

NSWRA Newsletter



New South Wales Rocketry Association Inc.

Oct-Dec 2013

All launch days in October had to be cancelled due to fire bans

Launch Day 10th November

Number of launches: 7

Strong southerly winds and light showers made for very few launches today.

Despite the conditions, all rockets were launched and recovered successfully, apart from a CATO of an E9 motor. No photos of today, sorry.

Launching was adjourned when the showers increased, after which the AGM was held off-site.

Annual General Meeting

The new committee is:

President	Tim B.
Vice-President	Geoff M.
Secretary	Norm M.
Assistant Secretary	George K.
Treasurer	David B.
Senior Advisor	David C.
Committee Member	*

*Subsequently Michael Houterman elected as committee member

Mini Maker Faire 24th November



Thanks to Neville finding out about this, and Tim's subsequent application to the museum, we were a part of the Powerhouse Museum's Mini Maker Faire, alongside 56 other displays.

Apparently 3000 people attended on the day.

Although our stand was tucked a little out of the way, just outside the canteen, we still had plenty of people come visit and chat about rockets.

Launch Day 30th November

Number of launches: 35



The "Crayons" of Norm and Amos

Some excellent launches today. A moderate southerly wind kept all rockets away from the trees.

David H. got things started with a perfect flight of his "Cowabunga" on a G250. He then showed off his new saucer, launching first on an E9, then a F40 and, to really push it, with a G79. Ben eventually got his V2 off the pad, also with a G79.

Neville prepared us for Christmas by launching a Christmas tree and "Xmas Gold", a model made from an ornament.

Norm actually launched a low power rocket today, an Estes "Crayon". This was matched by Amos with his own "Crayon" for 2 perfect flights.

David B stepped things up a notch, launching his "Spitfire" on a H123 on 2 occasions.



Launch Day 8th December

Number of launches: 23

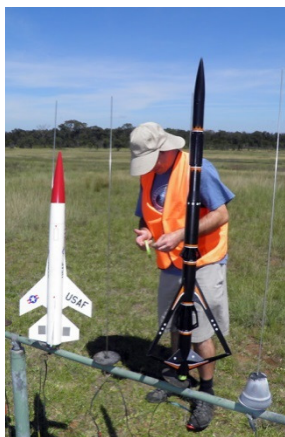
Good conditions for our last launch in 2013 - warm, with a light northerly breeze. David B twice launched his "Graduator" with a G64, and his "Spitfire" twice on a H123, for 4 perfect flights.

Chris J's choice of rocket for 2 flights today was his "Agent Orange" using D12 motors.

Spencer launched his "Nike Smoke" on an appropriately matching black smoky motor (F22 Blackjacket), and his "Expediter" on a H165 Redline.

George's "Axion" had a number of perfect flights, as we always expect from George. His son Paul also had good flights with 3 pyro rockets.

Michael's "Wild Weasel" with an F42 really left the pad in a hurry.



Tim with his "Snarky" & "Black Star Voyager"

Tim had a great flight with his "Snarky" on an E15, and was proudly displaying his beautiful new "Black Star Voyager". This very cool model looked almost too good to launch (maybe we were right!). The launch went perfectly with its E18 motor, it arced over, and we all waited for the chute – and kept waiting. The late ejection resulted in some damage to the rocket, but Tim assures us it will be repaired.



Looking good off the pad

A bit of repair work required

New launch site in 2014

You should all be aware that our lease with WSPT for Doonside will not be extended past February 2014.

We are grateful to Blacktown Council for offering us the southern end of Whalan Reserve (map coordinates -33.761315, 150.797594) as an alternate site. This is a much smaller area than Doonside, and we will need to impose some restrictions, including a reduction in maximum altitude. Fortunately we will have access to a larger site near Dubbo, starting late March, to help compensate for this.

We are still sorting out the details with Whalan Reserve. Another group uses a portion of the area on Saturdays, but we anticipate that we will be able to coordinate with them. We should have a bit more freedom on Sundays.

We are also investigating other potential launch sites.

Have a great Christmas, build lots of new rockets and we'll see you all back in 2014

Upcoming Events

December

25th Christmas Day. I hope Santa brings you some rocketry goodies!

January

25th Launch Day. First launch in 2014. (**Note:** No Sunday launch in January)

26th Australia Day

February

9th Launch Day

22nd Launch Day. Our last scheduled launch day at Doonside. Let's make the most of it!