

start with January over and the holidays now a fading memory. It was a blessing to be able to enjoy the holiday period with fine weather and relative freedom of activity with family and friends, and we are thankful for that.

We finished last year with the Model of the Year social time together before Christmas. We had a pleasant evening although with reduced numbers attending and few models on display.



Colin Grocott displayed his partly built model of the Flying Cloud clipper. This is a fine kitset model with very detailed fittings and now requires the mast, spars and rigging to be installed.



John Henson had an almost completed model based on the 45ft charter launch he had constructed 40 years ago. The model is beautifully made and detailed.



Allister Green displayed the bodies he had scratch-built to be fitted to his 5" gauge English Class 66 loco chassis. These bodies are made to scale using MDF

panels and are detailed and most realistic. The first one is of an American SD70 Rail-link loco to 1:87 scale and the second is of an NZR loco to 1:64 scale.



John Henson's launch was awarded the boating trophy and **Allister Green's** NZR loco body was awarded the engineering trophy as well as the Model of the Year. Photos are attached. We would love to see more models at this year's meeting as well as more members for the social time together.

Club activities have taken place over the holiday period with model aircraft flying, yacht sailing and continuing work on the raised track project. This looking very good now and work on joining up with the existing track will take place after Heritage Day when the raised track will be closed and train ride operations shifted to the ground level system for several months.

Heritage Day on Sunday February 6th has given us much thought with regards to the Covid pandemic and spread of community infection and whether we should still be operating on the day. Because Red light restrictions still permit vaccinated people to gather with a limit of 100 people and physical distancing at outdoor venues, the Committee have decided to proceed with planning to hold Heritage

Day celebrations as a club event. There will be yacht and model boat sailing on the pond and train rides will be available to the public. Brayshaw Park Administrators have advertised the Park events with vaccine passes, contact tracing and mask wearing for the Park activities. For us, the Ticket Box will be the point of entry for passengers since model boat operations will not have close contact with the public. Our operation will be similar to past years but there will be no display of models in the clubrooms. We expect visitors from Christchurch and Nelson Clubs to share the day with us. Members are requested to bring a plate, please, for morning and afternoon teas and lunches (if required) will be available in the upstairs signal box or clubrooms. We plan to finish the day with a barbecue meal (starting around 5.30 – 6pm) for members and visitors, and a plate of salad or finger food and a dessert to share would be appreciated. We will provide sausages and bread but you will need to BYO drinks if desired. These arrangements are subject to weather and to any further Government rulings relating to the level of community infections. Members will be notified of changes as required closer to the time.

We don't know what level of public participation there will be but ask that members plan to be there on the day if possible and enjoy the time of fellowship. If there are good numbers of public wanting train rides we will need assistance with station duties and your help would be appreciated.

Nigel Wood

Secretary / Treasurer

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Boating Section

Pond cleaned, thanks to all who helped

Heritage Day 10am till 4pm. We start at 8am to help set up, we won't have the marquee so it's getting our stuff sorted as best we can.

This is a vaccine pass only event, just exactly how we manage that I'm not sure. If people want to show you, then let them do so, if they choose not to then theoretically they can't be there???? Everyone should be wearing a mask!

We could use the harbour area to store boats, just need people around to hire out yachts and keep an eye on things.

I will be there all day but will be moving around helping where needed.

We need to rope off the road entry across from the stable so vehicle entry is via the clubroom entrance.

Bring your own lunch and drinks and nibbles will be in the signal box or the clubrooms.

(Philip)

Weather has been much kinder over last month. Wind has been a bit patchy. Calm patches on southeastern corner still a nuisance and no racing done on Sundays. Pond looking pretty good with very little leaf litter getting blown in. No new boats have appeared recently. The odd inquiry gets made about the club but disappear if a boat cannot be purchased or the cost is much higher than expected. If all goes well we may have a sub, or maybe 2 in the water this year. Mine will be using 2.4ghz gear so will have an above water aerial.

The old 27/40khz apparently is good to about a meter down. Keeping sub in sight when submerged can be a bit problematic so a trailing an aerial may not be a bad idea.

May the fair weather continue and the wind be favourable.

Ray G.

Flying section report.

For MFNZ members affiliation fees for the 22/23 year are now due, they remain the same as last year at Senior \$95, Family \$100, Junior \$30, Temporary Membership \$20 (valid for one month), Model Flying World Only \$25 (Ref <http://modelflyingnz.org/membersinfo.html>) to be paid into the MAMS bank account with your name and "MFNZ" in reference fields.

Heritage day at Brayshaw park will be different this year with no models on display in the Club rooms. As Nigel mentioned earlier in the newsletter they may require assistance with the train rides, if anyone is interested contact Nigel.

Slope soaring sessions are still going ahead over the summer Daylight saving period, meeting at the car park off Rifle Range Place at 5:30pm Wednesday afternoons, weather permitting. There have been a few regulars enjoying the sessions so far in varying conditions.

Glider fliers have started competing in this years NDC competitions in the weekends (Saturdays at Tuamarina and occasionally Sundays at Quaildale), and glider flying Wednesday morning glider flying is usually well attended.

Power flying at Tuamarina flying field is going well with a few new models showing up.

Have fun, fly safely.

(Carl M)

The Soaring Scene

The soaring group is back into the swing of things as we head into February with the 2022 NDC schedule underway and the January events already flown. The first two events were flown in variable conditions, not bad, just not as good as we would like. Tuamarina seems to be plagued by the early arrival of an Easterly sea breeze these days and that usually kills any lift as soon as it starts. Frustratingly some of the best conditions we've seen for soaring out there were present on

Wednesday and Saturday this week, by which time the January competitions had been flown..... such is life.

Scores in those first two rounds were as follows:

ALES 200: Rex Ashwell - 2402, Phil Elvy - 2387, Garry Morgan - 2294, Carl McMillan - 2072, Phil Sparrow - 1899, Peter Smith - 1225

ALES Radian: Garry Morgan - 1374, Rex Ashwell - 1348, Phil Elvy - 1308, Phil Sparrow - 1302, Carl McMillan - 1248, Peter Smith - 733



Phil Elvy, Garry Morgan, Carl McMillan and Phil Sparrow sharing different ideas as to where the best lift is at Tuamarina.

The final results for the 2021 NDC season, which was somewhat truncated by lockdowns in various parts of the country, have now been posted on Model Flying NZ's website and once again we did okay. As a club MAMS was second in the

Soaring category not far behind Christchurch MAC, with Hawkes Bay close behind us - everyone else was nowhere!

In the Overall Competition, which includes all categories, we were the 5th placed club in NZ, trailing Christchurch, Hawkes Bay, New Plymouth and Fielding but ahead of 19 other clubs. Quite an acceptable result given that we only compete in Soaring while the clubs ahead of us score well in at least two categories - for instance Fielding are the top Free Flight club and were also 3rd in Vintage. We need more competitors if we are going to get back on top.

Individually, ex MAMS member Allan Knox headed the Soaring category, with Joe Wurts second and Rex Ashwell 3rd. Other MAMS results were Phil Elvy 6th, Carl McMillan 8th, Garry Morgan 10th, Phil Sparrow 15th, Trev Faulkner 23rd and Peter Smith 27th. Allan Knox was also the Overall Champion with Rex Ashwell 4th and Phil Elvy 7th making the top 10 out of 106 competitors nationwide.



Master builder Garry Morgan with his latest - A 3 metre carbon fibre weapon - looks good and flies even better.

For those interested in catching some large models in action there is an aerotow meeting coming up at Lake Station in a couple of weeks. This is to be held on the gliding club's field about 8 kilometres past St Arnaud over a 4 day period from 11 Feb to 14 Feb. After the successful meeting held last year there is a fairly good entry and I would expect plenty of 6 and 7 metre wingspan gliders will be flown, plus the odd sizeable towplane of course. Covid may yet have something to say about this but at this stage the organisers are determined to go ahead, so think about taking a run up the valley.

Rex

For Sale

Any members who want a battery for flight-line charging: Used 12 Volt, Deep Cycle batteries are available for \$10 each, from Access Mobility (next to Medlab, on Maxwell Rd). Ask for Lloyd.

MAMS Membership and Subscription Structure

Ordinary Member (all Sections)	S55.00
Family membership	\$60.00
Junior Member	\$35.00
Country Member (+40km from Blenheim)	\$35.00
Life Member	Nil.

Members may belong to any or all of the following Sections, for one Ordinary Membership fee:

Engineering - Boating - Flying.

*Flying Section members may join **MFNZ** (Recommended) for an **additional annual fee of: Senior \$95 Junior \$30, and Family \$100, paid to MAMS.***

NOTE: MFNZ Fees must be paid to the club before 31 March. NEW members joining after 1st October only have to pay half fees, however existing members renewing late, will still need to pay for a full year. Carl McMillan is the MAMS MFNZ Contact person regarding any MFNZ membership issues.

For on-line payments members just have to use the club account number, give their name and purpose of payment, i.e. **MAMS subs**, and/or **MFNZ subs**.

SBS Bank Account number is 031355 0512739 00

Subscription Policy: Financial membership shall cease if the required subscription fee has not been paid by the **31st of July**. **Non-financial members are not covered by our insurance policy and therefore cannot operate their models at our designated sites**, and they do not receive a Newsletter.

(**New** members who have joined and paid their Subs from December 2020 onwards are still considered paid up club members for 2021/2022 year)

Those who have paid their subscription since the last AGM may collect their membership card and receipt from a folder on the notice board in the clubroom. Anyone not wishing to renew their membership please let the treasurer, or a committee member, know. If any flying section members are not renewing their membership could they also return their key to the flying field.

Publication dates: 1st week of February, **April**, June, August, October, and December.

Please get any items (Notices, articles, or for sale items etc) for the **April** issue to the editor a few days before the end of **March**.