



Kapiti Aeromodellers' Club Update --- August 2016



UFO identified!!

Well it did not take very long to get the aircraft in last month's newsletter identified. It appears that I was probably the only one that did not know what it was. Thanks to all those that replied, not that we were having a competition, but the first to reply was from Ernie.

(I'll get the chocolate fish organised)

Some of the very prompt replies as below:

From Ernie Thomson:

Grumman G-164 B Ag Cat, a single-engine biplane agricultural aircraft. Piloted by Hallett Griffin. Similar to the one as shown above.

From Wayne Boness:

The plane undertaking the spraying/fert is probably the same one that Hallett Griffin used to fly out of Palmerston North, he had applied fertiliser on Whareroa with it a few years ago. I'm not sure Hallett will still be flying it, he may be getting a bit long in the tooth, he always put on a pretty good display. His company was called Griffin Ag-Air Ltd.

From Rex Kenny:

Looks like the biplane you observed was Hallett Griffin's turbine Agcat. A very active aircraft in the ag industry.

Thanks guys, I was really impressed with the responses that I got , (at least my newsletters are being read, not just dumped in the "recycle bin") .



From the Presidential Parlour

Hi all.

Early production for August as I head elsewhere for some R&R. (you guys have worn me out!)

Much has happened since our last production only a few weeks ago.

The new weather station has drawn much comment and is obviously filling in the blanks when people have not a lot to do. I am often informed of who was first at the strip on a flying day and who was the last to leave. In fact I was busy flying last Thursday when the cell phone rang. So rang back (after landing) and had a chat to Warner who informed me that I was obviously having far too much fun and he was on his way down.

Certainly it has been a very good investment and well appreciated by all.

For those who check all the graphs and wonder why there was a very high rainfall on 10/7, the answer is quite simple. We weren't sure the rain gauge was working. As the throat of the rain gauge is quite small, rain travelling parallel to the ground is not easily gathered. So thinking it wasn't working, we climbed on the roof and squirted some water into it. Initial readings showed 23 mm of rain in that instant!!

So it all works and just a pity the camera wasn't up and running when the 'b.....s gained entry to the shed and stole the hand mower, weed eater and compressor.

Be warned, we are watching!!! In more ways than one!

We have had our first inquiry from another club (about the weather station) through Murray Milsom whose brother is a member in Dunedin.

Thank you to those who sent me their Proxy votes prior to the MFNZ AGM.

Unfortunately a couple were invalid as they weren't signed and one arrived 3 days after the AGM occurred. It was appreciated though, and it does make it easier if you feel like you are representing a group of members rather than one's self.

The MFNZ AGM has been reported on thru club notices and last club night.

Being one of the larger clubs around, attending the meeting with 42 proxies meant at least I could contribute in the voting.

Some great flying this last week and the Silver Fox squadron BBQ had a huge turnout, no doubt due in part to the fact the budget allowed for a free treat, as well as one of the best flying days in a long time.

This month we farewell Pete Smith who is moving to the Blenheim area. All the best Pete and thanks for your input.

Have a great August (and rest of July)

Steve.

and some more stuff from Steve

Be aware

Of the speed you are driving at thru the park.

The 30km hour sign exists for a reason.

Be especially aware when driving past those on horseback.

I don't want any more phone calls, even though it was nice and polite!!

Where did 'Drones' originate?

Reading the June issue of RCM&E I came across this in one of the columns.

'First drone

It is a little known fact of RAQF and r/c history that there was a radio controlled version of the Tiger moth. It had pneumatic actuators for servos and was dubbed the DH Queen Bee. About 70 were built.

Its name provided the derivation of the drone concept and the term 'drone' itself.

Ayrton Senna said what?

And from the Editorial of the August RCM&E magazine, these pearls.

'You'll probably know that the great Ayrton Senna was a model flyer. When asked if he found the hobby relaxing a thoughtful "no" was the reply'

He went on to say (paraphrased) that flying models was utterly absorbing to the point where life's worries and everyday troubles were forgotten, but relaxing it wasn't'

I can resonate with that! (especially flying one of those Quickie things Warner has had us build)

Pilots Box etiquette.

One of the challenges we have is the proximity of the Pilot Box to foot traffic going past.

Sometimes it seems we have a meeting there of the Country Woman's Institute.

This is very distracting to those flying at the time, especially if they are having challenges or under instruction. It is one of the reasons the assembly table is where it is, to discourage people parking in that area. There should be no cars parked behind the Pilot Box. This area stretches from the fence post to the left of the Pilot Box along to the end post on the club house side.

Also, if taking a model off the edge of the strip, ensure those in the box know what you are doing or that you are aware of what they are doing.

A couple of times recently people have inadvertently blocked a pilot's vision when landing. This can have unsatisfactory results, and harsh words may well be spoken!

Acknowledgement to Mike Feeny.

As you will recall I was unsure of who had written the article on the Lend lease and the early days of Hamilton airport...another mystery solved ,thanks to Rex for providing this information.

"The author of the article about lend lease and Hamilton is Mike Feeny, a very well known aviation historian who is a retired pilot flying passengers and agricultural operations in NZ and the Pacific, mainly PNG. I know Mike personally and his writing style and story- telling about aviation is world famous and appreciated by many." ... Rex Kenny

Luncheon: by Ross Monk

On Thursday the 14th Rosco scrambled the squadron to an impromptu winter luncheon at a local Chinese restaurant.

This started about 3 years ago as I got to know club members and has grown since then to about 11 pilots (excluding those that accidentally got deleted from the mailing list). Wives, partners are also very welcome.

This is an short notice impromptu event that happens two or three times a year on non-flying days during the winter months when the weather is unsuitable for flying.

Those who interested in joining this group, please email me on roscopeko@clear.net.nz and I will put you on the mailing list.



Photos - Ross Monk

Keep off the runway:

This is a reminder for all pilots to recover their aircraft as quickly as possible and get well clear of the runway.

Yesterday I was on approach for landing when a pilot and helper recovered an aircraft from the north end of the runway, then stood adjacent the pilots box on the edge of the runway and lifted the model vertically up into the air taking out my vision.

Being in the pilots box I could not step forward and by the time I yelled out, get of the fricken runway and they moved, my aircraft was dead stick and on an unrecoverable approach that resulted in me landing on the side boundary fence. Thankfully this time I did not sustain and major damage.

This is the second occasion this has happened to me, the other time there were two or three people standing just inside the edge of the runway after they had recovered a model. This also took out my vision on approach and resulted in extensive damage of my model.

So please be more considerate to other pilots, recover your aircraft and promptly get well clear off the strip. No loitering on the edge of the run way please!

Many thanks

Ross Monk

Club Night-- July 2016

The Mick Reeves 1:4.5 Scale Hurricane... Don Lynn

How time flies, it was at club night exactly a year ago that I was asked to do a talk on the Hurricane. When Steve asked me to do another talk I had to scurry around to make sure that I could show some progress. As I mentioned back then, this kit is a bit of a challenge to say the least. There are plenty of parts that don't line up as they should, and everything needs to be triple checked before gluing in place. I have changed the wing joiner tubes(x4) from a 19mm x 225 long aluminium tube, (with one half glued into the wing, what glue? I hear you ask), to a 20mm x 425 long CF tube, with sleeves in the inner and outer sections. This means that I can attach to three ribs either side instead of only two which did not "feel " right to me. I'm also working on a dual torque rod (with pull-pull) arrangement for the elevators, allowing me to still use dual elevator servos but get them as far forward as possible. The original calls for a "mini servo" mounted in each elevator half. (Would probably end up using a half brick up front as a counter balance!). I have also added shear webs to the wing spars. The main spars are off a "truss" type construction (I've never seen or designed a truss with all the diagonals running in the same direction), and especially not out of plywood so I'm sure the shear webs will make a difference... It may be a bit of overkill but has a minimal weight penalty. I don't always have the best landings and with that extra shock loading on the wings they need to be extra strong.



Photo - Alastair Rivers



Photo - Alastair Rivers

Wing tube outer now fastened to three ribs.

John Ellison also had an interesting looking aircraft , I did not hear what it is, but Alastair Rivers aptly named his photograph... "It will be aerobatic" , I can't argue with that!

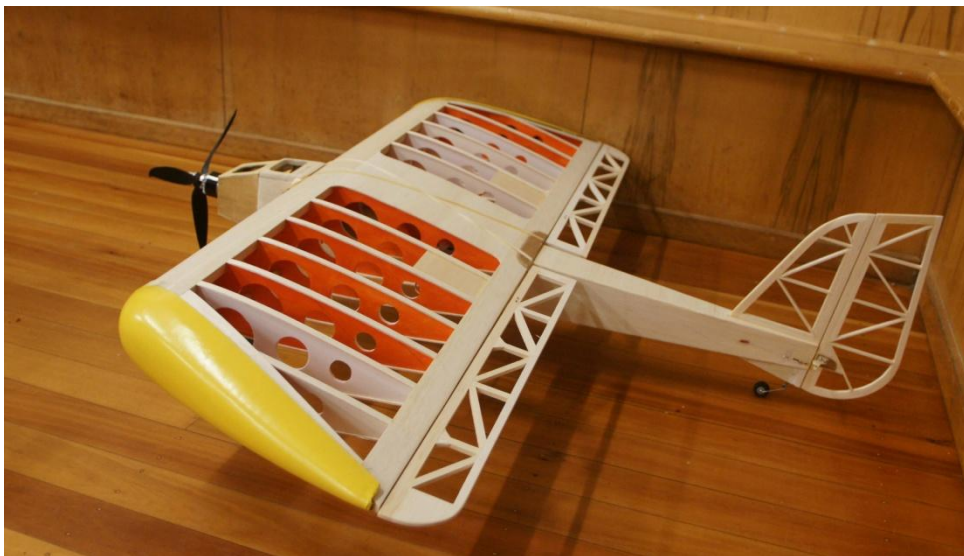


Photo - Alastair Rivers

Another delightful build by John.

Tree Planting, QEP Sunday 10 July... by Steve Hutchison

This year we adopted the 'plant 6000 trees in a day' at QEP as our contribution to the Park. We had some 15 club members turn up to help, which was great for the club and a good contribution to the local community.

I understand they never got the turnout this year that they did last year and I would think they would have struggled to plant them all.

Those club members that were able to turn up put in several hours of effort.

Wayne Boness and Brendan Buliff were very appreciative of our efforts as park users to contribute to the wider Park community.

I also took the opportunity to let the Friends of QEP know that we had turned up to support the council in their endeavours in the park.

Andrew and James Farrow made a very efficient pair and reckoned they were planting a tree every minute.

John Ellison brought wife Janine along complete with sharp knife so she could cut the black polythene bags as he planted...Good team work.

I must admit it was very well organised. A very large number of council staff directing traffic and planters, youth from ZEAL providing tea and coffee as well as hot sausages.

They even had a stage set up with individuals providing live music whilst we worked. (sounded a bit like cars wailing at times though)

There were a large number of families out there doing their thing and a number turned up on bicycles complete with spade on the carrier.

Many thanks for those who were able to come.
Thanks to John Von for the photos

Steve



Individual Photo's - John Von... Collage by yours truly

Weather station:

As mentioned earlier, all up and working well.

Alistair Haussmann has written an article for the Model Flying World, so I won't put anything here, and you can read about it in the next issue

Couple links:

Thrust vector jet from Neil Upton.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=DiuMULAxG3E>

and

Albatross from Hans Zuur.

<http://www.who.edu/oceanus/feature/a-robotic-albatross>

And that wraps it up for another month. Been sent out early this month (before Steve goes away) and will be a bit later next month (when Steve gets back) . Until then let's hope for some good weather.

Remember , if you have anything for the next newsletter please send through to me .

lynnd@paradise.net.nz

"Fly hard, land soft"

Cheers

Don