

NSWRA Newsletter



New South Wales Rocketry Association Inc.

Sep - Nov 2017



This is the last newsletter for 2017.

Newsletters have been typically produced bi-monthly. With the change in the number of launch days, next year we will probably change to quarterly issues – ie one every 3 months.

These newsletters will have any important information on the first page, followed by launch day reports. If possible, please try to at least read the first page.

We wish all our members a happy and safe Christmas. We're looking forward to seeing what you've been working on over the break at our first launch at Whalan next year, on Saturday 27th January, 2018.

Change to Flight Cards

After the last review of completed flight cards, it was apparent that a number of members were encountering some issues when filling them in. Accordingly we will be making some modifications. The new cards are pretty much in the same format, and will essentially require the same information, but will be much easier and quicker to fill in.

These will be available in time for the first launch in January.

Please be aware that you, the owner of the rocket, are responsible, and you need to provide complete and correct information. So – always re-check that you've filled in the card properly before signing it and presenting the card and rocket to the RSO for approval. The RSO has a number of important duties on launch days, in addition to checking rockets and flight cards, and his/her task will be made much easier if you have provided all the relevant information. Do not expect the RSO to authorise it if the card is inaccurate or incomplete. The RSO will, of course, provide assistance with any aspects about which you are unsure.

One characteristic that was often omitted or inaccurate concerned the total weight of the rocket. We now have an electronic balance available (donated by David H – thank you!) freely available for use by members at every launch day.

Education / Information Sessions

At the last committee meeting it was suggested that we hold regular education/information sessions. These would be short (approx.. 10 minutes) and held at the launch site, at those times that we can't launch because the Doonside Aeromodellers are flying their planes. These sessions would be tailored for the newer members but may also be useful for the more experienced. A range of topics can be covered, so there should be something for everyone.

First Mullaley Launch weekend

We anticipate holding the first launch at Mullaley in March or April. We expect to announce the dates by January, to allow members sufficient time to make arrangements and procure motors, etc.

Upcoming Events - 2018

All launches are at Whalan Reserve unless otherwise noted

January

27 Launch Day. First launch in 2018.

February

24 Launch Day

March

24 Launch Day

Launch Day 7th October

Number of launches: 32

32 flights gives an indication of how good the conditions were today.

First off the pads was Adrian's "Fat Boy" on a C6-3, followed by Kevin's "G.R." on a B6-4, before David H really got things moving when he used an E75 motor in his "Sky Bird".

Kevin also flew his "Nike Smoke" on a C6-5, and his "Sunny Side Up" (actually a "V2" rocket – nice!) on an E9-6.

Phill flew his "Dinky-2" on A and B motors, and his "SCR 59er" on a C6.

Rhys launched his "Kookaburra Mini", "Astra 3", and had 2 launches of his "Helicat".

George used 210psi to launch his "Axion G2" water rocket twice, and his "Gluon IV" was launched twice with 110psi; his sons John & Paul launched their "Dust Devil" and "Pod 2" rockets on C6 motors.

Jason had a tangled chute on his "Zenith", but his "Puma" had a nominal flight.

Jayden had good flights of his "Goose" on A and B motors.

David C's "Toblerone" left the pad on an A6 motor.

David H launched 2 saucers - "Yellow Peril" with a C6-5, and then the "Big Red Saucer" on a G68 (awesome motor!) His "Super Baby Bertha" had a great flight on an E31-8.

Norman's use of G53 (black smoky) motors was appropriate for his "Nike Smoke", with 2 perfect flights.



Norman's "Nike Smoke"

Launch Day 28th October

Number of launches: 27



George's "Neutrino II" separates from its "Baryon IV" booster

Another great day – warm, with light winds.

Something unique today was George testing his staged water rockets – his "Baryon IV" booster with "Neutrino II" sustainer had 2 great flights at 110psi, with the second flight recovered just beyond the trees. He also launched his "Axion II" water rocket at 100psi for 3 flawless flights. His son, Paul, launched his "Black Thunder" and "Pod 2" twice on C6-5 motors.

David H and his son Jonathan had 6 great flights, starting with Johnathan's "Red 2" on a cluster of two C6-5 motors, and "Type 31" with an F15. David H launched his "Firestorm Extreme", "Generic Blue Missile", "Super Baby Bertha", and finished off with the "Fat Boy" on a D12-5.

David C also used a D12 motor in his "Phoenix".

Kevin launched his high-flying "FAI-40", "Nike Smoke" and "G.R." rockets.

Phill's "Scratch" rocket made from coffee cups was a little heavy for an A8 motor, but his "Dinky" and "Dinky 2" had good flights. The nose section of his "Sky Twister" came down OK with its helicopter recovery, but unfortunately the chute in the booster section didn't open. At least there's plenty of time to repair this over Christmas, Phill.

Last flight of the day was Tim's "Cweasel" on a G64, for an awesome flight.

Launch Day 25th November

Number of launches: 21

Fantastic conditions for our last launch day in 2017 – warm with light winds.

Not a great start for David H – his "Firestorm Extreme" leapt off the pad on an F79 motor, but the chute didn't emerge, resulting in a core sample. He had better recoveries with his "Sky Bird" and "Flying Bean". His son, Adrian, had good flights of the "Mini Centurion" and "Baby Bertha".

Phill launched his "Scratch 1" and "Dinky" rockets.

Kevin had good flights of the "FAI-40" and "G.R."

David C's "Laser-X" was somewhat squirrely on a B6 motor, but his "Saucer 'E'" was stable with an E9 motor. The F24 motor in his "Jabiru" was quite old, so was sluggish in leaving the pad, but still had a good flight. Due to the motor performance, future flights will be reserved for Mullaley rather than Whalan.

Rhys' "Kookaburra Mini 2" had a perfect flight using a cluster of motors – a central E9-6 and two C6 motors.

Tim again launched his "Cweasel" on a G64. Unfortunately the rocket had a tumble recovery when the chute broke free.



Tim's "Cweasel"