

# ROTORUA MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB (INC)

JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER

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AOTEAROA  
GAMING  
TRUST



Rotorua Trust  
MŌ TĀTAU KATOĀ



## Welcome to the June 2024 newsletter



**MODEL AUCTION**

**TMAC**  
Tauranga Model Aircraft Club Inc.

**Sunday 16 June 2024**  
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)

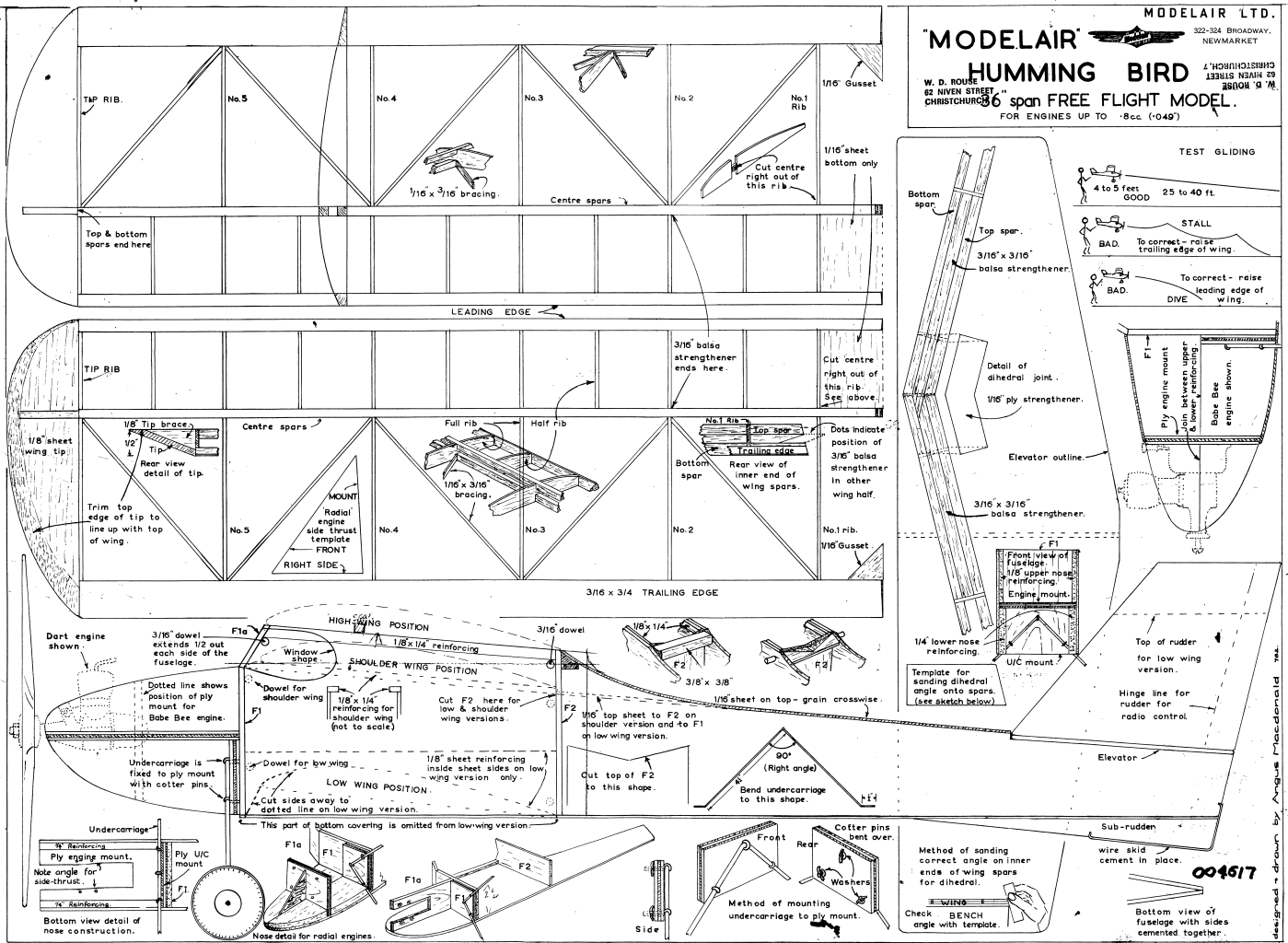
Once again the ever popular Tauranga auction is on this month. We have been advertising a few models and other odd

and ends over recent months. This is your last chance to grab these items at bargain prices before they go to the auction and end up in a bidding war where you could end up paying lots more!

## NOVEMBER VINTAGE/CLASSIC WEEKEND

At the last committee meeting it was decided that due to the diminishing number of North Island Vintage events over the last couple of years we will try something slightly different and see if we can attract a few punters. The weekend of Nov 16/17 will be a Vintage/ Classic Rally where any model designed before 1975 can be flown. We should also have some single channel models in the air. The only competition event will be a Modelair Hummingbird 1/2A Texaco event. So get out all those old models like the Black Magic, Hummingbird, Tomboy, Gasser, Schoolmaster, Headmaster, Eros, R6B, KK Super 60, Tyro, Tomboy, Sharkface, Veron Cardinal and Deacon, DQA 705, Modelair Skinny Bee, Tauri and more.

Want to build a Hummingbird? Here is the plan.



Designed by Angus M<sup>c</sup> Donald (proprietor of Modlair) round 1962 the Hummingbird was kitted by Modelair and soon became a favorite. Many a young lad learned the basics of fee flight using a Babe Bee or Mills 75 including yours truly. When we got into R/C they were flown with single channel gear and in some instances way over powered with OS Pets and Enya 09s. These were real hot rods and would fold the wings in a spiral dive if the main spar dihedral brace wasn't beefed up. By the mid 1970s two channel proportional radios were affordable and with rudder and elevator control the Hummingbird was a very popular model for beginners. So here it is folks get balsa bashing and have a go.

## HOW HIGH IS THAT MODEL

Winter has arrived and caused a halt to a lot of our flying days. We did however manage to run an informal event where the object was to guess your height. The object was to make three passes at different heights and nominate what height you would fly past at. Using telemetry we recorded the actual height and worked out the difference from the nominated height.

The flier with the smallest total error was the winner.

This is something we can do with both aircraft and drones and its a lot of fun.

	Nominated height (ft)	Actual height	Error	Total Error
Dave	100	106	6	
	130	110	20	
	180	188	8	<b>34</b>
Tim	200	213	13	
	150	133	17	
	300	246	54	<b>84</b>
John	50	63	13	
	120	127	7	
	300	221	79	<b>99</b>
Neal	200	91	109	
	100	87	13	
	100	80	20	<b>142</b>

We managed to record some times for last months NDC Vintage precision event. Although some testing was carried out with the Arduino height/time limiter we never got round to recording any times for the other May NDC event for 2m electric gliders. This month Vintage precision is on the NDC calendar again.

## **GIVE THOSE MODELS AN ANNUAL CHECK**

Over the winter months when we can't get to do as much flying as we would like to it's a good time to carry out some preventative maintenance on our models.

So what should we check?

- Remove the push rods from each control surface and check they move freely rust on the hinge pins can cause problems. Are any of the hinges coming loose?
- Load up each servo by pushing down on the centre of the output arm and check there are no click or bands (damaged gears) as it moves or it doesn't move at all.
- Check all the mounting screws are tight and all there. Are all the mounting rails secure.
- All the nuts and bolts tight on the engine mount.
- Check the receiver is well mounted and isolated from vibration.
- Cycle the batteries and replace if suspect.
- Check the prop for nicks and scratches. These can be carefully sanded out with 220 grit sand paper and finished with 400. Balancing will be required.
- Secure anything loose and repair any damage to the covering.
- Fix any fuel leaks and clean fuel filters. It's not a bad idea to replace the fuel tubing.
- Are all the wheels free. Rust can build up on the axles and restrict rotation
- Give the Tx case a through clean with a rag dampened with water and dish washing liquid. (Avoid petroleum based products as these can damage plastic)
- Open up the Tx battery hatch and clean out the accumulated rubbish.

While you will be doing most of these checks as pre flight checks every time you fly a winter maintenance check will save many wasted hours at the field fixing problems when you could be flying.

## DUXFORD 80<sup>th</sup> D DAY ANNIVERSARY AIRSHOW

Who's been watching all the U tube videos of last weekends airshow? For those that think the rudder isn't much use there are some excellent shots of take offs. Watch these and you will soon see what it's for.

## DRONE TRAVELS

On the other side of he world Brian's drone has been continuing to take pictures. Here are a few he has sent.





Walter Baxter caught this RAF training Hawk flying through Yarrow in the Borders on a low level flight.

## MODELS FOR SALE

**The Club has two beginners models for sale**

Both models have been restored to near new condition and make excellent beginners models.

- **Skyraider** complete with ASP46 and servos.
- All set up and test flown. Just install your receiver and go flying
- A good buy for a beginner or someone wanting a straight forward tidy model





## 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 either of these models we can arrange a buddy box trial flight.

Contact John on 020 4118 5597



Electric model for sale requires some setting up and we recommend a new set of

servos although we have flown it as is.

There are also, Futaba servos and Futaba 40Mhz receivers  
Various fittings and nuts and bolts for sale.

For more details on any of this gear contact  
Any Committee Member

## **COMING EVENTS**

June 16	Tauranga Auction NDC Vintage
July 20/21	Glider towing Matamata
Nov 16/17	Rotorua Vintage/Classic Rally