



PROP TORQUE



Merv Cameron's own design and scratch built "Lil AI" see inside the front cover for more details

Official Newsletter of the...
LAUNCESTON MODEL AERO CLUB Inc.
VOLUME 10

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2002



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Cover Picture: Merv's model uses a Super Tigre 0.61 motor. Wingspan is about 60" and the model weighs in at around 7lb. Merv built it as a sedate high wing cabin model, however he gave it to Peter K for a quick fly and next thing "Lil Al" is cutting knife edges through the sky!

EXECUTIVE..

PRESIDENT Peter Kidson (03) 6394 4380
V.PRESIDENT Merv Cameron (03) 6344 5614
SECRETARY Gerry de Groot (03) 6369 5284
TREASURER Nigel Keefe (03) 6344 6079

Next Meeting AGM:
Tuesday, 30th at 7:30pm at
the Waddle residence
35 Collins St., Evandale

Prop Torque is the Members Magazine Why not make a contribution?
 How? Contact the editors George & Kerry -
 e-mail: gcamie@tassie.net.au
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 50-62 Fairtlough St.
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Copy Deadline: Friday after 2nd Monday of each month

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CAPTAIN'S REPORT
Peter Kidson (03) 6394 4380
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Captains Report

It's that time of year again when we hold the Annual General Meeting, Gerry's column will have all the details about when and where we'll meet. Please remember you have to have paid your subs or you will not be able to vote.

For those who don't know, Alice has retired as Canteen Manager. After a lot of deliberation she has called it a day. May I say on behalf of the members, thank you very much for a job well done.

As we want to keep the canteen running as an integral part of the clubs social scene the committee has come up with the idea that we should have not one manager but two coordinators and a group of people willing to help when called upon. The coordinators will be responsible for running the canteen both on club days and all contest days and at any time the committee decides. I know this is sounding like a job description and in a way it is. We need committed volunteers to fill this position. People who are willing to jump in and help. So if you are interested in helping the club in this way give your name to any committee member and we'll be in touch.

April the 20th is the final contest for the club year. Geoff, our contest director is going to come up with some fascinating events for us to try out. Again if you're interested come along and have a go.

It has been my privilege over the past 3 years to have had on the committee with me a group of very dedicated people. they have fulfilled all the tasks set before them without question. they have come up with ideas to help push the club in a direction I for one

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think we should be heading and that is simply forward. I felt that when I took over the reins that the club had settled into a comfortable chair and was not going to budge without a bit of a push. Well this committee has done just that. We now have a solid base with which to build and to continue to move forward. Sure, we've had to back peddle a couple of times but who doesn't make errors of judgment. At least we have admitted we got it wrong and learnt by our mistakes.

The members who's terms are up this year are willing to stand for another 2 years. These are the type of people needed to help run your club and I will for certain give them my vote. I'm asking you all to do the same. Help to vote this committee back in again and rest assured we'll do everything we can to keep the club on the right track.

Last year we left the annual dinner a bit late. this year we won't be doing that. As soon as we can find the right date then we can book it and let you know when so you can all come and enjoy.

That's it for now. I hope to see you all at the AGM. As I've mentioned Gerry our secretary will have the venue and date in his report to be found further along. Don't forget the Novelty Fly-In in April.

See you at the field...

Pete...

Don't Forget—Badges are available for sale. Price \$10.00 (incl. 2 stickers).

Contact Kerry, George or any Committee member if you require some.

Show you support and buy one.



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Gerry de Groot

Ph: 0417 536 200 (BH) or 6369 5284 AH

gdegroot@vision.net.au

Hello all.

We've had a few adverse responses to the increased subscriptions advertised in my last column, but in most cases members have understood the reasons why. (For those who have not yet paid, please pay your subs as soon as possible.)

Annual General Meeting: The AGM will be held on Tuesday, 30 April at 7:30pm at Gill Waddle's place. Nominations will be sought for three positions: president (Peter Kidson) and two committee positions (Geoff Hays and Andrew McEntyre). Please note the date in your diary and come along to have your say. Remember you must have renewed your subscriptions to vote.

Annual Dinner: Another one for the diary! The Annual Dinner will be held on 17 May. Note that the venue has not yet been finalised. (*It has now. Refer page 19 for details. Ed.*)

New Member: I ask all members to welcome a new Junior member, Jamie Kulhanek. Jamie is from Youngtown and is interested in various branches of aeromodelling. We look forward to seeing him at the field.

Other Committee News:

- Canteen ("Café Symmons") - the committee is looking for two people (men or women) who are interested in being 'canteen coordinators', to be responsible to the committee for organizing the canteen. The committee decided earlier on that canteen will be held on each club day (first Saturday in each month) and contest day. By the way, remember the State Fun-Fly Fly-In is on 20 April at LMAC. Competition will start at 9:30am, and not 10:00am. Remember, don't bring your own lunch and help support the club!

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- TMAA- This year the TMAA AGM will be held on 5 April. All clubs send two delegates to take part; Peter Kidson and Geoff Hays have volunteered to go (they will be giving up their Sunday to go and inevitably it will be a beautiful flying day). Thanks guys.
- Indoor flying - Last year the club contributed to indoor flying (very modestly) by assisting with the cost of hiring the PCYC venue. This year the indoor flyers have elected to take this on without assistance. This will mean that indoor flying is not a part of club operations.
- From now on, selections of the MAAA Newsletter will be included in Prop Torque. We will do our best to include stuff that is of interest, but inevitably, it will be impossible to choose what information will satisfy everyone. Limited space available in Prop Torque means the whole newsletter cannot be included. (*We ran out of space again, so it is included as an insert. Ed.*)
- The Lions Club of Bridport have invited LMAC to their Australia Day Family Fun Day in January 2003, by way of radio controlled aircraft demonstration flights and possibly a static display. Andrew McEntyre has already put his hand up, but it needs others to get involved as well. This will be a great opportunity to promote our hobby/sport. The catch is, only Gold Wing pilots will be able to actually fly, but everyone is welcome to go along and participate. A strong contingent from LMAC would be a great move.

That's it for now.

Until next month, happy flying.

Gerry de Groot





From the Editors

Hi everyone,

Hope you all had a pleasant and peaceful Easter and any chocolate excesses are now under control. If anyone has lost their Easter Bunnies, please collect from our place as they are playing havoc with Kerry's garden.

In the November magazine I showed a picture of a Great Planes Giles 202 that had been converted to electric. The original design was meant for a 46 two stroke but for IMAC events a 0.60 two stroke or a 0.90 four stroke were recommended.

I have taken the plunge and purchased a kit that had been started by another modeller. He had got as far as building most of the wing to the pre sheeting stage. The model is produced by Great Planes and has a wingspan of 59.3". Great Planes can provide additional information than that found in the boxes of their models. Go to their website, URL is www.greatplanes.com for more information.

This kit is no exception and an added bonus is Ann-Marie Cross (a Product Manager for GP) has written a comprehensive article about what is involved in converting this model to electric.

<http://www.greatplanes.com/reviews/gpma0238e-rcm.html>

Anne-Marie was well placed to review—her husband Michael Cross, is also the designer of the model. What I find important about the article is that a lot of the comments relate to the conversion of any IC powered model to electric. Tips on weight saving, CG placement, power issue etc. are included in this article. As an example, the original Giles wing, using stock kit ma-

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materials and standard servos, weighed in at 24 ozs. With the ribs reduced from 3/32" to 1/16" and using competition grade balsa, as opposed to the die cut kit balsa. Then the use of 2 mini servos, brought the weight down to 16½ ozs. A saving of nearly **8 ozs!**

When the test model was finished it's dry weight was the same as that of the 91 configured model. Meaning it's take off weight was actually lighter! (You'll be excused for thinking that some manufacturers keep the price down by using cheaper balsa and increase the weight!) Anyway for general purpose it is not a problem (only for us electric flyers).

Contributions

Thanks to Jacques Wakae for his informative Electrasite column. These batteries can be a mystery and Jacques insight into the do's and don'ts should help us to get the best value out of our investment in this long term "fuel" we use. Keep up the good work Jacques!

I am sure there is a wealth of information out there, why not, as Jacques has done, share it with your fellow modellers. Any construction tips/short cuts? Any tips from the glider boys about how to "keep them up there"? How to set up your glider for launch, thermal seeking etc. What are the tips for "crow braking" etc, etc.

Café Symmons

As you would have read in the Captain's report, Alice Robertson has decided to call it a day as Canteen Manager. Alice commenced in the role in 1993 in what she tells me were very sparse facilities—a tent! She was assisted by other committee members wives as they battled the elements. Arrive at the site and erect the tent. No running water, no sink to clean-up in, no cupboards to store the crockery and utensils. A far cry from the comparative palatial surroundings we now have at the Clubhouse, with our central heating, modern gas cooking, crystal clear water supply and stainless steel sink ☺. Not to mention the relaxed lounge

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come dining area with coffee tables and a reading room all in one! Outside we can sit on our covered veranda with a corporate box like view of the aeroplane activities. Alternatively we can sit in the shade cloth covered alfresco dining area... Sounds great doesn't it!

So for all the members who haven't been out recently or haven't been out for a while... come out and join us and see what you have been missing. More important than the facilities or the surroundings....the friendship!

On Saturday, April 6th our President, Peter Kidson presented Alice with a lovely dried floral arrangement as a token of thanks from the Club. Here's a couple of pictures of Alice.



Alice with her flowers and card.



Is Alice giving a speech or because of the internal barbecue singing her favourite rendition of "Smoke gets in your eyes"?



Is Alice about to take off on that broom?

Alice has contributed a lot of her time over the years maintaining the excellent facilities we have but now YOUR club needs volunteers. It doesn't have to be every Club Day or every Competition but if you can help put your hand up.

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Don't forget the Annual Dinner on May 17. This year the Committee has decided a change of venue may be appropriate and has selected Scarlet's Restaurant (details on page 19). This should be a great night so come along and join in a pleasant and reasonably inexpensive evening.

Until next month..

Put a spark in your life—Fly Electric

George & Kerry

Contest Directors Report

The day of the Open Thermal Glider Championship's - March 23rd was a great day all day. The sun shone and the breeze was pleasant with no rain.

A truly great day for gliding and the nine contestants I feel enjoyed the experience of the challenge to compete on such a glorious day.

We had John Skinner from N.W.A.M. who won on the day with a brilliant performance with only 2 points down in one round out of six rounds flown.

Steff Gray, an ex LMAC member now of Toowoomba was down in Tassie and came prepared to fly and took out second place.

Only one hundred and nine points down on John.

Our Greg took third spot on the day with Bruce Nye and Steven Boag coming fourth and fifth respectively. Ian Cameron and Michael Taylor from S.M.S. took out sixth and seventh respectively with Kevin Hay and Dave Jacobs coming in eighth and ninth.

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As this event is the last event on our present calendar of events and the new contest year will begin on the third Saturday 18th May, we will have a "Fun Fly" start time of 10am.

At our last Committee meeting there was a discussion as to whether we should call our fun fly's "Fun Fly" as we have always done. Apparently from what we understand, the term "Fun Fly" is a serious contest and as such strikes some degree of trepidation to some prospective pilots.

Now as those who do participate in those "Fun Fly's" can attest they are just that but maybe we have got it all wrong or something, so we are going to call these fun events "Novelty Fly Ins". At which we will take the liberty to have fun and do things different from what any rule book may state. Perhaps, all sorts of things which we have done, many of them before but an all round general type model we will be able to do. I would suggest that the model for this type of event be able to -

- Taxi
- Fly slow and reasonably fast
- Glide and
- Be able to kill the motor mid air

The new contest calendar will be available by the A.G.M. which will be on Tuesday April 30th at the Waddle residence, Collins Street Evandale and will be published with the May edition of Prop Torque.

The points table for the contests to date are shown on the following page.

Well that's it for me for now.

So as always...

Happy Landings All.

Geoff C.D.



Contest Scores 2001-2002

POINTS TOTALS

After 11 Contests

Division A			Division B		
Contestant	Contests Entered	Points	Contestant	Contests Entered	Points
G Robertson	11	1197.1	K. Hay	8	664.84
P. Kidson	9	925.74	A. McEntyre	7	658.07
J. Wakae	6	535.70	D. Jacobs	7	387.52
G. Carnie	5	485.19	R. Cooper	3	252.71
			K. Gray	2	207.10
			B. Nye	1	110.10
			S. Boag	1	103.52
			M. Lynton	1	98.35
			G. deGroot	1	85.60
			J. Derrick	1	76.69
			M. Cameron	1	59.23
			C. Murray	1	32.68



Electrasite

More on Batteries

Many modelers have purchased a charger that uses the 'Reflex' method of charging and therefore believe that it will solve all their battery problems.

The 'Reflex' method **will** restore the capacity of a battery to near new but cannot ensure that all cells in a pack are charged to capacity. Chargers that charge at more than 1C rely on the fact that a battery in overcharge will heat up, will build internal pressure and thus produce a very slight drop in voltage of around 10 to 20 millivolts (per cell), if this voltage is graphed that small drop in voltage will appear like the apex of a triangle resembling the Greek letter Delta. thus the term 'Delta peak'.

Some smart chargers calculates the approximate voltage drop required based on an estimate of the number of cells deduced from the battery's start-up voltage. If cells are repeatedly stored partially discharged, or are recharged from a half-discharged state, a memory effect sets in, that is, the crystalline chemical structure of the cell changes, the cell's resistance increases and its voltage collapses under load. This makes it difficult for the charger to deduce the correct 'Delta peak' voltage drop.

Even if multiple reflex charging were to eliminate the memory effect there is no denying the need to store your batteries in a discharged state. The cells will self-discharge and the rate of discharge is different for each cell in the pack. If a charged pack is left for a considerable time, it will eventually consist of cells of widely varying states of charge. If you then give the pack a full charge, the cell with the most charge will be overcharged, heat up and will deteriorate whilst the cell or cells with minimal start-up charge will still not be full after that same charging period. If on the other hand, you discharge the pack, the cell with the least charge



will be completely flat and will most probably go into reverse polarity, that can sometimes be overcome by applying a high current booster charge, but the cell will more likely suffer an internal short-circuit, at that point the cell or cells with a good initial charge will still not be completely discharged.

The only reliable method of protecting your cells from these situations is to discharge your cells after use and recharge them before use. To discharge the cells, you will need a discharging unit that will stop discharging when the pack has reached a voltage of around 0.7 to 0.8 volt per cell. You must decide the economics, is the cost of a discharger greater than the value of your model?

Give your Nicads the respect (charger) they deserve.

Jacques Wakae

jlwakaebigpond.com

211 Coningham Rd Coningham Tasmania
PO Box 87 Snug 7054
Contact Greg on 0362679069 or fax
0362679061
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TASMANIAN MODEL AERONAUTICAL ASSOCIATION (INC).

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2002

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Total members		218 194
Opening balance	6522.15	8169.13
<u>Receipts.</u>		
Membership fees	7866.00	8042.00
Loan repayment	1000.00	
Interest	88.73	162.18
Sales	70.00	
Total receipts	<u>9024.73</u>	<u>8204.18</u>
Sub-total	<u>15546.88</u>	<u>16373.31</u>
<u>Payments.</u>		
MAAA subscriptions	6957.50	7199.50
Postage & freight	73.00	70.00
Stationery & printing	15.00	99.35
Bank fees	17.25	10.88
AGM expenses	110.00	150.55
Lodgement fees	55.00	40.00
Stock	30.00	
State championship subsidies	80.00	
Telephone & fax expenses	40.00	40.00
MAAA delegates' meeting expenses		50.00
Total payments	<u>7377.75</u>	<u>7660.28</u>
Closing balance	<u>8619.13</u>	<u>8713.03</u>
ASSETS		
Photo-copier (the copier has now been fully depreciated)		----
Filing cabinet	<u>50.00</u>	<u>20.00</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>50.00</u>	<u>20.00</u>
ISCU account S1	4670.82	5057.97
ISCU account I12	3498.31	3655.06
<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>8219.13</u>	<u>8733.03</u>

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L.M.A.C.

Annual Dinner

Where is it at?

*Scarlet's Restaurant
Country Club Ave. Prospect*

What Date?

Friday, May 17



What Time?

7pm for 7:30

How Much Will it Cost?

Meal costs are estimated at \$10-\$20pp

I'll be there! Who do I tell?

*RSVP to Geoff Hays 6344 1920 or tell a
Committee member.*





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Coming Events



DATE	EVENT	DETAILS	TIME
Apr. 20	Fun Fly	State Fly'in	10am
Apr 27&28	Tasmanian Electric Fly-In contact - Dean Williams 6243 5465	Sandford Sth Arm Highway. 50m down Dorans Rd	9:30am
"BOLD" text denotes LMAC events			
Contests to be on the days pecified. If weather is not suitable, then the next day, Sunday. If that too is not suitable then the event is cancelled and we move to the next contest scheduled.			
<p align="center">"Club Day" is the first Saturday in each month. "Cafe Symmons" will operate each Contest Day and Club Day. <i>(Please come along to both these events. These are important fund raising events for your club . Ed.)</i></p>			



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DA 150	

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OS 10LA	\$115
OS 15LA	\$125
OS 25LA	\$145
OS 25FX	\$200
OS 40FX	\$190
OS 61FX	\$405
OS 91FX	\$445
OS 140F1	\$1980
OS 180FX	\$639

4 STROKE

OS 26	\$313
MAGNUM 30	\$235
MAGNUM 52	\$278
MAGNUM 54	\$315
YS 53	\$440
OS 52	\$445
OS 70 SII	\$505
OS 90 SII pump	\$649
YS 91	\$710
OS 120SE	\$795
OS 120 SIII	\$840
SAT10	POA

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JET CAT	POA
JG100EAGLE	\$4800

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OS91 SX	\$535

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