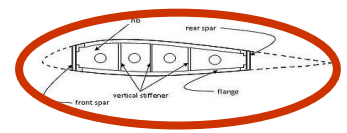


The Spare Rib News



*The monthly newsletter of the
Kapiti Aeromodellers Club*

August 2024

www.kapitiaeromodellersclub.org.nz



Kapiti Aeromodellers Club group

Notes from the Scribler



Only a month until spring apparently. I don't know what happened to all those building hours I had planned for this winter. I seem to have done lots of stuff without any result.

Don Lyn been a busy boy with his Hurricane build and news of that is elsewhere.

Brendan Whittaker has returned from an overseas jaunt with much visiting of museums and stories to tell of Spitfires and Hurricanes etc. I'm sure he will once again present to us on a club night in the future. He always has a great story to tell.

As President John mentions, there have been some good opportunities to fly this past month, although this week looks dreadful. There certainly have been some really nice days with wind down the strip. Unfortunately, sometimes life gets in the way and a visit doesn't occur.

Newsletter

A plea. It's difficult at times to find content for the newsletter, so if you have ideas or something you would like to share, then please send something in!

Silver Fox BBQ

This last month we had pretty good weather for the BBQ and a number of us flew. It's been a challenge in recent times with many BBQ days not conducive for flying. This time weather was OK, but numbers were well down. I know some were away and some were crook, but we only had 10 turn up.

It's hard enough to plan at the best of times, but I would like to see some who were regular in the past, be with us again.

MFNZ AGM

When I became President, I was invited to, and attended, a couple of AGMs in Auckland. When Covid struck, Zoom became the default method of communication for such meetings. The 2022 AGM was held via Zoom on a Saturday afternoon. I attended. I asked the question at the time as to why it was held then, as being remote, it could be anytime. That was agreed, but for last year, forgotten. Couldn't do it last year but called in this year on a weeknight and participated. It's the only way to feel involved and express an opinion. Get a feel for what is happening and why. So easy to sit at the strip and criticize. I was somewhat disappointed at the numbers who made the effort to participate.

Members may, or may not know, that the MFNZ secretary (Peter Randerson) and MFNZ administrator (Paul Clegg) are members of our club, and we should support them however we can.

Pete Brown, another of our members, was appointed to take on the role of Lower North Island MFNZ rep. Pete, since the AGM, has also become involved in the new wings testing programme.

It's up to us to support these guys.

Have a great month.
I intend to.

Steve

July Club Night

Wayne Lightfoot, a local but not a member of our club, spoke to us about free flight. His particular discipline is rubber powered flight.

Certainly, the advantages are size and weight and such things as trailers are completely unnecessary for transport.



For those of us who haven't considered free flight or built a rubber model since our early days, Wayne's talk was very interesting and enlightening. Methods of construction, construction strength, the carving of one's own propellers, the making of and winding of rubber motors is something I, for one, knew little about. As always, there is something to be learned.

Presidential thoughts

It's been a good month for flying. You still have to pick your days but there have been people at the field quite regularly.

Attendees will notice that the mowing crew have been doing some repair work on the retaining wall at the northern end of the club house. It had collapsed and was a little unsafe to clean the mower on the area above the wall. Many thanks to the team for the good work.

On another note, the club is facing a much bigger task to maintain the club house. There is probably a need to reclad it sooner rather than later. The existing sheeting is quite brittle and starting to break away in places. The Committee will discuss the matter when we next meet and decide what needs to happen. There are also windows that need replacing and repainting.

On a different matter I just about lost my new 80" Ultra Stik this week. As I throttled down, I heard what I thought was an unusual burbling sound from the engine. After two flights I discovered that two of the cloth hinges in one side of the elevator had snapped off. What I'd been hearing was flutter.

The hinges were all pinned but this was a different failure. I've replaced the hinges with Robart ones. It does however point to something we are probably all guilty of from time to time - not adequately checking the control surfaces before we fly.

The August club night will see Pete Brown bring along a new 3m jet model. to talk about.

John Pfahlert
0211509763



Repaired retaining wall at the northern end of the club house. The old one lasted 30 plus years, so we have high hopes for this!

August Club Night

Pete Brown is going to bring along his new jet and talk about it. He will also talk about modern construction techniques, large model processes and radio systems.

President John has a couple of new models he will also bring along to showcase.

As always, bring along any new builds or items of interest to share.

(If Rossco leaves me in the lurch as tea lady for yet another month, then words will be spoken out back of the bike sheds!)

Club Rules, strip change ideas etc.

It was noted in the newsletter last month by President John that these would be discussed at a rule's night at our August club night.

A decision has now been taken to postpone this to the summer months.

Don Lyn's Hurricane

I'm sure that if Don had his time again, he would think much harder before taking this project on (or so he says). Some months ago, he told me the big push was on to get it finished. On a not nice, not flying day, Alistair Haussmann, checking the camera for no reason at all, espied a certain Hurricane undergoing field trials! The cat was out of the bag!



So, Don brings us up to date!



Scale; 1:4.5, Wingspan;
2710mm, Engine;
DLE85 cc.

For those that scan the club camera daily and those with the zoom and enhance software you may have noticed a model there on Friday 12th July that looked very much like a Hawker Hurricane. The day was carefully chosen to be without distractions to check all systems, assembly procedures, run the engine in the model, taxi, etc without

getting more questions than a green MP. As it turned out the weather was well suited for an RAF aircraft, windy, cold, drizzle on its way...perfect.

I had a few minor teething issues which I sorted during the following week out and was back on the ground on Friday 19th for some further trials. This time I was not alone but managed to escape with not too many questions. I was very happy with the ground trials with everything functioning as it should.

It's been a long, long build but I'm almost there. Obviously, some final painting and decals still to be added. I'm sure I've made it more complicated than it needs to be but once I've completed the required documentation and hopefully Paul is happy with my build I should get a permit to fly and will be able to prepare for a maiden flight soon.

This size model needs be checked and certified before it is free to patrol the Kapiti airspace and take care of that Foke-Wulf 190 and Stuka that I've seen flying around our strip. I need to deal to them. This version has the 8, .303 Browning machine guns mounted in the wings.

I'm just struggling to get the ammo through customs.

Will keep you posted on the progress.



Cheers
Don

Handy hints

From Pierre

A little trick I learned from the 3D printing guys...might be handy for those guys "pulling" their own canopies from drink bottles. It is always difficult to find a good drink bottle that is large enough and without decorations that will show through in the finished canopy. Coke bottles are said to be unsuitable because of the ridges in the bottle.

Try rinsing out the bottle with water, and then putting the cap firmly on, and then gently heating while rotating under a hot air gun.

At first the bottle starts to shrink, but then the steam pressure pushes it back out and virtually eliminates all the decoration. I have attached a photo of two 1.25l coke bottles. The one on the left has had just a short treatment with the hot air gun and almost all the decoration is gone. Hope that someone find this tip useful.



KAMCI

Events schedule 2024-2025

Event	Event Director	Saturday Primary date (Sunday rain day)
Kapiti Aerobatics intro Day	James F	19 October 2024
Kapiti Scale Fun Day	Andrew F	23 November 2024
Vintage rally day	Wayne?	7 December 2024
Warbirds day "Thunder over Kapiti"	Andrew F	18 January 2025 (Wellington anniversary weekend)
Tomboy Top Gun action spectacular	Terry B ?	15 February 2025

Kapiti Aerobatics intro Day



If you can loop and roll your model you have qualified in this introduction to basic aerobatics. Any type of aeroplane will do but we recommend an aerobatic type. James Farrow will direct the action and happily tutor those who want any help. Celebrity guest judge will be watching and there will be prizes.

The schedule will be based on NZ Pattern Clubman class and will comprise of the following manoeuvres.

- Take off
 - Two-point roll (two half rolls)
 - Loop
 - Landing
- Half Reverse Cuban eight
 - Stall Turn
 - Full Roll

Field will not be closed to general club flying but event flying will be prioritised.

Kapiti Scale Fun Day

"From a distance it definitely looks like a Cessna"

If you can convince us that your model is an accurate representation of a full-size aeroplane you are invited to show us what you got. Static displays welcome too.

Secret judging may culminate in finale of breathtakingly valuable prizes.

Field will not be closed to general club flying but event flying will be prioritised.

Vintage rally day

"Pre 1970 models – for reasons"

Organisational details TBC

Warbirds day

"Thunder over Kapiti"

Calling all old Fokkers. This is your reason to blow the dust off that Spitfire that you've had gathering dust for years. See what it actually looks like with wings on in the bright light of day. Amaze everyone when you able to still start the engine after all this time. If you are too nervous to fly it that's OK, static display is very welcome too. Or simply hand the controls to someone who doesn't give a damn.

Pilots will have opportunity to vote for their favourite models whose owners may be presented with highly coveted but worthless prizes.

Tomboy day

"Top Gun action spectacular"

Prepare for action as several barely controllable lightweight models battle it out to occupy the same piece of sky. And get your earplugs in as the Tomboys challenge the sound barrier.

Organisational details TBC

*This popped up on Facebook.
One of our own has been honoured.
Congratulations to Joe Wurts.*

Flying New Zealand

1h ·

Flying NZ is delighted to announce the recipients of the 2024 FAI Air Sport Medal, presented at the RNZAC / Flying NZ Awards Dinner on Saturday 27.07.2024 in Wellington.

Photo Credit: Rodney Maas



Mr Joe Wurts of Model Flying NZ. Joe's citation reads:

Joe Wurts is a lifelong model aircraft designer and talented Radio-Controlled Soaring Pilot. His achievements are many with both world championship model designs and flying victories to his name.

Joe has also run many seminars around the world explaining the soaring dynamics and understanding technology. He has

spent a huge amount of time helping people with their flying and modelling performance. He dedicates lots of patience and help to both younger and older people with experienced details on techniques and information.

Since coming to New Zealand in 2004 Joe has led a dramatic improvement in the skills of New Zealand R/C Soaring Pilots which has contributed to many podium finishes at successive world championship events.

Joe has been heavily involved in the NZ competition structure and the running of many soaring meetings including organization and scoring.

Joe has also been involved with FAI and the CIAM, offering his expertise based on experience and knowledge.

And that's it from me.

As Don would say, *'Fly hard, land soft'*.

Steve