

# ROTORUA MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB (INC)

August 2025 NEWSLETTER

Secretary Andy Watson

Email: [top.place@xtra.co.nz](mailto:top.place@xtra.co.nz) Ph 0274 856553

[http://www.rotoruumac.org.nz/wordpress\\_z](http://www.rotoruumac.org.nz/wordpress_z)



AOTEAROA  
GAMING  
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# Welcome to the August 2025 newsletter

Another mixed bag of conditions this month. The midweek gang have had some excellent conditions although the air temperature has been on the low side and a few mornings where fog has delayed proceedings.

The big news this month is that we have been successful with our application to the Rotorua Trust for an operational grant. This will cover our rent, insurance, website and mowing costs for another year. Over the last two months the website has had over 170 visits. Mainly from New Zealand and Australia and a couple from the USA, UK and one or two other countries. If you are looking for an old newsletters remember they can be down loaded from the website.

This months NDC events are Vintage R/C Precision and Duration. Dave and John recorded time for Precision on the 7<sup>th</sup> and hope to attempt some Duration if we find a day with some lift about before the end of the month. Next months NDC event is /2 A Texaco.







Tim has sent us these pictures from his recent visit to Duxford in the UK. Who can name all the aircraft.

Meteor, Hastings, Victor, Sunderland?, Vulcan and Harrier, C47, B17, B52 and????



## FLASHBACK

Our April 2022 edition featured the following article on the restoration of a vintage R/C set

My interest in vintage models, old engines and single channel radio gear is no secret and has lead me to join a world wide internet group known as Mode Zero. Mainly retired gentlemen with too much time on there hands the members are reliving their youth. The group has members all round the world and the web site is a valuable source of information and exchange of what members get up to. Several members are radio Hams and have contributed several electronic construction projects for those that like to tinker . Below is an example of what the guys get up to.



This is a restored Triang Transmitter alongside a Hep Cat with what appears to be a Mills 75 up front. In its day this was state of the art.

These days these sets are being restored using 2.4 r/f modules. These old sets were heavy and sat on the ground with their 2 volt accumulators and 135 volt HT batteries. Thank heavens we don't have to use valves these days!



In the 1950s the transmitter would have had this space full of batteries to light up the valves. The yellow Lipo at the bottom right does the job today. The spare space makes a useful lunch box.



The original workings have been restored. The yellow box is the 2.4 module used today. Note the glass valve used in the original set.



## NEW MODELS



Last month we featured this picture of Ashley with his new Bigfoot.

Its now done plenty of flying and has proven to be a very versatile model with a wide speed range. Ashley has provided the following information on the model

Take Flight with the Arrows Bigfoot RC Plane!

Looking for a rugged, reliable RC aircraft that's as ready for the wild as you are? Meet the Arrows Bigfoot 1300mm—a bush-style STOL (Short Takeoff and Landing) plane suitable for grass fields such as ours.

This has now become my 'go-to' model and flying has become a real

pleasure with occasional aerobatics!!

Bigfoot's oversized tundra tires and powerful brushless motor make short work of rough terrain. With its durable EPO foam construction and reinforced landing gear, this plane is designed to take a beating and keep soaring.

Bigfoot's Vector Flight Stabilization System—a built-in gyro offering three flight modes (beginner, intermediate, expert) sets it along side models with AS3X stabilisation system.

That means smoother flights, easier landings, and more confidence whether you're just starting out or pushing the limits.

It is sold as a high wing trainer for beginners but ideal for any model plane enthusiast. From weekend to seasoned flyers, the Arrows Bigfoot is more than just a plane—it offers a unique experience to model flying at a very reasonable price.

## A WORD FROM DAVE

Well the cold mornings are still reminding us that the winter season is still got some time to go yet. Despite that though we have had some great turnouts at the flying field with a great range of models showing up.

Having said that though the rabbits are starting to show up with some burrowing evidence here and there. Inside the tower on the table there is a blue aerosol can for marking the holes and a squirter bottle to apply diesel around the perimeter which prevents them from returning and continuing to dig. Obviously the holes should be filled and compacted with soil at the same time otherwise model undercarriage damage is bound to happen.

The tower is soon to undergo a declutter to make room for more folding tables and better storage of the hand tools, first aid kits, heart-defrib, Club Flying Safety and Procedures Manual. etc. Umbrellas will be rehoused in either the container or BBQ shed.

There will be a road cone ( if you cant beat-em join em) positioned near the tower to be used as a “no fly” indication when a model goes down and requires a search team of one or more. When in use you cant miss it, positioned in front of the pilot box. No flying during a search ensures the safety of the searchers who are normally out of sight floundering around in the scrub somewhere, but could reappear on the runway at any moment.

While our Chief Flying Instructor John Ryan is away in Aussie I will be able to continue with any flight training required, and take any trial flights with one of the club trainers if any “newbies” show up. If any members know of a friend who may be interested bring them along “to have a go”, but it would be useful if I know when they might show up. ( Dave Little 027 7848773).

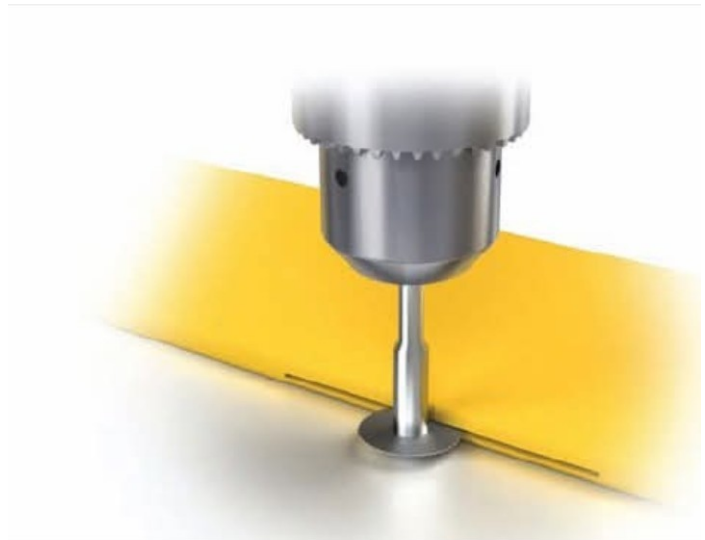
Incidentally the committee is seeking a replacement Treasurer since Neal has resigned from the position. If anyone has an idea who may be keen / suitable please let me know, and I will do the following up.

## Random stuff



I found these on one of the wooden “pre flight” tables at the field, maybe someone’s missing a set of wing securing bolts? I have them.

Using a Dremel Moto-Saw and a cut-off... See more



Just a little handy tip for cutting/setting up a slot cut, especially for Dremel users.

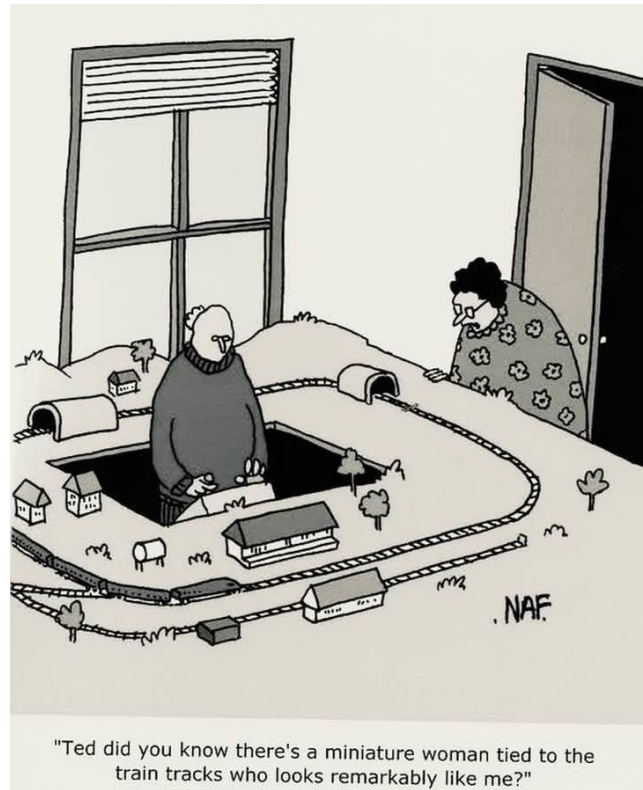


LukGraph's 1:32 scale Wright Cyclone R-1820 engine model is under construction. It's the heart of the Grumman Duck. Engine build by Mr. Zhendong Li.



You would have to possess watchmaker skills to produce this, as well as a few other skills!

And thats all from me this time, happy flying.



She shouldnt have poked her nose into the man cave.

## FOR SALE

The Club has a number of small items for sale like hinges and other small items. Also a couple of gliders and an aerobatic model.

Contact any Committee member for details.

### Beginners model for sale

#### Arising Star

- Complete with servos and ASP 46
- Test flown and ready to fly just requires a receiver and battery pack.
- Another good beginners model.
- Has had a bit of use but has plenty of life left



If you are interested in this model we can arrange a buddy box trial flight.

Contact John on 020 4118 5597

## COMING EVENTS

August	NDC Vintage Precision and Duration
September	NDC 1/2A Texaco
November	NDC Vintage Precision