



Piston'n'Prop.

Newsletter

Marlborough Associated Modellers Society Inc.
Brayshaw Park, 8 Arthur Baker Place, Blenheim 7201

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If Clubs or members currently receiving this Newsletter by mail could receive it by email please let me know carlmcmillan101@gmail.com

April 2024

Annual General Meeting in the Clubrooms at Brayshaw Park
on **Tuesday 9th April at 7.30pm.**

Heritage Day

Just a wee note from me to all who helped with Heritage Day. I know there's a lot of work goes in to preparing for the event so thank you to all involved.

It was great to have members from other clubs join us for the weekend, thank you for your efforts.

Lastly a very big thank you to the ladies who helped prepare and serve food over the weekend, especially Elizabeth Bolton and Lyn Holdaway. These people work away quietly in the background but if they weren't there, we would certainly notice it.

Philip Gibbison

President

Committee Meeting notes for February / March 2024

This year's Heritage Day (Waitangi Day) was on Tuesday 6th Feb and was a successful occasion despite being a very hot, sunny day. There were not as many members of the public attending the event this year but it was still an enjoyable time for many. Unfortunately, the raised track was not able to be used for carrying passengers as there are still a few bugs to be sorted out before we can get Work Safe approval but the ground level track performed well after the many hours of sleeper replacement and alignment work that had been carried out. The Committee thanks all those who took part in the day's activities, especially members of other clubs who travelled from Christchurch and the West Coast to be with us. Their contribution of locomotives, trolleys and drivers to help with operations was most appreciated as was their fellowship. Helen Blanchard did a stirring job in the ticket box which was appreciated. Our thanks to Lyn Holdaway and Elizabeth Bolton for catering for morning/afternoon teas and lunches and the pot luck BBQ tea in the evening. This was an enjoyable time together, also.

As mentioned, the track upgrade project has been largely completed but we need to get several areas working properly before getting a MEANZ audit for the completed systems and then apply to Work Safe for certification. Our thanks to Win Holdaway and Ron Perkinson and the many others who have worked many hours to reach this stage. The grounds are looking very smart at present and the freshly painted fences have vastly improved the general appearance, so thanks again, to all who have helped.

Our thoughts and condolences go to the Taylor family at present after the death of a family member.

This newsletter is notification of our **Annual General Meeting** which will be held in the Clubrooms at Brayshaw Park on **Tuesday 9th April at 7.30pm.**

Agenda: Apologies

Minutes of previous AGM

Matters arising

Correspondence

Presidents Report

Treasurers Report
Setting of Subscriptions
Election of Officers
General Business (matters pertaining to the AGM)
Close
Run General Business meeting if other matters to be discussed.

Members are urged to attend as this is an important part of the Club year when you have the opportunity to have a say in the running of the club. All club officer positions are up for re-election and there is a vacancy for the position of Vice- President.

Minutes of last year's AGM attached for reference to current Committee members.

I would like to thank the present committee members for their contribution and input to the running of the club over the past year, and for their support and encouragement.

Nigel Wood
Secretary
email: woodng@xtra.co.nz
Ph; 027 616 5180 or 03 578 7086

Boating.

A month of pretty good sailing days. Winds have allowed for either electric or sail at most times by being neither dead calm nor a or a force 8 gale. The pond has dirtied up quite quickly after the last clean. It seems to behave differently after each clean. Sometimes water remains clear until the next clean, or as it has this time by becoming quite murky. Number of members each Sunday depends on interpretation of weather forecast, or whether other needs take over.
Ray

Flying Section Update – April 2024

Slope Soaring Concludes

If you are reading this after 7th April then the clocks have already gone back 1 hour and slope soaring has finished for the 23/24 season. Daylight saving will start again from 29th September and hopefully we will have a better 24/25 season without the drought and fire risk intervening and stopping play.

Reminder – MFNZ Subscriptions (\$95) are due by the 31st March and MAMS subscriptions (\$60) can be paid now and must be paid by or before the 31st July. SBS BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER IS 031355 0512739 00

Bumper turnout at Tua Marina

On Saturday 16th March the weather gods smiled and 10 pilots plus many models arrived at TuaMarina for some NDC (National Decentralised Competition) soaring – see photo below. Several tasks were flown including ‘ALES Radian’, ‘ALES 200’ and ‘Thermal H’ and the conditions were excellent throughout the morning with light winds and reliable lift and some quite decent scores were achieved. MAMs continues to perform well against other clubs throughout NZ in the NDC soaring rankings.

Lake Station Scale Glider Aerotow - Feb 23-26th

This is the premier event of its type in NZ and we are lucky to have it happening annually right on our doorstep. There were approximately 25 pilots participating this year from as far afield as Waiheke Island to Waimate as well as several local pilots. There were numerous awesome scale models flown during the 4-day event - both towplanes and gliders - and the most impressive by far was a 50% scale 9m ASG 29 flown by its owner Ricky Bruce from Dunedin, ably assisted by Dave Griffin from Christchurch who is an expert RC glider pilot and also happens to fly an Airbus A320 for his day job. A few photos from the event can be found below and in due course I will upload more photos and some video to the RCGroups forum ‘Aerotow for NZ Members’. This forum thread has been running for over 10 years now and contains a wealth of information on this branch of our hobby - <https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?1842930-Aerotow-for-New-Zealand-members&highlight=aerotow%20for%20NZ%20members>

Forthcoming Marlborough Aerotow - April 26th-29th

This event will be taking place at Quaildale Station in the Waihopai Valley from 26th-29th April. Details and directions to the site can be found in the advert below. Local pilots are welcome to fly any suitable model at this site during the 4 days of the aerotow. The grass top-dressing strip is 500m long and outside the Woodbourne Control Zone which means we can obtain a NOTAM permitting model flying up to 2000ft agl.

You can register to participate in the aerotow using this link:- [Registration](#)

If you do not have a model to fly but would like to come along to watch the action you will be made very welcome indeed. For further details contact email peterd@orcon.net.nz or txt 0212107769.

Good turnout at Tua Marina recently



9m ASG29 plus its 3 pilots at Lake Station



ASG29 nears touchdown



ASG29 'taxi-ing' to the pits area (dwarfing a 40% scale Extra 330 Tug)



Ka8 glider turns onto final for runway 29



Ricky Bruce and Peter van Tuel getting the Ka8 ready



Marlborough Aerotow

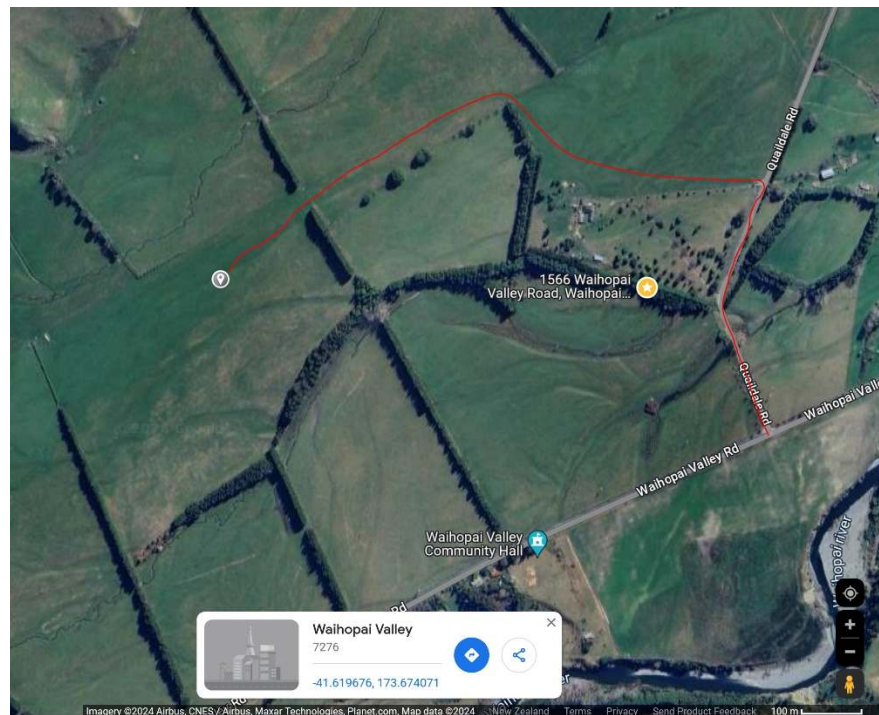
26th-29th April 2024

The 2024 Marlborough Aerotow will take place from 26th-29th April at Quaildale Station. We have a 500m grass airstrip and airspace up to 2000ft agl. All RC pilots and friends are welcome. Bring a model to fly or just come along to watch the action.

The site will be available from 09.00-17.00 each day. Pilots must be current MFNZ members to fly.

Directions:

From Blenheim take SH6 west for 6km. Before Renwick turn left onto SH63. After 2km, at Grove



Mill Winery, turn left onto Waihopai Valley Road. After 15km cross the iron bridge over the Waihopai River and after approximately 200m turn right onto Quaildale Road. Take the gravel track for approximately 400m then turn left through the 3rd gate on the left opposite the woolshed. Follow the vehicle tracks across the field to the gate at the far corner. Go through the gate and turn left, the airstrip is straight ahead in the gap between the trees. Leave all gates as you find them. NOTE:- Participation fee for the aerotow of \$30 per pilot is payable at the field. Spectating and flying non-aerotow models is

free.

REGISTRATION:- If you intend to participate in aerotowing please complete the registration form using this link - [Registration](#)

For more information email peterd@orcon.net.nz or telephone 021 210 7769

(The previously advertised Friday afternoon slope soaring session has been cancelled)

The Soaring Scene

After an interminable period of windy weather we are finally starting to see some good flying days. I'm not saying the weather has been great for soaring, as it's starting to get a bit cool and colder weather normally has two effects, not many thermals and cold hands. None of us like cold hands but most in the glider group will put up with that if there's lift about. Hopefully that situation will improve because it hasn't been great recently.

We have had some good turnouts though - there were 11 cars at the strip a couple of weeks ago, the most we've seen for a long time. One of those belonged to Steve Windsor from North Queensland, who visits for a couple of months each year. Steve is everyone's mate and his annual visit is enjoyed by all as his antics with small scratch built foam models constantly amuse, and often amaze, those of us geared to more conventional aircraft. There was a lot of banter when he first arrived and turned up in a puffer jacket while everyone else was in shorts and tee shirts. He and Sally have hightailed it back to Oz now the weather is getting cooler - this photo was taken the day before they left and it was definitely cool when we first arrived, cool enough to get me in a jacket as well.



Phil Elvy's photo of Steve and Rex ready to launch their Radians.

We are now well into the NDC season with 3 months of events completed. It did seem that we were struggling to match previous year's scores in January and February but it appears that the adverse weather we were struggling with was common in other places as well. In NDC we put forward our scores each month to the recording officer to be collated and we don't see all the other club's scores until about halfway through the following month, so at this stage we have only January and February available. I'm happy to say that Phil Elvy is the current leader, Rex Ashwell is second and Peter Deacon is fourth, although as a club we are well behind the Christchurch club's total. Plenty of time for those positions to change as this only represents 2 of the 11 months in the season.

Below are scores from the March events. As you can see from the scores, competition is quite intense and the difference in individual scores is frequently just a few seconds or a poor landing. The difference between first and second in ALES 200 is just 19 points after flying four 10 minute flights. To give some perspective a perfect score in this event is 2600 points, which requires landing at **exactly** 10 minutes and within 1 metre of the landing target.....four times! The current record is 2597 held by John Shaw of the Christchurch club - that's just 3 seconds dropped, almost unimaginable precision.

We have had plenty of scores in the 2500s over the years and there was one outstanding day in September of 2022 when our final scoresheet read Rex Ashwell 2586, Garry Morgan 2569 and Peter Deacon 2526. We were elated with that result until Christchurch's scores arrived, John Shaw 2589, Dave Griffin 2582 and Anton Nikoloff 2557. A score in the mid 2500s is normally good enough for an overall win, but not that day.

Rex

Event 410 - ALES 200

Rex Ashwell MFNZ #10746

Flight 1 - 9 min 46 586 points 00 landing 586
Flight 2 - 10 min 02 598 points 50 landing 648
Flight 3 - 9 min 49 589 points 50 landing 639
Flight 4 - 9 min 58 598 points 35 landing 633
Total - 2506

Peter Deacon MFNZ #10441

Flight 1 - 9 min 56 596 points 45 landing 641
Flight 2 - 9 min 25 565 points 10 landing 575
Flight 3 - 10 min 01 599 points 45 landing 644
Flight 4 - 9 min 57 597 points 30 landing 627
Total - 2487

Phil Sparrow MFNZ #12385

Flight 1 - 10 min 00 600 points 50 landing 650
Flight 2 - 9 min 35 575 points 00 landing 575
Flight 3 - 9 min 19 559 points 00 landing 559
Flight 4 - 6 min 09 369 points 45 landing 414
Total - 2198

Carl McMillan MFNZ #8446

Flight 1 - 10 min 00 600 points 35 landing 635
Flight 2 - 8 min 00 480 points 30 landing 510
Flight 3 - 9 min 59 599 points 30 landing 629
Flight 4 - 6 min 44 404 points 00 landing 404
Total - 2178

Phil Elvy MFNZ #11020

Flight 1 - 7 min 54 474 points 30 landing 504
Flight 2 - 10 min 01 599 points 50 landing 649
Flight 3 - 6 min 59 419 points 45 landing 464
Flight 4 - 7 min 16 436 points 50 landing 486
Total - 2103

Event 411 - ALES Radian

Chris Hagen MFNZ #5011

Flight 1 - 7 min 00 420 point 50 landing 470
Flight 2 - 6 min 58 418 points 50 landing 468
Flight 3 - 5 min 51 351 points 50 landing 401
Total -1339

Phil Elvy MFNZ #11020

Flight 1 - 6 min 31 391 points 00 landing 391
Flight 2 - 6 min 38 398 points 25 landing 423
Flight 3 - 7 min 02 418 points 50 landing 468

Total -1282

Peter Deacon MFNZ #10441

Flight 1 - 7 min 08 412 points 50 landing 462
Flight 2 - 6 min 55 415 points 50 landing 465
Flight 3 - 5 min 19 319 points 00 landing 319

Total -1246

Rex Ashwell MFNZ #10746

Flight 1 - 6 min 58 418 points 50 landing 468
Flight 2 - 6 min 17 377 points 50 landing 427
Flight 3 - 4 min 48 288 points 25 landing 313

Total -1208

Peter Smith MFNZ #12188

Flight 1 - 7 min 08 412 points 00 landing 412
Flight 2 - 6 min 55 415 points 25 landing 440
Flight 3 - 5 min 24 324 points 25 landing 349

Total -1201

Phil Sparrow MFNZ #12385

Flight 1 - 6 min 20 380 points 25 landing 405
Flight 2 - 6 min 49 409 points 50 landing 459
Flight 3 - 4 min 35 275 points 00 landing 275

Total -1139

Carl McMillan MFNZ #8446

Flight 1 - 6 min 45 405 points 25 landing 430
Flight 2 - 4 min 13 253 points 50 landing 303
Flight 3 - 4 min 12 252 points 25 landing 277

Total -1010

For Sale -

FlySky Transmitter

The 6-channel FlySky FS-i6 programmable transmitter is suitable for aircraft, boats and yachts. Features plenty of programmable options and can store up to 20 separate models. \$50 Email Terry tstevens.blenheim@gmail.com

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MAMS Membership and Subscription Structure

Ordinary Member (all Sections)	\$ To be decided at AGM
Family membership	\$ To be decided at AGM
Junior Member	\$ To be decided at AGM
Country Member (+40km from Blenheim)	\$ To be decided at AGM
Life Member	Nil.

Members may belong to any or all of the following Sections, for one Ordinary Membership fee:

Engineering - Boating - Flying.

*Flying Section members must join **MFNZ** for an **additional** annual affiliation fee of: **Senior \$95 Junior (under 26) Free, and Family \$100, paid to MAMS.***

*NOTE: MFNZ Fees must be paid to the club before **31 March**. NEW members joining after 1st October only have to pay half fees, however existing members renewing late, will still need to pay for a full year. *Peter Deacon* is the MAMS MFNZ Contact person regarding any MFNZ membership issues.*

For on-line payments members just have to use the club account number, give their name and purpose of payment, i.e. **MAMS subs**, and/or **MFNZ subs**.

SBS Bank Account number is 031355 0512739 00

Subscription Policy: Financial membership shall cease if the required subscription fee has not been paid by the **31st of July**. **Non-financial members are not covered by our insurance policy and therefore cannot operate their models at our designated sites**, and they do not receive a Newsletter.

(**New** members who have joined and paid their Subs from December 2023 onwards are still considered paid up club members for 2024/2025 year)

Those who have paid their subscription since the last AGM may collect their membership card and receipt from a folder on the notice board in the clubroom. Anyone not wishing to renew their membership please let the treasurer, or a committee member, know. If any flying section members are not renewing their membership could they also return their key to the flying field.

Publication dates: 1st week of February, April, **June**, August, October, and December.

Please get any items (Notices, articles, or for sale items etc) for the **June** issue to the editor a few days before the end of **May**.

Minutes of 2023--Annual General Meeting of Marlborough Associated Modellers Society

Held at the Club Rooms at Brayshaw Park 11-4-2023 Meeting opened at 7.32 pm.



Present: P.Gibbison (Chair); K.Ryan; A.Green; J.Bolton; M.Taylor; R.Gleeson; R.Perkinson; B.Wood; R.Egan; D.Green; W.Holdaway; C.Grocott; M.Dudley; P.Deacon; R.Ashwell; C.Nicholson (Visitor-Gore)

Apologies: N.Wood; C.McMillan; B.Ross; M & T Hood; P.Holdaway; B.Tuffey
Apologies accepted M/ A.Green S/ J.Bolton Carried

Minutes of Previous AGM. The minutes of the 2022 AGM. Were read and confirmed.
M/ M.Taylor S/ R.Ashwell Carried

Matters Arising. Nil.

Correspondence
In Nil
Out Nil

Presidents Report. Philip read his report to the meeting.
Opened for Discussion Nil M/ P.Gibbison S/A.Green Carried

Financial. Kelly presented the Balance Sheet for 2023 and opened for questions.
A clarification on the income amount for Train Rides for the year as the amount was well up on previous years. This was as a result of a very successful Heritage Day and also successful running last Easter.
Motion. That the Financial Statement for the 2023 year be accepted

M. K.Ryan S/ R.Gleeson Carried
Subscriptions A Recommendation from the Committee was presented, That Subscriptions for the coming year remain the same. Then opened for discussion.

Motion That the Subscriptions remain as at present for the coming year

Subscriptions	Ordinary/Senior	\$60.00	
	Junior/Country	\$40.00	
	Family	\$65.00	

M/ C.Grocott S/ R.Ashwell Carried

Election of Officers

Patron;	Office of the Mayor of Blenheim	M/ A.Green	S/ D.Green	Subject to Acceptance
Hon. Solicitor;	P.Radich	M/ M.Taylor	S/ J.Bolton	Subject to Acceptance
Hon. Auditor;	J.Bolton	M/ D.Green	S/ M.Dudley	Carried
President	P.Gibbison	M/ R.Egan	S/ R.Ashwell	Carried
Vice President	A.Green	M/ D.Green	S/ C.Grocott	Carried
Secretary	N.Wood	M/ J.Bolton	S/ R.Egan	Carried
Treasurer	K.Ryan	M/ R.Gleeson	S/ W.Holdaway	Carried
Committee	R.Perkinson	M/ D.Green	S/ B.Wood	Carried
	J.Bolton	M/ A.Green	S/ B.Wood	Carried
	R.Gleeson	M/ C.Grocott	S/ M.Dudley	Carried
	M.Taylor	M/ A.Green	S/ J.Bolton	Carried
	P.Deacon	M/ C.McMillan	S/ R.Ashwell	Carried
Recording Officer	R.Ashwell	M/ P.Gibbison	S/ P.Deacon	Carried
MEANZ Rep.	R Perkinson	M/ D.Green	S/ A.Green	Carried
Brayshaw Park Rep.	N.Wood	M/ J.Bolton	S/ M.Taylor	Carried
B.P.Deputy Rep.	J.Bolton	M/ W.Holdaway	S/ A.Green	Carried
Boiler Committee	J.Bolton	M/ A.Green	S/ M.Taylor	Carried
	W.Holdaway	M/ C.Grocott	S/ M.Taylor	Carried
	N.Wood	M/ J.Bolton	S/ M.Taylor	Carried
Newsletter Editor	C. McMillan	M/ M.Dudley	S/ A.Green	Carried
Librarian	C. Grocott	M/ M.Dudley	S/ R.Gleeson	Carried