THE FREE FLIGHTER



JOURNAL OF THE NSW FREE FLIGHT SOCIETY INC.

SEPTEMBER 2025



Natalie Beckett launching her cute little Pee Wee Bumble Bee at Cowra Oily Hand

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 18TH JULY 2025

Meeting opened:

7.51pm - Dundas Sports Club – President Michael Towell chairman

Present:

Natalie Beckett, Michael Towell, Roy Summersby, Phil Warren, Ed Mahoney, Angela Mahoney, Peter Scott, Gail Scott, Stephen Hughes, John Pennells, Gary Pope, Ray Harvey

Apologies:

Warren Leadbeatter, Gary Goodwin, Terry Bond, Andrew Linwood.

Guests:

Kate Rodwell, Lyn Towell, Richard Jensen, Reg Towell

Minutes of previous meeting:

Mover by Ed Mahoney, Phil Warren Sec. Carried

Business Arising:

- Trans-Tasman Scale. Great weekend with around 43 models. Thank you to the judges, flyers and supports.
 Fantastic weather weekend. Thank you to the Kiwis for coming and flying. Ed Mahoney thanked everyone for flying and their patience with judging. Phil said some fantastic models and Kiwis were excited. Natalie raised needing more static judges for next year. Angela took wonderful photos. Gary P said we need to keep this happening.
- MAAA free flight Nationals. Entries coming in. Need CDs will put out in bulletin. Bulletin out soon, in the next couple of weeks.
- NSW and VIC state champs for F1A, B, C. Another great weekend.
- End of year presentation at Michael and Natalie's House late Nov. Presentation for all state champs and overall point score. Date to be Saturday 22nd Nov.
- 1930's Rise off water model, donated to Free Flight society. Roy has restored and looks great. Photos and report for ANSW newsletter, will be on display in library at West Wyalong.

Correspondence out:

Friday notices, Newsletter, ANSW, MAAA request for funds, BP light source email invoice

Correspondence In:

ANSW, Responds from Friday email

Treasurers Report:

1st May to 30th June 2024 was presented by Roy Summersby. Moved Ed Mahoney, Sec Gary Pope, Carried Copies are available upon request.

General Business:

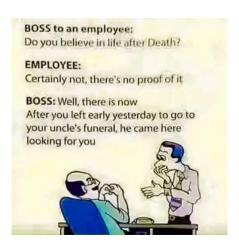
- Working Bee will be 26th 28th Sept. Roy, Steve, Michael, Gary P. People let Roy know.
- We have requested some money from the MAAA. This is for the upgrade of the road and concrete under the shelter. Roy gave a copy of letter sent to MAAA. MAAA will bring to conference to states. Roy raised the concrete be done and to ask 50%/50%.
- Roy mentioned it was a great newsletter this month. Everyone agreed. Thank you to the writers for the reports Gary P, Natalie, Michael and Warren

Meeting closed 8.45 pm

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

Terry's Jokes Section:





My wife just stopped and said, "You weren't even listening, were you?

I thought to myself...
"That's a pretty strange
way to start off a
conversation."

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 20TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Meeting Opened at 8.45pm.

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

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 treasurers 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 Max-out 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 & News Ed	Warren Leadbeatter	0408 801 539
Treasurer	Roy Summersby	0413 588 720
Registrar	Sam Kirby	0415 045 060
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 Ric	Peter Scott	0434 276 265
Librarian	John Pennells	02 4363 1834

Meeting closed 9.57pm.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE NEW SOUTH WALES FREE FLIGHT SOCIETY – SEPTEMBER 2025

Wow, what a first 12 months as your NSWFFS President. Although I haven't built a wall, I think I have mended a couple of bridges. But this is not possible without the fantastic committee that are with me, and our members for their endless support that we've had. I've actually really enjoyed being NSWFFS President, and hopefully will continue for a little while yet.

A few highlights over this last year were our Dixielander Fest at West Wyalong where a plethora of Dixie's took flight. Our Friday Christmas party, the odd BBQ on the field make our flying a little more sociable, our Unorthodox day where we saw a multitude of Windbags, plus there's been a few more being built for the next one.

A couple of other weekends at West Wyalong for part 2 of the AFFS Champs plus the NSW and Vic State champs. Both weekends had perfect flying conditions and were enjoyed by all.

If you haven't been to West Wyalong, do yourself a favour and head on out. The field, the facilities, the camping, the MAAA Hall of Fame, the library, which houses the most comprehensive aero-modelling publications in the Southern Hemisphere, dating back to the 1930's. And of course the flying is worth the effort of being there.

Speaking of WW, our next big event is the 74th Free Flight Nationals in October 17-24. Entries have been coming in for a few weeks now, closing date for entries is Sept. 24. Or, just come down to celebrate 10 years of WW.

Also our State Champs events have been spread out a little more this year, and a presentation dinner for that, and our point score trophy will be at our place in November. See Flyer in this issue.

Our annual Trans-Tasman Scale weekend combined with the Control Line Scale was a huge success, and only keeps getting bigger. Due to a clerical error on my part, the full results are in this issue.

A few of us had the privilege of visiting the RAAF base and having tour of their control tower. It was an interesting birds eye view of the area, the airspace they control and how they can see us from there. Which is why it's important that we do check in with them.

Our Fridays continue to be well supported, as well as our Sunday events. Don't forget that there is a \$5 parking fee that lets us park on the field. Let's keep up the good work.

I have had a few articles published in the ANSW Newsletter for a bit of cross promotion. There has been a few enquiries about who, and where we are. Plus a few visitors on our scale weekend because of it. Very positive indeed.

If anyone has anything they want published, or ideas for articles, please contact anyone from your committee and we'll consider it. What you're building, flying, your work bench, what got you into modelling, anything.

A few of us went to Cowra Oily Hand, to say it was freezing was an understatement!! But, the Sunday made up for it with perfect flying conditions. Despite the cold on Friday and Saturday, many a yarn was exchanged, plus goodies were bought, sold and exchanged. Always worth the annual pilgrimage to Cowra.

Also, it's been made known that if we have been travelling, or have visitors where there have been Fire ants, please be careful as they can travel. We don't want these pests on the field at Richmond. A link to more information.

http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fire-ants

Michael Towell
President NSWFFS

GENERAL NEWS & INFORMATION

Next Meeting 19th September 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

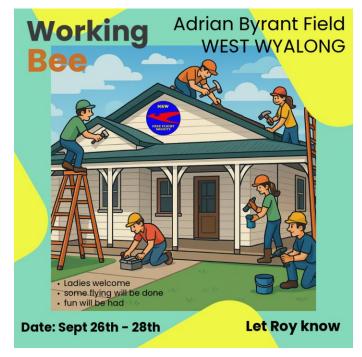
The date has been set and it is 26th April to the 3rd of May. F1A, B, C competitions and AFFS AGM will be held at Narrandera then moving to West Wyalong on the 31st of April for the smaller events. Scramble, is included in the AFFS program and run at West Wyalong. See FFDU for the full program and details. The latest FFDU is out soon.

AB Field West Wyalong - Update

At the recent MAAA Council Zoom meeting in August, the MAAA President Carl Bizon advised that a large budget surplus previously earmarked for club grants would now need to be reserved. This change was due to a public liability claim that the MAAA's insurer has refused to pay, citing a clause in the policy fine print. Understandably, this announcement significantly changed the tone of the meeting and was disappointing for all involved.

During the same meeting, NSWFFS submitted a well-prepared grant application seeking \$20,000 from the MAAA (matched by \$20,000 from NSWFFS) to fund two key improvements:

- Upgrading the road from the gate to the house.
- Concreting under the shade area at the RC field.



Despite the merit of the proposal, the motion was defeated during the vote, and the application was subsequently rejected. Council has clarified that future funding applications must be submitted through the Club Assistance Scheme, which remains the only mechanism available for such support.

While on-site at West Wyalong recently, we discovered the presence of white ants in the Hall of Fame container. Given Tahn's previous experience with this issue in his own container, we acted promptly. Following professional advice from a local pest control expert, baiting has been carried out and is proving effective. The next stage involves installing a permanent barrier system, with the total cost estimated at \$2,400, which is considered a relatively low price for such treatment.

We initially hoped the MAAA might fund this protection for their Hall of Fame. During the Zoom meeting, a council member who works in the pest control industry offered to look into a possible no-cost solution, but we have not heard back after more than a month. As we could not wait any longer, we've moved ahead with the treatment. We will try to follow up with the council member before the next MAAA meeting to report the current situation.

Lastly, we have made the decision to proceed with fixing the road, and expect this work to be completed in the coming weeks.

2025 Cowra Oily Hand Weekend Report

What can one say? I arrived around noon on Friday to be greeted by cold winds – definitely not a flying day. Instead, the afternoon became a social affair of catching up and browsing the swap tables. Cowra is as much a buy-and-sell meet as it is a flying weekend. You put your gear out, hope to sell a few items, and inevitably find yourself buying something from someone else. Often it's a case of "not sure what I'll do with this, but it might come in handy."

Saturday was meant to be the main flying day, but the weather had other ideas – drizzle, wind and bitter cold meant flying was abandoned. Back to the trading tables we went. This year's theme was biplanes, and an impressive 33 models were lined up for judging in all shapes, sizes, and levels of craftsmanship. A fantastic sight, despite the lack of flying.

Then came Sunday morning. Clear blue skies, dead calm – a complete contrast to the day before. At last, conditions were perfect. The regular scramble was flown, though models barely drifted outside a 50-metre circle. Across the uphill paddock, dozens of small free-flight models brought plenty of joy to their owners, while on the main field there was steady control line and RC activity.

Given the weather forecast, attendance was surprisingly strong, with NSWFFS well represented by 13 members.

All in all, another excellent weekend. Well done once again to the Cowra Club for hosting a memorable Oily Hand gathering.

Roy Summersby (Pics below by Nat Beckett)









Key Dates for the remainder of 2025

- Sunday 14th September ½ Hour Scramble, Scale Rally & Rescheduled E36 NSW State Champs Richmond
- Fri 19th September General Meeting and AGM
- Fri 26th to Sun 28th September Working Bee at West Wyalong
- Sun Oct 12th September Unorthodox Day No.2 at Richmond
- 17th to 24th October 74th MAAA Free Flight Nationals at West Wyalong
- Sun 9th November Combined Vintage State Champs at Richmond
- Fri 21st November General Meeting
- Fri 28th November Friday Flying Christmas Party at Richmond
- Sun 7th December − ½ Hr Scramble, Combined % & Vintage and Christmas BBQ at Richmond

74th MAAA Free Flight Nationals

The MAAA 2025 FF Nats will be held on **17th to 24th October** at West Wyalong . The Entry Forms and Schedule are now available and have been posted online and in this Newsletter. Get your entry in! Entries close 24th September 2025.

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.

For Sale:

Redfin Kompish .020 & .030 NIB I think I paid around \$200 each, would be happy with \$175 ea Contact David Murrell – 0416 236 456







Trans-Tasman Scale Rally Official Results & Scores

CONTESTANT MODEL POINTS POINTS POINTS PLACE REPS PHIL MITCHELL TIGER MOTH 978.5 488.8 1467.3 1ST AUS PHIL MITCHELL PBY CATALINA 964.6 459.8 1424.4 V V ANTONY KOERBIN B.E.2E 947.8 469.6 1417.4 2ND N.Z MICHAEL TOWELL DART KITTEN 940.8 471.8 1412.6 3RD AUS ROY SUMERSBY FOKKER DVIII 938.8 468 1406.8 N.Z STAN MAUGER ANTARTIC AUSTER C4 956.8 443.8 1400.6 N.Z ROY SUMMERSBY ABC ROBIN 926.9 435.5 1362.4 AUS MARIS DISLERS 1912 BLACKBURN MODEL D 956.9 405.5 1362.4 AUS
PHIL MITCHELL PBY CATALINA 964.6 459.8 1424.4 ANTONY KOERBIN B.E.2E 947.8 469.6 1417.4 2ND N.Z MICHAEL TOWELL DART KITTEN 940.8 471.8 1412.6 3RD AUS ROY SUMERSBY FOKKER DVIII 938.8 468 1406.8 STAN MAUGER ANTARTIC AUSTER C4 956.8 443.8 1400.6 N.Z ROY SUMMERSBY ABC ROBIN 926.9 435.5 1362.4
ANTONY KOERBIN B.E.2E 947.8 469.6 1417.4 2ND N.Z MICHAEL TOWELL DART KITTEN 940.8 471.8 1412.6 3RD AUS ROY SUMERSBY FOKKER DVIII 938.8 468 1406.8 N.Z STAN MAUGER ANTARTIC AUSTER C4 956.8 443.8 1400.6 N.Z ROY SUMMERSBY ABC ROBIN 926.9 435.5 1362.4 Telephone
MICHAEL TOWELL DART KITTEN 940.8 471.8 1412.6 3RD AUS ROY SUMERSBY FOKKER DVIII 938.8 468 1406.8 N.Z STAN MAUGER ANTARTIC AUSTER C4 956.8 443.8 1400.6 N.Z ROY SUMMERSBY ABC ROBIN 926.9 435.5 1362.4 V.Z
ROY SUMERSBY FOKKER DVIII 938.8 468 1406.8 STAN MAUGER ANTARTIC AUSTER C4 956.8 443.8 1400.6 N.Z ROY SUMMERSBY ABC ROBIN 926.9 435.5 1362.4
STAN MAUGER ANTARTIC AUSTER C4 956.8 443.8 1400.6 N.Z ROY SUMMERSBY ABC ROBIN 926.9 435.5 1362.4
ROY SUMMERSBY ABC ROBIN 926.9 435.5 1362.4
120000000000000000000000000000000000000
MARIS DISLERS 1912 BLACKBURN MODEL D 956.9 405.5 1362.4 AUS
PETER SCOTT DE HAVILLAND BEAVER 872.4 384 1256.4
STEPHEN,ALBERT BOJEC SOPWITH PUP 825.6 421.5 1247.1
PHIL MITCHELL H.P. O/400 990 - 990 AUS
ROY SUMMERSBY SOPWITH SWALLOW 935 - 935
RICKY BOULD MAX HOLSTE BROUSSARD 886.6 - 886.6 N.Z
RUBBER FREE FLIGHT SCALE
PHIL WARREN SFCA LIGNEL 44 941.5 469 1410.5 1ST
PAUL SQUIRES NESMITH COUGAR 895.8 502.5 1398.3 2ND
TERRY BOND BESTETTI BN.1 869.7 519.2 1388.9 3RD
MICHAEL TOWELL EVANS VOLKSPLANE 914.1 466 1380.1
PHIL WARREN PORTSMOUTH AEROCAR 918.4 457.05 1375.5
RICKY BOULD AERONCA CHIEF 887 480 1367
NATALIE BECKETT CITABRIA 872.9 487.5 1360
ANTONY KOERBIN CLUTTON SHERRY F.R.E.D.#2 947 403.5 1350.5
PHIL WARREN ANDRE STARCK AS20 952.2 306 1258.2
PHIL MITCHELL HAWK MOTH 947.1 - 947.1
PETER SCOTT AERONCA CHAMP 877.3 - 877.3
KIT SCALE
PHIL WARREN TAYLOR CUB 95 43 138 1ST
MARIS DISLERS CESSNA BIRD DOG 95.6 39 134.6 2ND
PHIL WARREN BABY ACE 95 34 129
ROY SUMMERSBY LAVOCHIN LA15 90 37.5 127.5 3RD
PHIL MITCHELL DGA-6 "MR MULLIGAN" 98 24 122
STEPHEN BOJEC NIEUPORT 27 90.4 29 119.4
STAN MAUGER WIPA AUSTER III 95.8 23 118.8
ROY SUMMERSBY S.E.5a 87.2 30 117.2
WARREN LEADBEATTER PC-6 PORTER 91 - 91
WARREN LEADBEATTER DHC-2 BEAVER 89.4 - 89.4
WARREN LEADBEATTER CESSNA SKYHAWK 172 88 - 88
TERRY BOND PILATUS PORTER 59.4 - 59.4

TRANS TASMAN RESULTS

AUSTRALIAN TEAM	ROY SUMMERSBY			
	PHIL MITCHELL			
	MARIS DISLERS		3759.2	1ST
NEW ZEALAND TEAM	STAN MAUGER			
	RICKY BOULDS			
	ANTONY KOERBIN		3704.2	
F4B CONTROL LINE				
TONY BONELLO	B-25 MITCHELL		1321.5	1ST
MARIS DISLERS	GREAT LAKES TRAINER		1269.0	2ND
DON KEYSSECKER	FOCKE WULF FW 190		1104.7	3RD
ROY SUMMERSBY	RYAN ST		907.5	
PETER SCOTT	BRISTOL M1C SCOUT		450.3	
MICHAEL TOWELL	CORBY STARLET		447.2	
TAHN STOWE	DC3	NOT FLOWN		

Random Shots taken at Richmond in August (by Ange Mahoney)











MEMBER PROFILE - JOHN FRENCH

John's love of aeromodelling has never been about competition. From his earliest rubber-powered free flight models to control line stunts with his first Merco 35, he's always valued the fun of building and flying over scores or trophies.

His modelling journey began in the UK, and after emigrating to Australia in the 1970s, the hobby truly flourished. Time in Victoria, Queensland, and now Eden on the NSW south coast has seen him explore free flight, control line, and R/C assist Old Timers.

In 1996 John contracted a virus that led to chronic fatigue syndrome, which shifted his focus more towards building than flying. Fortunately, his professional background as an architectural model maker in Queensland (1989–2000) gave him skills that translated beautifully into his aeromodelling projects.

A favourite build was a West Wings Hawker Hart for his wife Kath in the early 1990s, followed by a larger 1:10 scale version, built entirely from raw materials as a static model. These projects highlight the detail and craftsmanship that continue to inspire his modelling today.

For John, the joy has always been simple: the satisfaction of creating and sharing model aircraft, with no ego attached—just a lifelong passion for the hobby.













THE EARLY HISTORY OF MODEL AEROPLANES IN AUSTRALIA

The origins of model aeroplanes in Australia can be traced back to the first decades of the 20th century, when the excitement of full-size aviation quickly inspired young enthusiasts to try their hand at miniature flight.

1900s - First Experiments

Just a few years after the Wright Brothers' success in 1903, Australian newspapers began reporting on boys building simple gliders and rubber-powered models. Many were based on designs published overseas, with instructions appearing in magazines like *Popular Mechanics* and later in local papers. These early models were often hand-launched in city parks, made from light wood, bamboo, wire and tissue.

1910s - Public Interest and School Projects

During the years leading up to the First World War, interest in aviation surged. Schools encouraged model building as a way of teaching mechanics and aerodynamics, and technical colleges sometimes held competitions. In Melbourne and Sydney, exhibitions of model aircraft became common features at fairs and patriotic events.

1920s-1930s - Organised Clubs and Competitions

The interwar years saw the formation of the first organised aeromodelling clubs. In Sydney, the Model Aero Club of New South Wales was active by the late 1920s, while similar groups were reported in Melbourne, Brisbane, and Adelaide. These clubs often met on open paddocks, racecourses, and showgrounds. Sydney's Centennial Park and Randwick Riffle Range were popular locations.

In these days, information was spread to the masses by radio and newspapers. In 1930 an aeromodeller named Norman J. Lyons started the *Model Aeroplane Association (MAA)*. Norman was a radio presenter for the Australian Broadcasting Company who owned radio stations like 2BL Sydney, 3AR Melbourne, 4QG Brisbane, 5CL Adelaide, 6WF Perth, 7ZL Hobart plus relay stations all over the country. His radio programs started smaller clubs they called squadrons and affiliated with model flying clubs all over Australia.





He organised state bodies which set up the basic structure we still have today in the MAAA. He also sold simple model kits for the flying models he described on his radio programs through a business that he and his business partner Kathleen O'Sullivan started called *Model Aircrafts*. In these days the models were small basic rubber powered free flight models with a stick fuselage and later had built up fuselages which they called Fuselage models.

In 1931 another charismatic man, a salesman, named Ivor Freshman who worked for a new company called the *Model Flying Company* started a rival organisation called the *Model Flying Club (MFC)* and competed with the MAA for membership throughout the 1930s. Over time Freshman's reputation declined with many folk due to his recruiting methods and other questionable behaviors plus the fact that he wasn't an aeromodeller.

In 1932, Lyons authored *The Australian Model Aeroplane Manual: The Official Handbook of the Model Aeroplane Association of Australia*. This handbook remains a landmark publication, offering building instructions, designs, and technical guidance to budding aeromodellers. His

dual legacy—as a leader and as a mentor/author—rightly earned him recognition as the "father of model aeroplanes in Australia".

Competitions grew in popularity, with events covering rubber-powered endurance flights, hand-launched gliders, and later, small petrol-powered free-flight models. The early flying records were for hand launched, rise off ground (ROW) and rise off water (ROW) models. Flight times over a minute were considered to be very good. They had no idea about thermals yet. Later in the mid 1930s

much bigger and better flying models emerged and times over 20 mins were achieved, and some models flew out of site and were chased by people in motor cars.

The arrival of American Gas engines such as the Brown Junior (1934) and Ohlsson & Rice motors transformed the hobby, allowing larger and more ambitious models to take to the skies. Newspapers like the *Sydney Morning Herald* frequently carried articles about "model flying days," attracting curious crowds.

In July 1935 the first petrol engine powered model aircraft was reportedly flown at Mascot Airport NSW by Jack Finneran, at the time a member of the MFC. The engine was a 9.75cc Brown Junior spark ignition engine and the model was called Miss Texaco. The newspaper photographer took aerial photos of the model flying from a real aeroplane.

In 1938 efforts by Ivor Freshman in years prior culminated in the 1938 Grand International Model Aeroplane Championships (GIMAC), held as part of Australia's sesquicentenary (150th) celebrations in March. However in



1937 Ivor Freshman disappeared from the scene and it was up to William Caldwell who replaced him to pick up the pieces and he quickly realised he was out of his depth with organising such a big event. He contacted HJ Mackay who had taken over as commissioner of the M.A.A. from Lyons in 1936. Lyons had stepped back from duties at the MAA as he was now working in an executive position with Radio 2UW. The MAA and MFC collaborated for the first time and made the event happen. This event came to be known as the First Australian Nationals. There were three basic classes, Outdoor rubber powered held at Centennial Park, Outdoor gas powered held at Richmond RAAF and Indoor rubber powered held at Sydney Town Hall.

1940s - A Postwar Boom & Golden Era

World War II slowed aeromodelling in Australia, as materials were scarce and many young men were serving overseas. However, the end of the war brought a remarkable surge in the hobby. Servicemen returned with mechanical skills and an interest in aviation, and surplus balsa wood and equipment became available.

Clubs grew quickly across the country. Control Line flying, imported from the United States around 1947, offered a dramatic new way to fly powered models, while radio control—still crude in its early years—began to emerge. The Model Aeronautical Association of Australia (MAAA) was founded in 1948, providing national organisation for the sport.

This era was known as the Golden Age of Aeromodelling and the event that is known as the 2nd Nationals (or 1st MAAA Nationals) occurred in 1948 at Bankstown NSW which included Free flight and Control line flying. The 3rd Nats was held in Melbourne in 1949 and it was not until the 4th Nationals in Adelaide in 1950 that saw the first Radio Control models fly in a Nationals.

1950s Onwards - A National Passion

By the 1950s, aeromodelling was firmly established as a mainstream hobby. Every capital city had thriving clubs, hobby shops, magazines such as *Australian Model News, Australian Model Hobbies* and later *Airborne* spread new designs, and competitions were held at both state and national level. Australia began sending teams overseas to world championships, producing international competitors in free flight, control line, and radio control.

References

Politics & Personalities in Australian Aeromodelling Book 1 Federation 1928 to 1950 by Kenneth J Bourke Australian Control Line Nostalgia website by David Kidd Trove - The National Library of Australia – Newspapers & Gazettes

by Warren Leadbeatter

MURRAY WILSONS NEW BUILD

Earlier this year I was gifted a kit by David Shackleford which he said he would never build. A Kyosho products Geodetic Galaxie.

It sat on the workbench for a little while until Julia, who was staying with us while she was looking for work to satisfy her visa requirements, started to piece the kit together. After a few days we had a wing and tail assembled. We covered the wing and tail in Polyspan from Peter Lloyd. Then I started work on the fuselage.

The plan said it recommended a Cox 15. I don't have one of those and given the area is bigger than the Dixielander and that copes with decent power, I decided to put an old Classic B motor in it. A spec'ed up Brodak 25!

I still have to fit the engine flood off components and the bladder compartment.

With any luck, we get some decent weather down here in Victoria and I'll be able to give it a fly before the Nationals. Otherwise it will get trimmed on the day before the comp.

Test glides so far suggest it might be a floater. Although it has already found a fence at the CL field.









Unorthadox Day & BBQ Plus Windbag Mass Launch

Your chance to win a BNIB Cox Medallion 049

Donated by the late Big Kev



When - Sunday 12th Oct 2025.

Time: From 8am.

Windbag plan is available on Outerzone.

Partial Kit available - See organiser.

Prize for Peoples Choice.





Windbag Mass Launch Rules

- 1. Built as per plan.
- Cox 049 reed valve with standard 5cc tank to be used.
- All models to be launched with in 2mins of start time.
- 4. Longest flight wins.

Organiser – Michael Towell M - 0433 175 295 E – mtowell5@icloud.com

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.

<u>Time</u> – From 4pm. Presentation at 5pm and Dinner at 6pm

<u>Address</u> - Michael and Natalie House. 7 Kerstin St, Quakers Hill.

BYO Drinks.

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











74th MAAA Free Flight National Championships

First Name

West Wyalong - 17th - 24th October 2025

Pilot Entry Surname

tree	t Address
lome	Phone Phone
REE F	LIGHT - Outdoor
	F1A Gilder
	F1B Rubber
	F1C Power
	F1G Coupe
	F1H Glider
	F1J 1/2A Power
	Open Power
	Open Rubber
	E36
	Day Scramble
	Night Scrambe
	Outdoor HLG
	Outdoor CLG
	Outdoor DLG
	P30 Rubber
	Vintage Rubber
	Vintage Power
	Vintage Glider
	OZ Diesel
	F4A Scale
	60's Coupe
	Dixielander Fun Event
REE F	LIGHT - Indoor
	Open Rubber Scale
	Peanut Scale
	Indoor HLG
	Indoor CLG
	Hangar Rat

Hangar Rat Scramble

Town/City					Post Code
Mobile Phone					Email Address
Fee Calculator					PAYMENT OPTIONS
Events	Qty	Each	Total	Max Fee	-
	1	ĊE0	ČE0	ĊFQ.	4

Fee Calculator				
Events	Qty	Each	Total	Max Fee
Admin - ALL Entrants	1	\$50	\$50	\$50
Late Fee		\$50		\$50
Senior Events		\$15		\$50
Junior Events		\$2		\$10
Fun Fly only		\$0	\$0	\$0
Sub Total		Α		

Goodies & Dinners	Qty	\$ Each	Total	
Metal Badges		\$5		
Decals		\$3		No
Sausage Sizzle		\$5		Limit
Celebration Dinner		\$25		
Sub Total		В		

GRAND TOTAL (A+B)	С	

STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT:- I agree to abide by all rules laid down by the Association. I agree to compete in a Sportsman like manner & will also make myself available to assist with the running of the Event if I am asked.

CAMPING AVAILABLE AT THE FIELD:

Including; Camp Kitchen with 240V Fridges, TV, Microwave, Kettle, Toaster, BBQ, Electricity, Mens & Womens Hot Showers & Toilets. Tank Water. Plenty of shade.

\$10 per person per Night (Kids free)
Contact Roy Summersby for Bookings

1. EFT DETAILS -	
A/C Name - NSWFFS Inc 74 th Nationals	
BSB - 062 336	
A/C # - 1040 9062	
Ref. MAAA Number 1 1st three letters of your suggest	

MAAA / FAI Number

2. CH	IEQUE DETAILS
Chequ	ue Payee - NSWFFS Inc 74 th Nationals
Postal	address for Entries and/or Cheques is :
2025	Nats Registrar
7 Kor	estin St Ouakars Hill 2763

3. PAYPAL
Address: mtowell5@icloud.com
Payment Type: Friends and Family
Ref - MAAA Number + 1st three letters of your surname

Enquiries: 2025 Nats Registrar – Nat Beckett Ph: 0402675037

Email: natbeckett82@icloud.com

GET YOUR ENTRY IN EARLY!

Closing Date for Entries is 24th September 2025 we will accept a Late Fee of \$50 for any late entries



74th NATIONALS 2025 PROGRAM WEST WYALONG





17th to 24th Oct 2025

Free Flight	Social
	45
Registration and practise	
7am – 10am F4A 8am – 1pm Open Power and Rubber	5pm Swap Meet 7pm Country Lamb Roast Dinner and Wine
8am-1pm F1A, F1B and F1C	- Grid Wile
8am – 9am Day scramble 9am – 1pm CLG/HLG/TLG and Dixielander Event	
8am-1pm F1G, F1H and F1J	2pm – 9pm Indoor Hanger Rat, Peanut, Open Scale and Gliders
8am – 1pm Vintage Power, Rubber, Glider	
8am – 1pm P30 and 60's Coupe 8 – 9pm Night Scramble	5pm Swap Meet Part 2 6pm Sausage Sizzle
8am – 1pm Oz Diesel and E36	
Layover Day	
	AB field Registration and practise 7am – 10am F4A 8am – 1pm Open Power and Rubber 8am-1pm F1A, F1B and F1C 8am – 9am Day scramble 9am – 1pm CLG/HLG/TLG and Dixielander Event 8am-1pm F1G, F1H and F1J 8am – 1pm Vintage Power, Rubber, Glider 8am – 1pm P30 and 60's Coupe 8 – 9pm Night Scramble 8am – 1pm Oz Diesel and E36

^{*}All presentations will be conducted at the house from 4-5pm*







OPEN F1 INTERNATIONAL WORLD CUP EVENTS

NARRANDERA NSSW 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

EVENTS!





NSW FREE FLIGHT CONTEST CALENDAR 2025 v2

Date	Event	Venue	Time	Contact
January 12	1/2 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 30 - 31*	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 12	Unorthodox Day No 2 + Mass Windbag + BBQ	Richmond	8am – 12pm	Michael Towell
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	1/2 hr Scramble and Combined % + Combined Vintage + Christmas BBQ – BYO Food	Richmond	7:00am - 1:00pm	Michael Towell

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