



Propwash

April 2023

From the President



Over the weekend of the 15th April we had the MAAA President Tim Nolan visit the field to take in the facilities that you the members have worked so hard for. Tim was very impressed with the facilities and said we were right up there with anywhere else in Australia.

He was also mentioning, and again last night at the AWA General Meeting, about the concerns the MAAA have regarding the increase in injuries and damage occurring within the sport. This should be a friendly reminder to all clubs to maybe re-visit their field risk assessments and also how they go about enforcing the rules in place. It was high-lighted that it was not new to the hobby people but rather the aging and complacent who were the majority. Food for thought.

I attended the KAMS Warbirds meeting on Sunday and for those that have never been you must put it in your calendars for next time. Not are there amazing models and flying to be seen but also friendships and networking for your hobby. It doesn't go unnoticed by the clubs when you attend their events and goes a long way to visits by them to your events. A high light for me was when they had five foamies take to the air for combat streamers. Everyone was just amazed and all got involved as a crowd during the combat, outstanding and something else for us to consider.

Once again thanks to everyone from me for an amazing club and I feel very privileged to be part of it now and well into the future. Hope to see you all out there flying, or just having a coffee, doesn't matter just be part of it and enjoy.

Cheers Bill



Hello Members

Not much has happened since the last Propwash. If you've been to the field you may not have noticed the subtle changes to the grounds. We have had a bit of concrete splashed around and some landed at the start up area so it was trowelled off and now makes a completed area right across the front of the pits. Some more landed around the wind sock pole and is now an area for jet Jockeys to "check" their gear before take off. A bit was left over so the helicopter crew were thought of and now there is a dedicated pad for them off to the side out from the club room.

The last little bit of concrete was saved for the North/South runway. This is now 90m of concrete runway marrying in with the existing East/West runway. Bumble Bee did a magnificent job of all the works and I am pretty sure we actually got more than was quoted for.

When looking at any concrete jobs for yourself don't hesitate to contact him for a quote and support his business. I would also like to thank those that were able to help with all the preparations and finally the concreting itself it made for a smooth job overall, pun intended.

Smaller jobs done at same time were the flashing off of the storage room in the pits. It's now tighter than you know what, good work guys. There was also some sikaflex added to the expansion gaps in the existing runway and also taxiways. This has actually done a very good job of smoothing out the bumps.

From the Editor

Well it has been a busy couple of months for me since the last Propwash in and around the field, at the field the commencement and completion of the second runway upgrade, around the field, a successful evening BBQ for members and I have just returned from a three week holiday in Tasmania.

With the final stages of the runway upgrade behind us we can now look forward to the upcoming events to be scheduled though out the remainder of the year.

Anzac day breakfast and War Bird flyin on the 25th April, this has been well attended in previous years and could be something to mark on your calendar as it goes ahead again this year at 8am with breakfast.

The EDF jet day has also been popular in the past, with a date yet to be set members can look forward to some excitement in the sky on this weekend.

The annual Funfly is something that a large number of pilots look forward to each year with many taking up the option to camp over the long week end in September. The day flying action, the night flying thrills and in particular the Saturday evening meal is something that is enjoyed by all who attend and this year will be no exception.

Watch this space for further details relating to the above events.



The club Annual General Meeting is normally scheduled for the month of June and this year is no exception. All committee positions are declared vacant and an election is conducted to elect members for the 2023/24 flying year.

Time for members to consider taking a position on the committee for the next year if you would like any further detail about any of the positions talk to the person who is currently in that roll to get an idea of what is involved with the roll prior to nominating.

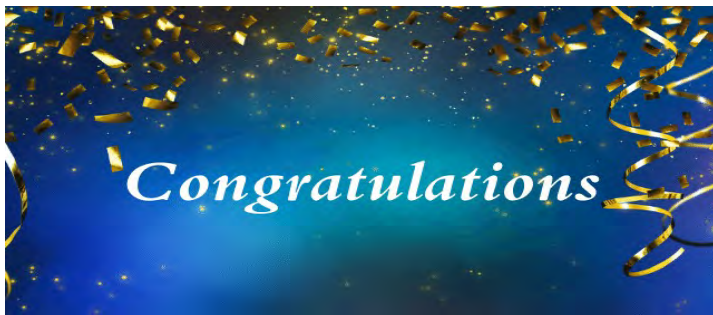
Some common questions asked by potential modelers when they visit a flying field for the first time, plus the answers

- ***Did you build it?***—The answer to this is always yes, even if you didn't.
- ***How much does it cost?***—It is easy to get started in the sport for less than \$400, including everything. You do not need to tell anyone the cost of your particular aircraft.
- ***How far away can it fly?***—The control system can operate the model even beyond visual range. But if the model is so far away that it cannot be seen, then it is not possible for the pilot to fly it. Our usual maximum distance is $\frac{1}{3}$ of a mile.
- ***Can this plane carry bombs and things?***—Emphatically, no it cannot. The model's carrying ability is limited to a pound or so and that weight would have to be centered in the fuselage, right where the radio gear is located. Since the radio gear is needed for control, the model really can't carry anything extra.
- ***And the dreaded question:*** How often do you crash?—Modern radio control systems are so reliable and model engines (motors) so easy to operate that crashes very seldom occur. Even if the model is completely destroyed, the engine and radio system usually survive to be installed in another model aircraft.



Hey, I made it into the photo gallery of the Propwash, I am usually on the other side of the lens. Out enjoying the SWARMS BBQ on Friday night with my daughter Amanda.





To **Ben Tonkin** who successfully completed his solo flight on Sunday 12th March.

Ben has been in training for few months now and has improved progressively each week, he has had a strong desire to complete a few loops whilst doing circuits and the normal training manoeuvres required which seemed to be a bit boring for him at times, however, the wings did not fold up on the Apprentice aircraft as a result.

Keep up your enthusiasm Ben and you will enjoy your time in the sky well into the future.



A man is walking in a graveyard when he hears the Third Symphony playing backward. When it's over, the Second Symphony starts playing, also backward, and then the First. "What's going on?" he asks a cemetery worker.

*"It's Beethoven," says the worker.
"He's decomposing"*



I trust you all had an enjoyable Easter with the next three months programed to remove your calories intake.



- What do you call a brown bunny that comes a day after Easter?
Choco-late.
- Why does the Easter bunny hide his eggs?
He doesn't want anyone to know he's been messing around with a chicken.
- What do you get when you throw a rabbit into your oven during Easter?
A hot cross bunny
- Why did Dire Straights have so many Easter decorations?
They got their bunnies for nothing and their chicks for free.
- What are four hundred Easter bunnies hopping backwards?
A receding hare line.
- What's the Easter Bunny's favourite beer?
XXXX because of it's high alcohol content he can get drunk quick, after dealing with those kids all day.
Oh... the fact that it's extra hoppy is just a bonus!



As Santa's sled rotated off the runway, the examiner pulled a double-barrelled shotgun from under his cloak and blasted one of the reindeer.

He then turned to the perplexed Santa and said "Engine failure on take-off!"

February 26th saw the commencement of the second runway North/South upgrade project, the old matting was removed in preparation for the new concrete surface.



This matting had been in place for in excess of 35 years and has served us well, however, due to it's deterioration it was necessary to replace it with concrete. The new surface should well and truly see out the life of the majority of current members.



The green synthetic matting was put in place over the top of the old matting after obtaining it from the Capel Bowls Club when they upgraded their greens and it had extended the life of the runway surface.



The formwork for the extensions to the start up pad has almost been setup in readiness for the plastic sheeting reinforcing mesh and the concrete pour will then commence.



Progress on the second day of the runway project with the plastic sheeting being put in place



Day three commenced with a very overcast sky and showers forecast during the day. The reinforcing mesh was placed on the plastic as the dark clouds rolled over the field. Then it happened, the showers commenced and it was just like a game of cricket, all workers left the field to the shelter of the pavilion.

As the rain persisted it was decided around midday there would be no further play for the day and the contractors left site.

Southern end of the runway all prepared in readiness for the first concrete pour scheduled for Friday morning.



The expansion joints on the East/West runway were upgraded, the foam rubber was removed and new section inserted with Sikaflex.



When you want a job done right the first time call in the experts.



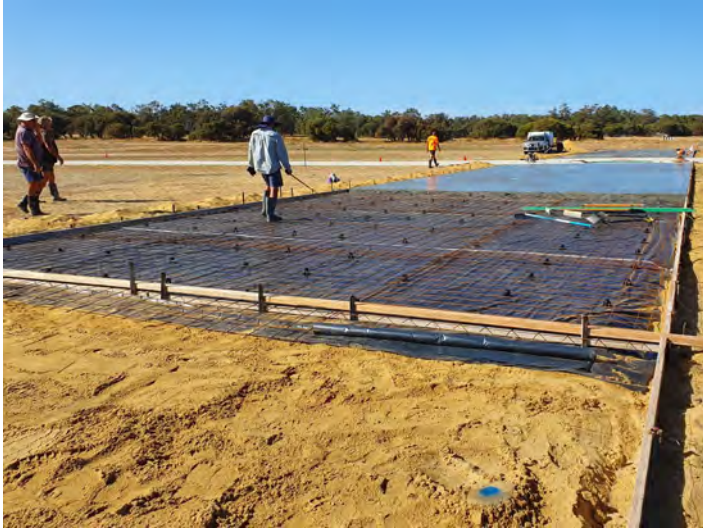
The nitro startup area pour commences.



Asked my friends if they could drink 5 litres of fuel and not be sick. Turned out..... Jerry can.



Wednesday 22nd seen a shortage of concrete trucks, the contractors were really on the ball and the trucks could not keep up with them, second section pour half finished and there is a shortage of concrete.



The wait is over as another truck arrives to deliver it's load.



The completion of the second pour on the Northern end of the runway. Watered to slow the drying process.



The southern end of the runway completed and back filled, concrete sprayed with water to slow down the drying process.



The last section on the northern end of the runway prepared ready for the plastic sheeting and reinforcing mesh to be installed.



The Northern most end of the runway in final stages of completion the helicopter completing the surface finish. Project Completed just requiring back-fill now.



The back fill along the edge of the runway commenced on Saturday 1st April, a Bobcat was used to dig a trench and cart the sand to the edges. This was the size of the trench early in the day.



A good turn up of members attended to complete the task, we were also privileged to have three shire workers come along and assist. Can you pick them.



This was the trench at the end of the day giving an indication how much sand was removed to the runway.



You no doubt have heard of the "Back Street Boys" their top song being "I want it that way" 1999.

Well here is the Backfill Bays yet to release their first record but they did a good job on the project. John Doggett, Edie Meester and myself were also in attendance on the day but not for the photo.



The finished product looking from the Northern end of the runway South.



Looking from the Southern end of the runway North.



The cross over junction of the North South, East West runways.



The nitro plane start up pad.



The turbine jet start up pad.



What do airplane builders say about their job? It's riveting.

What did the doctor say to the woman who felt ill at the airport? I'm afraid it's a terminal illness.

The commencement of the helicopter pad.



The completion of the helicopter pad, it is obvious it increased in size due to a bit more concrete being left over for the final runway pour.



Tim Nolan President of MAAA made a visit to the field on Saturday 15th to check out the upgrades that have occurred since MAAA purchased the field in 2012. Pictured here with members on the new runway.



There appeared to have been some confusion with the article in the previous edition of the Propwash relating to my contact with the prop. Thank you to those members who showed their concern relating to my mishap.

The photos of the lacerated fingers were not mine, I sustained two laceration to the little finger on the left hand the 6 stitches have been removed and it has now healed, I was not able to get any photos of the damage I received but thanks to Peter Johnsen the attached photos were taken after the incident

Dr Troy administering first aid at the field with the injury bandaged and well elevated.



The scene where the incident occurred, the plane and starter still on the start up line and the blood loss visible on the concrete.



Can't keep a good modeller down, with all the health issues he is battling Woody keeps focused on his passion and has again been busy in the shed constructing this Tiger Moth, it is now all fitted out and had it's maiden flight, it has an OS 46 nitro motor fitted under the cowl. It flew very well .



A bit of competition here with my electric Tiger on the left and Woodie's nitro Tiger on the right.

Maybe Troy could do with a couple of extra high flying Tigers in his Richmond football team.



John Frings experienced some radio interference on Sunday 12th March resulting in the follow damage to his Radiant glider.

It was last seen flying over the access road inverted towards the field when it decided to nose dive into the ground.



All the damaged pieces were retrieved and returned to the pits, the challenge will be for John to fit them all back together and get it back into the sky.



Airline Safety

Taxiing down the tarmac, the 747 abruptly stopped, turned around and returned to the gate. After a two hour delay, it finally took off.

Barry, a worried passenger asked the steward, "What was the problem?"

"Well, the pilot was bothered by a noise he heard in the engine", explained the flight attendant, "and it took us a while to find a new pilot."

Lunch break on day two of the runway project.



I stopped off at a fast food restaurant and was fascinated by a sign which offered 'Fat-Free French Fries' so I decided to give them a try. After ordering, I watched with disgust as the worker pulled a basket of fries from the fryer, which was dripping with fat. The worker threw them in a bag and put them in my order. "Just a minute!" I objected. "Those aren't fat-free." "Yes, they are," the worker shrugged. "We only charge for the potatoes, the fat is free!"

This photo is now a vintage collectors print, the configuration of the old runway system which has now been upgraded to concrete surfaces longer and wider than this photo. Had a Drone operator volunteer to get some of the latest images with a video to update the library end result very pleasing.



How did the health experts lie? They said a mask and gloves were enough to go to the grocery store during COVID. But when I got there, everyone else had clothes on.

What's that ?

No it is not a snake ! The pipe from the sink was blocked and this is the growth that had accumulated in the pipe over time, it was removed from the pipe to free it up now for a few more years.



This has to be clear evidence that Dennis Milligan's flying has improved, he is not repairing any planes at the moment and has commenced work back on his scratch built Buffalo model. It will be powered by twin 40 four stroke nitro motors when completed.



From the archives, the old pit area being resurfaced with matting many years ago.

Four married men go flying. They're enjoying their time in the sky, when suddenly the first man says: "You have no idea what I had to do to be able to come out flying this weekend. I had to promise my wife that I will paint every room in the house next weekend."

Second man says "That is nothing, I had to promise my wife that I will build her a new deck for the pool."

Third man retorts "Man, you both have it easy! I had to promise my wife that I will remodel the kitchen for her."

They continue to fly when they realised that the fourth man has not said a word. So they asked him. "You haven't said anything about what you had to do to be able to come flying this weekend. What's the deal?"

Fourth man said "I just set my alarm for 5:30 am. When it went off, I shut off my alarm, gave the wife a nudge and said, "Flying or Sex" and she said, "Wear sunscreen."



- *What does eating raw garlic have to do with preventing COVID-19?
It helps keep everyone at a safe distance.*
- *What did the single guy say to the single woman during a lockdown?
"If COVID doesn't take you out, can I?"*



Another busy Sunday flying session, good comparison of the current pits.



On Friday evening 24th March after a couple of heavy weeks working on the new runway and with the project now almost complete members were invited to a BBQ at Trevor & Erica McGuigan's residence where we participated in an enjoyable meal and were entertained on the "BIG" out door screen with the movie Battle of Britain.

Thank you to Trevor & Erica for your hospitality.

Andrew took on the roll as chef and did a good job preparing a variety of food for every one.



The hosts Trevor & Erica with Trevor looking relaxed and about to devour his meal.



Double trouble here Mandy & Jess together.



Trevor & Ronnice enjoying the evening out.



Ian looking contented after his meal and now engrossed in watching the movie.



Ken Greaves accompanied Ian & Anne Clapp and enjoyed the evening out socializing.



The photographer (me) experienced some difficulty with the changing light situation with the flash being too bright and natural light not being adequate. As a result not all photos taken were successful.

The reincarnation of the Z T-28 Trojan 2.0m , Bill was so impressed with this Model of the Trojan and so disappointed with the mishap that occurred he went and purchased another model.



The only thing different is the colour scheme, Oh, and the shape.



Drone shot from over the car park looking east towards the new runways. The field should look pristine for the September Funfly with the winter rains doing their job on the new grass surfaces.



I know this is a show off post but I had to share!!
 When you work hard all your life and you are doing so well you can treat yourself right
 I can't express the happiness I am feeling. White was the only colour but it doesn't matter.
 I've just purchased these four chairs.



A group of members posing for the media at the gathering with Tim Nolan President MAAA during the get together Sausage Sizzle on Saturday 15th April.



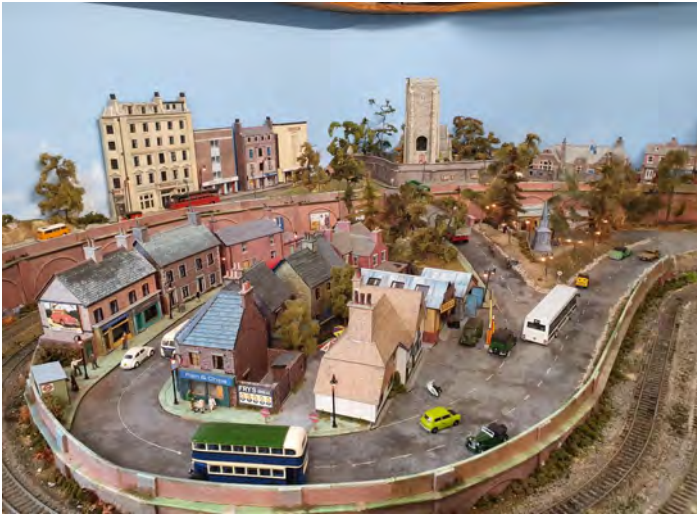
Image of the completed runway project, with the recent rain the grass has commenced growing and will soon cover the back fill on the edges.



Whilst at Trevor McGuigan's residence for the BBQ on Friday 24th SWARMS members were given the opportunity to view Trevor's other passion, his model railway setup. He has this layout set up in his shed which he would have spent thousands of hours constructing this with a lot of attention to detail and it is all operational.

The only thing that fly's in this hobby is the trains as they navigate around the many metres of track.

A few very detailed photos of Trevor's setup.



*What do you call an airplane that's about to crash?
It's an error plane.*

*Why is development in airline engineering so slow?
No one wants to make a ground breaking design.*

Did You Know?

The famous painter Leonardo Da Vinci drew pictures of flying machines as long ago as 1485, but the first flight wasn't made until 1903 thanks to the Wright brothers, Orville and Wilbur? Even now, more than 100 years later, only 5% of the world's population has been on a plane.

*Give a man a plane ticket and he'll fly for a day.
Push a man from a plane and he'll fly for the rest of his life.*



Photo from the archives, the maiden flight of the Spruce Goose it appeared at the SWARMS field in 2008 and put on quiet a performance in the sky over the field with Rowdy Matthews on the sticks. It was a proven flyer off both land and water and is currently in storage awaiting a potential new owner.



If you bought 144 rolls of toilet paper in preparation for a 14-day quarantine during COVID, you probably should have been seeing a doctor long before coronavirus arrived.

*Why hasn't anyone in Antarctica contracted COVID-19?
They're so ice-o-lated.*

A bit of action from recent Avalon air show.



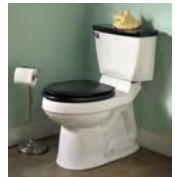
Nice addition to the CARF turbine jet range of models now available if you can afford them.



*Vital information for those reaching 50 or being over 60
And heading towards 70 or beyond!*

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING:
Never, NEVER, NEVER,
under any circumstances,

Take a sleeping pill, and a laxative on the same night!



The Apache sure is a mighty attack helicopter!

It boasts a twin-engine, four-blade tandem-seat attack helicopter equipped with an M230 30-mm cannon, Hydra-70 2.75-inch rockets, and HELLFIRE missiles (both laser-guided and radio frequency).



If any member has a build projects on the go, interesting experiences, general story to tell or just anything they would like to share with fellow members this newsletter is an ideal avenue to do just that.

I would encourage members to make a contribution to both inform members and also make my job easier when looking for interesting items for the newsletter.



Catch you when we fly into the next edition in 2023. Happy Flying, regards Ron.

