

ROTORUA MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB (INC)

JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER

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AOTEAROA
GAMING
TRUST



Rotorua Trust
MŌ TĀTAU KATOĀ



Welcome to the JULY 2022 newsletter

As usual at this time of the year flying conditions haven't been the best. The mid-week group has spent more time at Third Place 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.

After a twenty year break Tim has got the bug again.



Tim with his 20 year old model which took to the air on a cold miserable 19th June. It appears to have Tyro origins and certainly flies a well as one. An OS 15 Mk 4 provides the urge and a new Futaba T6K radio provides the guidance. Tim hasn't forgotten how it's done and was flying without any instructor input.

CLUB DINNER

**Mid winter dinner August Sat 6th at “No8 Wire”
restaurant, 1139 Tutanekai St.**

See details below

Andy’s found a use for his drone

Drone Fishing or Lazy Man’s fishing.

Not strictly Aeromodelling but using a multi rotor drone to go fishing is something I have indulged in over the last few years. The procedure is to attach your fishing line to a release mechanism on the base of the drone and then fly the line out to wherever you think the fish are lurking, release the line and fly back to the take off point. After about 30- 45 minutes, wind in the line with hopefully a fish or two. It sounds easy but like anything to do with flying remote-controlled aircraft there are pitfalls. My outfit consists of a Swell Pro Splashdrone 3+ Multi Rotor, a Diawa Electric Reel and game rod, a 6-hook trace and a couple of 8oz sand sinkers. I use a 12volt Jump Starter to power the reel. Recently I caught a 4.7 kg snapper and a 1.64kg Trevally. See attached photos.

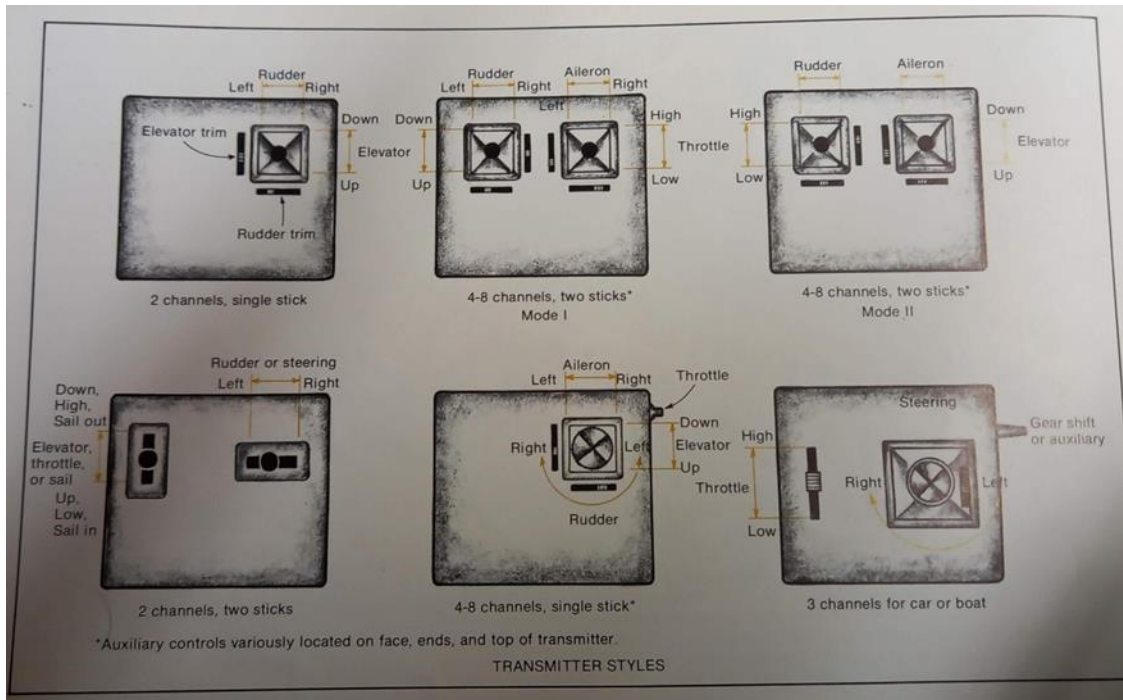
The Splashdrone 3+ has a camera so you can check that you aren’t going to drop your load on an unsuspecting boatie! There are many types of fishing drones available, but I think the best value for money is the Swell Pro brand, for a start it is waterproof so you can land it in the water and take off, not that I am willing to try. I have used a DJI Mavic, but it is limited in its maximum payload. Anyone interested in knowing more I am willing to give them my two cents worth.

Andy Watson.





Last month Dave showed us some different transmitter styles that were



Common in the 70s and 80s

Here are a few from that era



The transmitter on the left is a Futaba single stick 2 channel set. It could be used on rudder elevator or by fitting a ratchet rudder and motor. This was a very common way to fly in the 70s as radios were very expensive so 2 channel sets were very common.

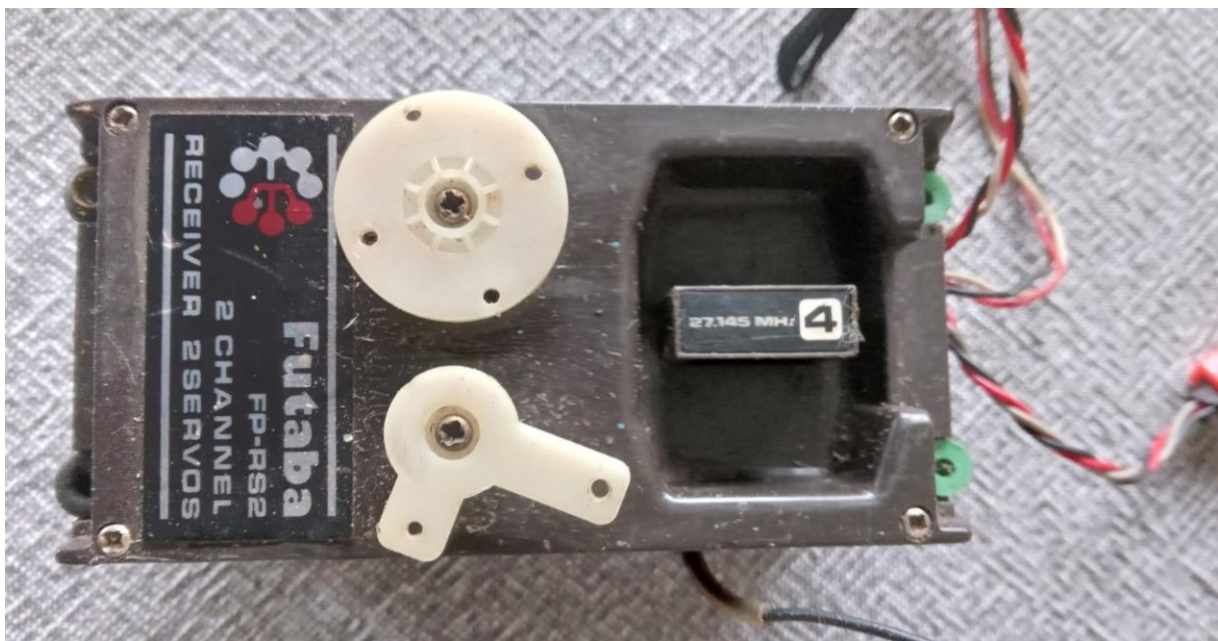
The other set is an ACOMS 2 channel two single axis set. Radios like these sold for round \$125 in 1974 and were still fetching \$100 second hand in the early 1980s. How the value of second hand radios has changed!



Another two sets that set the standard in radios. The set on the right was very popular in the late 70s. Known as the Futaba brown box, it was the set that got NZ into multi channel flying. Like the two 2 channel sets the only thing that could be adjusted was the trims. It also could be buddied up with another set for training. The panic button is on the top left. Originally a 4 channel set this one has had an extra proportional and switched channel added. Futaba used the same PCB for the 4,5& 6 channel tx so if you had a 4ch set components could be added to the PCB to add extra channels.

The set on the left is the Futaba Gold Box. This came out in the mid 80s and was one of the first FM 35Mhz sets about. Up till then everything was 27Mhz AM modulated. FM has several advantages over AM and with the advent of dedicated FM narrow band receiver intergrated circuits FM took off. By this time manufactures were into intergrated circuits. All the other sets above were fully transistorized. This allowed servo reversing; ATV; Mixing of R&A or R&E and dual rates on A,E&R. Most of this was done using op amp ICs which were cheap and reliable.

Trims were now electronic instead of mechanical. The receiver used two intergrated circuits a 3361 and 4015. Both these ICs were almost universal in the R/C industry until the 2.4 revolution arrived. They were certinally very popular with home constructors and kit producers. The smart bit was what was connected to them. Some manufactures went the cheap way which worked OK until battery voltage was dropping, the rx was a longway from the tx, several other sets were operating or there was some interference. The Gold Box just kept going. Another feature of the Gold Box was the throttle trim only working on the low end. This was something new.



This is another two channel receiver known as the brick. The receiver and servos were all in one brick.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well after hoping for better flying weather last month, nothing has eventuated. It has been either too wet, too cold or too windy, all of which are not much fun. I guess it is mid winter (with many centres reporting single figure daytime temperatures). At least every day is one more day closer to the upcoming summer!

It seems “our” neighbouring horses are back, therefore we need to keep a close eye on closing gates and the boundary fence condition. At least the wild pigs have not been back, and hopefully the locals hunting pressure will keep them well away up in the pine forest areas. The restored pig damaged area continues to improve with more grass seed germinating, although some spots may need extra seeding in the spring.

Some projects the committee is working on..

___ Reviewal of the overall safety rules/procedures with emphasis on practicality..

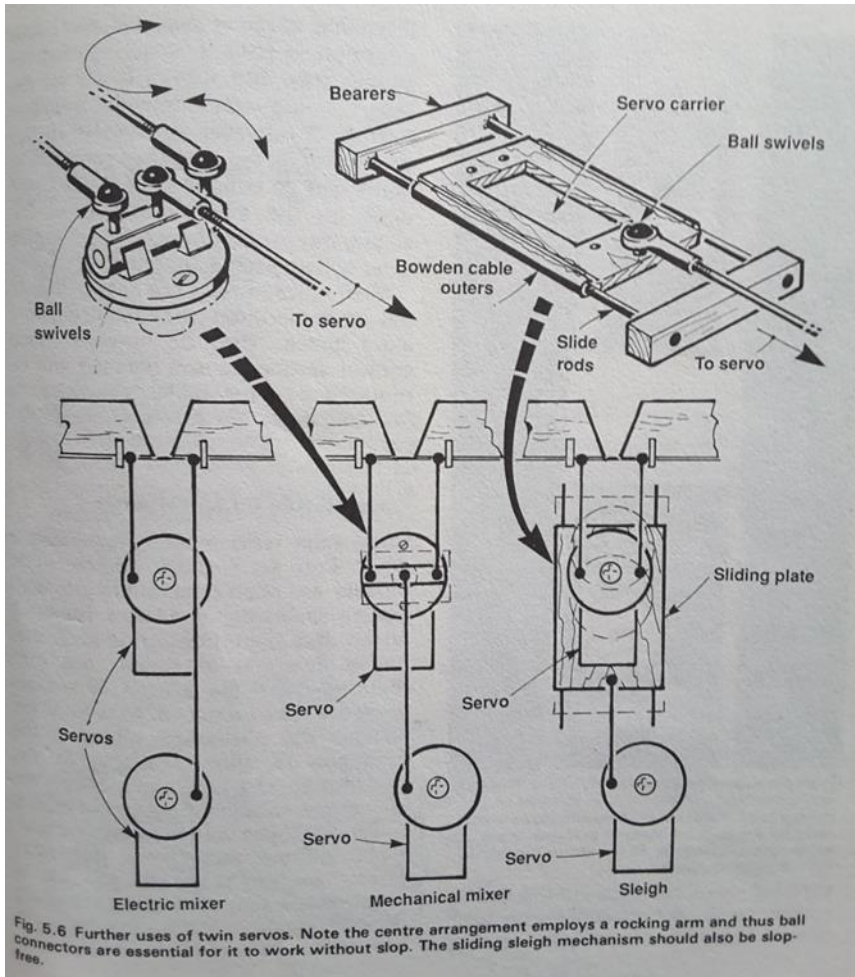
___ Electric pig fence construction once the winter is over..

___ Club 75th year (2023) celebrations planning, there’s nothing definite on the “board” yet.

___ Mid winter dinner (postponed from Sat July 16th to August Sat 6th) at “No8 Wire” restaurant, 1139 Tutanekai St. 6pm. I had a meal there a couple of weeks ago and it was very good and reasonably priced. I have talked to the owners and they will do up a couple of set menus to choose from, estimating 20 to 25 persons attending. Please indicate if you and partners are keen...to littled@xtra.co.nz thank you. (it is licensed)

___ Finalising of the RMAC website.


Some more random model aviation stuff...vintage mixing of control surfaces.??



World's largest RC Foamie ? It did actually fly, quite well, check "you tube"

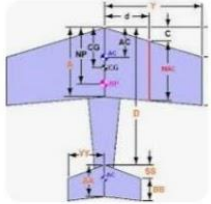


I wonder if the "Foamie" team used this calculator to fine tune COG?

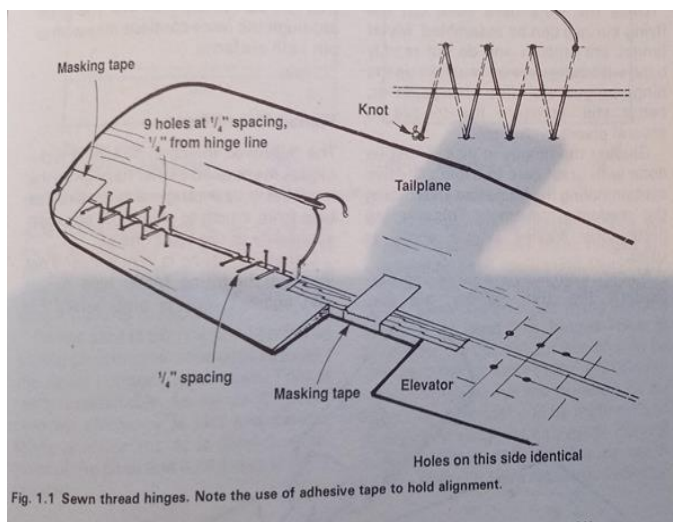
 https://rcplanes.online/cg_calc

Aircraft Center of Gravity Calculator - RCPlanes.Online

Helps you locate your plane's Center of Gravity (CG), as well as calculates the Aerodynamic Center (AC), Mean Aerodynamic Chord (MAC), Neutral Point (NP), ...



This control surface hingeing was well before foamies were invented wasn't it?, and that's all from me for now.



Subs for the 2022- 2023 year are

| | RMAC | MFNZ | TOTAL |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Family | \$120 | \$100 | \$220 |
| Senior | \$115 | \$95 | \$210 |
| Junior | \$45 | \$30 | \$75 |
| Associate | \$115 | | \$115 |
| (Member of another club with current MFNZ membership) | | | |
| Social (non flying) | \$50 | - | \$50 |

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

Coming Events

August NDC R/C Duration

October 16 Morrinsville indoor F/F and Scale event