

NSWRA Newsletter



New South Wales Rocketry Association Inc.

May-June 2015

Membership Renewals Overdue

All members should have already renewed their memberships for 2015-16.

If you have not already done so, you should preferably renew as soon as possible, rather than wait until you attend your next launch. This is in order for us to help satisfy our insurance obligations. Payments may be made by direct deposit; other payment options are possible. Send us an email at nswra@nswrocketry.org.au for payment details.

Please supply a completed membership application form (new version, available on the website http://www.nswrocketry.org.au/Documents/NSWRA_Membership_Application_2015.pdf) with your payment.

The membership fee for 2015-2016 is \$150 (senior rate), with the junior rate (under 18) at \$90 (restricted to low power).

Macquarie University Astronomy Open Night



Setting up completed and ready for visitors

The NSWRA stand at the Astronomy Open Night on Saturday 23rd May was again very popular, thanks to Peter Berg, Neville, David C, and George with his sons, John and Paul, who did a fantastic job on the night.

Thanks also to Scott, who although sick, brought out some excellent items for the display.

Gate at Whalan Reserve – reminder to keep closed

The gate near the radio control car track will be unlocked by a committee member, but in most instances **should remain closed**. If the gate is closed when you arrive, please close the gate again after you've driven through. If you find the gate already open because other users of the area (eg footballers or cricketers) are present, only then should you leave it open.

Upcoming Events

All launches are at Whalan Reserve unless otherwise noted

July

25 Launch Day. AGM for TRA members to be held after the launch (approx. 12:00)
Note: No Sunday launch in July

August

9 Launch Day
29 Launch Day

September

12-13 (Tentative – weekend launch at Mullaley)
26 Launch Day

Launch Day 10th May

Number of launches: 6

Not many members at today's launch, due to it being Mother's Day.

C6 motors were used in Paul's "Black Thunder", Jess' "Jessinator", and Luke's "Magnum Load" (twice).

Neville's "Kit Thing" flew on a B4, but unfortunately wasn't recovered.

Lawrence launched his "Aura" for its first flight on a D12. The 7 second delay was apparently a bit long for this rocket



Luke's "Magnum Load"

Launch Day 30th May

Number of launches: 11



Great conditions today – a fine, cool day with little wind. John K launched his "Dust Devil" and Paul K his "Pod 2", both on C6 motors.

Lawrence's "Terrocell" glider had 2 successful flights, first on a 1/2A3, then on an A3. Unfortunately a motor problem on its 3rd flight resulted in a prang. Lawrence also attempted his MPR accreditation with his "Aura" on an E15 – a nice flight, but the descent with streamer recovery was a bit too fast and it broke a fin on landing. Reviews of this kit suggest that this is quite common,

Luke launched his "Magnum Load" on a C6 and his "Express" twice on D12 motors – all good

Lawrence & Alex prepping the "Aura", and launching on an E15

Launch Days 6th and 7th June - Mullaley

Number of launches: 15

Only a relatively small number of members attended this event, but what a fantastic weekend!

Rockets/motors ranged from Mark & Jess' "Jessinator" on a C6-5 to David C's "Bunyip" on an I161.

Andrew launched his "Barracuda" on a G77 and his "R6 Blackbird" on a H128 for his TRA Level 1 certification (congratulations, Andrew!), and then on an H180.

Norman put a camera on his "Arreaux", launching it on three occasions with G64 motors, for some great video that he has uploaded to Youtube : www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sluGB9Tn_k,

Matthew's "Callisto" left the pad on a G80.

We are extremely grateful to the landowners for allowing us to use their property, and for all the help they provide.

Thanks also to CASA for their assistance and approvals.

We have tentatively set a date of 12-13 September for our next launch. Mark this in your diary now!



An H128 motor in Andrew's "R6 Blackbird"

Launch Day 14th June

Number of launches: 22



Craig's "AC/DC" on a D12

A foggy start to the morning, but once the fog cleared we were treated to some beautiful flights in absolutely perfect conditions.

Alex and Lawrence's "Heatseeker" behaved like you'd expect for a missile with that name. Although motors including C6 are recommended for the kit, it looks like the model needs the addition of nose weight if using motors larger than "B".

All the other launches today were good, although Rhys' "Spaceman" could have used a bit more than an A8. There was no problem with his "Customizer Mini" on an A3 or "Centurion 2" on a C6.

Dominic's first flight of his "Cosmic Explorer" on a B6 was flawless.

George launched his "Axion" water rockets 6 times. He was refining his technique of having cameras attached to "outriggers" on his rocket. The final video should be very cool – keep an eye out for it on Youtube.

Lawrence's "Aura" flew again this week, after a rebuild, on an E15, to gain his MPR accreditation this time – congratulations, Lawrence!

Craig M re-joined us, launching his "Enola Gay" twice on B6 motors, "Deep Purple" also on a B6, and "AC/DC" (actually a nice Estes V2 kit) on D12s.

Fastest and loudest launches of the day were the 2 flights of Matthew's "Callisto" on G250 motors.

Launch Day 27th June

Number of launches: 20

First to take advantage of the great conditions (yet again!) today was David H with his "Barracuda" on a F79. Adrian followed his dad with 2 nice flights of his "Big Bertha" on C6 motors. Kevin's larger "Bigger Bertha" also flew well on a C6, but the 7 second delay was a bit long for this model.

Kevin also flew his "FAI 40" twice on A10s, and David H his "FAI Pike" on A3s. These rockets really perform well on the smaller 13mm motors.

David H then stepped things up, using an F32 in his "Typhoon", and an F15 in his "Zephyrette". His attempts to ignite an old F40 White Lightning motor in his "Danger Saucer" were unsuccessful, so he jumped up to a G75 (as you would!) – what an awesome launch!

Lawrence launched his "Wizard" with C6 motors for 2 nice launches.

David C had a nice flight with a D12 in his "Sour Cream & Onion" (made from a Pringles tube)

Craig launched his "AC/DC" on a C11, then on a D12. He then launched his "Deep Purple" rocket on a C6, achieving a maximum altitude of 820 feet – sweet!

It's worthwhile noting here that this was recorded using one of the club's "AltimeterOne" units. These small, lightweight altimeters are available for any member to use – just see George if you want to borrow one.