



Piston'n'Prop.

Newsletter

Marlborough Associated Modellers Society Inc.
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If Clubs or members currently receiving this Newsletter by mail could receive it by email please let me know carlmcmillan@ihug.co.nz

October 2015

Committee Meeting notes for August / September

Spring is well and truly upon us with signs of new growth in the profuse displays of daffodils and new leaves on trees. The grass is growing rapidly and this means resumption of routine maintenance tasks after the quieter winter months.

Some of the outdoor projects that were shelved during the colder weather can now be addressed. There are areas of painting to be completed out on fences. We would like to replace deteriorating woodwork on the ground level track hoist deck and the raised track traverser north of the signal box and carry out painting of the steelwork at the same time.

There has been some interest expressed by a group of local electric train model enthusiasts in having a facility in the Park to create and operate a layout. We are awaiting an approach from their representatives but it would be good to investigate the possibilities of having this aspect of modelling in operation.

This matter of signage at the front of the Park is still being addressed by the Park Administrators and we look forward to seeing the matter sorted.

The Committee is still processing the requirements of registration under the Amusement Devices Regulations and this is taking longer than we thought.

The raised track project is taking shape with a number of track supporting pillars having been poured. We appreciate those members who regularly turn out to take part in the construction process.

We welcome Stefan Huffstutler to membership in the Flying Section.

Our condolences to Keith Brown's family on his recent passing.

Members are reminded that the Model of the Year evening is planned for Tuesday 8th December at 7.30pm in the Clubrooms. Last year we had a good turn out of members and a lovely display of models. It is a great opportunity to see what has been produced in different areas of the club as well as a good social occasion and a chance to celebrate the year's activities. Please plan to be there and mark the date on your calendars.

This is also a reminder that the Vintage Farm Machinery Society are celebrating 50 years of activity in the Park over the last weekend in October, Marlborough Anniversary Weekend. This will be a good opportunity to visit their

area of the Park and seeing what they and the Tuamarina Society have accomplished. There are a number of new buildings and exhibits and a lot of things to see. We will be operating train rides over the weekend and this activity will be very low key, but any members who are available are requested to help please.

Nigel Wood

Secretary

Steam Section Meeting notes for August 18th.

8 members attended this meeting and a pleasant evening was enjoyed.

The raised track extension project is showing visual progress with the track pegged out and preparation for positioning the ground pillar formers and concrete works taking place. We appreciate the donation of materials and use of equipment from local companies.

The digger is leaving for a few weeks but has proved very useful in shifting dirt and removing unwanted shrubbery. More dirt will be required to fill the tire embankments but is of a lower priority until the concrete pillars have been poured. A small but keen team is involved but things are moving ahead.

Marlborough Vintage Farm Machinery & Tua Marina Vintage Farm are celebrating their 50th Anniversary over Marlborough Anniversary weekend, 31 Oct - 2 Nov.

Ken McIntyre commented that his 3 1/2" NZR Ja blower was not operating properly on the recent accumulation test following the scheduled hydraulic re-test of the boiler.

Mark Taylor showed us a Left-handed digital caliper he had brought - very handy for checking work in the lathe chuck.



Marks bell

He also showed a very nice 2" hand bell which is just the right scale for his 7 1/4" loco. He picked it up in Wellington for \$22.



Mark's Speedy frames

He had cut out frames for a 5" gauge Speedy which is his next project. The frames including undersize bolt and piping holes had been cut out by a water jet cutter, which had also been used to cut out frames for the 7 1/4" ride trolley bogeys. This method of cutting gave a nice finish if care was taken.



Ron Perkinson had fabricated soft jaws for his machine vice from angle alloy with small powerful magnets inset in milled cavities. A good idea and very useful.

Peter Holdaway showed a little battery charger he had purchased which is performing very well. Discussion on how battery chargers had changed to suit modern batteries.



Peter's height gauges

He also had height gauges he was in process of finishing that were made from pieces left over from vintage car projects.

Bill Ward has been doing a lot of slip casting and painting of figurines in his pottery projects.

Steam Section Meeting notes for 15th September

7 Members attended.

Raised track project is progressing with 17 ground pillars poured (1.2 cub metres concrete) and hope to do another 17 this next Saturday. Formers being left on a bit longer because of colder weather recently, but the formers separated very well

after the concrete cured. We're trying to get all piles poured before requiring more dirt for tyres and embankment as this means easier access for concrete truck.







Ken McIntyre still having problems with his NZR Ja blower and found the 0.030" jet holes were blocked. Cleaning these out made a big difference.



He showed a light-weight die holder he had made for cleaning threads of injector parts after silver soldering.

Peter Holdaway has been working on fittings for a steel boiler from a model steam truck that a non-member had asked him to survey. There was no constructional information supplied with the boiler but it appeared to have been well made, was in good condition, and had passed a double-pressure hydraulic test and internal visual inspection as far as was possible using a borescope. The club boiler committee cannot provide certification for it but is confident the boiler can be used safely in a private capacity. Peter is finding that odd-sized threads had been used for the fittings and this was causing a bit of head scratching. He has finished trying to fix two electric locomotives for a friend but one could not be repaired.

He had made a modification to the oilers on the headstock of his Myford lathe which made them easier to access.



Ron Perkinson showed some of the boiler plates he had made for his Phantom boiler. Very nicely formed. He had two draw bars for the loco as well. There was discussion on marking out and drilling the tube holes in the boiler plates. The subject of easi-flo and the cost involved in fabricating the boiler was also commented on - a cause of some consternation. Ron is ready to fire up his new loco and see if heating would help un-seize the regulator valve.



Mark Taylor showed the horn blocks made for his ride trolley which had been water cut. The back faces of the horn blocks were milled to provide a lip for mounting in

the frame cut-outs. Mark had tried test pours on the raised track piers and found some modification of the formers is required.

Bill Ward is involved with the local pottery club and is in the process of sorting out slip casting moulds which had been given to the club.

Boating Report

Regular boating activity has continued on the pond. The weather has been rather changeable, light fluky winds one day and boat breaking stuff another.

Dave Grueber has acquired himself a Canterbury J yacht and is very happy with it. Dave Mathieson has almost finished his new Starlet and John Rainey is working on his Starlet. I've made a start on one of my Starlets but it will be while yet before that is on the water.



We have a couple of photos, one is of Colin Grocotts Tug and barge. Colin built the barge so it can be either pulled or pushed by the Tug.



The other photo is of a steam unit that Colin wants to use in a paddle steamer.

Colin and Allan Fairweather have fitted a wind vane to the top of the mast on their Starlets.



Colin has used the vane with great results as he manages to sail around the pond avoiding all the dull spots while the rest of us wallow in soft patches of wind.

The pond seems to be holding water ok at the moment though with the weather warming up things are starting to grow in the pond. We will set a date to clean it out at the next Section meeting but we are looking at a Saturday in October, maybe the 17th.

The next Section meeting will be at the Club rooms on the 1st Oct, 7.30 pm.

Model of the Year is coming up so if you have a project please consider putting it in,

it's a very relaxed night and usually lots of fun and it's a good time to meet other members from other sections.

See you at the pond or the section meeting

Philip

Flying Report

Daylight saving is here again and we are having our Wednesday slope soaring sessions for anyone interested, meet at the car park at the west end of the Wither Hills walkway at 5:30pm, then head off to the slope site as a group. At the moment the only sight will be Meadowbank Station. The council denied permission to use the Wither hills farm park sites. We have a memorandum of understanding with the Marlborough Aero Club for us to operate at Meadowbank, which is within 4km of Omaka airfield, under CAA Rule part 101, and permission from the owner of Meadowbank. The site work well in winds form the northeast to the southeast and in a westerly.

I have just been to our first slope soaring session at Meadowbank this season. We had four fliers and one learner along for a look before committing to flying. Conditions were not ideal with wind from the north or NNW, we managed to find a bit of lift at the NE corner of the airfield. The air was bumpy and airspace crowded. I flew the Jazz 60 flying wing and the Bixler, the others had a variety of models. It was a brief and interesting flying session followed by a friendly chat and some helpful discussion of modelling issues. Feel free to come and join in, or come along as a spectator.

Allan Knox had been organising a group of members from both BMAC and MAMS to fly MFNZ NDC events. Members of both clubs had a meeting at the MAMS clubroom recently to discuss what we will do now that Allan has moved on. Rex Ashwell from BMAC has offered to organise the NDC events for anyone interested from both clubs, informing those interested of events, passing on the results to MFNZ etc. It is planned to have some events at BMAC site and some at our MAMS site, and possibly elsewhere. This mainly involves glider events, including Radians and similar models, electric gliders, DLGs and winch launch gliders. Currently Allan Baker is looking after the MAMS glider winch. I think Rex has a contact list of the regular NDC competitors but if anyone else is interested or wants to learn more please contact Rex rex.ashwell@xtra.co.nz .

We welcome Stefan Huffstutler to membership in the Flying Section, he manages the computer department at Harvey Norman and they have started stocking Drones for Retail Sale. He wants to learn to fly drones and the rules relating to

flying model aircraft safely and legally, please make him welcome and share your knowledge. Drones may be new to us but they are model aircraft and operate under the same CAA rules we have operated for years, and members have experience with radio gear, batteries and electric motors that is all relevant.

Stefan has offered a special deal for MAMS members to buy Drones from Harvey Norman:

I have organised some special pricing for the News Letter

We will be offering 4 models of Drones at this stage:

<i>Xiro Drone Xplorer Basic (Drone with no Camera)</i>	<i>\$999</i>	
<i>(M.A.M.S Price for month of October \$769)</i>		
<i>Xiro Drone Xplorer Vision (Drone with included Camera)</i>	<i>\$1598</i>	<i>(M.A.M.S</i>
<i>Price for Month of October \$1270)</i>		
<i>Xiro Drone Xplorer Pro (Drone with Go-Pro Mount)</i>	<i>\$1598</i>	<i>(M.A.M.S</i>
<i>Price for Month of October \$1270)</i>		
<i>3DR Solo Aerial Drone (Only Drone with Go-Pro Compatibility built in to App)</i>	<i>\$2299</i>	
<i>(M.A.M.S Price for Month of October \$2102)</i>		

The 3DR Currently has a pre-order special going until stock arrives into the country for \$1899.00 on our website (everyone is entitled to that price point but once stock lands the promo will be ending)

Due to the currency drop, once stock arrives they will be re-aligning this to \$2299, with the time the Newsletter will be dropping I have to work special pricing off the new RRP.

More detailed specifications on the drones can be found on our website using the links below

www.harveynorman.com/xiro

<http://www.harveynorman.co.nz/3dr>

If you can note in the newsletter that members have to show their membership details to be eligible for the above pricing that would be greatly appreciated.

More than happy for members to come in to discuss in further detail if they have any questions etc. (Stefan).

Drones are proving very popular and we may have more people joining the club to fly at a proper model flying site. Some of the adverse publicity in the media recently may encourage more flyers to join clubs and learn the rules. I see drone racing is gaining a following around the country. I do not know of anyone interested locally but it looks interesting, not that I would try it, and may develop in future.

I see the council has planted trees in the old gravel area west of our flying site, they are poplars, I did get in touch with the council at the time and have been assured they are not planning on planting more (as I said in an email to members at the time). The trees there may pose a problem in the future but we will have to

work with the council if that is the case. The council has been helpful in setting up our site and we need to maintain a positive relationship with them.

The airfield is lush and green at the moment but will soon dry off as we get into summer. The fire danger is something to bear in mind. I see the remains of a burned out LiPo battery on the field a while ago. Take care when charging batteries at the field and be careful of your aircraft setup, batteries and wiring etc. It is also a good idea to have an extinguisher handy. Smokers will also need to be careful when the grass gets drier.

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I did get the engine for my Edge 540 back, fixed and returned under warrantee. Have been getting a fair bit of flying in with it lately. One of the model magazines had an article on how to do a Lomcovak. I had a few attempts at doing this, and end up laughing at some of the outcomes. It is a fun plane to fly. Karl Griggs does some impressive manoeuvres with his, very good inverted flat spins. Raz was out again last weekend with his little Romanian Ag Plane buzzing around the strip, good to see.

Fly safely, have fun.

Carl M.

For Sale:

7 1/4" G Phantom Southern Belle. New Boiler Cert. Locomotive in excellent running order. 3 NZR style carriages, 7 seaters. Storage/work stands for Eng & Tender. Deteriorating health only reason for sale.

Further details:- Ken McIntyre 03 5783346, 15 Solway Drive, Witherlea, Blenheim.

NOTE - NZ Model Flier's World is now available for issue at both Blenheim and Picton libraries.

MAMS Membership and Subscription Structure

Ordinary Member (all Sections)	\$55.00
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 \$70, Junior \$20, and Family \$75**, paid to MAMS.*

*NOTE: MFNZ Fees fall due on the 1st April each year and must be paid by the club before **1st July**, (if you could please pay to MAMS by the end of May to give me time to get the money to MFNZ in June it would be helpful). NEW members joining MFNZ after November 1st only have to pay half fees, however existing members renewing late, will still need to pay for a full year.*

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.

If members intend to resign from MAMS, or not renew their subscription, could they please let the treasurer or a committee member know.

(**New** members who have joined and paid their Subs from December 2014 onwards are still considered paid up club members for 2015/2016 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 **December** issue to the editor a few days before the end of **November**.