



# PROP TORQUE

Official Newsletter of the  
**LAUNCESTON MODEL AERO CLUB**

P.O. Box 1204 Launceston 7250 [Website: lmacrc.com](http://www.lmacrc.com)

**December 07**

## **Presidents Report**

### **Gerry de Groot**

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### **Hello All**

Welcome to the last issue of Prop Torque for 2007. I suppose that most of us are looking forward to a well-earned rest over the Christmas -New Year break. As well as an opportunity to catch up with family and friends, we can also put the time to good use to perhaps clean out the workshop, or to select a project to build or assemble over the coming months. It is also a wonderful time to reflect on our good fortunes (I think it used to be called "counting your blessings"). The country we live in, our comparative safety and our personal freedoms (as well as the wealth) to pursue our interests should all serve to remind us of the privileged circumstances in which we live.

I would like to bring to the attention of all members the matter of helicopter flying at Symmons Plains. At the last meeting the committee discussed the question of whether to continue with heli flying or not. This matter was raised after a question from members. The committee has decided as follows: **LMAC will implement a progressive ban on helicopters, but without penalising existing members who fly helicopters at the club.** The club will permit those current club members who already fly helicopters to continue to do so. However, LMAC will not permit any new helicopters to be flown at LMAC, where these were not already flying at the club previously. New members who wish to fly Heli's at LMAC will not be able to do so. When current members who fly Heli's at LMAC cease to do so, no helicopters will be able to be flown at LMAC at all. This is irrespective of the size of the helicopter (micro, small or large), its type of power plant (glow or electric) and the wings rating of the pilot. This ban on new helicopters is binding and will apply at the Symmons Plains field at all times, whether during the week or at weekends.

Don't forget Club Day in January. Hopefully the weather will be settled with lots of nice thermals. I say that because it will be a personal resolution of mine to do more glider flying in 2008, especially as the Club has lashed out and purchased a new bungee.....

Finally, to all members and their families, I hope that you all have a safe and enjoyable Christmas as well as a happy and prosperous New Year.

**Gerry**

## Secretary's Report

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**Hello Everyone.**

Well it is here, the last month of the year of 2007.

Last month if you recall I asked how was it for you? I have no idea of your varied answers to that question but I suppose that some of you may have reflected on that statement for a while. We can only answer for ourselves, but I would hope that whatever 2007 brought to us all as individuals that 2008 will be better in all ways.

Our President Gerry and his brother John would certainly agree with that, in July this year they lost their mother and now right on Christmas their Dad has passed away.

The club extends their deepest sympathy to both Gerry and John and their respective families at this very sad time, may it be of comfort to know that others are thinking of you at this time.

This Newsletter will be for December and January combined the next will be towards the end of February. Also there will not be a Canteen on the January club day, so bring your own eats if you do not wish to go hungry, Canteen will be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> January Scale day.

I do not have any snippets from our December committee meeting for you this month so I thought that I might round this report off with some snippets from the past that you may find interesting.

I delved back in our club newsletter files for some info to share and came up with these two interesting topics from 27 years ago ERCAC'S December newsletter 1980; the late Greg Waddle was the editor. In those days the club held regular meetings on technical topics like this one devoted to dealing with ways and means of correctly installing radio gear in model aircraft.

About 11 members were present and Greg goes on to say that a lot was learnt from this meeting and naturally when you see a beautiful new model or two like the ones Dave Jacobs brought along it boosts the enthusiasm no end.

Other things were learnt as well at this meeting; like in fact it takes a real pro to really write off a model properly. Yes chaps, Terry's "Blue Angel" is no more.

To give you some idea of the impact, the motor ended up 65 ft from the rest of the debris.

As the evening wore on and the fellows dropped their guard about what really has been happening with their planes at the field, I learnt that quite a few have been in the wars.

Geoff Hays lost a wing off his Hustler with dire results, Jerry Kahmann accidentally walked into his Glider, and Chris simply lost control of his ugly stick that resulted in 3 days work to rectify.

And then there is this long garbled story of how this hard working Greg Robertson, toiling levelling the strip, what with strained aching muscles and limbs etc etc pranged his plane!!! Then retrieved it *AND* then how he lost his temper and *KICKED* his plane into Ray Carlings car, temper, temper.

Then there is this recipe for minced thumb,

*Take one large easy starting motor*

*Start flicking it with your finger*

*Now look away at something more interesting*

*Keep flicking whilst still looking away until engine starts*

The recipe then says see Terry for further details ---- or his THUMB.

Well that was 1980, now back to the present, Birthdays to celebrate in December are Merv Cameron, George Carnie, Bill Evans, Kevin Hay, Max Wiggins, and yours truly the only one in January.

We wish all the best to all of these for their special days and a great new year ahead.

I would like to wish all members and aero modellers state wide from us all here at LMAC a merry Christmas and a great New Year of happy and safe flying may it be a year of fulfilment to all.

So as always

Happy landings all

**Geoff**

**Around the Hangar**  
**Contest Directors Report**

**Andrew McEntyre**

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**Hi Everyone.**

The Fun Fly day was cancelled due to weather, but as it happened the rain did clear mid morning but the decision had been made. The next event to look forward to is the Scale Day January 19<sup>th</sup> which I have a number of prizes on offer. I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and look forward to a Happy New Year with lots of good flying weather. **Andrew.**

**Upcoming Events to Remember**

Sat Jan 5 <sup>th</sup> 08	<b>Club Day</b>	LMAC	Symmons Plains	
Sat Jan 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Scale Day</b>	LMAC	Symmons Plains	<b>10 to 2.30PM</b>
Sat Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Club Day</b>	LMAC	Symmons Plains	
Sat Feb 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>All Models Day</b>	LMAC	Symmons Plains	<b>10 to 2.30PM</b>



Aerial photo of The San Fernando Valley Radio Control Flyers, just out of LA that Nara had the pleasure of seeing how things are done in the States.

**MODEL AERONAUTICAL  
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.  
Newsletter  
NO. 6/2007**

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**Vale Theo Merrifield**  
***MAAA Vice President***

**Born July 1933, Theo passed away following a brief illness on 19 November 2007.**

Theo Merrifield was a member of the first group of West Australian aeromodellers to join MAAA in 1961. In subsequent years he took a keen interest in Nationals, both as a competitor and as a member of the WA Nationals organising committees.

Theo first joined the MAAA Council as AWA President in 1993 and attended every meeting since. In 1997 a subcommittee was set up to review the structure of the MAAA. Theo, as part of this committee, made a significant contribution to the report which was accepted by Council, the outcome being the effective structure that we have now. One of the changes agreed to was that the Vice President's position became an elected one. In the following year, Theo stood for the position and was elected unopposed, as he was at subsequent elections.

The Vice President's position can be one which is very nominal unless the President is away, but of course that was not Theo's approach. He only spoke when he had something to say, and when he did speak it was worth paying careful attention. He accepted the responsibility of developing a number of policies and procedures. These included offering to organise a subcommittee dealing with the role and responsibilities of Special Interest Groups and resolving how World Championship teams should be selected. This activity was spread over three years and reached a successful conclusion.

Despite being MAAA Vice President, Theo remained as the AWA nominee on the very important Land Tribunal which allocates MAAA loan funds for flying field purchases and development. Theo always spoke on these matters with the wisdom that reflected his long association with aeromodelling in Australia.

Theo was nominated for MAAA Life Membership in recognition of his contribution to the Association and was considered worthy of this nomination. The MAAA has a rule which does not allow members of Council or the Executive to be elected as Life Members while they are still in Office except under

exceptional circumstances. As soon as Council became aware of Theo's illness, they unanimously voted for Life Membership. At a period when Theo seemed to be recovering, the MAAA President was able to talk to him on the phone and congratulate him on the achievement. He was very pleased that he had been recognised.

The many messages of support when it became known Theo was so ill reflect the respect with which he was held throughout Australia. He was a 'great guy' who contributed significantly to aeromodelling in Australia, including nearly 15 years on Council and 9 as Vice President. Theo will be greatly missed by his friends and colleagues.

### Manual of Procedures

**The Manual of Procedures is a "live" document and is continually being updated. Please check the MAAA web site from time to time to ensure that you are aware of the latest editions of the documents.**

**Club Committees are recommended to pay particular attention to previously released MOP022 and are encouraged to use the document to do a risk analysis of their operations.**

### The 61<sup>st</sup> Nationals

**The 61<sup>st</sup> Nationals will be held in Perth, West Australia over the period 27 December 2007 to 4 January 2008. Details can be found on the MAAA web site or at [www.aeromodellerswa.info/nationals/index.html](http://www.aeromodellerswa.info/nationals/index.html)**

### Team Trials

**All MAAA affiliate members are eligible to represent Australia at World and Continental Championships. Team trials for places in the teams are organised by National Special Interest Groups (NSIGs) or MAAA Technical Subcommittees. Interested members should make contact with the relevant NSIG or Subcommittee Chairman for information. Your State Association Secretary has contact details for NSIGs. The MAAA web site has links to NSIGs and also details of up-coming events and team trials, on the "Championships and Other Competitions" page.**

### 2008 CL World Champ Team Trials

**Due to the NSW State Champs being cancelled because of weather, trials have been rescheduled for 26-27-28 January 2008, at Kelso Park, Milperra NSW.**

### F1 Trans Tasman & Team Trials

**Multi Team Trials for F1A, F1B & F1C will be held as part of the WA Nationals and at Easter 2008 in Narrandera NSW on 21-24 March. The Southern Cross Cup F1A will be held on 25 March, F1B & C on 26 March. 27 March will be a reserve day. VFFS**

**State & W/C Team Trials event is planned for 25, 26, 27 of April 2008 at Mc Mahon's Field Springhurst Victoria.**



Congratulations to the Australian World Championship Team

Well done to the F3A Aerobatic team of Bill Bloodworth, Steve Coram, Adam Crossman and team manager Will Crossman who recently competed in Ezeiza- Argentina. Will kept a daily report on the event including pictures streaming back to Australia. Special congratulations also go to the supporters and helpers of the team on a job well done.

### **MAAA Insurance**

During November an MAAA 'Summary of Insurance Cover 2007/08' brochure was released to all Associations for their members. This complimentary brochure was produced by the MAAA Insurance Brokers, Willis Australia, and outlines, in general, the benefits of the Public Liability and Personal Accident policies. Should more detailed information on these policies be required please contact the MAAA Secretary.

### **Overseas Visitor Insurance**

MOP042 - Policy for Visitor Insurance at Flying Fields has recently been amended to assist and guide clubs who have overseas visitors wishing to fly from their facilities while holidaying in Australia. Such Visitors will hold MAAA Honorary Membership providing the requirements within MOP042 are met. Clubs are reminded to make themselves familiar with these requirements and ensure the details are passed to the MAAA Secretary/Registrar so the Honorary Membership Card can be issued.

### **MAAA 2008 Federal Council Conference**

**The 2008 Council Conference is scheduled to be held over the weekend of 24-25 May 2008 at The Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel, Hobart. Items for the agenda and Subcommittee Chairman reports are to be submitted to the MAAA Secretary no later than Friday 7 March 2008.**

### **Nominations for MAAA Executive Positions**

Under Rule 29, nominations are called for the positions of MAAA Vice President & MAAA Treasurer. Nominees must provide:

- A written nomination for the position sought, signed by two Affiliate Members of the Association
- Written consent (which may be endorsed on the nomination)
- Curriculum vitae

This information must be received by the Federal Secretary no later than **Friday 29 February 2008**. Please note that the term of office is three years.

### **World Championship Events Calendar**

<b>2008</b>	
<b>EVENT</b>	<b>Information</b>
F2A, F2B, F2C, F2D	France – Landres <b>Dates:</b> 28/07/2008 - 04/08/2008 <b>Website :</b> <a href="http://www.f2cdbl.org">http://www.f2cdbl.org</a>
F3J	Turkey – Istanbul <b>Dates:</b> 01/08/2008 - 10/08/2008 <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.soarist.com">http://www.soarist.com</a>

F4B, F4C	Poland - Wloclawek <b>Dates:</b> 11 – 20 July 2008
F5B, F5D	Ukraine
F3A Trans Tasman	Australia
F3A Asia- Oceanic	Chinese Taipei No dates announced
F3C Asia- Oceanic	Philippines- Cebu <b>Dates:</b> May 25 – 30 2008
<b>2009</b>	
<b>EVENT</b>	<b>Awarded to</b>
F1A, F1B, F1C	Croatia
F1E	Germany
F3A	Portugal (Tentative)
F3B	Ukraine (Tentative)
F3C	USA
<b>2010</b>	
<b>EVENT</b>	<b>Bids From</b>
F2A, F2B, F2C, F2D	Hungary (Firm), Serbia & Montenegro (Firm)
F3J	Czech Republic, Hungary, France (Tentative)
F4B, F4C	Poland (Firm), Czech Republic (Firm)
F5B, F5D	USA (Tentative)
Space Models	Poland, Serbia
F3A Asia- Oceanic	Offers Invited
F3C Asia- Oceanic	Offers Invited

### **MAAA Badges and Decals For Sale**

**The MAAA Secretary has a selection of badges and decals for sale.**

MAAA:

- Metal Badge 25 X 25mm \$3-00
- Cloth patch 70mm diameter \$2-00
- Decal Sheet 130 X 240mm (2 large & 2 small stickers) \$3-50
- Replacement Gold Wings \$6-00
- Cloth Gold Wings \$2-50
- Replacement Bronze Wings \$6-00

There is also a VERY limited stock of FAI cloth patches and decals. These are of the old FAI logo.

- FAI Cloth patch 80mm diameter \$3-00
- FAI Decal 100mm diameter \$2-00

To obtain any of the above, please send a cheque or Money Order for the total amount of your order plus \$1-00 for postage to the MAAA Secretary.