

Penrith Float Fly 31st July

There were probably more WRCS members there on Sunday than at the Belrose field. Pilot briefing was at 9.30 and I managed to get there just before 11.00 but Tim Nolan was happy to take my \$15 and check my MAAA membership! It was a beautiful sunny day with hardly a breath of wind.

Stan Begg was there with his big new Seamaster waiting for Col Simpson to



arrive and give it the "Over 7kgs Inspection". This was duly done and Stan had a great maiden flight including a wonderful "whack and go" followed by an almost perfect landing. Yes, that's Chris Hebbard on the right who came with Margo for a look-see.

I assembled my Dreamer (just the same as the last time it flew) and thought it seemed to be a little bit tail heavy but with a tank full of fuel "she'll be right"!

She wasn't! She was a lot more tail heavy than I thought - it was obvious as soon as it left the water, almost impossible to maintain level flight. The series of violent oscillations ended in a big smack that left it drifting quietly 200m off shore. Thank you Don and the rescue boat!



Here it is again, just like the last time!

Meanwhile David Foster was having a few engine problems but once sorted his



Macchi M33 flew well and looks very pretty in the air with a very smooth moulded fuselage.

Col Mitchell had a veritable flotilla of planes. A tiny GMS foamie TigerMoth, a Hog and a foam Icon. That was one of 3 there and they fly very well thinksI must look up the Hobbyking site!



This is the Icon, it's scale too and flies as good as it looks (or should that be as well as it looks?).



So then I thought, "I brought it, I'd better fly it" and got out my trusty old



Starlet for which I had made up some floats. I think they are not quite big enough as it floats a bit low in the water but time for a maiden water flight. Whoops, another one a bit tail heavy, not impossible but very difficult to keep straight and level but after one smackeroo attempt to land I got it down smoothly and in one piece.

Sadly the same could not be said of Jim Mastertons model which proved that water is nearly as hard as earth! The fibreglass float in the background has it's tip well and truly mashed.



Garry Welsh came to watch and enjoy the sunshine and basically a good day was had by nearly all - oh, and they do a great egg & bacon roll in the café.

Next meeting is the 14th August

Check it out at <http://www.creationsofflight.com.au/>

Mike Minty aka "Moments"