



Hobart Model Aero Club. Inc.

# Torque Back

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January/ February 2008

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## Club Secretary.

*We still don't have a secretary!*

*It is a pretty poor state of affairs when we can't get a volunteer for secretary from among our seventy members.*

*It is usually left to the same few to administer the club from year to year.*

*Does your conscience bother you at all???*

## Christmas Luncheon .

**The Christmas luncheon was held at Kelly Field on Sunday 2nd December and was very successful with around 44 members and guests attending.**

**Unfortunately the windy conditions prevented a great deal of flying with only electric flying wings airborne during the morning.**

**Former TMAA president Steve Ralph together with wife Barbara were welcome guests as were Greg and Alice**

**Robertson from LMAC. Greg and Alice have been to most of our Christmas functions and are always welcome as are members from other clubs.**

**Unfortunately former president/ secretary Bryan Richardson had to send an apology due to health problems, and this was the first time he had not attended.**

**We wish Bryan a speedy recovery.**

**The ladies committee headed up by Jan**

**Wilmot, Judy Boot and Karen Jeffrey prepared the meal with assistance of other volunteers.**

**The tables were nicely decorated and added to the festive spirit.**

**There was a bit of a scramble to find sufficient chairs and perhaps there is a need to purchase a few folding chairs for future occasions.**

**President Mike Hawkins moved a vote of thanks to the ladies involved.**

## Buy/ sell/ swap/ trade day.

**This was held on the same day as the Christmas luncheon and could not be called a raging success.**

**Only a handful of members and visitors brought items which were to be dis-**

**played for sale and a slightly larger number made a purchase.**

**Junior member Joe Hedges scored the best deal of the day, going home with a transmitter and receiver and a good**

**stack of magazines absolutely free.**

**There didn't appear to be much haggling going on, however most exhibitors managed to dispose of some unwanted treasures.**

## ***Good preparation is essential!***

***I managed to lose a perfectly good aeroplane on it's second flight by my own carelessness. It was a new Phoenix Classic EP converted to a tail dragger and powered by the recommended Himark brushless out-runner.***

***When attaching the wing I noticed that the rubber bands I was using seemed to be a bit long and therefore not holding the wing as tight as I would like (it would be nice if Phoenix/Seagull reached the 21st century and used bolted on wings).***

***The model was a great flier and one of the best electric sport models I have flown, however at the bottom of a loop the wing lifted, slewed round with the inevitable result. The model was a complete write-off and an expensive battery crunched. A little more care and this accident would not have occurred.***

***The model was so good that a new one was immediately assembled.***

***Even old modellers can, hopefully, learn from their mistakes. I have often seen modellers install servos and other bits and pieces at the field when the job should have been completed in the workshop.***



***Replacement Classic EP.***



***Was Geoff Levertton's amphibian designed by the same genius who designed the equipment below?***



***What is this contraption? - a generator on wheels , or an electric mower with it's own generating system? Best ask Peter Hubbard or Heath Robinson.***

## MODEL AERONAUTICAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.

## New sletter

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e-mail: maaatechsec@touch88.com.au

**MAAA Internet:** [www.maaa.asn.au](http://www.maaa.asn.au)**Vale Theo Merrifield*****MAAA Vice President*****Born July 1933, Theo passed away following a brief illness on 19 November 2007.**

Theo Merrifield was a member of the first group of West Australian aeromodellers to join MAAA in 1961. In subsequent years he took a keen interest in Nationals, both as a competitor and as a member of the WA Nationals organising committees.

Theo first joined the MAAA Council as AWA President in 1993 and attended every meeting since. In 1997 a subcommittee was set up to review the structure of the MAAA. Theo, as part of this committee, made a significant contribution to the report which was accepted by Council, the outcome being the effective structure that we have now. One of the changes agreed to was that the Vice President's position became an elected one. In the following year, Theo stood for the position and was elected unopposed, as he was at subsequent elections.

The Vice President's position can be one which is very nominal unless the President is away, but of course that was not Theo's approach. He only spoke when he had something to say, and when he did speak it was worth paying careful attention. He accepted the responsibility of developing a number of policies and procedures. These included offering to organise a subcommittee dealing with the role and responsibilities of Special Interest Groups and resolving how World Championship teams should be selected. This activity was spread over three years and reached a successful conclusion.

Despite being MAAA Vice President, Theo remained as the AWA nominee on the very important Land Tribunal which allocates MAAA loan funds for flying field purchases and development. Theo always spoke on these matters with the wisdom that reflected his long association with aeromodelling in Australia.

Theo was nominated for MAAA Life Membership in recognition of his contribution to the Association and was considered worthy of this nomination. The MAAA has a rule which does not allow members of Council or the Executive to be elected as Life Members while they are still in Office except under exceptional circumstances. As soon as Council became aware of Theo's illness, they unanimously voted for Life Membership. At a period when Theo seemed to be recovering, the MAAA President was able to talk to him on the phone and congratulate him on the achievement. He was very pleased that he had been recognised.

The many messages of support when it became known Theo was so ill reflect the respect with which he was held throughout Australia. He was a 'great guy' who contributed significantly to aeromodelling in Australia, including nearly 15 years on Council and 9 as Vice President. Theo will be greatly missed by his friends and colleagues.

**Manual of Procedures**

**The Manual of Procedures is a "live" document and is continually being updated. Please check the MAAA web site from time to time to ensure that you are aware of the latest editions of the documents.**



Club Committees are recommended to pay particular attention to previously released MOP022 and are encouraged to use the document to do a risk analysis of their operations.

### The 61<sup>st</sup> Nationals

The 61<sup>st</sup> Nationals will be held in Perth, West Australia over the period 27 December 2007 to 4 January 2008. Details can be found on the MAAA web site or at [www.aeromodellerswa.info/nationals/index.html](http://www.aeromodellerswa.info/nationals/index.html)

### Team Trials

All MAAA affiliate members are eligible to represent Australia at World and Continental Championships. Team trials for places in the teams are organised by National Special Interest Groups (NSIGs) or MAAA Technical Subcommittees. Interested members should make contact with the relevant NSIG or Subcommittee Chairman for information. Your State Association Secretary has contact details for NSIGs. The MAAA web site has links to NSIGs and also details of up-coming events and team trials, on the "Championships and Other Competitions" page.

### 2008 CL World Champ Team Trials

Due to the NSW State Champs being cancelled because of weather, trials have been rescheduled for 26-27-28 January 2008, at Kelso Park, Milperra NSW.

### F1 Trans Tasman & Team Trials

Multi Team Trials for F1A, F1B & F1C will be held as part of the WA Nationals and at Easter 2008 in Narrandera NSW on 21-24 March. The Southern Cross Cup F1A will be held on 25 March, F1B & C on 26 March. 27 March will be a reserve day. VFFS

State & W/C Team Trials event is planned for 25, 26, 27 of April 2008 at Mc Mahon's Field Springhurst Victoria.

### Congratulations to the Australian World Championship Team

Well done to the F3A Aerobatic team of Bill Bloodworth, Steve Coram, Adam Crossman and team manager Will Crossman who recently competed in Ezeiza- Argentina. Will kept a daily report on the event including pictures streaming back to Australia. Special congratulations also go to the supporters and helpers of the team on a job well done.

### MAAA Insurance

During November an MAAA 'Summary of Insurance Cover 2007/08' brochure was released to all Associations for their members. This complimentary brochure was produced by the MAAA Insurance Brokers, Willis Australia, and outlines, in general, the benefits of the Public Liability and Personal Accident policies. Should more detailed information on these policies be required please contact the MAAA Secretary.

### Overseas Visitor Insurance

MOP042 - Policy for Visitor Insurance at Flying Fields has recently been amended to assist and guide clubs who have overseas visitors wishing to fly from their facilities while holidaying in Australia. Such Visitors will hold MAAA Honorary Membership providing the requirements within MOP042 are met. Clubs are reminded to make themselves familiar with these requirements and ensure the details are passed to the MAAA Secretary/Registrar so the Honorary Membership Card can be issued.

### MAAA 2008 Federal Council Conference

The 2008 Council Conference is scheduled to be held over the weekend of 24-25 May 2008 at The Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel, Hobart. Items for the agenda and Subcommittee Chairman reports are to be submitted to the MAAA Secretary no later than **Friday 7 March 2008.**

### **Nominations for MAAA Executive Positions**

Under Rule 29, nominations are called for the positions of MAAA Vice President & MAAA Treasurer.

Nominees must provide:

- ?? A written nomination for the position sought, signed by two Affiliate Members of the Association
- ?? Written consent (which may be endorsed on the nomination)
- ?? Curriculum vitae This information must be received by the Federal Secretary no later than **Friday 29 February 2008**. Please note that the term of office is three years.

### **MAAA Badges and Decals For Sale**

The MAAA Secretary has a selection of badges and decals for sale.

MAAA:

Metal Badge 25 X 25mm	\$3-00
Cloth patch 70mm diameter	\$2-00
Decal Sheet 130 X 240mm (2 large & 2 small stickers)	\$3-50
Replacement Gold Wings	\$6-00
Cloth Gold Wings	\$2-50
Replacement Bronze Wings	\$6-00

There is also a VERY limited stock of FAI cloth patches and decals. These are of the old FAI logo.

FAI Cloth patch 80mm diameter	\$3-00
FAI Decal 100mm diameter	\$2-00

To obtain any of the above, please send a cheque or Money Order for the total amount of your order plus \$1-00 for postage to the MAAA Secretary.

### ***Around the Hangar.***

***Congratulations to Peter Ederle on winning a prize for the most realistic flight at the Phoenix Scale Fly-in. Peter really loves those warbirds!***

***I also hear that Peter is to receive further fame by being featured on the ABC programme "The Collectors". We have a star in our midst!***

***Relatively new member Mark Slade really enjoys the building side of our hobby. His latest project is a Super Kaos 60 from a vintage genuine Bridi kit and is up to his usual high standard. This makes a refreshing change from the proliferation of ARFs at the field.***

***Congratulations are also due to Doug Keating on achieving gold wings. We now have very few members without bronze or gold wings.***

***There are more and more of our members venturing into electric flight. This is partly due to the popularity of the combat wings available from Mark Leverton. These things fly in quite strong winds although not for the faint hearted.***

***Both Peter Ralph and Peter Ederle do more than their share of pilot training, but neither ever complain. There is real club spirit shown here.***

***Peter Allen certainly gets the most out of his models! After losing his umpteen year old SIG Kougur he now uses an EZ Supra-Fly which is also many years old. I know he has a CMPro Swallow together with a YS engine, but those items are probably still in their boxes.***

***Junior member Joe Hedges has been managing to get in some flying tuition and doing quite well. I can see those bronze wings coming up soon.***

***Peter Lambert must be one of our most prolific builders. Not only does he turn out model after model, but he also builds for other less competent members just for the enjoyment.***

***Angus McNeil is receiving tuition from club instructors although his Precedent Hiboy is not considered to be the ideal trainer.***

***I have not yet encountered Klaus Mittendorff at the field, but I am led to believe he is an extremely competent glider guider. He only lives a short distance from me too.***

***In between providing several members with flight training Peter Ralph has fitted a beautiful Saito 90 twin to his Big Stik 60. This is a very pleasing combination and the engine runs beautifully.***

***Jack and Colleen Tonks are back home after several weeks on the big island as is John Joengbloed who has been caravanning for three months or so.***

***(continued page 6.)***

**Tony Gray—wasn't he cute?**



**Hearns Hobbies Tempest 60 produced in the late 40s. You had to use whatever you could get in the immediate post-war years.**



*(continued from page 6.)*

**The Tempest 60 illustrated on this page was copied from the McCoy 60 which was primarily a race car engine. Both were brutes to start and it should be noted that we did not have the luxury of electric starters or even chicken sticks. Most of the Tempests used by aeromodelers were converted to glow plug operation, but Gerald Haley had a McCoy on spark ignition. He wore a finger stall to protect his finger but often had to empty the blood from it. It was really a vicious brute.**

**With several new members appearing in the offing, the club should reach all-time record membership this year. With facilities which would be the envy of a great number of other clubs why would one want to go elsewhere?**



**THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIOD.**

**MAY YOUR STOCKINGS BE FILLED WITH GOODIES AND MAY YOU BE BLESSED WITH GREAT FLYING WEATHER THROUGHOUT 2008.**



## For Sale

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### Little used Piper Pawnee.

**2.2m W.Span, 7 servos Magnum 120 4 Stroke Engine 16x6 prop, spinner, tank and spares with Rx almost ready to fly \$395 or; engine, prop & spinner only, \$295.**

### Radio Package

**JR Quattro 4 Ch. TX with battery plus JR R700 RX both with crystals. \$125**

**Magnum GP40 2 stroke near new \$ 60**

**Enquiries to Ian Searle 6243 7426 or**

**[ilsearle@internode.on.net](mailto:ilsearle@internode.on.net)**



**A group of intrepid control-line fliers circa 1950. Back row; David Christian, David Reynolds, Gerald Haley, Roger Wetenhall, Lawrie Baxter. Front: Garth Wilmot, Reg Wilson, Royce Wheeler and Jim Taplin.**

***I am not sure whether David Christian was still in short pants.***





***Mark Slade's new Super Kaos 60  
powered with an OS 61 FX.***



***Klaus Mittendorff with a  
very smart sailplane.***



***Joe Hedges with his Butterfly.***