



# TORQUE BACK

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2007

## FROM THE PRESIDENT.

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### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

The president and committee wish that all members have a very happy Christmas and great flying in 2007.

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*As most members are aware, Jan and I spent most of October on the big island.*

*Driving was made a lot easier using a recently purchased Navman in car navigator and we got quite used to the female voice telling us which exit to take at the next roundabout. I know that we would have probably managed to get lost a few times without it.*

*We drove down to the Mornington Peninsula to make a couple of calls and thence to Sorrento to take the ferry across Port Phillip Bay to Queenscliffe.*

*The next call was to visit long time friend and former Australian pattern champ John (Johnno) McGrane at Geelong. Unfortunately Johnno is not in good health and unable to drive or go flying these days. He was somewhat disappointed that none of his old friends and club mates ever bothered to call and offer to take him down to the field.*

*It is well known that, in the case of adversity such as this, you do find how many real friends you have.*

*Johnno came over here a few times for State Championships and was also*

*largely responsible for the design and manufacture of the Northerner pattern model with which former world champion Phil Kraft won our Nationals at Geelong in 1972. He has been a good friend for many years.*

*While in Adelaide I made sure I caught up with Mike O'Reilly at Model Flight/O'Reilly Model Products and had a look at a few new offerings.*

*This business appears to be growing very rapidly and Mike has just bought an adjoining warehouse.*

*We also managed to have a meal with Mike, his wife Janine, his mother Claire, and his brother David. Our friendship with the O'Reilly family approaches forty years. We did manage to catch up with a few more friends in Adelaide and attended the biennial reunion of the 1946 entry into the Royal Australian Naval College. We were all 13 year old cadet midshipmen at the time.*

*While on holiday we generally don't visit club flying fields as we do like to get the occasional clean break from the hobby.*

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## Around the hangar.

*Sunday 29th October provided good conditions after some pretty average flying weather over the past few weeks.*

*Trevor Spargo's new electric powered PT19 proved to be a nice combination and flew very well. Unfortunately a trip into the tyres on landing caused some minor damage. Trevor should be commended for scratch building this model under difficult circumstances.*

*The weather on the following Sunday was a little chilly with Southerly winds, but quite flyable.*

*Andrew Hutchinson's new Ziroli Corsair made an appearance and certainly impressed. This machine is powered by a 50 cc 3W twin petrol engine and, while seemingly adequately muffled, the engine noise was a little worrying.*

*It was pleasing to see Rick and Gaynor Stillman back at the field after a sojourn in Queensland.*

*They have purchased a house in Richmond and promised to be back flying in the near future. Living so close to the field should ensure that they put in a lot of air time.*

*Nat Vervaart flew his Sukhoi now fitted with an OS 70FS in place of the OS 40FP and there was an appreciable increase in performance.*

*The weekend of 11th/12th November saw a rather disappointing roll up on the Saturday and Sunday's flying was disrupted by drizzly rain showers and most members went home early. Nevertheless most members managed to get a flight or two.*

*The following weekend provided reasonable flying weather on Saturday and the roll up was larger than normal. While the wind strength was accept-*

*able, overcast skies did affect visibility.*

*Jack Tonks flew his E-flite Brio 10 now equipped with a decent battery. Test flights on the previous weekend were somewhat disappointing but the new lipo battery pack provided sufficient power to transform the model into a potent machine. Welcome to the electric world Jack!*

*Your editor had several flights with his Mini Ultra Stick now fitted with a more suitable propeller and left his engine powered model in the pits. Electric flight is certainly gaining in popularity.*

*Unfortunately Sunday turned out to be a miserably drizzly day and only a few stalwarts bothered to turn up. Nevertheless the weather did not stop Andrew Hutchinson having a few flights with his Magnum Radial powered Stearman PT17.*

*We welcome Peter Ederle to the club. Peter has moved down from Queensland and is an accomplished gold wings flier. His preference is for WW2 warbirds which he flies with great panache. He has already been approached to do the instructors' course and it is obvious that he will be an asset to the club.*

*Another newcomer is San Nugent who is rejoining after a break of about three years. Sam still has his old Scanner and doesn't show too many signs of being too rusty.*

*Anton Rosenzweig is another new member intending to join and take advantage of the half-yearly subscription rate. He has purchased one of the excellent Hangar 9 Mustang trainer combos.*

*Erwin Boot has had a spell in hospital and we sincerely hope that his health improves in the*

**CHRISTMAS FUNCTION.**

The Christmas lunch was held on Sunday 3rd December and while members were somewhat tardy in booking their places there was a reasonable attendance.

Catering was undertaken by the Ladies Committee and a very nice meal was provided and in particular special thanks are due to Colleen Tonks and Jan Wilmot for the organization. Thanks also to the other

ladies who provided assistance.

Tony Gray managed to provide additional excitement by flying in and making a fantastic landing on the cross strip.

As is usual, Greg and Alice Robertson made the trip south from Launceston.

We were also somewhat surprised to receive a visit from the ancient aviator alias Anton Benada.

Members are more than welcome to contribute articles and/or photos for this publication.

Similarly articles for sale or wanted to buy can be advertised herein.

The editor is often scratching for content and sometime finds it difficult to fill these pages.

**KELLY FIELD AIRSTRIP**

There has been some controversy recently regarding the state of the runways and pit areas.

Unfortunately, as most members would be aware, we are experiencing one of the worst dry spells for many years.

We have acquired a very good mower and presently have nothing to mow.

The installed watering system has previously been practically useless as the water pressure was just not up to the task.

It has been discovered that the reduced size inlet into the system was probably largely responsible for the problem. Thanks to the efforts of Bob McAllister and Peter Hubbard this has been rectified and only time

will tell whether the strip will be improved this season, Members can still help by watering the strip and/or pit area whenever possible.

There are two hour timers in use so the watering systems may be left on when leaving the field.

If members want an improved strip and pit area they will have to cooperate in this manner.

It is up to you!

**HMAC SHIRTS.**

There is still a limited quantity of HMAC polo shirts in stock.

A mere \$31.50 will obtain one for you and the stock is held by your editor.

Show a bit of pride in your club and buy a shirt.

It will be some time before further stocks are ordered.



Andrew Hutchinson with Corsair at the PFL scale day.

We are on the web.  
[www.hobartmodelaeroclub.org](http://www.hobartmodelaeroclub.org)

**HOBART MODEL AERO  
CLUB INC.**

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Greg and Alice Robertson having an after lunch snooze?



A couple of intrepid workers resting on the job.



Some of the workers having a breather.



A happy group at the Christmas function.



The ancient aviator with Tony Gray.