

NSMAC Newsletter 4th July 2010

Hi aviators one and all ☺.

Haven't found out whether anyone slipped in a flight or two today before the weather set in. It hasn't been noticeably encouraging for most of the day has it!!!!?
"MAKE HAY WHILE THE SUN SHINES" was the motto of the day at Green Road on Saturday. What an outstanding day it was with lots of sun and hardly any wind!!!!!! There was a great contingent of electric "whirlybird" people in the top field Saturday morning and all afternoon. Great to see the refined approach – folding tables and shiny choppers clipped daintily thereto whilst others could be seen hovering in orderly fashion and dignified pose a metre or two above the ground. Quite a contrast with us fixed wing characters scruffing around on the turf and hurling noisy nitros skyward with utter abandon. We can be seen praying that they will return safely without loss of orientation or engine failure somewhere over swamps, trees or cows. Such is our lot.

It was great to have new people visiting with electric planes - a couple of matching Cobras and others including a mini P51-D Mustang (those things are awesome!) Thanks to those guys for your company....hope to see you again. There were not too many regulars out and about, which surprised me, given that the forecast was so horrible for Sunday.....but various people came and went nevertheless.

Feedback is good for the Member Profiles. People find them interesting, so we're ploughing on. Simon Hudson is well known to most and left on Saturday for a trip around the South Island with his wife, Julie and two young boys. Wonder whether he took a plane with him? Here is his profile:-



Member Profile – Simon Hudson

(contact 021 0311949 or 09 4267910)

Born - Chesterfield, England, 3rd Oct 1967 (ie 42)

My father was at that stage a Chartered Engineer, so this resulted in the family leaving the UK and doing a five year stint In East Africa, then finally settling in NZ.

Trained as motor mechanic.

Since my early twenties I have been self employed and currently, I have a Concrete Pumping business (Extreme Concrete Pumps Ltd).

Met Julie, my wife, about 13 years ago and we live in Orewa with our two great little boys.

Interests include fishing, anything that runs on petrol and makes a loud noise, music, movies, family and finally, last but not least, FLYING!

I started flying about 3 years ago. I have always had an interest in model aircraft, but never got into the hobby - maybe I just thought it would be too hard to learn how to fly. But I decided to give it a go and the rest, as they say, is history !!!

I started out with a ARF AT 40 trainer and just progressed on from there until now, I think at last count, I have around 15 or more planes. I am rapidly running out of room. Without trying to list all my planes here, just follow the U-Tube link and view my sickness in action.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9nfwfc-Jbc>



Chris and me at a recent Orewa Santa Parade - a definite improvement I feel.

FLIGHT CORNER – Tail wheels or tail skids?

I've been entertaining myself converting my Calmato 40 Trainer to a tail-dragger, mainly because the nose-wheel was getting too many hidings taking off, landing and taxiing. Found it interesting researching info on tail wheels v tail skids. At first I made up a skid using part of a Marley downpipe clip. I thought it would be good that it would slide sideways as well to allow turning on the ground, but before test-flying it, I figured because it wouldn't track and wasn't steerable it might be unsatisfactory and even a bit hazardous. The lack of additional control concerned me, so I feint-heartedly installed a DuBro steerable tail wheel instead on both the Calmato and Cap21. Here are photos showing the untried multi-directional skid



Plastic skid – above

Right –
Du-Bro steerable wheel linked to rudder servo.



Below-
Cap21 with Du-Bro steerable wheel
linked to tail fin by springs.



FLIGHT FUNNIES

A programmer and an engineer are sitting next to each other on a long flight from Los Angeles to New York.

The programmer leans over to the engineer and asks if he would like to play a fun game.

The engineer just wants to take a nap, so he politely declines and rolls over to the window to catch a few winks.

The programmer persists and explains that the game is real easy and is a lot of fun. He explains "I ask you a question, and if you don't know the answer, you pay me \$5. Then you ask me a question, and if I don't know the answer, I'll pay you \$5."

Again, the engineer politely declines and tries to get to sleep.

The programmer, now somewhat agitated, says, "OK, if you don't know the answer you pay me \$5, and if I don't know the answer, I'll pay you \$100!"

This catches the engineer's attention, and he sees no end to this torment unless he plays, so he agrees to the game.

The programmer asks the first question. "What's the distance from the earth to the moon?" The engineer doesn't say a word, but reaches into his wallet, pulls out a five dollar bill and hands it to the programmer.

Now, it's the engineer's turn. He asks the programmer "What goes up a hill with three legs, and comes down on four?"

The programmer looks up at him with a puzzled look. He takes out his laptop computer and searches all of his references. He taps into the Airphone with his modem and searches the net and the Library of Congress. Frustrated, he sends e-mail to his co-workers--all to no avail.

After about an hour, he wakes the Engineer and hands him \$100. The engineer politely takes the \$100 and turns away to try to get back to sleep. The programmer, more than a little miffed, shakes the engineer and asks "Well, so what's the answer?" Without a word, the engineer reaches into his wallet, hands the programmer \$5, and turns away to get back to sleep.

NB:- Please contribute informative stuff for FLIGHT CORNER via my email freedom@2by2.co.nz to share with the rest of us. A picture and a few details would be really interesting and helpful. Trying to feature individual planes, but it can also be about general modelling/construction, engine and other issues as cool information. If you have any items FOR SALE, just email them through to me. I'll usually put items up once only to keep things simple. And don't forget to pass on a joke or two ☺.

Have a great week! The good weather's gotta come!
Stan