

POSITIVE INCIDENCE

NO: 7 6th Nov 2013

A monthly Newsletter to club members of the Strathalbyn Model Aircraft Club
From Paul Mitchell : President

I mentioned at the October meeting that Darren Garratt has advised that he and Julie have decided to take 6-12 months off from flying to concentrate their focus on the family and individual jobs. I'm sure we all understand and appreciate what this involves.

He asked me to take over the running of the John Watters Memorial Scale Fun Fly Day as he could not see himself being in a position to do it properly. Knowing that Darren is the sort of guy that does things fully or not at all, I fully understand and respect his decision.



He said they will stay continuous members of the club and will attend and fly as their limited time permits.

I'm sure you will all join with me in hoping everything goes smoothly for them and that they will be back flying with us just as soon as the time is right.



INDOOR FLYING – 2nd November 2013

Unfortunately I was not able to attend this month's indoor evening – I was really looking forward to some indoor flying...but a family matter got in the way. I'm still keen to get that Miles Gemini going and I have another indoor project in mind that will utilize the AS3X gear from my Hyper Taxi.

PHOTO CAPTION COMPETITION

Last month's photo was of my grandson Ari – trying out my Bonzo cockpit for size.

I had one entry last month.....**“Now I promise this won't hurt a bit”**



....and another entry came in just in time for this edition.....

“I'm not getting in there....I've heard how you fly....erland!”

.....and in light of the final 'landing' of the model....he was probably right!

Now here is this month's photo..... of Jarred Hawkes flying his colourful electric chopper upside down at the Come and Try Day.

I know that there is nothing in the background to prove that the I didn't just rotate the photo through 180 degreesbut I'm sure the astute and observant rotary wing flyers amongst us will be able to confirm that the blades are at correct pitch to sustain inverted flight.....☺



So.....who's got a catchy caption for this amazing photo by John Fennel.

It doesn't have to be humorous.....let's have some poignant ones or even with a "News Headline" theme....or one that requires a 'talk or thought bubble' from the cockpit (I'll add it with Photoshop if you send it in)

JOHN WATTERS MEMORIAL SCALE FUN FLY DAY – 17TH NOVEMBER

I was very encouraged at the last meeting by the way members pitched in with support to get things going. We've only got a short time to go, but I'm sure now we will make it a memorable one. Let's hope the weather is kind to us on the day.

At the meeting we decided for safety reasons to install a temporary fence of steel droppers and bunting between the covered benches and the starter restraints area. Only models being started will be allowed past the fence. This should assist in flight-line numbers and transmitter pound coordination, and keep the starting area clear.

Below is the list of tasks identified at the meeting, and the names of the volunteers. We may need assistance on or before the day, so please be ready to jump in if requested...although we should be able to get most things in place before-hand so we can enjoy the day as much as possible.

- REGISTRATION – Michael Stock – Graham Willis to arrange for till and float
- ENTRY FORMS – me
- RAFFLE – Graham Willis
- CATERING – Graham Willis & team – contact him with offers of salads please
- JUDGES – I've arranged them – they are experienced modelers
- TROPHY & PRIZES – me – MASA are helping with encouragement prizes and flags
- FLIGHT LINE DIRECTOR – Andrew Grafton and Nick Parson
- TRANSMITTER POUND – as above
- PA & ANNOUNCEMENT – me – MASA are lending us their battery-powered amplifier unit.
- STARTER AREA TEMPORARY FENCE – to be installed at the working bee on the 10th
- REGISTRATION AWNING – Bob Smart to erect, with help from members, early on the day.

- **CLOSING DINNER AT THE PUB** – Phil Crawley is organizing - **he needs to know numbers so let him know ASAP if you are intending going to the pub for the meal.**

John really enjoyed the flying aspect of our hobby – He appreciated scale models of all types, both scratch-built and ARF, and the format of the day is intended to reflect this attitude.

So let's remember that the day is about flying scale model aircraft...with the emphasis definitely on flying. Your entry doesn't have to be a super-duper scale model – just one that is representative of the full size.

There will not be separate categories for scratch-built or ARF models, nor separate judging of categories like Military, Civil, Aerobatic, Multi-engined...etc.....all models will be on an equal footing. The judges will be looking for the flight performances that best represent their full size counterparts...from take off to landing.

The day is called a scale fun-fly day and that means that there are no set schedules or conditions under which anyone has to fly their models....you can fly all day...or just once. Let's face it, this sort of day is not about competition....it's about getting together and flying in the way you want to – no pressure.

The eventual place getters will most likely come from those who fly their models with the same fun and enthusiasm as John would have enjoyed to see.

WORKING BEE & CLUB CONTEST – 10th November

The working bee this Sunday is to get the field ready for the 17th. This will mainly involve putting in the droppers for the temporary bunting fence between the starter benches and the covered pits area, and having a good clean up. Mauro and Sean have offered to bring along the required items and tools for the fence. Nick Parson and Phil Crawley are bringing whipper snippers, and can the person who brought the ladders last time do so again please.....(can't remember who it was!).....because there is a bit more flapping plastic to be removed from the covered bench roof. The transmitter pound and the club room need a good clean...so a broom and hand brush would be good.

There was genuine support for the club contest shown at the meeting, so as soon as the working bee is over we can get it underway....bring along a sport model of any kind.....it won't matter what you fly. The whole idea is just to get together and have a good time – it should only take about an hour. After the contest we will be having a sausage sizzle lunch – bring along a drink.

RUNWAY IMPROVEMENT

There was a good response from the members at the October meeting regarding the initiative to install a section of solid landing strip at the field as soon as funds become available. As soon as the John Watters Scale Day is over we can put our energies towards fund raising ventures. Have a bit of a think about this, and let me know your money-making ideas and experiences.

ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR – FUND RAISER

The MASA Promotion Officer Peter Leaney addressed us at the meeting with more detail regarding the proposed Fund Raiser for the RFDS to be held at our field in April/May 2014. From what he had to say it sounds like being a top notch show that will give both MASA and SMAC a good deal of exposure. The club will not be asked to do much other than maybe help with parking and crowd control. Bob Smart has suggested that the E/W runway part of the field to the north of the pits could be used for car parking during the event...rather than involving the neighbouring farmer. With careful planning, appropriate signage and temporary fencing this will work.

Nick Braithwaite and Adrien Merryweather have offered to join with the executive to look further into this and liaise with MASA in the near future – thanks guys.

FIBERGLASS MOULDING – BRIAN LOCKETT'S DEMONSTATION

I ran out of time last month to report on Brian Lockett's very informative talk on fiberglass moulding techniques at the September general meeting. His wide experience in this field was obvious and he passed on many 'secrets' to an appreciative audience.

Brian demonstrated the making of a fiberglass fuselage from the carved wooden original, through the various stages of making the split mould and finally the laying up and internal joining of the finished shell. I was also interested in his approach to making simple 'blisters' and other small articles, and he showed us the various materials available and where they can be purchased. Although this form of modeling is usually seen in ARF cowlings and wheel pants, Brian showed us that it could well be within the capabilities of most modelers.

Sorry...I was so interested in Brian's talk...I forgot to take photos!

CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT MEETING AT THE FIELD

Just a 'heads up' about the Christmas Twilight Meeting at the field on the 14th December.

That's a Saturday evening and the whole family is invited.

Get those electric models with lights on ready.

More on this later.

I'll leave you with two photos of Jeremy Reynold's Sebart Sukhoi that I've been meaning to publish for some time.

She is powered with a 50cc gasser, has a 2 metre wingspan and weighs in at 9 kg.



He reports that he placed second at it's first IMAC competition and intends to bring her to the John Watters Scale Day.



That's it for this month.....I've just realized that the next general meeting will be the last one for the year.

Brad Merryweather is the guest speaker.....with lots of ideas for Christmas prezies!!

See you at the Great Eastern on November 26th6.00 for the meal – we start at 7.00.

Cheers Paul