

NSWRA Newsletter



New South Wales Rocketry Association Inc 12th March 2009

Launch report: 28th February 2009

Conditions: Mixed, generally Sunny, warm, slight wind E?

Total launches: 43
Cluster launches: 2 (1 water rocket)
Staged launches: 0
Boost Gliders: 2
No ignition: 12 (not including faulty pad failures)
Failed recovery: 5
CATO: 2 (1 water rocket)

What a day of launching with a great turnout! I counted 22 cars at the peak and I'm guessing some 40+ attendees. It was a great sight to see a full rack of 15 rockets ready to go! The new layout seems to be working well with plenty of parking and room to move.

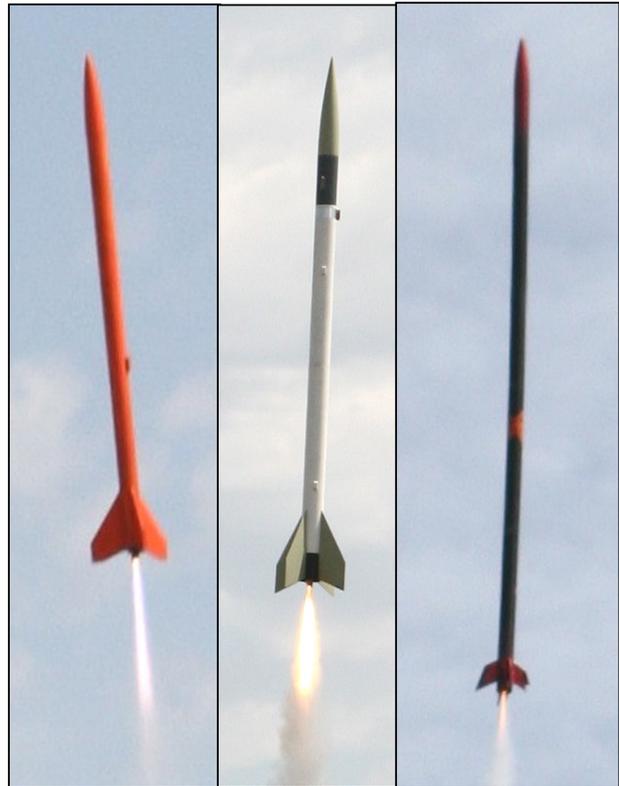
Welcome to the new members who joined and I hope that you have a rewarding time with the NSWRA.

Darren had some impressive launches with Shred on a G80 - neck-breaking acceleration and high altitude. George seems to be improving his water rockets with some long thrust launches.

Some photos of the day can be viewed on the following website in addition to those on the NSWRA website:

<http://s278.photobucket.com/albums/kk99/elta100/NSWRA%20Feb09/>

If you want a full resolution image please email me with the filename and the album (directory) name.



Shred Astrobee D Mean Machine (with the wobbles)



There was a Thug on the launch pad!
- and Black Death!!



Eggloft Competition

The Eggloft competition has been scheduled for the 28th March 2009. Get your rockets ready because it's nearly crunch time - well you know what I mean.

If you intend to enter the competition please let me know so that I can make sure that there are enough eggs.



Membership renewals

A reminder that if your membership is due to forward the fees and a new membership form promptly. The NSWRA has ongoing expenses, primarily rental for Doonside, but we need to build up the funds for the insurance payment to the ARA later in the year. Your membership card states when your membership expires.

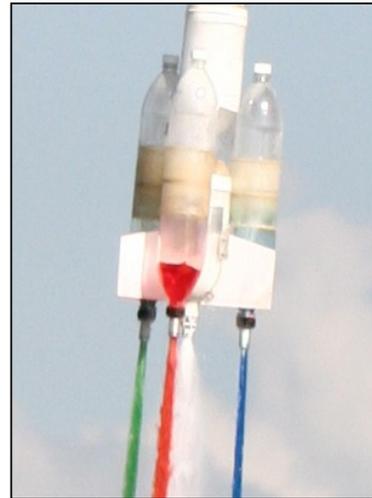
What rocket motors can we launch?

With several new members joining recently I thought it would be good to show what is available to us.

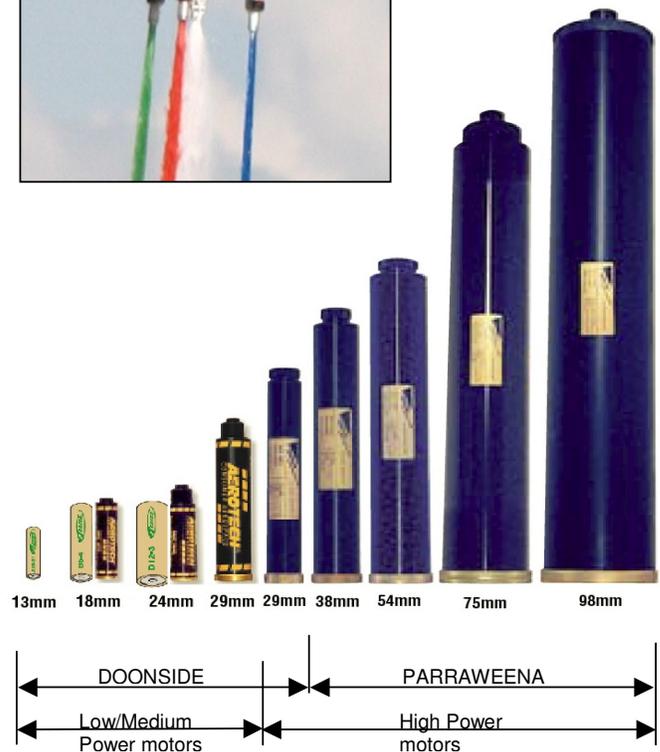
With the pyro rockets, on the smaller side we have the black powder propellant motors ranging from 1/4A to E. These are commonly available in the hobby shops. The letter is a measure of how much impulse (sort of a power measurement) a motor has with every next letter being twice as powerful as the previous letter. Ranging from D to O we have mainly composite motors which are the more common medium to high power motors. These motors have a more energetic propellant than the black powder motors and size-for-size can produce nearly twice the impulse. Ranging from about G to M (this is changing) we have hybrid motors which are based on a solid propellant and nitrous oxide as the oxidiser. These are a little more complicated as they need more ground support equipment but can be cheaper in the long run.

At Doonside we are limited to H size motors but at Parraweena we can launch the biggest of them.

Water rockets are a recent addition to the NSWRA but in 2008 George joined us with much experience in this area. Water rockets essentially need a pressure chamber (which in most cases can be a PET bottle), water, and compressed air. The compressed air can be supplied either by a manual pump or a compressed air cylinder.



Water Power!!



AS A GUIDE ONLY

Available rocket motors and where they can be launched.

Next launch

Currently scheduled for the 28th March. We'll have to keep an eye on the weather.

Suggestions

Does anyone have any questions that they would like answered in the newsletter? Next newsletter I will discuss ignition failures.

Andrew Eltobaji
NSWRA President