

Wingtips & Tales



Volume 2011-2

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From the Cockpit

Hello WAMASC Club Members!!

Well it has been a very interesting few months since our last publication. We passed a watershed moment in our history when an (almost) unanimous vote saw the changing of the Constitution to make WAMASC one club. As I look out my study window I notice the stars are still in the sky and the moon shines down.

So, the sky did not fall down on us all and life goes on pretty much as before. Welcome all to what we hope will be a new era of cooperation and progress that sees us realize our hopes and aspirations for the Centre.

Which is a good segue to another job that saw us gather our dreams and hopes together, roll them up into tubes and head off to meet with Lotteries West. This laid the ground works for what we hope will be a productive and beneficial relationship into the future.

Having been given some idea of the scope of funding that might be available the Projects Team have then laboured to produce options for our development in line with those parameters. My thanks goes yet again to the tireless efforts of Mike Sul-tanowsky, Peter Brien, Craig Brooks, Bill Davies, Dave Nolan, Eddie Robbins, Andy Natta and the numerous others toiling away quietly in the background with the common goal of moving forward.

We recently established a Pio-

neer Road from the Buggy parking area across to the eastern end of the field. This was needed in order to firm up the access so it can support the weight of heavy vehicle traffic to come that will be delivering the fill required to raise that end of the field by close to one metre in elevation. If you hadn't noticed this ongoing effort, then that is a good thing, for we have intentionally tried to keep the disruption as low key as we could. The day will inevitably come though when we will have to disrupt the odd flying day or two to really get stuck in. Please be patient. We will try to give as much notice as possible, but in these early days of never let a chance go by, it may be a bit hit and miss. Our apologies in advance for any surprise disruptions.

We also were very unfortunate to have had a serious accident involving an injury to one of our members that required hospitalization. The good news to come out of this was that the member recovered and is now okay. It is never a good day when someone gets hurt, but it has proved a learning opportunity and experience for us all that we hope to translate into some meaningful safety improvements. More on this elsewhere in W&T.

We have also had talks with the Park management who are keen to improve the access to our facility for all park visitors. This has not been firmed up yet, but as part of their upgrade program for



the light rail, we may see a rail extension complete with WAMASC station with path to our field. This was suggested to the Park by your management and was received with enthusiasm by the Park – so you never know.

The park had 1.2 million visitors pass through the gates last year and it would be nice to see even 1% of that traffic make its way over to us, so keep your fingers crossed!

So all in all, an eventful year has almost come to a conclusion. On that note, we will be breaking new ground with the upcoming elections. More on this too elsewhere.

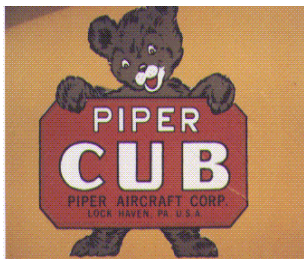
Till next time, keep the dirty side down.

Cameron

WAMASC Chair April/11

From the flight line

LET THERE BE LIGHTS!!!



We continue to make little baby steps forward. The committee recently decided to embark on a long overdue upgrade to the pits with the installation of lighting and rewiring of the power points to the west of the central gate.

The latter was deemed necessary to cater for the demands of the increasing number of pilots flying electric aircraft and their need to charge batteries during a flying session.

Two flood lights have also been installed that will illuminate the area between the taxi ways and the main runway. The pits electrical/lighting upgrade was completed for Easter can now be enjoyed by all. Just in time for the Jet Event!

Now you late stayers and night flyers will not have to pack up in the dark! The switches for the lights in the pits and the flood lights are located in the locked power box at the western end of the clubhouse.

The key for this box will be kept in the transmitter compound at all times. It is hoped that the above upgrades will encourage the hosting of night flying events and will enable flyers to make more use of their afternoons during those short days in winter!

So we hope you enjoy this upgrade and that it extends your enjoyment of the facility by increasing the useful flying hours available to you both before and after the sun goes down.



“Now the late stayers will not have to pack up in the dark!”

TX KEYS IN BOARDS

Last Sunday an executive member visited the field and while showing someone around had occasion to visit the Tx Compound.

There were numerous members out flying on the flight line and in the pits working on their models who were obviously utilising the 2.4 Ghz radio frequency.

Yet when he visited the Tx compound, there was only ONE key in the 2,4 Ghz board.

The reasons for maintaining key discipline are varied but suffice it to say that the Safety Procedures Manual requires all 2.4Ghz flyers to place a key in the board.

A concession was made to 2.4Ghz flyers in that they could leave their keys in the board and did not need to return their transmitters to the compound after each flight.

Obviously, if key discipline cannot be complied with, we may need to change these rules and remove that concession or introduce fines for those who cannot be bothered or habitually fail to comply.

This is a safety issue.

AND A PAT ON THE BACK

Finally it is good to hear some praise. When someone feels strongly enough about something they have seen at the field that they have to bring it to the committee's attention—it usually does not bode well.

Therefore it was a very pleasant change when the Chair was contacted with the following:

“Friday I went out to the field to have a fly and saw an instructor and a student on the flight line.

The instructor was imparting sound techniques to his student and was very professional in both his attention to detail as well as his patience. I thought anyone watching this (from the public) would be most impressed and I thought it should be brought to your attention”

When something like this is conveyed to the Committee it reflects well on all of us at the Centre and is a delight to hear.

Well thank you for bringing this to our attention and as the instructor in this case, well done Gerard Kleps! Keep up the good work.

We managed to hold the long overdue WAMASC BBQ which was reasonably well attended by many hungry flyers and some family.

My thanks to Kim & Rob Gaden, who once again worked tirelessly to provide the Canteen facilities to pull it all off and also managed to cook 103 burgers in 30 minutes!! Awesome effort!

This BBQ was entirely funded from the canteen profits so I hope you enjoyed the food and let's hope this was not a one off and we can do it on a more regular basis.

Canteen Health Requirements

A recent visit from our friendly Shire has seen us have to lift our game a little bit with regard to the operation of the canteen.

The increased awareness globally of the need to prepare and deliver cooked food in a hygienic way that is safe for public consumption has translated into federal laws that are now administered by the shire.

We therefore have a duty of care to comply and we gladly do this in order to be able to provide this service to both our members and the visiting public and see the canteen as a profit centre to generate funds to benefit us all.

We didn't have to do a lot to comply, and the WAMASC BBQ was an opportunity to teach some additional canteen operators what is now needed to comply.

We had questions from some and as a result, sort direction from Shire. We have since

From the Galley

been advised by the Health Officer that there are only two exceptions to the compliance requirements for operating the BBQ.

They are:

- A member who brings his own meat to the facility and then he personally cooks it for his own consumption does not have to comply with the food preparation and cooking requirements imposed on WAMASC by the shire.
- A legacy club may cook and serve product from the BBQ to members provided that legacy club does not receive any payment or donation from the members for the purchase of the ingredients or there is a sale of the cooked product to the members which was prepared from those ingredients. Under these circumstances, where a member has not in any way paid for the burger (essentially it is a gift) then the legacy club does not have to comply with the food preparation and cooking requirements imposed on WAMASC by the shire.

As can be seen, the Shire will allow an individual to cook his own lunch much as if he were cooking on his own BBQ at home.

The second scenario was raised by individuals at the last monthly meeting as a way not to have to comply with the

health requirements imposed upon us by the food safe regulations and, while the Executive cannot see how this is a sustainable position financially in the long term for a legacy club, it nevertheless is a method of delivery that is allowed under these regulations.

That is of course on the proviso that the BBQ is operated as it was described by that legacy club at council in that they are gifting the food to the members at zero cost. This, in turn would be similar to attending a private residence for a party or similar private function hosted and catered for by the home owner.

The executive will be seeking further clarification from the legacy club on this matter to ensure that WAMASC Club is not left exposed to a breach of the law by this activity.

There may also be a requirement for that legacy club to contribute towards the purchase of gas which is supplied for the canteen and is not covered by the annual subscription fees.

Finally you no doubt have seen the signs up on Beechboro Road, the Jet Rally weekend is nearly upon us and anyone who might be able to spare an hour or two and help serve the public from the Canteen would be most welcome.

Please approach the canteen manager: canteenmanager@wamasc.org.au or contact any of the Executive.



“We didn't have to do a lot to comply.”





“With well over 200 members, I would urge you all to make the effort and exercise your democratic right”

ELECTIONS AND VOTING FOR 2011-2012

As mooted earlier, we are about to break new ground when this financial year rolls over and we are required to elect a new committee under a new Constitution.

In the past, each club proposed two delegates to the Committee and then the Committee elected the Executive from among their number.

With well over two hundred members now eligible to vote, I would urge you all to make the effort and exercise your democratic rights. We have thought long and hard about this process and as we see it, the simplest and fairest method would be to ask for nominations from the members for people to serve as either delegates on the committee and/or to fill the executive position of Chair, Vice-chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

Nominees will need to be prepared to serve in an active roll in the development of our field. We anticipate that there will be a great deal of work in the coming months and every member of the team will need to undertake tasks and responsibilities to bring the development plans to fruition. The nominees names will be posted on the WAMASC website in advance of the elections and you will then be able to cast your vote. Then, depending on how many are nominated, from that number we select the first fourteen (14) “past the post” so to speak by number of votes gained. For the first time, you, the WAMASC member, will be able to directly vote for your representatives on the WAMASC committee. Please use the opportunity to have your say and contribute to the running of our fantastic facility.

We will place a simple nomination form on the website that you may download and submit to the secretary.

More on the voting process in the next newsletter.



REGISTRATION

Contact details for WAMASC members – the need for email contact.

When you apply for your membership this year you will see a requirement to give the Secretary your primary contact details. For our purposes, this would be your email address.

Under the provisions of the Constitution, a vote can be electronic (via email) if the members desire it to be. This can speed up decision making and streamline administration. It may even allow for a reduced need to have monthly meetings.

This is all new ground and to work, it needs your cooperation to make it so. Your details are protected and are only used for club business. They are not divulged to third parties nor would any such lists be offered for sale so please remain confident that they are in safe custody.



WA Model Aircraft Sports Centre, Beechboro Road
Whiteman Park

We're on the Web!
www.wamasc.org.au

MEMBERS IT'S YOUR NEWS LETTER

Got any good stories or lessons learned ?

Consider being a contributing writer. We would love to hear from you and put you in print.

Contact the committee:
committee@wamasc.org.au

T.E.A.M Whiteman

Welcome to the W.A. Model Aircraft Sports Centre Inc. Our aims are to operate the best model aircraft facility in Australia, and to encourage and assist others to participate in our hobby for maximum enjoyment and safety.

The facility has been developed to cater for most forms of miniature aeronautics with specific areas for control line, fixed wing, and helicopters. The control line area features a concrete circle for team racing, and a grass circle for general flying. The fixed wing and helicopter areas feature covered pits, bitumen runways, and a large grassed area for helicopter training.

Articles for Wingtips or Articles for Tales!

Guys and Girls, there are a lot of very experienced and talented miniature aircraft builders and flyers amongst us. If you have any helpful tips or "But there for the grace of God go I" tales that you might like to pass along to the rest of us, please get in touch with the committee: committee@wamasc.org.au as we would love to put your story in print.

Remember, we will never live long enough to make all the mistakes ourselves so it is important to learn from others.

Again we hope you got something out of this. Finally, if you do not want to be included in the general distribution, let us know. If you know someone who might like to receive our publication, then get them to contact us through the website.

Safe Landings from the Committee.



Round & Rattle!!

