying out bread on napkins. A short while later Graham Waterhouse appeared and helped Peter with the bread.

Things were a bit quiet until shortly after 10AM then all hell broke loose – we didn't get a break for at least the next 4 hours. Most people coming out of the doors decided to stop and buy a sausage. Some orders were for 5 or 6. Glenn's never worked so hard cooking the snags to keep up the supply. Peter and Graeme were serving and I (Roger) was taking the money. (When you're in a position to watch the doors it's amazing the amount of goods Bunnings sell throughout the day – I guess we have to keep China in work.)



Here we see Graham laying out bread, Roger ready to take the money, Noel and Glenn at the BBQ and David Howe serving the customers.

Throughout the morning several other members arrived to lend a hand namely Rick and Pam Pimblott, Gordon Hicks, Noel Findlay, David Howe and Tim Carter. If I've missed anyone please accept my apologies. There were

onions to cut up, bread to lay out on napkins, sauce bottles to fill and customers to serve. Noel took over cooking for a while, so Glenn could have a break and David Howe had a session on the counter. Rick and Tim were kept busy cutting up the onions.

Murri Anstis dropped in around lunch time and purchased half a dozen or so to take back to his work mates at Selkirks. We also saw Lawrence Fisher whom we haven't seen for a while, making his way into Bunnings with his wife Glenda. Lawrence doesn't think he'll be flying anymore but wishes to continue on as a social member. He said he has a trainer and some modeling equipment that may be useful to someone.

Around 2:30PM it became apparent that we would need some more supplies because Bunnings require the sausage sizzle to run until 4.00PM. Gordon and Rick wandered over the road to Stockland Wendouree to get the necessary items which as it worked out gave us just enough to last until 4.00PM. By that time we were all stuffed anyway!!! You hardly get a break all day.



Noel's got the apron on here so he's relieved Glenn as head cook. Looks like Rick is assisting Noel turn the snags. Tim and Gordon can be seen standing next to Rick. The 'washy' effect in this photo was caused by smoke/steam rising off the hot plate.

Events such as this indirectly help to promote our club as well as the sport/hobby in general. Many customers ask who we are and what we do, and as a result of those enquiries we managed to hand out a few club flyers to the interested persons.

Once we ran out of supplies and the clock had passed four it was then time to pack up. The worst part is cleaning the BBQ facilities. Naturally enough Bunnings expect the group using it to leave it in a clean state. The Bunnings Duty Manager checks it thoroughly and signs off on their paperwork; they also ask how many we managed to sell.

Many thanks must go to the members who supported this extremely successful event. We must also thank Bunnings for providing such excellent facilities and giving our club the opportunity to run such a successful event. I'm sure we'll apply to run another one or two next year.

Rotary Menzone –October 14th (by Glenn)

The club had a busy weekend the 13th and 14th of October Saturday was the sausage sizzle at Bunnings and the Sunday was the Menzone men’s and boys hobbies and health, this was held at the Wendouree Netball Stadium.

Several club members attended with their models and Gordon had his computer with a flight simulator, which proved a hit with the kids.

We arrived there at 9.00 am to find that things were not very well organized; no one knew where we were supposed to be. There were two other model clubs there (Golden Planes and Haddon) so our hobby was well represented. After being allocated a lot bigger space than we expected we sent out for some larger models. Noel had his Gypsy, Roger and Glenn their Cessna’s, Rick had one of his electric models and the Macchi Veltro MC205. There was also a good cross section of smaller models.



Unfortunately I didn’t get around to taking photos until moments before we packed up. I think Rick & Gordon took some but too late to chase up before newsletter goes out.

Unfortunately the attendance was not very good; the organizers will have to come up with something better for next year to attract more people.



Noel’s Gypsy Moth generated a lot of interest throughout the day.

Thanks to all the members that gave up their Sunday and for those that loaned us their models to display



Coming Events

ARF Scale Competition at Yendon – October 28th

The ARF scale competition is on this weekend – any members not flying are requested to lend a hand on the day. Flying members can also pitch in when not competing.

We are planning to make a very early start as the runway will need to be mown on the Sunday morning prior to the competition. It is important that all members planning to enter send the pre entry to Rick Pimblott so he can organize the flight schedule with your frequencies.

If you are able to judge please contact Murri Anstis or Glenn White.

There are trophies and excellent prizes on offer, an OS120E four stroke motor, an OS 55AX and modeling accessories.

Xmas Raffle

The Xmas raffle prize was decided upon at the last meeting (the usual barrow load of Xmas Cheer). Tickets were printed with the aim of selling some at Bunnings. No doubt we could have done so, but it was just too hectic and we didn’t have sufficient members on hand to look after it. The MENZONE event the following day didn’t have enough people through to make selling worthwhile. Books will be handed out to members over the coming weeks. The prize will be organized ASAP and placed in Malcolm and Veronika’s shop (Stitched Up-On Curtis) by November 19th. As usual the raffle will be drawn at the Xmas party – it has now entrenched itself as part of the evening’s entertainment.

Xmas Breakup Party

Our Xmas Breakup party has been booked for Friday night December 14th at the Blackhill Hotel. This is where we held it last year and it worked out quite well. Please let Glenn know if you plan to attend.



Event Calendar

- October 21st VFSAA Round 8 – State Field.
- October 24th BRMFC Meeting.**
- October 28th ARF Scale Competition – Yendon.
- Nov 3rd/4th GMAA Fun Fly & Open Day – Mannerim field Geelong.
- Nov 10th/11th VFSAA Rally, Round 9 – Albury.
- Nov 24th/25th Hamilton Display and Swap meet.
- Dec 14th (Friday) Xmas Breakup Party.
- Mar 28th - 30th 2008 South Pacific Scale Masters - Shepparton.
- April 6th 2008 BRMFC Annual Display Day.**
- April 12th/13th 2008 Bowylie Large Model Scale Rally.

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