

## President's Report

Indoor Aviation – Special Interest Group of the Australian Men's Shed

**30 August, 2019**

We are now in the seventh successful year of operation of Indoor Aviation. As noted in previous years we seem to have managed the right balance of formality and fun with the emphasis on the latter.

Both the Waverley and Boronia sites are operating very successfully for the small RC models as well as the free flight rubber powered ones. We continue to have a good turn up at every flying session, even in winter at both venues, and it is common to have over half a dozen RC planes in the air at once, plus the odd multicopter. It's worth remembering that we have a Pirate Code (well more like Guidelines really) that there should be no more than 6 models in the air at any one time for safety.

As always, I would like to record our gratitude again to Shane and staff at the Waverley Falcons BB centre for their great support and assistance. The constant friendly support and the willingness to occasionally retrieve wayward flying objects from behind the wall panels are very much appreciated.

Lew Rodman looks after the Boronia site and is pleased to report another successful year of flying activities at Boronia with an average attendance of 15 or so members at flying sessions. During the year we ran several small competitions in flying skill at Boronia, which members participated in, and they turned out to be a lot of fun. Our relations with the Knox BB centre management remain excellent, with cooperation on both sides on any issue that has arisen, and we are looking forward to another successful year for Indoor Aviation at Boronia.

We have continued with the practice of donating a sum of \$200 to both venues as an ad hoc donation to help defray any costs they may incur by our presence during flying. Both managements have said that it was not necessary but have thanked us for the donations and said that they were very much appreciated.

Our modest fees and daily flying fee are more than enough to cover our expenses, and this year we used some of our small reserve to purchase a quantity of 1S, 150mAh and 200mAh cells in bulk at excellent prices which were then available to members at cost. As we did in 2017, we also funded the entrants in the 2018 John Bird trophy. In this case it was a stock of Depron-like sheet which was distributed to members for the one-sheet-of-foam original design glider contest for the trophy and a great deal of fun was had by all. A wide variety of solutions emerged - from the precision designed and engineered to the simply daft – and there was some ingenious stretching of the rules. Congratulations to Wes Hoffman who was the winner after a hard-fought contest with Colin Smith. Wes prevailed with a CAD designed flying machine that used every square millimeter of the supplied sheet. And a big thanks to Julie and Jeanette for attending as in previous years, and to Julie especially for graciously presenting the winning trophy.

As I have said in previous reports, the strength of Indoor Aviation is the way in which members take responsibility when something needs doing and I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who contributes to our success. Formal roles have stayed fairly

constant but markedly, if someone is not available for any reason, someone else always steps in to cover. I would wish however to acknowledge the continuing and consistent support from Ian Jemmeson and Laurie Clark. The roles of Secretary and Treasurer are vital - but often not seen by members. The amount of work involved, and the diligence with which those roles are fulfilled, are essential to the smooth running of the group. In addition, I particularly want to thank Gary O'Mahony for his excellent continuing stewardship of our morning tea requirements.

I close with my usual final note. May I express my appreciation to all the members who have continued to come along and enjoy the flying and fellowship of our group in the best of spirit and with a generous outlook. It makes the sessions a joy to look forward to.

John Julian  
President

The full report has been added to the web site.