



Piston'n'Prop.

Newsletter

**Marlborough Associated Modellers Society Inc.
Brayshaw Park, 8 Arthur Baker Place, Blenheim 7201**

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If Clubs or members currently receiving this Newsletter by mail could receive it by email please let me know carlmcmillan101@gmail.com

February 2023

Committee Meeting notes for December / January

A month of the new year has passed already – how time slips by! I trust all of you have been able to enjoy the holidays and celebrations and are now feeling ready for what the year ahead will bring. The Committee's attentions have been focussed on Waitangi Day on February 6th and the forthcoming Heritage Day events being held at Brayshaw Heritage Park. A notice has already been sent out giving information about plans and preparations for the weekend and we trust

everyone will be able to take part and to enjoy the time together along with members of the public. We hope the weather will be suitable this year but in these tumultuous times, who can forecast what will happen with any certainty. Just seeing what has been happening in and around Auckland recently shows how quickly things can change. We will keep you informed as to any changes that may take place. Thanks to all who have been helping with preparations and in tidying the grounds and facilities. Thanks, too, to visitors and guests from other clubs who have indicated they will be here over the weekend. We appreciate their help and hope everyone will have a good time.

The Model of the Year meeting on Tuesday 13th December in the Clubrooms at 7.30pm was a quiet occasion but still a good time to finish the year together. There were limited numbers of models on show but these were of high quality and interest. In the boat category Ray Gleeson had an almost completed kitset model of a Sea Wolf Class submarine.



It was amazing what he had been able to fit inside the hull and we look forward to seeing it operate successfully.

In the aircraft category Carl McMillan had an almost complete model of a competition aircraft to DR107 One Design.



Gary Morgan was awarded the trophy for his two scratch-built competition gliders with which he had achieved success. It was remarkable how light these gliders are



but their high performance was a result of this. No engineering models were on show – everyone has been too busy with the track project to be in the workshop. Colin Grocott brought along a Thomas Mercer ship's chronometer, built 1891, as well as a sextant and world globe and gave a very interesting talk on how these instruments in navigation. It was good to have a chat over supper afterwards.

Nigel Wood
Secretary
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BBQ on Sunday evening, all welcome, bring a salad and a desert for tea.

Boating section

Heritage day

Saturday and Sunday are both running days, be there if can and if you want.

Monday 6th 10am till 4pm.

Setup is at 8am, we have the marquee to put up and set up display tables.

We need as many members as possible during the day. Need as many boats as we can to hire out.

Need people to look after the hiring and time on the pond.

I will be there all day Monday, moving between things. The club has gate duty 1pm I think, for an hour during the day.

We need people to be in the clubrooms for a time just for security and answering questions.

Boats for display in the clubroom and at the pond. Clubroom display could be done on Saturday or Sunday.

(Philip)

Boating.

All the distraction of Christmas / New Year is now behind us. The pond is now clean and will look good for Founders Day. Brian will let us know if the prop we found was the one he lost. If not then his has gone. Dave is continuing his transition to brushless motors and Lipo batteries and with larger battery should do well in terms of run time. I am learning the in's and out's of lighting using LED's. Just a matter of buying the right bits really. Mainly parts used by model car people so they can have headlights, brake lights etc.



Auxillary switch 5v



splitter



LED's with resistor 9v

Simply plug Aux switch into spare receiver channel, then splitter into Aux switch, then the LED's into splitter. All added up to less than \$40 (1x switch, 2x splitters, 20 LED's) on aliexpress.

Ray G.

Flying Section

The weather has not been great so far this summer but we are gating some good flying days.

Well done to Gary Morgan for winning the MAMS Model of the year, aircraft category, with his own design competition gliders at the December meeting.

Just a reminder for those that are interested slope soaring is still on each Wednesday, weather permitting, meet at the Car Park off Rifle Range Place by the west end of the Wither hills walkway at 5:30pm.

For those members in MFNZ fees have been set for 2023/24 year (same as last year) and can now be paid, all payments should be in by the end of March. Use your name and MFNZ in the reference when paying online to the MAMS club account (SBS Bank Account number is 031355 0512739 00). Note MAMS subs will not be set until the AGM in April and will be due after that.

MFNZ Membership Fees:

Senior \$95

Family \$100

Junior \$30

(Ref <https://www.modelflyingnz.org/membersinfo.html>)

For anyone interested in Aerotow, Specific dates/events that are coming up are:-

Feb 11-12 Quaildale - aerotow practice days for Lake Station (contact Peter Deacon 021 210 7769 or by email peterd@orcon.net.nz).

Feb 24-27 Lake Station - aerotow at the Nelson Lakes Gliding Club, St Arnaud (contact Dave Griffin 021 352 595) with flyers coming from around the country.

April 14-17 Marlborough Aerotow - Quaildale (contact Peter Deacon), also with flyers coming from around the country.

This is an interesting and sometimes challenging branch of our hobby and the local events give members a chance to go and see what it is about and to meet model flyers from around the country.

Heritage day is on the 6th February at Brayshaw Park, it would be nice to have a few models on display to show the public a bit of what we do. I think Rex is working on a display for the glider flyers and NDC, and I will put a power model on display.

The results of last years NDC competition are out and MAMS flyers did very well, a credit to the club. Refer to Rex's article below for details.

Have fun, fly safely.

(Carl M)

The Soaring Scene

2022 was a very productive year for the MAMS Soaring Group competing in the National Decentralised Competitions. Most of you will know by now that these are what used to be called "postal competitions" where people compete on weekend days in designated competitions and post the results to be compared with model

pilots from all over the country. Each month a list of competitions in five categories, Soaring, Vintage, Free Flight, Pylon and Control Line are available. Some clubs have enthusiasts in several categories and some individuals fly in more than one category with points accumulating towards overall totals, both for individuals and clubs..

At MAMS we only fly in the Soaring classes, which cover a range of specialist model glider types, and with a few exceptions we restrict ourselves to electric powered gliders. The group started competing for MAMS in late 2017 (some of us previously flew for BMAC) and we have been quite successful over the past 5 years. This past year has maintained the standard, with the club winning the Soaring title and Rex Ashwell, Garry Morgan and Phil Elvy taking the top three individual places.

Eight different clubs scored points in Soaring but our main competition came from the powerful Christchurch club where there are some very good flyers. For Christchurch, former MAMS member Allan Knox was close behind Phil in fourth, Dave Griffin was fifth and John Shaw sixth. All these guys have been NZ reps at various World Championships, so there is tough opposition out there and to head them off was a major achievement, especially given that they have more competitors than we do.

We have also done well in the overall competition, where points are aggregated from all five categories - MAMS was second overall, with Rex second individual and Garry third individual. Christchurch were well ahead of anyone else. Having the benefit of a strong Vintage group and a number of Free Flight competitors as well as their Soaring pilots allowed them to accumulate an overall total that our half dozen old fellas flying only in Soaring couldn't hope to challenge. We were happy to be second in NZ overall and once again the top Soaring club.

Having conquered the country last year we seem to be off to a slow start this year, principally due to what is passing for summer weather. It does seem churlish to moan about the weather given what's been going on in the North Island lately, but in this game "if there's no lift the model won't stay up" and we have had a lot of days with no lift. A rule change this year allows for NDC flights on any day rather than just weekend days, but so far that has been no help. As we all enjoy flying as a group, we have decided to stick to flying on Saturdays and Wednesdays with occasional forays to Quaildale on Sundays, so it will be interesting to see how that works out compared to clubs and individuals who are prepared to embrace the new rule more widely.

Results from the first event this year give some indication of the way sudden changes in the weather, particularly the wind, can impact on scores. Phil, Rex and

Peter were going okay at Quaildale until the wind suddenly increased to the point where we were struggling for control and our times plummeted accordingly. Carl had a similar problem when he flew at Tuamarina while Garry struck a day which promised much but didn't deliver it and he also struggled with the weather. Phil's score was quite good given the conditions, but when you consider that this event is normally won with a score over 2550 points it's an indication of how far off the pace we are at the start of the season.

Event 400 - ALES 200

Phil Elvy MFNZ #11020

Flight 1 - 9 min 58 598 points 50 landing	648
Flight 2 - 9 min 58 598 points 40 landing	640
Flight 3 - 5 min 58 358 points 50 landing	408
Flight 4 - 7 min 04 424 points 10 landing	<u>434</u>
Total - 2130	

Garry Morgan MFNZ #12386

Flight 1 - 7 min 52 472 points 40 landing	512
Flight 2 - 5 min 45 345 points 50 landing	395
Flight 3 - 10 min 02 598 points 35 landing	633
Flight 4 - 5 min 06 306 points 00 landing	<u>306</u>
Total - 1846	

Carl McMillan MFNZ #8446

Flight 1 - 10 min 00 600 points 40 landing	640
Flight 2 - 7 min 47 467 points 15 landing	482
Flight 3 - 5 min 28 328 points 15 landing	343
Flight 4 - 5 min 09 309 points 35 landing	<u>344</u>
Total - 1809	

Rex Ashwell MFNZ #10746

Flight 1 - 9 min 59 599 points 00 landing	599
Flight 2 - 9 min 13 553 points 00 landing	553
Flight 3 - 5 min 11 311 points 00 landing	311
Flight 4 - 4 min 42 282 points 00 landing	<u>282</u>
Total - 1745	

Peter Smith MFNZ #12188

Flight 1 - 9 min 19 559 points 00 landing	559
Flight 2 - 7 min 31 451 points 00 landing	451
Flight 3 - 1 min 55 115 points 00 landing	115
Flight 4 - 2 min 45 165 points 00 landing	<u>165</u>
Total - 1290	

Now for something that has nothing to do with soaring but lots to do with radio control, here's an interesting fact for you. Having just finished reading a book on the life of Nikola Tesla I've discovered that this year is the 125th anniversary of the first demonstration of a radio controlled model. In 1898 Tesla demonstrated a radio controlled model boat at the Electrical Exhibition in Madison Square Garden, a feat which seems even more incredible when you consider that Marconi did not patent his wireless telegraph system until 1900. There is quite a lot about Tesla's boat on the internet but I suggest this link is a good place to start:

[Nikola Tesla's Radio Controlled Boat | Brilliancy at its peak - YouTube](#)

Rex Ashwell

MAMS Membership and Subscription Structure

Ordinary Member (all Sections)	\$60
Family membership	\$65
Junior Member	\$40
Country Member (+40km from Blenheim)	\$40
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 affiliation 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 2021 onwards are still considered paid up club members for 2022/2023 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**.