



Propwash

December 2021

From the President



Greetings members.

Another calendar year about done. Xmas is on the horizon so hopefully plane shaped parcels under the tree or at least vouchers so you get a choice. Of course this is only if you have been good, so probably not too many in actual fact.

The club has had a fantastic year with obtaining grants for upgrades to our facilities. First there was a grant of \$5,500 from MAAA which has gone to paying for the concreting of the taxiway onto the new strip and also half the start up apron in front of the pits. On top of this we have also been able to order the material to re-sheet the pavilion roof and new gutters for the machinery shed.

A second grant of \$1,500 which Ron was able to obtain from the Bendigo Bank is, or has, gone into upgrading the solar panels and regulator for the power supply to the fridge.

The flying field saw two flying events held by the club in an EDF jet day and our annual Fun fly. Firstly the EDF day was quite successful and is now going to be an annual event held by the club some time in March/April. Plenty of time for you to go and obtain a trainer EDF jet. The highlight of the year was a very successful Fun fly weekend. Thank you once again to all those that contributed to this and without your support it could not have happened.

Our Xmas dinner was held at the Capel Tavern on Friday night with a good turn out. A lot of laughs were had and good to see the partners come along and join in as well.



I hope to see most of you in the next few weeks leading up to Xmas but if not then I wish you and your families all the best over the festive season. Take care and we will see you in the New Year.

Merry Xmas



Bill



A new Boomerang 60 club trainer please Santa.



From the Editor



Christmas is almost upon us and that means we have survived another year enjoying our sport and thankfully with out too many restrictions imposed on our flying. We take a lot for granted living so far away from our fellow MAAA members on the east coast with them being very restricted with their flying activities due to lock downs most of the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the SWARMS members and their families a safe Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year and look forward to sharing 2022 with you all in the skies over the field.



With the club successfully conducting two events during the year, the EDF day in August and the annual Funfly weekend in September it gave pilots from around the state a chance to actively participate enjoying the flying the fellowship and the experiences shared with other pilots through out the duration of both these events. All who attended praised the club for providing an ideal venue and for the hospitality shared and it was enjoyed by all. The night flying on the Saturday evening was enjoyed by those who participated.

The recent IMAC State Championships competition scheduled over the weekend of the 13th and 14th November had to be cancelled due to the number of pilots that had registered for the event, in total only 4 were able to attend so the decision was made to cancel the event. The field was reopened for normal flying as a result.



With Christmas fast approaching we have been advised that from Monday postmen will be working from home.

They will open and read all your letters and cards and will ring you if there is anything important.

Saturday 9th October was a night that we had to “Pitch” our justification for a grant application that had been lodged with the Bendigo Capel Community Bank. There was a total of \$40,000 up for grants to clubs or organisations with in the Capel area to go towards improving the facilities or equipment upgrade to make life better for their members.

Swarms had earlier lodged a grant application and were selected to go before a committee and justify why we deserved the funding. As a result of a very convincing Pitch presented by the editor we received \$1,500 for our efforts.

Meet the new honorary member of SWARMS, Fred Bones, he played a big part in securing the \$1,500 grant money from the Bendigo Bank Capel recently.



The funding will go towards the upgrade of the solar powered system that maintains a power supply to the 12 volt fridge for the purpose of providing the cool drinks and pies for members during flying sessions at the field.

The system had not been as reliable over the winter months as it was in the past, it had been in place for around 15 years so it may well have been in need of an update.



The Bendigo Capel Community Bank Pitch night was held on the 9th October at the Capel Country Club, SWARMS were represented by these three members, Trevor, Peter and Ron.



After the selected organizations each completed their Pitch to the committee the committee then went into recess for discussions to consider who had impressed them with their request for funding whilst all present were treated to a very nice smorgasbord spread.

The committee then returned with their verdict and proceeded to present cheques to those who passed the test and were convincing with their Pitch.

SWARMS were successful and were handed a cheque for \$1,500 for their efforts.



This morning I accidentally changed the car GPS Voice to "Male"

Now it says,

"It's around here somewhere, Keep driving"

Group photo of those organisations who were presented with a cheque to assist with their nominated projects.



As a result of these funds being made available the pies and cold drinks were back on the menu for the last day of the month, Sunday 31st October.



Hot pies and sauce.



Plus cold drinks for these happy members.

SWARMS

Christmas Dinner function

Merry Christmas

The club members and their partners finished off the year with a social evening at the Capel Hotel to celebrate the festive season and to reminisce over what had happened over the past twelve months, some good stories and some not so good stories were shared throughout the evening. At the end of the evening it was good to see that all the balsa and damaged airframes had been removed from the premises.

It would appear that those who attended enjoyed the evening, however, those who could afford the steak were not all that impressed with the quality. If you can exchange a bad steak for a free sticky date pudding at the end of the night the results were not all that bad.

The smiles in these photos indicate that **"MOST"** attendees enjoyed themselves. Dennis and John do not normally smile for photos they are camera shy.





The three wise men (I had to caption it with something, after all it is Christmas)



With Christmas just around the corner what a great idea for the aeroplane enthusiast, not only is it a great way to prepare the lunch but a great talking point over a beer also.



Glenn Lloyd-Woods has almost completed his B25 bomber, the structural work and paint has been completed there is just a bit of technical electrical work to programme and it will be ready for the sky.



The detail and finish on his planes shows the passion he has for building. It is fitted with everything that opens and shuts including individual electric starters fitted to each of the two 30cc DLE engines.



Dennis Milligan presented this Dauntless for a test flight having just come out of the workshop from a rebuild and complete new recover.



Off down the runway in preparation for lift off, tail-wheel lifts off as the rear gunner hangs on in preparation for final lift off.



After a couple of circuits and a bit of trim it was down to business, It returned to the ground after a successful test flight and the smile on Dennis's face indicated that the hours spend on the rebuild were all worth the effort.

Cop: You were going too fast

Me: I was just trying to keep up with the traffic officer.

Cop: There isn't any.

Me: I know! That's how far behind I am.

A Blonde and a Brunette are driving along in a car when the Brunette mentions that Christmas this year falls on a Friday.

The Blonde says "I hope it is not the 13th."

On the Saturday of the Funfly we were privileged to have had a visit by this plane on route to Busselton around mid morning.

Eric Bevan was in contact with the pilot when he left Jandakot airport and was advised of the estimated time of arrival over the field as he approached our area. The little flying that was taking place at the time was ceased and the plane did a low pass as he flew onto his destination.



He dipped a wing as he flew down the runway over the field.



Troy started smiling when he won this Tiger 60 ARF kit in the raffle at the Funfly weekend.



He was still smiling weeks later after a successful maiden flight of the plane on Sunday 7th Nov.



I hope that he is still smiling after he takes full control of the radio and goes solo with the model. Due to a few motor issues Troy has not yet taken off or landed during the test flights. It will come !



This is a hole that was left adjacent to the runway resulting from a crash during the funfly weekend, the size of the hole would be a pretty good indication that it could well have been the last flight for this model.

The motor was recovered from this crater after some extensive digging, not sure of the condition it was in once removed. With 2 cubic metres of fill required to rectify the damage the surface has now been returned to normal.



The PC 9 Roulettes in action with one of their last flights over the Sydney Opera House.



*At the parole hearing, the officer asked, "Tell me, why should you be released early?"
The inmate responded, "It's bec..."
Officer: Yes?
Inmate: I think I have...
Officer: Go on.
Inmate: Can I Please finish my sentence?
Officer: Sure. Parole denied.*



The resident Magpie at the field have become a bit active again with their constant aggression shown to our models as they grace the skies over the field.

Maybe these Magpie jets could be the answer to our problems, I am sure that it would be a deterrent, however, could only be for a short period as they become familiar with the noise.



Hiding away here amongst the trees ready for the next air strike.



It would appear that the Roulettes have some opposition here, the Budgie squadron in action captured in a great photo proving they can also perform formation flying in the sky.



Yes, you guessed it Troy has done it again. After many hours in my workshop repairing his previous mishap here it is all over again.



Extensive damage sustained to the fuselage when down elevator should have been up elevator and this was the result. It was debatable if this was a terminal crash a decision was be made when the dust settled.



Above, before the event
Below, after the event.



The results of the post mortem are in, it was declared terminal.



Found out the reason that we do not have daylight savings here in the west, government is too smart.

When told the reason for daylight savings time the old Indian said, "Only a government would believe that you could cut a foot off the top of a blanket, sew it onto the bottom and you have a longer blanket."



Formation landing with the new roulettes PC 21s the colour scheme is an improvement on the PC 9.



Trevor Wilson has taken the next step and getting adventurous with the purchase of this Arrow Viper EDF jet from Amazon Australia.



The size of the model is seen compared here with his radio, it has had it's maiden flight and does perform very well in the sky, very slippery on full throttle.



This is something different , you obviously get two for the price of one.



Would be advantageous if there were two models the same that had crashed and by sorting through the pieces you could come up with this design.



We even get a "Double" prop hang here, are you envious Andrew ?



Department of health is looking to hire couples married for 7 years or more to educate people on social distancing.

Who remembers this song ???

I can hear you all singing along right now.

Lambs to the left of me. Mutton to the right. Here I am. Stuck in the middle with ewe. 🐑🐑😄



After several flight and two recent successful dead stick landings I have finally sorted out the Ultimate bi-plane and the last three flights have been trouble free. The 20cc DLE engine proved to initially be a bit temperamental but after some cleaning and tuning it has all come together and it is now purring around the sky.



Did you hear about a pilot who took his skywriting exam?

He passed it with flying colours.

Kamikaze pilots had a lot of potential.

But it turned out they were a one hit wonder.



Carnage on the last day of the month 31st October we seen a couple of mishaps that caused a terminal condition on this plane owned and flown by Andrew McAuley.



These parts were retrieved from the airframe and were last seen being placed into a plastic bag in preparation for the trip home.



There were some parts that survived the severe impact with the ground the challenge for Andrew will be to build another aircraft around these parts.



Then Bill came onto the flight line with his big Cessna and indicated that he was having the last flight of this plane before he stripped it down to refurbish it, he proceeded to take to the sky, down the runway and lift off.

The plane had only just cleared the runway when it appeared that he did a slow controlled roll, it looked good from the pits, however, this was not the case and it all went wrong not far from the ground it cart-wheeled back to earth.



The damage was relatively minor compared to the previous incident, the wing was dislodged and broken, the propeller broken and a bit of cosmetic damage around the front of the plane. A couple of hours in the workshop and it should be back in the sky again.



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And the optimist of the year award goes to...



John Frings used to own one of these which did fly very nicely, however, it is now located on the green waste stock pile waiting for the next bon fire to start which should be in the very near future.

The next time it goes up will be "UP" in smoke along with all the other debris that has accumulated over the past couple of months.



The carnage continues to pile up, these two models will soon do some formation flying leaving a smoke trail in the sky as they perform their last flight above the field.



I saw a guy on his motor bike the other day and the back of his shirt said.

"If you can read this the wife fell off."

I don't know who needs to know this but even if a bear wears socks and shoes, he still has bear feet.



This model shop would not be hard to locate when driving down the street in search of some bargains very impressive facade to catch your attention.



I dropped my phone from the top of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

It's okay, it was in airplane mode.

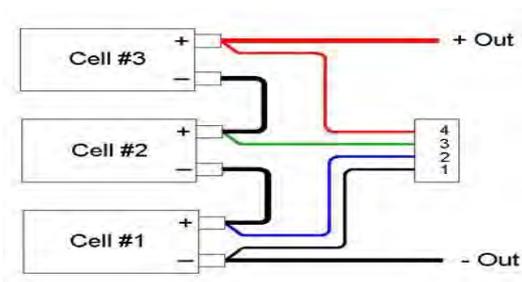
Who invented the first plane that did not fly ?

The wrong brothers

In my defense...the flight attendant said please familiarize yourself with all the safety features aboard the aircraft.



HOW TO FIX A BROKEN LIPO BALANCE LEAD



Repairing a battery could be dangerous so from the outset you must assume this procedure has inherent risks that you must mitigate.

LIPO batteries are volatile and if damaged or punctured could catch fire. For that reason, you should not perform this task indoors. You should do this outdoors, away from all flammable and inflammable materials or liquids.

You should have a bucket of water or sand at the ready to place your LIPO should something go wrong. You must have a way to fight a fire should it arise. A hose or extinguisher or both would be desirable. Your lipo battery voltage should be around 3.6v per cell and this is because a fully charged LIPO is extremely volatile, whilst a near flat LIPO is considered less volatile.

Whilst these warnings sound extreme we always plan for the worst and hope for the best so that you're not surprised should something go wrong. If the battery is damaged from a crash you should consider discarding the battery. If the pack shows signs of damage, don't risk it.

It may even charge and cycle fine but without any warning, the battery could catch fire. It would be fair to say the folks at Ezdrone knew what they were doing yet a LIPO battery managed to ignite without a warning.

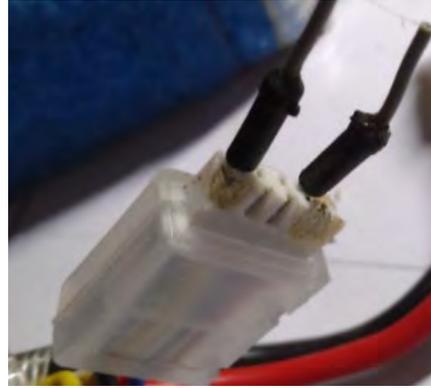
This is why we take adequate precautions and we make sure that LIPO batteries are stored properly and worked on in a suitable location.

Damaged Discharge Plugs

If you have a damaged balance plug, first check the voltage of all cells and make sure they are all at a similar voltage. If you notice one cell is significantly lower than the others then it may indicate a puncture or damage to a cell. The exception here is if your crash was the result of a low voltage cut off it would be normal to see one or more cells significantly lower than the others. Carefully check the battery and if you notice damage discard the battery. Don't risk it.

It's common to see a balance lead that has been chopped by a prop strike. There are two ways to fix it.

Ideally, we would remove the balance lead connector and replace it but if you are in a bind you can fix it up with a little two-part epoxy.'



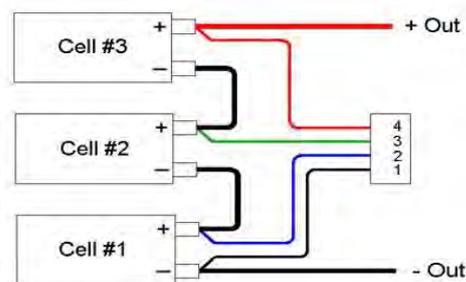
Start by prepping the area. You need to make some formers that will stop the epoxy dripping off the sides. Sticky tap is fine, so start by winding that a few times around the connector. Before applying the glue, plug a jumper pin in where the glue is going to go.

This stops the glue from going into the pinhole and affects conductivity later. Be aware to make sure there is no way the metal part of your jumper pins can touch each other, which could cause a short circuit and even fire!

Apply a little vegetable oil to the pins to stop the epoxy from adhering to the pins. Mix the epoxy and pour it into the connector. Once it is almost cured you can cut away the excess.

LIPO Balance Wire Repair

This repair is generally easy provided you only need to repair one wire. Solder and shrink wrap is all that is required for this task. If you damage more than one wire and they are not color-coded you will need to double-check it with a multimeter. You need to be sure you are re-joining the correct wires.



Replace Balance Plug

This is, of course, the easiest option as no soldering or gluing is required. You simply open the connector by pulling back the plastic tabs and gently pulling on the lead. You should only remove one lead at a time so that you know where it goes and they don't touch each other and cause further damage.

LIPO Cell Wire Broken

I have saved the worst until last. The most unpleasant task is pulling down the lipo as the utmost care must be exercised. If you are using a knife be careful not to slip as it may damage the LIPO cells and may cause a fire at worse and a useless pack at best. Once you have exposed the terminals you can solder the wire back to the tab. Be sure that the tip of the soldering iron does not cross or touch other cells at the same time. These tips supplied courtesy of Hobby King forum.



Shop assistant fought off armed robber with his price labelling gun.

Police are now looking for a man with a price on his head.

Summer is finally here and it certainly was a little warm at the field on Sunday 28th Nov 30 + deg, good day for thermals and the gliders were out and about in the sky. Those flying them found a cool place to settle back and do some docile flying whilst sitting relaxed in the shade of the pavilion.

L/R Ron, Dennis, Troy and John.



What do you call a pregnant flight attendant ?

*Pilot error.
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This year has almost gone.

Not all of our family and friends made it.

Never take for granted the people you love.

Enjoy your Christmas with family and friends whilst they are still with us.



Catch you when we fly into the next edition in 2022. Happy Flying, regards Ron.

