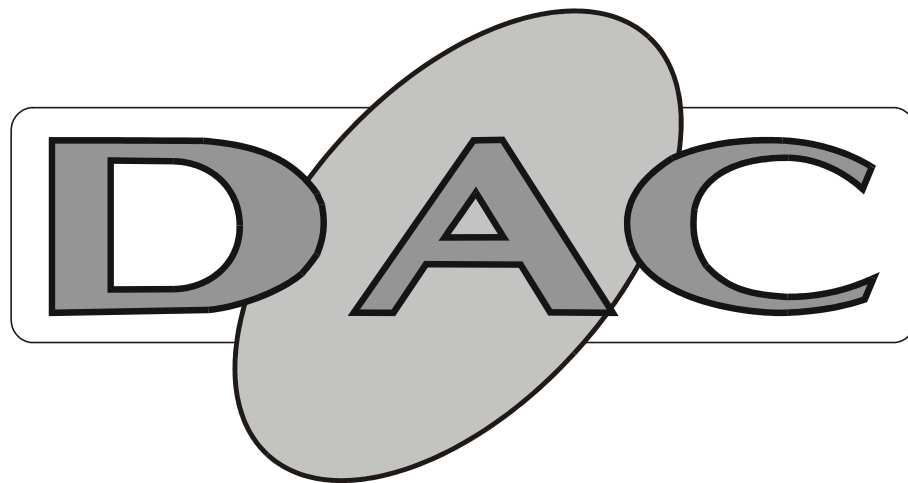
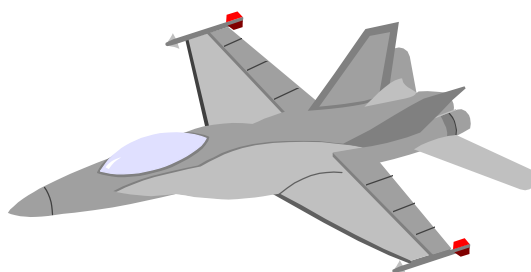


# DONCASTER



# AERO CLUB

Newsletter  
September 2000



## Presidents Report

Welcome everyone. What a mix of weather we've had recently, unfortunately on many Sundays flying hasn't been easy with howling crosswinds, rain, & just about anything else you can think of. Even so, it's nice to see many of our members having a go whenever possible.

Those of you who attended the AGM have already heard this, but I'd like to reiterate my thanks to all the previous committee members for their past contributions, in particular guys like Ian Roy, Rob Clarke, & Rob Andrew who collectively put in around 25-30 years worth of effort. Thanks again guys.

At this stage I'm also the Newsletter Editor, so can I ask you all to consider what items & articles you might be able to contribute for future publications. Contained in this edition is a collection of my thoughts, views, & current issues which rate a mention. If I've missed anything, please let me know (politely!!). On a sadder note, for those unaware, one of our long time members, & a good friend, John Harper, has very unfortunately been struck by ill health (stroke) & is recovering in hospital. John has put a lot of time into the club, & is one of our very respected Senior members. In fact if it wasn't for John I may not have been writing this report, because he nominated & encouraged me to take the President's position originally, & when someone puts their faith in you like that, it makes you feel kind of special. I hope our best wishes can do the same for him. To John & family, I look forward to seeing you soon, & trust you'll make a full & speedy recovery; take care mate.

There are also some specific areas I'd like you all to be aware of, such as our flying disciplines, some of the outstanding flying talents we have, grounds issues, & events etc. which are included on following pages. Please take the time to at least scan over these items. **Note that our next club meeting is being held on Monday 18/9/00 at the clubhouse, coffee & chitchat from 7:45, & the meeting commences at 8:00pm sharp.**

*I'll be showing some video highlights from recent aeromodelling events after the meeting, which I'm sure you'll find interesting, & you'll get to see what Morgan's funfly looked like before I destroyed it in musical landings, **BUT I STILL CAME 3<sup>RD</sup>!!***

Cheers, & I'll see you at the field.

Dennis Travassaros, President DAC.

President, Dennis Travassaros (9844 1453)
Vice President & Safety Officer, David Porter (9844 3660)
Secretary, Richard Page (9882 3008)
Treasurer, Graham Kay (9842 8777)
Events / CD, Morgan Hill (0411 834 999)
Electric flight, Colin Kahn (9841 7106)
General & 'Keeper of the Greens', Ray Halstead (9859 6355)

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## ***NEXT MEETING MONDAY 18/9/00***

**Venue: Clubhouse**

**Time: 7:45 for 8:00pm start (sharp)**

**Who'll be there? (Look in the mirror for the answer!!)**

**After the meeting we'll play a couple of short entertaining videos from recent flying events.**

**At recent meetings we've been lucky to have 20 members present, considering we have a membership of around 100, lets all do what we can to make it.**

## **NEXT FUNFLY**

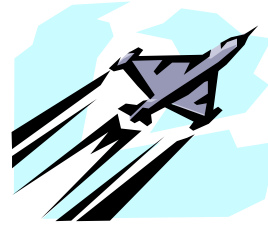
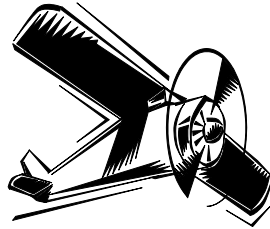
Will be held at our club on Sunday 24/9/00 - Re Morgan Hill & David Porter for details.

## **VARMS INDOOR FUNFLY**

Saturday 23/9/00 1:00-5:00pm. Numerous events including RC Electric, Scale Rubber + + +. Venue is the Maroondah Indoor Sports Centre, located at 362-378 Canterbury Rd Ringwood (opposite the Cadbury Schweppes Factory), admission \$4.00. Contact Jim Robertson on 9720 3133, or check out the flyers on our notice boards for further details.

**VICTORIAN FLYING SCALE AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION INC. (VFSAA)**

# Member Achievements!!!



## **Bronze Wings Steve Teleki**

Congratulations to Steve Teleki, & his instructor Boz Student, for reaching this level of flight proficiency. I look forward to making the presentation at our next meeting (18/9/00).

## **Yarrowonga Aerobatics, August 2000**

Fernando Monge, 1<sup>st</sup> place in Sportsman Aerobatics on 5000 points!!

Well done Fernando! You've obviously got the Maestro sorted out & performing well. I'm building one myself & can't wait to get it in the air, & would like the details of Dave Porter's aileron mods.!! Did they really help?!!

In the Expert class we had Boz Student in 3rd place on 4635 points, Rob Clarke 6th on 4374 points, & Graham Kay 9th on 4122 points. Well done guys!!

## **Our Juniors**

I need to tell you, for me there's not much more inspiring, than watching the flight line & talent when the Juniors are at out there doing their stuff. Kids from as young as 9 or 10 years old, not only learning & passing Bronze Wings, but going well beyond, & competing in aerobatics & various other events. Some of the regulars include David (Crisafi), Edmon, Matthew, Daniel, & James (Hall & Hays); keep it up guys, you're doing a great job & learning important values & skills at the same time. If I've missed anyone it's not intentional & I apologise in advance, however the guys above really make an effort on a regular basis.

Now, open your eyes wide & let your vision blur, then blink a couple of times. Do this for about 30 seconds then continue reading (it might stop that impending headache...)



*Dear Jake.....?*

My Petrol Head friends keep telling me that my electric powered helicopter is running too lean. How can I possibly make it run richer??

*Gyro Tyro from Templestowe*

Dear Gyro Tyro from Templestowe,

Try using stones for rotor balance weights, precious stones...

In the old days certain numbers had significance for models, for instance 36-24 meant 36" wingspan & 24" fuzz. Some model's numbers were 36-24-36, is this significant??

*Repressed from Regent*

Dear Repressed from Regent,

No, not at all. A really significant number for a model like that would be one beginning with 03...

How big should my rudder be??

*Designer from Doncaster*

Dear Designer from Doncaster,

It depends on the size of your boat!!



*....Jake*

# *Just a few more notes from the editor...*



## Safety

It's vitally important that all safety rules & requirements are followed. Can I ask you all to make sure all flyers are financial (which in turn means they are insured). Our Vice President, David Porter, has also been appointed the duty of safety officer. Don't be afraid to approach any other member if you feel safety is being compromised, & you can always seek guidance & support from Dave & the other committee members. We all know what safe flying is, e.g. correct flying circuits & direction, no taxiing in the pitts, no flying behind the pilot line, in particular over the pitts or car park, height limits, & much, much more. Please observe the requirements as it's very important no-one gets hurt, & property isn't damaged etc., for the future of our club & sport. Please contact the committee if you need copies of the rules etc.



## Noise

As you're no doubt aware we also have noise limits to maintain, & I was impressed when the noise meter came out recently for random model checks. Please understand that's it's not anyone's intention to just stop people flying. It's an effort to maintain the unique opportunity to fly at our club with the surroundings we have for now & the future. Noise is a very real issue, although it has been managed well, & that must continue. If you're model emits noise levels close to or on the limit (92 dB), consider that when the model is in flight at full throttle & less load, it may well exceed the limit. As such we should be aiming to keep noise test results down to around 90db as a maximum. I've had to dial throttles back, change props / exhausts, & in some cases even engines on my own models, & I hope that example at least goes part of the way to setting & maintaining the right standards. No one wants to stop anyone flying, we just need to follow the rules, for everyone's benefit, for the future.

# Pertinent Points to Remember

## Security

We've been the clear target of a group of people who should be totally ashamed of themselves, given their destructive behaviour & the damage they have caused to our facilities. Smashed shed lights, torn up strips (from vehicles 'wheel spinning'), damaged fencing & signage have become far too common. Ray Halstead has been keeping track along with a few other members, our local council, & police, & fortunately the vandalism seems to be declining. I've also spoken to the council & whilst plans for the future are in place, if anyone is in the area at any time & has the opportunity to drive past & 'keep an eye on things', please do so & report any unusual incidents straight to the police (DON'T take any action in the incident, let the police take care of it). To all of you already doing this, thank you for helping to protect our club & it's facilities.

## Alcohol

Members are reminded that for legal & social reasons, consumption of alcohol in any form is not permitted at any of the club facilities.

## Radio Interference

Incidents of interference appear to be on the increase, & whilst many are barely noticed, a recent one almost ended up with a model launching itself at full throttle straight into the pilot line. The sources can be numerous, & quite difficult to identify. In some cases it's even possible for radios to interfere with each other when they are on different frequencies, as power output levels can vary, & scenarios such as 'swamping' can occur etc., which appears to have been the case with the serious incident mentioned above. Fortunately the quick thinking owner / pilot literally jumped on the model to stop it, & destroyed the wing in doing so; he then killed the engine. As such whenever a model is running it must not be released by you or your assistant until the transmitter aerial is fully extended, & the model is placed on the runway (clear of other models & pilots). Interference is something we can't necessarily see, so please be mindful of everyone's safety & property, & play it safe. Radios modified in any way must not be used without the committee's approval, & all radios should be checked / tested at appropriate intervals.