

S.M.A.C. Newsletter, March /April 2008

Dear members,

Firstly, let me apologise for my absence since Christmas. I have been very busy making a living, and doing home duties,(no excuse really,but that's the truth). So now that I'm back,let's get started.

I will try and make some sense of the things that I know that's happened in the Club since our last newsletter. I guess the most newsworthy items are that the S.M.A.C.lease has been renewed,(five years,plus the option of a further five years),and the Club has now introduced a noise limit ruling.All aircraft must now be tested before being permitted to fly. So anyone that has not had their models tested, remember the DB test meter is kept at the field.If any members are unable to make it to the field at weekends,please contact our President,(John Watters 0403 250 246), and make an appointment.

The times I have been flying, since returning from overseas, has seen it quite busy at the field with many club members taking advantage of the warm weather.A good number of pilots have been flying in the late afternoons during the week,and on the weekends. It has been a pleasure to see so many new faces and new models, with the father and son teams steadily increasing.

The builder's forum has now met twice, and it looks like the guys that are turning up are flat out building kits and scratch building models. What a thrill to see the enthusiasm,and I hope to see many new models as a result.

Any one interested in attending the builders forum are welcome. It's not a secret society.If you are interested, we meet at Alan Turner's place at Mount George,(opposite Bridgewater), on Tuesday evenings about once a month. Contact the president if you wish to join in, and he will keep you informed as to dates etc. Don't be shy, if you have an interest, turn up!

My Britten Norman Islander,(twin O.S. .52 four strokes), is almost finished, and I hope to take it to Tasmania for their annual scale event in April. It should make its appearance at our Club sometime soon after I return.

It has been quite a long build, that has sort of got more complicated as the building progressed, as these things tend to do. It started out as a sport scale model, and has grown more true scale like as the time has drawn on. Suffice to say that it will, I am sure, please the eye of the keen modeler that likes the look of thousands of rivets and surface detail. I indeed am sick of it!

The last competition for spotting the plane was won by Noel Wenzel who so cleverly identified the 'Sea Fire' photo snip See this newsletter for yet another 'name the plane' contest. Remember, the rules are simple, identify either one and E mail me at

mgb600@ozemail.com.au with your intelligent assessment to win a bottle of bubbly. First across the line with the right answer will win. Come on be in it!!!!

We have two events planned in the coming weeks. Unfortunately the Club Fun Fly and sausage sizzle planned for April 20th I will miss, as I will be in Tasmania, but I will be back definitely for the Club Scale Day and BBQ lunch on May 25th. The president will say more about these events as the time gets closer, They can also be seen on the calendar page of our new web site.

Speaking of web sites, the best news of this letter is, we now have our own club site up and running, thanks to the efforts of John Watters and the welcome suggestions by Nicolle Merryweather and others. It all came together well, and if the positive comments so far are an indication of member's approval, then we have a great web site. I am sure most of you are aware of the address, but if not, it's www.strathmac.info Log on and check it out. Looking good John!!!!

This newsletter will be the last one mailed out in total, but those members identified as not having web access will still receive theirs through the post. So please visit your club's site often for the newsletters, general announcements, and even just to have a look in the photo gallery. You never know, you may see someone there that looks familiar!.

Congratulations to Luke Haeusler on receiving his Bronze Wings. Well done Luke!.

Seen "ON THE STRIP"!!!!

Michael "Marv" Kuss and his cute little "Old Timer". Good to see her back in the air Marv.

Luke Haeusler's 60 size Cloud Dancer, (.120 four stroke). "needs a bigger engine Luke!". Another addition to Luke's hangar that's been spotted is an Edge 3D.

Who said one plane is enough????

John Watters has finally flown his Sopwith Camel, (O.S. .91 four stroke), (about bloody time!). She looks, sounds, and flies sweet as.

Phil Birt has struck the trifecta with his newly presented RV4, a Super Chipmunk, and a lovely scale Texan. You might have to polish up that one for the Scale Day, Phil!.

Ian White and his 'trainer yellow' Texan, running a two stroke petrol engine.

Joe Neble and his home designed and built electric powered delta. This little girl flies FAST!!!!

Mike Treglown and son Danal with their new Sky Raider trainer. These boys spend so much time at the field, with their dedication and desire to learn to fly, that they may as well set up camp. Good to see the commitment.

IMPORTANCE NOTICE

The club's safety officers have asked that the members be reminded of some club rules.

ALL TRANSMITTERS,(including SPECTRUM),must be returned to the transmitter pound immediately after finishing a flying session,unless being used for short time adjustments.

TRANSMITTER FREQUENCY KEYS,(including SPECTRUM) must be used at all times,and placed on the board before flying,and removed immediately after.

Fixed wing aircraft take precedent over rotary wing aircraft when it comes to airstrip use.So if a fixed wing pilot is flying,or wants to fly,then helicopters must fly at either designated ends of the pits area

The club's Chief Flying Instructor and Bronze and Gold Wing examiner,Brian Lockett, wishes it be known that he is available for testing on the second Sunday in the month. Please contact Brian to make an appointment.

Finally, the people who turned up for the sausage sizzle Fun Fly,and engine noise testing day, had a great time. Although it was a little on the warm side, it did not deter the hardy ones, and everyone there enjoyed themselves. Well done again to the organizers. Yet another great event that is bringing the Club closer together. Great stuff!.

That's about all for now,so see the pics of the new competition in this newsletter, and some pics of the sausage sizzle in the web site's gallery.

Happy Landings,

Alan Turner,
Publicity officer.