



# PROP TORQUE

Official Newsletter of the  
LAUNCESTON MODEL AERO CLUB Inc.

[www.lmacrc.com](http://www.lmacrc.com)

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

Editorial.....	Page 2
Captain's Report.....	Page 3
Secretary's Report.....	Page 5
Contest Report.....	Page 7
Balsa Grain .....	Page 7
Photo Corner (Club Day Nov 4) .....	Page 9
Positions Vacant & Annual Dinner Notice .....	Page 10
Coming Events:.....	Page 11



**Bon Voyage** Kerry & Julie!  
Have a safe and enjoyable trip on the "North Isle".

Volume 21

# NOVEMBER 2006

## **EDITORIAL:**

At the risk of being repetitive, we are still looking for an editor for the magazine.

MAAA Newsletter 2006/5 – The MAAA newsletter can be found as an insert in the magazine posted to members or for those receiving by email, at this link <http://www.maaa.asn.au/news.html>

Just a reminder for those interested, the 60<sup>th</sup> Nationals are being held at Albury/Wodonga between December 28, 2006 and January 6, 2007. For more information go to this link <http://www.maaa.asn.au/nationals/60nats/60nats.html>

Good luck and “*Bon Voyage*” to Kerry and Julie Gray. For those who haven’t seen their Camper Van – the last I heard was Kerry was doing some modifications to the Winnebago – he had hoped it would look like this but there was some opposition from Julie!



*“Put a spark in your life... Fly Electric”* George

### **LMAC Office-bearers:**

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>Gerry De Groot</b>	<b>Ph: 6369 5284</b>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>Greg Robertson</b>	<b>Ph: 6343 1753</b>
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	<b>Geoff Hays</b>	<b>Ph: 6326 5682</b>
<b>TREASURER:</b>	<b>George Carnie</b>	<b>Ph: 6398 2141</b>
<b>CONTEST DIRECTOR:</b>	<b>Andrew McEntyre</b>	<b>Ph: 6384 1048</b>
<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Kevin Hay</b>	<b>Ph: 6330 1621</b>
<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	<b>Ph:</b>
<b>Editors:</b>	<b>Position Vacant – applications invited</b>	

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](mailto:degroot@tassie.net.au)

Hello All

It is hard to believe, but we are almost at the end of 2006. Where has the year gone? Has it gone on copious amounts of flying or complex building projects? I suspect that for the majority of members, it will have gone on all the little things that make up the "daily round and common task" of life. But if you can look back and feel satisfied, having achieved all that you have wanted to, then that is a great thing.

*Kerry Gray's retirement from the committee:* At the last meeting, the committee decided not to appoint a replacement for Kerry. This was done because Kerry's term expires with the next AGM in 2007 and we wanted to avoid appointing someone with less than one-third of a full term to run.

*Helicopters:* After much discussion with the helicopter pilots, we have reached agreement on integration of helicopter and fixed wing flying operations. We now have a few basic rules that will in due course appear in the Club Rules. In the meantime, I would like to stress that this method of operation (combined fixed and rotary wing) relies very heavily on all club members showing good will and being prepared to accommodate all other pilots, whatever they happen to be flying. Let common sense and courtesy prevail at all times!

*Gliders and Bungee:* For those members not in the know, the "bungee" is the long thin stretchy thingy that we use to launch gliders skywards. It is made up of two parts: a length of surgical rubber and another of monofilament line. The rubber part has finally rotted (after many, many years) and will shortly be replaced. I sincerely hope that this will revitalise sport glider flying at LMAC. Gliding is a gentle art, but its attraction is that it requires, and develops in the individual pilot, an understanding of the movement of the air. I encourage you to try it.

*Fun Fly on 16 December:* Don't forget the Fun Fly on 16 December. This event was accidentally left out of the calendar (apologies to all). However, we want to make this a memorable day. We would like to do more than the usual "fly and take a ticket" and I encourage all members to come and take part in some way. Bring out your unusual models, or your old standbys - or whatever; but come and have a go.

*Annual Dinner.* The dinner will be held around the same time as Prop Torque is issued, so this reminder may be out of date when you get this. Look on the LMAC web site for last minute details.

I look forward to seeing you all at the flying field.

Gerry

---

Thought of the Month:

*“Men do not quit playing because they grow old; they grow old because they quit playing”*

If you decide your next project is on the larger scale – make sure you have the room to build it! Here is a 70% Pitts Special that might be too big to build in the spare bedroom!



(Photo submitted by Steve R)



# SECRETARY'S REPORT

**Geoff Hays**

Telephone 6326 7967 / mobile 0408 559 806

E-mail: [ghays@netspace.net.au](mailto:ghays@netspace.net.au)

Hi Everyone,

Once again another month has rolled by and the end of 2006 looms closer, maybe some of you may well say good thing. I can certainly say that for sure it has not been a good year for me in many ways, and a New Year and a new start will be good.

As I have mentioned in my report before it is basically my task to report to the membership of items discussed at our last committee meeting.

I have quite a few things to bring to the member's attention some that are not all that pleasant.

Firstly: it was decided not to replace Kerry Gray's vacancy at this time as it would only be for the first half of 2007, this will not effect the functioning of the committee in any way in this short time.

Secondly: it was brought to the committees notice that there has been the odd instance when the frequency board has not been used before a member put their model up to fly.

Now whilst this did not result in any problem at the time it is not a practice that we want to see happening again by anyone, every one of us has a duty of care to all of our fellow club members. A person putting their model up to fly and not parking their vehicle in the designated car parking area further highlighted this impatient disregard of the rules. This of course lays open a direct line of a possible problem occurring which need not have done so. So please think what you are doing for the sake of us all.

Thirdly: The TX pound must be used as per club rules, which state the same as for the frequency board use, (*rules 10 and 15*). And to which most members have signed as having read and acknowledged to abide by them, **so why doesn't this happen all the time?**

Fourthly: This is perhaps the not very pleasant part but for some reason this has to be said. There are 3 toilet facilities at our site one for the ladies, one for the men as well as one urinal for the men. So **MEN** please use the urinal for that purpose **NOT** the toilet and certainly definitely **NOT** the fence near our machinery shed as was witnessed a little while ago and in view of ladies present at the time, this is **definitely not on.**

Some do not seem to understand the method of using the toilet. There is a little horizontal handle in the front of the pan that needs to be pulled out before use. Then after flushing by pushing the left-hand plunger on the top down, then push the horizontal handle back in and close the lid.

If you make a mess clean it up don't leave it for someone else, as has been the case on more than one occasion in recent times, Thank you.

Fifthly: The clubhouse is there for all members' benefits and provides eating and drinking facilities for members to use. However, recently some users have left unwashed crockery, milk to go sour and general untidiness. If you can find the time to drink or eat **make the time to clean up after you.**

Well that has got that out of the way now to more pleasant things.

You can help to save club money by receiving your Newsletter electronically, some are already doing this and it is a big help.

So if you are still receiving a posted copy and would like yours sent via email (which is in colour by the way). Then please give me a call on either of my phone numbers or Email me or see me personally at the field and it will be done.

I had the occasion to consult my member's listings for some info recently and it occurred to me that we had some interesting birth dates amongst our members.

For instance 11 of our members had birthdays in October they included: - Ian Campbell, Steve Cashion, Royce Close, Graeme Jones, Peter Kidson, Andrew McEntyre, David Munday, John Silczack, Daniel Tantemsapya, Cliff Walters and Daniel Walters.

Then this month we have but one, John DeGroot, I am sure the members would join with me in wishing all of these a happy birthday and many more to come.

Well I think that just about wraps it up for me for another month, but I leave you with this thought:

*Everyone faces disappointments at one time or another – But the winners are the ones who refuse to let Disappointments become discouragements.*

Happy landings All

Geoff

**PFL**

Just a reminder that PFL's Scale Fly-in is scheduled for Sunday, November 26. at Panshanger, Longford.

Regards,  
Mike Adams (PFL Secretary)



# CONTEST DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**Andrew McEntyre**

Telephone 6384 1048 / mobile 0408 969 360

E-mail: [amcentyre@dodo.com.au](mailto:amcentyre@dodo.com.au)

Hello Everyone,

Due to weather and other circumstances this contest year so far has not been a good one, never mind we shall push on regardless. I have something special in mind for December 16<sup>th</sup>, which is our Fun Fly Day. Traditionally at this time of the year we have our Christmas party and Fun Fly at the field but this year the Annual Dinner and Christmas Party are combined at the Centennial. As in the past the flying at the field on this day was mainly up until lunch time, for most due to those members that enjoyed there wine or amber fluid. So this makes for a good day of flying, start time 9.30am and let's hope the weather is kind to us.

The Fun Fly Day will be for everyone to enjoy with no real contest as such just a number of tasks like a lot of us can remember. For new members I encourage you to come along and join in with any type model you wish. I think the best models to use for all the tasks are everything from the High Wing trainer through to the fast Sports model or what ever you like. To give everyone a basic idea of what I have planned Bomb Drops, Balloons Burst, Limbo Dance, Sky Race, Crazy Ivan, and some more, which I will leave to the day. I will have a number of prizes on the day so I hope all can come along and enjoy the day.

Happy Flying,  
Andrew

---

## Balsa Grain

### LEARN HOW TO IDENTIFY ALL THREE GRAIN TYPES

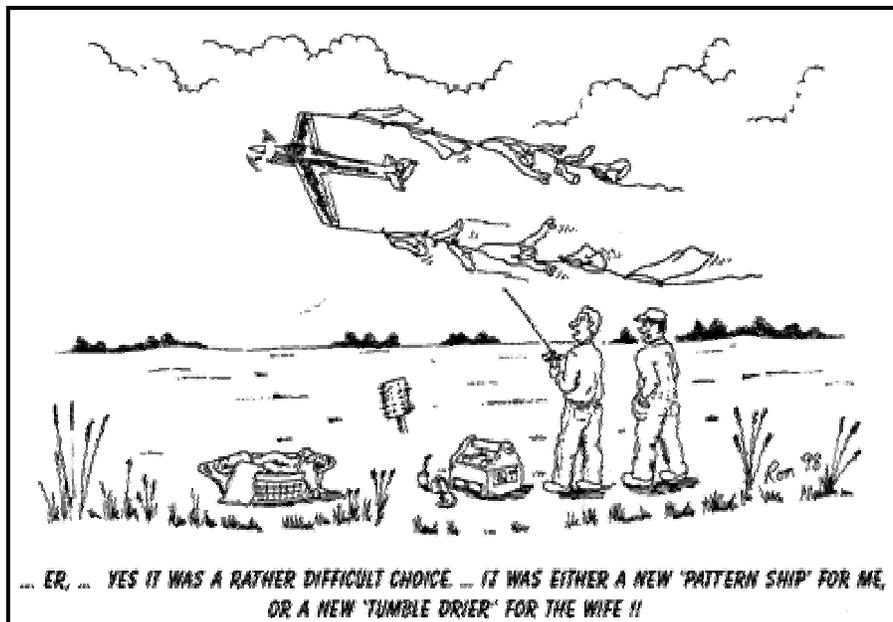
In selecting balsa sheets for use in your model, it is important to consider the way the grain runs through the sheet as well as the weight of the sheet. The grain direction actually controls the rigidity or flexibility of a balsa sheet more than the density does. For example, if the sheet is cut from the log so that the tree's annular rings run across the thickness of the sheet (A-grain, tangent cut), then the sheet will be fairly flexible edge to edge. In fact, after soaking in water some tangent cut sheets can be completely rolled into a tube shape without splitting. If on the other hand the sheet is cut with the annular rings running through the thickness of the sheet (C-grain, quarter grain), the sheet will be very rigid edge to edge and cannot

be bent without splitting. When the grain direction is less clearly defined (B-grain, random cut), the sheet will have most intermediate properties between A and C grain. Naturally, B-grain is the most common and is suitable for most jobs. The point to bear in mind is that whenever you come across pure A-grain or C-grain sheets; learn where to use them to take best advantage of their special characteristics.

**A-GRAIN** sheet balsa has long fibers that show up as long grain lines. It is very flexible across the sheet and bends around curves easily. Also warps easily. Sometimes called "tangent cut." DO use for sheet covering rounded fuselages and wing leading edges, planking fuselages, forming tubes, strong flexible spars, HL glider fuselages. DON'T use for sheet balsa wings or tail surfaces, flat fuselage sides, ribs, or formers.

**B-GRAIN** sheet balsa has some of the qualities of both type A and type C. Grain lines are shorter than type A, and it feels stiffer across the sheet. It is a general purpose sheet and can be used for many jobs. Sometimes called "random cut." DO use for flat fuselage sides, trailing edges, wing ribs, formers, planking gradual curves, wing leading edge sheeting. DON'T use where type A or type C will do a significantly better job.

**C-GRAIN** sheet balsa has a beautiful mottled appearance. It is very stiff across the sheet and spits easily. But when used properly, it helps to build the lightest, strongest models. Most warp resistant type. Sometimes called "quarter grain." DO use for sheet balsa wings and tails, flat fuselage sides, wing ribs, formers, trailing edges. Best type for HL glider wings and tails. DON'T use for curved planking, rounded fuselages, round tubes, HL glider fuselages, or wing spars.



# Photo Corner

*Club Day – November 4.*

Craig, Nara, Marina & Bob enjoying some laughter on what was a great day.



← Terry Pearson with his very fast OS46FX powered model. During his flight, Terry lost a wheel. At the speed he was flying when the wheel fell off, it will probably turn up nearer Campbell Town!! Despite the one wheel, Terry made a safe landing in the longer grass.

# **Positions Vacant!**

## **LMAC Needs A New Editor for Prop Torque!**

The present editors, Gerry and Virginia de Groot, are unable to continue producing Prop Torque and the club urgently requires a new editor (or editors).

Duties include the preparation of the newsletter each month so it can be delivered to the membership before the end of the month.

Although the editors have been responsible for stapling, folding and posting newsletters up to now, this is about to change. From now on the Secretary will be taking over these duties, which means the editor(s) only need to produce the newsletter and arrange for printing. At that point the Secretary will take over.

Qualifications for the position include a keen interest in the club's life and activities. A computer is necessary, with access to the Internet. Basic software for word processing and editing photos is required. The present editors use Microsoft Word to produce the newsletter document and ACDSee 6.0 for manipulating photos.

Once you get into it, the job of newsletter editor is a very rewarding one and you will have the satisfaction of doing a job that is one of the club's core activities.

So how about it? Have a go!

Let any member of the Committee know that you are prepared to take it on. We will help you all we can.

LMAC is an equal opportunity employer and a smoke-free workplace!

---



**October Wings Recipients**

**Darren Beresford – Gold Power**  
**Derek Beresford – Bronze Power**  
**George Carnie – Bronze Power**  
**Graham Jones – Bronze Power**

***Congratulations to all!***

**Coming Events**



**LMAC Contest Calendar 2006 - 2007**

Date	Event	Club	Location	Time
Sat 11 Nov	<del>Pattern Day 1</del> CANCELLED	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Fri 24 Nov	Christmas/Annual Dinner		Centennial Hotel	7/7:30pm
Sat 16 Dec	Fun Fly	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat 20 Jan	Pattern Day 2	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat 17Feb	7 Cell Electric Glider 2	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat 24 Mar	Event TBA	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat 21 April	Scale Day 2	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat 19 May	Event TBA	LMAC	Symmons Plains	9.30am
Sat 23 June	Fun Fly Event	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” Sausage Sizzle Operates each Contest Day and Club Day**

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

*LMAC invites flyers from affiliated clubs to come along and participate*

**COMING EVENTS for your Diary!**

<b>Fri 24 November</b>	<b>Christmas/Annual Dinner</b>	<b>Centennial Hotel 7-7:30pm</b>
<b>Sat 2 December</b>	<b>Club Day</b>	<b>Symmons Plains</b>
<b>Sat 16 December</b>	<b>Fun Fly</b>	<b>Symmons Plains</b>