

NSWRA Newsletter



New South Wales Rocketry Association Inc.

June - August 2018

Apologies for this newsletter being a bit late. The cancelled August launch day was deferred to 1st September, so it was initially intended to wait until after the end of this month before distribution. However, September is a huge month, with the inclusion of the Mullaley launch weekend, so the re-scheduled August launch day is now included in this June-August issue.

The next newsletter, and last for 2018, will be a bumper issue and will include the report from the Mullaley weekend (which was awesome!) – something for you to read over the Christmas break.

Thank you for renewing!

It was great to see most of our members renewing by the due date, and taking advantage of the free T-shirt offer. This is important, as membership numbers need to be provided to the Office of Fair Trading and to AMRS for our insurance, so thanks to all that renewed before 1st July.

I believe we may have a couple of spare shirts; please see George if you are interested in buying one, for \$20.

Annual General Meeting 27th October

At the conclusion of launching on Saturday 27th October, the annual general meeting will be held at Whalan Reserve. The expected start time will be 12:30pm. Please try to hang around for a short while after the launch. An email will be sent out closer to the date with the agenda.

Mylar streamers and parachutes banned at Whalan

As you are aware, there are power lines on the perimeter of Whalan Reserve. We obviously want to avoid having a rocket hung up on these, but if it does happen, the #1 rule is do not try to retrieve it. Model rockets, being constructed of inert materials (cardboard, wood and plastics), won't present a serious issue, and in most cases, neither will the material used for the streamer or parachute, being a non-conductive plastic. However, Mylar film has a metallic coating and conducts electricity very well. The Mylar streamer doesn't need to contact 2 sets of wires; with high tension power lines, electricity could arc across the gap. Accordingly, a streamer or parachute made of Mylar will not be permitted at Whalan Reserve.

Streamer Duration Contest - closing soon

The streamer duration contest is still running, but there won't be too many more opportunities to enter, with the winner to be announced at the upcoming AGM. The aim of this competition is to keep your rocket (any design) in the air for as long as possible using a single certified "A" motor with recovery by a single streamer of any size or material - except Mylar.

Upcoming Events

All launches are at Whalan Reserve unless otherwise noted

September

29 Launch Day

October

27 Launch Day. Annual General Meeting

November

24 Launch Day. Last launch day for 2018

Launch Day 30th June

Number of launches: 41

The morning started off in near-perfect conditions, with just a light breeze, but the wind picked up later in the morning. However, we still managed 41 launches.

George's "Axion" water rocket was first off the pads at 120psi. It flew again later, along with the "Axion G6" at 200psi, and again at 220psi, for perfect flights.

David Head and Kevin each launched their "Nike Smoke" rockets on F51 and G40 motors respectively. They also launched a number of rockets on "A" motors for the streamer duration competition, with Kevin's "Sunseeker" recording a flight duration of 28.3 seconds. This is the one to beat.

Laurence's "Red" rocket had a nice flight on a C6-3, but his "Blue" rocket had a separation issue. He also had 2 great flights with his "Gnome" rocket, but unfortunately the wind blew it into the long grass on its second flight, and it may have been lost.

Another "Blue" rocket was flown by Pavlos, who later launched his "Ol' Red" on an E9 motor.

Josh had a nice flight of his "Eliminator" on a D12-7, and was planning a second launch but decided against it with the increased wind – good call!

Sam's "Reflector" was launched successfully on a D12. His unconventional "Spudnic" was probably better suited to a Mullaley launch. His "Initiator" on a G40, although a perfect flight and recovery, highlighted the effect of the wind, and why we stipulate 1000 feet as the usual maximum altitude.

The last flight of the day was Patrick's "Orange Stick" on a D12. This will need a re-think/rebuild.



Justin's "Banshee"

Launch Day 28th July

Number of launches: 46



Jane's "Phoenix" on a D12-3 motor

Last month's launch day was big, but today's was HUGE

Conditions were ideal, enabling us to launch 46 rockets.

Taking advantage of the good conditions, Toby launched his 2-stage "Zenith II" on B6-0/C6-5 motors for a perfect flight.

Also demanding very little wind was Sam's "RG" glider. It had 2 perfect flights on ½A and A10 motors.

John made the trip up from Yass to launch his "Single Shot" rocket on a G76. It finally left the pad on its third attempt, for a spectacular launch.

There were too many other great launches to list them all. George has photos of most of these (taken by his son, John) on the website. Please check them out

Launches of particular note were those gaining their MPR assessment:

Arfin's "Express Delivery", Paul's "Pod 3", and Oliver's "V2", all on E30 motors. Congratulations, guys!

Pavlos also attempted his MPR with his "Godzilla" on a G76. It looked like a great flight, but it broke a fin on landing – a tough break (literally)



The carpark is filling up

Launch Day 1st September

Number of launches: 24

This launch day was to make up for the August launch, which had to be deferred due to rain.

It was quite windy, so low altitude LPR launches were prominent.

Derek launched a number of rockets – “Athena Payloader”, “Long John”, “Gnome” and “Mosquito”. He also launched his new scratch-built rocket, “Steampunk 1”, on a D12-3, for a great flight.

Ryan and his family launched a number of rockets – Caeden and Arren used A8-3 motors in their “Sky Hawker” and “Flash”, dad appropriately launched his “Big Daddy” on a D12-5, and Korina launched the “Yellow Star” on a B4-4.

Ulysse’s “Vega” series of rockets had nice flights on A8 and C6 motors.

Toby’s “Stormcrow” flew well on an E30; the chute not opening fully made for a closer recovery in the windy conditions.

In comparison, the chute on Anup’s “Aurora” opened just fine, making for a long walk.

Jane’s new “Tiny and Shiny” had a nice flight on an A3 motor.

Phill decided to use a B6 motor instead of a C6 in his “Mirabooka” – a good choice in the conditions, with a fine flight and recovery

Congratulations to Pavlos for gaining his MPR assessment. The “Godzilla” had 2 perfect flights on G76 motors.

Winston will need to do a bit more work, however – his “Hilmer” rocket using an E20 motor was unstable.



A perfect first flight for Derek’s “Steampunk 1” on a D12 motor