

# NSWRA Newsletter



New South Wales Rocketry Association Inc.

Jan-Feb 2014

## Launch Day 25<sup>th</sup> January

Number of launches: 33

Our first launch for 2014 was well-attended despite the southerly winds and wet weather beforehand. The setup today included an Australian flag, courtesy of David B, to celebrate Australia Day.



Estes "Crayon" rockets are proving to be popular, and fly very well

Kevin started things off with a perfect flight of his Big Daddy on an E30 motor for his MPR accreditation. Congratulations, Kevin!

Plenty of other nice flights, including Josh's "Quad Runner" on 4xC6 motors, David H's "Earl Grey" (made from foam cups), Paul K's "Magic Wand", and Ruth's "Icarus" (can't let Chris have all the fun)



Happy Australia Day!  
Chris' Nike Smoke on a G64

## Launch Day 9<sup>th</sup> February

Number of launches: 27



Norm's "K1" about to lift off  
on a H70 hybrid motor

A hot day, with light winds.

Unfortunately, the wind was just strong enough to deposit Amber's (one of David B's daughters) rocket, an Estes crayon type, in the top of a tree. Ben's V2 finally left the pad on its 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt for a perfect flight, after having a motor CATO – see pic at right. Tim's recently repaired "Blackstar Voyager" flew well on an E15 and recovered fine under chute this time



Michael's "Jedi" on a H128. Ben's V2 (on the left) shows the result of a motor CATO

## Launch Day 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Number of launches: 46

Farewell to Doonside ☺

Light to moderate winds allowed members to make the most of our last day of launching here, with plenty of excellent flights. It's such a pity to lose this great site - so many memories to take away with us.

Huge thanks go to David B and his daughter Rebecca for the BBQ – very generous, and topped off a great day of launching.



Campbell's "Ballistic Crayon" on a G64

## New launch site – Whalan Reserve

We are now just waiting for our application to be approved, to launch at the southern end of Whalan Reserve (map coordinates -33.761315, 150.797594). We anticipate that this will come through in time to allow us to start launching on 9<sup>th</sup> March. Please check your emails and the website for confirmation.

A few things members need to be aware of:

- This is a much smaller area than Doonside, and we will need to impose some restrictions on motors and maximum altitude - 1000 feet has been proposed. Until we are more familiar with the site and can make a full assessment, no composite motors will be allowed, and I would recommend staying below say 650 feet (200m) initially.
- We will need to be more strict on scrutinising and approving rockets for launch. The decisions of the RSO are final!
- The Doonside Aeromodellers Club (control-line planes) use a portion of the area on Saturdays. All launches must be coordinated with them.
- The area is accessible to the general public. Please respect all users of the area.
- We expect to be able to drive up to the launch site and park cars on the grass. Members must drive responsibly to ensure the surface is not damaged. If the area becomes soft due to rain beforehand, we may need to park approx. 100m away.
- It is essential that we keep the area tidy. In particular, we must ensure that we dispose of all spent igniters, plugs, etc.

## Dubbo Launch

Due to unforeseen circumstances, and no fault of NSWRA, the launch we were planning for Dubbo in March had to be cancelled.

There should be an opportunity to launch high power rockets at a different site later in the year.

## New Launch site near Yass

A very generous landowner has offered us an opportunity to launch at a large property near Yass. This site may be used to launch rockets weighing less than 1500g on motors up to “G”. Maximum altitude is around 4500 ft. We are tentatively scheduling a launch at this site on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April.

## Macquarie University Astronomy Open Night 5<sup>th</sup> April

NSWRA will again have a stand at this event. This is a good opportunity for us to promote rocketry and the club to the general public. Last year 1500 people attended. The event is open from 6:30pm to 10:00pm.

Check out their website for details: <http://physics.mq.edu.au/community/AFA/opennight/>

All members are welcome to help out - please contact David C or one of the other committee members.

## Upcoming Events

### March

9 Launch Day. First launch at Whalan Reserve – **to be confirmed.**

29 Launch Day

### April

5 Macquarie University Astronomy Open Night

13 Visit to Yass (tentative). **No launch at Whalan Reserve**

18-21 *Easter*

25 *Anzac Day*

26 Launch Day

### May

11 Launch Day

16-18 HPR launch at Ardlethan (tentative) – run by CRG (Canberra Rocketry Group)

31 Launch Day