



NEWSLETTER – November, 2019

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 November 27th commencing at **8.00PM**, following a committee meeting (Turn left after entry to the Complex, and the Canteen is on the left again). **Don't forget to bring a plate for supper.**

Agenda Items for the next meeting

1. Trawalla Estate Update
2. Strategic Plan
3. Field Maintenance
4. Burrumbeet Airstrip
5. Strategic Plan progress
6. Confirmation of monthly meeting location for 2020

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.

8. General Business

a) Trawalla Estate Update - nil

b) Strategic Plan

- Pits matting replacement installation has been completed. Total cost for the job is \$700. Thanks to all those who contributed to this task.
- Some seeding will be required along the edges of the matting and the start-up tables will be moved back onto the matting.
- Review of the Plan will be conducted at the November meeting.

c) Field Maintenance

- Requires a mow again, will be done before the weekend.
- Still require 6 or so plough discs to finish the strip edge delineation.
- When stock are removed from the block the electric fence can be removed.

- E-W strip requires some fill to level it (potholes and a trench). Best time will likely be next season.

d) Burrumbeet Airstrip - November 9th mowing and BBQ. If you have a mower please bring it along. Please bring a grass/leaf rake too and if available a line-trimmer.

e) Pits replacement matting - covered under Strategic Plan.

9. Other Business

- Location and date for the BRMFC Christmas Dinner; Lake View Hotel was suggested, Alan will ring them to investigate a date, try for Friday 13th December. Another possibility is the Yacht Club restaurant.
- Alan gave a report on the Fun-Fly and acknowledged Roger's good review in the last newsletter. Well attended with members from several other clubs.
- BAMI members asked if they may fly during "yellow" fire alert days. Agreed but any pilot would need to be a paid-up associate member.
- A member submitted a complaint which was given to the President.

10. Agenda items for the next meeting.

- Review of Strategic Plan

11. Meeting Closed at 8.42pm – Next meeting date will be the 27th November 2019 starting at **8.00pm**. This will be the final general meeting for 2019.



VMAA News

The following information gathered from the Minutes of the VMAA Executive Committee Meeting held on the 14th November 2019 which might be of interest to members. Note: some situations may have concluded or changed since then.

9.1 **WMAC** - Invitation received to attend the Warrnambool Clubhouse opening on Saturday 21st March 2020. Club has a weekend fun fly with the opening being part of the event. Committee agrees it would provide a good opportunity to visit the club. *(Ed. BRMFC members regularly attend the Warrnambool annual fun fly.)*

9.2 GMAC – Complaint sent to the MAAA by a neighbour who is on the boundary of the Greensborough club field in regards to overflight of a model. *(Ed. I mention that here as a reminder to us all that we must stay within the confines of our respective flying fields. Apart from the obvious dangers, people are “touchy feely” these days about the possibility of photographing going on.)*

18.2 Instructor Notification:

18.2.1 Number received for refresher course: 126

18.2.2 Instructors that do not wish to continue: 22

18.3 Next Instructor’s Course Date –

18.3.1 P&DARCS - 23 Nov, 14 students to date

18.3.2 NFG - 30 Nov, six students to date

18.3.3 Additional courses to be organised in the New Year. Each course will have a maximum of 20 students. VARMS another possible location to conduct a course.

18.4 Recertification MAAA Instructors – Recertification of MAAA Instructors 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.

19. State Field Reports:

19.1 **Echuca** -The field is looking good at the moment and being well used although a little dry due to the current lack of rain. Two successful events have been held at the field recently being the Victorian Pattern Association State Comps on the 7th and 8th September and the Australian Scale Aerobatic Association IMAC Vic state championships on the 9th and 10th of November. The club is also holding its “Christmas fly-in and camp over” on the 7th and 8th December.

19.2 **Darraweit Guim** – The NFG host club is holding a scale event (VFSAA) on 08 December 2019 for a fun fly, Christmas break up. Instructor’s course will have catering available. To be discussed with the VMAA SFI.

19.3 **Mount Wallace** – The host club is holding a float fly-in. Third time lucky to try and complete the event this year. There is plenty of water in the lake for the event.

21.8.1 **Cohuna Flying Club** – Submission has been submitted on 11 Nov 2019 to fly above 2000 ft. AGL at the Cohuna Model Flying Club. Fee estimate to be paid so the instrument can be issued.

21.8.2 New CASA requirements in regards to GPS coordinates of the flying area are required. This includes a digital map, type of aircraft, size and weight – the requirement to be sent to those clubs that have not been approved for height extension.

21.9 **MAAA MOPs** – All MOPs are being reviewed to update and where required, rewrite the MOPs to provide consistent outcomes and approach. Underway.



New Models seen at field

Jeff had his new scratch built LA Special at the field on Sunday 27th October for its maiden flight. From memory, I was flying at the time Jeff flew it, but from what I saw it seemed to handle okay during its fairly long first flight. Only required some minor engine tuning. The LA is an old design by the late Len Astbury dating back several decades I would imagine. Jeff liked it when Len flew his at Yendon, so asked Len for the plans and I think this is the second one he has built.



Jeff Dowsley with his scratch built LA Special powered by an OS 52 four stroke engine.



Another shot of the LA which is covered in tissue and doped the way model aircraft were traditionally built.



Jeff tuning the OS 52 following the successful flight.



Graeme had a Cessna 185 Skywagon II at the field on Sunday 10th November. There was some difficulty getting fuel up to the DLE35 but finally he got it going. Model seemed to fly quite well.

Alan came across this twin engine electric foam constructed model from someone down around Melton/Caroline Springs and thought it was too good to pass up.

It's not scale, but obviously modelled on a C130 Hercules but with only two engines. The model has quite an impressive flight envelope and Alan takes full advantage of that putting it through its paces.



President Alan Crisp with his latest electric powered foam constructed model on Sunday 10th November.



It handles high alpha passes with ease.



Remains controllable on landing even with very high angle of attack.



Tips & Tricks

Hand in propeller

Or how to do it and not get it by one who did it and got it!

I (ed.) made an unfortunate mistake on Sunday October 27th while trying to assist Jeff with the tuning of the OS52 FS powering his LA Special after its maiden flight earlier in the day.

The LA was on the model start-up stand and Jeff started the engine. I was standing in front of the model and my brain was fixated on the needle valve and I simply thrust my right hand directly to it forgetting all about the spinning propeller. Well I got a very sudden and painful reminder that the propeller was in the way. It got the index and middle fingers of my right hand. Interestingly though, the impact wasn't on the finger tips but about 15-20mm from the tip which shows how quickly I lunged toward the needle valve. After all these years (maybe too many) around model aircraft engines I don't know how I managed to do something so silly and will do my utmost to ensure it never happens again.



Nigel and Alan tending to my wounded fingers. On a scale of ten the pain was about 15 I reckon.

Fortunately Nigel was at the field and took over dressing my badly lacerated fingers using the first aid kit assisted by Alan. (A well-equipped first aid kit is a definite must have at the flying field.) Whilst they were patching me up I started to feel a bit lightheaded but fortunately that cleared up and was able to assist with disassembly of the old Shoestring and packing away in my car ready for the trip home. Nick &

Alan followed me to make sure I wasn't weaving all over the road.

By sheer chance my daughter was up from Melbourne and took me to the Ballarat Base hospital emergency after I got back home from the field. An X-ray showed a fracture of the index finger so being classified as an open fracture they kept me in short stay overnight and arranged for an operation at the Geelong Hospital plastics unit on Monday. Pam drove me down Monday morning leaving Ballarat Base Hospital at 6:30AM to be there for 8AM.



In Ballarat Base Emergency on the Sunday night after X-ray confirmed a fracture.

Anyway after the usual admissions stuff, by about 2:30PM the operation was over where they had inserted a wire pin in the fractured finger tip as well as stitching the lacerations all done under general anaesthetic. My right hand and arm were now in a plaster cast so had to get used to doing things left handed for a while.



Wire pin in index finger which goes through the first joint. (Photo taken on November 8th)

I had an appointment with Geelong Outpatients on Friday November 8th where they removed the cast (after 11 days) and redressed the wounds – all looked to be healing okay but not pretty. At that stage I wasn't driving, so Alan drove

me down to Geelong in my car which was very much appreciated. After Outpatients and waiting to see the hand therapy unit early afternoon there was a bit of time to kill. We strolled around the CBD and down to the foreshore looking for a place to have lunch finally settling on a Thai restaurant in Ryrie Street (157 I think) which we both enjoyed.

As I write this I still have the finger stall on which was fitted by the hand therapy unit and using mouse in left hand which by now seems quite natural – I may even continue that way. There were lots of things to learn using the left hand!!!



The prop didn't come out of it unscathed either!!!

I guess the upshot is how things change so dramatically with a momentary lapse in concentration. With that in mind I implore everyone to be ever so careful around spinning propellers. This was only a small one; when I look at the glass fibre prop on the OS200FS in my Stearman, if the same thing happened there wouldn't be any fingers to worry about.

Anyway hopefully my hand will get back to near normal in the not too distant future.

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

Watch "All about NITRO engines" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/xQzTeJW92eo>

Watch "37 litre GRIFFON Spitfire Mk.18 | Hangar10" on YouTube https://youtu.be/8POTLnXuS_I

Watch "Three Near Disasters At Airport Opening In Wellington, New Zealand" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/BTN-x21W2kQ>

Watch "HEINKEL HE-162 STUNNING LOUD AND FAST SPEED RC JET WITH PULSO ENGINE INCREDIBLE SHOW" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/zqHTreurbTw>

Watch "B-24 LIBERATOR BOMBER RESTORATION Werribee Victoria Australia" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/OAoE5n1kk9g>

Watch "Messerschmitt Bf 109, Why an INVERTED V-12 Pt. 1? inverted V12s vs. upright" on YouTube https://youtu.be/H1YLwRQLB_I

Watch "CRAZY RC Pilot FLIES \$20,000 TURBINE JET in the RAIN !" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/mYWgilsnbeU>

Watch "Under the RADAR: Simon Thomason about the Messerschmitt 109" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/UBaF0qcfHBI>



Events

BRMFC/BAMI Inter club Day – November 17th

The two clubs in Ballarat are now holding two interclub events annually with one in autumn and the other in spring. The autumn event in April is held at the BAMI (Ballarat Aero Modellers) field while the spring event is held at our Trawalla field.



We hosted ours on Sunday November 17th under cool cloudy conditions with a light to moderate southerly breeze. The event was well attended by both clubs with 10 BAMI members signing the visitor's book. There may have been a few more who didn't sign.

It was a low key day where everyone could get together and have a chat, have a fly when they felt like it and in general just enjoy themselves. Overall the conditions turned out quite favourable although a few degrees warmer would have been much appreciated necessitating the heater burning away for most of the day.



Max doing some pre-flight adjustments to the Cub.



Dave Sampson from BAMI running up the engine in his sport model before take-off.



Tom Jobling and Ted Arnup no doubt discussing the finer points of aeromodelling!!!

There seemed to be several planes in the air all the time, the wind was pretty much straight down the main runway which makes take-off & landing easier for everyone.

We fired up the BBQ around lunch time and provided sausages & hamburgers which went down well. Many thanks to Jeff & Nick who manned the BBQ while Wayne & I did the serving up.



Electric foam model owned by Mark Williams.



Peter Evans starting the DLE35 in his PC21.



Tom Jobling (BAMI) flying his drone. Someone else flew their drone over the pits ostensibly to take a few pics and got told off – won't mention any names!!!

The only incident I'm aware of is a BAMI member's electric foam model went missing somewhere to the north of the field. My understanding is, he took his eyes off it to look at something else and couldn't visually locate it when he

looked back. So there's a lost model out to the north somewhere. I haven't heard of a flyaway for ages.

The next BAMI/BRMFC interclub day is scheduled for some time in April 2020 and will be at the BAMI club field. This year it was held on Sunday April 7th so maybe it will be the corresponding weekend in 2020 which would be April 5th, the week before Easter. However I have heard rumblings in the club that some members would like to go up to the Echuca Fun Fly which I note is in the calendar for April 4th/5th 2020. With that in mind maybe **April 19th** (April 12th is Easter) would be a viable date.

Hamilton Fun Fly & Swap Meet – Nov 23rd/24th

Once again the Hamilton club has managed to pull off another great weekend of flying. Whilst weatherwise Saturday was a bit windy, Sunday was absolutely perfect with a maximum temperature of around 24°C and light wind pretty much straight down the main runway. What more could you ask for. From my observations there were modellers from South Australian clubs notably the Constellation Model Flying Club, Ararat, Ballarat, Bellarine, Camperdown, Geelong, Keilor, Warracknabeal, Warrnambool and of course the Hamilton members. No doubt I have missed some and if so my apologies.



A panoramic shot of the pit area on Sunday.

On the Saturday there wasn't a lot of flyers present maybe many looked at the weather and decided to come only Sunday or Sunday instead of Saturday. We had a pretty strong contingent from Ballarat as usual with most there for at least the two days. Peter Evans came down for the Saturday only and made the most of the blustery conditions having 2 flights with his Cub and three with the PC21. We all managed to get a few flights in, Wayne and I (Roger) both flew our Stearman biplanes a couple of times at least.

The swap tent as usual had plenty of bargains and no doubt there was much haggling going on. As an aside, Dave Barling from the Bellarine club had arranged to buy Glenn's damaged Me 162 Komet which had a mishap a couple of years back on take-off with the windsock pole. Well you should have heard these two negotiating over the price and what was and wasn't included. Very entertaining as we stripped the model down.

The model that probably attracted the most interest on the Saturday was the 6.5m wing span Phoenix kit ASK-21 glider. (I did an internet search and found the full size is 17m span so this one is 38% scale.) The model was flown by David Bell from the Warrnambool club who is an avid follower of R/C glider flying. It has a retractable electric motor turning a 24" carbon fibre prop to allow unassisted take-off and keep aloft when thermals can't be found. David said the model

had been substantially modified to strengthen and support the retractable power module which was air driven to raise & lower. They are looking at electrifying that because the pneumatic system only allows raising & lowering a couple of times.



The Phoenix Models kit of an ASK-21 glider. 6.5m wingspan and weighs around 25kg (I think that's the weight mentioned).



The retractable power pod which is raised & lowered pneumatically. The electric motor is a Hacker 60.



Batteries in the nose and cylinder to store compressed air to raise the power pod

As said before the conditions were fairly blustery on Saturday but did abate somewhat late afternoon allowing David Bell to take the ASK-21 glider up. The electric module got the ASK-21 airborne pretty quickly and enabled it to gain height rapidly. David circled around no doubt looking for thermals applying power at times after losing altitude. After about 5 minutes the ASK-21 came in for a landing touching down quite firmly on the nose wheel. It has two large main wheels, one just behind the CofG and one in the nose. There is also a small tail wheel.



The ASK-21 glider on take-off flown by David Bell. The Hacker 60 motor had plenty of power.



The ASK-21 climbed out into the stiff breeze on Saturday afternoon and quickly reached stinging altitude.

Dale Packham from the Constellation Model Flying Club in South Australia also flew his large blue and yellow biplane several times throughout the day entertaining all those present with his aerobatic skills.



Dale Packham's aerobatic biplane. Not sure if it is a Pitts or something else.



An airborne shot during one of the many manoeuvres.

Sunday was a perfect day as the forecast predicted and no doubt was the reason for many more models in the pits and also flying. Rob Lauder from the Bellarine club had a Stinson Reliant he built from a Top Flite kit (approx. 100" wingspan) and powered by the OS 40cc petrol four stroke engine (not sure of its model designation). The model was obviously well built, flew well and was flown superbly by Rob. The OS engine ran like a charm and had a good sound to it and provided the right amount of power for the model, more than scale but sufficient to make it flyable in all conditions.



Robert Lauder's Stinson Reliant built from the Top Flite kit. Model is powered by the OS 40cc petrol four stroke and has a wingspan of 100.5" or 2.55m.



A close up shot of the engine nicely concealed in the cowl.

Garry Bergen also from the Constellation Model Flying Club had his 215cc Moki 5 cylinder radial powered 1/3 scale Super Stearman built from a Balsa USA kit and flew it very scale like. The model looks magnificent, performs and sounds so much like the full size. (I recognized the model, so had a look back through my newsletter archive and note Garry had the Stearman at Hamilton back in 2016.)



215cc Moki 5 cylinder radial powered 1/8 scale Super Stearman built from a Balsa USA kit.



Garry Bergen readying the Super Stearman for a flight.

Rod Mitchell from Warrnambool flew his Grumman F7F Tigercat and Northrop P-61 Black Widow twin engine models. Rod always puts on a great flying exhibition with his scratch built models.



Rod Mitchell's Grumman F7F Tigercat taking off.



The Tigercat midway through a roll over the strip.

Our Ballarat members also did a lot of flying between them. Max flew the Cub several times and had a couple of dead stick landings. It seems he accidentally hit the ignition kill switch. He also flew his Cessna 182 and the Spitfire which came from the Hamilton swap tent a couple of years ago.



Max's 1/8 scale Cub on a touch & go approach. Just keep fingers off the kill switch Max!!!



Wayne's PT17 Stearman powered by an OS155 Alpha on landing approach. This shot was taken on windy Saturday.

Like on Saturday, Wayne and I (Roger) had several more flights with our Stearmans. Wayne flew his OS155 Alpha powered PT17 Stearman and I my OS200FS powered Super Stearman.

Ricky Gerada, Peter Weston and Darron Weston flew their electric models throughout the weekend and both Ricky and Darron came away with trophies for their efforts.



The Christmas hampers that were raffled on both days.

The Hamilton club provided BBQ lunch both days and also had 10 Christmas hampers to raffle. Five were raffled each day which meant five winners were drawn toward the end

of flying on Saturday and five more were drawn at the end of proceedings on Sunday. Tinny arse Glenn won a hamper on both days!!! The hampers were put together and donated by the mother of a young member who was killed in a car accident several years ago. It is a really nice gesture and deserves our gratitude given the circumstances.

The presentations were made by club president Phil Niewand around 2:30PM where they had a number of trophies to hand out. The awards are as follows:

President’s Choice	Stuart Kent	Hudson Bomber
Best Flying Display	Geoff McCarten	Tiger Moth
Best Biplane	Garry Burgen	Super Stearman
Best Scale Model	Rob Lauder	Stinson Reliant
Best Military Model	Rod Mitchell	Grumman Tigercat
Electric Flight Award	Darron Weston	Fokker D7
Best Sports Model	Peter Ashley	Impulse
Encouragement Award	Ricky Gerada	
Fun Fly Award	Foster Taylor	
Pilot’s Choice	Dale Packham	

The pilot entry raffle was then drawn after the trophies were handed out and Dave Barling was the winner of the jet kit but graciously declined and put it up for redraw saying it would be better going to someone who would appreciate and better use the model. On the second draw our Darron Weston was the winner, so I guess we will get the chance to see it fly one day.

Next were the five hamper draws which as I said before one of them was won by our Glenn White making two for the weekend.

After the presentations and raffle draws everyone started to pack up for the trip home. Some no doubt have several hours driving ahead of them.

In winding up we must thank the Hamilton club and their supporters for putting on a great weekend. We see so many familiar faces in the canteen as we come back each year. These events don’t just happen they take a lot of planning and organizing. I’m sure most of us will be looking forward to attending next year’s fun fly.



Coming Events

BRMFC Xmas Party Friday 13th December



The Ballarat Yacht Club on the south side of Lake Wendouree has been booked for 6:00PM Friday 13th December. It’s still a little way off but handy to know in advance when it comes to organizing your busy

Christmas schedule. It would be great to have as many there as possible. Numbers ‘maketh’ the night!!!

If going and please do, can you let the secretary know and how many, that way the booking can be confirmed with numbers a week or so beforehand.



The Ballarat Yacht Club on Wendouree Parade, Lake Wendouree.



Event Calendar

- Nov 1st – 3rd MossKosh Annual Fun Fly – Ararat & DAC
- Nov 6th (Wed) Indoor Flying at Haddon Hall 7 - 9:30PM – BAMI.
- Nov 9th (Sat) Working bee – Burrumbeet (Cancelled)**
- Nov 10th Scratch & Kit Built Scale Rally – P&DARCS
- Nov 17th (Sun) BRMFC/BAMI Len Astbury Fun Fly – Trawalla**
- Nov 20th (Wed.) Indoor Flying at Haddon Hall 6 - 9:30PM – BAMI.
The last one for the year and starts at 6:30PM with a BBQ tea provided.
- Nov 23rd/24th Fun Fly & Swap Meet – HMAC, Hamilton
- December 13th BRMFC Xmas Function (Friday night). Yacht Club.**
- Feb 22nd/23rd 2020 Leura Fun Fly – Camperdown
- Mar 8th Fly-In – Trawalla, BRMFC ?????**
- Mar 21st/22nd Warrnambool Annual Fun Fly – WMAC
New Clubhouse opening Saturday 1PM.
- March 22nd Monty Tyrell Scale Rally – P&DARCS
- April 4th/5th Echuca Moama Annual Fun Fly - EMMAC
- April 10th-13th Easter long weekend
- April 18th/19th VMAA Trophy – P&DARCS
- April 23rd-26th VJAA Wangaratta International Jet Event

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

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

A few more random photos from the Hamilton Fun Fly 23rd/24th November



I left my (ed.) Super Stearman in the swap tent Saturday night and it ended up for sale. Couldn't even get 25 bucks!!!



Peter Weston's electric powered Piper Cub.



Barry Angus from Mildura starting the twin cylinder petrol engine in the Phoenix Models WACO YMF-5.



This year we had to go without a gazebo as nobody thought to bring one when Graeme had to pull out. Graeme & Dianne decided to come down for a day trip on Sunday.



Unfortunately I don't know what the model is and who is flying it, but it had many flights over the weekend.



Wayne with his Great Planes PT 17 Stearman.



Peter Evans about to taxi his PC21 out for take-off on Saturday.



Another shot from Saturday with Wayne starting his PT17 Stearman with my (ed.) Super Stearman in the foreground.