



BALLARAT RADIO MODEL FLYING CLUB Inc.

Web site: www.sehler.net/brmfc

Inc. No. A0001288M

NEWSLETTER – November, 2003

Committee 2003/2004

<i>President</i>	Glenn White	<i>Returning Officer</i>	Rick Pimblott
<i>Vice President</i>	Wayne Goodwin	<i>Public Officer</i>	Roger Carrigg
<i>Treasurer</i>	Rick Pimblott	<i>Safety Officers</i>	Graham Waterhouse, Peter Evans, Wayne Goodwin
<i>Secretary</i>	Roger Carrigg	<i>Newsletter Editors</i>	Glenn White, Roger Carrigg
<i>Publicity Officer</i>	Graeme Allen	<i>Field Maintenance</i>	Max Rowan

The next meeting of BRMFC is to be held at Central Highlands Table Tennis Centre (corner of Howitt and Doveton Streets) on **Wednesday November 26th 2003** commencing at 7.30PM. Please come along to the meetings and support your club and be part of the decision making process. Don't forget to bring a plate for supper afterwards.

Agenda Items for the next meeting

1. Annual Display 28th March 2004 – Sub Committee
2. Roy Gladman Round 3 - Scale
3. Strategic Plan
4. Xmas Party and Raffle
5. Field Maintenance
6. Incorporate Life member Protocol into Constitution

Club Jackets

Would those who have ordered jackets etc please get the money to Gordon Hicks ASAP so that Gordon can finally place the order. If you do not see him at the field, ring and make a time to take the money around to him.

Gordon can be contacted at 307 Nicholson Street, phone 5332 4572, mob 0427 033 981.

Raffle Tickets

Local club members will find a book of Xmas raffle tickets include with this newsletter (Posted copy – haven't worked out how to send via email). It is to be drawn on Saturday 13th December. Please return butts and money to the Secretary prior to the draw date.



Points of interest from the last meeting

1. Jackets

Gordon Hicks submitted the final prices for club jackets, shirts and caps with our club logo embroidered directly onto the garment. The prices are as follows:

Jackets \$57
Shirts \$29
Caps \$20

Money is due as of this meeting and once all money has been collected for all the orders the order will be placed with the supplier.

2. Strategic Plan

Graeme Allen reported that the document is well under way. He would like the members to submit their ideas on where the club should be heading.

3. Life Member Protocol

After some further discussion Rick Pimblott moved a motion to accept the report prepared by Tom Jobling. (The report was included in the September 2003 newsletter.) Glenn White seconded the motion which was carried by a vote.

Graeme Allen raised the point that the constitution may need to be changed to make the guidelines effective. Secretary to investigate.

Action: Secretary to investigate inclusion of life member protocol in constitution.

4. Field Maintenance

Max Rowan presented the following field report.

- a) **Fencing** the compound is complete.
- b) **Water tank** overflow piping fitted.
- c) **Water leaks** – Servery window and Container
 - i) The proposal is to fit a bull nose verandah over the servery window to stop water leaking in under driving rain conditions. Max said that he would like assistance from Noel Findlay to work out a design and costing for the project.

Action: Max Rowan and Noel Findlay to design and cost bull nose verandah.

- ii) It is also proposed to fit a roof over the container due to the poor state of the roof. Noel asked Graeme Allen if he can procure any more of the thin black sheeting that was

used to line the inside of the toilet. This would save the cost of purchasing roofing iron.

Action: Graeme Allen to investigate availability of roofing material.

Action: Max Rowan and Noel Findlay to design and cost container roof.

- d) **Trees** – Glenn White asked the members if they could donate and plant a tree around the enclosed compound. Trees must be indigenous to the area.
- e) **Mower** – Max stated that he has been looking at the price of mowers recently and recommends that we purchase a second hand ride on mower with at least a 42" cut to replace the gang mower. Max thought that around \$1500 should be sufficient to get something that will suit our needs given the amount of use that it will get. The Treasurer indicated that the current state of club funds and our current commitments would allow us to spend around \$1500. The meeting agreed that the club should replace the gang mower with a second hand ride on mower at a cost of up to \$1500.

Action: Max Rowan to further investigate second hand ride on mower.

- f) **Owner Fences** – Graeme Allen reported that he has not heard anything from Geoff Fiskin regarding the revised plans for the fences in the outer paddock. Geoff Fiskin said at the meeting we had out at the field on Tuesday 30th September that he would fax a plan to Graeme showing where the fences would be relocated. No further work has been done.

5. Annual Display – Date Clash (28th March 2004)

The Secretary stated that he is corresponding with John Lamont to see if the VFSA date can be changed. He is in turn checking with the Keilor club. Several emails have been sent to John but he has not replied – (maybe he has computer problems)

Action: Secretary to ring John Lamont.

6. Roy Gladman Round 3 - Scale

Sunday 7th December was set as the primary date for the event with Sunday 14th December as a back up.

7. Visitor and Incident Book

It was suggested at the previous meeting that we should have a visitor's book and an incident book out at the field. Noel Findlay and Glenn White said that they have some out of date diaries that would suffice.

Action: Glenn White and Noel Findlay to take diaries out to field.

8. Xmas Party and Raffle

Meeting decided once again to run with the wheel barrow filled with Xmas items as the raffle prize, as this has proved successful in the past. Glenn asked if the members could donate something to go in the barrow. Items must be non perishable and preferably wrapped in Xmas paper.

Previously we have spent around \$125 on items in the barrow and around \$90 on the barrow itself. The more items that the members donate we can reduce the \$125 expenditure. Ticket price of \$1 was agreed upon.

This is a very important fundraiser given that we propose to purchase another mower.

9. Container security keys

Noel Findlay stated that he probably has one of the unaccounted for keys.

Action: Noel to check and report back to Secretary.

The Secretary suggested that the spare key (#7) should be issued to Rob Beardall on the basis that he is often doing jobs that require access to the container and also because he lives close by. The meeting agreed.

Action: Secretary to issue container key to Rob Beardall.

Once the 3 keys that are unaccounted for are found we can then decide who that they should be allocated to, to be most effective.

10. Newsletter expenses

The Secretary requested the club to make a contribution towards the cost of the printer toner cartridge which is used to print club newsletter and other club correspondence. The meeting agreed with the request.

11. Road Sign

Gordon Hicks raised the point that there is no 'Flying Field' sign on the Spreadeagle road sign pole. (Both signs were taken by someone who thought they needed them more than we do and the Council subsequently replaced the road sign several months later). Gordon has offered to make a sign to be attached to the post.

Action: Gordon Hicks to manufacture flying field road sign.

12. KIDS Seemore's Challenge

Nick Katsikaros asked the club if it would be prepared to sponsor him in the KIDS Seemore's Challenge.

Twelve members of the Gekko Systems Team are participating in the Seemore's Challenge during the month of October. This event requires each entrant to complete a 3.8km swim, 180km cycle and 42.2 km run/jog/walk.

The fundraising contributions are for the K.I.D.S. foundation to raise money so they can dedicate more effort to preventing childhood injury through education and increased awareness in the schools and workplaces and to improve the health and lifestyle of all children.

After some discussion and considering that the club made a similar sponsorship to Graeme Allen recently it was decided to **sponsor Nick for \$20.**



VMAA News

VMAA is reviewing the \$10 annual club registration fee payable by 30th June for the following year. It seems that some clubs are overlooking the payment. Options are being looked at to streamline the process.

VMAA directory is to be reprinted with updates by early Feb 2004.

State field has a height limit of 1000 feet. VMAA is negotiating with CASA to have it lifted to 1500 feet.

Approx 12 new video tapes have been ordered from USA to supplement the video library.

Lilydale club is promoting the Gold Wings system by allocating training days. They have just passed 7 members with gold wings.



New Models seen at field

Rick's new model arrived at the field on Melbourne Cup day for its test flight and heavy model certification. The model has been on order for some time and Rick has had us guessing as to what it would be. Surprise surprise its another Beaver to replace the he lost on our last display day when the wing broke due to structural failure. The manufacturer has improved the design which proves that the model must have had some problems. Graeme Allen test flew the model and Murray Anstis certified it. Model has the same engine (Zenoah 45cc) and seems to be faster than the other one. Specifications are: 3048 mm wing span, powered by a Zenoah 45 petrol engine weighing 10 kg.



Sunday 9th November Graham Waterhouse brought out his new ARF Dornier DO-27 V.M.A.R Kit A.R.F 67 3/4" (1720mm) span 50" (1270mm) Long Engine - MDS - 46 Pitts Style muffler. Graham test flew the model during the week and is very pleased with its handling capabilities. He has made a few modifications to bring it up to his standard. Model looks very scale in flight and should do well in the up and coming scale competition.



Crash Report

Nice to see Rob back flying but sorry to say being a bit rusty he landed his trainer type aircraft just short of the run in the thick grass which tore out the U/C along with the under side of the fuselage. Model has been in similar condition before and I'm sure it will soon be flying again.

Tom is progressing well with his flying but he has made the crash report this month. While doing some mid week flying with Graham Waterhouse things went wrong. After having 5 or 6 good flights with his trainer he got into trouble on his last landing (it always is the last one) and got a bit disoriented and did considerable damage.



Odd Spot

The pair of swallows that have been inspecting all the nesting sights around the field have finally decided on a spot, they have stuck their nest on the top of the toilet door. Every time the door is opened they swing in with it (a room with a view)! The next time you use the outhouse, don't let the door slam.



Insurance Policies Covering MAAA

Members — Reprinted from MAAA Newsletter 5/2003

Being an affiliate member of the M.A.A.A. you are covered by four different insurance policies. These being;

1. Third Party Public and Products Liability
2. Personal Accident
3. Directors and Officers Liability / Corporate Reimbursement Insurance
4. Professional Indemnity

All but about \$25 of the current \$110.50 M.A.A.A. Senior fee goes towards the costs of these policies. I (MAAA President) shall attempt to explain the cover that these policies offer.

Third Party Public Liability

This policy provides a limit of \$20,000,000 with an excess of \$10,000. For several years the MAAA has required the member on whom the claim is made to be responsible for the first \$250. When the excess went up to \$10,000 the M.A.A.A. decided to leave the level the same and that the MAAA would pay for the remaining \$9, 750 excess. You will understand why we are so concerned at reducing accidents as the insurance does not kick in until the total claim is over \$10,000.

This policy indemnifies you for personal injury or property damage to third parties that you are found to be legally liable as a result of the pursuit of model aviation. The policy also includes member-to-member cover. This means that if a member causes another member serious injury and/or property damage the policy will respond. It is impossible to give definite answers as to coverage in specific circumstances. It should be noted that the ultimate arbiter on any claim would be a Court of Law.

The policy also provides third party legal liability cover for clubs and associations. This includes claims for damage against the club from members of the public visiting the club facilities. It also includes cover for catering, provided all State catering regulations are abided by. Claims resulting from injury caused by playground equipment on the club grounds are also covered. The equipment should comply to State requirements and be properly maintained.

If a club organises a public display the policy covers the third party liability aspects of the function provided that all the necessary regulations are abided by. Any public display involving radio-controlled aircraft requires a display permit. See the M.A.A.A. Manual of Procedures on the web site for information.

It should be noted that it is extremely difficult to obtain this type of insurance and even harder to get member-to-member cover. Those who have been in the M.A.A.A. for a number of years will have noticed the steep rise in fees. This has all been due to insurance cost increases.

There is no age limit for the third party policy.

Many people have noted that they have a similar cover with their home and contents policy and ask why can't they use that policy. The simple answer is administration. From feedback I have received, the vast majority of members "demand" that all that fly

have a policy that can be actioned should they be unfortunate enough to sustain injury or damage as a result of the actions of another member. To have people monitoring other coverage, dates of currency and conditions of the many home policies of members would be an impossible task. Not all provide the same level of cover as the M.A.A.A. policy. I am sure that no member of a club would volunteer for the position of "insurance officer". Imagine their predicament if there was an accident and they found that the "insurance officer" had let a person through without adequate insurance cover.

Personal Accident

This provides personal accident coverage for affiliate members under the age of 80 years;

1. Competing in competitions and championships and other activities organised and under the control of the insured.
2. Acting as an official at competitions and championships organised and under the control of the insured.
3. Acting as an elected official of the insured.
4. Engaged in volunteer activities organised and under the control of the insured including direct travel to and from such activities.
5. Travelling directly to or from activities described in 1 to 4 above.

Officially organised would mean the M.A.A.A. and associated clubs having sanctioned the events. This would include training, testing and activities at the club / fields. **It should be noted that the coverage does not cover your activities with model aircraft at home.**

The policy also provides for salary maintenance for salary earners. It provides 80% of net wages up to a maximum of \$500 per week for a maximum of two years. It also pays 80% of the non-Medicare medical expenses to a maximum of \$4,000 for each claim. There are also stipulated maximum amounts for loss of sight, hearing, limbs etc.

The policy has an excess of \$50 and Seven days in the case of salary maintenance.

It should be noted that the policy does not cover the medical fee "gap". That is the difference between the Medicare rebate and the fee charged by a medical practitioner. It is illegal to have insurance to cover this.

Directors and Officers Policy

This policy covers the legal expenses of the Club or Association and its officials in the event of them being subjected to legal action as a result of their position. It should be noted that the club officials should exercise due care and with regard to State and Federal laws in carrying out their duties as directors.

As in all other cases if the Club Executive believes that there is a possibility that they will be involved in legal action they should contact the M.A.A.A. Secretary as soon as possible.

The excess on each and every claim is Nil for directors and Officers Liability and \$2,000 for Corporate Reimbursement.

Professional Indemnity

This policy covers Inspectors, Club Officials, Instructors for advice that they may give in regards to model aviation. It is also possible that Professional Instructors, who are members of the M.A.A.A. to be listed on the policy for their activities as a profession instructor of model aviation. For a member to be listed as a Professional/Paid instructor they must hold the M.A.A.A. Instructor Rating, have the recommendation of their State Association and permission from their club/s to conduct paid instruction at their field/s.

The excess on each and every claim is \$2,000.

What to do in the Event of a Claim

The M.A.A.A. Manual of Procedures includes a procedure "Accident / Incident Reporting and Actions Procedure" which details the process that should be followed in the event of an injury and/or possible insurance claim. A copy of the procedure is available on the M.A.A.A. web site or from the M.A.A.A. or State Association Secretary.

It is important that all possible claims are reported as soon as possible. Please ensure that witnesses are recorded and statements taken. It is hard to chase up everyone after the event.

Please note that every incident/accident should be thoroughly investigated and "closed out" in accordance to the requirements of the procedure. The importance of reducing accidents is vital to our organization. We do not like to see fellow members injured and it also adds greatly to our costs. Please do your bit and be very vigilant with the aim of no accidents.

As I have noted many times, the meeting of prop and fingers still seems to be a favourite trick for many of us. Although it sounds a bit of lark the injuries sustained by some are very severe. Some members have lost fingers and others the full use of them. Please be careful around props and use effective aircraft restraints when starting. Most important of all, do not reach over a turning prop, go behind to release the glow plug and make adjustments. Safety is a continuing thought process.



Events

Geelong Scale Report – Glenn White

The VFSAA Fun scale round four held at Geelong on Sunday 2nd November was a non-event again due to inclement weather. Roger and I ignored the weather forecast and made the trip down to the new flying field at Swan Bay. The weather wasn't too bad in Ballarat when we left but got worse as the morning progressed, the wind was gusting and there were short spells of rain. It would have been very uncomfortable for the judges as well as the pilots so it was decided to call the event off. Hopefully we will have better weather next year.



Coming Events

State Field Opening – 22nd/23rd November 2003

The official opening of the State Field at Darraweit Guim (Did I spell it right?) is being held on Sunday 23rd November. Several of our members are attending the opening which promises to be an enjoyable event. If you are looking for something to do (and get this newsletter in time) why not come down. The field location is in the VMAA directory. It is also the home of the Northern Flying Group (NFG).

Sausage Sizzle – 29th November 2003

Our next sausage sizzle is scheduled for Saturday morning 29th November. Setup time is 9.00-9.30AM with selling starting around 10.00AM.

Many of the usual helpers are going to Hamilton on that weekend so we will need others to fill the breach. Don't be surprised if you get a phone call asking for assistance. Glenn and Roger will

organize the food and get it there on the morning. We need about 4 or 5 helpers to go through until around 2.00PM by that time the 300 sausages should be sold.

This is a very important fund raiser for the club which helps us to keep a lid on our fees, so please support your club.

Hamilton Fun Fly – 29th/30th November 2003

Several members are going down to the Hamilton Fun Fly which is always an enjoyable weekend away. They also conduct a swap meet where you can take all your unwanted treasures and inflict them on unsuspecting victims. It is also a good opportunity to pick up some bargains. (That's where the club trainer came from.)

Xmas Party – 13th December 2003

We have scheduled the Xmas Party for Saturday night 13th December (Same weekend as last year). At the time of writing a venue has not been booked but that should happen shortly. If we can't find anywhere more suitable we will probably try for the Buninyong Hotel where we had it last year. The Xmas Raffle will also be drawn on the same night.



New Mower

If you are not already aware of it, the club has purchased another mower. It is a second hand Yardman ride-on from Hendersons in Mair Street. Max located it while on his courier rounds on the day after the last meeting and organized for several members to have a look at it on the Saturday morning 25th October. They were asking \$1500 for it as traded. The members present agreed that it seemed like a reasonable deal and purchased it on the spot. (Purchase of a mower up to \$1500 was authorized at the October

2003 meeting) Max negotiated a new set of blades in the deal for \$1500. All it required was a new battery and a bearing on one of the cutter blades which Max has fitted.

The mower has a 38" cut and is powered by a 14.5HP Briggs and Stratton engine. It is to replace the gang mower which will not handle the long grass during the spring growth period.



Field

The fences constructed by the owner to the south of the runway are a lot nearer than we expected and are going to make flying a little more difficult. I suggest that before you fly, have a walk out and survey where they are located. Unfortunately Geoff Fiske failed to consult with us adequately prior to construction. Just one of the pitfalls of NOT owning your own field.

Don't forget we need more trees planted around the compound now that our fence keeps the sheep out.



Event Calendar

Nov 22 nd /23 rd 2003	Official Opening of State Flying Field – Northern Flying Group (NFG).
Nov 29 th /30 th 2003	Hamilton Fun Fly and Swap meet.
Dec 13 th 2003	Xmas party night out. (Saturday)
Dec 14 th 2003	Roy Gladman R3 scale. (Sunday)

That's all for now. Good flying.
G.W & R.C.



Model Trains, Ships, Aircraft,
Plastic Kits, Die Casts, Live Steam,
Radio Controlled Cars,

40% off all Super Glues for month of November.

CMPRO ARF Kits

?	P26 Peashooter 71" span, 91-120 4 stroke (already built)	\$650
?	Spitfire - 71" span, 91-120 4 stroke	\$650
?	P47 T/Bolt - 71" span, 91-120 4 stroke	\$590

****** Merry Xmas to all from Top Gun ******

(Indoor Electric – Netball Centre Norman Street. Sunday 23rd Nov. 2.00-4.00PM)

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