



THE BUILDER

YARRA VALLEY AEROMODELLERS NEWSLETTER

May 2020

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Dave Nichols new DH Comet nearly ready for flight.

Note, you will find a second attachment in your email; a copy of this year's club membership renewal form.

Club meetings are cancelled until further notice, the Shire of Yarra Ranges has closed its facilities.

Newsletter will be online at: -

www.yarravalleyaeromodellers.com.au

President's report – Tony Martinico Welcome all to our May newsletter for 2020.



Hi all and welcome to our May addition of our monthly newsletter. As all of you are aware that we still have this situation on our hands in regards to the Coronavirus AKA COVID -19 and the reason why our field has been shut down for almost 6 weeks. Thankfully we are now back in operation but with restrictions. I'm sure you are all aware of the roster we have set up to ensure we don't end up with more than 10 pilots at the field and you have all read the email that was sent out on the 14th May. The Club House will still remain locked down to help maintain the social separation of 1.5 meters which must be adhered to at all times. We request that our members use their common sense and abide by the regulations that have been imposed by our government, that if you have been overseas or

interstate recently, feeling unwell or are unsure, that they self-isolate and receive medical advice from a doctor.

Due to the fact that the club house will remain locked down, I recommend that you bring your own first aid kit, Sanitiser or wipes and anything else you may require for your outing. I strongly recommend that you do not use the toilet at the field unless it's absolutely necessary and you sanitise and please bring your own toilet paper.

Obviously all our Club comps are still suspended until further notice. It's unfortunate but we the committee are looking forward to holding them once this Coronavirus situation is under control and we can return to normality.

Bruce Waters would like me to remind our members that those who use the field, use some sort of sanitiser whether it be wipes or spray to clean down the pad lock on the front gate to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

Sadly, our meetings are still cancelled as the council is preventing us from using the meeting room at the red Earth centre. I encourage all members that if they wish to share any information or have any concerns that they contact the committee.

Our AGM will be postponed until August 2020. Daniel Wheeler is looking at some options to hold our AGM over a Web based program such as Survey Monkey. Don't worry too much yet as we are just in the process of finding a suitable program and we will make every one aware on how it will work. The Whole committee will be standing down and re running for their current positions which means there will be no changes to our committee unless someone else wishes to run for a position which you are all most welcome to challenge.

Believe it or not its Membership renewal time and we want to be working fast to get our membership renewals under way. Members please be reminded that we need a renewal form filled out correctly by each and every member regardless of how long you have been a member for. It's difficult for us to update the Data base when we don't have the membership details in front of us and it causes delays and errors. Membership forms can be found in this newsletter.

Just a gentle reminder in light of the past events with our noise complaints for the members who may think that their model may be a little noisy, that they are encouraged to see or contact Daniel Wheeler our Vice President as he has the club Noise Meter which was kindly donated by David Hipperson. Daniel will be more than happy to help you out with your concerns and we have plenty of members who would be more than happy to help out with your noisy models. All you need to do is ask around.

Please be reminded that there will be no flying, on the last Sunday of the month 31/05/2020

Thank you to everyone for their support. Please take care and I look forward to getting back to normality in 2020.

Here's to happy flying and safe landings.

Tony Martinico

Dates to note!

As you can see below, our next club night isn't likely to be before September. We received an email from the council notifying us they will keep their facilities closed until the end of August. Should this change the Committee will advise.

- Pay annual renewals by 30th June to receive \$25 discount on VMAA/MAAA fees.
- Monday 31st July YVA AGM by Survey Monkey or email.
- Monday, 28/09/2020 – Hopefully, club night.
- Monday, 26/10/2020
- **Monday, 23/11/2020 – 3rd Monday of the month!**

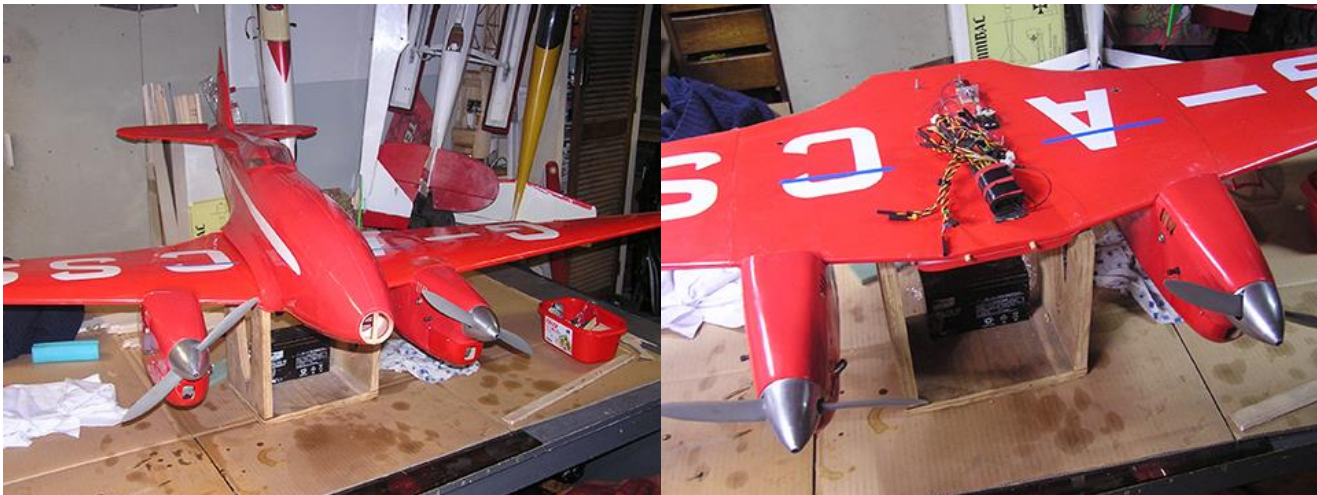
Annual renewal form attached.

Please find attached a renewal form to complete and return asap and by 30th June if you wish to have the VMAA/MAAA \$25 discount they are offering. Please note any fees received after this date will have to be for the full amount.

Back in the building rooms of our far-flung club members...

Dave Nichols

Here are some photos of the comet. Although it is an ARF the assembly is quite complicated as within the pods there are two engines, two tanks, two servos, on board glow, plus air retracts. The hard part is getting all the wiring and air tubes through the wing and have everything arrive in the right place. I also made the flap servo internal as the instructions had it on the outside, which I thought would look pox. The engines are two Magnum 52 four strokes which have been run without mufflers, in order to enhance the sound. Some scale like things still have to be finished off and I need to re check the onboard glow system. This should all be done in time for our next HH/FC day but I want to fly it well before then. CV19 permitting. Please join me in prayer so that I do not have a flame out.!



The Spitfire is also an ARF which I bought second hand off RC Trader. It has an OS 120 pumped 4 stroke, Savox servos, on board glow, retracts and flaps. The span is around 70 inches and after a bit of poncing about with the throttle servo and on-board glow it has been fired up and is ready to go.



Dangerous

Bill Wheeler

Late last year I was at an F3A event at P&DARCS. There was a biplane there that caught my eye, elegant lines and available as a kit. Its owner David Gibbs told me all about it and as it turned out Tom Bloodworth and others have also built one. After a few words with the Minister for Everything, I ordered one from RCJapan. The plane is a NEO Stage, I have included a picture from off the web...



The kit arrived after about a week and is jam packed with laser cut balsa, 2 sheets of CAD draw plans and colour scheme information plus carbon fibre cowl, top wing fairing and canopy; and build instructions (with pictures) in Japanese. David Gibbs did say there's a build thread online from a Japanese modeler but so far, I have hardly used it. The build is straight forward, and I have used a couple of translation apps to confirm my thoughts a couple of times.

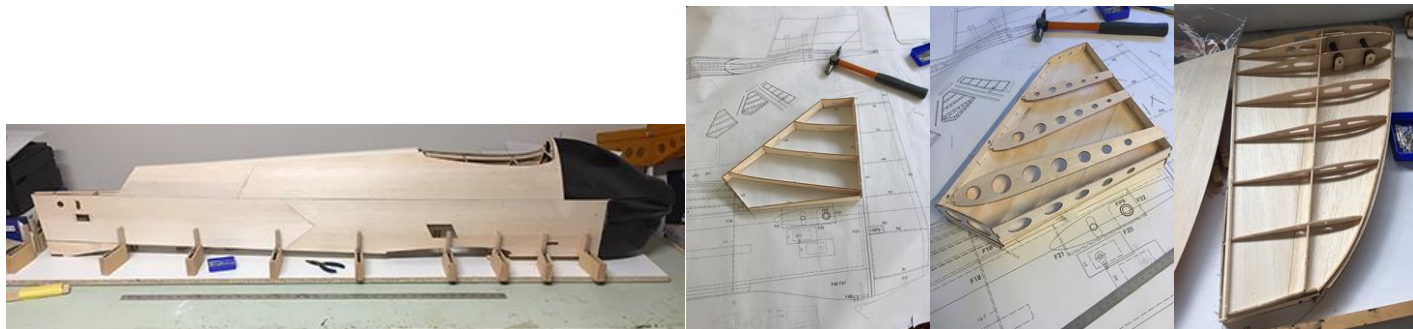
The first thing I needed to do before commencing gluing parts together was to build a fuselage assembly fixture. This comprises a piece of chipboard 1800mm long by 450mm wide. I made some adjustable clamps from MDF, held in place by ¼" nuts and bolts. Being as big as it is, it will be useful for future scale projects too.



The clamps align with the fuselage frames of the model with their distance set either side of a centreline on the fixture by measurements taken from the plan. Being laser cut, the build of the fuselage progressed quiet quickly and I soon found myself with nothing more to add to it. Models likely to built on it may require the clamps to be moved to new locations to suit the size of the fuselage. Having marked out the Stage's fuselage stations and positioned them from there, it is quite an easy process to do something similar for any model. There are blocks taped to the board to accommodate the rear fuselage sloping up towards the fin post.

With the fuselage assembled, I had to move on the either the wings or the tailplane, fin and rudder. I chose the latter as they are small parts and are, except the rudder, built in assembly cradles to aid alignment and build accuracy. What a great idea these cradles are. I spent a little time and made one to build my ¼ scale Chipmunk tailplane in. Below, the completed fuselage, fin cradle, fin, tailplanes and all pinned on. For the fin and tailplane halves I managed to get away with pinning the cradles to the building board rather than gluing them together. Not so with the wings as the panels are brought together in their cradles for final

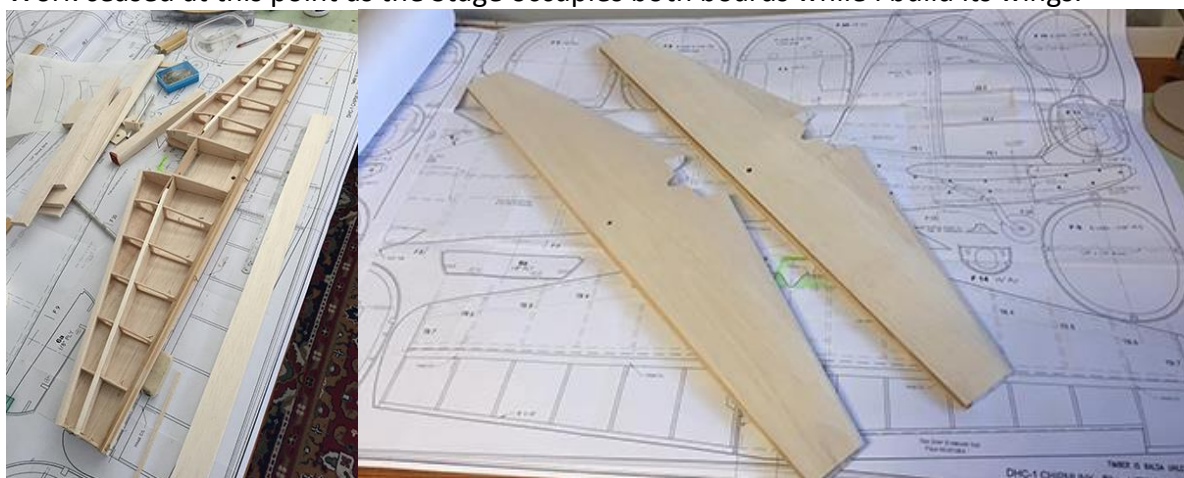
assembly. The upper panel has anhedral built in while the lower wing is assembled to be flat. More on the wing builds next month...



As can be seen in some of the pictures, the parts have been lightened to the nth degree. None of this balsa is 'hard' and the completed model, all 1995mm wingspan of it, will weigh less than 5kgs with 2 off 5S battery packs. There's a lot to learn for scale aircraft here in design and build. Below I have laid the Stage tailplane halves over the plan of my 1/4 scale Chipmunk plan whose tailplane is 900mm span.



Over in the blue corner I had finally given myself permission to start my Chipmunk. I bought the plan for this too many years ago from RCM&E and started cutting out the parts to produce a kit that I could then assemble. I was in two minds as to what finish to do so I cut out the parts to build two. Based on what I have seen on the NEO Stage, I built a build cradle for the tailplane and lightened the ribs. The building of the tailplane in this fashion was certainly easier than building two halves (top and bottom) and joining them. Work ceased at this point as the Stage occupies both boards while I build its wings.



Ken Hardwick

Ken's been busy with a classic pattern model "Miss Norway Mk IV" I haven't received any words from Ken to go with the pics so I'm making this up as I go. I believe Ken has also replicated the colour scheme of

the original which was designed by Ernst Totland in the mid to late 1970s. The model is around 60" or 1500mm wingspan and will be powered by a 0.60 cu.in. 2 stroke.



Steve Dengate

Not quite a build but Stevie had his umpteenth birthday recently and got a DJI drone, MAVIC mini(?). Out at the field, once open, he took the following shots. The field looking rather lush as you might expect this time of year and with all the rain we had.



Next month

My sincere thanks once again to those that contributed this month, hopefully another month of progress on builds presented here next month 😊 and any new information that descends from the ether. If you have a build you would like to share info on, please feel free to email me some pics. And about 100 words to explain what you're up to. Also included are any helpful tips on building, covering, painting etc. that you make like to share.

Seen at the field 26th May

A couple of NEO Stages belonging to Tom Bloodworth and David Creed. David's was making its first appearance and maiden that morning while Tom's is a few months older. The finish David has achieved on his model is absolutely world class. It flew as good as it looks only requiring a click of down and the batteries moving back $\frac{1}{2}$ " on the second flight. Finish on David's model is Japanese silk applied with Protech Urethane then urethane and talc rubbed back then paint and clear to finish. Weight < 4.9kgs with 2 5S packs.



Also, there a small Southern Martlet by Bruce Howard, electric powered and a working sprung undercarriage, this was a free plan in RCM&E a number of years ago.



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