

News from The Desk. S.M.A.C.

Hello again.

There has been an increase in activity this month due to much improved weather conditions. Most weekends have seen a good collection of pilots at the field, and increasingly during the week, (for those of us who have retired!) Try it, you'll like it I'm sure.

S.M.A.C. hosted the pattern boys from S.A.P.A. again, and although I was not there I understand that even though the weather was not kind that day a enough turned up and enjoyed the competition, and delicious BBQ lunch. Once again provided by Jenny, Graham, and Noel. Well done guys! It was up to your usual standard.

The highlight of club activity recently has been our Fun Fly event held Sept 21. The day was quite windy. Not enough to ground models, but a reasonable breeze stopped the scheduled balloon bursting comp from taking place. The balloons were blown down to about 50mm from the strip! So we changed tack, and had a spot landing competition instead. There were about 15 entries, and we ran 3 rounds. Everyone seemed to have fun, and the prizes were again subsidized by FLY IN HOBBIES at Mt. Barker. They again surprised us with their generosity. Well done Alexis.

The 3 rounds each saw some exceptional performances, not least was a certain authority figure who decided during the first round to go do some fencing! Trouble was he was seen using the wrong tools..... One either uses swords or wire and posts Sir!!!!!!! See pics attached, and see if you can identify the culprit!

It's no secret that the way to win these competitions is to fly light weight electric birds, and the guys that did made the oily guys look like amateurs. Well done to the winners.

First place to Joe Nebl
Second place to Paul Mitchell
Third place to Simon Williams

Raffle winner was again Joe Nebl

It seems that the people who turned out and had a go all enjoyed themselves. From that we can deduce that this sort of event will continue to be held. We look forward now to the S.M.A.C. Scale Day on November 23rd, (open to all M.A.A.A. members). We also invite the entry of 'scale' helicopters and gliders. Watch for dates and info, or visit the S.M.A.C. web site calendar page for details.

I believe that there will be many more scale aircraft to admire at this fun event, as the word is out that members are busy getting them ready.

Congratulations to Simon Williams, and Paul Mitchell on passing their Bronze Wing tests. (Been a long time coming, eh Paul!)

The builder's forum continues to be well attended with new faces added each time. Again remember it is your forum, so be in it, and we can study and learn about any and all aspects of model building. At the last forum we covered a Pete'n' Poke wing with solatex.

All agreed it was an easy to handle covering material, and most were surprised at the ease at which it was used. We look forward to many more such forums.

The consensus is that we should run a transmitter programming night, (I think we all know our trannies are capable of much more than we realize). We're working on the means and details at present. So if you want to unlock the mysteries of your Tx. come along. Watch the web site for details.

To keep you posted on projects. The Britten Norman Islander is finished, and ready to fly. The Citabria is almost ready to paint, and now the warm weather is getting closer, painting will take place very quickly. So look out for a few new models at the strip. The big Cessna has stalled while I sort out engines. The twin I bought will not fit within the cowl, and I'm struggling with having the spark plugs poking out the side. My thinking is that it will be better to have a big 3W petrol mounted inverted. More updates as I get it sorted out.

That's all for now,
Happy Landings,
Alan Turner, Publicity Officer.
Strathalbyn Model Aircraft Club.