

THE FREE FLIGHTER



JOURNAL OF THE NSW FREE FLIGHT SOCIETY INC.

JANUARY 2025



Richmond open for Business!

Meeting opened:

7.34pm Dundas Sports Club – President Michael Towell in the chair

Present:

Michael Towell, Natalie Beckett, Roy Summersby, John Pennels, Ed Mahoney, Angie Mahoney, Gary Goodwin, Gail Scott, Peter Scott, Phil Warren, Bruce Hao, Andrew Linwood, Warren Leadbeatter by phone.

Apologies:

Gary Pope, Terry Bond, Steve Rothwell

Guests:

Richard Jensen, Reg Towell, Lyn Towell

Minutes of previous meeting:

Moved, Gary Goodwin, Seconded, Peter Scott, Carried

Business Arising:

Radio for Richmond has arrived and is ready to use. Someone needs to do the CASA radio course.

Michael T, Gary G and Roy S to attend. Roy to organise and advise a date.

Dept Fair Trading form 2023/24. has been put in by Roy.

Nationals T-shirts. Andrew has them and ready. Andrew to organise.

Correspondence out:

Friday notices,

Newsletter,

Nationals letter to MAAA,

Dept Fair Trading form for 2022/23

Correspondence In:

Letter from RC Scale Society,

Letter from ANSW newsletter editor,

AEFA letter hosting nationals to its members,

Sam Kirby letter of resignation as registrar,

NZ Nationals invitation.

Treasurers Report:

1st Sept to 31 st Oct presented by Roy Summersby.

Moved Ed, Seconded Gary, all agreed, Carried - Copies available upon request

Motion moved for Nats account to be increased to \$500.00 Balance

Moved by Gary G and Seconded by Ed, all agreed, Carried

General Business:

Cost of Helium Balloons was raised by Roy. Gary to investigate other cheaper options and report back.

Terry Bond advised he is no longer the Public Officer. A new Public Officer is needed. Warren is happy to be Public Officer. All agreed, Carried

Sam Kirby resigned as registrar. Warren has agreed to be our new registrar. Moved by Roy sec Peter and carried.

Adding George Fuller day at Richmond. Warren and Nat to look at the program.

Calendar March meeting to move to 21 st March

MAAA free flight Nationals Logo, will send an email to get ready for stickers and badges.

Natalie to be registrar for Nats. SAMS to Join in. Ad for Wingspan newsletter.

Motion: Radio goes home with Michael. Moved Roy, Sec Michael carried.

Reminder Christmas Party on this Friday. Lyn Towell has everything organised.

Dixielander Fest was a great & successful weekend.

Meeting closed 8.31 pm

Updated Committee positions & contact information.

Position	Name	Phone
President	Michael Towell	0433 175 295
Vice President	Gary Goodwin	0414 292 050
Secretary & Newsletter Editor	Warren Leadbeatter	0408 801 539
Treasurer	Roy Summersby	0413 588 720
Public Officer & Registrar	Warren Leadbeatter	0408 801 539
Safety Officer	Michael Towell	0433 175 295
Chief Flying Instructor	Mike Ward	0416 081 536
Scale Coordinator	Phil Warren	0405 579 904
Facebook & Website Manager	Warren Leadbeatter	0408 801 539
Contest Organizer Richmond	Peter Scott	0434 276 265
Librarian	John Pennells	02 4363 1834

PRESIDENTS REPORT – JANUARY 2025

The last couple of months have been pretty busy. To start with, a big thank you to Lyn Towell for catering for our Friday Christmas party, without you the Friday revelers would have starved. Also, a big thank you to Charlie and Pauline for the use of the paddock. Pauline did make it for the Christmas party, speeches were made and gifts were given to show our appreciation, which was well received.

Our Facebook page is getting a lot more traffic of late. With the pics from our Friday and Sunday activities, we are getting ever more positive feedback. If you would like to put something on, and please do, just send it to Warren, myself or Natalie with what caption you want and we will get it on for you. Anything from a current or finished build project, repairs, trimming techniques to anything of interest. Let's see if we can get a little variety going.

Fridays have still been well attended, let's try keep it that way. We had a few visitors on the first Friday for the year, and even picked up a new member from that. Let's welcome Steve Hughes as our newest member of the NSWFFS. It's good to see some new blood join our fold.

Last meeting we organised a search party for Bruce's missing F1B, about 9 of us went out and spent a few hours with no luck. Even with a camera mounted on an electric glider sweeping the paddock didn't pick it up. But, a couple of weeks later Bruce did eventually find his missing F1B, well done

Hopefully, you've all seen the contest calendar for this year, there are a few changes to try and encourage a little bit more participation. The State Champs events have been spread out a little more, there will be an afternoon or night organised later in the year to present trophies and prizes. There is an Unorthodox day and Ebenezer day coming up in the first quarter, just for something a little different. I'm sure we've all built, or want to build that something that's not quite right. Well, now here is your excuse.

Speaking of our contest calendar, it is now a fixture in the ANSW newsletter. I will be doing a couple of reports here and there for a bit of cross promotion. Hopefully, we might see some new faces amongst us. And the odd article from them in our newsletter too.

The Society now has a 2 way radio to communicate with the RAAF tower. We still have to ring the tower and ask for permission to fly under 400ft. They will then ask to do a radio check, communication is then via the radio if we do need to cease flying while something is on manoeuvres. Then we need to ring the tower again to let them know when we have finished flying.

We are planning a working bee for the 15/16th of March at West Wyalong, if anyone is free and available please notify Roy or myself your availability. There is always something to be done to help improve and develop our flying site.

A reminder for parking on the field, it is \$5. The bulk of this goes to Charlie and Pauline at our Friday Christmas party in appreciation for the use of their field. There is a money jar on one of the tables on the field, please find it and contribute.

Michael Towell,
President NSWFFS

Next Meeting 17th January 2025

This will be a general meeting to be held at the Dundas Sports Club starting at 7.30pm. As normal some of us will have a meal there before the meeting, please feel free to join us.

MAAA Wingspan

It's been great to see we had three articles in the MAAA Wingspan magazine. It is certainly letting the other sides of aeromodelling know we exist and are active. Roy hopes to continue inserting articles in the next 3 or 4 issues just to let people know we are alive.

Flying at Richmond

On 24th December we received some excellent news from the MAAA advising that the CASA instrument for Area Approval for flying at Richmond has finally been approved. This means that we can fly legally here on official flying days from now and for the next 5 years until it comes up for renewal again. This does not mean that anyone can just go flying at Richmond whenever they feel like it, there is a strict flying procedure that must be followed and adhered to as already covered previously.

Maxmen USA 2025

Two of our members, Bruce F1B and Roy F1C & J will once again be heading off to California to try their luck in the Fab Feb competitions at Lost Hills. Both Bruce and Roy have been impressive over the last two weeks with their flying at Richmond, let us hope they can keep it up. They will have for company Vin Morgan F1B and Albert Fathers F1A. We wish them safe travel and good lift.

Scale Trans Tasman 2025

This July for our Scale Trans Tasman weekend we have at this stage 5 New Zealanders coming over to compete. This will be an official Trans Tasman event for F4A. Anyone can enter, and the more entries that we do get would be fantastic. What we do need is 3 OFFICIAL TEAM MEMBERS to represent Australia. If you would like to be a part of that team, would you please contact our secretary Warren Leadbeatter at nswff.registrar@gmail.com by the 1st March 2025 with your interest to be a part of Team Oz for the Trans Tasman. The announcement of the official team and main flyer will be in the March newsletter.

AFFS Champs 2025

The date is 27th April to the 4th of May. As it has been for the last few years the F1A,B,C competitions will be held at Narrandera then moving to West Wyalong on the 1st of May for the smaller events. Scramble, due to our request, will be included in the AFFS program and run at West Wyalong. See FFDU for the full program and details.

Working Bee at West Wyalong

Working bee at West Wyalong. The weekend of **March 15-16** would be ideal. Two weeks after the Hunter Valley Champs and in between flying Sundays at Richmond. Shouldn't be too hot and gives plenty of notice for those that are willing. We need a team of carpenters to replace the weather boards around the sliding door / BBQ area and fixing the small step on the veranda. There is plenty of other work that can be done including slashing, painting, repairs, cleaning (outside) and general tidying up.

Contest Calendar 2025

See the Official 2025 Contest Calendar in this newsletter.

Lost



Lost or Misplaced. Last seen and used at the July Scale contest. Have no idea what I have done with them but possibly in someone else's model box. I have turned my place upside down.

Front ends for the following models; Piper Super Cub, Pilatus Porter, Piper Cub

Contact Terry Bond, Mob: +61 417 027 579. Or email terrybondf1c@gmail.com

Shop goods

Contact Roy Summersby 0413588720 roydi132@optusnet.com.au

- Jet A \$2.00 litre in your container
- Methanol
- New stock of ether \$30 / litre to members in your container
- Timers. There is a variety of timers new and second hand, for lightweight rubber.
- Still have plenty of rubber both new and made-up motors
- Lots of small rubber stuff.

Friday Christmas Party at Richmond 22nd November



Sunday Christmas Party at Richmond 1st December



There were lots of great flying days in December



Air Force Cadets Visit - Friday 20th December



74th MAAA Free Flight Nationals 2025



17 - 24 Oct 2025
West Wyalong NSW
Contact: Mike Towell 0433175295





NSW FREE FLIGHT CONTEST CALENDAR 2025 v2

Date	Event	Venue	Time	Contact
January 12	½ hr Scramble and Combined % + BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	8:00am	Roy Summersby
January 17	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7:30pm	
February 2	Unorthodox Day and E36 + BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Michael Towell
February 16	P30 State Champs and Combined Vintage	Richmond	8.00am – 12:00pm	Peter Scott
March 1 - 2	Hunter Valley Championships CL & FF	Muswellbrook	Separate program	MDMAS Club
March 9	1 hr Scramble State Champs and Scale Rally + BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	7.00am-12.00pm	Roy Summersby
March 21	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30 pm	
March 23	E36 State Champs and P30	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Terry Bond
April 6	Ebenezer Day and George Fuller Event + BBQ	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Michael Towell
April 27 - 30	AFFS Champs + Widgiewa Cup (World Cup Events) + Southern Cross Cup for F1A, B, C	Narrandera	See FFDU program	AFFS Committee
May 1 - 4	AFFS continued at WW - 2nd Combined Vintage, E36, P30 - 3rd F1 G, H, J, % & Scramble. - 4th Open Power Open Rubber, HLG, TLG & CLG - See FFDU Evening Presentation Dinner	West Wyalong Farm House	8.00am-1.00pm See FFDU prog. 6.00 PM	AFFS Committee
May 17 - 18	Muswellbrook Veterans Gathering	Muswellbrook	Separate program	MDMAS Club
May 23	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30pm	
May 30 - June 1	F1ABC State Champs + Open Rubber/Power State Champs + Victorian State Champs for F1ABC	West Wyalong	8.00am - 1:00pm	Separate program
June 15	State Champs F1G, H, J + E36 & P30	Richmond	7.00am-12:00pm	Gary Pope
July 4 - 6	Trans Tasman Scale Rally (Fri to Sun) + ½ hr Scramble and Fun Fly BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	Separate program	Phil Warren Michael Towell
July 18	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30 pm	
July 25 - 27	Midwinter Mini Maxout + George Fuller Event 2 Min Max Models	West Wyalong	Separate Program	Roy Summersby
Aug 10	HLG/CLG State Champs and Combined %	Richmond	7:00 – 12:00pm	Gary Goodwin
Aug 22 - 24	Cowra Oily Hand Weekend	Cowra	Separate Program	Cowra MAC
Sep 14	½ hr Scramble and Scale Rally. BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Roy Summersby
Sep 19	General Meeting + Annual General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7:30 pm	
Oct 17 - 24	74th MAAA Free Flight Nationals	West Wyalong	Separate Program	Michael Towell
Nov 9	Combined Vintage State champs and E36, P30	Richmond	7:00am - 12:00pm	Nat Beckett
Nov 21	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30 pm	
Nov 28	Friday Xmas Party	Richmond	7.00am - 1.00pm	Terry & Lyn
Dec 7	½ hr Scramble and Combined % + Combined Vintage + Christmas BBQ – BYO Food	Richmond	7:00am - 1:00pm	Michael Towell

*** Note: All Scrambles start at 8.00am ***