

# THE FREE FLIGHTER



JOURNAL OF THE NSW FREE FLIGHT SOCIETY INC.

JAN 2023



**The Windbag on it's maiden flight**

## MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022

### Meeting opened:

7.35 Dundas Sports Club President Terry Bond in the chair

Present: Roy Summersby, Peter Scott, Gail Scott, Phil Warren, Geoff Potter, Keith Murry, Gary Pope, John Pennells, Aaron Booth, L Booth, Sam Kirby, Michael Towell.

### Apologies:

Gary Goodwin, Gary Pope

### Guests:

A Jenson

### Minutes of previous meeting:

Moved Peter Scott sec John Pennells

### Business Arising:

Work at AB field, Road in only half fixed. Hope to have a Bobcat working there soon., Step.to happen soon. Anniversary badges and stickers were received and have been handed out, there is still a few remaining. MAAA funding for lunches on both days was much appreciated by everyone.

### Correspondence out:

Free Flighter, Friday notices, Invoice to MAAA. Notice of Barry Lees Death. Email re the Nat's 2023/4

### Correspondence In:

Vic Flypaper, Elec A/C, Rate notice.

## TREASURERS REPORT NSWFFS

1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

Opening Balances

C.B.A – A/C No 229300901281	\$12,810.05
C.B.A - A/C No 233610409062	\$223.72
Opening Total CBA 1&2	\$13,033.77

C.B.A 1– Deposits	\$7,645.00
C.B.A 2– Deposits	\$0.00
C.B.A 1- Payments	5,215.44
C.B.A 2- Payments	\$0.00

Closing Balances

CBA-No1	\$15,239.61
CBA-No2	\$223.72
Total Closing Balances CBA- 1 & 2	\$15,463.33

Moved, Geoff Potter, sec Keith Murry, treasure report be accepted, carried

## General Business:

Report on Scale weekend, this was very successful considering weather, roads. Flooding and covid. This theme will continue next year. Notice reminder of the Friday Christmas party on 25th November. Notice reminder of the Sunday Christmas party with SAMs on the 4th December.

CLAS intend to hold a MAAA Nat's in 2023/24 at West Wylong and asked for our help with fields. We intend to hold the 2nd West Wyalong Nat's at the same time making it a much bigger event.

AFFS have moved their dates for their championships to be 16th to 23rd April 2023 this means we won't have a combined dinner. Roy reported on sales from donated and purchased goods. There has also been a big donation of models and engines from Howard Field. Howard, is most likely the oldest MAAA member at 96. Roy hopes to have a story on Howard in the next Free Flighter.

## Meeting closed 9.02pm

President	Terry Bond	0417027579
Vice President	Aaron Booth	0412127270
Secretary & Newsletter Editor	Roy Summersby	0413588720
Treasurer	Gary Goodwin	0414292050
Registrar	Sam Kirby	0415045060
Safety Officer	Michael Towell	0433175295
Chief Flying Instructor	Mike Ward	0416081536
Scale Coordinator	Phil Warren	0405579904
FB Manager	Warren Leadbeatter	0408801539
Contest Org Richmond	Peter Scott	0434276265
Librarian	John Pennells	0243631834

## EDITORIAL JANUARY 2023

Hi Team, some gossip and a few bits of information for the new year. We are going ahead with the planned nationals at West Wyalong 28 December 2023 to 4 Jan 2024. The program is underway and we will be running the nationals in conjunction with CLAS. There is still some confusion about the title of this year's nationals but we will try for the 73rd National Championships and see what happens.

Christmas and New Year have passed us again. For that I can be thankful but the residue of chocolates and champagne is still here. It's not necessarily in a jar in the cupboard but lingers on on the scales. A special thanks to that somebody who gave me a 1.3kg jar of chocolate covered almonds. I am half way there.

The annual pilgrimage to West Wyalong this year was not as popular as other years. That could be attributed to the past Covid epidemic or behavior impressed upon us as a result of being cooped up too long. Fortunately despite a late arrival I managed to get there and meet others who travelled from NSW and Victoria. I feel sorry for Bruce Hao who lost a 'B' model on his last flight of the day.

This year (Dec 2023-Jan 2024) we will have the nationals to have fun with at the same time.

The world champs will be held in France in August this year after some delays due to Covid and we will have a full team participating. I am not sure of the exact dates at this time. The team participants are in the FFDU, the next step is to ask if they accept the spot. There is currently some discussion on how to qualify and how many contests will be required to qualify. I believe that the current system has served us well and the more contests one attends and does well, the better served that competitor will be at a WC contest.

Our calendar has been printed and displayed on our web page, thanks to Warren Leadbetter who manages our web page and face book. Please have a look at our web page and see the changes. Wazza does a great job and I don't know how he manages to do it so quickly and efficiently.

Courtesy of the VFFS I have recently received a copy of the rules for a new summer Coupe d'Hiver postal competition. This applies to 60's coupe models and should be lots of fun. Bear in mind that you can select the day you fly and the conditions you fly in. If you are really stretched perhaps, you could borrow a model? Roy will publish the rules for you in this Free Flighter.

Last year we only just made budget for our Friday Flyers Christmas party. I am not talking about the food and drinks expenditure but we always give a small good feeling fee to Pauline. Gents it has only been a \$2 parking fee for the last umpteen years. On Friday 13 Jan 2023 it was decided by the Friday flyers to raise the price of parking to \$5. The price rise will come into effect after the next general meeting on 20 Jan 2023. You can put it down to the CPI increase if that makes you feel better.

Our new contest year is now starting. Let's get back into it and put some effort into our flying and competitions. Good luck, good health, stay safe and maintain that enthusiasm that you had as a kid.

**Terry Bond**  
**President NSWFFS**

## NEWS & INFORMATION

### Next Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> January

This will be a general meeting 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.

### New Registrar

Dear flyers,

I'd like to take this opportunity to briefly introduce myself and provide an update regarding membership going forward. My name is Sam, I have been flying free flight since 2020 and have recently volunteered for the position of registrar for the NSWFFS.

The MAAA is in the process of updating the way by which our membership is organised. From February this year a software company known as Member Jungle will host our information and become the key interface through which membership is created, renewed, and modified. **Now is a great time to get in touch if you wish to update any information regarding your membership!**

Please feel free to get in touch using the information below (email is preferable).

Samuel Kirby

PH: 0415045060

Email: [nswff.registrar@gmail.com](mailto:nswff.registrar@gmail.com)

### Still Wanted

One or two copies of Kenneth J Burkes book, Politics & Personalities in Australian Aeromodelling. I would like to educate some of the MAAA council that show some interest in our past. They can have my copy, but not for a few more years yet, I hope. If you have one and would like to sell it, please let me know. Roy.

### Engines, Models, Engines and even more Models

Since the last meeting we have sold enough engines to cover our outlay with plenty more to go. We have also been given a number of engines and models from what is most likely the oldest MAAA member, Howard Field. Howard, is I believe 97 and has just had to go into a nursing home. He was a radio flyer with the Wyong River club but for the last few years has not been very active. He has kindly donated us his models, and engines. We have added a story of Howards modelling history written by his daughter in this issue. If you want to have a go at control line or RC, now is your chance, and you don't even have to build a model. There are plenty to pick from.

### 2023 Program

You will find the 2023 program in this newsletter. NOW is the time to mark down the special dates on your diary, that is, weekends away, as well as special events.

## **Friday Christmas Party 25<sup>th</sup> November**

This was once again a top morning with some flying activity in between eating and drinking, the champagne was flowing as well as the low alcohol beer for those who had to drive. Natalie filled in for Lyn who couldn't make it on the day and the spread was perfect, thanks Natalie. One of the highlights of the day was Roy taking from the car a model called a "Windbag". The comments were, what is it, how can that fly, where are the wings etc, etc, etc. The model was prepared for its first flight, that is fuel was placed in the Cox tank. The battery connected, the prop turned backwards, as it has a spring starter, and let go. The Cox fires up and was let run for a while. no need for a full tank on its first flight. The model was then launched on its maiden flight. It went out in a shallow climb for about 150 meters then had a slight turn to the right. When the noise stopped to every one's amazement, it glided still on its right patten. When I say it glided, I don't mean like an F1C, or even an F1A, but it did glide. Its second flight was a carbon copy of the first.

Back at the workshop that night, some right thrust was added for the next session which was to be the Sunday Christmas party. Once again those that hadn't seen it on the Friday before had the same reaction, it can't fly. Third, fourth and fifth flights were just as good in fact a little better, with a bit more right turn added. On its last flight of the day, it must have been launched into a bit of lift as it climbed to about 150 meters before the Cox stopped and once again the glide was certainly good enough.

Most there agreed that it is a fun toy and wanted one. Ray Harvey is now making up some kits. Ray has done a few mods to make it easy to assemble. They will come with everything except the covering and engine. Cost at just \$45, I think they will be a hit and can't wait to see six or more being launched at the same time. It will be a classic day at Richmond when this happens.

PS. The first batch of kits have been sold out, more can be made if the demand is there, let Roy know if you want one.

## **Sunday Christmas Party 4<sup>th</sup> December**

Once again, we had a good roll up which started out with a ½ hour scramble, this was followed by Vintage power and a B-B-Q lunch. Goodie provided the BBQ and we managed ok. The previous BBQ had pretty much died and had been consigned to the tip. If I remember correctly there was some champers left over but that disappeared very quickly, not sure about the beer. (Low alcohol only). Overall, two very successful and festive days.

## **Working Bee AB Field (9-11 Dec)**

I managed to get four starters for the weekend and we managed to get a lot of small jobs done. John Pennells has now finished the library; well, I guess it will never be really finished as bits will be added as they come along. It really looks good; John has put in a lot of time and effort in to it, thank you John. Andrew and Goody wired up the mesh on the control line circle. This was only held up temporary with a few cable ties, we just need a gate made to complete the job.

Sheep mesh was installed around the RC shade, this is removable when in use. New front tyre fitted to the mower the old one had split in three places. New fly mesh to the back screen door, this might keep a few flies out. I am pleased to say we have had a step installed along the front patio along with some hand rails off the posts. While concreting we also had a back path put in from the garage to the back door.

It wasn't all work and no play, we flew Friday evening, early Saturday and late Saturday, at these times it was magic. Andrew trimmed one of his new sidewinder F1C models. I also trimmed a new F1C model. By Saturday evening both models were looking very good. I also flew my ducted fan Lavchkin and I am very pleased with it now.



## Flying Last Friday of 2022 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec

What a perfect morning, as good as dead calm, twelve flyers on the field with a variety of models. There was Sam Kirby flying F1A, Gary Goodwin and Bruce Hao flying F1B Gary Pope with his F1C, Phil Warren and all his rubber scale jobs, Jacko with his Poppit, Roy with his twin Grumman, Steve Buckpit busy fixing timers and doing a spot of control line flying, Michael Towell helping every one, Ian La Brondi and his Dornier 335 as well as a biplane, Terry keeping an eye on everything and trying to teach a granddaughter to launch a cat glider, Peter Norrie drinking coffee. It was just a superb morning.

## Flying Friday 13 January 2023

First advertised Friday of the year. A fantastic day, no wind and plenty of flying. B, C, Open Power trimming, CLG, Windbag sales and flying, sport ff, some tiny RC and above all, control line flying. I could not think of a more diversified day. The wind stayed away all day at least until I left a bit after 1100hrs. Some even stayed on the field just to have the usual havachat. Steve's fuel bottle was eventually found by him, but the walk was exhausting for those who watched him racing around the field.

## BBQ Lunch 12 March 2023

Our next BBQ day is on 12<sup>th</sup> March so start organizing your snags now.



Roy & Michael with their Golden Boomerangs

## HOWARD FIELD MAAA 5212

Howard Field has been flying model planes for as long as I can remember. The first photo I can find is of him in 1965 at a competition in Canberra. He has been an active flying member up until 2020 and now about to turn 97 in January he has entered full-time care.

Howard was the Treasurer of Cumberland RCA for many years in the 1960's and 1970's and worked closely with the President, Lyell Winley. The flying field was at Rooty Hill and in the early 1970's the club relocated to the grounds of St Gregory's College at Narellan. The Club hosted the Trans Tasman Championships with competitors from Australia and New Zealand.

Howard flew in many competitions around New South Wales. As a child I have many memories of us hitching the caravan to the car and travelling to lots of places for Dad to fly his planes. He loved flying all types of aircraft and a variety of styles. Pylon races, pattern flying, aerobatics, gliding, fun games like cutting the ribbon, sea plane flying, night flying, indoor flying and even tried his hand at a radio controlled boat. He took great pride in the models he built which included scale models in particular a Douglas Dakota DC3, bi-planes, small and large planes, gliders and in the last few years he moved to smaller electric models.

Howard competed and flew with Tom Prosser, Lyell Winley, Alan Bird, Basil Healey, Bruce Townsend, Peter Patsky, Allan Swift, Nev Sinnott just to name a few.

In the 1970's Dad assisted Roger Badham, one of the world's pre-eminent meteorologists, in gathering information for his final University thesis. We would travel all around NSW with the "smog hog" which was fitted with computer equipment. Howard would fly at hourly intervals from 3am to sunrise to gather data on pollution levels. This was something that Howard was proud to be a part of. Roger thanks Howard for being so supportive of his studies and says that in those days, there were no drones or technology like we have today, and it was hard and required skill. Skill that Howard had.

After moving to Woy Woy in the 1990's Howard joined clubs on the Central Coast. He flew at Narara and Wyong. He was always happy to share his knowledge and skills to newer club members.



Canberra 1965



Maitland 1967



In the last 20 years Howard spent most of his flying days with the wonderful members of Gunnedah District Aeromodellers Association. He would hitch the caravan up to the car two or three times a year, both loaded with his beloved planes - petrol and electric - and stay on club premises for 3 to 4 weeks and enjoy daily flying. Many members would make special trips out to the field after work just to have a chat with him and a fly.

His last trip away was during COVID in 2020 and at this point I believe he was the oldest active flying member in Australia. Sadly, he is no longer able to fly, but flying was in his blood. It was a great hobby for him and he met many wonderful flyers over the years with many becoming life long friends.

Maryanne Smidt, Daughter



**Douglas Dakota DC3 1975**



**1976**



**Flying Electric 2006**

## SUMMER COUPE D'HIVER COMPETITION NOTICE

*This competition is open to free flieters affiliated with the MAAA.*

The VFFS decided to try 'inhouse' postal competitions as a way to make the best of the unpredictable free flight weather we experience and the difficulty of getting all hands out when a nice day comes along.

We have chosen 60s Coupes for the trial because:

- A number of us enjoyed flying them in Mark Braunlich's Hip Pocket Aeronautics Postal and there are a lot of interesting designs available via the work that has been done by Mark and flyers commentating on his postal competition on Hip Pocket Aeronautics.
- A two-minute maximum class can more easily be flown on available fields.
- A number of flyers already have suitable models.

We are essentially using the Rules formulated by Mark which are based on the FAI F1G rules (which can be downloaded at <https://www.fai.org/ciam-documents> ) with additions to ensure 1960 to 1970 designs and materials.

Flights for this competition must be made at a location in Australia between 1st Jan 2023 to 31st March inclusive. A competitor may make official flights on more than one day during the allotted time span.

### **1960s Summer Cup Postal Rules:**

Models must be built from plans or 3-views published between January, 1960 and December, 1969 (inclusive). Earlier models that were published in the 1960s may be flown. Models designed in the 1960s that were not published until later may not be flown in this competition.

Technology and materials. Models must not be "modernized" with materials that were not in common use in that decade. For example, covering should be tissue paper, Silkspar or Modelspan. Models must not include VIT, folding wings, or other functions and materials common in modern F1G practice. (No carbon fibre, kevlar, mylar)

Models originally designed for 90gram airframes with 10gram motors may be lightened to 70g airframes for this competition.

Models must weigh in excess of 70g less motor. Motors must weigh less than 10g. Competitors are required to ensure their models and motors meet the weight requirement.

The competition will comprise five flights with a maximum of 120 seconds for each flight. In the case of an unsuccessful attempt a second attempt will be allowed. A second unsuccessful attempt will be recorded as a zero score

The timekeeper shall record the duration of the first attempt of the official flight unless the flight is unsuccessful.

If (5) five maximums are recorded by a competitor, additional flight(s) may be flown with maximum flight duration increasing in 30 second increments, 150, 180, 210, 240 seconds, etc.

The time sheet/scorecard must include the date and location of each flight together with the recorded time. The competitor and timekeeper must sign their time-sheet and email a scanned image to the VFFS secretary at [helical@netspace.net.au](mailto:helical@netspace.net.au) by 14th of April 2023.

The top placing competitor will win a valuable item of aero-modelling kit provided by the VFFS.

## NSWFFS CONTEST & FIXTURE CALENDAR 2023

Date	Event	Venue	Time	Contact
Dec 28- 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	New year get together. Fun flying any model.	W. Wyalong AB Field		
Jan 15	Combined%, ½ hr Walking Scramble	Richmond		R. Summersby
Jan 20	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7:30pm	
Feb 5	Combined F1 G, H, J, P30 + Scale Fun Fly	Richmond	7:00am – 1:00pm	Peter Scott
Feb 19	State Champs P30 & E36. + Combined Vintage.	Richmond	7.00 – 1.00pm	Gary Pope
Mar 12	State Champs Scramble & HLG/ CLG. + Combined %, Control Line & BBQ Lunch.	Richmond BYO Food	7.00am-1.00pm	Michael Towell
Mar17	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30 pm	
Apr 16-20	AFFS Champs See FFDU Program Southern Cross Cup for F1A, B, C	Narrandera	See FFDU	AFFS Committee
Apr 21-23	AFFS continued at WW 21 <sup>st</sup> 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
Apr 22	Ivor F & Russ Hammond Trophy Scramble 1 HR Scramble to MAAA Rules.	W Wyalong	4:00pm – 5:00pm	Aaron Booth & T Stowe.
May 7	E36 + Combined Vintage	Richmond		Aaron Booth
May 19	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30pm	
June 3-5	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 18	State Champs F1G, H, J + E36	Richmond	7.00am-1.00pm	R. Summersby
June 30 <sup>th</sup> Flying 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Scale Rally, + Trans Tasman, Scale Judging Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> 1st & 2nd Flying. Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> ½ Hour scramble, Fun Fly C/L flying & BBQ Lunch	Richmond Sunday BYO Food & Drink	7.00am till dark Trans Tasman	Phil Warren
July 21	General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30 pm	
July 29-30	Midwinter Mini Maxout 2 Min Max Models (See separate program)	West Wyalong AB Field	8.00am- 2.00pm	Shayne McDonald
Aug 13	Scale Rally, P 30, Combined Vintage	Richmond	7:00 – 1.00pm	R. Summersby
Aug 25-27	Cowra Oily Hand Weekend	Cowra		
Sep 10	½ Hour Walking Scramble + Fun Fly & B-B-Q Lunch	Richmond BYO Food	7:00am – 1:00pm	John Corby
Sep 15	Annual General Meeting	Dundas Sport	7:30 pm	
Sep 24	Combined % 5 flights + E36	Richmond	7.00am - 1.00	Peter Scott
Oct 8	Combined % Multiple Entries	Richmond	7:00am - 1:00	Gary Goodwin
Oct 27-29	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 12	Scale Rally +Fun Fly	Richmond	7:00am - 1:00pm	Peter Jackson
Nov 17	General meeting	Dundas Sport	7.30 pm	
Nov 24	Friday Xmas Party	Richmond	7.00am - 1.00pm	Terry & Lyn
Dec 3	½ Hour Xmas Scramble. Combined Vintage with SAMS & Fun Fly. BBQX Munch BYO Food.	Richmond	7:00am - 1:00pm	Aaron Booth

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