



# *Piston 'n' Prop.*

## Newsletter

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

**President:** Philip Gibbison\*\*  
**Ph:** 5780016

**Secretary:** Nigel Wood\*  
**Ph:** 5787086

**Treasurer:** Tom Hood  
**Ph:** 5784066

**Vice President:** Brent Coburn

**Ph:** 5738511

**Librarian:**

---

**Newsletter Editor:** Carl McMillan\*\*\*

**Ph:** 5780716

**Email:** [carlmcmillan@ihug.co.nz](mailto:carlmcmillan@ihug.co.nz)

**Committee Members:**

Mark Taylor Ph: 5789885

Allan Fairweather Ph: 5786265

Carl McMillan\*\*\* Ph: 5780716

Ron Perkinson Ph: 5789699

\* Primary contact person for Engineering section

\*\* Primary contact person Boating section

\*\*\* Primary contact person Flying section

**MAMS Website:** [www.mams.org.nz](http://www.mams.org.nz)

---

If Clubs or members currently receiving this Newsletter by mail could receive it by email please let me know [carlmcmillan@ihug.co.nz](mailto:carlmcmillan@ihug.co.nz)

---

**February 2015**

---

## **NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS.**

### **HERITAGE DAY FRIDAY 6th FEBRUARY.**

Format for **Friday 6th. 10 am to 4 pm.** will be as previous years with both tracks and boat pond operating. Plus a static exhibition in the club rooms Friday only. Heritage Day is the only day that we earn revenue for the club and it is hoped that whatever your interests are we would like your help to run this once a year event. The two small Railway Tracks are the only form of revenue earning which helps out with much needed finance for general maintenance; it also helps to keep our club fees to a minimum. If you think you can help in any way on Heritage Day please contact club Secretary Nigel Wood 578 7086 or a committee member.

More people are required to assist at the train stations, BBQ, supervising displays etc to share the load during the day.

Unfortunately we won't be operating steam locos because of the total fire ban but we will still be operating diesel and electric powered locos to give train rides on Heritage Day.

Our club has given an invitation to kindred Societies to join us during this weekend, with a good number so far having indicated that they will be attending.

**Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th.** These two days will be for entertaining our visitors from kindred societies. Boat Pond and both tracks will be running during this time. Boaties are also encouraged to operate during these two days. The R / C Flying lads may like to invite Visitors and Members out to their flying field on the Sunday morning? On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> we plan to take our visitors and members to visit Tony Wytenburg's very interesting Engineering firm at Omaka where the rotary Gnome engines are made along with an array of other aircraft parts. This will be in the morning between 10am & 12pm. Any interested person can come along. Visitors may also wish to visit the world class Aviation Museum at Omaka.

Unfortunately the planned visit to the Springlands Sub-Station to view the diesel powered generators will **not** be taking place.

### **Catering;**

There will be morning and afternoon teas available for all and lunches provided for visitors (and club members if they so desire). Catering is well underway.

Grace Wood is in charge of this and should you be able to help out in any way please contact Grace 578 7086.

### **Sausage Sizzle;**

Nigel could also do with a helping hand, as this is a major contributor to our funds. If you can help phone Nigel 5787086

**Exhibition;** This static display in the club rooms hopefully will show visitors and public a good cross-section of members talents and efforts within our club.

The exhibition will be put together with models that will not be in use during our operating day. Should you have something of interest to display please contact Peter Holdaway 578 6165.

**Track running;** There is a major need for helpers at the stations with passenger loading and unloading and generally helping to keep our operations to a friendly and safe day out for Mum, Dad and the Kids. If they have a happy day they will come back.

**Parking of Vehicles;** It is a very necessary request that we keep all road ways clear of parked cars. This also applies to our road way access. The Road way is needed for the Public to walk through in safety during Heritage Day. There is plenty of parking in the main car park. More on this later in February Newsletter.

**PLEASE NOTE; SATURDAY EVENING BBQ for visitors and members.**

**MAMS Model of the Year Meeting Held in Brayshaw Park Club Rooms 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

**Planes:** Mark Taylor had his ¼ scale Pawnee which had four flights and four unsuccessful landings with three replacement props (replacing props getting expensive). He enjoyed building it over 2 ½ years and it flies well but not at low speeds on landing. 100cc engine, 3 metre span, weight 18kg and 6 channel r/c. Been registered and certified and has hook for glider



towing.

**Carl McMillan** has a 1/6 scale WW II Hellcat under construction. He developed plans from 3-view drawings and has used a computer program to print out full size wing ribs. 86 inch wingspan. Much of the detail is hand made. Should make a good flying model.



**Graham Vercoe** had rebuilt and re-covered a scale DH Rapide originally built by Tony Mitchell around 1950. Very poor condition after years of neglect when Graham got it but looks really good now.

**Winner – Mark Taylor** with his Pawnee.

**Boats:** **Graham Vercoe** had been given a semi-scale kitset model of Drake's Golden Hind and had just completed building it.

**John Henson** had built a true-scale model of Pelorus Jack racing boat that John



can remember seeing race on Picton harbour about 80 years ago. He has used a water cooled electric motor developing around 24,000rpm. Very nicely finished. John was also making a lovely model of Capt.

Slocomb's Spray of

1890, based on an old oyster cutter, in which he sailed single handed around the world.



**Dave Mathieson** had his completed yacht 'Hera IV' made from white pine double planked with frost cloth & resin skin. 54" long, 12<sup>th</sup> scale, mahogany upper works, winch gear with 3 differential pulleys to control 3 different sails. Every part has been hand-made and many hours of time spent in construction. Still has to be sailed but is very well made and looks delightful.

**Allan Holdaway** had recently completed his WW II harbour defence launch and this looks a treat with everything hand-made – some of the details such as guns are models in themselves. 14 months in construction, powered by two 540 electric motors, twin drive shafts and one speed controller. Very impressive and well-made and sails well.

**Winner – Dave Mathieson**

with yacht Hera IV

**Engineering:** Ken McIntyre had his completed ¼ scale 1913 Gnome rotary aircraft engine, 9 cylinders fitted with a 22” prop. Been a challenging project and all



kinds of problems to solve. A lovely piece of model engineering. Only parts he didn't make were the electrics. Engine has been run for about 20 minutes. He has built an air pump to pressurise the fuel tank to about 4psi which will be fitted in due course.

**Bill Ward** has had a long-term project under

construction in making a gear cutting accessory for his milling machine using Myford gears as indexing wheels. This is something he has wanted to do for years.

**Nigel Wood** had his almost completed Sweet Pea on display.

**Winner – Ken McIntyre** with his Gnome rotary engine

**Overall Winner – Dave Mathieson** with yacht Hera IV.

\*\*\*\*

### **Notices:**

Regrettably long time MAMS member David Brown passed away on Friday 23rd January.

### **Locomotive Fuel Alternative?**

Ken McIntyre has been making enquiries of a local clean-tech company, Carbonscape, which is investigating producing green coke from the carbon in waste wood using microwave technology. There is an article in the Marlborough Express dated Tuesday January 20th 2015 relating to the company and their intention to build a small pilot plant to produce some high value carbon. This product will replace coal used in furnaces during the steel making process. Ken was able to obtain details of the product characteristics which compare very favourably with the Cascade coal and char we currently use to fire our miniature steam locos. It has low sulphur, low volatiles, low moisture, low ash, and is clean burning with a higher calorific value.

The product will primarily be in the form of blown particles for furnace firing but will also be produced as briquettes which would be more suited to our needs although it would need crushing to suit fireboxes.

The company advises that it will be later in the year before any product would be available for trial but it shows promise as a replacement for the char we use to mix with coal but which is no longer readily available in NZ.

Ken has the comparison details if you would like further information.

**The Blenheim Radio Control Car Club** (see their website

<http://blenheimrccc.com/> ) is holding a Radio Control Model display at the Waterlea racecourse on Saturday 14th February. They would like anyone with radio Control models to bring as many as possible along and put them on display, boats, cars, planes, bikes, any sort of radio control model.

This is an effort to raise much needed funds to get their facilities up and running with support gear etc, and they are having an attempt at the Guinness Book of world records, for the most RC models in one place at one time. They will be required to have proof of more than 1300 radio control models. (Video).

There will be barriers to protect models from the public , there will be fast food and beverage stalls available as well. Entrance fee is gold coin donation ( that's for everyone, including those displaying models )

Models can be put on display from 9am. The show will be open for public 10 am and the official video will be taken 1.00 pm for Guinness book of records, also group photo of every one involved for the newspaper as well.

A swap meet will follow after the official video, if you have a model of any description that you want to sell, swap or show off then bring it along as they all add up to numbers for the record attempt. Plus you might get rid of the model you don't really want any more or exchange it something more useful.

Any questions can be directed to Willie Vosloo, the organiser. 027 203 1650

or email [Tasmin4u@hotmail.com](mailto:Tasmin4u@hotmail.com)

Waterlea Racecourse is the venue

Saturday 14th Feb is the day.

### **Boating Report**

There have been some good days boating on the pond and a number of the public have been using it to try out their new toys. This is great and we encourage it but we had a case recently of a non member arriving with his yacht, putting it straight in the pond and start sailing only for one of our members to be blown out the water with a frequency clash. Some places there would have been words spoken but our members are polite! I think there are two points to make here; (1) Club members always have preference on the pond, and (2) This highlights the preference for using 2.4Ghz radios.

If you need any gear, let other members know as they may want something as well and we can get an order in all in one post. I do have servo lead extensions if anyone needs them, 6" and 24".

We had yet another hole in the pond recently, thankfully Ken McIntyre found it and the hole was repaired before the pond completely emptied. This is something we will have to be careful with as it is likely to happen again. Thanks to all who helped with the repairs

I was in the model shop in town recently and saw he had some Billing Boat kits in stock. These are good kits and the price is cheaper than getting them in from overseas.

Thanks to those who came to the Model of the Year, either to look or participate it was an enjoyable night.

Housekeeping...I have said this before and I'm saying it again. If you are cleaning a bit of mess out of the pond DO NOT empty it onto the rail track. It was brought to my attention a week after it had happened, the train guys DON'T like it and neither do I. We wouldn't like it if they emptied their fire boxes into the pond so DON'T DO IT.

I have been informed that someone is not padlocking the chain to the boat pond, it has happened twice! The padlock is closed but the chain is not attached to it. Can whom ever it is that is doing this please lock it properly. The chain is there for a very good reason, please use it properly.

**Heritage Day.** Bring your models, ones for display & play. If you are displaying models it would be good to have some info about them. Also the ones you are using on the pond I would like some info so I can talk about them when they are on the pond. I'm thinking of having a more structured day with allotted times for sections boats, ie yachts, scale electric & fast electric. Remember that the pond yachts will be going more or less at all times so do your best to avoid them. I will be doing my best to make sure they avoid you. We have some modellers from Christchurch coming with their boats and they want to leave them in the harbour so I'm hoping to keep children away from the harbour area unless they are looking. I'm not sure where we will setup our control station but we will need a few to police around the pond politely suggesting that they "don't do that". Also need people to look after the marquee display & hire out yachts.

Allan Fairweather & I went out to see Jeff Fulton at the Vines complex to check out how we could help repair a yacht they have. While we were there we had a tour around and they are very keen to set up regular boating activities on their pond. They are keen to attract families out there and RC boating fits into what they want to do. They are starting to erect a jetty and have an area we can control from, so we will keep you informed. There is a boating afternoon planned there on the 15<sup>th</sup> Feb and if you are able to go let me know.

Also on the 14<sup>th</sup> Feb there is a model exhibition at the racecourse, hopefully more information is coming on this. This is a display only exhibit so if you have a model and wish to display it then please do so. I'm already committed on that day so can't do anything.

Our monthly meetings have been very good so come along and have a chat. It's good just to hear what's happening. The next meeting would have been the

Thursday before Heritage Day but you will all be busy helping set up and get ready for Friday so we will cancel that one.

Philip

### **Flying Section report.**

Heritage day at Brayshaw Park is Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February. It would be nice to have some model aircraft on display in the clubroom, I can supply a few.

As usual the flying section has been asked to supply people to man the gate for an hour. This year MAMS is scheduled for 1pm - 2pm on gate duty. If I could have a couple of volunteers to help me out with this it would be appreciated. If you can help please give me a call ph 5780716 or email [carlmcmillan@ihug.co.nz](mailto:carlmcmillan@ihug.co.nz) Also if anyone can help out with manning the train station or assist with the BBQ or displays that would be great, see message earlier in the newsletter regarding heritage day.

Slope soaring sessions have been going well, most Wednesday's have been flyable, but as always it is a lottery as to what weather conditions will be. We had 5 flyers last week, including Rex Ashwell from BMAC, which was good. A variety of models were flown. Wednesday's 5:30pm Rifle range place carpark, anyone is welcome.

Out at Tuamarina field it is getting very dry and the fire danger is getting extreme. Be careful out there, it would pay to have a fire extinguisher handy if you can. Be careful using LiPo batteries, they seem to be the most likely items to cause problems if pushed too far or shorted out (just take care, but have fun). Any smokers be very careful.

I hope you have been getting out for some flying, I have not been out that regularly so have not seen that many of you recently.

The models at Roselands have proved too tempting and I have bought myself a Seagull Edge 540 ARF 77.5 inch wingspan. It looks great, very light but seems well to be made, the covering job looks well done. There will be a fair bit of work putting it together, but hope to get on to it once I finish this newsletter and get it posted.

The Hellcat build is progressing slowly, vacuum moulded the front canopy (X2) and made GRP canopy frame, which still needs trimming and sanding. Will clear the workbench and start on the wing once the Edge ARF is finished .



The Blenheim Aerotow was great as usual, great bunch of enthusiastic modellers and a variety of models from cheap and cheerful to top of the range expensive stuff. See Allan's report below.



Welcome to Bryce Williden who has joined the flying section, and Laurence Gale from Roseland has also applied to join the club, I hope they will be made welcome and enjoy flying with us.  
Carl M.

### Allan's Report for January 2015

Well here we go again, another year of fun.

NDC has wrapped up, MAMs did well. BMAC are improving too with more participation. We were 3<sup>rd</sup> again and they made it to 8<sup>th</sup>.

I was second this year so have polished up the cup and sent on to friend Dave Jackson of the Christchurch MAC. Dave flies mostly free flight and a heap of classes.

Well done Dave. It looks like 99 individuals recorded scores last year which would be many hundreds of individual event results.

The info below comes from the MFNZ Recording Officer. (They have MAMs down as MBAM for some reason.)

#### Champion Modeller Open

Place	Name	Club	Class	Championship Points
1	Mr. D.L.R Jackson	CHCH	sr	301.00
2	Mr A.J. Knox	MBAM	sr	288.50
3	Mr R.J. Brown	NPMA	sr	191.50
4	Mr L.N. Rodway	CHCH	sr	171.00
5	Mr G.R. Main	WRMA	sr	165.50
6	Mr J. Butcher	TKAU	sr	164.00
7	Mr A. Robinson	NPMA	sr	126.00
8	Mr-W.N. Long	CHCH	sr	113.00
9	Mrs K.A. Long	CHCH	sr	108.00
10	Mr G.T. Lovejoy	FMFC	sr	105.00
11	Mr Dave Ackery	AFFC	sr	103.00
12	Mr A.F.H Baker	MBAM	sr	99.00
13	Mr D B Gush	TKAU	sr	96.00
14	Mr P Deacon	BMAC	sr	92.00
15	Mr D. Robinson	NPMA	sr	86.00
16	Mr R. Reynolds	AFFC	sr	82.00
17	Mr S.E. Morse	CHCH	sr	78.00
18	Mr A. Lawrence	NPMA	sr	74.00
19	Mr B. Robinson	NPMA	sr	67.50
20	Mr S.L. Chisholm	CHCH	sr	64.00
21	Mr N.C. Robinson	CHCH	sr	60.00
22	Mr. A.M. Fuller	NPMA	sr	57.50
23	Mr D. Griffin	CHCH	sr	55.00
24	Mr B.F. Howser	HMAC	sr	51.50
25	Mr A.J. Keeling	HMAC	sr	50.50
26	Mr P.W. Squires	FMFC	sr	50.00
27	Mr A. Palmer	CRF	sr	49.00
28	= Mr P Chisholm	CHCH	sr	48.00
28	= Mr P Chisholm	CHCH	sr	48.00
29	Mr. M.L. Venter	CHCH	sr	46.00
30	= Mr. B.E. Rackley	AFFC	sr	45.00
30	= Mr. R. Bolton	NPMA	sr	45.00
32	Mr B. Weatherall	CHCH	sr	38.00
33	Mr G.I. Christie	AFFC	sr	37.00
34	Mr. J.H. Warner	VVBMF	sr	33.00
35	Mr G. Burrows	CHCH	sr	31.50
36	Mr A. Reed	NPMA	sr	30.50
37	= Mr D. Mossop	WBMF	sr	30.00
37	= Mr J.D. Ryan	RMAC	sr	30.00
39	Mr Rex Ashwell	BMAC	sr	29.00
40	= Mr Ken L. McMillan	BMAC	sr	27.00

## Champion Club

Place	Club Name	Championship Points
1	Christchurch M A C (INC)	1229.50
2	New Plymouth M A C (INC)	728.00
3	Marlborough Associated Modellers (INC)	387.50
4	Tuakau Model Aero Club	350.00
5	Auckland Free Flight Club	288.00
6	Whangarei Model Aircraft Club (INC)	234.50
7	Feilding Model Flying Circle	164.00
8	Blenheim Model Aero Club	148.00
9	Hamilton Model Aero Club (INC)	135.00
10	Hawkes Bay Radio Flyers Club (INC)	129.00
11	Christchurch Radio Flyers Club (INC)	69.00
12	Western Bay Model Flyers Inc	63.00
13	NOCLASS MAC	47.50
14	Rotorua M A C (INC)	38.00
15	Whakatane Modellers	36.00
16	Wellington M A C (INC)	26.50
17	Central Districts Silent Flight	25.50
18	Aucklandsoar	20.00
19	Ashhurst Model Fliers	8.00
20	Ashburton M A C	5.00

We have bunch of events that I hope some of you will join me in over the next 2 months. As always call me if you are interested in coming out to play. 021 747950 or 579 1424. Don't feel you have to be a MFNZ member, you are welcome anyway.

February 2015	36	SOAR	Thermal A (Open)
February 2015	37	SOAR	Thermal H (2 Metre Glider)
February 2015	38	SOAR	ALES 123 Class M
February 2015	39	SOAR	X5J Unlimited Class O
February 2015	44	VINT	Vintage RC 1/2A Texaco
March 2015	53	FF	Open Glider
March 2015	55	FF	Tip Launch Glider
March 2015	56	FF	Catapult Launched Glider
March 2015	57	FF	Hand Lunched Glider

Allan Baker and I have made a start for January with some Free Flight. Rex Ashwell came out and did some RC flying and timing for us. Thanks Rex. We fly this at Chaytors for the space.

Event 2                      Catapult Glider  
 Allan Knox                7621  
 14, 13, 60, 22, 29, 60 = TOTAL 198

Event 2            Catapult Glider  
Allan Baker 4349  
27, 60, 35, 23, 60, 20 = Total 225

Event 4            Hand Launch Glider  
Allan Knox        7621  
45, 15, 16, 23, 16, 49 = Total 164

Event 4            Hand Launch Glider  
Allan Baker 4349  
36, 14, 13, 27, 37, 18 = Total 145

### **Blenheim Aero Tow Jan 24 / 25**

Blenheim's location is unique for an Aero Tow meeting. It is central enough to attract both North and South Island Scale Glider fliers. For the guys like Colin and Woo it is just a Ferry ride then a ½ drive to Blenheim. This year we were back up the Waihopai just outside the air traffic control zone with a 1500 foot Notam in place. You can never take the weather for granted of course but leading up to the weekend it was looking very good across the whole country and we were blessed with 3 glorious hot bright blue sky days.



*Sensible Locals staying out of the sun.*

Of course, being Blenheim, we actually kicked off Friday afternoon up on the slopes of Meadow Bank Station. We had fun chasing the lift marked by large high flocks of seagulls. Neal Blackie showed just how efficient his old 5 meter ASW 28 / 29 really is and revelled in the conditions routinely burning up energy with fast runs and big aers.



*Now, where is the lift? Neal Blackie's 5m ASW 28 was really impressive in the air.*

Saturday morning, as I rolled into the paddock, I was impressed by the number of cars, motor homes and big glider trailers. 22 Fliers registers and most had multiple models, many of them very large and impressive. Ross Biggar had come all the way from Auckland's North Shore with a trailer full of big beautiful models. The big "up and go" glass machines were impressive but his 43% Ka6 was my favourite. Perhaps the most impressive performers though were Dave Griffins GPS racing ASH 31 and Colin Taylor's ASH 26. Dave posted the longest flight at 1 hour 35 minutes and got a bottle of wine for his (and his friends) efforts. Colin may have been up even longer on day 2 but didn't have the clock running. His ASH is scratch built but you would be excused for thinking it was an expensive moulded European so good is the fit and finish. Woo (Chris Norris) turned up with 3 big scratch built machines, his JS1, a Ventus and the gentle giant Grob 103 two seater.



*Woo's big Grob 103 in the fore ground.*

Perhaps the most interesting and innovative model was Graeme Phipps' (Mintie on RC Groups) 4 meter Slingsby T31. Have a look at his build log on <http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1677141>.

This was its maiden flight and not all went to plan but it flew. Some minor mods in the wing attach area and control tuning will see it flying well I'm sure. Graeme and Sandy filled in the days flying a really nice little Fournier, again scratch built.



*Sandy and Graeme Phipps ready the T31*

We had a contingent over from Nelson. Graeme Smithson, Sam Laidlaw, Phil Jordon and Murray Irvin showed us all that you don't need big expensive models to enjoy aero tow. Phil's little 2 meter ASW15 went great behind an electric 1.4 meter 185 Cessna. I saw the little ASW thermalling away well too in the strong Sunday afternoon lift. Sam's little ASW28 looked great climbing out vertically behind Andrew Palmer's big Pawnee tug.

We had 7 tugs on the field. As usual though the big ones were used most because you can hook anything on behind them. Andrew did the most work this time with his big DA 170cc? powered Pawnee but Peter Hewson and Scott Chisholm did a lot of tows too. From time to time smaller gliders were dragged aloft by Peter Deacon's Morrissey Bravo, Carl McMillan's Big Stick, and Graham Smithson's low wing Big Stick complete with machine gun. We all owe our tug pilots a big vote of thanks.



*Pete Hewson's big hard working Pawnee*

Usually Alex Taylor does the bulk of our towing but this time he enjoyed his gliders so could leave the trailer at home and fit everything into his super-efficient Peugeot Diesel. Just \$55 worth of Diesel to get all the way from Gore in the deep south to Blenheim. Alex again got a bottle of wine for the furthest travelled.



*A bottle of Marlborough's finest for Alex Taylor*

An interesting new trend at this meeting was the appearance of in the nose electric launch systems like we use on ordinary electric gliders. Both Woo and Alex had set ups like this in big scale gliders. Woo broke his but Alex demonstrated his by launching a number of flights this way. Prop clearance can be an issue but it is a whole lot cheaper and easier than an “up and go” and it doesn’t cause a nose over at the start of the run like the high thrust line alternative. Watch this space I reckon. Full size use these too these days. They are called F.E.S. (Flight Electric Sustainer?) Check Woo’s post on this at

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=2289509>



*Woo’s FES installation in the front of a big FS1. Very neat.*

It wasn’t all scale though. Rex Ashwell flew his ex-Ian Harvey, John Ensoll built, Prima with a tow release fitted for the first time. Rex made it look easy. Many of us flew Primas back in the late 90s and it was great to see one in the air again. Ian Harvey (RV) turned up with his ARF ASK 21. It has a modest span at 4 meters but has plenty of cord and area. Ian had some good thermal flights. I think the ASK21 is about \$800 and represents a great largish entry model for aero tow although some mods are needed to sort the structure and elevator control.

Speaking of plenty of cord, the Palmers flew a Red Bull Blanik. Andrew really gave energetic aerobatic displays which had you wondering if it had its own power plant. Great fun and it was even seen thermalling high on Sunday, probably 1500 feet. Electrics mix well with Aero Tow and provide extra models in the sky marking lift. RV and I had our converted Onyxes, Scott Chisholm brought his converted Pike Perfect while and Ken McMillan had the other Pike, a Superior this time, that we converted earlier in the year. Peter France came all the way from Christchurch to fly his big floaty see through Avalon. There was even an ALES 200 contest for those who were keen. Scott took out the wine for this one.

The Chisholm's turned out as a family, Kids, wives an all. It is great to have Scott's Dad Paul back in NZ and keen to get on and build big scale gliders. Paul is a fine modeller and I look forward to seeing his fist big built up model. A Ka 6 I think from an Australian plan and laser cut parts.

Both Peter Graham and I got to play with the Telemetry on our new Taranus radios. The young lady who lives in these could be heard chatting away whenever we flew. She speaks at least 10 different languages and keeps us up to date on height, time, battery condition and receiver signal strength and, at the flick of a switch, you can shut her up or turn her into a vario signal. Very handy. I really enjoyed the extra feedback when flying my SHK out to the limits. On number of occasions she said "RSSI (Receiver Signal Strength) low" when I was way out at the limit of my vision. It was definitely time to head back up wind for another thermal.

Thermals where definitely better on Sunday. Saturday was really quite tough I thought although Dave Griffin did his 1 hour 35 minutes on Saturday. I know I never got close.



*Dave Griffin and Peter Hewson Admire Dave's big ASH31 GPS racer. About \$8000!*

Overall though it was a special event, made particularly so by the people involved. We whiled away Saturday evening outside at the Argosy Café over fine food and the odd beverage. Scott's kids even got to waggle the controls of the full size



Argosy cargo aircraft parked in the restaurant grounds. I kept seeing the aileron servo tabs flapping away, clearly the Chisholm's have two more budding pilots coming along.

Finally, thanks to local clubs, BMAC and MAMs, for hosting and to Ross and Fiona Chapman, our land owners for having us again even though it would have been easy to say "no" with the extreme fire risk.

See you all in 6 months' time at the Marlborough Mid-Winter Aero Tow.



*Group shot with Andrew Palmer's Drone that was taking its own pictures!*



*The National Decentralised Cup is on its way to Dave Jackson, the new and very deserving holder.*

*Let battle commence for the 2015 title.*

Allan Knox

NOTE - NZ Model Flier's World is now available for issue at both Blenheim and Picton libraries.

### **MAMS Membership and Subscription Structure**

Ordinary Member (all Sections)	\$ 55
Family membership	\$ 60
Junior Member	\$ 35
Country Member (+40km from Blenheim)	\$ 35
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 may join **MFNZ** (Recommended) for an **additional** annual fee of: **Senior \$67, Junior \$20, and Family \$72, paid to MAMS.***

*NOTE: MFNZ Fees fall due on the 1st April each year and must be paid by the club before **1st July**, (if you could please pay to MAMS by the end of May to give me time to get the money to MFNZ in June it would be helpful). **NEW** members joining MFNZ after November 1st only have to pay half fees, however existing members renewing late, will still need to pay for a full year.*

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 **31<sup>st</sup> 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.

If members intend to resign from MAMS, or not renew their subscription, could they please let the treasurer or a committee member know.

(**New** members who have joined and paid their Subs from December 2014 onwards are still considered paid up club members for 2015/2016 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: 1<sup>st</sup> week of February, **April**, June, August, October, and December.

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