



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

June 2024

Committee Meeting notes for April / May 2024

This year's AGM was held on Tuesday 9th April in the clubrooms with 14 members in attendance. The results for setting subscriptions and the election of Officers is as follows:

Subscriptions: \$60.00 for ordinary Senior Members
 \$40.00 for Junior and Country Members
 \$65.00 for Family Membership

Payment of this year's subscriptions is now due.

Election of Officers:

Patron: Office of Mayor of Marlborough

Hon Solicitor: P. Radich

Hon Auditor: J. Bolton

President: P. Gibbison

Vice President: K. Ryan

Secretary: N. Wood

Treasurer: K. Ryan

Committee: J. Bolton

R. Perkinson

P. Deacon,

R. Gleeson

M. Taylor

M. Dudley

Brayshaw Park Rep: N. Wood

Deputy Rep: J. Bolton

Newsletter/Website Editor: C. McMillan

Librarian: C. Grocott

Recording Officer: R. Ashwell

MEANZ Rep: R. Perkinson

Boiler Committee: J. Bolton

W. Holdaway

N. Wood

My thanks to those who were willing to serve on the Committee for another year. Your support is appreciated and encouraging.

It seems Winter is finally upon us with brisk mornings usually followed by sunny days. Activities in the area have slowed somewhat but maintenance is still being carried out. An arborist has thinned out a lot of the trees around the pond which should improve airflow for sailing, and the area is looking tidy. Ivy on the embankments has also been thinned out a lot, too, and this has made a big difference to appearances. The track project is drawing to a close with adjustments being made to the long point on the raised track. A club member-only day is planned for Saturday 8th June with both tracks being used to perform operational checks of all systems (and to shake bugs out of locos that haven't been used for three years!) prior to getting an audit carried out and approval by Work Safe to carry passengers. Thanks to all who have been involved in this mammoth project which has entailed many man-hours of work.

We have had a number of train ride parties for birthdays and play groups. It is pleasing to see the enjoyment that these young ones and families/carers experience.

We were sad to lose Bryan Wood who died suddenly recently. He will be missed very much for his enthusiasm and active participation in many ways. Our condolences go to Rachel and the family.

It is a pleasure to welcome two new members to the club – Chris Boyce (Boating) and Clint Hart (Flying). We trust they will enjoy their time with us and make new friends.

Nigel Wood

Secretary

email: woodng@xtra.co.nz

Boating Section

Fair sailing over the last few weekends. Enduring the cold wind is becoming a challenge.

Trimmed back pine trees have opened the area up a lot more. Wind seems to be steadier and less swirly when blowing from the easterly quarter now. Brian is now facing the compulsory driving stand down that comes with heart issues.

Participation would be better if people would stop their travelling ways!!!!

(Ray G)

Flying Section Update – June 2024

Reminder – MFNZ Subscriptions (\$95) were due by the 31st March. If you are intending to fly this year at club sites and have not yet paid your MFNZ subscription, please do so as soon as possible. If you can't remember whether you have paid, email me at peterd@orcon.net.nz or txt (021 210 7769) and I will check and respond. SBS BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER IS 03 1355 0512739 00

Wings Renewal Programme

Model Flying NZ will introduce changes to its 'Wings' pilot training/certification scheme in 2025. Full details on the changes and how they are to be implemented can be found here - [MFNZ Wings Renewal Programme](#). In brief, your Wings will need to be renewed every 5 years rather than being a lifetime qualification. The Wings holder will complete an online 20 question test on relevant air-law and airspace followed by a flight skills and knowledge check at the flying field with a club examiner. This new programme will be phased in from January 2025 and club examiners/instructors will undergo training over the coming months. Further updates to follow.

'Large Model' Certification – New Fees

Due to increased costs and workload on Inspectors and the Large Model Controller, fees are being introduced for inspecting and certifying Large Models. This link explains the changes - [Large Model Fees](#) - and these 2 links describe

how MFNZ and CAA collaborate to ensure Large Models are operated safely in NZ
- [LM Code of Practise](#) - [CAR102](#)

NOTE - Models under 15kg all up weight and those with engines smaller than 88cc or electric motors less than 5kW output DO NOT HAVE TO BE CERTIFIED.

Marlborough Aerotow 2024

The weather gods smiled on Marlborough for the last weekend in April delivering almost perfect flying conditions for three days of scale aero-towing and soaring above Quaildale Station. Ten pilots, twenty gliders and six tow-planes attended and it was great seeing several MAMS members joining in including Chris Hagen, Robert Evans and Rex Ashwell – hopefully we will see more local pilots participating in future.

There were so many superb models flown at this event it is not possible to show them all but some of the most eye-catching ones are featured in the photos at the bottom of this update.

There is also a short You Tube video of some of the flying action - <https://youtu.be/lhWxfsfXWqs>

Photos from Marlborough Aerotow 2024



Gliders and their guiders



Robin DR400 tow-plane



Checking the controls on the big Ka8



Ka8 climbing out behind the Robin



Bowlus BA100 Baby Albatross



Slingsby T31 awaits its turn for a tow

Peter D (peterd@orcon.net.nz)

The Soaring Scene

The dedicated bunch of keen soaring enthusiasts that make up the MAMS glider group continue to be active in competition with other clubs around the country via the National Decentralised Competitions (NDC). This month has been as busy as usual and we have flown regularly at Tuamarina as well as a visit to Quaildale last weekend. There have been some impressive Saturday turnouts at times which is very encouraging, but then who could resist flying in this Marlborough sky. The photo below was taken on Star Wars day - May the fourth, for those born this century!



With several events each month we produce a lot of results and those below are for the two main events flown in May. The first is for an RES event. RES standing for rudder, elevator, spoilers, referring to the only controls allowed. This is a fairly new class of 2 metre wingspan models built using a traditional construction style of balsa wood frame and fabric covering. Being relatively small and light weight they are powered with small electric motors for launching to a 100 metre altitude limit, followed by a 5 minute flight and a spot landing. Full competition models have become large and expensive and the RES concept is for an affordable model, without exotic materials, that can be built by anyone. A class that has quickly become popular in our club as the models are relatively cheap, perform well, and they are great fun to fly.

Event 416 - Class R, e-RES

Rex Ashwell MFNZ #10746

Flight 1 -	4 min 23	263 points	45 landing	308
Flight 2 -	4 min 57	297 points	45 landing	342
Flight 3 -	4 min 58	298 points	50 landing	348
Flight 4 -	4 min 56	296 points	50 landing	<u>346</u>
Total -				1344

Phil Sparrow MFNZ #12385

Flight 1 -	4 min 43	283 points	25 landing	308
Flight 2 -	4 min 53	293 points	40 landing	333
Flight 3 -	4 min 52	292 points	00 landing	292
Flight 4 -	4 min 52	292 points	00 landing	<u>292</u>
Total -				1225

Peter Deacon MFNZ #10441

Flight 1 -	4 min 57	297 points	35 landing	332
Flight 2 -	3 min 23	203 points	00 landing	203
Flight 3 -	4 min 55	295 points	35 landing	330
Flight 4 -	4 min 54	294 points	45 landing	<u>339</u>
Total -				1204

Chris Hagen MFNZ #5011

Flight 1 -	4 min 23	263 points	45 landing	308
Flight 2 -	5 min 05	295 points	15 landing	310
Flight 3 -	4 min 57	297 points	00 landing	297
Flight 4 -	4 min 35	275 points	00 landing	<u>275</u>
Total -				1190

Philip Gibbison MFNZ #13130

Flight 1 -	4 min 33	273 points	35 landing	308
Flight 2 -	5 min 01	299 points	30 landing	329
Flight 3 -	5 min 00	300 points	30 landing	330
Flight 4 -	2 min 43	163 points	30 landing	<u>193</u>
Total -				1160

Carl McMillan MFNZ #8446

Flight 1 -	3 min 44	224 points	45 landing	269
Flight 2 -	4 min 10	250 points	20 landing	270
Flight 3 -	2 min 40	160 points	40 landing	200
Flight 4 -	4 min 56	296 points	50 landing	<u>346</u>
Total -				1085

Phil Elvy MFNZ #11020

Flight 1 -	3 min 37	217 points	25 landing	242
Flight 2 -	4 min 25	265 points	15 landing	280
Flight 3 -	4 min 56	296 points	40 landing	336
Flight 4 -	3 min 42	222 points	00 landing	<u>222</u>
Total -				1080

Peter Smith MFNZ #12188

Flight 1 -	4 min 46	286 points	00 landing	286
Flight 2 -	2 min 31	151 points	00 landing	151
Flight 3 -	4 min 40	280 points	40 landing	320
Flight 4 -	4 min 05	245 points	00 landing	<u>245</u>
Total -				1002

Here's a photo of Tuamarina wildlife - meerkat sentries on the lookout for hawks. A typical scene of soaring pilots at play on a day when it's obvious there is plenty of lift.



The other event flown this month was ALES 123, ALES meaning **A**ltitude **L**imited **E**lectric **S**oaring and 123 being the launch height in metres. In this event, launch is to 123 metres or 20 seconds, whichever come first, followed by a 6 minute flight and a fairly relaxed spot landing. With points scored at 1 point per second and landing within 7 metres scoring 50 points the maximum possible is 1230, so Carl's score is excellent. Peter Deacon held the NZ record for this event a few years ago with 1216 which I later broke with 1217. It's now jointly held by five people on 1230 - Garry Morgan and I have both recorded 1229 a couple of times but can't quite get that last second.

Event 417 - ALES 123

Carl McMillan MFNZ #8446

Flight 1 - 5 min 56	356 points	50 landing	406
Flight 2 - 5 min 56	356 points	50 landing	406
Flight 3 - 5 min 53	353 points	50 landing	<u>403</u>
			Total -1215

Phil Elvy MFNZ #11020

Flight 1 - 6 min 01	359 points	50 landing	409
Flight 2 - 5 min 22	322 points	50 landing	372
Flight 3 - 6 min 02	358 points	25 landing	<u>383</u>
			Total -1164

Chris Hagen MFNZ #5011

Flight 1 - 5 min 38	338 points	25 landing	363
Flight 2 - 5 min 53	353 points	50 landing	403
Flight 3 - 5 min 42	342 points	00 landing	<u>342</u>
			Total -1108

Phil Sparrow MFNZ #12385

Flight 1 - 5 min 03	303 points	50 landing	353
Flight 2 - 4 min 52	292 points	50 landing	342
Flight 3 - 4 min 57	297 points	50 landing	<u>347</u>
			Total -1042

Peter Deacon MFNZ #10441

Flight 1 - 5 min 57	357 points	50 landing	407
Flight 2 - 2 min 54	174 points	50 landing	224
Flight 3 - 5 min 54	354 points	50 landing	<u>404</u>
			Total -1035

Rex Ashwell MFNZ #10746

Flight 1 - 5 min 12	312 points	25 landing	337
Flight 2 - 5 min 29	329 points	50 landing	379
Flight 3 - 4 min 57	297 points	00 landing	<u>297</u>
			Total -1013

Philip Gibbison MFNZ #13130

Flight 1 - 6 min 02	358 points	50 landing	408
Flight 2 - 3 min 47	227 points	50 landing	277
Flight 3 - 4 min 30	270 points	25 landing	<u>295</u>
		Total -	980

This year we are outnumbered and somewhat out-gunned in NDC by the Christchurch club who have established a good lead over MAMS in the overall competition. We only have scores up until the end of April at this time, when we were trailing as a club but I had a narrow lead individually and Phil Elvy was third - still plenty to fight for.

Rex Ashwell

Skybolt for Sale – All enquiries and bids to peterd@orcon.net.nz

Great Planes Skybolt for Sale

Errol Morrison has very kindly donated a beautiful, ready-to-fly, Great Planes 'Skybolt' biplane to be sold to raise funds for the club. See pictures at the bottom of this update. This aircraft comes complete with a 6 channel Futaba radio, Super Tigre 90 engine and original box and documentation. The model is presently stored at the club rooms where it can be viewed until sold. The model will go to whoever puts in the highest bid before the closing date of 30th June and bids can be emailed direct to me at peterd@orcon.net.nz. The winning bidder will be announced after the closing date.



SUPER SKYBOLT

AEROBATIC SPORT-SCALE BIPLANE

Now you can enjoy "show plane" performance
PLUS superbly realistic styling.

One of the most popular homebuilt biplanes, the full-size Skybolt possesses an unbeatable combination of smooth flight characteristics, sturdy construction and precise aerobatic capabilities. Even though it was designed over 20 years ago, this stunningly beautiful aircraft is still frequently seen at advanced-class aerobatic contests and fly-ins all over the world.



Wingspan: 57"
Wing Area: 930 sq. in.
Weight: 8.5-9.5 lbs.
Length: 52"

Requires:
.60-.91 2-cycle or .90-
1.20 4-cycle engine &
4-channel radio





MAMS Membership and Subscription Structure

Ordinary Member (all Sections)	\$60
Family membership	\$65
Junior Member	\$40
Country Member (+40km from Blenheim)	\$40
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 MAMS and paid their Subs from December 2024 onwards are still considered paid up club members for 2025/2026 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 **August** issue to the editor a few days before the end of **July**.