

# Newsletter

**September 2006 Edition**

**Next Meeting**  
**Monday 18/09/2006**  
**AT THE CLUBHOUSE,**  
**8:00pm SHARP**



## **Next Club Meeting**

**8:00pm Monday the 18th of September at the clubhouse**

**On the agenda:-**

- Lots of bronze wings certificates to be awarded to our newer Pilots.
- Sale of DAC clothing Merchandise.
- Show and Tell, bring your model along.
- Pizzas, soft drink, tea & coffee provided.

## **Presidents Report**

We now have a new committee in place for the next 12 months and I would like to thank David Gibbs for the excellent work he has done in running and controlling the moving foreword of the club. He has done a great job of tidying up all the club rules over the last couple of years. Thanks for staying on the committee to help guide us in the future.

We have had two committee meetings already with an enthusiastic participation of all members. There are now 96 members in the club and this does take a lot of effort to keep all things running smoothly. Ian Slack, our Registrar has filled in magnificently for our Treasurer Graham Kay who has been travelling Australia for the last month or so. He has also carried out the secretary role up until now, many thanks Ian for your efforts.

Colin Kahn has now offered his services as Secretary so this will relieve Ian of this duty. Welcome Colin!

The club website will start getting updates shortly as Michael Best is taking over the webmasters job.

Fenando Monge has purchased new uniforms i.e. jackets, shirts and caps and has distributed them, so please pay as soon as possible for these items .

The flying at the field has been quite busy so please continue your hobby in the safest manner possible at all times and respect your fellow flyers and take note, we are all safety officers.

David Law and Noel Whitehead have returned from the World Scale Championships in Sweden where David was placed 11th and Noel 19th out of more than 50 entries from around the world. David flew his Vampire jet and Noel flew his beautiful CA25 Winjeel. Well done guys.

Anthony Peate is working hard to get the newsletter out in time for the next club meeting

and I would like to see as many as possible at this meeting as we always have interesting things to discuss and view.

Pizza ,coffee and soft drinks are supplied.

See you there on Monday 18th September at 8pm sharp at the field.

Until next newsletter,fly safely

Cliff McIver - President

## **Clubs, Associations and Special interest Groups** **By Fernando Monge**

Throughout history, life has had a way of making sure that those people with certain affinities or common interests get together and share their likes and dislikes. It may be an afternoon next to the barbecue with a few steaks and stobbies, setting up a scale railroad track or even, who knows, flying model airplanes.

These groups are formed naturally by the fact that sharing those activities that you most enjoy brings even more joy to the activity. The natural evolution of this is the formation of clubs and special interest groups. These groups are generally formed to build on everybody else's experience and increase the enjoyment of the activity (let's call it "hobby" from now on).

Clubs offer their members access to other people's expertise and knowledge and make the hobby much more enjoyable. Let's face it, whenever you get to the club to find that you are the only person there, you kind of hope that someone will quickly show up. They also give you the opportunity to get a glimpse at other disciplines within your hobby. For example giant scale, scale aerobatics, pylon racing, fun fly, pattern aerobatics, electrics, helicopters, etc.

Unfortunately, man is a complex being and even though we may be in the midst of doing what we most enjoy, we find a way to focus on those negative aspects of human interaction and interpersonal relationships. Many a well structured club or organization has let these small and many times insignificant issues get in the middle of the enjoyment of a hobby and have resulted in the demise of what once used to be a strong and prosperous group of friends getting together to have fun.

It is good to know that we sit amongst friends that will always give priority to the enjoyment of the hobby and will make every effort to ensure the continuity of such a prestigious club as is Doncaster. After all, if we do not stick together, we may see the runway turned into a

## Club News and Achievements

### Out of the 50 entrants at the World Scale Championships in Sweden

David Law came 11<sup>th</sup> flying his Vampire

Noel Whitehead was 19<sup>th</sup> flying his CA25 Winjeel.

### Control Line Nationals

David Nobes was 1<sup>st</sup> in his category.

### Bronze Wings

Many of our trainee pilots have now qualified for their bronze wings certification. Their certificates will be handed out at the next club meeting.

Well done to all concerned.

## VMAA calendar, up and coming events

The Shepparton Mammoth Fly In - 30th anniversary?	16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> September
Wangaratta Jets	24 <sup>th</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> November
Electric Models Fly-In - Swan Hill	14 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> October
70th anniversary OS Engines Fly in at Pakenham	29 <sup>th</sup> of October

## Important announcements from the DAC committee regarding bronze wings for helicopter pilots

Over the last couple of year's the club committee has attempted to get at least one of the helicopter flyers rated as a club instructor, which unfortunately never eventuated. This year the committee has decided that all helicopter flyers must obtain a bronze wing rating before being allowed to fly solo at DAC field.

The committee recommend that budding helicopter pilots organized to get their bronze wings at another club that has a qualified helicopter instructor, or invite such an instructor to our club to instruct and test them.

Ultimately the committee would like to see at least one of the DAC helicopter flyers progress to an instructor rating so they can train and test other trainee wanting to learn to fly helicopter.

The committee believes this will bring helicopter flight training up to the same standard as fix wing, which is important for safety and insurance reasons.

## Help I've cut my finger on a Prop!!!

Do you know where the First Aid Kit is ?

As all of you who have completed you bronze win training should know, the First Aid Kit is located in the cupboards at the northeast end of the clubhouse, opposite the kitchen door. Next time your at the club, take a look at it so you know what's inside should you need it.

## What Transmitter Frequency Should I Use ? By Anthony Peate

It is recommended practice that you stick to one frequency when flying at the club on any given day.

New members should try and find a frequency not widely used by other flyers they are likely to be flying with. This can be done by looking at the club notice board which contains a list of members and the frequencies they use, as well as consulting with other members.

Remember if some one is using your frequency it a good opportunity for coffee break and a chance to chat to other members not flying.

### **Danger 615**

The committee has decided to ban flying on 36.150MHz due to high levels of radio interference at experienced by pilots at this club. This frequency has already been banned at Lilydale, and tests carried out at the VARMS club also showed high levels of interference. Unfortunately this frequency seems to be unreliable around the all of the eastern suburbs.

### **2.4GHz Spread Spectrum Radios ?**

At this stage not may people in our club have one of these, or are likely to. But the DAC committee has decided to endorse the MAAA MOP058 policy for a 12 month trial period to allow evaluation of the Technology.

Members wanting to use one of these radios must first read and agree to the terms of conditions of use as outlined in the MAAA MOP058 policy document which can be downloaded from the MAAA web site.

Basically this limits the use to electric park flyer models only, the model must be kept within 150 meters of the pilot and at this stage the MAAA has only endorsed the Spektrum DX6 radio. A frequency key should still be put in the board on your nominal 36MHz frequency to notify other pilots that you have a transmitter turned on and are flying.

Members should also be aware that the DAC committee might decide not to continue with the trail after the 2006/7 year.

# DIY Aerial Photos

## By Michael Best

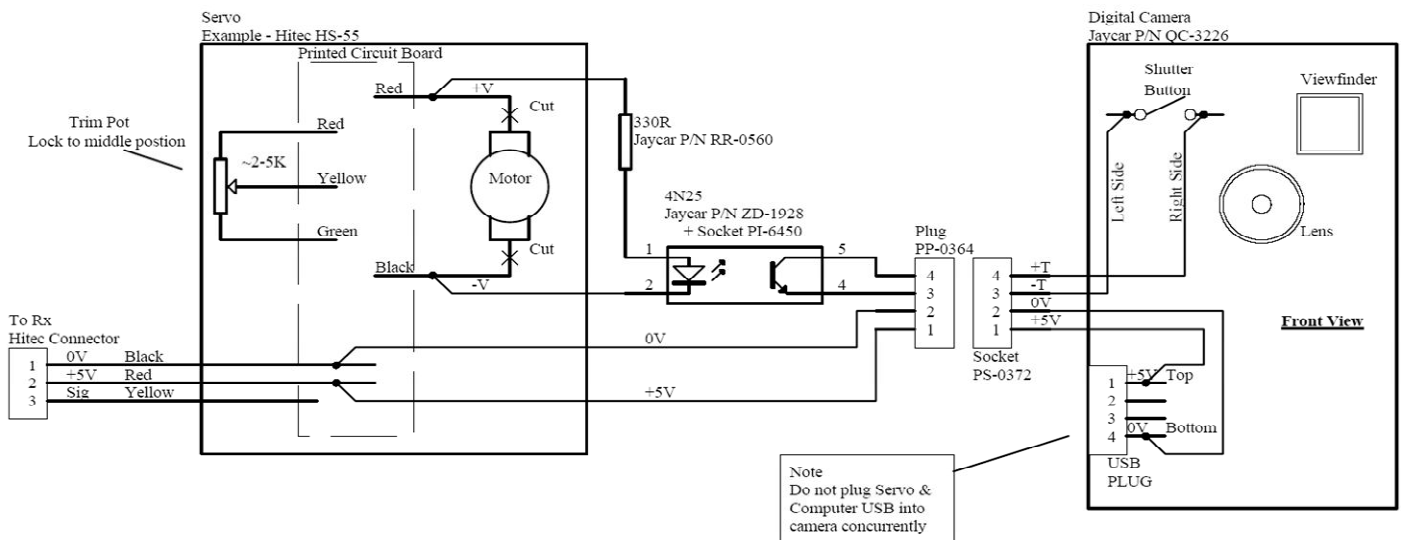
Yes you too can take aerial photos for around \$40, plus an old servo for the interface. The best aerial photos were taken on a calm sunny day with the camera looking forward. The camera was remotely triggered using a spare channel at the desired time.

The digital camera has 1.3 mega pixels (1280x960) and a USB PC interface to download the images. Purchased from Jaycar (P/N QC3226) for \$35, the camera can hold around 20 images per flight. The camera is also capable of doing a short video, which is not compatible with the current interface. This will be the next project.

An old servo was chosen for the interface as it already had appropriate translation required to convert PPM to an On/Off trigger signal to the camera, and the connector to plug into the receiver. Also the camera requires +5V, otherwise it would go to sleep after 20 seconds.

The Camera modification was reasonably straight forward with an opto-couple output in parallel with the camera shutter button. Power to the camera was via the camera USB +5V rail. For more details refer to the schematic below. Also there was a problem with the camera which caused the camera sometimes to lockup. Briefly disconnecting the batteries would fix the problem but at possible expense of losing all your photos. This did not happen that often, so was not a big issue.

If you're interested in seeing more Aerial Photos of the DAC field please visit my web site <http://web.aanet.com.au/bes037/home.htm>



## **Model Plane Retrieval from Tree Tops**

### **By Michael Best**

If you have a misfortune (or skill) of landing your plane in a tree, then there are two options for recovering your model. First option is the long pole located under the main bench which can be extended to 6m.

The second option is to call a professional tree climber. David from "Down Under Tree Stump Removals" is very willing to be called out (24hrs/7days on 9848 9880) for same day model retrieval service. His going rate is \$35 for a simple climb and up to \$80 for the most difficult retrieval. David has the appropriate gear to carefully retrieve your favorite model. It is recommended that you don't climb any trees, especially to great heights. It is not worth the risk of getting injured and missing out on flying.

## **\$\$\$ For Sale \$\$\$**

**Phone Peter Averill on 9354 1076 (AH)**

- Formosa Electric Aerobatic Model \$50  
Wingspan 35.4 inches  
Kit as new in box with full instructions
- JR PCMS 9 channel Receiver \$100 each - 2 available
- NER 6495 on 36 MHz (without crystal)
- Futaba 2 channel Transmitter & Receiver (AM) \$40
- Excellent condition, ideal radio for slope soaring down the beach
- Retract servos \$30 each
- 1 x JR NES 203
- 1 x Futaba FPS8 (low speed/high torque) with JR adapter lead available plus spare gears and information sheet

## The 2006/7 DAC Committee

Name	Position	Contact
Cliff McIver	President	03 9850 4478
Denis Travassaros	Vice President	03 9712 0229
Colin Kahn	Secretary	0412 566610
Graham Kay	Treasurer	03 9842 8777
Ian Slack	Registrar	03 9489 3001
Anthony Peate	News Letter Editor	03 9877 8225
Fernando Monge	Committee Member - IC Group Training coordinator	03 9722 2908
Ian Pullar	Committee Member - Electric Training coordinator	03 9428 4365
David Gibbs	Committee Member - IC Group	03 9889 4939
David Law	Committee Member - IC Group	
Grant Collins	Committee Member - Electric Group	
Michael Best	Committee Member - Electric Group	

## Note from the Editor

The newsletter relies on articles from club members and any member can submit one. Just make sure they are emailed to me at **Anthony.Peate@telstra.com** in one of the formats listed below. If you want to include pictures, try to limit you articles to 2MBytes in size. I will also accept articles attached to Emails that are compressed using PKZIP. Please include Author's name in article.

- Plain text
- Word document
- Excel Spread Sheet

Keep flying,

## Doncaster Aeromodellers' Club Mowing Roster

Name	Home	Work/Mobile	W/E Sat	W/E Sat	W/E Sat	W/E Sat	W/E Sat
<b>Dennis Travassaros</b>	9712-0229	0432 889 883	2-Sep-06	4-Nov-06	6-Jan-07	10-Mar-07	12-May-07
<b>Cliff McIver</b>	9850-4478	03 9882 7521	9-Sep-06	11-Nov-06	13-Jan-07	17-Mar-07	19-May-07
<b>Nik Daud</b>	9852-3236	0412-263-883	16-Sep-06	18-Nov-06	20-Jan-07	24-Mar-07	26-May-07
<b>Greg Sleeth</b>	9848-6809	03 9634 4658	23-Sep-06	25-Nov-06	27-Jan-07	31-Mar-07	2-Jun-07
<b>Anthony Peate</b>	9877-8225	0419 332 644	30-Sep-06	2-Dec-06	3-Feb-07	7-Apr-07	9-Jun-07
<b>Theo Kyriopoulos</b>	9370-9424	0419 358 659	7-Oct-06	9-Dec-06	10-Feb-07	14-Apr-07	16-Jun-07
<b>Bill Osborne</b>	9846-6373	03 9408 6042	14-Oct-06	16-Dec-06	17-Feb-07	21-Apr-07	23-Jun-07
<b>Grant Collins</b>	9849-1790	0418 872 218	21-Oct-06	23-Dec-06	24-Feb-07	28-Apr-07	30-Jun-07
<b>Mathew Marino</b>	9462-1051	0403 159 470	28-Oct-06	30-Dec-06	3-Mar-07	5-May-07	7-Jul-07

If for any reason you need to change a rostered date, organise a swap if possible, or contact Cliff on 9882-7521