



ROTOR TORQUE

April 2015
Issue 137

Official Newsletter of the Melbourne Radio Controlled Helicopter Club Inc

<http://mrchc.org.au>

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Upcoming Events:

Weekday Flying over the School Holidays

Monday 30/3/15 until

Friday 17/4/15

12/4/15 (Sun) Fun Fly

Start 10am with Club General Meeting being held during the lunch break

Remember also to check in on the web site from time to time for upcoming events and other information

2014/ 2015 Committee

President:	Jeff Sussman
Vice President:	Matt Carmichael
Secretary:	Peter Dalglish
Treasurer:	Roger Chapman (Assist: Brett Dargue)
Editor:	Roger Chapman (Temp)
Contest Director:	Matt Carmichael
Committee Ordinary Member:	Ben Boldeman
Safety Officer:	Vacant
Event Coordinator:	Ray Close
VMAA Rep:	Carl Bizon
Website Administrator:	Roger Chapman (Ben Boldeman -Tech)

You can contact any of the committee through our Website:

<http://www.mrchc.org.au/contact/>

Presidents Report

Jeff Sussman

It was with great sadness that we heard about the passing of another club member late last year. Jason Griffin had contributed significantly to the wellbeing of our club and will be sadly missed. There is a tribute to Jason elsewhere in this Newsletter

Last month as you are all aware, a bunch of mongrels violated our club house and stole a bunch of stuff. I often wonder what drives people to do things like this. Anyway the lesson to be learned is that we should not leave anything of value in the Club House.

(One of the two culprits have since been apprehended and the stolen property from our Club returned - Ed)

Onto the good news our club continues to attract new members and the feedback I get is that it's the camaraderie and culture of the club that attracts them. Culture by definition is the characteristics of group of people and manifests in their behaviour. I have seen how willing members are to share their knowledge and make new members welcome.

From a facilities perspective we are now welcome to use the front playing fields and will put together some guidelines for their use. In the hope of attracting more members to our bi-monthly meetings, we will hold the next one over lunch at the Fun Fly

The School hosted their Carnival on Saturday 21stFebruary and even though attendance was poor most likely due to the excessive heat - we did put on a show and it is a way of showing the school our support.

As we approach autumn we usually experience calm days and sunshine so take advantage before winter comes along!



Jeff's fabulous Bell 47G



Jeff's Lama takes two to carry.but when in the air - scale at its best – (at the Scale Weekend 14/3/15)

Temp Editors Bit

Roger Chapman

I wish it was under better circumstances that I find myself filling in until we find an Editor for our Newsletter (thus the title 'Temp Editor's Bit') but it has been an insight into how much work Jason put into the Newsletter.

As it was for all of us it was a total shock when we learned of Jason passing away suddenly and unexpectedly just before Christmas. He put in a huge effort with the Newsletter something that has been brought home to me.

So yes the Newsletter now looks totally different - no disrespect to Jason but it was from necessity as our Newsletter template was with Jason so it has taken some time to set up a new one. So apologies for the lengthy delay in getting this out. We have skipped December and February and to avoid any undue stress we have picked up the Newsletters again with the April issue. Not a huge issue but at least a start. From here on they will be bi-monthly again.

Also remember it is your newsletter so please contribute - if you are not good at writing send some photos as our new member Nabil has done - thanks Nabil.

More importantly if you think you would be interested in taking on the Editorship please let myself or any of the committee know.



Treasurers Report

Roger Chapman

Well at the moment I seem to be wearing several hats so with this one on:

Club Membership is healthy but due to the expense of the new floor in the Club House our expenses were greater than our income.

We currently have 58 members in total. An up to date list is on the Notice Board in the Club House Kitchen.

As at 26/02/2015:

Investment Account - \$24,111.91

General Cheque Acc - \$2,258.47

Current year Income from	01/07/2014	\$4,289.81
Current year Expense from	01/07/2014	\$9,853.93
Current year earnings from	01/07/2014	- (\$5,564.12)
Due to expenses being greater than income		

Club House and Associated Expenses totaled \$7,140.00 and was for the new flooring, mowing etc.

There was \$100.00 was for the replacement club radio

A full breakdown will be provided at the end of the financial year.



Vale Jason Griffin

Jason passed away unexpectedly late December last year.

He was a quiet achiever, a person of few words, never perhaps liking to be the centre of attention but contributed in a very real way to the Club.

He put many hours into looking for a new field when it looked like the school was going to close - fortunately the school recovered under the Uniting Church and we ceased looking.

In a similar fashion, when a number of years ago the Club needed a new Editor to take on the Club Newsletter, he volunteered. When we needed to transport our new Club House he arranged the transport. That was Jason.

He was one of those people who was the first to volunteer for tasks and then just quietly went about delivering.

Over the past months Jason was kept busy with his love of FPV and did not spend too much time at the field but he faithfully produced the bi-monthly newsletter.

We will miss Jason and his friendly chats.

Jeff



Victorian State Helicopter Championships

Matt Carmichael - Contest Director/ Vice President

The 2014 Victorian State Helicopter Championships were once again held out at the VMAA State Field in Darraweit Guim (about 12 Km out of Wallan) over the 14th - 16th November 2014 with another great turn out of local and interstate pilots attending.



MRCHC was represented by Pete Dalglish and Phil Coghill in Advanced, Ant Sisley in Expert and myself in F3C. In all there were eighteen pilots registered for competition that included a first time competitor in the new Sportsman class and the Australian 2014 - 2015 Worlds Team pilots Mark Swan, Brendan Tucker and Mick Warren in F3C.

Practice Day - Friday 14th

Friday we headed out to the State Field early to mark out the flight line for the practice day. Upon arriving at the field at a quarter to nine, there was not a breath of wind even though the weather reports on the radio on the drive out indicated that it was blowing a gale in Melbourne, but it wasn't long before the wind kicked up.



The file opened at 10:00am for practice and there was a great turn out to make the most of the day although the wind kept getting stronger as the day wore on and by around 2:00pm, it looked like the practice day was over with winds blowing straight down the flight line at 46Km/h. At this point there were a few pilots that decided the day was done and headed off. About an hour later the wind dropped by ten or so Km/h and the remaining pilots were back into practice for the rest of the day.



Day 1 - Saturday 15th

Day one started off with very reasonable conditions, the winds were much better than the previous practice day and the breakfast put on by the Northern Flying Group really hit the spot.

First up were two rounds of Sportsman back to back to allow more time for the sun to move higher in the sky so that it didn't get in the eyes of the Advanced, Expert and F3C Pilots.



This year there were only two pilots in Sportsman class (the old Novice class), but this was due to one entrant withdrawing on the Friday and a number of the previous year's Novice pilots moving up to Advanced. The competition kicked off with two rounds of Sportsman to allow enough time for the sun to get high enough in the sky as not to affect the classes with aerobatics.



Perhaps if I rub it's tummy it will fly better.

...

Round one for Advanced and Expert took us up to the lunch, where a calibration flight for the judges was flown by Rick Mailith from Queensland. After the lunch break, the wind had picked up a little, but it was fairly consistent and the first round of F3C was flown with some pretty impressive flights. Round two for Advanced kicked off straight after the F3C flights were complete and as the sky started to get a little darker and the wind was picking up, hovering in the conditions was starting to get a little tricky although the some of the pilots looked to be up for the challenge.

The Expert pilots put in a great effort in their second round and as the sky continued to darken, Rick Mailith lost his heli against the grey clouds and after a heart stopping second as the heli headed for Rick and myself, Rick was able to catch the heli and direct it back out on to the flight line and continue his round.

After all rounds complete for day one, we decided to put on a dinner in the Northern Flying Group facilities, so after a quick trip into Wallan and back, Phil, his wife Patrice and myself cooked up a meal for 16 hungry pilots before everyone retired back to their hotels, cars and/or tents for the night.

Day 2 - Sunday 16th

Unfortunately and not surprisingly, Melbourne's weather put an end to the second day of competition with around 30mm of rain overnight, 30Km/h winds and low cloud it was decided to cancel the second day of competition so the results of the two rounds held the day before determined the final placing for each of the classes.

The Final Placings:

F3C

1st - Brendan Tucker
2nd - Mick Warren
3rd - Marc Swan

Expert

1st - Paul Sanders
2nd - Dennis Beilby
3rd - Russell Edwards

Advanced

1st - Steve Malcman
2nd - Greg Lepp
3rd - Phil Coghill

Sportsman

1st - Rex Barbey
2nd - Geoff Herbert



For larger versions of the photos shown here and a lot more click or copy and paste into your web browser this link:

<https://plus.google.com/photos/108654734227415007206/albums/6082172065041404401>

In all, the weekend was a great success and all competitors and visitors had a great time and are looking forward to next year's event and hope we can encourage a few more of the MRCHC members to come along and enjoy the weekend with the rest of us. A special thanks to Pete Dalglish, Phil Coghill, Patrice Coghill and Nick Csabafy their contributions in making this another successful weekend again for MRCHC and the 2014 Victorian State Championships.



Ant Sisley's Helis at the 2015 Avalon Airshow



Phil Thornton took out best Scale at the stand



Mark Alternroxel's fabulous looking Raptor 700E



New member Nabil's Align 500 - and only flying for 6 weeks! Well done Nabil.



Scale Day - Ants Channel 10 Jetranger and



Phil, Byrne and Ant talking Helis as you do

MRCHC Inc Club Flying Rules

The MRCHC has an outstanding safety record. The safety of our members and our visitors is foremost to the Club and so the following rules are in place to help maintain a safe flying environment. Please observe the following rules at all times.

1. No member shall fly or operate their **helicopter equipment**, which has not been tested and checked prior to first flight, is obviously faulty or is obviously in need of repair.
2. No member shall fly or operate **equipment** to the danger of others or in a manner as to present the likelihood of harm or injury to person's or person's property.
3. The **Frequency Keyboard** shall be used at all times where possible for 36Mhz . NO person shall fly or operate any equipment unless the appropriate frequency key is in position on the keyboard. No person shall **remove a Frequency Key** from the Frequency board apart from the owner thereof.
4. **Frequency Keys** are not required for 24Ghz Spread Spectrum but transmitters must be on the approved list Refer [MOP 058](#)
5. Any member or visitor found to have **caused loss or damage** to any other member's Helicopter, property or equipment through unauthorized operation of their own equipment or by dangerous or irresponsible behaviour shall be liable for such damage or loss.
6. NO pilot shall take off or land in the **pit area**, fly over the pit area or the Car Parking area. Flying is permitted in Authorised flight areas only (ref. map in the Club House).
7. All pilots shall maintain 9 meter separation form their helicopters at all times
8. No member is permitted to fly unless they can be identified by **wearing a current Membership Identification**.
9. **Visitors** flying at the field must sign the visitor's book prior to flying: - Visitor Rules apply. A Current member must sponsor the visitor and brief the visitor of the club's Flying Rules.
10. A directive from a club **Safety Officer** or a Committee member shall be complied with immediately. Any dispute settled later by the committee.
11. Hovering in the **hovering area** shall not exceed 5 meters in altitude. Pilot must not hover the helicopter between the Pilot and the Pits.
12. The **hovering area** is for hovering, the model must not exceed walking pace.
13. **Mobile Phones** are not allowed on at the flight line at any time, Mobile Phones are allowed in the pits and in cars.
14. **There is to be no flying on Fire Ban days**.
15. All members who wish to fly on the **main flight** lines will require to have their Helicopter Bronze wings or greater endorsement.
16. Visitors wishing to fly on the main flight lines will be required to have a member accompany them whilst on the main flight lines until such time as they have obtained their endorsement.