

June 2026



# *Airscrew*



The  
N.M.F.C. Newsletter

## Club Life

A busy start to the year. We lost two members last year but have currently gained ELEVEN new and/or returning members so far. Seems we must be doing something right, it's just a bit of a shame as this month I have very little to talk to you about. BMFA is quiet and the CAA, well they are busy being the CAA.

I have spent the first couple of months with little flying, just managing to get to the field on odd occasions for maintenance purposes. We have the usual problem with things that are thick stemmed growing in the reservation between our runway and the full size runway but when I looked at them their leaves are like armour so I decided whilst they are small I would dig them out. I had a picture in my mind of about a dozen spots. Wak wak oops, about one hundred and fifty ish thistles later I think I got the best of them. That just left me with the dock leaves. I tried my best to dig these out but they really resisted my efforts, tuff little buggers these are. Thanks to Ray Westfield here, he sprayed with weed killer and they have started to struggle a bit. The reservations have now also been topped. As soon as the doc's and thistles start to grow again we will look at further spraying to eliminate them as they really are tough and damage models easily if you run into them. I won't say anything about the size of our runway and the fact we still have landings on the dividing grass :-). We've all been there and no doubt will be again sometime in the future. LOL

We did have a couple of mole hills in the first couple of months but there was no real pattern so they were raked out. So far they have only returned sporadically. Keeping my fingers crossed with this one.

Our project to convert all of our tables and benches to plastic has finally been realised. We have managed to get the final plastic benches built thanks to the sterling efforts of Doug Stone and Ray Westfield under close supervision :-D. We had many hours of hard back breaking work with these. You try lifting one ;-). We now have eight plastic starter benches, two picnic tables, the solar panel table and the large workbench. These are reckoned to last at least twenty five years in all weathers. We shall see. Well, no most of us probably won't :-P. It was not a cheap exercise but nowadays wood is not cheap either and it doesn't last anywhere near as long as this stuff, we hope. As a thank you from the club Mike and I discussed the matter and decided as a one



off we would give both Doug and Ray next years membership on the club, I am sure you would all agree with this. We also owe a big thank you to Kevin for letting us build in the hangar and for putting up with the materials lying there.

I have been asked a couple of times for the reasoning of putting an 'Otto' pilot on top of each bench post. :-) Simple. It is to deter the birds from perching and subsequently pooping on the benches. I hope you will have noticed a big reduction in the cleaning required prior to bench use.

There is not a lot else to write this time. The only other thing that is becoming boring is the hold the CAA is imposing on our hobby. It seems that now they have their teeth into us and have obtained a good hold they're coming up with bureaucratic crap at every breath to tighten their grip and further restrict our actions unless we comply with this that or the other and fill in a mountain of paperwork and compliances. The cheek is they tax us for the right to fly and once a tax is imposed the cost will only keep on rising. Sadly everything in society today is governed by how much monetary value a body or person can extract by fair means or foul.

Don't forget to look in the bits box in the caravan as when we are given items they go in here on a first come first served basis. You never know what little gem you may find that you may have been looking for or planning on looking for.

I suppose if you look on the bright side, if I don't have a lot to say we must be doing most of it right ROFLOL. Enjoy your flying.

