

President's Report for 2014 AGM

Coming from the very raw relocation of our club last year and having to build a new strip, new buildings and the re-erection of our club house with many improvements we have shown that we are resilient, strong, innovative, persevering and worthy members of LMAC.

I say this because we have had many unforeseen obstacles placed before us along the journey but we have prevailed. Rather than being despondent we have risen to the challenges and done our best, appreciating how fortunate we are to have a club site at all when it is extremely difficult to procure suitable flying sites anywhere. We now have a site with amenities that we should all be extremely proud of.

We are extremely grateful that Stephen Creese and his Company have allowed us to be where we are. Not only have they gone out of their way to accommodate us but have helped us wherever they can. The manager, Ron Davidson, has also been extremely helpful in providing machinery to erect the fence posts, roll the strip and whenever we have asked for assistance. Ron is a "gem."

I would like to make special mention of the help we have received from Wayne Rice. Although Wayne is not a member he has assisted in the erection of the new fencing and, in the past spent many hours keeping the old mower in working order when it should have *expired* many seasons ago. Wayne has helped behind the scenes for many years so I say "Thank you!" Wayne.

A few days were lost because of fire danger and harvesting but things should get easier from now on as the surrounding field has been sown to pasture. In spite of this we have had some very good flying time. There may be a small inconvenience in spring when the strip will be top dressed and extra grass sown to alleviating the ruts that have made take-offs for small models quite adventurous.

We did have a committee issue for a while but that was resolved in the best way we could according to our constitution and there have been lessons learnt.. There is nothing to be gained from going over old issues and we have now gone forward with more positivity whilst putting the past behind us. Thanks to Geoff for rising to the occasion when required.

Some of the achievements of the past twelve months include providing a first class charging station. Terry installed the equipment which George secured at a bargain price from Exide Batteries who also offer good discounts for our members who may need a battery. The club house has been fenced off from the main paddock to ensure that the sheep don't soil this area. A starter and electronic glo plug igniter have been purchased and they are available for member use on the starting pads. These were some of the items acquired from the sale of donated models.

We successfully sought funds from the TMAA to secure good equipment to teach learners and prospective members to fly. A total of \$620 will be provided by the

association when invoices are presented. The model trainer which was donated by Rob Dale isn't suitable as it's too small so a larger model along with motor and radio gear will be purchased once we have received a competitive quote from our local hobby shop. We shall be catering for both mode 1 and mode 2 flyers.

A new taxi way is proving to be a very useful and safe method on getting our models to the strip. New starting pads and benches have also benefitted us. There may be some other improvements that I have forgotten but you must agree that we have achieved a lot since we moved and this year's efforts have greatly enhanced our facilities.

The new ceiling height has precluded us from having the much loved Tomboy Competitions but we continue to hope that this will be lifted in the not too distant future. I am personally disappointed that we have not been able to have any of the calendar events this year because of extenuating circumstances but I would like us to think seriously of having some Fun Days, Scale and Old Timer Events during these next twelve months. These activities add more purpose to the enjoyment of our hobby.

Throughout the year I have personally thanked members for their contributions to the many improvements we've enjoy and for the ongoing maintenance that our field requires. We have Terry to thank for the mowing and installation of the charging station, Geoff and Terry for a lot of physical work, e.g. fencing, toilets etc. Thanks to Mike for making more model tables and for work on the gates and thanks to Bill who has helped on many occasions. To those I haven't acknowledged for their contributions, *Thank you*.

Whilst I am thanking members I would also like to thank Kerry, Alice, Faye and Tanya for their valued help with the barbecues, fund raising and other catering. Our Christmas lunches are legendary! I should also thank my wife, Gloria for her help, patience and support. My thanks also extend to our committee for their support in making this a better club with the great facilities that we now have. We know George has quite a worrying time with his health but he still manages many great outcomes for our club. Your substantial contributions to our club are very much appreciated, George and no doubt having Kerry making a huge contribution also lends much encouragement to your involvement.

I would like to remind members that the committee does its very best for you. You can have valued input by talking or writing to us. Despite numerous requests for agenda items we have had very few responses and so assume that you are satisfied with how we are managing the club affairs.

Thank you for your attendance tonight and the committee looks forward to your valued support for the next twelve months,

Fred Willis

President

