



NEWSLETTER – January, 2017

Committee 2016/2017

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Note the meeting location.

The next general meeting is to be held at the **Eastwood Street Leisure Centre in the Canteen**, on Wednesday January 25th commencing at **7.30PM** (Turn left after entry to the Complex, and the Canteen is on the left again). **Don't forget to bring a plate for supper.**

Agenda Items for the next meeting

1. Trawalla Estate Update
2. City of Ballarat Update
3. Strategic Plan Development
4. Field Maintenance
5. Burrumbeet Airstrip
6. Asset Register
7. Canteen Re-Fit
8. Display Day 2017

Points of interest from the last meeting

Extract of newsworthy items from the minutes of the last meeting. Note: Some events/activities may have concluded or been modified as circumstances change.

7) Reports

a) Management Committee Report

Committee of Management met on November 9.

The Committee agreed that a Display Day should be held Sunday the 2nd April 2017, with a Fun Fly on the preceding Saturday the 1st April.

The VFSAA Competition will be held at the Trawalla field on 9 April 2017

8) General Business

a) MAAA ID Cards

All cards have now been received.

b) Trawalla Estate Update

M Rowan reported that the TE Manager advised that cattle would not be run until after the crop was harvested, and that the electric fence could be taken down.

The issue of rent was raised, and the Manager advised that rent was not required at this time.

c) City of Ballarat Update

G Allen reported that the City of Ballarat were progressing the matter and should be in a position to report in December.

d) Strategic Plan Development

Matter is on hold until 2017. G Allen has volunteered to take over leadership.

e) Field Maintenance

M Rowan reported that the both mowers and the generator were serviced, and the fuel tank leak fixed.

M Anstis will rerun the grey water drain to clear the club buildings after the canteen renovations are completed.

An 'S' trap is required for the toilet, along with a ball valve for the urinal tap.

M Anstis will level up the patio area with a load of sand and replace the heater safety fence.

It was noted that the large eucalypt to the north of the buildings is unstable, and likely to fall. Members should not park in the immediate vicinity of the tree, and the safety fence should be maintained.

f) Burrumbeet Airstrip

No feedback from Paul Beechy, re improving the airstrip.

Secretary to contact Paul B for a response.

g) Asset Register

Max Rowan tabled a preliminary Register, and assigned estimates as to the value of the items.

An "Invitation to Tender" document is being prepared and will be circulated in the November Newsletter. Secretary to circulate to other clubs via the VMAA. (Secretary requires make & model information before circulating to other clubs.)

Photos of items and information will be prepared and circulated.

Agreed that the 6 x 6M shed and possibly the spare mower could be advertised on Gumtree, with the reserve set at our estimated value. P Evans will see if there is any interest in the VHF and UHF radios, else put them up for sale on Gumtree as well.

h) Display Day 2017

Agreed as per the Committee of Management meeting that a Display Day 2nd April 2017 should be advised to the VMAA, and prepare the required documentation. A risk assessment walk-through will be held next weekend.

i) Refit of Canteen

G Allen reported that good progress has been made in refurbishing the canteen. The roof, wall patching and the cupboards are to be tackled next. Cleaning, painting and electrical work will then follow.

9) Other Business

a) Xmas Meeting Venue

G Allen advised that the Xmas meeting will be held at the Ballarat Leagues Club on December 16 commencing at 7:00PM.

Please advise the Secretary of numbers attending.

10) Agenda Items for next meeting

- i) Trawalla Estate Update
- ii) City of Ballarat Update
- iii) Strategic Plan Development
- iv) Field Maintenance
- v) Burrumbeet Airstrip
- vi) Asset Register
- vii) Canteen Re-Fit
- viii) Display Day 2017

11) Meeting location

The next meeting will be held on the 25th January 2017, **in the Canteen, Eastwood St**

Leisure Complex, Eastwood Street, commencing approximately 7:30PM.

12) Meeting Closed at 9:00PM



VMAA News

Nothing new to report since the December newsletter.



Goin's on at the Field

Kitchen Reno

Steady progress is being made on the renovations to the kitchen. Glenn has hooked up the gas line to the new stove, Murri connected the waste pipe from the new sink to the waste outlet a couple of weeks ago.

Last Sunday we installed the 3 new fluoro light fittings ready to wire up with all new external wiring. The kitchen is being completely rewired using conduit because of a short that was created years ago when holes that were drilled to attach the veranda over the servery went through the internal wiring. How were we to know there would be wires just where we needed to drill!!!!

Fortunately the existing power outlets are all double pole switches which is a requirement for portable buildings so they can be reused attached to mounting blocks.

Peter Weston is overseeing the painting side of things so please offer your help to assist with cleaning down or on the brush or roller

The old wall mounted cupboard is now securely fitted under the end bench top in the servery area. It has worked out as a convenient place to store the soft drink supplies, helps to keep the place a bit tidier.

Charging Station

Paul Ruddle has constructed a solar/battery powered charging station which anyone can use to charge up their battery packs.

It is mounted in a bookcase type cabinet with two ½ inch copper pipes running vertically the height of the cabinet which forms the electrical bus. I think we will eventually fit divider panels to prevent an accidental short circuit by a long metal object such as a screwdriver. If a short trips the circuit breaker there's no problem but if it doesn't then arcing or hot wires could cause a fire.

Murri installed the solar panel on the roof of the container for Paul. A large capacity lead acid battery is located inside the container with a circuit breaker in case of a short circuit.

Well done Paul, I'm sure the electric flyers will get plenty of use out of it and it may get well used when the pattern aerobatic guys come up over the weekend of February 11th/12th given that most of them fly electric these days.



Charging station built into a disused bookcase cabinet which has been mounted to the wall of the container which is under the covered in area.



A charger connected to the charging bus using the clips the charger comes with



The solar panel was mounted on the roof of the container pointing in a generally northerly direction.

Club Generator



I (Roger) replaced the wheels on the generator back in August last year and moved them forward to reduce the load on the flimsy handles. Unfortunately the new axle assembly was positioned a little too far forward and allowed it to tip up when wheeling forward because the handles are not rigid and just drop down so they are out of the way.

Last Sunday January 22nd I moved the axle back by 50mm (55mm to be exact because that is how far apart the holes were in the attaching plate and I reused the rear holes.) They are still about 30mm further forward than the original axle position. In doing so the old axle locating tubes had to be ground off to make way for the new attaching hole in the frame.



Axle moved back 55mm to stop it tipping over when wheeling forward. (Not a very good photo. It was taken after the generator was put back in the container and the sun shining in caused a shadow.)



Tips & Tricks

Pitfalls of vacuuming!!!

This is not modelling related but an experience I had doing the vacuuming a couple of weeks ago. I mentioned this to Wayne at the field last Sunday suggesting that he would know all about vacuuming. I was explaining the situation how I was using two hands on the nozzle etc.. He said he uses it single handed with one hand on his hip – very nice!!!

I had plugged the vacuum cleaner cord into the power socket which is mounted underneath an overhanging side of the island bench in the kitchen.

Turned it on and started doing the kitchen floor and then into the family room. After a few minutes there was this pungent electrical burning smell and I immediately thought the vacuum cleaner had overheated.

It was okay and as I looked along the lead to the where it was plugged in there was smoke coming out from under the bench top. Power off immediately.

On close examination it was caused by the fact I hadn't pushed the plug in fully and it was arcing inside the switch. I pulled the plug out and the plastic around the pin holes had melted somewhat. My only explanation apart from stupidity for not pushing it in properly is the power outlet is under the bench and difficult to see.

Replace the switch that's no problem because I had a spare from when the house was built. I unscrewed the switch off the mounting block but found the heat from the switch had melted a few inches of one of the wires so a job for an electrician.

That sort of problem is much more dangerous than a dead short that pops the circuit breaker. The vacuum cleaner was working fine while the switch was smoking. Just shows you can't be too careful. Make sure plugs are pushed fully into the socket.



Coming Events

Tates RC World Trophy February 11th/12th



The VPA (Victorian Pattern Association) is holding their *Tates RC World Trophy F3A Pattern Aerobatics* event at our field over the weekend of February 11th & 12th.

The last event we hosted was back at Yendon in April 2014. In fact we hosted their event just about every year we were at the Yendon field.

We will need some helpers over the weekend to run the canteen, make sure the field is prepared as best we can and provide any assistance that may be needed.

As far as the operation is concerned the VPA run the event themselves and from our experience they do so very professionally.

MITCHELL FIXED WING AERO CLUB Inc

Invite you to our

BIPE & BUSH PLANE DAY

TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12TH



10am start

Food and drinks will be on

Contact: Barry Dunn. 03 5792 1017.
Mob: 0401 359 918
clearpropdude@gmail.com

Our field is located at 470 Seymour Toobarac Road
Hilldene Vic. (Between Seymour and Puckapunyal)
\$5.00 ENTRY FEE

www.mfy.com.au

MODEL PLANE FLYING AT IT'S BEST

March 4th/5th Warrnambool Annual Fun Fly



Don't forget the Annual Warrnambool Fly-in is being held over the weekend of March 4th/5th. Several BRMFC members are going and staying the Saturday night. Some might even make it a two night event by heading down Friday.

This is always an enjoyable event and a good opportunity to get down to seaside Warrnambool for a weekend getaway.

The Warrnambool members have regularly supported our flying display days in the past so we might see a few at our Trawalla open days to be held over April 1st/2nd.



Northern Flying Group's Annual Twins & More

Sunday 26th March 2017

Held annually at the State Flying Field, Quayles Road,
Darrawiet Guim Melways Reference 425 G3

Visit www.nfg.org.au for a detailed map and registration form.

All pre-entered registrations will receive one bonus entry into the prize draw at the end of the day.

Entry is open to all MAAA registered Pilots that have a plane with two or more engines or two main wings (bi-planes).

Non flying visitors are most welcome to come and enjoy the day.

Food and drink will be available during the event.

Great prizes on a fly per ticket lucky draw system.

A trophy for the most unusual multi-engine aircraft.

\$10 Entry Fee for all Competitors – bring as many planes as you like.

Pilots briefing and registration 9.30am
Flying from 10am

Contact: Mark Sills – 0419 338 847

Northern Flying Group in conjunction with our major sponsors hopes you come and enjoy a relaxed Sunday flying at this unique event.

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Event Calendar

Feb 11 th /12 th	Tates RC World Trophy (F3A Pattern Aerobatics) – BRMFC Trawalla
Feb 12 th	Bipe & Bush Plane Day – Seymour
Feb 19 th	Ballan Display & Fun Fly – BMMAC
Mar 1 st /5 th	Avalon Airshow – Avalon Airport
Mar 4 th /5 th	Warrnambool Annual Fun Fly – WMAC
Mar 19 th	VFSAA Scale Fly-in Greensborough GMAC
Mar 26 th 2017	Twins & More Darrawiet Guim – NFG
31 st Mar - 2 nd Apr	Wang Jets, Wangaratta – VJAA
April 1 st /2 nd	Display Day & Fun Fly – BRMFC Trawalla
April 9 th	VFSAA Sport Scale – BRMFC Trawalla
April 14 th /17 th	Easter weekend
April 29 th /30 th	VMAA Trophy Weekend – NFG
May 5 th /6 th	Autumn Scale Rally Albury – TCMCA
May 21 st	VFSAA Sport Scale Pakenham – P&DARCS

For the complete VMAA calendar go to
<http://www.vmaa.com.au/assets/files/Calendar%20of%20Events.pdf>

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

Time for some Frivolity – the sealed section

Note: If easily offended please skip this item. It contains adult themes, but no crude language or nudity.

HOW WE LOVE OLD PEOPLE

A farmer stopped by the local mechanic's shop to have his truck fixed. They couldn't do it while he waited, so he said he didn't live far and would just walk home.

On the way home he stopped at the hardware store and bought a bucket and a gallon of paint. He then stopped by the feed store and picked up a couple of chickens and a goose. However, struggling outside the store, he now had a problem - how to carry his entire purchases home.

While he was scratching his head he was approached by a little old lady who told him she was lost. She asked, 'can you tell me how to get to 1603 Mockingbird Lane?'

The farmer said, 'Well, as a matter of fact, my farm is very close to that house. I would walk you there, but I can't carry this lot.'

The old lady suggested, 'Why don't you put the can of paint in the bucket. Carry the bucket in one hand, put a chicken under each arm and carry the goose in your other hand?'

'Why thank you very much!' he said and proceeded to walk the old girl home. On the way he says 'Let's take my short cut and go down this alley. We'll be there in no time.'

The little old lady looked him over cautiously then said, 'I am a lonely widow without a husband to defend me. How do I know that when we get in the alley you won't hold me up against the wall, pull up my skirt, and have your way with me?'

The farmer said, 'Holy Smoke lady! I'm carrying a bucket, a gallon of paint, two chickens, and a goose. How in the world could I possibly hold you up against the wall and do that?!'

The old lady replied, 'Set the goose down, cover him with the bucket, put the paint on top of the bucket, and I'll hold the chickens!'

Happy Marriage

A couple were celebrating their golden wedding anniversary on the beaches in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Their domestic tranquillity had long been the talk of the town. People would say, "What a peaceful & loving couple" The local newspaper reporter was inquiring as to the secret of their long and happy marriage

The Husband replied: "Well, it dates back to our honeymoon in America," explained the man. "We visited the Grand Canyon, in Arizona, and took a trip down to the bottom of the canyon, by horse. We hadn't gone too far when my wife's horse stumbled and she almost fell off. My wife looked down at the horse and quietly said, "That's once."

"We proceeded a little further and her horse stumbled again. Again my wife quietly said, "That's twice." We hadn't gone a half-mile when the horse stumbled for the third time my wife quietly removed a revolver from her purse and shot the horse dead.

I SHOUTED at her, "What's wrong with you, Woman! Why did you shoot the poor animal like that, are you f*** crazy!?" She looked at ME, and quietly said, "That's once." And from that moment..... "We have lived happily ever after."

