



PROP TORQUE

*Official Newsletter of the
LAUNCESTON MODEL AERO*

IN THIS ISSUE:

Editorial.....	Page 2
Captain's Report	Page 3
Secretary's Report.....	Page 4
Flying Field Ceiling Heights.....	Page 5
Contest Director's Report.	Page 6
Contest Calendar for 2006/07.	Page 7
Photos from recent contests.	Pages 8, 9
Snippets from the Past:	Page 10
News from other clubs	Page 11
Coming Events	Page 12

**Don't Forget:
Working Bee
March 4th!**



LMAC Vice-President Greg Robertson prepares to launch his 7-Cell Electric Glider "Excel 13" at the State 7-Cell Glider Championship held on Saturday 18 February at LMAC. Greg placed second in the Electro Open class.

Volume 21

FEBRUARY 2006

EDITORIAL:

Welcome to the first issue of Prop Torque for 2006. You can't help but notice how time has flown by – Christmas did not seem so long ago.

No major changes are planned for the newsletter in 2006. Our aim is to keep it simple while providing comprehensive and timely information to the membership. To that end we will publish important information as it comes to hand, with contributions from our members when items are forthcoming.

In this issue you will see our new Contest Calendar for 2006/07 as well as information about Indoor Flying meetings hosted by SEAT.

We wish all our readers a great flying year in 2006, with lots of fun, good fellowship and an overall sense of purpose and achievement.

Gerry and Virginia de Groot.

Editors

Notable Quote:

"I fly because it releases my mind from the tyranny of petty things"

Antoine de Saint-Exupery (French Pilot and Philosopher, 1900-1944)

LMAC Office-bearers:

PRESIDENT:	Gerry De Groot	Ph: 6369 5284
VICE PRESIDENT:	Greg Robertson	Ph: 6343 1753
SECRETARY:	Geoff Hays	Ph: 6344 1920
TREASURER:	George Carnie	Ph: 6398 2141
CONTEST DIRECTOR:	Andrew McEntyre	Ph: 6384 1048
Committee:	Kevin Hay	Ph: 6330 1621
Committee:	Kerry Gray	Ph: 63447399
Editors:	Gerry and Virginia de Groot degroot@tassie.net.au	Ph: 6369 5284

Launceston Model Aero Club Inc.
P.O. Box 1204, Launceston, Tas, 7250



CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Gerry de Groot

Telephone 6369 5284 / mobile 0417 536 200

Email: degroot@tassie.net.au

Hello Everyone

The weather seems to have become a bit more conducive to flying, with the very windy days tapering off. Generally February and March are supposed to offer settled weather; let's hope it stays that way for a while!

Something I read recently highlighted once again the "build it or buy it" argument. We have discussed this topic before in this newsletter, when it was concluded that there is a valid place for both approaches in model aviation. To that end I would encourage you to consider building the club "Pink Raven" V-tailed glider project. Even if you are not into gliding, you will find this project interesting. Also, building a model with other club-members is in itself interesting, since you see exactly how the more experienced builders approach the project. I can almost guarantee that at the end of it you will be able to say that you learnt something useful by taking part.

On to another matter, that of the need to gain your Bronze wings before you can fly solo at LMAC. Remember that the closing date is 1st of June (some are under the impression it is the end of June, which is incorrect). If you have not achieved your Bronze by the due date, do not panic! You will still be able to fly, but will need to be supervised by an instructor.

Since the last newsletter we have had two contests at LMAC: Round 3 of Pattern, held on January 26th, and the Tasmanian State 7-Cell Electric Glider Championship, held on February 18th. Attendance at both of these competitions was modest, to put it mildly; details in the Contest Director's report.

Still on contests, check out the Contest Calendar for 2006/07; you will see that the number of contests has been substantially reduced. This was done because members felt that there were too many formal competitions.

Most if not all members will by now have seen and possibly flown off the new strip. With increasing familiarity, things are beginning to settle in and when the surface is smooth all over (there are still a few lumpy bits) it will be a great strip. To start making the necessary improvements, we will be holding a working bee on the morning of the next Club Day (March 4th). I hope you can attend – your reward for a bit of work will be a free lunch! Hope to see you there. I look forward to seeing you all at the flying field. Gerry



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Geoff Hays

Telephone 63441920 / mobile 0408 559 806

E-mail: ghays@netspace.net.au

Hi Everyone

Well here it is, the year of 2006 has begun and with it has already brought some changes that we must share with the members.

Firstly if you have not been to the field for some while you will notice a different layout of the strip.

The committee has evaluated the need to re-align the strip and conform to the standards set by our governing body, the MAAA. The pit area has been angled and the flight line (where you stand to fly) is now 30 metres beyond the row of tyres that form the edge of the pit area. The strip is now angled from the SE to the NW instead of straight down the paddock. In time we will all get used to flying this way. The old strip area must **not** be used. So walk out to the flight line, (*a drink station halfway would be handy*), place your model appropriately and take off as normal.

You will all be pleased to know that by the time you receive this Newsletter most of the harvesting of the surrounding crops will have been done. This will make retrieval of wayward models easier, although care must still be taken.

We have been informed by the MAAA that CASA has approved a ceiling height of 1000 feet above ground level at Symmons Plains, as opposed to the usual accepted height for model aircraft of 400 Feet.

This will make it a lot better for flying some of our comps like Pattern and Gliders, but nevertheless we must still be vigilant in watching for full size aircraft. They have a recognised height over Symmons Plains of 1500 feet, which in fact gives a technical separation of 500 feet.

We are planning to have a working bee next club day Saturday 4th March to do some work on the strip, like spreading a bit of soil in the low patches to make for a smoother surface. So many hands will make this easier to accomplish. Utes, and trailers and rakes will be the order of the day, followed by a nice shower of rain, (*later in the day would be great*).

We welcome two new members to our ranks this month, they are Denis Smith and Cheznie Rogers. Please make them feel at home when you see them on the field. This now makes four new members this year.

I must remind those of the membership who have yet to do their Bronze wing test, that time is running out for you to do this. We did set the cut off date as the 1st of June this year after then you will only be permitted to fly in the presence of an Instructor. Also,

some have yet to sign the rules form in the club house. Both these items need to be attended to ASAP.

Railex will be held again at Evandale next month on the 18th and 19th and LMAC will be providing a static display. I will be the Coordinator and would like to hear from anybody that can assist in providing a model, helping to set up on the Friday, spend some time on the stand over the two days, then help with dismantling the display at the finish on Sunday afternoon .

Unfortunately, Railex clashes with the State Pattern Champs at LMAC, so we do not want to take away from that. Could any members who will not be involved in the Pattern event and could help with Railex please give me a ring.

Well I think that about wraps it up for me for this month, I would leave you with this thought :- ***The secret of success is to find a need and fill it.***

Happy Landings All

Geoff

FLYING FIELD CEILING HEIGHT INFORMATION

Please note carefully the following information received from TMAA:

The following is a list of all the TMAA registered sites with their respective ceiling heights as directed by CASA. *Heights are given in feet above ground level (agl)*

Phoenix Flyers of Launceston: 1000 ft

Launceston Model Aero Club: 1000 ft

All Sailplanes and Electric Aeromodellers of Tasmania sites: strictly 400 ft agl.

Northwest Aeromodellers:

Heighclere and Sprent sites: unlimited

Don Heads: 1000 ft

Frogmore Lane: 1000 ft

Southern Model Sailplanes, 1000 ft

Hobart Model Aircraft Club, strictly 400 ft agl.

HMAC and SEAT sites are restricted to 400 ft because of their proximity to their local airports and also all these sites are under approaches to their local airports.

If the height restrictions are ignored at these sites CASA could request them to be closed down so it's up to all members to respect CASA's height restrictions at not only these but all state sites. We (the operators of model aircraft) will be held responsible for any infringements reported by operators of full-sized aircraft.



CONTEST DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Andrew McEntyre

Telephone 6384 1048 / mobile 0408 969 360

E-mail: amcentyre@dodo.com.au

Hello Everyone

I hope everyone enjoyed the festive season and that all had a safe and happy time. I must admit it's hard to get back into the groove with reports and such after having a few months off. Much has happened since my last report with the change to flying strip and the pits area which has been reported elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Some good news is that we have three new members learning to fly, with myself as their instructor. Nara Tantemsapya and Craig Homan are both learning on the T-180 club trainer while their models are completed. Cheznie Rogers has his own Sky Raider model, which flies very well. All three are progressing very well and I'm sure it won't be long before all three are up to Bronze wing standard.

Our first competition for the year was the Pattern event held on January 21st, it was pleasing to see two new faces having a go. Well done to Peter Steer and Kerry Gray flying in Novice class for the first time. I did hear Peter say he was having some trouble with one manoeuvre that was a dumpty hump, by which I think he meant a Humpty Bump. Nevertheless after four rounds both did very well. Great work guys; you added flair to the day and I trust you both enjoyed yourselves.

Andrew

Results from the Pattern (3) Competition were:

<u>Novice</u>	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Total	Place
Kerry Gray	259	315	348	339	1261	1 st
Peter Steer	171	189	214	221	795	2 nd
<u>Sportsman</u>						
Phil Rayner	302	342	319	356	1319	1 st
<u>Advanced</u>						
Kevin Hay	1037	1004	1049	1038	4128	1 st
Steve Reece	966	1050	980	1002	3998	2 nd

The next competition was the State 7-Cell Electric Championship, held on February 18th. Results were:

<u>Electro 400</u>	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Total	Place
Jacques Wakae	280	304	300	290	290	1464	1st
Dean Williams	291	279	290	302	279	1441	2nd
Greg Robertson	281	267	285	311	279	1423	3rd
Michael Taylor	259	274	256	256	294	1339	4th
<u>Electro 600</u>							
Dave Jacobs	256	236	248	245	283	1268	1st
Geoff Hays	243	289	300	211	218	1261	2nd
<u>Electro Open</u>							
Jacques Wakae	321	312	317	315	321	1586	1st
Greg Robertson	317	289	319	280	311	1516	2nd
Michael Taylor	305	273	287	309	262	1436	3rd

Here is the **LMAC Contest Calendar for 2006/07**, as recently approved by the Committee.

LMAC Contest Calendar 2006 - 2007				
Date	Event	Club	Location	Time
Sat July 22 nd	Free Flight & Old Timer Day 1	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat Aug 19 th	Scale Day 1	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat Sept 16 th	Free Flight & Old Timer Day 2	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat Oct 21 st	7 Cell Electric Glider 1	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat Nov 11 th	Pattern Day 1	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat Dec 16 th	Fun Fly & Christmas Party	LMAC	Symmons Plains	TBA
Sat Jan 20 th	Pattern Day 2	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat Feb 17 th	7 Cell Electric Glider 2	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat Mar 24 th	Reserved State Event TBA	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat April 21 st	Scale Day 2	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat May 19 th	Reserved State Event TBA	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat June 23 rd	Fun Fly Event	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am

Pattern Day (3) 21 January 2006



← Pattern Fliers (L to R):
Kevin Hay
Peter Steer
Kerry Gray
Steven Reece
Phil Rayner (NWA)
Andrew McEntyre

Team Reece hard at work on
the Matrix →



← Some of those who
helped with judging. (L
to R) Phil Rayner, Kerry
Gray and Geoff Hays.
(Others included Kevin
Hay and Cliff Walters)

Phil Rayner and his "Astro Hog"
with 70FS power. Nice aircraft →



7-Cell State Champs 18 February 2006



7-Cell Flyers
(L to R):
Geoff Hays
Mike Taylor
Jacques Wakae
Greg Robertson
David Jacobs
Dean Williams

Jacques Wakae with slippery looking
400-powered glider. Windsock
shows near perfect conditions →



Mike Taylor with his own-design
400-powered glider. Has cobalt
motor, ailerons and elevator.

Dave Jacobs
concentrating
hard on keeping in
the lift →



Snippets From the Past by "Sleuth"

This month we go back to the year **1989** when LMAC hosted the Tasmanian State Scale Championships at Symmons Plains.

LMAC provided the flying site and did the catering in a tent as we had no clubhouse back then, and we ran the event with assistance from Phoenix Flyers in really more ways than one. If PFL, that is mainly a scale club, had not been a part of the brilliant two-day event (in perfect weather) then the event would not have happened, I am afraid to say.

There were only 8 contestants and 6 of these were members of Phoenix Flyers, plus Ray Ogle from Sydney and Ian Forrester from Melbourne. Also present from Melbourne was the late Monty Tyrell, as guest judge and Presenter.

LMAC did not have a contestant at all, (*which really is not to our credit*), but the weekend of 18th-19th March 1989, 17 years ago, and the exact same date if we were holding Scale again next month instead of Pattern, was a great weekend. All those who attended did enjoy the experience; that is, except those who did not go home with a model intact.

Ray Ogle from Sydney had a little SOS Piper Cub and Ian Forrester had a big red and white Gee Bee Racer with which he came 2nd in Giant Scale.

We ran an Old Warden event on the Sunday to round off with, and that was when we had the worst moment of the weekend. Alistair Carr from PFL lost control of his big quarter scale Yak 55 just after take off, when it suddenly just turned over on its back and ploughed into terra firma with a mighty thud - a complete write-off. Winners were:

F4C: Ken Lawson PFL (*Bird Dog*) 1st, Charles Smith PFL (*Fokker Tri Plane*) 2nd.

Giant Scale: Ken Lawson (*Spitfire*) 1st, Ian Forrester (*Gee Bee Racer*) 2nd and Tony Rice PFL (*Spitfire*) 3rd.

S.O.S: - Mike Adams (*Moth Minor*) 1st, Tony Rice (*Spitfire*) 2nd, Alistair Carr (*DH 82A*) 3rd.

Old Warden: - Ken Lawson, Ian Forrester, and Tony Rice Runner up.

Two special trophies were presented- one to Charles Smith for trying to land his Fokker on top of Alistair's Tiger Moth in the ready box. And of course one to Alistair for, you guessed it the biggest prang.

Those days of Scale flying were really great and somehow they seemed a lot less complicated than today.

But I suppose everything changes sooner or later; nothing seems to stay the same for long. More snippets from the past next month. ... *Sleuth*

News from other clubs

(This is an occasional column for news from other clubs - Secretaries of Tasmanian clubs please note.)



INDOOR FLYING – an invitation from SEAT

Dear Fellow Indoor Flying Enthusiasts,

As you are aware SEAT has hosted Indoor Flying on a regular basis over the past few years. Unfortunately the viability of these nights is in question, due to lack of support. As the PCYC Hall costs \$32 for 2 hours, SEAT can ill afford to run these evenings without regular participation from indoor flyers.


It has been proposed that interested Members/Parties pay an "Up Front Fee" in an attempt to encourage attendance (especially on cold winter nights.)

We will need at least 6 people to pay \$6 per night to ensure the costs are met; obviously the more people that fly the less the cost for all involved. To avoid making the up front fee too large, it is proposed that a Two Meet Fee be trialled to test interest and viability.

Could anyone interested in supporting this proposal and the ongoing success of Indoor Flying please contact the SEAT Secretary (Mrs Mary Bainbridge) ASAP either by phone on 6343 4620 or by e-mail at Mary.Bainbridge@bigpond.com.

Steve Boag
President, SEAT

(Indoor flying is an interesting and worthwhile branch of aeromodelling and deserves your support, and weather is NEVER a problem, although strict height restrictions apply! – Ed)



From Barry Lee, Registrar of the NSW Free Flight Society:
NSWFFS now has a new Web address at <http://www.nswffs.com.au>



Coming Events



LMAC Contest Calendar 2005 - 2006

Date	Event	Club	Location	Time
Sat & Sun, Feb 18 th & 19 th	Tasmanian <u>State 7 Cell Electric Glider Championship</u> 2006	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.00am
Sat/Sun March 18 th & 19 th	Tasmanian <u>State Pattern</u> Championship 2006	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.00am
Sat & Sun April 15 th & 16 th	Tasmanian <u>State Scale</u> Championship 2006	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.00am
Sat May 20 th	7 Cell Electric Glider (4)	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat June 17 th	All Models Day	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am

Note LMAC Contests to be on the day specified, if the weather is not suitable then the next day Sunday. If that too is not suitable then it is cancelled and moved to the next event scheduled.

N.B. The committee may re-schedule the event for another time to be advised.

LMAC Club Day is held on the first Saturday of each month
(HMAC first Sunday of each month)

“Café Symmons” Operates each Contest Day and Club Day

LMAC invites flyers from affiliated clubs to come along and participate

*Does not apply during winter months: June, July and August

COMING EVENTS for your Diary!

Sat 4 March	Working Bee and Club Day	LMAC
18 & 19 March	Tasmanian State Pattern Champs	LMAC
Sat. April 1	Pattern (4)	NWA