



# The Western Port Flyer

Woolleys Road, Crib Point, VIC

[www.wpmac.com.au](http://www.wpmac.com.au)

WPMAC Newsletter

Mar-Apr 2010

## President's Report

The best part of the year is upon us, Autumn in April generally produces some of the best model flying weather, lets hope it happens again this year.

For some "mysterious" reason our WPMAC whipper snipper has gone missing from the second container. No one has come forward to say they have borrowed it, I therefore can only assume it has been liberated to a new home. If anyone knows the whereabouts of it please contact anyone in the committee. (phone no's below - ed)

For those members who do not have a gate key please contact the Registrar or attend a meeting to obtain one. These are security keys and are numbered and cannot be copied. A \$20 deposit is required as well as the key registration form being filled out.

With the growing number of learner flyers and the thinning numbers of Qualified Instructors I am urging suitable people to come forward and attend a VMAA instructor course. Michael Bourne, being the club Chief Instructor, will have final say as to who can attend. Please contact him on this matter as we would like to get anyone interested onto the next available course.

Good Flying to all and keep the blue side up !

## Club Meeting Brief, held at Bittern fire station, Tue 9<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2010

This meeting commemorates WPMACs 20th anniversary. That was plenty enough excuse to feast on Donuts, which we did. (Except someone forgot the coffee !)

Safety officer reported that planes with stalled engines (taking off), should be removed from the airfield prior to being restarted. Some pilots are spending too much time trying to restart planes on the field creating safety issues.

Our issue with sponsorship at the just gone Hastings Day festival, may be solved for next year, with interest being shown by a local real estate agent. Discussions to be revived when planning next years event.

Len Butcher announced that he had completed an emergency/risk management plan for the flying field. It will be presented to the committee for review and further discussion.

The club also is in need of some volunteers for chef training. Those doing the cooking for others must have completed the appropriate training, so anyone interested, please contact the committee.

As minuted previously, Gavin will not be running for the registrar's job for the next term. All nominations for committee positions require a few weeks advance notice, but if anyone is considering the registrar position, please contact the committee quick to register your interest. The handover of the registrar's duties requires some training so any potential candidates will need to be working alongside Gavin before the AGM.

The committee is also calling for a volunteer to become a Heavy Model Inspector fo the club. Any takers ?

Next meeting to be held at Bittern Fire Station, Tue 13th Apr.

## Upcoming Events

2010	10/11 <sup>th</sup> Apr	VMAA Trophy weekend
	18 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Tyabb Airshow
	2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Non ARF Scale day
	16th May	BADMAC Mid May Muster

## Web Links

Check out WPMACs weather station here <http://wind.servehttp.com/index.htm>

Note that this web site is not active a night as we don't have the electrical capacity for it. This will be discussed at the next meeting I'm told.

## The Gallery



Taylen Anderson strutting his stuff.

## Stuff 4 Sale

Craig Sutton - an ex flyer from Bairnsdale is giving yup flying and has the following items for sale (among others)

- Topflight Giant P-51 Mustang 84.5" 2140mm wing span length 73.5 1865mm fitted with US Engine Robart retracts mains and tail wheel. Professional built needs gear installed \$1900.00
- AT6 Texan balsa kit built by professional model builder fitted with Satto 180 four stroke Robart retracts all gear installed never flown \$1600.00
- Citabria Midwest built, flown, flies great fitted with OS 90 4 Stroke, great model \$900.00

- Extra 300 professionally built 80" wing span, Moki 210 Engine fitted flies great all gear fitted \$800.00
- Great planes Lancair 60 80" wing span OS 60 fitted, all gear fitted flown, \$700.00
- Kyosho Gee Bee built needs gear fitted \$300.00
- Hangar 9 Super Chipmunk. Has flown, some gear in \$250.00
- Hobbico Twinstar 56" Span Twin OS Motors Gear in \$400.00
- Great Planes Siren Hotliner ARF 79" Brushless electric motor Gear in \$300.00
- Model Aircraft Trailer professionally built, rear door, side door with locks, fibre glass top, powder coated white, pinstriped light weight tows great \$3100.00
- Black Widow twin ARF kit new in Box \$300.00

Contact Craig on 5156 0977 or 0419 589 204, or via email to [sutton\\_craig@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sutton_craig@yahoo.com.au)

## **Lithium Polymer (LiPo) Battery Warnings**

As mentioned in a recent newsletter, an electric heli crash at the field saw all the smoke get out of one of those dang LiPo batteries again. Among those present, was an innocent bottle of salt water, brought along specifically to battle the aforementioned smoke. And it did.

Unfortunately, it also ruined most of the electrics in the grounded heli, which subsequently required a major overhaul.

There are plenty of warnings around for LiPos and WPMAC has two metal boxes for charging these temperamental things, which must be used if you are charging LiPo batteries at the field.

Due to their chemical makeup, LiPo batteries can go short circuit internally if overcharged, or overdischarged, and it's for these reasons and their potential to generate heat when they do go short circuit, that they have such a name for themselves. But I'm not telling most of you anything new.

This warning serves two purposes. To raise an awareness of the dangers, but also to point readers to some info about what to do in an emergency. ie After crashing a LiPo powered model. I would suggest the following.

First - do not throw salt water over the model. A fire extinguisher should be used - refer to our emergency management plan for the recommended type.

Remove the battery from the model. Precautions should be taken as a damaged battery could burst into flames. If you have to cut wires to remove a battery, do not cut both positive and negative at the same time. Do not put a crashed battery into your car for at least 10 - 15 mins after an accident. Let the battery cool and stabilise. If it's bloated, punctured or has other obvious damage, consider it terminated. Dispose of as per below (this is where a bucket of salt water will come in handy).

The following article has the best description of LiPo disposal I've read.

[http://radiocontrol.wikia.com/wiki/Lithium\\_polymer](http://radiocontrol.wikia.com/wiki/Lithium_polymer)

Dropping the battery into salt water, will also discharge it but whether the terminals corrode before the battery is discharged is anyone's guess.

The above information is by no means a complete list - always follow your battery manufacturers instructions.

Some more information about LiPo use can be found here

<http://www.rctoys.com/pdf/THPSafetyWarnings.pdf>

## Who's Who at WPMAC, by Stephen Gray

**Member Profile:** Les Hawkins  
**Occupation:** Boilermaker/Welder  
**Age:** 56

Les lives local in the area and also enjoys riding motorcycles.

**Do you remember your first car?**

*"It was an EH Holden, that was my first registered car!"*

**What would you say is your greatest achievement so far?**

*"Still Breathing"*



**Most memorable club moment?**

*"Loosing my combat plane at Hasting Day, it ending up in the mangroves.... and Jeremy getting it back for me"*

**Favorite model you've flown?**

*"The Streamliner.....best aerobatic aircraft ever flown"*

**Do you recall how many aircraft you've lost?**

*"Lots....my first RC plane survived for 6 months.....started out with control liners in the 60's"*

**Words of wisdom to a beginner?**

*"Listen to your instructor.....if he's any good!"*

**Most memorable crash?**

*"Spinning the Extra straight into the ground...it was OK though...SICK of the plane anyway...the novelty had worn off"*

## Hastings Hobbies Update

Matt Carter has asked me to mention that Hastings Hobbies is under new management - he bought the business. Jeremy had to step aside due to his other work commitments. The Western Port Flyer got this exclusive interview with the new owner.

"I will be having a sale for club members only starting the 1st of April until the 8th april. 10% off any stock item in store and a further 5% off for cash.

Further sales and specials will become available for club members as time goes on, as some club members have already seen and been very happy with.

Some specials so far have included 160 size Phoenix extra 300s at \$190, new Futaba 2.4 GHz 8 channel radio under \$500. Model Engines fuel Gp10 10% nitro blue now for club memebrs at \$6.90 a litre bring your own bottle.

If I can get a special or bulk buy deal, I will pass on the savings. I'm not here to get rich, just be able to get the bits I want to keep flying without driving evrywhere to get it.

Give me a little chance to get my head around everything but i will make it work . If you need or want to know about something, let me know.

If you have seen it somewhere else let me know. I can't do anything if I dont know."

## WPMAC Committee

President	Scott Talman	ph: 0419 007 889	email: <a href="mailto:srtalman@people.net.au">srtalman@people.net.au</a>
Secretary	Matt Carter	Ph: 0419 461 397	email: <a href="mailto:matt@bytethis.net.au">matt@bytethis.net.au</a>
Treasurer	Geoff Lord		email: <a href="mailto:cambria2@netspace.net.au">cambria2@netspace.net.au</a>
Floor Officer	Alistar Cox	ph: 0438 101 610	email: <a href="mailto:aj.aero@bigpond.com">aj.aero@bigpond.com</a>
Media	Hardy Maxa	ph: 0423 029 731	email: <a href="mailto:editor@wpmac.com.au">editor@wpmac.com.au</a>

Committee members can be contacted on the above numbers or via the WPMAC.com.au website, or via snail mail to PO Box 90, Bittern, 3918

## Newsletter Submissions

Articles by members for publication are welcome and encouraged. Please contribute something so that others can benefit from your experiences. It is preferred that they be submitted electronically (via email) to [editor@wpmac.com.au](mailto:editor@wpmac.com.au). Remember, this is YOUR newsletter - please contribute to help make it a better publication!

Thanks to Scott Talman, Sasha Stark, Matt Carter and Stephen Gray for their contributions to this issue.

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# *WPMAC CLUB* *MERCHANDISE*

Yellow shirt - with club logo on front + name

**\* WPMAC on back \$ 55**

**\* HASTINGS HOBBIES \$ 45**

Jacket - with club logo on front + name

**\* WPMAC on back \$ 125**

**\* HASTINGS HOBBIES \$ 100**

Payment required in full with order.  
Please circle which items you require.

**NAME:**\_\_\_\_\_

**SIZE: SHIRT M \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ XL \_\_\_\_\_**

**JACKET M \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ XL \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please return to Matt Carter @ shop**  
200 Marine Pde HASTINGS 03 5979 8232