



# The Western Port Flyer

Woolleys Road, Crib Point, VIC

[www.wpmac.com.au](http://www.wpmac.com.au)

Newsletter of the Westernport Model Aircraft Club.

Apr 2011

## Message from Ed

Hi All.

Much has happened this past month, but the thing that will stick in most peoples minds is the passing of John Bentley. John was one of our club's founders, and one of the nicest blokes you'd meet. I was unfortunately unable to make it to the funeral, but I heard that it was a fitting sendoff with John's favorite Merlin engine sound being played. Phill has written a nice piece in tribute to John about 2 months ago, which you will find below.

On a good note, it was really great to see so many people turn up for the working bee. It was even better to see most of them stay around and help. Hearing comments from visitors, I think we really do have a field we can be proud of.

Starting last issue, we have the WhoAmI quiz. We only had two entrants - both with the correct answer submitted via the web site. No idea who Danny Way is, but he got the right answer anyway. So with only two entrants, maybe its too easy. So this months is a bit more cryptic, with some classic WW2 spy tales.

Lastly, It seems that the web links I have been publishing don't work. Thanks Riley for picking that up. Hopefully, we can resolve that from now on.

Ed.

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## Message from Pres

Hi to all the members

About a couple of weeks ago we had some damage done to the field, this happened because the gate was left open. We were very lucky they didn't do more damage other than the field. It could have been a lot worse. I can't stress it enough we must make sure the gate is left closed.

Benalla is over for another year, the Germans won again Ha Ha, it was a great weekend. Weather was great, a bit windy but it was up the strip and Scott lost his Tiger Cat that was a bummer. We have heaps of pics coming. When they arrive I will put some on our web site.

The flying down the field has been good, not to many accidents which is a good thing.

We had the sporty forty this weekend and as usual the weather was shite but it went on and thanks for the guy who came from other clubs. If the weather was better I am sure there would have been heaps more people there.

I would just like to say when it comes to the bbq on the weekends don't leave it up to the people who do it all the time, we need more people putting their hands up to help.

Thanks, Brian Holmes

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**Club Meeting Brief,** held at Bittern fire station,  
Tue 12<sup>th</sup> Apr, 2011

The meeting opened as usual with reports of how much of the clubs cash was being spent by the treasurer on his latest trip round the world.

Potential new member Paul Reed introduced himself and have a short account of his life story. Welcome back to WPMAC Paul.

Sun 15th May will be the John Bentley Scale Day - get your scale scratch builds and ARFs ready. After this, Oct 16th is the next one.

A few weeks ago, we had vandals drive onto the field and do some damage. PLEASE ensure you lockup when leaving. If you don't have a key on you - please call Brian (number below).

The Sports Aeros comp was held on Sunday 10th. (See below for a brief rundown of the day.)

Crashed planes left in the incinerator should be burned please. Otherwise they are creating rubbish when the wind picks up.

Keith announced that the Comp for this Sunday will be the Super Glide Comp - 10 secs to get as much altitude as possible then glide back. Longest time from start to finish wins.

Keith also annouced plans by the Rotary club to hold a model airshow at Baxter Park. The event will include market stalls, top quality aircraft displays, and more. WPMAC has been asked to run the air display. No dates proposed yet.

Graeme Forrest has resigned as registrar. Thanks Graeme for your efforts to date.

The temporary arrangements regarding the heli flying area has now ended. We return to the original rules for determining the heli practice / hover area. And speaking of rules, a new copy of the club rules will be posted near the kitchen.

Next meeting is scheduled for 7:30pm May 10th at Bittern Fire Station.

**Tech Talk by Matt Carter**

Matt reports that the Annual Toy and Hobby Fair trade event was a bit dismal this year, with many of the smaller companies not putting up much in the way of displays.

Model Engines were there, as well as Spektrum to name some of the more important ones. M.E. were showcasing some of the new models soon to be available from Seagull (est June/July) including .90 size Zeros and Spitfires.

Matt had a few models to check out, and a great new professional charger - although the name charger doesn't really do this beast justice.

As well as charging all well known battery types (max 5S currently), it also has ESC testing, motor RPM sensing (for sensor type motors), PC connection with USB, servo testing, digital servo programming and more.

The unit is called the Pulsar Touch. It has a touch screen display, and will take firmware updates in the future to enhance the number and types of supported devices.



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## WPMAC Calendar

### WPMAC Events Calendar for 2011

Month	WPMAC Meeting	Keith's Comp's	Working Bee's	Special Events	Scale Day's
Apr	12th	17th		10th Sporty Forty	
May	10th	15th	22nd		15th Scale & ARF John Bentley Memorial Trophy BADMAC Mid May Muster
Jun	14th	19th			
Jul	12th	17th			
Aug	9th	14th			
Sep	13th	18th			
Oct	11th	16th			16th Scale & ARF Alan Ritchie Memorial Trophy
Nov	8th	13th	13th		
Dec	13th	18th			

## History Lesson

Phill Beresford handed me a copy of an article from ARCM Sep 1988, which details some of Geoff Tucks experiences with model aircraft in the film industry.

In the writeup, Geoff talks about flying a 6ft Tiger Moth with floats, from the deck of the 'New Endeavour', a replica of Cook's ship being used for this project. Despite Geoff's request for calm seas to takeoff and land the tiggly, 4 foot swell was present and so it was 4 foot swell that Geoff landed in, takeoff being hand launch.

The article goes on to describe some of Geoff's other adventures in showbiz, and makes very interesting reading. I'll attach a copy to our website if you're interested to read the whole thing.

Click here to read more ... (wpmac login reqd)

[http://www.wpmac.com.au/index.php?option=com\\_remository&Itemid=20&func=download&id=22&chk=21f1288a9292ceb3bf63c956f9fdf5af&no\\_html=1](http://www.wpmac.com.au/index.php?option=com_remository&Itemid=20&func=download&id=22&chk=21f1288a9292ceb3bf63c956f9fdf5af&no_html=1)

## John Bentley by Phill Thursfield

I see again by Hardy's remarks that he is still having trouble receiving articles for the club news letter. The recent news of our founding members John Bentley (air commodore) has prompted me to put a couple of lines together regarding my association with John and the good times spent laughing and enjoying his humour.

meeting that I attended nearly 18 years ago now, John was full of cheer and comments on how great the club was and how I would enjoy my experience as a member, how right he was. The club back in those days wasn't much different than it is now it had its share of characters just as it does today some have left the club and been replaced by others, the likes of John

If I start from when I first met John at the first club

stayed on. If I look back John has had a lot of misfortune in his life, the loss of his daughter having to raise his grand children which he was very proud of and then too loose his wife and go through the illness he has would have destroyed even the strong amongst us, John just keeps on going un phased. We hear a lot about what a true Aussie is John in my mind is a true Aussie he just keeps going the harder it gets the more he digs in, I'm must say that I am proud to have John as a friend as his determination has in some way made me look at myself and what it takes to keep going even in the hardest of times.



John receiving his life membership (11/8/2009)

John over the time I have known him, has built and flown many planes, the one that really stands out and makes me smile is a plane he knick named Bortion. John designed and built Bortion as a cheap fun fly type aircraft built of red gum and covered in the material that is used to make shower curtains then finished with dope, from memory un painted. John flew Bortion once and I think his comment was that it fly's as well as the name.

John was a keen modeller as can be seen by his collection. I recall when he said one day I'm going to build a museum a place to put my planes some were to sit and have a beer, John set to work and put the frame up with some help from his good friend the Garoni, Peter tried to show John how to lay bricks without success his comment was bloody Garoni needs to stick to building, off John went and work with a brick layer for a couple of days and learnt how to lay bricks and finished his museum. John now had a place to sit have a drink and talk about the time he was in the airforce and all the other things he liked while he got you [drunk](#) on home brewed beer.

John gave greatly of his time in the early days of the club mowing lawns doing odd jobs and promoting the club which was a big part of his life, I was fortunate enough to have been present the night John received life membership he was very humbled by the award. It was announced that the next scale competition will be in dedicated to John, which I think for any club member who is lucky enough to win this should hold the trophy with pride.

What I have put together here is only a brief part of my time shared with John. The news letter isn't really large enough to write a life story and I think some would get bored with reading such a long story.

I dedicate this to my friend and someone when I think about brings a laugh as I think of the fun times spent and not the sickness that will take him from us.

Philip Thursfield.

## Sporty Aerobatics Competition

Previously known as the Sporty 40, the Sporty Aeros were held at WPMAC last Sunday (Apr 10th).

As usual, the field was in great shape, but the showers and cold wind made the challenge tougher than it needed to be (speaking from a beginners point of view).



Anyway, with our Visitors from Greensborough waiting to judge, there was no stopping us. This was my first Aerobatic comp, so I relied a lot on Michael's instruction before we got started.

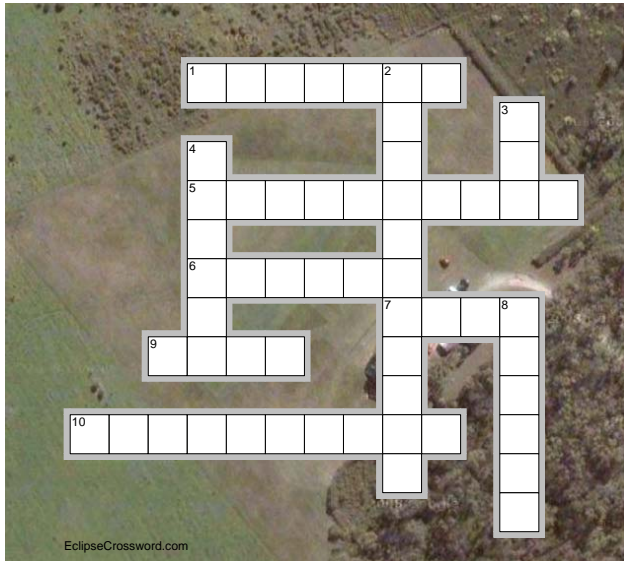
First up on the field was Russell Edwards from Greensborough. He made it look pretty easy, so when it came to my turn, I was full of enthusiasm. Well that was short lived. As soon as I was in the air, I had Michael yelling out 'go upwind, no downwind, now outward eight, no thats the wrong way - you have to finish going out...' And so it went. I actually really enjoyed myself, partly because by the 3rd round, I had remembered the basic order of maneuvers and the



entry and exit points (but mostly because it was funny watching an amateur fly). So I guess that's what prompted them to realign the course - I must have been a threat to the other three entrants ! The wind was coming from the other side now, which totally confused me, and resulted in a zero total for every maneuver involving pilot control. I should have just let the wind do all my tricks.

At the end of the day, I had quite a lot of fun imagining my plane doing the right thing. Congratulations go to Russell for 1st place, Michael Bourne with 2nd, and Greg Eadie with 3rd place.

## Riddlers Crossword



### Across

1. TU-214
5. Tiger
6. SU-22M4
7. 140TP
9. Gripen
10. CRJ900

### Down

2. Typhoon
3. Hawk
4. Citation
8. Jumbo

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## Who Am I ?

This famous British aircraft designer had a film made about him. The film was produced and directed by one of 17 people who died when the Nazis shot down a KLM DC-3, possibly because they believed Winston Churchill to have been on board. Who is the designer and what is he famous for ?

## Whos Who Member Profile by Stephen Gray

**Name:** Neil Lyons  
**Occupation:** Self employed – Timberwolf Constructions  
**Age:** 48

Neil lives in Rosebud, is married and has a 3 year old child. He is the owner and operator of Timberwolf Constructions. He has also worked in the music industry for 24 years, as a vocal artist, with his own bands and with other groups. He is a qualified Sound Engineer. Amongst his other interest's, he would include camping, fishing, bushwalking and is an avid 4 wheel driver.



**How did you get started in this hobby?**  
*"I started with control when I was a kid,*

*always been interested in military aircraft and joined the club in 2010"*

**What would you say is your greatest achievement so far?**

*"Becoming a father, and my business success"*

**What type of aircraft are you currently flying?**

*"My Tiger 40 and the Extra 300"*

**The hardest thing you had to learn about flying?**

*"Patience, I'm not overly patient, so I had to learn"*

**Have you ever forgotten anything important?**

*"Turned up one day with no wing spar, and another day no wheels"*

**Build from scratch or ARF, any preference?**

*"ARF, used to build from scratch, don't have time to do that anymore"*

**Words of wisdom you would impart to a beginner?**

*"1 pick a descent trainer, 2 get on the simulator"*

**Anything you dislike about this hobby?**

*"Cleaning the plane at the end of the day!"*

**If you had the money, what would be your dream car and what would you be flying?**

*"The new Nissan Patrol, when it's released this year. Pretty happy with what I have, although I would like a Hawker Typhoon"*



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## **Around the traps. Part Two., by Stephen Gray**









The saga of the De Havilland Mosquito, Mark VI continues, I have now finally assembled the tail fin and stabiliser, an interesting arrangement, with a bent and glued wire rod, running from the rudder through the fuselage to the tailwheel via a rudder control horn. I say interesting due to the fact that a dirty great hole exposes the rudder push rod, the control horn and the wire rod for all the world to see, not shown on the box it came in.

Use of the soldering iron came in handy softening and in turn adhering the film covering to the balsa surround, how long it lasts is another story, (and I do not mean the aircraft!) I didn't want to melt the film or do any excessive damage to the aircraft.....very cautious.

Next on the agenda engine nacelles and retracts.



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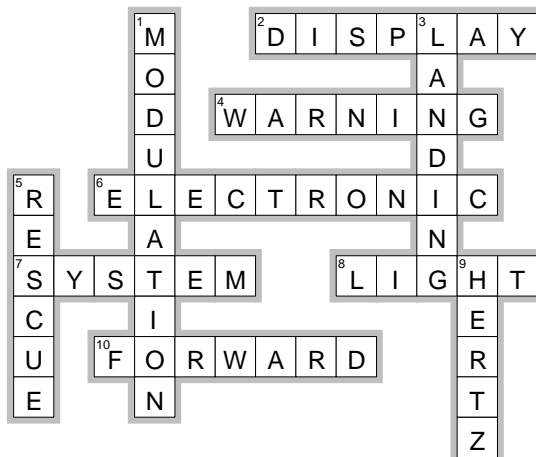






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## Answers

Here is last issues solution to the riddlers crossword



EclipseCrossword.com

## Who Am I ?

I'm the Beriev BE-103.



Congratulations to Danny Way (1st) and Stephen Gray (2nd) for guessing correctly.

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## Gallery from Mar 20 Pylon Race



Ready... Set... GO

This looks way too  
close Matt



## WPMAC Committee

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Committee members can be contacted on the above numbers or via the WPMAC.com.au website, or via snail mail to PO Box 90, Bittern, 3918

## Newsletter Submissions

If you have anything of interest share with other like minded modellers, please send me your stuff by the 2nd Tues of each month (ie - Club meeting dates).

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