

THE FREE FLIGHTER



JOURNAL OF THE NSW FREE FLIGHT SOCIETY INC.

NOVEMBER 2025



Terry Bond in action at the Nats

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 20TH SEPT 2025

Meeting opened:

7:37pm – Dundas Sports Club – President Michael Towell

Present:

Michael Towell, Natalie Beckett, Warren Leadbeatter, Roy Summersby, Gary Goodwin, Phil Warren, Shannon Tolmie, Steve Hughes, Gary Pope, Ed Mahoney, Angie Mahoney, Andrew Linwood, Ray Harvey

Apologies:

John Pennells, Peter and Gail Scott, Reg and Lyn Towell, Terry Bond

Guests:

Kate Rodwell

Minutes of previous meeting:

Moved by Gary Pope, sec Gary Goodwin. Carried

Business Arising:

- MAAA free flight Nationals. Entries coming in. 20 flyers have entered at moment, with more still to come. Seven of them are indoor. We also have about 30 for the dinner. Need CDs. Have received the badges and medals. Stickers are done and will be here soon. Final bulletin is out.
- End of year presentation at Michael and Natalie's House. Presentation for all state champs and overall point score. Saturday 22nd Nov.
- Working Bee will be 26 th to 28 th Sept. Roy, Ray, John, Steve, Michael, Gary P, Terry
- Anyone else come down, please let Roy know.
- MAAA funds, we didn't get any money from them. There was support for it, but was voted down due to lack of funds. This was to improve the roads and the concrete under the shade near radio.

Correspondence out:

Friday notices, Newsletter, ANSW, MAAA request for funds

Correspondence In:

ANSW, Responds from Friday email, John Amarego

Treasurers Report:

1 st July to 31 st Aug presented by Roy Summersby

Moved by Gary Pope, Sec Ed Mahoney, Carried

Copies available upon request

General Business:

- Mike Close passed away 13 th Sept. Michael attended the funeral. Mike was a known flyer of Radio and past MAA president. Order of Australia Medallist.
- The road is going to cost \$32000. It has been started and grated, pipes, will be filled and fixed. It will be road based and wider than before. Should be finished in the next few weeks.
- White ants in the Hall of Fame container, checked out and yes white ants. System to kill them is \$2400. Baits are there and not permanent. Raised at the conference, didn't get funds. Someone at conference offered to support and help but haven't heard from them. Roy motioned that we spend \$2400 to get the system to kill them. All agreed that we spend the money to get the system to kill them. Then annual pest control.
- Londonderry (radio/Control) got funding from MAAA. Model park and open days, someone slipped from stand in model car area. Broke his ankle. The claim was \$183000. But found out grandstands not covered. Agreed dollar for up to \$100000.
- Tractor wheel, front wheel having punchers. The wheel has been brought and have a spare. We need a jack, trolley jack. Andrew moved to buy and Warren seconds. All agreed and carried. Roy will purchase a trolley jack for trailer.
- Draft 2026 calendar. Discussion about new calendar. Nat explained the changes. All agreed they are good.
- State champs raised for F1ABC at West Wyalong. Not being the long weekend. Next year is a qualify year. Shannon motioned to make it the long weekend, Andrew Second, voted. Now long weekend.
- Stan Mauger, guide for judge in regard to scale. Will be out in next newsletter.
- Cowra 2025, weather bad on the Saturday, but Sunday great. Great swap meet.
- Newsletter was great this time.
- AFFS news. There has been meetings. We have been getting ready and organising stuff. Promote more overseas. Flyer is out and program ready. Giving a donation to NSW free flight for use of the field. Paul Rossiter memorial trophy proposed for F1B. Talk about banning RDT for scramble.
- 12 th Oct Unorthodox and Windbags mass launch.

Meeting closed: 8.52pm

Committee:

Position	Name	Phone Number
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
Registrar & Public Officer	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
Contest Organiser Richmond	Peter Scott	0434 276 265
Librarian	John Pennells	02 4363 1834

CHRISTMAS PARTY

It is that time of year!!! Come along a celebrate a great year of flying.

Friday 28th Nov 2025 at Richmond.
From 7am, Morning tea supplied at 10am.
Bring a cuppa and model or two to fly.

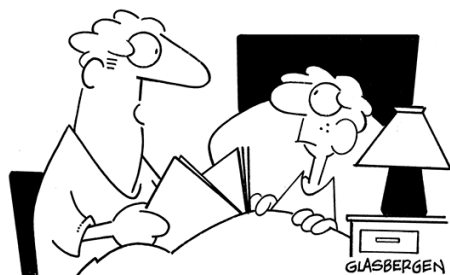


Sunday 7th Dec 2025 at Richmond.
From 7am, BYO BBQ from 10am.
8am Windbag Mass Launch. Still have a chance to win the
BNIB Cox Medallion 049. Donated by the late Big Kev.
8:30am 1/2hr Scramble
9am General flying
Come along with a model and some BBQ food.

Contact Michael Towell for more information
on 0433 175 295.



Terry's Jokes Section:



"Prince Charming was dating Snow White, Sleeping Beauty and Cinderella. He lived happily ever after until he got caught."

When I complained to Amazon
about a missing parcel they asked
me to send photographic evidence.



"You're looking a lot better today, Ralph."

PRESIDENTS REPORT – NOVEMBER 2025

Wow, this will be my last report for the year, where has the time gone??

This last couple of months has been really busy. A working bee leading up to the Nationals, the Nationals, a couple of comps at Richmond, the usual Friday flying, organising the trophies for the State Champs events for the presentation dinner, etc. Throw in a health scare for added stress and drama, and there you have it, the last 2 months of excitement in a nutshell.

We'll start with the working bee at West Wyalong. A huge thank you must go out to Gary Pope, Ray Harvey, Steve Hughes, Terry Bond, Roy Summersby, John Pennells and of course, myself. We all spent the weekend mowing, slashing, painting, whipper snipping, installing charging facility, cleaning up the camping area and more. Without the hard work of our volunteers, past and present, WW wouldn't be what it is now.

The Nationals is now run and done, fairly successfully if I may say so myself. The weather was on our side for the most of it, a lot of positive feedback was had from competitors and visitors about the Nats and the facilities in general. Reports later in this issue.

Don't forget myself and Natalie are hosting the presentation dinner on November 22nd. A lot of people have already RSVP'd, if you would like to join us please let us know for catering purposes, the more the merrier.

The Point Score Trophy has been tallied, and will be presented at the Presentation Dinner, along with the State Champs trophies.

We have a draft copy of our contest calendar in this issue. Please read it carefully, if there is any changes that you would like, any additions or feedback don't hesitate to contact me or bring it up at the meeting and we can adjust if needed.

Did someone say health scare? For those that don't know, my father Reg Towell, whom most of you do know. On day one of the Nats, Dad passed out and had a fall at the farmhouse at WW. After a few questions and concerns Mum and I took him to WW hospital, who then took him to Wagga hospital. After a weekend of touch and go on life support it was found that his gall bladder was slowly sending his system septic. After a week in Wagga they air lifted him to Sydney to remove his gall bladder and install a pacemaker. Happy days now as he is finally home after nearly a month in hospital and looking forward to his recovery.

On that note, I would personally like to thank everyone who was at WW for their kind words and support. Mum, Dad, Natalie and myself are very thankful that so many people are there to help at times of need.

Don't forget that the silly season is coming up, with that our Friday and Sunday Christmas parties at Richmond are closing in too. These are always well supported and this year should see no difference.

Don't forget to have a Merry Christmas and bring the new year in with a bang.

Michael Towell
President NSWFFS

Next Meeting 21st November 2025

This will be a general meeting followed by the Annual General Meeting. Both are 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 2026

The date has been set and it will be 26th April to the 3rd of May. F1A, B, C competitions and AFFS AGM will be held at Narrandera then moving to West Wyalong on the 31st of April for the smaller events. Scramble, is included in the AFFS program and will run at West Wyalong on Saturday afternoon. The AFFS Champs will overlap with the Control Line World Championships that are being held in Perth WA on 3rd May to 8th May 2026 unfortunately. See FFDU for the full program and details.

AB Field West Wyalong - Update



The Magnificent Seven! They went down to the AB field a few weeks prior to the National's and did some very sterling work. After the washing down of the front of the house and the removal of cob webs, it was into the southern wall of the house, this was rubbed back, some boards replaced, some filled with bog and two coats of paint were applied. This, I admit, was a near disaster. I had bought the paint from Aldi expecting it to be white, the lid was about to come off when our egal eyed painter noticed it was Montana Grey. Panic, with advice by phone from George Bishop we contacted a local painter (no paint shops in West Wyalong any more) and he sold us at cost a fifteen litre drum. Problem solved, and the Aldi paint returned later, it pays to read the fine print. The southern wall hasn't been touched in decades (maybe eight) and was desperate for a little bit of tender loving care. I must admit it turned out better than I expected. The proposed solar panel to keep the tractor battery charged has now been installed, all one has to do is disconnect the lead on the tractor and away you go. Big improvement on having to get the jumper leads out. Our electrician also installed lighting in the shop container, now we



can see what we have to sell. Once again a big improvement. The mower had a full days work, control line field, R.C. strip as well as around the house. Big job, and looks great. Along the fences where the mower doesn't reach had the wiper snipper treatment, this certainly puts a finishing touch to the job. The camping area was cleaned up of and fallen branches removed, they will make a small bonfire at a later date. Broken glass from many years back is still appearing in this area and we keep on removing it, this must end sometime. Quite a few areas were slashed ready for the National's flight lines covering all wind directions. There was a little trouble with the tractor and slasher but this has all now been fixed by West Wyalong Machinery. Well done boys. Roy.

The Road to the Club House

When the working bee boys arrived at the AB field, the water cart was just finishing the last watering of our road upgrade. We had it done by Rod Anderson a local contractor who has done other work for us some time back. Road work is like buying a boat, you can spend as much as you want on it. We were hoping to get away with around \$20,000. We approached the MAAA for a grant to help with this as well as concreting the area under the shade at the RC strip, this was quoted at \$18,000. We were hopping to go 50/50 on these two projects, \$20k each. Sadly, we were turned down. Our decision was to forget the concrete, and make a good job of the road. Naturally we were expecting more than \$20K. With 500 ton of road base brought in, spread rolled and watered, the road ended up at \$32K. We think it is money well spent, the road should last us many years to come.

Those that attended the National's, were impressed, and the son of one of our members who works in that industry said we did well to get it done for that cost. This was pleasing for me to hear as I have no idea of what big machinery costs to run. Roy.

Some thoughts on Dixielander events

At the last Nat's, included in the program, was a Dixielander event. This went well and shows that it could become popular and will most likely be held again next year. Being a one model contest it could get some arguments from the purest as to what would qualify. To avoid arguments I believe we should clarify the model. Does it have to be from the Yeomen plan with no alterations? If yes, we would have to process the models (not on). i.e. you have changed the tips or made the wing bigger. My thoughts are, that as it is, shall we say, a fun event and we should treat it as such. It must look like a Dixielander, yes, that is, no round or tapered tips etc. Must have same shape pylon and Fin. You can build it big, small, power it with a roaring 40 or whatever. You can change the structure, you can have a d-box in your wing, whatever you like, so as long as from a distance it still looks like a Dixie. Way back when we had the fifty-year Dixie weekend in Springhurst, a couple of Victorians came along with double size Dixies all good fun. Your thoughts please. Roy.

End of Year Presentation Dinner

The End of year presentation at Michael and Natalie's House will take place on **Saturday 22nd November**. See flyer! Presentation for all State champs and best overall point scorers for the year. Starts at 4pm

This promises to be a great night, with a "good feed" provided, BYO Drinks – RSVP to Michael by *2nd November 2025*

Shop goods

We have in stock carbon tube 760 long 8mm OD 6mm ID weight 24grams \$5.00 ea.

Many uses scramble, fuselage, wing spars etc. Only 12 left see Roy.



**State Champs Combined
Vintage
Plus E36 and P30**





**Sunday 9th Nov 2025
7am to 1pm
Cornwallis Rd, Richmond
Come along have a fly.**

CONTEST REPORTS & PHOTOS

74th Free Flight Nationals

With Natalies help, and well I must admit she did a lot of the work, the 74th Nationals went off very well. There was a major problem with the weather prediction, wind and heat. This did happen but thankfully nothing like the weather men had predicted. The whole of the south east of Australia was just crazy, wind and wet in Victoria, 36 degrees in Sydney and these predations did keep a few at home. We also lost a few due to medical episodes and car breakdowns. The majority arrived on the Friday, a full house and 15 campers, others in the motels in West Wyalong.



Day 1.

This had very calm conditions and saw some very nice scale flying. The rest of the morning was only slight wind and many open power models were getting trimmed as the morning progressed.

In the evening our traditional roast lamb dinner was served up to the hungry 40 guests by our member the bush tucker man Chris Bush and his wife Jenna. It was reported that it was the best lamb he had done yet, can it get any better? A great night and a great start to the week ahead.

Day 2.

The big serious day for the FAI boys, F1A,B,C 5 rounds. It was a top day wind wise; all models stayed in our field and there were max outs in both B and C. A fly off was held in the late evening.

Day 3.

This was predicted to be windy and it happened, half way through the scramble it was blowing models from the RC strip to the trees making it hard for those young enough to fly this event.

Dixielander was programed for this day but was postponed and held on the vintage day.

The CD for CLG / CAT/ decided to go ahead and later complained about the wind just being too much for them to handle.

Day 4.

F1G, H, J, 5 flights no rounds to beat the wind predictions. This worked well with 2-minute models. Retrievals not to long making it a top morning.

Day 5.

Vintage Power, Rubber, & Glider plus the postponed Dixielander event. With only 3 flights for these classes, it wasn't too much trouble. Sadly, the wind had turned and was coming from the north (across the field instead of down the field). Three-minute flights were getting to the fence line on the lane and a few clearing the trees and into the field next door. Again, conditions were quite flyable.

Day 6.

P 30 and 60s coupe. The wind arrived early and was much too strong for these light weight models. Some of the experts used more rubber strands and were able to get away but the slow climbing models which love the calm couldn't handle the wind.



The evening saw something new, a sausage sizzle in the camping kitchen. Along with this was more buy and sell (swap meet) by the look on some faces there were some great bargains. I am sure this will happen again as it was a great social night.

Day 7.

OZ Diesel and E36. An easy day to finish the Nat’s. Once again not very windy in the morning. The little E36 rocket ships were zooming to the heavens while the OZ diesel boys were struggling to get their 1.5 plain bearing diesels singing. Again, the models were only going about 500 meters, we had beaten the wind again.

Those that attended would have noticed the rebuilt road into the property. This was completed a few weeks prior to the competitions. It was a huge expense for us, but should keep the road in good condition for years to come.

It was good to see some visitors using the RC strip. The Control line circles both hard and grass were also used. We also had some non-competitive free flight boys enjoying the AB field. For the first time we had in attendance an ex ANSW president join us for a few days.

Financially with the MAAA Nat’s grant we made a small profit. There are many costs involved , some are major ones like the medals and the indoor hall hire some are small like printing etc.

Theres even the cost of getting the rubbish removed from 40 people over the week. Work done prior , slashing , mowing, cleaning, etc.

We would also like to thank Andrew Linwood for donating a built Windbag for the raffle at the dinner. And Bill East of Aerotech Kits for donating a Playboy Jnr Vintage Power model laser cut kit for the raffle draw at the sausage sizzle.

Also to note that a survey was done at the dinner as to whether we run a Nationals, or a weekend event for next year. It was clear to all the we run another Nationals. Watch this space.

Roy Summersby and Michael Towell

74th FF Nats Results

F4A						
1st	Phil	Warren	1567.9			
2nd	Roy	Summersby	1537.6			
3rd	Michael	Towell	1530.6			
4th	Malcolm	Campbell	1529.8			
5th	Phil	Warren	1490			
Open	Power					
1st	Murray	Wilson	180	165	143	488
		Linwood-				
2nd	Sally	Knight	180	180	84	444
3rd	Harry	Sokol	134	180	101	415
4th	Michael	Towell	100	137	0	237
5th	David	Shackelford	80	0	0	80
Open	Rubber		FO			
1st	Bruce	Hao	180	180	180	306 846
2nd	Albert	Fathers	180	180	180	282 822
3rd	Vin	Morgan	180	180	146	506
F1A						
1 st	Albert	Fathers	180	180	180	166 180 886
2 nd	Malcolm	Campbell	180	174	104	180 180 818
3 rd	David	Shackelford	180	77	180	180 180 797



F1B

1 st	Bruce	Hao	180	180	180	180	180	222	1122
2 nd	Vin	Morgan	180	180	180	180	180	0	900
3 rd	Richard	Blackam	180	180	180	180	149		869
4 th	Terry	Bond	180	86	86	180	180		712
5 th	Phil	Warren	180	170	0	0	0		350

F1C

1st	Murray	Wilson	180	180	180	180	180	184	1084
2nd	Andrew	Linwood	180	180	180	180	180	183	1083
3rd	Roy	Summersby	180	180	180	180	180	173	1073

CLG

1st	Kathy	Burford	60	5	13	36	28	21	124
2nd	Len	Surtees	24	31	29	5	28	60	120
3rd	Malcolm	Campbell	28	16	54	16	22	15	104
4th	Lindsay	Muffett	8	19	30	15	28	3	77
5th	Terry	Bond	4	22	8	12	9	15	49
6th	Geoff	Hungerford	12	27					39
7th	Phil	Warren	19	4					23

HLG

1st	Len	Surtees	36						36
2nd	Lindsay	Muffett	1	1	2	4	11	3	18
3rd	Geoff	Hungerford	4	4					8

TLG

1st	Len	Surtees	15	7	8	28			51
2nd	Lindsay	Muffett	3	21	6	3	1	6	33

Day**Scramble**

1st	Terry	Bond	716
2nd	Murray	Wilson	591
3rd	Martin	Williams	375
4th	John	Pennells	369
5th	Michael	Towell	187
6th	Tahn	Stowe	140
7th	David	Shackelford	135
8th	Lindsay	Muffett	57

F1H

1 st	Kathy	Burford	120	120	120	120	102	582
2 nd	Malcolm	Campbell	120	111	120	73	120	544
3 rd	Len	Surtees	120	120	90	76	120	526
4 th	David	Shackelford	120	87	120	68	105	500

F1G

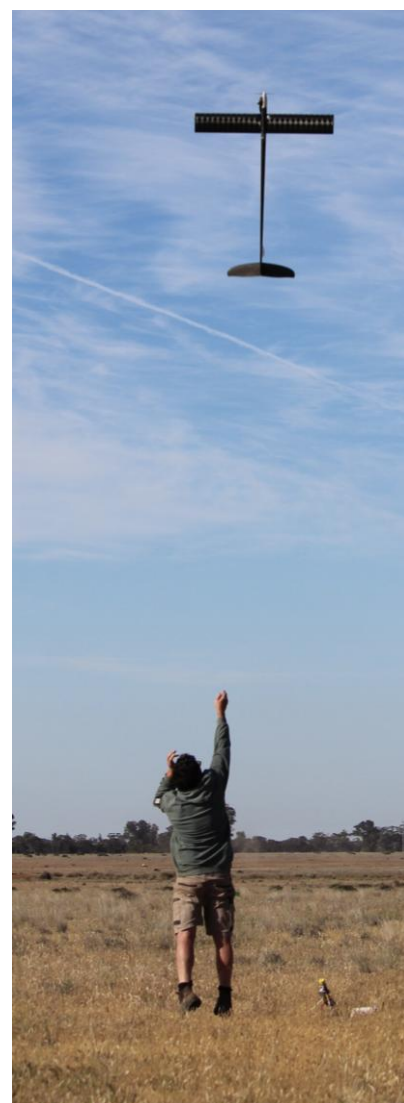
1 st	Vin	Morgan	120	107	100	103	120	550
2 nd	Leigh	Morgan	120	120	120	46	120	526
3 rd	Terry	Bond	108	120	30	118	120	496

F1J

1 st	Roy	Summersby	120	120	120	120	120	600
2 nd	Murray	Wilson	44	104	62	47	39	296
3 rd	Harry	Sokol	77	66	42	50	15	250

Vintage**Power**

1 st	Roy	Summersby	180	180	180	540
2nd	Martin	Williams	180	155	104	439



<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Rubber</u>					
1st	Terry	Bond	106	135	114	355

<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Glider</u>					
1st	Malcolm	Campbell	104	128	44	276
2nd	Kathy	Burford	3	102	105	

<u>Dixielander</u>						
1st	Roy	Summersby	180	180	180	540
2nd	Ray	Harvey	168	179	177	524
3rd	Vin	Morgan	168	150	144	462
4th	Murray	Wilson	138	138	145	421
5th	Harry	Sokol	97	169	142	408
6th	Michael	Towell	100	122	0	222

<u>P30</u>						
1 st	Vin	Morgan	120	120	120	360
2 nd	Michael	Towell	46	54	120	220
3 rd	Phil	Warren	92	120	5	217
4 th	Terry	Bond	113	4	5	122
5 th	Malcolm	Campbell	38	2	2	42
6 th	David	Shackelford	39	0	0	39

<u>Hangar</u>	<u>Rat</u>								
1st	Vin	Morgan	122	132	136	77	144	156	300
2nd	Nat	Beckett	97	119	100				219
3rd	Terry	Bond	112	96	71	85	26	85	208
4th	Michael	Towell	79	95	94	101	103	74	204
5th	Phil	Warren	100	99	83	28	94	57	199
6th	David	Shackelford	51	60	30	49	50	26	111
7th	Lindsay	Muffett	37	36	35	20	36	36	73

<u>Indoor</u>	<u>CLG</u>								
1st	Len	Surtees	10.4	28.6	29.6	28			86.2
2nd	Michael	Towell	14	17	16.9	15.5	15.5	16.3	50.2
3rd	Nat	Beckett	14.5	14.2	14	14.3	13.5	16	44.8
4th	Lindsay	Muffett	6.8	6.9	9.1	11.3	11.5	9.6	32.4

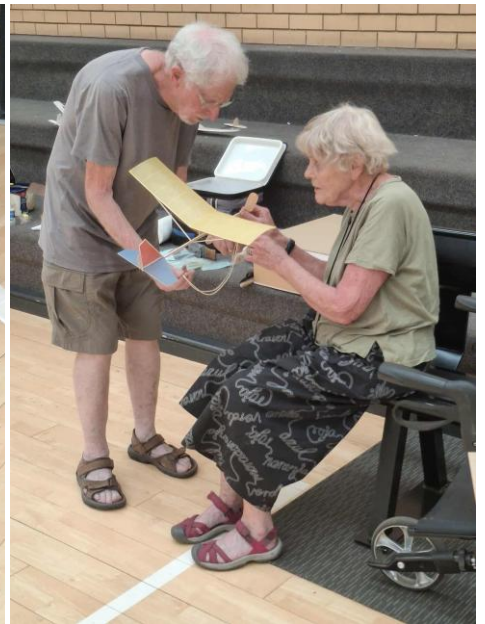
<u>Indoor</u>	<u>HLG</u>											
1st	Len	Surtees	26.9	22.4	30.3	24.8	31.3	26	30.5	30	30	92.1
2nd	Michael	Towell	11.7	16.7	14.7	16	14.2	16.1	15.3	16.4		49.2
3rd	Lindsay	Muffett	10.4	9.7	7.2	10.3	1.9	4.9				30.4

<u>Oz</u>	<u>Diesel</u>							
1st	Roy	Summersby	120	120	120	120	112	592
2nd	Martin	Williams	52	32	109	0	0	193
3rd	Harry	Sokol	20	0	0	0	0	20

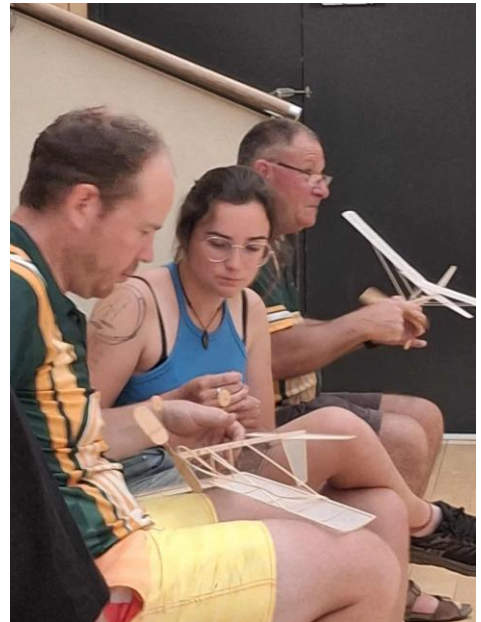
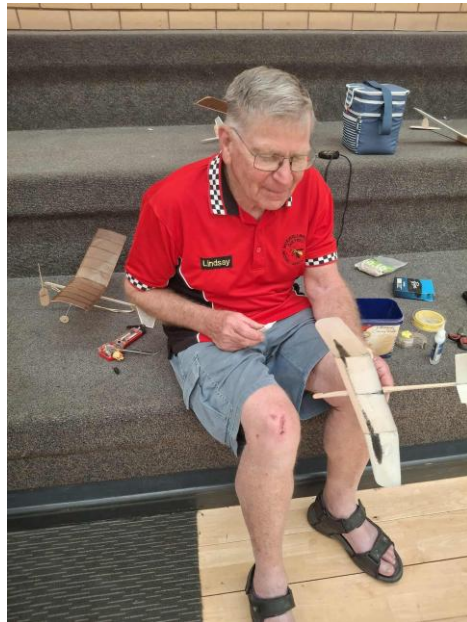
<u>E36</u>						FO	
1st	Murray	Wilson	120	120	120	120	480
2nd	Michael	Towell	120	120	120	88	448
3rd	Kathy	Burford	120	114	120		354
4th	Natalie	Beckett	120	120	58		298
5th	Malcolm	Campbell	120	50	120		290
6th	Roy	Summersby	120	66	58		244
7th	Harry	Sokol	49	55	120		224



74th Nats Photos









MEMBER CONTRIBUTION – MIKE CARPENTER

Visiting the Adrian Bryant Flying Field during the MAAA 74th Nationals

As a NSW FFS member for some several years now, I have been looking for an opportunity to visit the Adrian Bryant Flying Field and of course to fly there. In October of 2019 I did get as far as a visit to the front gates of the property while on a long weekend motorcycling trip with a work friend... so at least for future reference I now knew where to find it. The visit came about through a strange coincidence, as just when my friend and I were visiting the local museum in Wyalong, I got a call on my mobile phone. It was NSW FFS Barry Lee (sadly no longer with us) with news that he had located a D.C. Merlin for my then under construction Cardinal. 'You won't believe where I am Barry', I said, 'I'm in Wyalong right now in the Wyalong Museum on a motorcycle trip with a friend!'



After expressing his surprise, Barry replied something along the lines of, 'Well, you're just down the road from the NSW FFS flying site so you'd better take a look. From the museum go north up Slee Street and onto Clear Ridge Road and just keep going... You'll find the Adrian Bryant field after about 10 minutes. There's big NSW FFS sign out front.'

After that day, I can roll this story forward another 6 years full of life's ups and downs and thankfully also mixed with episodes of aeromodelling fun. It was not until a month or so prior to this year's annual Oily Hand Diesel Day 2025 in August, that I had set my mind firmly on going to the 74th MAAA Nationals in October. On the Friday afternoon of the OHDD at the Cowra MAC carpark I

touched base with Mike Towell at the extended car boot sale (boy, was it cold this year on both the Friday and Saturday – great car boot sale weather though!). Mike confirmed that a sport flyer such as me was more than welcome at West Wyalong. I was so chuffed at that that I bought a DT timer off him (thanks Mike!). Mike also extended that invitation to my adult son Scott, a former C/L modeller when in his young teenage years (but not an active modeller since). Active modeller or not, Scott has long enjoyed watching dad build his models, trying to make them fly, and sometimes and sometimes not being successful at that. An overdue father-son weekend it was to be.

So, the plan was for me to depart the Southern Highlands of NSW and to meet up at my son's rural property in Mummel - outside of Goulburn. We decided to make an easy drive of it by using only back roads – a preference gained from my motorcycling travelling days. Not a freeway did we travel upon and the journey was the more relaxed and the better for it. Our accommodation for Friday and Saturday nights was prebooked in West Wyalong and Friday off work arrangements made for Scott, who would be both my driver and the supplier of the transport. My job was to fill the backseat of his dual cab ute with models... and to arrive at his rural property just before 8am. We arrived at the Adrian Bryant field around lunchtime on the Friday after an enjoyable four hour-ish drive and were greeted by Roy and fellow NSW FFS members at the clubhouse.

It was a very windy afternoon indeed and so no practice flying was possible for the remainder of the day, however it was a great opportunity to explore the site and to see just how much work had been accomplished in the 10 years of acquisition by the NSW FFS. Hats off indeed to all the club members and partners who volunteered time and muscle to make it work, because the facilities are simply fantastic! For those who have yet to see it, I'll describe my impressions of the site.



First impression through the gate is that the site really is huge. It's mostly flat too and mostly clear of model eating trees and importantly the pasture (that which there is) is kept low by sheep. After travelling along a well-made (and recently finished) gravel driveway one arrives at the converted farmhouse come first class clubhouse and aeromodelling library. Close by is a camping area shaded by trees, with toilets and meeting room facilities close by. A short distance away are both hard stand and grassed control line circles, and down the back and off to the south a radio transmitter shelter is located within a designated radio area. All around is a HUGE open and flat FF field with excellent visibility for miles... the stuff of aeromodelling dreams!

The following morning at 6.30am Scott and I arrived back at the flying field after a night spent at a motel in West Wyalong. 'Where is everyone?' said Scott and I as the campground and clubhouse were empty. Way to the east of the field we spotted a group of vehicles parked atop a ridge with an orange sunrise lighting the sky behind. Shortly after this we heard the scream of an engine taking a model directly skywards

floating across the landscape – the 7am start for the 74th MAAA Nationals F4A Competition was underway! Hearing model engines at peak revs and the sudden cutoff was adrenaline boosting stuff and Scott was smitten, however we were here to fly and to sport fly at that. In doing so we needed to keep our distance to avoid interference with the competitors. Timewise we only had the one weekend away and the Nationals ran for the whole week. Maybe another time we will have more opportunity to spectate and to learn something about F4A...

I should clarify that I am, and always have been, a sport orientated modeller. I have flown many, many happy hours with a C/L handle in my hand, beginning in my early teens. I have flown stunt but not Precision Aerobatics, I have built scale-ish models but not Scale; and in short, I have flown every model that I have built (and there have been a few) in a sportsman like manner. I point this out, because if you dear reader are looking for the results of the 74th MAAA Nationals at West Wyalong, you'll find that information elsewhere in this fine newsletter. This article has been written from the perspective of a sport flyer who is a newbie to the A.B. field rather than as a commentary on the events that occurred there.



That said, I do admire competition and the models created by those who compete, and I have spent many happy hours watching C/L F2B at various clubs over the passing of many years. It may just come down to having the right stuff (and I lacking it) or perhaps just a lack of knowledge. Speaking of a lack of knowledge, only in the past 7 years or so have I ventured away from C/L into free flight and old timer radio assist and it was this branching out within the hobby that led me to seek out membership with the NSW FFS.

Choosing a spot gauged to be sufficiently downwind from the competitors, we spent a happy few hours until 10am flying my old blue Cardinal (featured previously in The Free Flighter May 2023 Issue) and my newer red Cardinal built last year. Conditions were as close to perfect as you could wish for those hours, although as the morning progressed the breeze did increase and the retrieval chases became correspondingly longer (encouraged by bolder settings for the timers too!). Clearly for the competitors models were beginning to stray more downwind also and edging closer to where we were.

As the wind got up it put a stop to flying as Scott and I left the field for a planned afternoon visit to the last historical flying day of the year for the Temora Aviation Museum. Highly recommended if you have not attended one of these (our last visit was 20 years before, so we were long overdue). To see a P51 Mustang in the air was a dream come true for me.

We returned to the field in time for the 5pm swap meet and naturally bought a few more old engines to add to the collection (BTW Roy, the E.D. 2cc MK II 'Penny-slot' runs great after just a little tweaking!). The delicious roast lamb dinner starting at 7pm with wine and conversation made for a relaxing evening. The beautiful country sunset was a special bonus. Thank you to all who made this happen, it was all perfect (and no mozzies!).



Sunday was a repeat of Saturday morning, including the beautiful orange sunrise. F1A, F1B and F1C competitors were battling it out on the rise in the stiffening breeze as the morning waned and midday beckoned. At around 10am Scott and I packed up the two Cardinals after a LONG chase westward in the direction of the front gate to retrieve the red one. I then got up my 2-channel assist Tomboy up for several great flights in the stiff but steady wind aloft. When it got too breezy for that, we retired at 11am to the southern part of the field and the grassed C/L circle to fly a couple of diesel engine 1950s designs before retiring from that also as the wind got stronger. We packed up the models and visited the closing hour of competitive flying at the far

end of the field to say goodbye to Roy and to say thank you to Mike for the invitation. Mike responded with another invitation, for May 2026. There's a very good chance that both Scott and I will be there again and why not, when you get an invite to fly your models at arguably the best flying field that you'll find anywhere in NSW!

Mike (and Scott) Carpenter
MAAA 47439
October 2025

NSW Free Flight Presentation Dinner.



Saturday 22nd Nov 2025

**Come and join us for a good feed. Plus
presentation for State Champs and
Richmond competition events.**

**Time – From 4pm. Presentation at 5pm
and Dinner at 6pm**

**Address - Michael and Natalie House. 7
Kerstin St, Quakers Hill.**

BYO Drinks.

**RSVP – Michael Towell on 0433 175 295
by Saturday 2nd Nov 2025**



48TH ANNUAL **AFFS** CHAMPIONSHIPS

**OPEN F1 INTERNATIONAL
WORLD CUP EVENTS**

**NARRANDERA
NSW
AUSTRALIA**

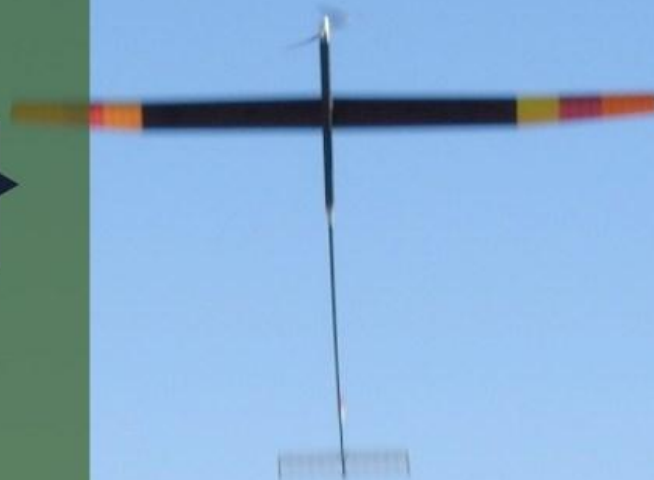
**AFFS CHAMPIONSHIP
WIDGIEWA CUP
SOUTHERN CROSS CUP**

APRIL 26TH TO MAY 3RD

2026

**ALSO OPEN POWER, RUBBER - COMBINED
VINTAGE, %, F1GHJ - P30 - E36 - HLG & CLG
+1 HOUR POWER SCRAMBLE
TO BE HELD AT WEST WYALONG AFTER AFFS F1 EVENTS**

**3 X FAI WORLD CUP
EVENTS!**





NSW FREE FLIGHT CONTEST CALENDER 2026 Draft V1

Date	Event	Venue	Time	CD
January 11	½ Scramble and Combined % BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Roy Summersby
January 16	General Meeting	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
February 8	P30 State champs and Combined Vintage	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Peter Scott
February 22	Unorthodox Day and Scale Rally BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	8:00am -12:00pm	Michael Towell
March 7 - 8	Hunter Valley Championships CL & FF	Muswellbrook	See program	See program
March 15	1 hr Scramble State Champs and Combined % BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Roy Summersby
March 20	General Meeting	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
April 12	E36 State Champs and Combined Vintage	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Michael Towell
April 26 - 30	AFFS Champs + Widgiewa Cup (World Cup Events) + Southern Cross Cup for F1A, B and C	Narrandera	See program	See program
May 1 - 3	AFFS continued at WW – 1 st Combined Vintage, E36, P30 – 2 nd F1 G, H, J, % & Scramble – 3 rd Open Power, Open Rubber, HLG, TLG & CLG – See FFDU - Evening Presentation Dinner	West Wyalong	See program	See program
May 16 - 17	Muswellbrook Veterans Gathering	Muswellbrook	See program	See program
May 22	General Meeting	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
May 30 – June 1	F1ABC State champs + Open Rubber/Power State Champs + Victorian State Champs for F1ABC	West Wyalong	See program	See program
June 14	Combined F1G, H and J State champs and Combined %	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Gary Pope
July 3 - 5	Trans Tasman Scale Rally + CL Scale (Fri to Sun) + 1 hr Scramble and Fun Fly BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	7:00am -12:00pm	Phil Warren Michael Towell
July 17	General Meeting	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
July 25 - 26	Mid Winter Mini Maxout 2min max models (5 flights per day)	West Wyalong	See program	See Program
August 9	Combined Vintage State Champs & Combined %	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Gary Goodwin
August 29-30	Cowra Oily Hand Weekend	Cowra MAC	See program	See program
September 6	½ hr Scramble and Scale Rally BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Roy Summersby
September 18	General Meeting & AGM	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
September 27	HLG/CLG State champs and Combined Vintage	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Nat Beckett
October 11	Ebenezer Day and George Fuller Event BBQ – BYO Food	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Michael Towell
October 23 - 29	75 th Free Flight Nationals	West Wyalong	See program	See program
November 8	Precision Power (sport models)	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Nat Beckett
November 20	General Meeting	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
November 21	Presentation Dinner	See invite	5pm	
November 27	Friday Xmas Party	Richmond	7:00am-12:00pm	Michael - Lyn
December 6	½ hr Scramble + Christmas Party BBQ – BYO Food	Richmond	7:00am-12:00pm	Michael Towell

*** NOTE: ALL SCRAMBLES START AT 8:00AM ***