

Valley Radio Control Model Club

March 2011 – Newsletter

2011 Set to be a watershed for VRCMC

The writing is on the wall; VRCMC is set for massive changes in 2011. Every year we say that this is the one that will bring a new direction – but this time around, there really is something new and exciting in the air at VRCMC.

While there's some skepticism around how quickly things will happen, there's a school of thought that says when we look back in March 2012 we will see just how radically the landscape at VRCMC changed in the year.

At the start of 2011 the committee set itself a few goals for the year, the ones worth mentioning are the Jetty, Irrigation system for the runway, upgrading of the

braai area and to explore the possibility of erecting a Toilet facility.

For those who have not visited the club over the last few weeks, it's worth a visit. The Jetty is in place, the reeds on the right hand side have been cleared and a limited number of sprinklers have been installed on the runway.

Nowadays, regardless of the predictable windy weekend weather everyone still descends on VRCMC just to enjoy the beautiful scenery, water, peace and tranquility. What a good way to spend the day with your family and fellow members.

The friendships and social networking taking place is something we could only dream about a few years ago. It's now a vital part of the VRCMC success story.



Stephen's Pride and Joy

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Newsletter

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***Your one-stop resource for news, reviews and
the latest from VRCMC***

RC Definitions

There is so much technical jargon running amok in RC these days and on a lighter note to help you understand with a bit of assistance from “Google” here is some of the jargon / technical terms simplified and made easy to understand.

AEROMODELING: The art of turning precision-cut and glued balsa wood and foam into toothpicks and confetti.

AIRPLANE - Heavier than air machine that flies like it's heavier than air.

BALSA - An extremely light substitute for gold.

CRASH - Method of seeing inside a model airplane.

DINNER - A meal that is always cold by the time you get back from flying.

DUCTED-FAN: A high-maintenance salad shooter.

ELEVATOR - Device to prevent level flight.

ENGINE - Device that doesn't start when you want it to, and cuts your fingers.

FAIL SAFE - Option on PCM radio's that allows a pilot to choose whether to crash near him, or a long way away.

FLYING FIELD - Take off area. Landings occur elsewhere.

GLIDE-TIME (1): The time between the Engine falling out and the Airplane hitting the ground.

HINGE - Device to prevent control surface movement and cause flutter.

INSTRUCTOR: Old pilot who loves flying and teaching others to fly...usually cannot tell you how many planes he has crashed.

INVERTED FLIGHT - Method of landing without wear and tear on the wheels.

JOKER - Person who invites you to "taxi back" after a dead stick landing.

LANDING - Test of strength between your plane and the planet.

MIXTURE SCREW - Device to meter too little fuel to the engine at critical moments.

MOTOR - Electric device that starts when you don't want it to, and cuts your fingers.

NOSE WHEEL - Device that prevents an airplane from landing without bouncing.

PLUG - (1)-Electrical device for making intermittent contact in your engine's ignition.

PLUG - (2)-Electrical device for making intermittent contact with your radio.

PROPELLER: Wood, plastic or composite device used to stabilize inferior landings.

RADIO - Device that enables an airplane to crash in different places than it otherwise would.

RECEIVER - Part of the radio system that picks up interference.

RUNWAY: Flat object used by student pilots to walk on to retrieve aircraft which "almost landed ok".

SPINNER - Critical part of landing gear.

TAIL ASSEMBLY: Fragile device which has affinity for door frames during non-flight transport.

TRAINER: Inexpensive throw-a-way device used by beginning pilots to scare instructors and spectators with.

TRANSMITTER or RECEIVER FAILURE: Something which happens only on first flight of a plane (usually the last flight, too).

Valley Radio Control Model Club ...Is the place to be ...

3D with Mike McConville – The Elevator



What it is:

The plane drops vertically while in a nose-high attitude. Depending on head wind conditions, the model will drop at anywhere from about a 45° angle when it's calm, to vertical or even a little backwards in windy conditions. Throttle is used to determine rate of descent and the nose-high attitude of the model.

Set-up:

3D-elevator mode is essential, and your CG will have to be on the mark or slightly aft. If your CG is further aft and the airplane teeters back and forth, program about 1/2" of up aileron with up elevator travel.

How to do it:

At near stall airspeed, up high, slowly feed in up elevator until you have the full 3D rate up in it. With low throttle, the CAP will fall like a rock. To guide it around, use the rudder, not ailerons. Just keep the wings level. Add power to change the plane's altitude.

Trickiest part:

Aside from steering it with the rudder, you'll quickly see that this manoeuvre is a matter of juggling the throttle and rudder to get the plane to go where you want it to go.

Recovery: Basic-

Add full power, flip off the 3D-rate elevator and fly out.

Advanced-

Take the elevator all the way to the ground, adding slight power before it touches down to slow the descent and transition into a "Harrier" and land. Or, for a little more drama, add power to get the nose to rise to vertical and transition into a Torque Roll. ("Elevator" from a hundred feet down to 20 feet then power up into a torque roll. Oh yeah!!)

Worst way to mess up:

Let your direction control (rudder) get away from you after starting too low- you could snap it right into the ground (ouch!).

from

"Don't worry we are ~~form~~ the Quarry"

KZN PATTERN RESULTS 13TH MARCH 2011 held at MARITZBURG MAC by Neil Allen



Judges - Des Cooper, Fred Wilkinson, Lynton Milner (all classes except F3A), John Dorse (F3A only)

		Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Ave of best 2
NOVICE					
1	Quinton Charls	19,0	49,0	52,0	50,5
SPORTSMAN					
1	Johan Britz	60,4	64,3	64,0	64,2
2	Colin Addis	54,4	58,8	58,1	58,5
3	Leon Coetzee	55,5	52,0	49,9	53,8
4	Steven v Niekerk	40,0	-		-
ADVANCED					
1	Ian Morris	60,7	59,1	65,8	63,3
2	Alex v d Spuy	59,7	57,8	64,6	62,1
3	Johan de Lange	60,1	59,8	60,3	60,2
4	Les Ward	57,0	52,0	59,0	58,0
5	Arthur Coleby	47,5	51,9	-	49,7
F3A		P	F	P	
1	Jason Barker	66,4	64,5	70,0	68,2
2	Neil Allen	64,6	58,4	64,7	64,6

It was pleasing to have another excellent entry. Lynton was intending to fly, but had a plane problem, so he judged, and did well at it. Thanks to all four judges and scribes for their help.

We had strong winds of 20kmh gusting up to 28kmh by mid morning, but nobody bailed out. Pattern flyers must be the best!

In Novice we had Quinton enjoying his first try at the pattern. I think round 1 of the pattern was his second flight ever of the schedule. I hope to see you back again.

In Sportsman Johan Britz got it all together and gave his Quantum a good showing. Steven "Speedy" v Niekerk dislodged a landing gear, so only flew one round.

In Advanced Ian Morris came out on top of a tight contest with Alex v d Spuy and Johan de Lange. Les Ward gave us a fine effort also.

In F3A at last we have a real competition, and congratulations to Jason Barker for a great first ever F3A event, flying the ex John Brink Emotion plane, with a Plettenberg motor.

The lunchtime braai was well received, and gave the judges a good break after their morning effort.

Thanks to Alex and Johan de Lange for the work. The prop blast of a 90 motor helped fan the fire!

Thanks to MMAC club for the facilities.



Why you should participate in the KZN Pattern tics “Bring It On” by David Charls

Many pilots, including myself are perfectly content flying around aimlessly “boring holes” in the sky and there's nothing wrong with that if that's what makes you happy! ***(Don't worry we are from the Quarry).***



After attending Neil Allen's informative talk about Pattern Flying and the hosting of the first round of the KZN league at VRCMC my perception of Pattern Flying has changed.

Pattern gives you a ***purpose and a set of goals to work towards when flying.*** You do not only compete with others, but you compete with yourself as you strive to perfect each maneuver by practicing them over and over hoping to continually improve your score.

Most pattern pilots consider themselves as their biggest competitor!

Watching the more seasoned pilots, one can comfortably say that pattern flying takes loads of discipline, dedication and practice to compete at the higher levels.

But there's more to it than just flying pattern and participating in the KZN league.

By spreading our wings, visiting other clubs and participating in events such a pattern flying VRCMC members can put themselves firmly onto the map amongst the RC Flying Community. This, without a doubt will result in a steady growth in membership in the future and meeting a whole lot of new interesting people.



At the KZN League round hosted at MMAC on the 13th March 2011, no fewer than six VRCMC members were present, three competed and the others assisted with the judging and scribing.

Watching my son Quinton's participation in the event was most rewarding and has made me even more determined to get my act together and participate in the next round.

In amongst all this good stuff came the news that VRCMC has an excellent chance of hosting another round later in the year.

There is a huge family of pilots and RC enthusiasts out there, that share a common interest and strive to help one another succeed by sharing their experiences with different types of aircraft, set-ups, and flying techniques..... ***“Bring it On”*** and let's show them ***“THE QUARRY RAT SPIRIT”*** that has made VRCMC so very successful.

Part 6 – De Havilland DH98 Mosquito 1/9 Scale Scratch build by Barry Mann

Wow! March 2011 already, between fitting floats to the Cub, putting the A10 together and being a little lethargic due to the summer weather there has not been much activity around the Mosquito, but here's what I have.



I built a battery tray to hold the 2 x 3 cell, 2.2A lithium packs which fits into the nose section of the Mossie, a quick C.G. check shows hopefully not too much extra weight to be added.

The nose cone was carved from solid 12mm balsa sheet with a lite ply backplate. I added a couple of short pieces of dowel to line the assembly up with the fuselage and then fitted a couple of magnets to hold it in place. Next the tail fairing, I cut out the outline shape added a couple of formers and then started by planking the top half.



Once complete I then started on the bottom half which had to accommodate the recess for the partly retractable tail wheel. Nearly finished?.....no, a couple more things to do before I get around to the flaps and ailerons. The fuselage has to be planked from below the wing to the level of the bomb bay door, originally the door was to be made in two halves and opened by a servo, but

after struggling with the wheel bay doors earlier I decided to make a single door held in position with dowels and magnets. Once this section was finished I made the engine cover, engine exhaust stacks and the wing tip for the right hand wing...time for a break.



At the Club...

After weeks of preparation, Saturday 18th April 2011 was declared as the day to complete the "Jetty Extension".

A few finishing touches still had to be done at Corrocoat SA workshop's before the 6 meter long gum poles, with a custom made mounting bracket could be transported to the club. Ian and Gary worked like slaves to fabricate and complete the mounting of the drum.

Courtesy of Corrocoat SA the Extension was transported to the club in style with Ian G at the wheel of a four ton truck.

The rest of the work party waiting patiently at the field for Ian and Gary were Ian S, Stephen, Les, Barry, Fred and Collin who endured extremely windy conditions and a light drizzle waiting in anticipation for the delivery of the extension to take place.

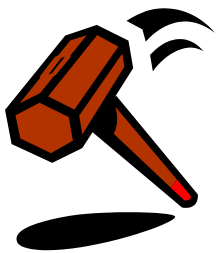


Whilst Stephen rushed off to collect the cable, Barry, Ian S and Les under took the decking of the walk way. Well, based on the results the workmanship was influenced by "Jack D" or the windy conditions.

***Lunch** was called .. and the workman took a deserving break under the trees, (Hmmm.. I wonder which Trade Union they belong to). Thanks to one of the Stanley's Removals Red Army troops a rather large pot of Briyani arrived for lunch which all the gang managed more than one helping off and was concurred unanimously that it was one of the best Briyani's they had tasted. Thank you Logan and please pass on our thanks and appreciation to everyone who was part of the preparation of this culinary delight. We will most definitely call upon your services again in the future.*

After the well-deserved lunch break it was back to the grindstone. The two six meter long gum poles and cables needed to be secured to the bank. Once again Ian rushed off to Corrocoat to source suitable material. A 3 meter length of piping was delivered and he ordered the troops to hammer the same into the ground. (Someone momentary forgot that this was an old quarry site)

On arrival the Extension was quickly unloaded by the many hands and maneuvered into position and the mounting process began.



Like most custom made items it was almost a perfect fit.. After a bit of very gentle persuasion with a four pound hammer everything fitted like a glove.

After discovering that the existing cable was going to be too short to secure the Jetty and its extension, Stephen sprang into action and managed to arrange a number of three meter lengths of cable that could be used.

With the assistance of a Gray's sixteen pound hammer we managed to drive the stake about half way into the ground and break the hammer.

Thanks to Gary's V8 we managed to pull the cables into position and safely secure to the bank.

A special thank you to Ian G for designing and fabricating the brackets and drum bracket, Andre for sourcing and arranging the material and transported the material. Thank you to all who assisted to the "Jetty Project".

At the Club... Continued



It is with great interest that the existing RC Pilots watch the development of other RC activities at the club.

With the completion of the Jetty and its extension a number of members have starting making use of the large spans of water. Leon and Lynton have both recently acquired electric boats and have spent time familiarizing themselves with the art of controlling the boats on the water.



It is important to note that only electric or wind driven boats are permitted on the water and the existing frequency board must be used AT ALL TIMES

Ian S also arrived with his latest toy a Traxxas Slash 4x4 running a brushless 2010 model 3700kv motor running off a 8.4 volt MI/HD PACK. We were all very impressed with how the Traxxas performed on the grass and on the loss gravel



Brian Ward has donated an old RC yacht to Ian G that needs a little bit of work to get it back on the water and we are expecting Ian to give us a demo of RC yachting in the next week or so.



Mark and Louis are slow but sure making headway with their archery and air rifle target practices

VRCMC has developed into a facility can be used by all those who enjoy the outdoors...

MAASA AEROBATIC NATIONALS

The MAASA AEROBATIC NATIONALS will be held from the April 29th to May 1st 2011, at Emoyeni Aviation Park, KZN

Entry forms, event information, list of available accommodation, and maps of nearby practice fields is downloadable from the MAASA section of the SAMAA website, or go to <http://samodelair.blogspot.com/2011/02/2011-aerobatic-nationals-at-aviation.html>

Meals

There are four evening meals for the four nights of the event. Emoyeni will NOT be serving any other meals on those evenings. These meals MUST be pre-ordered and paid for by the closing day for entries of April 8th. This means that if your helpers and family are with you, you must order their meals as well, even if they are not attending the following meetings. If you did not order these with your entry form, please send additional orders and payment to our Treasurer, Des Cooper. Full information is on the entry form.

Thurs 28th - Welcoming function & Supper. Meal for one included with entry fee

Fri 29th- MAASA AGM & Potjiekos Supper. To be paid for

Sat 29th - Talk by Wolfgang Matt & Braai. To be paid for

Sun 1st - Prize giving Dinner. Meal for one included with entry fee.

Talk

The talk by Wolfgang Matt on the Saturday evening is open only to MAASA members, their families and helpers, and officials at the event. This is because there is limited seating. Wolfgang may be able to do additional demo flights during the event, but nothing has been finalised.

Program

Arthur Eggar and Stuart Nix are producing a program for competitors and officials, which promises to contain a lot more than just welcoming messages. There will be additional articles of interest. They are covering all the costs, and all the advertising income will be donated to the SA Aerobatic Team Fund. It would be great if hobby shops and dealers, and other businesses could place adverts. Contact Arthur for more information. His e mail address is areenter@telkomsa.net (082 965 0094)

Field

The field is in excellent condition, and will be well groomed for the event. We will be running two flight lines, and depending on the size of the entry these may be moved as the sun moves, to avoid having to fly near the sun's glare. This could mean four different flight lines in use, which should be noted if you practice at the field. The lines will be demarcated and flagged by Tuesday April 26th, when practice commences. We were worried that markers 150metres out were difficult for some positions because of the hill slope, but we have measured the field, and it can be done.

Should you require any additional information or assistance please contact Neil Allen, Chairman KZN Pattern on 073 231 414.

Its time... make a pledge

Valley Radio Control Model club has always encouraged its members to bring their friends and families to the club so they too can enjoy the beautiful scenery, water, peace and tranquility.

However due to the lack of amenities at the club this has not always been possible.

It is our firm belief that with the steady growth in membership and events this year and with the prospect of even more RC enthusiast joining our club, we need to rectify this situation and at least provide a toilet at the club.

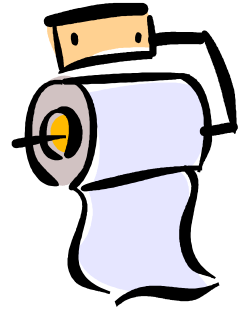
Yes, it's on everyone's lips that any type of structure will be destroyed by the locals in a very short space of time.

Our opinion differs and we believe that this will not be the case. Ever since we have had someone living on site things have settled down. Building an appropriate type of structure with all the risks in mind is possible.

We need all VRCMC members to participate in the planning and building thus creating a sense of ownership amongst all of us.

With the current membership if we could raise an additional to cover the cost of this project, each member would pay less than R 250.00 towards the project.

We have already received some pledges and know that the current economic environment has not been good to all and some members may wish to contribute less, whilst others may wish to contribute more. All donations big or small and or assist to build or donate building material will be gratefully received.



The manner, in which pledges are made, may also require the clubs constitution to be amended, so that these pledges can be formally recorded and in the unlikely event of the club dissolving in the future (funds permitting) members who have pledge in excess of R 500.00 can be reimbursed.

If for any reason you believe that this there is a more effective way to generate the required funds please feel free to discuss this with any of the committee members.

We are open to suggestions and look forward to your pledge.

Should you wish to pledge kindly email webmaster@vrcmc.co.za and let us know how much you or what you are willing to donate. We really don't mind how big or small your pledge is... it will be gratefully recieved

Dairy of Events April / May 2011

Date	Event	Venue
Friday 01 April 2011		
Saturday 02 April 2011		
Sunday 03 April 2011		
Monday 04 April 2011		
Tuesday 05 April 2011		
Wednesday 06 April 2011		
Thursday 07 April 2011		
Friday 08 April 2011		
Saturday 09 April 2011		
Sunday 10 April 2011		
Monday 11 April 2011		
Tuesday 12 April 2011		
Wednesday 13 April 2011		
Thursday 14 April 2011		
Friday 15 April 2011		
Saturday 16 April 2011	VRCMC / Club 55 FUNDAY - BRING AND BRAAI	
Sunday 17 April 2011		
Monday 18 April 2011		
Tuesday 19 April 2011		
Wednesday 20 April 2011		
Thursday 21 April 2011		Eric Brinkman's birthday
Friday 22 April 2011	Public Holiday	Andre Delport's birthday
Saturday 23 April 2011		
Sunday 24 April 2011		
Monday 25 April 2011	Public Holiday	
Tuesday 26 April 2011		Christo Pienaar's & Kevin Hatch's birthday
Wednesday 27 April 2011	Public Holiday	
Thursday 28 April 2011		
Friday 29 April 2011	KZN National's	Peter Plint's birthday
Saturday 30 April 2011	KZN National's	
Sunday 01 May 2011	KZN National's	

Advertising Board

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2011 S.A. TEAM SUPPORTERS CLUB
Join the exclusive FUTABA, 2011 F3A team supporters club, answer one easy question, and you might be rewarded with a brand new FUTABA 8FG FASST radio!
You will receive a unique membership number to safeguard until the 2011 precision Aerobatic Nationals.
The team going to the world championships in the USA, will elect their most deserving supporter who will receive the Futaba 8FG FASST radio. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to support a worthy team.
Membership costs only R200,00 and is limited to the first 100 correct applications received. So submit your application now!
(See reverse for application form).


MAASA
Model Aerobatic Association of South Africa

TS-FG, 2.4GHz COMPUTER SYSTEM
This radio offers features the competition doesn't, including some that have previously been found only on very high-end systems, and one that isn't available anywhere else. It could easily be the best 2.4GHz value on the market today, as well as the only radio you'll ever need.

FUTABA, 2011 F3A TEAM SUPPORTERS CLUB APPLICATION FORM
Name: _____ Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Mobile: _____
Fax: _____
Email: _____ Postal code: _____
Question: Which make of radio was used because of its reliability and precision by over 90% of the competitors at the 2009 F3A World Championships?
Answer: _____
Deposit your membership fee of R200 to: MAASA, ABSA bank, Plumstead, Account No: 9191274755
Scan/e-mail or fax this form and proof of payment C/D The Treasurer:
Fax: 086 548 2641 Email: f3roconcrete@yahoo.com

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Flying is in our blood ...Visit us on www.vrcmc.co.za

Saturday 16th April 2011 – VRCMC / Club 55 Fun Day



Recently the committee was approached by CLUB 55 (is a social club, principally serving the interests of retired Military Personnel and or, their spouses. Eligible membership is open to ex Regular and Reserve Force members, including members who have taken early retirement. Serving members who are planning retirement are also welcome.) To use our beautiful facilities to hold their monthly function. We saw this as excellent opportunity to share our facilities and to promote the hobby and the club.

Saturday 16th April 2011 lots of fun activities have been planned by GLADI-ANTICS which started as FUN filled team building company in 1997 with the founders being Pieter Spiller and Phelp Stevenson who were both career soldiers in the then, SADF and later in the SANDF with more than 50 years joint service.

Pieter Spiller will entertain us with his Gladiantics course, it consist of eleven events in which teams consisting of from five to seven members, men women and children or mixed, will in a fun way compete.

We have also arrange a number of VRCMC members display either "Pride and Joy" which includes a 2.5 wing span "Sea Fury" an Eldo which took a number of years to complete. All members are encouraged to bring models to the club to display on the day.

Jayson, Ian, Rudie, Byron, Les and a few of our other skilled pilots have kindly agreed to do a small acrobatic display during the day as well.



Saturday will kick off at 10h00 in the morning and will carry on until late afternoon.

Please note that we will be having a braai at lunch time (BRING AND BRAAI) and we will be charging R 15.00 as a cover charge. Rather a large number of visitors are expected and it would be advise able to arrive early as parking may be limited. It is advisable to bring dry clothes, plenty of water and lots of shade. Toilet and Braai facilities will be provided.

If you are going to attend RSVP to webmaster@vrcmc.co.za before Tuesday 12th April 2011.

Family and friend's most welcome...