



NEWSBEAT

The official publication of the Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association

Website <http://www.mmafa.eu>

Postal Address PO Box 22 Balzan BZN 1000

Issue 4/2010

April

From the President

It's spring again and while hoping that the wind will not continue to detract us from flying during this period, I encourage members to find some time in their hectic lifestyle to spend an hour or so enjoying their hobby, or even for a chat at our clubhouse.

The new Committee has been preparing a number of happenings for this year. Firstly, we will be organizing visits to aviation related organizations. **The first one will be a visit to the Control Tower of the Malta International Airport . This visit is planned to take place on Saturday 24 April - MEMBERS WISHING TO ATTEND ARE TO CONTACT FRANK MERECICA ON 99406618 AND SUBMIT THEIR NAMES AND IDENTITY CARD NUMBER BY SUNDAY 18 APRIL. WE WILL MEET AT TA' QALI AT 9.30AM AND PROCEED TO THE AIRPORT FROM THERE.**

Next Event

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES TO THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS. We will have the Fun Fly meet next Saturday, 17 April where members can train some simple tasks and be judged accordingly. This is being done so that flyers can get acquainted with simple tasks such as spot landings, number of loops in a specified time, timed flights, etc.. The Jet meet has been moved to May 15 and we have also reserved Sunday morning of the 30 May for a Helicopter event in addition to the one in December.

MAJJALATA

Following last year's successful evening enjoying roasted pig, another evening of this type will be held on **SATURDAY 8 MAY AT THE SAME VENUE—SEE ADVERT ON PAGE 6 - ALL THOSE WISHING TO ATTEND ARE TO CONTACT PATRICK AZZOPARDI ON 99449922 NOT LATER THAN WEDNESDAY 5 MAY**

The Scale meet

A very enjoyable afternoon blessed with perfect weather took place on Saturday 13 February. A large number of Scale models were on site and I take this opportunity to thank all members who brought up a model for static or flying purposes. Undoubtedly the star of the show was Brian's magnificent A-10 Warthog which was flown with complete confidence and skill by Brian. Some photographs of the event appear on page 4 of this Newsletter

Our New Website – <http://www.mmafa.eu>

You should by now have realized that the Association has a new website. The site is being sponsored by the Company "Alliance—business & Information solutions" thanks to committee member Roger Xuereb Archer, whose profession is directly related to the subject.

As the site contains certain innovations which I am not totally conversant with, I have asked Roger to put in a short write up on the matter, which I am reproducing further down. Thanks Roger.

On Safety

This subject has been brought up a myriad times in Newsletters, AGM's etc., but it seems that a number of members are still ignoring safety measures indicated in the standing regulations and other safety measures indicated in our Newsletters.

With the advent of large petrol engines and Jet turbines, the safety aspect needs to be revised and the Committee has decided to restrict the operation of such engines in the pit area. See revised standing regulations on page 7 .

In addition, the following points also need addressing as regards safety on site;

1. FLYING OVER THE PIT AREA IS ABSOLUTELY FORBIDDEN AT ALL TIMES.
2. RUNNING IN OF ENGINES TO BE PERFORMED IN DESIGNATED AREA ONLY.
3. 35mHZ Tx AERIALS TO BE EXTENDED ON RUNWAY ONLY
4. ONLY FLIERS SHOULD OCCUPY THE PIT AREA
5. HELICOPTER FLYING/HOVERING ONLY ON RUNWAY

The Committee will also be discussing our way of positioning ourselves according to wind direction, which has a number of flaws regarding safety. In the meantime flying members should acquaint themselves thoroughly with flying and landing from the left and from the right as necessary.

Of T-shirts, caps and lapel badges

As part of fund raising the committee will shortly have for sale Tshirts, caps and badges with the Association's logo. All members are encouraged to acquire these items. Prices will be announced when these become available.

Our New Website

The Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association has recently launched its new web site which can be found at <http://www.mmafa.eu>

The main scope for the new website is to present a better image of the Association and its activities as well as to provide members with new facilities that will be introduced from time to time.

As a current member, you should have received an e-mail informing you of your username and password to allow you to access the members' only facilities. Those that have not yet provided us with an e-mail address will receive this information with this newsletter.

Accessing the new website

The new website is found at <http://www.mmafa.eu>

Accessing the Members' Only areas

To access the members' only area you need to:

Click on the "Login" option which is found underneath the banner

Enter your username

Enter your password (note this is case sensitive)

Click Login

If this is the first time you have logged in, you will be asked to change the password to a new one. Please follow the instructions as shown on screen.

Members Only Functions

Currently there are four main areas that are accessible only to members, which are:

Frequently Asked Questions

Members Area > FAQs

Here you will find answers on how to use the site and other questions relating to the association membership

BLOGS

Members Area > FAQs

Here members can create their own area on the site which could include information on a model they are building or a project that they are undertaking relating to our hobby

Channel Allocation

Members Area > Channel Allocation

Show the current records for channel as allocated to members. If there are any changes required please send an e-mail to info@mmafa.eu

Club Rules

Members Area > The Rules

Includes statute and standing regulations

Newsletter

Membership > Newsletter

Includes the latest copies of the Newsbeat

Other member only functionality, such as a "Classified" area where members can list their items for sale, will be introduced in the near future. If you have any suggestions or material for the site (e.g. old photographs or articles) please send these to info@mmafa.eu at the earliest possible.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday 17 April	Fun Fly meet
Saturday 24 April	Visit to MIA
Saturday 8 May	MAJJALATA (see page 1)
Saturday 15 May	Jet Meet
Sunday 30 May	Helicopter Event
Saturday 5 June	Aerobatic training session
Saturday 21 August	Official BarBeque
Saturday 18 September	Scale Competition
SATURDAY/SUNDAY 30/31 OCTOBER	
WINGS OVER TA' QALI 2010	
Saturday 13 November	Unlimited Event
Wednesday 8 December	Helicopter Event
Sunday 19 December	Xmas Drinks

For Sale

Katana S40, 54-inch span, complete with OS46AX, prop and 5 servos - €250
Can sell without engine and/or servos if required.
€150 without engine or €100 bare airframe.

CAP 232, 63-inch span, complete with Supertigre 61 ringed, prop and 6 servos—€200
Can sell without engine and/or servos if required.
€125 without engine or €75 bare airframe.

Part-exchange for scale / semi-scale / pattern unbuilt kits (no artf's) also considered.

Chris 9942 6989.

FOR SALE

Emco compact 8 Lathe complete with milling head and industrial stand. Many accessories.

€1,200

Trainer 65" span with Thunder Tigre 46 and 4 channel 2.4Ghz radio, ready to fly

€200

Contact Joe Briffa on 7986 2886

SCALE WEEKEND PICTORIAL





MAJJALATA

SATURDAY 8 May

At Gianni (in-Nemlu)

Mdina Road

Zebbug

(In front of Autobahn Car Dealer)

**Come and enjoy the taste of roasted pig complete
With appetizers, deserts and an OPEN BAR FOR WINE
AND BEER.**

PRICE 28 EUROS (OPEN BAR)

Children under 12 free

**CONTACT PATRICK AZZOPARDI ON 99449922
TO BOOK AND DEPOSIT 15 EURO BY NOT LATER
THAN WEDNESDAY 5 May 2010**

BOOK AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE AS SPACE IS LIMITED

STANDING REGULATIONS AT TA' QALI

1. **The Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association consists of a majority of members flying radio controlled fixed wing aircraft and a minority of members flying rotary wing aircraft, or helicopters. IT IS AN ESTABLISHED SAFETY PRINCIPLE THAT FIXED AND ROTARY WING FLYING DO NOT MIX. A member flying helicopters must therefore seek a slot with fixed wing flyers of at least 15 minutes every hour if this is found to be necessary.**
2. Upon arrival at Ta' Qali members should park their cars in the marked parking docks on the Club House side and the models and equipment should be taken on the pits area behind the railings. Members' children and the public are strictly forbidden to enter the pits area. Identify yourself with fellow members and determine the pilots' positioning according to wind direction. On departure, the last member to leave the flying site should ensure that the Club House, Toilet and the Gate are closed. Membership proof for the current year and a valid R/C licence (if applicable) must be shown to any Committee member on demand.
3. Before commencing flying every member utilizing the 35 and 41 Mhz band must pick up his frequency tag from the frequency Board. Members caught flying on these frequencies without a frequency tag will be penalized. Only internationally approved spot frequencies are allowed—these are the 35Mhz, the 41 Mhz band and the recently introduced 2.4 Ghz band. When using the 35 and 41 Mhz, the frequency tag must be placed in a prominent position on the flight box. Beginners / new members are to note that they can only occupy the Channels numbers 81 to 90 on the 35 Mhz band. Beginners/new members will not be permitted to fly on their own before their competence is determined by a Committee member.

Beginners/new members may consequently request that the Committee allow them to use a different channel once they have acquired total flying skills. The Committee will consider this request and after ensuring that the member is sufficiently proficient, allocate another channel for their use. Any Frequency allocation, however, remains at the sole discretion of the Committee.
4. If the frequency tag is in use, await your turn until the corresponding transmitter is switched off and the tag returned. Each flying session must not exceed 30 minutes. It is strongly recommended that the principle of impounding transmitter between flyers using the same frequency is adopted. Transmitter antennae must be retracted (where applicable) while in the pits and while taxiing out.
5. Flyers are to coordinate their flying and group together in the predetermined spot, and within the marked yellow lines. Call your landings and take-offs. Clear the runway as quickly as possible after landing. Avoid crossing the runway unless absolutely necessary. Avoid flying low over transmitters whatever the frequency. Flying over the pits and spectator areas is strictly forbidden.
6. All flyers are to land immediately if a full size helicopter or microlight aircraft is seen approaching the area. Actual flying should be restricted to a radius of approximately 150 metres from the centre of the flying area. Avoid flying over any building within the area mentioned.
7. Running in of engines is to be performed away from the pits and flyers in the designated area. Effective silencers are compulsory on site. A maximum level of 85 dB at 7 metres is being imposed on all days of the week. No flying or starting of engines must take place before 0800 hours and not later than sundown on any day of the week.
8. **JET TURBINES AND ENGINES ABOVE 30CCS MUST NOT BE OPERATED (START OR SHUTDOWN) IN THE PIT AREA.**
9. The committee reserves the right to suspend any member of the Association should his actions or flying constitute a hazard to other members and the public.
10. Mobile phones must not be operated on the runway as they have been reported as causing interference to modern computerized transmitters.
11. Flyers teaching their sons/daughters to fly may use their own frequency until total proficiency is attained by the pupil in accordance with clause 5, after which the pupil will have to move to one of the beginners' frequencies. Responsibility in such cases falls on the parent.
12. **Keep in mind that the main objective of the Association is for recreational and educational purposes. Every effort should be made not to spoil other members' enjoyment by dangerous flying or in an unpleasant way.**
13. **Do not show off—fly safely!**

The Committee
Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association

IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO
MMAFA PO Box 22 Balzan BZN1000

NEWSBEAT

The Official Newsletter of the
Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association



Happy Mother's Day


the X-Zone
detergent shop

The cheapest detergent shop on the island by far
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