

Warbirds Down Under

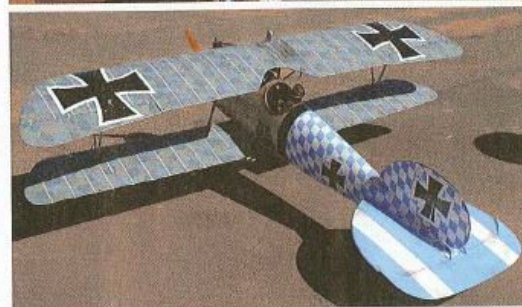
Military models at the debut of Australia's Temora Invitational Scale Classic

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BY THE MODEL AIRPLANE NEWS CREW
PHOTOS COURTESY OF GREG TRACEY

TEMORA, A SMALL TOWN in the state of New South Wales, and 300 miles southwest of Sydney, was once the home of a WW II flight training school. Recently, the Temora Regional Airport was witness to the first annual 2008 Temora Invitational Scale Classic (TISC) where some of the most impressive scale RC aircraft and warbirds came to compete. Thanks to a lot of hard-working volunteers and the efforts of John Rolfe and Greg Tracey, this event seems destined to become the "Top Gun from Down Under." Greg says the TISC event was modeled after Frank Tiano's Florida-based Top Gun format, with the aim being to develop a competition that's pilot friendly for all types of models. The rules developed did not give an advantage to any particular style of aircraft. The three-day event included four rounds flown by Masters, Expert and Team classes.

As you can see from the photos Greg sent us, the caliber of scale modeling in Australia is of the highest quality seen anywhere, and we have to agree. We wish Greg and the rest of his RC scale mates the best of luck with their new competition! Now, if only we could get the publishers to OK an airline ticket for 2009! For more photos and information go to modelairplanenews.com. ✦



Built from a Proctor kit, this impressive Albatross D.V earned Phil Crandon a first place win in the Expert class. Engine is an Enya 240 V-Twin 4-stroke with on-board glow and the model features a Multiplex radio with a Powerbox redundant receiver.



The winner of the High Static award was Ross Woodcock with his impressive Hawker Sea Hurricane. Scratch-built from his own plans, his 110-inch span Hurricane is finished in the colors of a restored aircraft from the Shuttleworth Collection in England. Powered by a Sachs 4.2.



Earning a third place in the Masters Class, Gwyn Avenell of New Zealand competed with this beautiful Douglas SBD-5 Dauntless.



David Law did very well with his twin-boomed de Havilland Vampire jet, winning first place in Masters the Best Jet, and the Champion of Champions awards. Finished in the Royal Australian Air Force, Telstars display team from the 1960s, David scratch built the model from his own plans. It has built-up balsa wings, a homemade fiberglass fuselage and tail booms. Power comes from a PST 900 turbine.

Steve Thomas came from Toowoomba in the state of Queensland to fly his impressive 1/8-scale B-17 Flying Fortress built from a Wingspan Models kit. Steve earned both the Pilot's Choice and the CRITICS Choice awards and this was his first competition. Powered by four Desert Aircraft 30cc engines, the 207-inch span B-17 is guided with JR radio gear.



Winner of the Special Achievement award, Clive Butler competed with his 100-inch-span Gloster Gladiator in the Masters class. Powered by a 215cc Moki 5-cylinder gas 4-stroke radial engine, the big biplane spins a 32x18 prop. Construction is conventional plywood, balsa and spruce and the covering is SRTex fabric.

