

# ROTORUA MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB (INC)

December 2025 NEWSLETTER

Secretary Andy Watson

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

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



# Welcome to the December 2025 newsletter

Another busy month with plenty of flying.

The Committee extend their best wishes to all for the Christmas / New year season.

May you get that new model, engine or radio from Santa and plenty of fine weather to go flying!

## Success at IMAC

Dylan recently entered his first IMAC event and won the novice section. A great effort. It's only twelve months since he passed his Wings test. Shows what a little dedication and practice can do. Well done Dylan! Now he's off to the Nats.

## Another Solo

Alex has his new Radio Master radio and is getting to grips with the programming. Meanwhile he has gone solo.

## Model Display

Sunday 30 Nov saw a static display of models at the Linton Park Community Hall. Ashley arranged this through his association with the Multi Cultural Society. A good selection of models from trainers, aerobatic, scale, jets, vintage, drones and helicopters were on hand. A good public turn out with plenty of interest and several coming out to see what we get up to the following weekend.

## A couple of views of the hall





## Flying in local Parks

For those that want to fly in local parks the following was down loaded from the Councils web site. Any reference to drones in fact means any unmanned remotely controlled flying machine. That includes all the things we fly.

Don t forget to use the AirShare app. Its simple to download and very easy to use.

# Safety Guidelines

## OPERATING A DRONE IN ROTORUA

All drone operators must follow the **Civil Aviation Authority** safety guidelines which can be found at [www.airshare.co.nz/rules](http://www.airshare.co.nz/rules).

These guidelines include:

- ▶ Do not fly drones over other people or organised events without permission.
- ▶ Only fly during daylight hours and ensure the drone is within eyesight.
- ▶ Drones must weigh less than 25kg and operate shielded if within 4km of an aerodrome. Aircrafts weighing more than 25kg require certification from the CAA.
- ▶ Flying in prohibited areas or breaching the CAA guidelines could incur a penalty of up to \$1000.

You can fly drones over Rotorua parks and reserves **except** for those close to aerodromes. The areas it is prohibited to fly are: **Kuirau Park** (Rotorua Hospital HeliPad); the **Rotorua Lakefront Reserve, Village Green and Motutara (Sulphur) Point** (Lakefront Aerodrome) and **reserves in the Rotorua Airport area** which include the **Hannahs Bay, Holdens Bay, Lee Rd, Waingaehe, Pohutakawa Drive, Aspen Place and Cedar Place Reserves** (Rotorua Airport).



KEY:  = NO FLY ZONE If you want to fly in these areas for a special purpose you will need to obtain permission from the relevant air authorities:

Rotorua Hospital HeliPad	027 6535697
Lakefront Aerodrome	07 348984
Rotorua Airport	07 345 8807



airshare



Rotorua Lakes Council permits' drones to be operated over most council-owned parks and reserves, provided operators comply with the **Civil Aviation Authority** guidelines. \*Using drones for commercial purposes requires permission from Rotorua Lakes Council.

## Shielded ops

Because most Rotorua parks are within 4km of an aerodrome all drone flying can only be done in a **shielded operation**.

This means that the drone must not be flown **above the height of surrounding trees and buildings**, as this could put it in controlled airspace that other aircraft are using.

If you are flying over someone else's land you need to **get consent from the property owner** of the land you are flying over.

## More info

For further information about operating a drone in Rotorua contact **Rotorua Lakes Council**:

**Web:** [www.rotorualakescouncil.nz](http://www.rotorualakescouncil.nz)  
**Mailing Address:** Rotorua Lakes Council  
 Private Bag 3029  
 Rotorua Mail Centre  
 Rotorua 3046  
**Email:** [info@rotorualc.nz](mailto:info@rotorualc.nz)  
**Phone:** +64 7 348 4199  
**Fax:** +64 7 346 3143

Or contact the **Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand** or **airshare**:

**CAA:** [www.caa.govt.nz](http://www.caa.govt.nz)  
**airshare:** [https://www.airshare.co.nz](http://www.airshare.co.nz)

## Ops checklist

- I will fly my drone safely
- I have the property owner's consent to fly over their land
- I understand that I can fly in the permitted city parks in a shielded operation - that is, my drone will not be flown over the height of the surrounding trees and buildings
- If further than 4 km from an aerodrome, my drone must not be flown higher than 120 metres above ground level
- I am not about to fly my drone over people or an organised event (unless I have permission)
- I will be flying my drone during daylight
- My drone will be flying within eye sight
- If I want to fly my drone within restricted areas I will need to get permission from the relevant air authority
- My drone must weigh less than 25kg



# The Word Of Dave

Well here we are in December again, where has the year gone? Times goes fast when you're having fun they say. Once the weather settles, I'm sure we can anticipate having a lot more fun out at the flying field.

Anyhow at this stage on behalf of the committee members I wish everyone in the club a merry Xmas and happy New year along with safe travels.              Cheers,

Dave Little,

President. Random stuff from the recent static model display.



## Setting up the display above



## Andy and Trevor's corner



Vintage table below.



# 2026 NATIONALS

Waipukurau, Hawkes Bay

**THE 78TH  
NATIONAL AEROMODELLING  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Hawkes Bay January 4th - 8th 2026**

- Free Flight
- Control Line
- Vintage
- Soaring
- Scale
- Aerobatics
- Pylon
- Heli Fun Fly

**NATIONALS MANAGERS**  
Kevin Bolleray "Rowdy" 027 557 9470  
Fraser Briggs "Bogart" 021 288 9455  
CNLRep@mfmc.org

**ALL ENQUIRIES  
WELCOME**



**78th NATIONALS  
HAWKES BAY  
JAN 4TH - 8TH  
2026**

**model  
FLYING  
in NEW ZEALAND**

[www.modelflyingnz.org](http://www.modelflyingnz.org)

## For Sale

The Club has a number of small items for sale like hinges and other small items. Also a couple of gliders . Contact any Committee member for details.

## COMING EVENTS

1 Feb 26                    Waikato Control Line Champs  
8 Mar                        AGM at 12 mid day at the Clubhouse  
  
May 25                      Tauranga Auction



**NEW PLYMOUTH  
ANNUAL MEMORIAL FLY-IN**

All pilots must hold a current wings badge qualification

**Saturday - Sport Flying**  
Ferndene RC Strip - \$5.00 Burger Lunch

**Sunday - Float Planes - Lake Ratapiko**  
\$20.00 Landing Fee (Includes Burger Lunch)

**Sport Flying and Floatplanes**



**28th Feb & 1st March 2026**

**NP**  
MODEL AERO CLUB  
[www.npmac.org.nz](http://www.npmac.org.nz)

For more information please contact

Mike Pillette 0274623200 <a href="mailto:mikelynn@xtra.co.nz">mikelynn@xtra.co.nz</a>	Steve Blackman 0274812575 <a href="mailto:shb@xtra.co.nz">shb@xtra.co.nz</a>
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