

THE FREE FLIGHTER



JOURNAL OF THE NSW FREE FLIGHT SOCIETY INC.

NOVEMBER 2024



65 Years of Dixielanders at West Wyalong

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 20TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Meeting opened:

7.30 Dundas Sports Club – Acting President Roy Summersby in the chair

Present:

Roy Summersby, Gary Goodwin, Michael Towell, Natalie Beckett, Andrew Linwood, John Pennells, Phil Warren, Gary Pope

Apologies:

Terry Bond, Reg Towell, Lyn Towell, Ed Mahoney, Angie Mahoney, Peter Scott, Gail Scott, Warren Leadbeater

Guests:

Richard Jensen

Minutes of previous meeting:

Mover , Gary Goodwin, sec Andrew Linwood. Carried

Business Arising:

Radio (Richmond) awaiting delivery. Dept Fair Trading form, NSWFFS stickers we now have. Nationals Tee Shirts still to be sent. Concrete at West Wyalong has been done.

Mover Andrew, sec Gary Goodwin. Carried

Correspondence out:

Friday notices. Invoice to Lighthouse. .Dixielander stickers (2 lots) Rates West Wyalong, Free Flighter

Correspondence In:

MAAA Ex minutes, Vic. Fly Paper.

Treasurers Report:

1 st July to 31 st August 2024 was tabled.

Moved, Gary Pope, sec, Phil Warren, treasure report be accepted, carried

Copies available on request.

General Business:

Approval at Richmond has elapsed, we have re applied

Dept trading form still to be done

Joan McIntyre (CLAS sec) still in Hornsby Hospital

WOWW weekend in October is looking good. Ray has sold 21 Dixie kits and with others that already have them we should see at least 20 on the field.

Nationals, Moved Nat Becket, sec Andrew Linwood that we run a Free Flight Nationals in 2025 . Dates are 17 th to 23 October WOWW to follow on 24

Meeting closed 8.10 pm

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 20TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Meeting Opened at 8.45pm. Attendance per general meeting.

Acting President Roy presented his annual report, this was published in the September newsletter which was sent out to all members one week earlier.

The annual treasures report was presented, showing that we are in a good financial position. We have been spending wisely and within our means. It was suggested that a simpler annual report should be made.

Roy asked the members present if they were happy to continue with a similar flying program for 2025, this was agreed with a few minor changes. Trans Tasman scale weekend at Richmond to be held on the first weekend in July as normal.

Nationals was discussed and was decided to hold them in the month of October 2025. Mini Maxout will also be run again in July.

Roy, with the meetings approval, called on Gary Pope to conduct the dismissal of the current committee and asked for nominations for the year 2025.

Nominations had been received for all positions. Elections were carried out with all positions being filled.

The 2024-2025 elected Committee, and their positions.

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	0413588720
Registrar	Sam Kirby	0415045060
Safety Officer	Michael Towell	0433 175 295
Chief Flying Instructor	Mike Ward	0416 081 536
Scale Coordinator	Phil Warren	0405 579 904
Facebook Manager	Warren Leadbeatter	0408 801 539
Contest Organizer Richmond	Peter Scott	0434 276 265
Librarian	John Pennells	02 4363 1834

Meeting closed 9.57pm.

PRESIDENTS REPORT – NOVEMBER 2024

Welcome to my first Presidents Report, we have had a busy couple of months. But, first of all, thank you to those of you that have the confidence to place me at the head of this society.

How about a little about me for those that do not know. I could smell the dope, glue, and balsa coming from dad's workshop from the day I was born, 48yrs later you might say that I bleed C23. I had a CL handle in my hand at 4, a Stanley knife in my hands at 5, my First Nationals as a competitor at 10 at Waikerie SA in 1986. I still remember building my first Hanger Rat in Keith Murray's caravan to be flown on the last night of indoor at that Nats. Since then, I have only missed a small handful of Nats, and have flown and still fly pretty much anything and everything I can. I even diversified with RC for a few years with Old Timers, electric gliders, pattern, pylon and even helicopters. The last 10 years or so have been more focused on FF with a little CL and RC thrown in for good measure. I do take pride in the fact that I can walk onto any paddock and fly anything, FF, CL or RC. As I do enjoy ALL facets of modeling. The NSWFFS is filled with some amazing people, and to be a part of that for most of my life has been a privilege. So, let us see where we can go from here.



Not as much flying has been done locally of late, as the weather gods have been wreaking havoc on us. That does not stop the regular diehards from still turning up on a Friday morning to challenge said gods. Let us hope they play a little nicer in the coming months.

West Wyalong got a workout with the 65 years of Dixielander event, with 20 Dixie's in attendance, 36 for the Saturday night dinner, about 12 campers and a full house taking advantage of the facilities. A great time was had by all.

On a sad note, long time member Keith Murray lost his son Bruce, to cancer. Myself, Natalie, Reg & Lyn Towell and Walter Bolliger attended Bruce's service, along with the cast and crew of Home and Away. For those that do not know, Bruce was a camera man on Home and Away, plus a few other Channel 7 shows, and was loved by all. Our sincere condolences go out to Keith, Rosemary and their family in this trying time.

A Free Flight Nationals has been set for October next year, 17-24 to be exact, at West Wyalong, so save the date. I will be the Nats Coordinator for this, so any questions or volunteering just see me.

It is coming to that time of year again, with the Friday Christmas party on 22 November and the Sunday one on December 1. This one will include a Scramble, Combined Vintage and a BBQ lunch, BYO food.

Next year's calendar will be in this issue, study it carefully!

Michael Towell,
President NSWFFS

Next Meeting 15th November 2024

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.

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. The latest FFDU is out now.

Working Bee at West Wyalong

Working bee at West Wyalong. I know you have heard this before, but I am still trying to organise 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. Let us see if we can plan it at this meeting.

The “Big Noise Boys” at West Wyalong

We did not get to fly them yet due to the windy conditions, but we made some noise doing some test runs.



Christmas Party 2024 Dates

Nov 22nd Richmond Friday Xmas party

Dec 1st Richmond Sunday Xmas party, includes Scramble, Combined Vintage and a BBQ lunch, BYO food.

Contest Calendar 2025

See the 2025 Contest Calendar in this newsletter.

Engines For Sale

Contact Roy Summersby 0413588720 roydi132@optusnet.com.au

Brand new in original box, never run, Oliver Tiger Mk3 No T31424, which I think indicates made in 1954, Needle still in factory wrapping, a unique piece of British modelling history. \$600

Eta 15 Mk 11 very good \$250

Mills VA .25 looks new & unrun, \$140

Mills .75 Very Good \$140

Cox 09 Like new \$135

CS Oliver Twin New in Box \$600

Redfin Blue Streak .60 NIB \$270

Will supply photos to those interested

For Sale by NSWFFS

Tomboy short kit by W. East \$40

Geodetic Galaxie 585 Kit by Kyosho. Suit 2.5 engine, they are a good flyer. Can only be described as a short kit as fuselage sides and some wing long wood is missing. All ribs, formers, plan etc. are in the box. \$45

Some Shop goods

- 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.

65 Years of Dixielanders at Wings over West Wyalong – 19th 20th & 21st Oct 2024

Report by Warran Leadbeatter

A great weekend was had by all who attended the AB Field at West Wyalong to celebrate 65 years of Dixielanders and the Wings over West Wyalong annual Scale weekend.



Thursday was perfect for those who arrived early but Friday and Saturday were very windy and wet at times, which made flying impossible. It was still a good weekend though, with a house full of people. At various times there were separate groups of people in each room of the house. Some on the front porch, some in the lounge room reading, others in the library researching, people in the kitchen drinking tea and out the back room looking at things. It was great to see the house full of people enjoying themselves.

The weather report was looking good for Sunday so many of us took the opportunity to test run engines on Saturday afternoon in readiness for Sunday's Dixie Comp. The big noise models were there too and we started them but we were not game to fly them in the wind so we put them away for another day.

On Saturday evening, the wind dropped, the skies cleared, and the 36 people in attendance had another enjoyable dinner and campfire provided by the Bush's. We watched the Comet C/20023 A3 (dubbed Leady's Comet by Michael) which I had been trying to see for weeks. It was the best view of any comet most of us had ever seen in our lives and you could see it quite well with the naked eye.



On Sunday we woke to a beautiful sunny day with light winds. The flight line was setup straight out the front of the house as the breeze was heading to the North. The call was made to do 5 flights before 1pm but was later changed to 10 flights before 4pm. There were at least 21 Dixielanders in attendance but only 12 recorded scores as some had to go home by mid-day.



I took two Dixielanders along and lucky I did. My first model, my new one with the Cox TD15 cut my little finger on the knuckle badly on the first start. Blood was gushing out, so I had to go back to the house to give myself first aid. When I came back and flew it on its maiden flight it got a 3 min max but then landed in the dam. The timer and engine were submerged but the tracker was above the water luckily. My second model, my older Dixie with mechanical timer and OS FP15 is a bit heavier. Its first flight was 2mins 30sec then it lost its trim and did some excellent aerobatics (which won me the best aerobatics prize) before finally crashing out on the 7th flight. Later inspection revealed a warp in the fin to the left. The model was not severely damaged so all good for next time.

There were some great scenes and crashes as well as funny goings on with people timing and retrieving the wrong model, bad launches, arguments, and finding lost models.

Andrew and I missed the group photo because we were looking for his model which was lost at the time. He lost his model because he was using a new BMK tracker which we were still learning how to use. Turns out it was not connected to his phone when he launched the model, so he had to rely on a compass bearing to find it. The only problem was the timekeeper pointed in a direction 90 degrees to the right of where the model went. We went off in the direction we were told (North East) and did not find anything. So, we then drove up onto the dam wall wondering if it went in the dam. Andrew got on the roof and held the receiver as high as he could. It pinged! We got a new bearing back towards the West. We did not believe it at the time, but we followed it and there was the model 190 metres away from where we were.



Contest Directors Report

By Natalie Beckett

What a wonderful weekend we all had away at Wings over West Wyalong to celebrate 65 years of the Dixielander, we joined the event with a Dixielander festival. This saw around 20 Dixielanders with some variations.

Saturday was high winds and cloudy, which made flying tricky. Which meant a non-flying day. But it was still a lovely day of chatting and catching up with folks.

The weather settled and Saturday night dinner was a hit like always. Around 35 people attended the dinner to enjoy a lamb cook up with Bushy. We were able to just sit back and relax. Even enjoy an open fire.

Sunday morning we woke up to a fantastic day. Light winds and the sun shining. So the Dixielanders came out in force and it was lovely to see so many dixielander in the sky at once. Due to non flying day on Saturday, it was decided to put 10 flights in on Sunday.

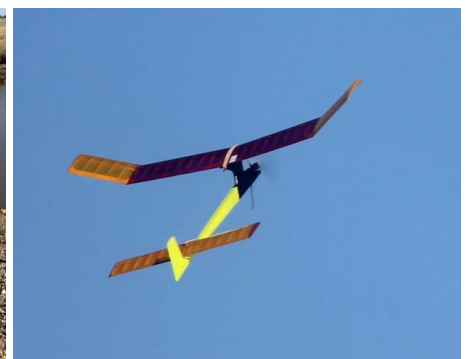
With some flyers coming into engine trouble with their models and some models are still trimming only 12 flyers recorded scores.

Results

Murray Wilson 1242
Andrew Linwood 1230
Roy Summersby 1055
Vin Morgan 960
Ray Harvey 960
Warren Leadbeatter 621
Peter Scott 530
Michael Towell 376
Graham Maynard 188
Bob Marshall 103
Dave Shackeford 93
Albert Fathers 34

There were some fun awards too.

Biggest Crash Lindsay Muffett
Longest Over Run Michael Towell
Best Aerobatics Warren Leadbeatter
Model of the Meet Ray Harvey
Emu Award Gary Goodwin
Oldest Model Vin Morgan.



More Photos of Dixielanders at West Wyalong (by Natalie & Warren)





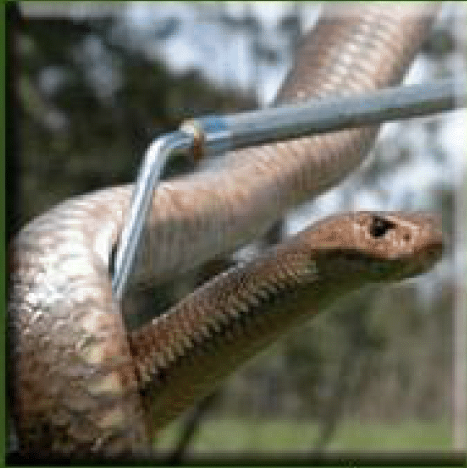
Our New President Michael Towell in Pictures



CHRISTMAS PARTY FUN FLY FRI NOV 22 & SUN DEC 1



**INCLUDES A SCRAMBLE,
COMBINED VINTAGE & BBQ LUNCH
BYO FOOD AND DRINK**



Eastern Brown Snake



Red-bellied Black Snake

SNAKES ALIVE!

Nine Tips To Avoid Snakes

1. **Snakes don't hear noise** so if confronted by one you can alert others by sound without concern that it will increase aggression from the snake. However, *don't waive arms around or make sudden movements* which the snake could interpret as being hostile.
2. Research indicates that **90% of snake bites are to the ankle area** which is a good reason to wear gaiters. Some bites also occur to the hand so be very careful in picking things up in an area where you can't see what is on the ground.
3. If you are too close to walk around a snake and there is no escape path, **back away very slowly**.
4. Snakes don't lie in wait for people, and mostly **try to escape contact**.
5. A snake **can strike from any position** and may curl itself up slightly in preparation to strike to gain extra distance. If the snake's head is raised this may indicate that it feels threatened.
6. Snakes are **hard to identify** so don't try and catch the snake to ascertain whether they present a risk or not.
7. Step onto rather than over logs – a snake may be basking on the other side.
8. Be alert at all times when in the bush, especially in the early morning during the warmer months when snakes are more likely to be sunning themselves but are slow to react i.e. slide away from you
9. Avoid walking through long grass or reeds.

Reprinted from OurHikingBlog.com

Current treatments for Australian venomous snake bites, including sea snake bites

Pressure-immobilisation is recommended for all Australian venomous snake bites, including sea snakes. This technique was developed in the 1970's by Professor Struan Sutherland. Its purpose is to retard the movement of venom from the bite site into the circulation, thus "buying time" for the patient to reach medical care. Research with snake venom has shown that very little venom reaches the blood stream if firm pressure is applied over the bitten area and the limb is immobilised. Pressure-immobilisation was initially developed to treat snakebite, but it is also applicable to bites and stings by some other venomous creatures.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY DIAL 000 AND ASK FOR AMBULANCE

Table 1

 <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle; margin-left: 10px;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">The NSW Free Flight Society Inc.</h2> </div>
<p>Individual renewal form for 2024-25 membership year.</p>

-Please note the change in the annual fees for this membership year.

-This change reflects an increase in MAAA fees by \$5 per annum for seniors, with no change to junior membership fees.

-See below for the updated numbers.

Member information	
Full name:	
Email address:	
MAAA number:	
Affiliated club:	
Membership type:	

Fees for 2024-25 membership year		Payment details:	
Membership type	Full year	ACC name:	New South Wales Free Flight Society
Senior	\$125.00	ACC No.	00901281
Junior with senior	FREE	BSB	062293
Junior <u>without</u> senior	\$45.00	Reference	(Surname) Fees 2024
Friend of West Wyalong	\$30.00	Cash/Cheque	Alternate payment method upon request

Once payment has been made please email this completed form, or simply the information it requests, to **nswff.registrar@gmail.com**

Regards
 Samuel Kirby
 Registrar for NSWFFS



NSW FREE FLIGHT CONTEST CALENDAR 2025

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 14	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 Combined % + BBQ – BYO Food	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
Oct 25 - 26	Wings over West Wyalong.All disciplines Scale Rally Plus General Flying of all types of models.	West Wyalong	7.00am - Till Dark	Plenty of Room for ALL
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 ***

NSWFFS CONTEST & FIXTURE CALENDAR 2024

Date	Event	Venue	Time	Contact
Dec 28- 4 th Jan	73rd Nationals see entry forms and program for details.	W. Wyalong AB Field	See Separate program	Terry Bond
Jan 14	Combined%, ½ hr Walking Scramble	Richmond	8:00am	R. Summersby
Jan 19	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7:30pm	
Feb 4	Combined F1 G, H, J, P30 + Scale Fun Fly	Richmond	7:00am – 1:00pm	Peter Scott
Feb 18	State Champs P30 & E36. + Combined Vintage.	Richmond	7.00am – 1.00pm	Gary Pope
Mar 10	State Champs Scramble & HLG/ CLG. + Combined %, Control Line & BBQ Lunch.	Richmond BYO Food	7.00am-1.00pm	Michael Towell
Mar15	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30 pm	
Apr 21-24	AFFS Champs See FFDU Program Southern Cross Cup for F1A, B, C	Narrandera	See FFDU	AFFS Committee
Apr 26-28	AFFS continued at WW 21 st Combined Vintage, E36, 22nd F1 G, H, J, P30 & indoor. 23rd Combined % & HLG/CLG/TLG See FFDU Program Evening Presentation Dinner	West Wyalong Farm House	8.00am-1.00pm See FFDU 6.00 PM	AFFS Committee
May 5	E36 + Combined Vintage	Richmond		Aaron Booth
May 24	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30pm	
June 1-3	NSW State Champs F1A, B, C, O/Power, O / Rubber + Victorian States Champs for A, B, C	West Wyalong A B Field	8.00am-1.00pm	See separate program
June 16	State Champs F1G, H, J + E36	Richmond	7.00am-1.00pm	R. Summersby
July 5 - 7 Flying 6 th & 7 th July	Scale Rally, + Trans Tasman, Scale Control Line State Champs. Scale Judging Fri 5 th 6 th & 7 th Flying. Sun 7 th ½ Hour scramble, Fun Fly C/L flying & BBQ	Richmond Sunday BBQ BYO Food & Drink	7.00am till dark Trans Tasman	Phil Warren Michael Towell See sep. prog.
July 19	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30 pm	
July 27-28	Midwinter Mini Maxout 2 Min Max Models (See separate program)	West Wyalong AB Field	8.00am- 2.00pm	Shayne McDonald
Aug 11	Scale Rally, P 30, Combined Vintage	Richmond	7:00 – 1.00pm	R. Summersby
Aug 24-25	Cowra Oily Hand Weekend	Cowra		Terry Bond
Sep 8	½ Hour Walking Scramble + Fun Fly & B-B-Q Lunch	Richmond BYO Food	7:00am – 1:00pm	
Sep 20	Annual General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7:30 pm	
Sep 22	Combined % 5 flights + E36	Richmond	7.00am - 1.00	Peter Scott
Oct 6	Combined % Multiple Entries	Richmond	7:00am - 1:00	Gary Goodwin
Oct 18-20	Wings Over West Wyalong. All Disciplines Scale Rally. Plus General Flying of all types of models	West Wyalong A.B. Field	7.00am - Till Dark	Plenty of Room for ALL
Nov 10	Scale Rally +Fun Fly	Richmond	7:00am - 1:00pm	Peter Jackson
Nov 15	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30 pm	
Nov 22	Friday Xmas Party	Richmond	7.00am - 1.00pm	Terry & Lyn
Dec 1	½ Hour Xmas Scramble. Combined Vintage with SAMS & Fun Fly. Christmas BBQ. BYO Food.	Richmond	7:00am - 1:00pm	Aaron Booth

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