

# ROTORUA MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB (INC)

## AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER

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AOTEAROA  
**GAMING  
TRUST**



**Rotorua Trust**  
MŌ TĀTAU KATOĀ



## **Welcome to the August 2022 newsletter**

Flying conditions were pretty terrible through the first couple of weeks of July. The 17<sup>th</sup> finally dawned fine sunny and calm in town. A few hardy souls braved the cold conditions only to sit in fog till 10.30 before we could see each end of the strip. Our Putarara pilot turned up a little later just as the sun came out with yet another new glider which flew very well. The following week on the 24<sup>th</sup> rain and wind had been predicted by the weather prophets. An early look out the window revealed no wind or rain so it was out to the strip where conditions remained the same. Russell, Tim and Andy H turned up. Russell tried out a refurbished model with success and Tim practised the Wings pattern. Apart from a few other small turn outs the last month hasn't seen a lot of activity. The mid-week group has spent more time at exploring cafes drinking coffee and sorting out the problems of the world than flying.

Welcome to new member Brent Stiver who has move here from Hastings. Brent has been flying for several years and we hope to see him at the strip soon.

The Club dinner was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> at the No8 restaurant. A large contingent turned up and a great time was enjoyed by all.

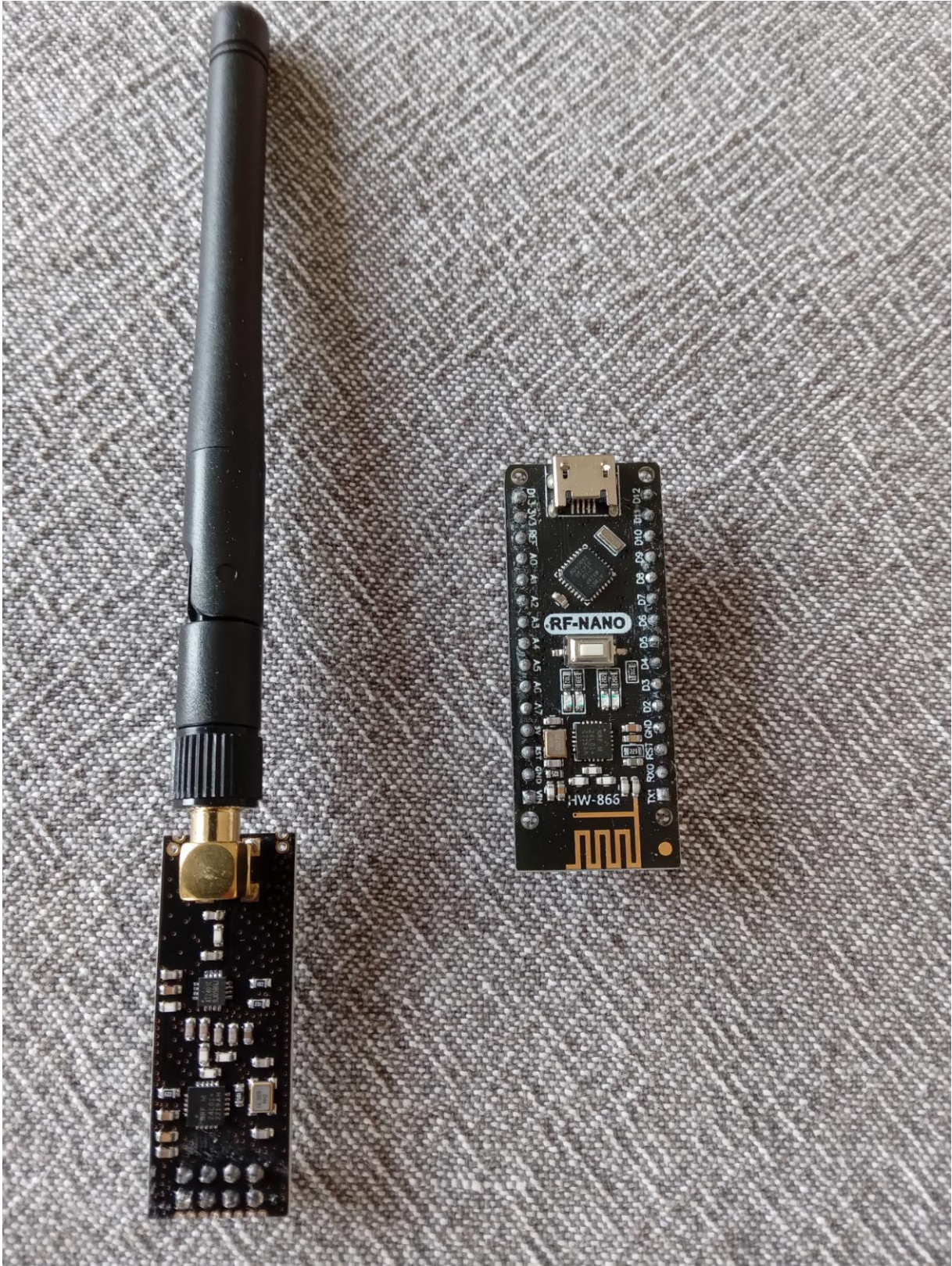
We were saddened to hear of the death of Andy Hoskins earlier this month. Andy had been a member of the club since moving to Rotorua in 1973. Born during the war in England the family moved to New Zealand in the early 1950s living near Thames where Andy and his brother set up the Thames model aero club. The family moved to the Waikato where Andy flew with the Hamilton club and started his sign writing apprenticeship.

Andy's interests included free flight control line and r/c. His models were superbly built to very high standards. We will miss his unique sense of humour

### **PROJECTS**

Tom has recently built a drone from scratch. This is an incredible achievement. All the parts were 3D printed and electronics built from scratch. Its only the size of an A4 sheet of paper and flys great.

My latest Arduino project has been a Phil Green (Mode Zero Forum) 2.4 FHSS radio using the NRF24 Rf modules. After lots of testing it finally hit the sky with five successful flights on Monday a week ago and again yesterday.



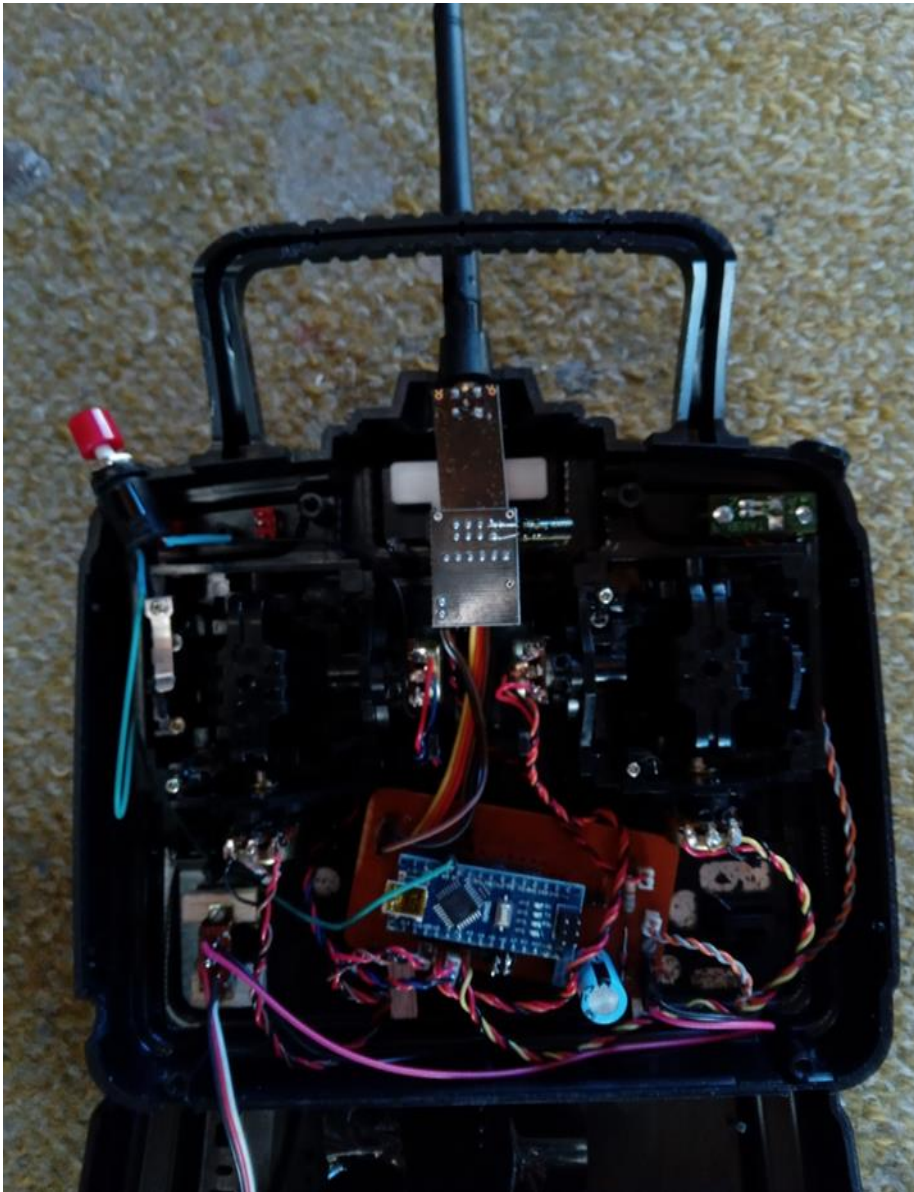
The NRF24 Transmitter module

The receiver module

These are the basic bits that form the basis of the Phil Green FHSS R/C system



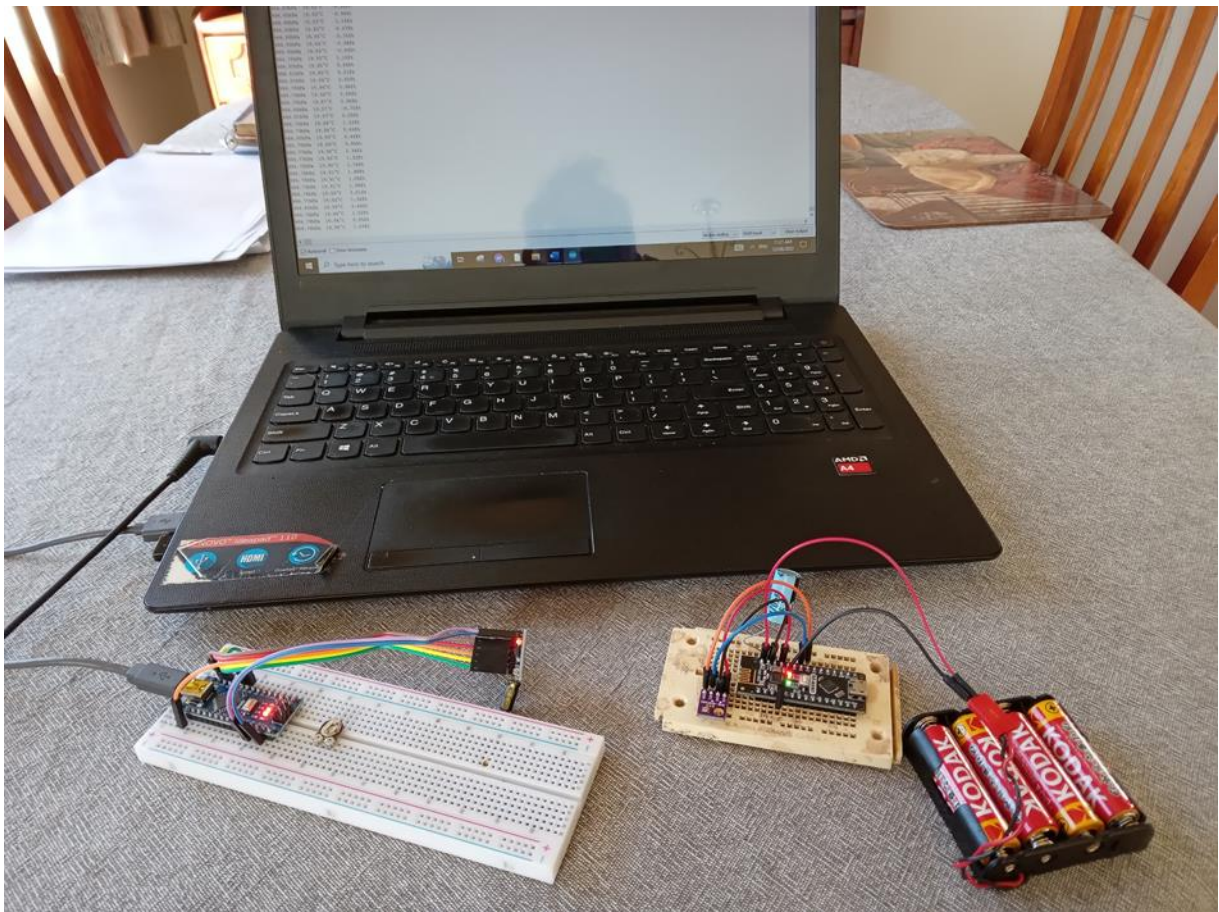
This old transmitter case was stripped of its old 40Mhz internals and replaced with the 2.4 set up



This is what's inside. The transmitter module is at the top. The blue board side at the bottom is programmed with all the smart stuff that makes it work .

The red button is for single channel operation. You don't get that with from Futaba, Core Spektrum or the others!

The next project is a remote altitude sensor with a radio link back to a display unit on the ground. So far it all works with the height been shown on a laptop. A display has been ordered and will make it into a practical unit. I hope!



The altitude Tx and Rx showing the tabletop altitude on the laptop screen. Just a tidy up and it will all be sweet!

## **A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT**

As John has mentioned, not a lot of flying done, mostly due to winter weather and some of us hibernate over winter doing man cave stuff until spring emerges. On the flip side the cold weather has kept the grass growth down and therefore mowing has been at the minimum required. At the rare opportunity when it has been dry enough underfoot maintenance mowing has been done and the strip currently looks fantastic and in great condition for perfect take-offs and landings. (I guess that is in the eye of the beholder!)

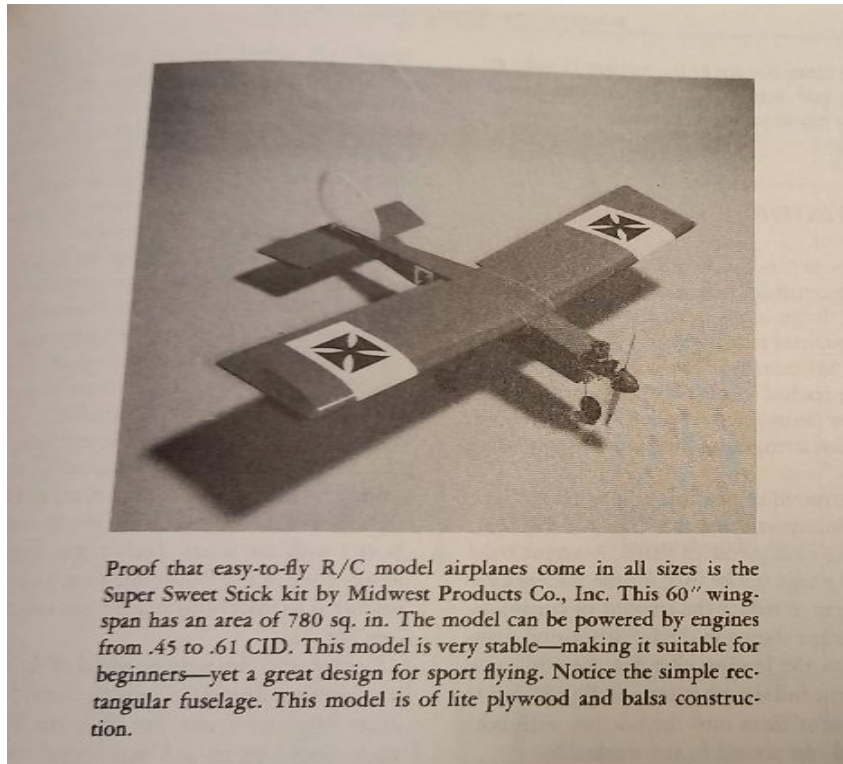
It is with great sadness that Andrew Hoskins funeral took place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August. He had been a long standing member of the club off and on over the years and was on the verge of going solo. He will be remembered for his dry wit and good humour. R.I.P. Andrew.

I can report that the mid winter dinner went off well at “No8 Wire” restaurant with 18 people attending, on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> evening. Everyone seemed to enjoy the food and the atmosphere.

The previous projects mentioned are all “work in progress” except for the “Rotorua Model Aircraft Club” website which is up and running now, thanks to the committee's effort, especially Ashley's leadership on its development.

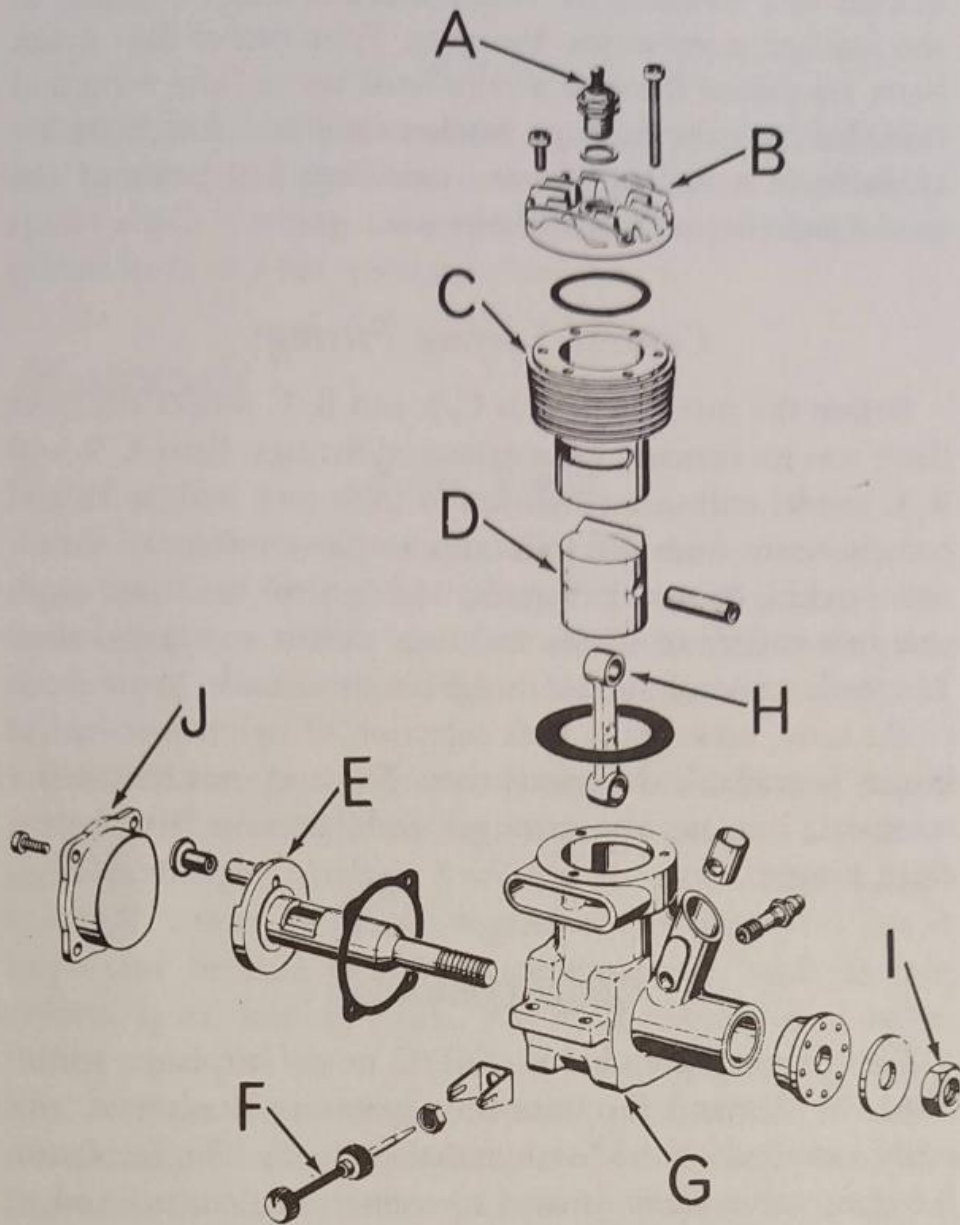
Another “project” that has arisen, through the committee and the efforts of Club Captain Ray, the club has purchased a Heart Saver AED unit. The funds generated from the Corsair kit sale (Andy's work on Trade Me) went to this purchase. This was the Corsair kit that Andrew Werpachowski donated to the club (very much appreciated) and no one within the club got serious about buying. The AED will be situated in the control tower for immediate access.

Now for some more random aeromodelling stuff,



**Obviously the “Stick” has been a popular design from way back, this extract is from a 1986 publication. I'm aware there are Big Sticks and Little Sticks, but I had never come across the “Super Sweet Stick” sounds like something the kids suck on at the sideshows.**





This assembly drawing of a glow-plug engine shows the various components that make up the typical model-airplane engine of .19 cu. in. or greater displacement. These engines are very powerful for their size and weight, and if not abused, they will give many years of use. The principal components are: (A) Glow plug; (B) Cylinder head; (C) Cylinder; (D) Piston; (E) Crankshaft; (F) Needle valve; (G) Crankcase; (H) Connecting rod; (I) Propeller nut; and (J) Crankcase back-cover plate.

Most of us are fascinated with exploded engineering drawings, this one from the same 1986 publication. This is a very basic breakdown of a glow plug engine.

Just to finish off with, from the same 1986 book....

### *Modelers Are Happier*

Many leading corporations encourage participation in construction hobbies because they know the beneficial aspects of such model building. According to Duke M. Fox, president of the Fox Manufacturing Company, young people who, 10 to 20 years ago, built and flew model airplanes now earn more money and have happier lives than most of their contemporaries. Model building is not only fun, but through it you learn to think creatively and objectively, as well as to put your ideas into practice. While engaged in model building, you also learn patience, perseverance, neatness, and pride in workmanship. Never apologize for "playing with toy airplanes," because, like the professional aeronautical engineer, you are engaged in research.

Finally, many of us detest model aircraft being labelled as "toys", they are true aircraft in a smaller scale, and many full scale pilots admit they are harder to fly than full scale as you're not actually sitting in them. Anyhow let's continue to have fun with our models, wether it be building, flying or repairing and remember as the full scale pilots say, any landing you can walk away from is a good one, 😊.

**Subs for the  
2022/23  
year**

<b>Senior</b>	<b>\$115</b>	<b>\$95</b>	<b>\$210</b>
<b>Junior</b>	<b>\$45</b>	<b>\$30</b>	<b>\$75</b>
<b>Associate</b>	<b>\$115</b>		<b>\$115</b>
<b>(Member of another club with current MFNZ membership)</b>			
<b>Social (non flying)</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$50</b>

**Payment can be made to ANZ account # 116102\_ 0913131\_ 11 Include your name in the details**

## **Coming Events**

- August NDC R/C Duration
- September NDC 1/2Texaco
- October 16 Morrinsville indoor F/F and Scale event