

Blenheim MAC Propwash



Chairman's Chat - July 2016

Another month has flown by and what a busy month it has been. First we had the Committee meeting and Club Night at Dodson Street on the 1st June, which was held in the small annex next to the reception with a welcoming log fire roaring away. This went well and good progress has been made on the new club constitution and operating rules. These should be firmed up by early August and will then be circulated to all members for your comments. After the Committee meeting several members joined us for a beer and chat about all things aviation. It was great to get to know friends and flying buddies a bit better, in very convivial surroundings, and I hope to see a few more members at these in future.

Next there was the annual Club Fly-in on 4/5 June which was simply outstanding with perfect weather over the whole weekend and a great turnout, with many pilots and magnificent scale models and jets from Nelson and Christchurch as well as plenty of BMAC and MAMs members too. Murray and Marf did an amazing job as usual of organising the catering, administration and advertising with plenty of support from Chris, Richard, Alf and Paddy. Thank you to all of those who contributed to making this event such a success – I think it was one of the best club fly-ins ever and I have received a lot of very positive feedback from both the Nelson and McLean's Island members who attended. I am sure there will be plenty of photos from this event elsewhere in the newsletter for you to enjoy.

We held our 5th and penultimate Soaring Saturday at the Quaildale field on the 18th June and Sam Laidlaw and Phil Jordan from the Nelson club plus Carl McMillan from MAMs joined the usual BMAC suspects for some mid-winter aerotow and electric soaring. The weather once again

was stunning with virtually no wind and pleasantly mild temperatures for the time of year. However there was no significant convection due to the low sun angle and lift was hard to find so most flights were relatively brief unless you were flying with 'electric assist' on board. Rex and Sam flew their large scale gliders to great effect and it was very satisfying watching these graceful machines cruise effortlessly through the blue sky and perform perfect and accurate scale landings each time – just magic.

Saturday 16th July will be the last time we can use the Quaildale field in 2016 as the farmer requires it for grazing, so I hope to see as many members there as possible. Bring whatever you want to fly – it does not have to be a glider - as there is plenty of space for all model types. The field is well suited to large scale models with oodles of runway, safe over-shoot and under-shoot areas and almost unlimited airspace as we are outside the control zone, so come along and fly.

Last Saturday the club held a 'working bee' at Bankhouse to clean and service the tractor and tidy up the trees and grass around the edges of the field. There was a very good turnout – I counted over a dozen members - and many hands make light work so we got all the necessary chores done quickly and still had plenty of time to get in some flying, which was just as well because the weather on Sunday was dire so the planned Fun-fly had to be scrubbed.

The Fun-fly is now re-scheduled for Sunday 3rd July and I for one am really looking forward to this. It is more years than I care to remember since I last attempted to fly the limbo challenge and do a proper spot landing, where you actually have to land on the spot and not just 'somewhere on the runway'. This will be a lot of fun as well as a good way of sharpening up your flying skills – so come along and have a go!

Blenheim MAC Propwash



Soaring

So, if you take someone who has never towed a glider up before and get them to tow someone who doesn't usually fly gliders, what could go wrong? As it turns out, very little!



Up and coming fliers



Here's 10 year old William Corban having his first ever flight under the tutelage of Darryl. He was flying Darryl's little Junior and after a brief period of instruction with two sets of hands on the sticks he was away and flying well (even with two old goats in the circuit).

Darryl was his usual calm self and seemed to have a great rapport with William; he should be an excellent instructor and mentor for this lad.

Alf with his Storch



And the end of his Wako...



Happy Birthday Marf!

Possibly the stickiest cake ever



Can you tell what it is yet?



Weather Check:

http://www.yr.no/place/New_Zealand/Marlborough/Renwick

Club Website:

<http://www.bmac.org.nz> Model

Flying NZ:

<http://www.modelflyingnz.org>

Blenheim MAC and all its flying members are affiliated to the National governing body Model Flying NZ

Queen's Birthday Fly-In

Les Morris's Stearman
with Evolution 260 cc
radial engine



