

# ROTORUA MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB (INC)

February 2026 NEWSLETTER

Secretary Andy Watson

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AOTEAROA  
GAMING  
TRUST



Rotorua Trust

MŌ TĀTAU KATOĀ



## Welcome to the February 2026 newsletter

Not a great couple of months for flying with all the rain and wind. The grass has been growing like fury with all the moisture and heat and has presented the mowing teams a few challenges finding a day when it's been dry enough to mow.

Although the weather tried its best to disrupt our fun we managed a few good sessions.

### Another Wings Pass

Congratulations to Alex Marsh who passed his Wings over the holidays.



Alex with a big smile being congratulated by the Club Captain on achieving his Wings

Well Done ALEX!

### AGM

The AGM will be held on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 12 midday in the Clubhouse.

This is your chance to get involved in the running of the club.

Among other things at the AGM the subs are set for the year so that should get you along.

### More Vintage NDC Events

With the amalgamation of Classic and Vintage events the Vintage SIG has increased the number of events on the calendar. We will now have an event to fly each month. Model designs prior to and including 1975 can now be used.

## Waikato C/L Champs

The weekend of 31 Jan & 1Feb saw the annual Waikato Champs at Meremere. Aerobatics was flown on the Saturday and team racing on Sunday. I entered the Classic A and Classic B events. I just missed out on making the final in Classic A which was probably a good thing as there was a spectacular midair that took out two of the three models. As for Classic B well lets just say I could have done a lot better!



## Models at Meremere

Above

A beautiful aerobatic model

Below

Two Classic A Team race models. Both powered by Oliver Tigers over 50 yrs old. And capable of 120+ kph



## Models Under Construction

Callum's Vic Smeed Gamine built from the free plan in RCM&E Sept 2011

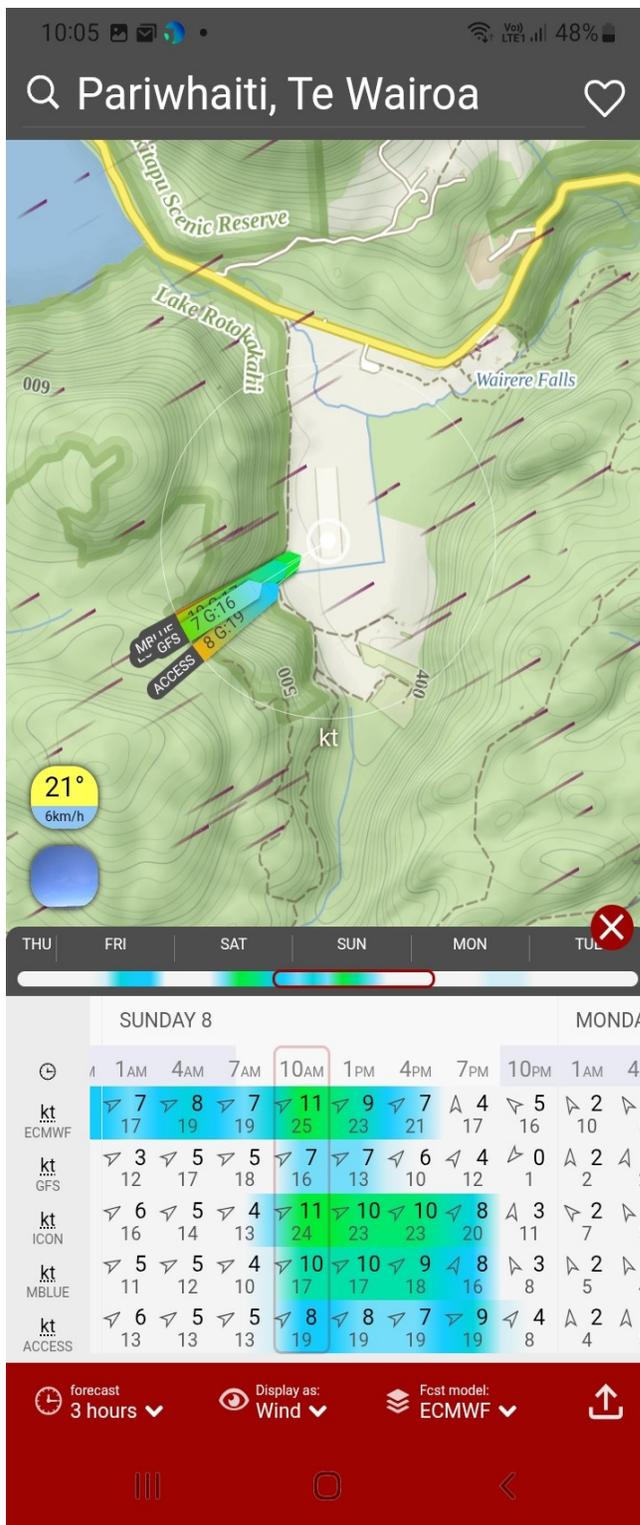
This one will have a Mills 75 up front and 2 channel R/C.

Scaled up it could be a good subject for an A or open Texaco model.





An Airsail Chipmunk almost ready for painting



## The Word Of Dave

Well how time moves fast when you're having fun, Xmas has been and gone and we began the new year with extremes of weather patterns, not ideal for a lot of model flying, however the keen ones have managed to get some flying time in. Those of us who have been tied up with "other stuff" now need to get "re-enthused" and dust off a model or two and revise our checklists.

In the December 2025 Qtr issue of Model Flying World, Stew Cox included an interesting write up on the extended use of the Windy weather app. Of particular interest is the use of the wind button

in the sub menu. Using this you can see the various wind forecasts (for any location) interactively for instant comparison. I have been using Windy for awhile and did not realise this function was available. The Windy app is downloadable for free.

I have noticed during mowing the runway that some rabbit holes (mostly old ones) could do with a top up of fresh soil. If you are one of the first ones to arrive at the airfield please take a few minutes to do a runway inspection and if necessary grab a mate and fill these in. Doing this could well prevent some undercarriage damage or even worse, mostly up the northern half of the strip.

Some Random Stuff..

### RC Aircraft Colour Visibility Chart

Rank	Colour	Typical Visibility	Notes
1	Fluorescent Orange / Red-Orange	Excellent	Most visible in sunlight; high contrast; UV fade risk.
2	Fluorescent Yellow / Chartreuse	Excellent	Highly visible against sky and grass; great for top surfaces.
3	White	Very Good	Strong contrast in shade or low light; blends in hazy sky.
4	Fluorescent Green / Lime	Good	Visible at medium range; weaker at distance.
5	Bright Blue	Fair	Looks good on ground; disappears in sky.
6	Black	Fair	Strong against bright sky; poor over trees.
7	Red (non-fluorescent)	Poor-Fair	Darkens quickly with distance.
8	Gray / Silver	Poor	Blends into glare; almost invisible.
9	Dark Green / Brown	Very Poor	Camouflaged; hard to track.

That's all from me for this month, smooth flying.

Dave Little

**President**

# 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

Feb	NDC ½ A Texaco
1 Feb 26	Waikato Control Line Champs
Mar	NDC ½ Texaco
8 Mar	AGM at 12 mid day at the Clubhouse
April	NDC Precision
May	NDC Duration
	NDC 2m REM
May 25	Tauranga Auction
June	NDC Precision
July	NDC Precision
August	NDC Precision
	NDC 2m REM
Sept	NDC ½ Texaco
	NDC Precision
Oct	NDC Duration
Nov	NDC Precision

## Auckland Free Flight Gala

2026 - Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Feb, and 10<sup>th</sup> May

Proctor Road, Te Hoe, Waikato

Start 0900, finish 1400, awards and flyoffs to follow

There are opportunities to fly Vintage free flight designs in these two contests - and not just in the Mini Vintage.

Contact the CD if you need further information.

It is a good idea to let David know if you are interested, in case changes need to be advised.



A1, P30, E36, 1/2A power, Kiwi power, Coupe, Mini Vintage\*, all 3 x 120, and Catapult Glider, 6 x 60

**\*Mini Vintage** - Combines

- i) Miniature Replica ,
- ii) Gliders to 50 inch span,
- iii) Rubber up to 36 inch span

Entry fee \$10 for the day for any number of events, juniors free.

Organiser - David Ackery,

Pre entry advised, email me - david.ackery@xtra.co.nz

# NEW PLYMOUTH ANNUAL MEMORIAL FLY-IN

All pilots must hold a current wings badge qualification

## Sport Flying and Floatplanes

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

### Saturday - Sport Flying

Ferndene RC Strip - \$5.00 Burger Lunch

### Sunday - Float Planes - Lake Rataipiko

\$20.00 Landing Fee (Includes Burger Lunch)



www.npmac.org.nz

For more information  
please contact

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# MODEL AUCTION



**Sunday 24 May 2026**  
**Classic Flyers Aviation Museum**  
**9 Jean Batten Drive, Mt Maunganui**  
*Doors open 7.30 am. Auction starts 10.00am*

For more information refer to website:  
[www.taurangamodelfly.org/annual-auction](http://www.taurangamodelfly.org/annual-auction)  
or  
Contact the Club Secretary - Garry Bentley  
Phone: 027 6432103  
Email: [taurangamodelfly@gmail.com](mailto:taurangamodelfly@gmail.com)

That's it for another month. I'm away till March so hope you will all keep me up to date with what's been happening so we have something to put in the next newsletter