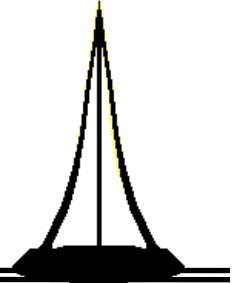


PROPWASH

Rockhampton Model Aero Club Inc

MONTHLY NEWSHEET

September 2007



CLUB EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT

Scott Lawton 49112764

SECRETARY

Jason Schlenker 49210375

TREASURER

Craig Shuker 0408782985

CLUB POSTAL ADDRESS

P.O. Box 6153

C.Q. Mail Centre

QLD 4702

Web <http://www.rmac.org.au>

PROPWASH EDITOR

Rory Birch 49237933

E-Mail rory@rmms.com.au

News around the Club.

Well the latest is that we now have a new committee. At the last meeting Scott Lawton accepted the position of Club President, Laurie Chetter Vice President, Jason Schlenker Secretary, Craig Shuker Treasurer, John Musket, Kerry Neil and Rory Birch as Committee members, Rory Birch Propwash Editor, Craig Shuker PRO, and Michael Boland as Webmaster. So there it is in a nutshell.

Gladstone Fun Fly.

On the 23rd September some nine RMAC members (and a few partners) arrived at the Gladstone "Ticor" flying field bringing with them a variety of models, from electrics and glow powered aircraft to helicopters. In all the day and company was quite enjoyable. The wind direction was a little unpredictable and gave a few members minor problems. The BBQ and drinks were well accepted by all there.



The pits area at Gladstone.



There were a few visitors from the local area who came and admired the models and watched some of the display. Hopefully Gladstone will gain a few more members from the visit.

Some of the visitors and spectators

Meeting Notes.

- A reminder for the static display at the Capricorn Driver Support group at their car show on the 17th November. Jason is coordinating those interested, so please let Jason know if you are interested. Event profits to go to the Cap Rescue Helicopter.
 - Craig has it organised, a bus is going with a few Club Members to help the Cairns Distance education at Emerald where several groups of children will learn about model aircraft and characteristics of flight. The date is still 12th October. See Craig & John for more info.
 - A date has been selected for the next tri-city heli comp in Rocky. This will be on the 19/20 April 2008 see Richard or Bert for more info.
 - Please remember that the normal meeting room being unavailable on the 30th so the November this meeting will now be held on the 23rd of November.
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Club Anniversary DVD.

It's now available \$30 each. I got my copy and the presentation looks great. John has done a great job in trying to capture the spirit of the Club. On the disk are several members talking about flying and the general reason why they fly. Pictures and film depict a lot of the interest and spirit of modelling, anyway enough of my interpretation, grab a copy and have a look yourself. The DVD is available from John Musket (call 042 873 6075) or see Rory.

Our Club Break-Up.

Again a reminder for the Club Christmas social function, this is set for 24th November, at Diggers Bowls Club, Robinson Street.(same venue as our 60th last year), with the same caterer. The cost will be about \$15 each with kids under 12 years old free.

Please help us by notifying your intention to be present either:

1. by adding your name (and number attending) on the sheet which will appear on our field notice board, or
2. by contacting our coordinator, Hubert, on phone 49285847.

We need to know numbers by 18th November so the hall can be set up, and so our caterer can be informed as well.

This is, and always has been, the **BIG** social event for our club for the year, with wives, partners, girlfriends, and children all welcome. Even other family members, if you wish.

This venue worked well for us last year, with lots of enjoyment. Being more used to the venue, this year should be even better.

A brief note about Electric Powered models.

I always recommend to people that they purchase more than one rechargeable battery even if one is already included with the model.

This way when the first battery runs down from use, you can take it out, put it on the charger, and attached the second fully charged battery and get back to the action. It sure beats waiting and watching every 30 seconds for the battery charger light to blink green!

Also, it may be a good idea to keep an oven mitt handy to put the batteries on it while they're being recharged. The nature of recharging is a chemical reaction and heat is always created. It's normal for batteries to get hot when charging and also immediately after use. In some rare cases batteries have been known to get extremely hot and actually swell up in size (they cannot be used after this occurs). LiPo's have been known to start fires, and it is recommended to place them a fireproof container while charging.

So PLEASE never leave a battery unattended while it's charging. This is a very important safety warning.

Battery Strength, you should also know that most of the rechargeable batteries (except LiPo's) used for RC need to be cycled two to three times before they reach their maximum power output. LiPo's don't need cycling but cell balancing is to be highly considered.

This means that you will need to charge them and discharge them three times prior to use. To discharge a battery put it in your vehicle and let it run on a slow speed until the motor stops. For RC airplanes I put them on my workbench and hook a right angle in front of the tail elevator. Then I simply move the throttle toggle into the slowest position to make the prop spin. In 15 minutes the battery has fully run down. I give it 10 minutes to cool down and then I put it back on the charger. If you're willing to make the investment, there are some battery chargers that also have discharge features.

Battery Chargers generally get their power one of two ways, from an AC wall outlet, or from your car battery or 12V DC source. They can connect to your battery either with a power socket adapter (cigarette lighter opening), or with two big clips directly on to the battery.

Some battery chargers come with all sorts of bells, whistles and options for types of batteries, charging rates and number of cells, while others have only a few. So make sure you which one you're getting in order to best plan how, where, and when you'll be able to charge your batteries!

Members in Pictures



DATES TO REMEMBER

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|-----|----|---------------------|
| Oct | 12 | Emerald training |
| Oct | 26 | Club Meeting |
| Nov | 17 | Cap Drivers Display |
| Nov | 23 | Club Meeting |
| Nov | 24 | Club Break-up |

