

THE FREE FLIGHTER



JOURNAL OF THE NSW FREE FLIGHT SOCIETY INC.

SEP 2026



Richard Blackam Wins 2026 Mongolia World Cup

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 17TH JULY 2026

Meeting opened:

7:30pm – Dundas Sports Club – President Michael Towell

Present:

Michael Towell, Natalie Beckett, Roy Summersby, Terry Bond, Ray Harvey, Phil Warren, Peter Scott, Bruce Hao, Steve Hughes, John Pennells, Gary Goodwin, Ed and Angie Mahoney

Apologies:

Warren Leadbeatter, Gary Pope

Guests:

Gail Scott, Richard Jensen, Kate

Minutes of previous meeting:

Moved by Ed Mahoney, Ray Harvey sec. Carried

Business Arising:

- MAAA free flight Nationals. Logo done. Flyer sent out. Approved MAAA funds of \$3000. First bulletin sent out next couple weeks. Nats program and entry form was available to look at.

Correspondence out:

MAA, Friday notices, Newsletter

Correspondence In:

MAAA, Responds from Friday email

Treasurers Report:

1st March to 30th April presented by Roy Summersby

National account closed.

Moved by Terry Bond, Sec Peter Scott, Carried

Copies available upon request

General Business:

- Report from conference. Extra coverage for model and stuff while travelling to field. This can be covered. Club assistance scheme for RC concrete. Asked for \$7,000 from MAAA. Approved. Fees remain the same as last year. MAAA awards – Terry Bond is now a member of the hall of fame. New Vice president of MAAA, Tony Wilson. MAAA membership number have increased over the past 6 months.
- Motion that fees stay the same. Roy Summersby moved they stay the same for us, sec by Gary Goodwin, Carried.
- Steve Hughes gave update on the Solar Farm at WW. Changed hands and they will continue to give \$5000 each year. They would like to meet up via Microsoft Teams.
- Scale weekend. Entry form is out. Have a 3 from New Zealand coming. Scale judges are needed. Steve for static judging, Reg T, Ed and John P a maybe. Asked MAAA for club activity program for \$1000.
- Working bee at WW before Nationals in October. Roy to come up with date.
- NSW state champs for F1ABC, this weekend. Michael and Nat to CD event.

- WW – ladies’ toilets. Talk about putting a wall. Natalie motioned to swap the toilets. Men’s inside the camp kitchen and ladies outside. Roy moved, Terry sec, carried.
- Point score trophy. Roy is currently in the lead.
- WW House is now \$20 per night per person now. Even if form says \$15 it is a typo.
- Ray Harvey made a F1J pinch off and made some for the shop. There are 2 available.

Meeting closed: 8.21pm

2026 Committee:

Position	Name	Phone Number
President	Michael Towell	0433 175 295
Vice President	Gary Goodwin	0414 292 050
Secretary & Newsletter Editor	Warren Leadbeatter	0408 801 539
Treasurer	Roy Summersby	0413 588 720
Registrar & Public Officer	Warren Leadbeatter	0408 801 539
Safety Officer	Michael Towell	0433 175 295
Chief Flying Instructor	Mike Ward	0416 081 536
Scale Coordinator	Phil Warren	0405 579 904
Contest Organiser Richmond	Peter Scott	0434 276 265
Librarian	John Pennells	02 4363 1834

Terry’s Jokes & Fun Facts:



MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 19TH SEPT 2025

Meeting opened:

8:53pm – Dundas Sports Club – President Michael Towell

Present:

Apologies: John Pennells, Peter and Gail Scott, Reg and Lyn Towell, Terry Bond

Guests:

Presidents Report:

President Michael presented his annual report, this was published in the September newsletter which was sent out to all members one week earlier.

Treasurers Report:

The annual treasures report was presented, showing that we are in good financial position. We have been spending wisely and with are means.

General Business:

Michael asked the members about the contest calendar for 2026. Any changes?

Election of Office Bearers:

Michael, with the meetings approval, called Gary Pope to conduct the dismissal of the current committee and asked for nominations for the year 2026.

Gary thanked the ex-committee for great job.

Positions for 2026	Name
President	Michael Towell
Vice President	Gary Goodwin
Secretary & News Ed	Warren Leadbeatter
Treasurer	Roy Summersby
Registrar	Warren Leadbeatter
Safety officer	Michael Towell
Chief Instructor	Mike Ward
Scale Coordinator	Phil Warren
Facebook Manager	Natalie Beckett
Contest Organiser	Natalie Beckett
Librarian	John Pennells

Meeting Closed: 9:01pm

Wow, where has this year gone. The years just keep getting bigger and better, onwards and upwards as they say.

Our first task after the AGM last year was to organise a working bee at West Wyalong leading up to the Nationals. With some much needed repairs to the road in, and some other maintenance in general, some siding and paint to the farm house, the usual mowing and slashing. The AB field was ready to host the Nationals.

Our first major event was our 74th Free Flight Nationals at West Wyalong. With some world class flying, great weather, great company and some great moments all combine to make the Nationals the great experience they are. Don't forget that the 75th Nationals are THIS October, entry form and program in this issue.

Our Friday and Sunday Christmas parties at the field are always well attended. Pauline appreciates the spread we put on for the Friday one plus the money and gifts we donate for her and Charlie. Thanks must go to Lyn Towell and Nat Beckett for catering the Friday Christmas party. Don't forget the \$5 parking fee at Richmond towards Pauline and Charlie for allowing us to use their field throughout the year.

Myself and Nat also hosted our first presentation dinner in a loooong time. With approximately 25 in attendance we all had a great time. With a different take on our State Champs trophies and our Point Score trophy back in circulation, all was a big hit. We look forward to hosting again this year. Check the calendar and don't forget to RSVP.

With our Area Approval at the AB field up for renewal, and with the MAAA now streamlining this process. The AA's have never been easier to achieve. Just another way that the MAAA has been on the improve over the last couple of years.

With another working bee at the AB field leading up to the SAM Champs and AFFS Champs. Thanks to the tireless volunteers that continue to put their support and effort in the continuing development of WW. We have also had some money grants from the MAAA, that went towards previous driveway repairs, some pest control on the Hall of Fame container and some recently laid concrete in the RC pit area and at the CL hardstand. The AB field continues to develop and be appreciated by all who utilise our facilities.

Our Scale Trans Tasman Scale Rally, CL F4B State Champs and Mills Trophy Scramble weekend was a huge success. With thanks to the MAAA and CLAS NSW for providing funds towards trophies and prizes. Our biggest thanks goes towards our New Zealand friends for making the long journey across the Tasman, plus all of our other competitors and supporters that make this our premier Scale event of the year. Next year's event will surely not to be missed.

Our State Champs events this year have gone off pretty good this year, even if the weather gods have delayed a couple here and there. I have found an old Presidents Cup trophy that has survived for over 60 years, that will be our new Champ of Champs perpetual trophy for the State Champs. Who will have their name on it first??

Our club events have been well supported this year. With the Point Score trophy up for grabs, points have been quite close, it still could be anybody's.

Our Fridays are still well supported with our retired members enjoying the morning air. With the occasional visit from some distant members that are in the area, plus the Air Cadets during the school holidays with their CL class.

Speaking of the Nationals in October. Joining us at the AB field during this will be John Armarego hosting the West Wyalong Glider Jamboree, featuring large scale aero towing, and anything else RC glider related. Also there will be a SAMS event too. Looks like there's something for everyone, flyers in this issue.

As with any aging population, we have lost some valued members. Notably this year, George Bishop, Basil Healey and Col Collyer. I'm sure many of you have some great memories of these guys and some great flying with them.

This year has been a great year for the NSWFFS in general. A lot can be said about a great committee and supportive members that build the society that we have today. Thank you.

Michael Towell
President NSWFFS

GENERAL NEWS & INFORMATION

Next Meeting 18th Sept 2026

The next general meeting will be held at the Dundas Sports Club as scheduled starting at 7.30pm followed by the AGM. As normal some of us will have a meal there before the meeting, please feel free to join us.

AFFS Championships 2027

The 49th AFFS Championships will be held on 18th Aril to 25th April 2027. This date is decided at the AFFS AGM and has already been posted on social media. Some folks have mentioned they didn't know the date and/or didn't have any input to the date, and all we can say to this is, make the effort to attend the AGM held during the AFFS championships and you can have your say and you will know the date. If you don't attend the meeting then it is up to you to ask. - Warren Leadbeatter - AFFS President.

MAAA News

- Terry Bond was awarded the MAAA Hall of Fame at the NSW & Vic State Champs
- Mike Pettigrew was awarded the MAAA Merit Award at the NSW & Vic State Champs
- Richard Blackam won the 2026 Mongolia World Cup for F1B

MAAA Membership renewals

Membership renewals went well, most people renewed their membership and a couple didn't and we got a few new members and "re-tread" members, so by and large we are slightly higher in Free Flight Memberships than last year. RC and CL on the other hand seem to be dropping away slightly across the country.

Vale Basil Healy VH-9

A few of my memories from Roy Summersby

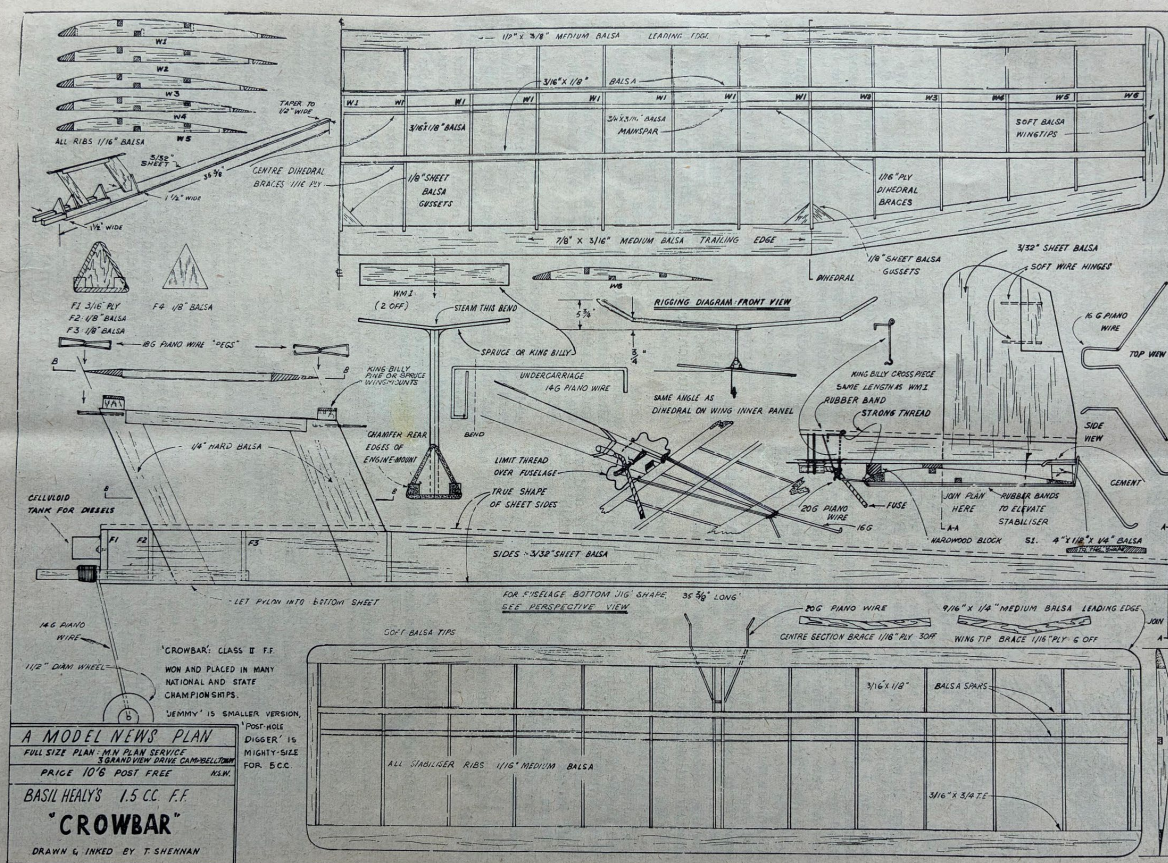
Thursday 30th July I attended Basil Healey's funeral. I first met Basil some seventy years ago at the Doonside club. I would have been 13 at the time and he would have been 24, a big age gap when one is so young. Basil, along with Arthur Cooper and Les Fahey, were to me, super modelers. They only flew free flight, and were by far the best in Doonside club, naturally they didn't have much to do with me as a 13-year-old boy. Basil's fame at the time was his own design power model called a Crow Bar, this was a 49" span pylon model and powered by an Elfin 1.49. He scaled this up to 72" for a Dooling 29 this was called a Post Hole Digger and down to 36" for a Merlin .76 the Jemie. These models won many contests in the early sixties. (see model news April 1962 for the plan).

Fast forward fifteen years and I am living on the central coast; Basil had a holiday home just five minutes away. It wasn't long before he was coming around on Saturday nights for a feed and see what I was building. Basil was a fix it man and just loved to be able to fix something, I must admit I would save jobs for him.

We all thought Basil was married to his models and would be a single man forever, then one day I received an invitation to his wedding. Not sure where he had been hiding Pat, but the wedding was a lot of fun at his home in Sydney. Some years later he gave me a building job, I had to build two units in Booker Bay, one for his parents and one for Basil and Pat. By now he had gone to the dark side, flying radio, but whenever he or I wanted to know something, or were short of modeling goods, we would be on call for each other.

Knowing Basil for seventy years has been a pleasure and an experience. I am pretty sure he would be the very last of the single digit MAAA numbers, as he was No 9

Fly High Basil.



Engines and Models For Sale by NSWFFS

As at 23rd August 2026.

Legend NIB New in Box, NNIB near new in box. VGC very good condition. GC good condition. W/M with muffler. C/L control line. All prices are negotiable.

Email Roy at roydi132@optusnet.com.au or message 0413588720 for more details.

Bank details NSWFFS BSB 062 293 A/C 00901281 Add \$15.50 for express post in Aust, International at cost. Can except Pay Pal through Roy Summersby.

Models

Name Span Engine	Price
SE5a 1250 mm OS 52 Surpass	\$ 350
P51D ARF Kit NIB 1340mm 40 to 60	\$ 300
Zero ARF Kit NIB 1360mm 40 to 60	\$ 300



Diesels

5. Mills 1.3 NIB CS ?
8. Mills 1.3 G no tank \$100
10. Sold
11. SAM 100 NIB Last one \$240
17. Sold
18. Deezel Repo 2.0 (CS) ? \$80
19. Silver Swallow NIB \$60
20. ME Heron 1.00cc \$80
21. DC Merlin .76 \$70

2 Stroke Engines Glow

- 30.. Super Tiger 45 GC N/M Boxed \$60
31. Super Tiger 2300 L/New in Box \$200
34. Testers 40 N/N Boxed \$50
36. OS S30 RC NIB W/M \$120
37. Taipan 40 \$70
39. Super Tigre G21 40 \$80
40. Enya 49X GC \$50
41. Enya 29 RC VG W/M \$70
42. Enya SS30 RC VG W/M \$70
46. OS 46 LA Blue W/M GC Boxed \$ 80
49. OS MAX 45 VGC No Muffler\$70
51. OS 40 H Ex G. Potter with tank \$70
55. ASP 40 GC W/M \$ 50
56. ASP 108 GC W/M \$100
57. Thunder Tiger Pro 46 GC W/M Boxed \$100
58. Thunder Tiger Pro 46 GC Parts Only \$40

60. Mc Coy Testers 35 \$50
63. Cox NIB 049 Medallion W/M \$ 100
64. Cox Baby Bee \$25

4 Stroke Engines

1. OS 120 Surpass Pumped VGC \$300
2. OS 70 Surpass VG W/M \$250
3. OS 120 Surpass VGC \$200
4. OS FS 40 GC W/M \$ 150
5. OS FS 40 GC W/M \$ 150
6. Sold
7. Sold
8. OS 60 Four Stroke open rocker \$150
9. Sold
10. Enya 60 -4c VGC \$200
11. Enya 53-4C GC \$150
12. Enya 90-4C GC W/M \$200
13. Enya 60 -4c VGC \$200
14. Enya 53-4C GC W/M \$150
15. Saito 62a VGC early type W/M & Box \$ 150
16. Saito 65 VGC No Muffler \$100
17. Saito FA65 GC No Muffler Boxed \$150
18. Sold
19. Saito 120 GC \$350
20. Saito 120 VGC W/M \$400
21. Saito 50VGC W/M \$150
22. ASP 52 VG W/M Boxed \$120
23. ASP 91 VGC W/M No Needle \$150
24. Magnum 120 VGC W/M \$300
25. OS 60 Open Rocker VG (Texaco) \$ 250
26. OS FS 61 GC (Texaco) \$150
27. OS O/R 60 VGC \$200
28. OS FS 61 W/M GC \$150
29. OS FS 48 W/M GC Boxed \$120
30. Saito FA30 O/R VGC Boxed \$350



Roy has been working on a CL Scale model
(See more later)

NSW & VIC STATE Championships Weekend 25th to 27th July 2026

2x F1A F1B F1C (Team Trials) + Open Rubber Open Power and Mini Maxout

Held at Adrian Bryant Field, West Wyalong

We arrived at Adrian Bryant Field on Friday to find a couple of keen flyers already out on the field practicing. The wind was gusty, so I made the sensible decision to set up my room in the farmhouse and check that everything was ready for Saturday's NSW State Championships for F1A, F1B and F1C.

A few more competitors arrived during the afternoon, and we settled into the traditional pre-contest routine on the front verandah: talking about models, weather and all the things we should have fixed before leaving home. Meanwhile, Andrew was busy chopping firewood for his quarters, now affectionately known as the "Love Shack."



We enjoyed an early barbecue dinner before retiring unusually early, ready for an 8.00 am start on Saturday. Apparently, free-flight flyers can go to bed early when there are trophies (and wine) at stake.

Saturday — NSW State Championships

Saturday morning brought the dreaded south-easterly drift, meaning the models would be heading directly towards the solar farm. An upwind launch position was selected, giving us approximately 1.7 kilometres to the boundary fence. With a 180-second max set by the Contest Director, the models were travelling about a kilometre downwind—some a little farther and others considerably less, depending on whether the air gods were smiling.

Flying began on schedule at 8.00 am, and the rounds progressed smoothly. After Round 2, at about 10.00 am, we stopped for coffee and cakes. This was enthusiastically supported by everyone and may have been the best-attended round of the entire weekend.

NSW F1A - Ian Haigh began strongly with three consecutive maxes before finding the wrong piece of air in Round 4 and recording just 39 seconds. That costly result dropped him to second place.

Albert Fathers narrowly missed maxes in the opening two rounds but then found his rhythm, maxing Rounds 3, 4 and 5 to take a well-deserved victory.

Dave Shackleford recorded three scattered maxes but suffered lower scores in his other two flights, leaving him in third place.



Results:

1st — Albert Fathers

2nd — Ian Haigh

3rd — Dave Shackleford

NSW F1B - Vin Morgan produced the performance everyone dreams about, recording five maxes from five rounds to take first place.

Behind him, the other competitors produced a mixture of maxes, near misses and the occasional flight best described as “character building.” Richard Blackam dropped Round 4 with 165 seconds but still secured second place, while Bruce Hao’s 154 seconds in Round 5 left him third.

Gary Goodwin recorded three maxes, Terry Bond managed two, and newcomer Phill Warren achieved one while continuing to sort out his model. Anyone who has entered F1B knows that “sorting out the model” can be a lifelong project.

Results:

1st — Vin Morgan
2nd — Richard Blackam
3rd — Bruce Hao



NSW F1C - The F1C competitors were travelling extremely well, with everyone recording a full house except Andrew Linwood, who encountered a kitchen sink in Round 3 and dropped with 165 seconds.

A fly-off was therefore required between Roy Summersby, Warren Leadbeatter and Gary Pope, scheduled for 7.30 am on Sunday.

Warren and Roy both launched cleanly, although Warren’s model had its nose too high when the wings opened. It stalled around and lost considerable height before settling into a normal majestic glide. Gary did not get airborne within the 7 minute launch window but after about 12 mins he did and his flight appeared to be longer than Roys, but as it was outside the launch window it didn’t count.

Roy took the win, Warren finished second and Gary Pope was third.

Results:

1st — Roy Summersby
2nd — Warren Leadbeatter
3rd — Gary Pope

At the end of Saturday’s flying, several of us headed into town for dinner at the Royal Hotel. Our host, Vin Morgan, surprised everyone by paying for the meal as a “pay it forward” gesture after many of us had helped extract his car from the mud near the dam while he was retrieving his model.

It was a warm and very enjoyable fireside dinner—and, for some unexplained reason, it tasted even better because it was free!

Sunday — Victorian State Championships

Following the NSW F1C fly-off, Sunday morning delivered lighter winds. Flying commenced on schedule at 8.00 am for the Victorian F1A, F1B and F1C State Championships, with Contest Director Michael Towell setting a 240-second max for the opening round.

Victorian F1A - Nobody managed the opening 240-second max. Ian recorded 224 seconds, Dave 186 and Albert 159.

Dave Shackleford then made a remarkable recovery, maxing the remaining four rounds to claim his first F1A victory and the Viscount Wakefield Trophy. Ian finished second with two maxes, while Albert recorded three maxes but was held back by two lower scores.



Results:

- 1st — Dave Shackleford
- 2nd — Ian Haigh
- 3rd — Albert Fathers

Victorian F1B - Vin Morgan, Richard Blackam and Phill Warren all completed the five rounds with perfect scores and progressed to a fly-off. Gary Goodwin dropped one round, Terry Bond dropped two, and Bruce Hao dropped three.

The fly-off was originally scheduled for 4.00 pm on Sunday but was postponed until Monday morning because the drift was still heading towards the solar farm. The solar farm may generate plenty of electricity, but nobody wanted to donate an F1B model to it.

Victorian F1C - The first two rounds went smoothly, with everyone maxing the 240- and 180-second targets. Andrew Linwood then suffered premature dethermaliser problems in Rounds 3 and 4.

Warren had been travelling extremely well until a catastrophic launch failure destroyed his primary model. He then brought out his reserve model, only for it to crash in different—but worryingly similar—circumstances. At that point, the safest place for Warren's remaining models was probably back in the box.

Roy Summersby and Gary Pope progressed to the fly-off, with Warren finishing third.

Sunday evening was Pie Night, accompanied by the NSW State Championships presentations. Terry Bond was presented with his MAAA Hall of Fame trophy amid much fanfare, and Mike Pettigrew received an MAAA Merit Award recognising his outstanding service to aeromodelling and the AFFS.

There was music, a warm fire and excellent company. Natalie Beckett also celebrated her birthday, giving us yet another good reason to enjoy the evening.

Monday Morning Fly-offs

F1C was first away on Monday morning. Gary Pope's model was absolutely on song and comfortably defeated Roy Summersby in the three-minute DT fly-off, recording 200 seconds against Roy's 186.

Gary's model had climbed noticeably higher, and the altimeter later confirmed a maximum launch height of more than 147 metres. It was an impressive performance and left the rest of us wondering whether his model had found an express elevator.

Victorian F1C results:

- 1st — Gary Pope
- 2nd — Roy Summersby
- 3rd — Warren Leadbeatter

The F1B fly-off followed, with all three competitors launching cleanly in their three-minute DT contest. Richard Blackam took the win with 182 seconds, just ahead of Vin Morgan on 177 and Phill Warren on 175. With only seven seconds separating first from third, it was certainly close enough to keep the timekeepers awake.

Victorian F1B results:

- 1st — Richard Blackam



2nd — Vin Morgan

3rd — Phill Warren

Open Events and Mini-Maxout

Following the F1A, F1B and F1C presentations, we continued with the three-flight Open Power, Open Rubber and Combined Mini-Maxout events.

Most competitors began with the Mini-Maxout. With a two-minute max, the theory was that we could get the small models out of the way quickly before playing with the bigger toys. As usual, free flight had other ideas.

There were 12 entries in total. Warren, Michael, Natalie and Roy all recorded three maxes and progressed to the fly-off. Every other competitor achieved at least one max. Sally Linwood recorded two maxes with her Super Pearl

"Sunflower" e36 before a spectacular crash in Round 3 brought her campaign to a sudden and rather emphatic conclusion.



Open Power

There were five entries in Open Power, all flying Dixielanders. Sally Linwood was the only competitor to max out, completing her flights only minutes before the 3.00 pm cut-off due to her second flight travelling 2km away.

Roy finished second and Andrew third, despite neither recording a max. Warren and Michael were the “also-rans,” although both appeared to have far too much fun to be particularly worried about it.

Results:

1st — Sally Linwood

2nd — Roy Summersby

3rd — Andrew Linwood

Open Rubber

Open Rubber also attracted five entries. Albert Fathers was the only competitor to record three maxes, making him the clear winner. Terry Bond finished second and Gary Goodwin third, while Phill Warren and Michael Towell withdrew earlier.

Results:

1st — Albert Fathers

2nd — Terry Bond

3rd — Gary Goodwin

The Mini-Maxout Fly-off

Flying finished at 3.00 pm, followed by a lunch break before everyone returned at 4.00 pm for the Mini-Maxout fly-off.

All eyes were on the Thermal Busters as we waited for some decent air—and eventually it arrived.

Roy launched his F1J first but fluffed the launch and wisely used the RDT to avoid a crash. Natalie launched a few seconds later but was slightly early and missed the strongest lift. Michael followed and began climbing nicely.



Warren launched last, just as the lift arrived. His E36 achieved an excellent launch and went straight into the rising air. Warren's, Natalie's and Michael's E36 models were soon circling almost directly overhead.

Natalie eventually dropped out of the lift and landed at 275 seconds—still an excellent E36 flight of more than four and a half minutes.

Warren's Super Pearl 202EF was now little more than a speck in the sky. It dethermalised at six minutes, the maximum time available on his Harry Sokol E36 timer, and landed only about 80 metres away after 468 seconds, or 7.8 minutes.

Amazingly, Michael's model continued flying. At eight minutes or so he finally used the RDT, and the model landed near the farmhouse, approximately 100 metres from where we were standing. His final time was 572 seconds—more than nine and a half minutes.

It was a magnificent sight and one of those flights that reminds everyone why we put up with early mornings, long retrieves, muddy vehicles and models that occasionally try to destroy themselves.

Mini-Maxout fly-off results:

1st — Michael Towell, 572 seconds

2nd — Warren Leadbeatter, 468 seconds

3rd — Natalie Beckett, 275 seconds

By then, most competitors had departed, leaving only those staying in the farmhouse. We finished the weekend with a large bonfire and a few wines out the back. Conditions were ideal: no wind, wet grass from a heavy dew and plenty of distance from the powerlines. It burned safely through the night and provided a fitting conclusion to another memorable weekend.

All in all, it was another excellent meeting at Adrian Bryant Field, West Wyalong.

Special thanks must go to Natalie Beckett—who somehow found time to celebrate her birthday as well—and Michael Towell, our fearless President and Contest Director. Both did a tremendous job organising the weekend, running the competitions, helping everyone else and still managing to get some flying in themselves.



NSW F1A 2nd Ian Haigh, 1st Albert Fathers, 3rd Dave Shackleford



NSW F1B 3rd Bruce Hao, 1st Vin Morgan, 2nd Richard Blackam



NSW F1C 3rd Gary Pope, 1st Roy Summersby, 2nd Warren Leadbeatter



VIC F1A 2nd Ian Haigh, 1st Dave Shackleford, 3rd Albert Fathers



VIC F1B 2nd Vin Morgan, 1st Richard Blackam, 3rd Phil Warren



VIC F1C 2nd Roy Summersby, 1st Gary Pope, 3rd Warren Leadbeatter



Open Power 3rd A. Linwood, 1st S. Linwood, 2nd R. Summersby



Open Rubber 2nd T. Bond, 1st A. Fathers, 3rd G. Goodwin



Combined % 2nd W. Leadbeatter, 1st M. Towell, 3rd N. Beckett



Terry Bond receiving his MAAA Hall of Fame Award



Mike Pettigrew receiving his MAAA Merit Award



Mikes Merit Award was lost in the post and eventually arrived. (pictured left)

Here are some of Mike's achievements:

- Began flying model seriously with early days R/C in 1963. Flew all types.
- Also took up free flight in 1965 flying power and towline glider
- Team member in a number of R/C aerobatic Trans Tasman teams against New Zealand. Team manager on one occasion.
- Team member in a number of free flight Tans Tasman teams.
- Nationals Overall Champion of Champions 1974/75
- Flew R/C Old Timer category during the 1980's
- F1C competitor from 1965 to 2024 into the Carbon folder era.
- Competed in F1C at 1977 World Free Flight Championships.
- State Secretary of the NSW Model Aircraft Association 1967 - 1970.
- President SAM 1788 for two years.
- President SAM 600 for three years years
- Team manager 2017 Australian free flight team in Hungary for World Champs.
- Admin manager 2019 Australian free flight team to USA for World Champs.
- President Australian Free Flight Society from 2020 to 2025.

NSW State Championship 2026

F1A						Total	FO
1	Albert Fathers	154	177	180	180	180	871
2	Ian Haigh	180	180	180	39	157	736
3	David Shackelford	99	180	180	82	180	721

F1B							
1	Vin Morgan	180	180	180	180	180	900
2	Richard Blackam	180	180	180	165	180	885
3	Bruce Hao	180	180	180	180	154	874
4	Gary Goodwin	180	85	180	180	148	773
5	Terry Bond	180	83	180	144	168	755
6	Phil Warren	132	0	180	178	127	617

F1C								
1	Roy Summersby	180	180	180	180	180	900	195
2	Warren Leadbeatter	180	180	180	180	180	900	149
3	Gary Pope	180	180	180	180	180	900	0
4	Andrew Linwood	180	180	163	180	180	883	

Victorian State Championship 2026

F1A						Total	FO
1	David Shackelford	186	180	180	180	180	906
2	Ian Haigh	223	171	180	180	141	895
3	Albert Fathers	159	150	180	180	180	849

F1B								
1	Richard Blackam	240	180	180	180	180	960	182
2	Vin Morgan	240	180	180	180	180	960	177
3	Phil Warren	240	180	180	180	180	960	175
4	Gary Goodwin	240	180	180	180	175	955	
5	Bruce Hao	218	164	165	180	180	907	
6	Terry Bond	240	180	180	120	11	731	

F1C								
1	Gary Pope	240	180	180	180	180	960	200
2	Roy Summersby	240	180	180	180	180	960	186
3	Warren Leadbeatter	240	180	180	180	15	795	
4	Andrew Linwood	240	180	40	42	180	682	

Open Power				Total	FO
1	Sally Linwood	180	180	180	540
2	Roy Summersby	166	102	140	408
3	Andrew Linwood	122	144	141	407
4	Michael Towell	94	120	116	330
5	Warren Leadbeatter	102	118	55	275

Open Rubber				Total	FO
1	Albert Fathers	180	180	180	540
2	Terry Bond	162	180	180	522

3	Gary Goodwin	100	90	154	344
4	Michael Towell	180	110	0	290
5	Phill Warren	107	0	0	107

Mini Maxout

					Total	FO
1	Michael Towell	120	120	120	360	572
2	Warren Leadbeatter	120	120	120	360	468
3	Natalie Beckett	120	120	120	360	275
4	Roy Summersby	120	120	120	360	0
5	Gary Goodwin	120	114	120	354	
6	Terry Bond	110	120	117	347	
7	Ian Haigh	117	98	107	322	
8	Sally Linwood	120	120	0	240	
9	Andrew Linwood	120	120	0	240	
10	Vin Morgan	120	97	0	217	
11	Leigh Morgan	120	0	0	120	
12	Phill Warren	83	0	0	83	

Team Trials

	Class	Kiwi Cup N. American Max Men	Widgiewa Cup	AFFS Champs	Southern Cross Cup	NSW St Ch	Vic St Ch	Mongolia Cup	Australian Nationals	Sierra Cup	Sum of best three	Sum of best four
		February 2026	26/4/26	27/4/26	29/4/26	25/07/2026	26/07/2026	14/08/2026	23-29/10/26	8-14/10/2024		Only used if there is a tie
Albert Fathers	F1A	921				871	849				2641	
Ian Haigh	F1A		685	563	960	736	895				2591	
Phil Mitchell	F1A		840	780	960						2580	
David Shackleford	F1A		692		401	721	906				2319	
Malcolm Campbell	F1A		823	683	683						2189	
Richard Blackam	F1B		900	960	960	885	960	960			2880	3840
Vin Morgan	F1B	960	900	960	926	900	960				2880	3806
Bruce Hao	F1B	960	379	960	960	874	907				2880	3787
Gary Goodwin	F1B		849	843	960	773	955				2764	3607
Albert Fathers	F1B	960	771	941	697						2672	3369
Terry Bond	F1B					755	731				1486	1486
Phil Warren	F1B					617	175				792	792
Roy Summersby	F1C	960	689	951	960	900	960				2880	3831
Gary Pope	F1C		900	632	960	900	960				2820	3720
Andrew Linwood	F1C		900	960	960	883	682				2820	3703
Warren Leadbeater	F1C		883	839	960	900	795				2743	3582

Trials take the sum of three events. In case of a tie four events are counted.

Under the trials rules one overseas event can be counted.

1st round time to 240 counted.

Roy's ME 262a

Having been inspired by the control line scale at the scale comps over the last couple of years, I thought I would have a go at something different. What I have come up with is a ME 262 Jet. As you would all know this was the first jet to see action in WW11. I have always liked the shape of these and after seeing Bruce Hoffman flying an RC one at West Wyalong (this was a much larger one) got me thinking. A twenty-year-old kit turned up in NSWFFS goods some years ago and I remembered who had bought it. I made contact and as he was never going to do anything with it passed on to me, thanks Condo. The kit was RC but some conversion soon made it control line. New fans were bought from China to suit and should have more than enough power. Water based paint, no messy fuels and getting the motors started shouldn't be too much trouble. It should look good in the air and will certainly be a bit different.



Span 1040 mm

Length 810

Weight 1043 grams

Power 2 X QF 2611 PRO 4000KV

Thrust 1000 grams each

Roy Summersby

West Wyalong Glider Jamboree

Friday October 23rd to Thursday the 29th

Join us for a week of relaxed flying and great company at the Adrian Bryant Free Flight Field, held alongside the 75th Free Flight National Championships



All types of RC gliders welcome (electric,dlg,scale, sport, F5J etc), aerotowing available, camping facilities are excellent

Contact John Armarego on 0416015712 for details and registration

West Wyalong

Friday 23 to Sunday 25 October

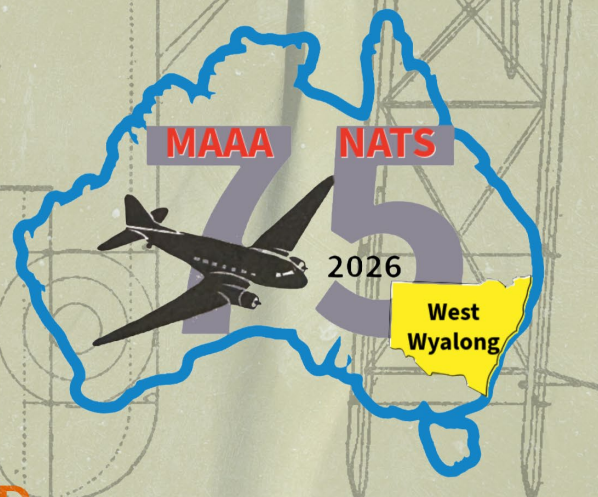
Friday 8:30 am: 1/2A Texaco, 1788 Electric
OT Glider 30min Cabin Scramble

Saturday 8:30 am: Burford, Nostalgia,
38 Antique

Sunday 8:30 am: Texaco, Duration



75th MAAA FREE FLIGHT NATIONALS



ADRIAN BRYANT FIELD
1390 CLEAR RIDGE ROAD
WEST WYALONG NSW

23rd to 29th
October 2026



HOSTED BY
NSWFFS Inc.



75th NATIONALS 2026 PROGRAM

WEST WYALONG

23rd – 29th Oct 2026



	Free Flight AB field	Social	CD
Friday 23 rd Oct	Registration and practise		
Saturday 24 th Oct	8am – 1pm Open Power and Rubber (3 flights, 180 sec max) Dixielander Event (3 flights, 180 sec max) 8am – 11am CLG/HLG (6 flights with top 3 counting, 60 sec max)	5:30pm Swap Meet 7pm Country Lamb Roast Dinner and Wine	
Sunday 25 th Oct	7am – 9am F4A 8am – 1pm Oz Diesel (5 flights, 120 sec max) E36 (5 flights 10 sec motor run, 120 sec max) (Then drop to 5 secs motor run and 120 sec max until drop)		
Monday 26 th Oct	8am-1pm F1A, F1B and F1C (5 rounds, 180 sec max) (1 st round 240 sec max)	2pm – 6pm Indoor Hanger Rat, Peanut, and HLG/CLG.	
Tuesday 27 th Oct	8am-1pm Combined Mini (5 rounds, 120 sec max) (1 st round 180 sec max)		
Wednesday 28 th Oct	7am – 8am Day scramble 8am – 1pm Combined Vintage (3 flights, 180 sec max) P30 (3 flights, 120 sec max)	5:30pm Swap Meet 6:30pm Country BBQ (sausage sizzle) and Can	
Thursday 29 th Oct	Layover Day		

All presentations will be conducted at the house from 5pm



75th MAAA Free Flight National Championships

West Wyalong - 23rd - 29th October 2026

Pilot Entry

Surname	First Name	MAAA / FAI Number
Street Address	Town/City	Post Code
Home Phone	Mobile Phone	Email Address

FREE FLIGHT - Outdoor	
☐	F1A Glider
☐	F1B Rubber
☐	F1C Power
☐	Combined Mini (F1J, F1G, F1H)
☐	Open Power
☐	Open Rubber
☐	E36
☐	Day Scramble
☐	Outdoor HLG/TLG
☐	Outdoor CLG
☐	P30 Rubber
☐	Combined Vintage (Power, Rubber, Glider)
☐	OZ Diesel
☐	F4A Scale
☐	Dixielander

FREE FLIGHT - Indoor	
☐	Peanut Scale
☐	Indoor HLG
☐	Indoor CLG
☐	Hangar Rat
☐	Hangar Rat Scramble

Place an 'X' in the events you wish to enter

Fee Calculator				
Events	Qty	Each	Total	Max Fee
Admin - ALL Entrants	1	\$50	\$50	\$50
Late Fee		\$50		\$50
Senior Events		\$15		\$50
Junior Events		\$2		\$10
Fun Fly only		\$0	\$0	\$0
Sub Total		A		

Goodies & Dinners	Qty	\$ Each	Total	
Metal Badges		\$5		No Limit
Decals		\$3		
Sausage Sizzle & Can		\$5		
Celebration Dinner		\$25		
Sub Total		B		

GRAND TOTAL (A + B)		C		
------------------------------	--	----------	--	--

STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT:- I agree to abide by all rules laid down by the Association. I agree to compete in a Sportsman like manner & will also make myself available to assist with the running of the Event if I am asked.

CAMPING AVAILABLE AT THE FIELD:

Including: Camp Kitchen with 240V Fridges, TV, Microwave, Kettle, Toaster, BBQ, Electricity, Mens & Womens Hot Showers & Toilets.
Tank Water. Plenty of shade.

\$10 per person per Night (Kids free)
Contact Roy Summersby for Bookings

PAYMENT OPTION

EFT DETAILS -

A/C Name - NSWFFS Inc
BSB - 062 293
A/C # - 00901281
Ref - MAAA Number + 1st three letters of your surname

ENQUIRIES -

2026 Nats Registrar – Nat Beckett
Ph: 0402675037
Email: natbeckett82@icloud.com

2026 Nats Organiser - Michael Towell
Ph: 0433 175 295
Email: mtowell15@gmail.com

GET YOUR ENTRY IN EARLY!

Closing Date for Entries is
25th September 2026
we will accept a
Late Fee of \$50
for any late entries



75th MAAA Free Flight Nationals Bulletin #1

Welcome to the official 75th MAAA Free Flight Nationals Bulletin. This will be from 23-29 October 2026.

With some help from many volunteers over the years, the NSWFFS have developed the Adrian Bryant Field at West Wyalong into a premier flying site. Catering for FF, CL and RC flying. Along with camping facilities and amenities, there is no need to leave site except for supplies. There is also ample accommodation in town only a short 15 min. drive away.

Camping

Please take advantage of our camping facilities. Camp kitchen, hot showers, power and amenities all available for campers and visitors. Contact Roy or myself if you wish to camp, or make a note on the entry form.

Registration

Friday 23rd October is registration day. Call into the house with your MAAA card and pick up your goodies bag.

All events will be run as per current MAAA and FAI rules, a couple of events to note will be:

Dixielander

Due to the popularity of our Dixielander event the last couple of years, the rules for this are fairly relaxed. As long as it looks like a Dixielander, it's ok. Can be enlarged or reduced, but must be traditionally built with balsa and ply. Some carbon reinforcements allowed but kept to a minimum. No auto surfaces, except for engine cut and DT. Flights will be 10sec engine run and 3min max.

Combined Mini

Due to limited entries in previous years across all 3 categories, we have combined F1G, H and J. This will be flown in rounds, weather permitting. Multiple entries are allowed if flying a different class of model.

Combined Vintage

Again, due to limited entries in previous years across all 3 categories, we have combined Vintage Glider, Rubber and Power. This will be 3 flights, no rounds. Also multiple entries are allowed across the different categories.

HLG/CLG

To streamline this event and to deal with the limited entries in the traditional style of HLG (javelin launch). As TLG (Tip Launch Glider) is still launched by HAND, it is classed as a HLG.

Entries

Entries close on the 25th September, a late fee will entail after this. Events with less than 5 entries may be cancelled.

CD's

As always, it takes a TEAM of people to run a successful competition. I already have a couple of volunteers to CD

certain days and events. But, if you would like to help out and CD an event, or day that you are not flying, please let me know. Also any Scale judges would be appreciated also.

Presentations

All presentations will be done at the farmhouse between 4-5pm at the conclusion of each day over a couple of drinks (happy hour). Except for Tuesday, as that is when the indoor flying will be on. Tuesdays events and indoor events will be presented on the Wednesday afternoon.

Swap Meet

Yes, there are 2 swap meets. Sometimes just one isn't enough!! 😊

Dinner Saturday Night

Our famous Country Lamb Roast dinner will be on offer again this year. Catered by Chris and Jenna Bush. Don't forget to hand in your dinner ticket on the night as this will be used as our lucky door prize during the night.

RC Strip

Our RC strip has recently had some improvements which has made a big difference to the area. There is also an 18mX12m shed with an awning to compliment the pit area.

RC Scale Aero Tow

We also have an RC Scale Aero Tow event scheduled in for the first weekend that we are there, this is a real eye opener for those that haven't seen this type of flying before. More info to come as I receive it.

SAMS and Electric Gliders

The SAMS and Electric Glider guys will also be having an event at the same time. Prime opportunity to see these guys in action. More info to come as I receive it.

CL Hardstand

This has been built for CL speed and racing events, it also held the F2A CL Speed record at over 300km/h for some time. We also have 2 grass circles and can set them up any time they are needed.

Fun Flying

If anyone would like to use the RC or CL area for an event while we are there for the FF Nationals, please contact myself and we sort something out. We have the space.

Social Events

If you would like to attend and NOT compete, but would still like to be apart of the dinner, sausage sizzle and even camping. Please still fill out an entry form and tick appropriate boxes as we will need numbers for catering purposes, admin fees will not apply for this.

As the AB Field is 700 acres of Aeromodelling activity, this October will be the perfect opportunity to experience a multitude of flying experiences. No curfew, sun up until sunset, noise isn't an issue. Enjoy the camaraderie that Aeromodelling has to offer.

Michael Towell
President NSWFFS
Nationals Coordinator
0433175295



NSW FREE FLIGHT CONTEST CALENDER 2026 V2

Date	Event	Venue	Time	CD
January 11	½ Scramble and Combined % BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Roy Summersby
January 16	General Meeting	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
February 8	P30 State champs and Combined Vintage	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Peter Scott
February 22	Unorthodox Day and Scale Rally BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	8:00am -12:00pm	Michael Towell
March 7 - 8	Hunter Valley Championships CL & FF	Muswellbrook	See program	See program
March 15	1 hr Scramble State Champs and Combined % BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Roy Summersby
March 27	General Meeting	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
April 12	E36 State Champs and Combined Vintage	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Michael Towell
April 26 - 30	AFFS Champs + Widgiewa Cup (World Cup Events) + Southern Cross Cup for F1A, B and C	Narrandera	See program	See program
May 1 - 3	AFFS continued at WW – 1 st Combined Vintage, E36, P30 – 2 nd F1 G, H, J, % & Scramble – 3 rd Open Power, Open Rubber, HLG, TLG & CLG – See FFDU - Evening Presentation Dinner	West Wyalong	See program	See program
May 16 - 17	Muswellbrook Veterans Gathering	Muswellbrook	See program	See program
May 22	General Meeting	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
May 30 – June 1	F1ABC State champs + Open Rubber/Power State Champs + Victorian State Champs for F1ABC	West Wyalong	See program	See program
June 14	Combined F1G, H and J State champs and Combined %	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Gary Pope
July 3 - 5	Trans Tasman Scale Rally + CL Scale (Fri to Sun) + 1 hr Scramble and Fun Fly BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	7:00am -12:00pm	Phil Warren Michael Towell
July 17	General Meeting	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
July 25 - 26	Mid Winter Mini Maxout 2min max models (5 flights per day)	West Wyalong	See program	See Program
August 9	Combined Vintage State Champs & Combined %	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Gary Goodwin
August 29-30	Cowra Oily Hand Weekend	Cowra MAC	See program	See program
*September 13	State Champs 1hr Scramble and HLG/CLG Plus Combined Vintage BBQ – BYO food	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Roy Summersby
September 18	General Meeting & AGM	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
October 11	Ebenezer Day and George Fuller Event BBQ – BYO Food	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Michael Towell
October 23 - 29	75 th Free Flight Nationals	West Wyalong	See program	See program
November 8	Precision Power (sport models)	Richmond	7:00am – 12:00pm	Nat Beckett
November 20	General Meeting	Dundas Sports	7:30pm	
November 21	Presentation Dinner	See invite	5pm	
November 27	Friday Xmas Party	Richmond	7:00am-12:00pm	Michael - Lyn
December 6	½ hr Scramble + Christmas Party BBQ – BYO Food	Richmond	7:00am-12:00pm	Michael Towell

*** NOTE: ALL SCRAMBLES START AT 8:00AM ***

* Note: Change of date in V2 Calendar