

SMAC newsletter July2008

Hi again.

Not a lot of news this month. The weather has limited flying, and has certainly restricted my flying time, but then every cloud has a silver lining. I have been busy with my latest offering, a ¼ scale Citabria (Bellanca Decathlon). It is scratch built from a plan, and not a very good one at that. I have had to make many alterations along the way, but it is shaping up to be a reasonable rendition of a famous, and very nice model.

It has a wingspan of 104 inches, or for the metric minded 2550mm, and I am using a new OS 200FS. I have not run it yet, but I am assured that they are very easy to use, and have heaps of power. It is covered with SR tex, and will be painted in two pack. See some construction pics.

Enough of my ramblings. Now to what's happening in the club. The builder's forum was attended by 9 club members this month, which is nearly three times the usual numbers. I hope they enjoyed themselves. I am not sure if it's the delicious cooking of a certain member's wife that they have come for, or the scintillating conversation!

It seems building is indeed alive and well. There was a huge scale 'Korean War' helicopter so beautifully detailed, and almost ready for the air from Alexis Scott, (FLY IN HOBBIES) and the Taube of David Lynden is coming along nicely. It seems that fuel tank issues may now have been resolved after a forum discussion. There was also much talk of an almost finished SE5a, and a lovely Flair Tiger Moth to be seen in the future. I am so envious as I have been after one of those for ages. They are such lovely scale models, and fly so well. I think from memory Darren Norman said it was to have a big four stroke for power. Can't wait to see it at the club!

The repairs to both my Islander and the Skybolt are underway, and will be finished as soon as we get a bit of warmer weather for painting.

The events committee have been busy with two events planned before the end of the year. A Fun Fly club event on the 21 st September, which will consist of some fun events, a sausage sizzle, and lots of enthusiastic banter no doubt? Then on the 23rd November we are holding another Scale fun fly event open to all MAAA members, along the same lines as the last one that proved so popular. A full BBQ will be available. We are open for sponsorship, so anyone wishing to sponsor all or part of the day please give us a call.

The new starting bench, (one has been approved as a trial), should be on site soon, and will be well used I am sure. Let's hope the Committee approves the rest, (four in all). As far as safety is concerned, they will be a big step forward I believe.

Talking of safety, I believe the safety officers were left scratching their heads when a modeller was spotted taking off with a big Cessna between the entrance fences from the pits and the strip!

Interesting approach, let's hope all ended well.

The noise issue has raised its ugly head again, so I urge all members and associates to please take care, and have due regard for the delicate situation with our neighbors. After all, we all need to have respect for our own space. Please do not fly outside the club's curfew, and do not fly models that have not been certified as complying with the club's noise limit regulations.

The scale day held on the 29th June was a total success, and even though the weather looked intimidating, we counted twenty three cars in the car park. It was attended by the Scale Society with their excellent collection of aircraft, some glider guides from SSL, who eagerly participated in some aero-towing, compliments of Alexis Scott's huge Piper Cub, and some members from the Constellation Club. More good friends made. A truly excellent day

Many thanks to the 'Three Amigos', Graham and Jenny Willis, and Noel Wenzel, for their delicious BBQ. Top shelf as usual.

That's about it for now.

Don't forget that if you have something you would like to see in these pages, just E me the details, and I will happily include it in the newsletter.

Happy landings,
Alan Turner,
Publicity Officer.