

## Blacktown Electric Fly-In by Rob Watson

The Blacktown Aeromodellers Club held their annual Electric Fly-in on Sunday 25 March 2012. The event was well attended and attracted pilots from clubs all around Sydney and beyond. A wide range of electric models of all shapes and sizes was on display. The weather was very nice to us that day which made for a great day's flying.

Kellett's Hobbies provided prizes for pilots who registered on the day. Pilots' names were drawn from the hat and winners could select their choice from a great range of prizes. The BAC also provided lunch. I strongly encourage people to get along and support this event next year.

Marco Man's Airbus 380 Foamie is quite a large model with 4 by 55 mm EDF's but Marco had to replace 3 of the units with GWS



units due to failures. This model needs a tarmac to get off the ground. With the grass strip on the day, the model never got into the air despite several valiant attempts. Marco reports that once in the air, it is a very nice plane and flies very scale like, a little nose up like a full size A380.

The model came from Extreme Hobbies at \$400 but now Hobby King can sell them from the Australian store considerably cheaper. It weighs about 1.8 Kg and uses a 3S pack, 2200 mAh originally, but has a 3300 mAh pack in it now. The scale detail in the wing is nice with the curvature of the wing. The undercarriage wheels were unrealistically small, so all the wheels had to be increased in size. Also, the hatch underneath the model is held on with magnets and doesn't hold on well enough for take off and is then dragged underneath the model.



George Kaley's SIG Kadet bought from America 2 years ago is a very nice looking model in transparent red covering. It flies very nicely and has an Axi motor with a

3S 500 Mah battery which gives 8-10 minutes flying at ¾ to full throttle. Wing span is 60".

Raymond Zaragoza's Mustang P51-D Gunfighter edition, a Hobby King model. Raymond has had this model for a long time and it has battle wounds but they've been repaired and it keeps on flying. Raymond had to replace the retracts as the supplied retracts were very weak. Now it has servo-less retracts which are bigger, stronger and have 5mm wire and some suspension on the wire as well.



This plane takes off very nicely using the standard motor and prop. Batteries were originally a 5S pack and went very fast, but reduced to 4S as the motor and speed controller were at their limits. This edition handles well without the tip-stall tendencies of some other versions of this model which performs inside and outside loops nicely.



Peter Griffin also had to remove the retracts on his Hobby King Vampire. The ESC didn't work when bought new.

The boom tends to flex and needs stiffening. As a result of flex the model tends to get steeper in the flight pattern as the flight continues. However it flies straight out of the hand with a gentle shove, glides very well and for the money is very good. Standard power plant as it came is a 4S pack 2650 mAh – but doesn't fly for very long.



Paul McKeown's ESN Swordfish 88" has a Turnigy Motor 6364 and 10S batteries. It weighs 9.8kg

## Blacktown Electric Fly-In by Rob Watson

This is a brilliant plane to fly especially in the wind. When the wind drops, it can drop like a brick and you have to power it in. The Biela 3 blade prop 19" x 10" gives a great sound in the air.

Paul has modified the cockpit detail – weathered the front end and modified the radial engine to give it a better look. This is an ARF but there is a lot involved in completing this model with its fibreglass fuselage. Paul found it very finicky in getting it all together. Both wings on each side come off together. It averages 60 to 70 Amps from the 2 by 5S 5000 mAh packs and reaches 120 Amps at full throttle.



Gary Grant, Vice President of the Parramatta club at Toongabbie flew this Sebart Sukhoi 140e. It has a 2m wingspan and 2m Long Hacker A60-24 motor using 1s 5000 mAh, 22"x12" propeller, Aline BEC with a 100mAh 2S pack for the receiver and servo. The plane is basically new as I witnessed its 4<sup>th</sup> flight. Gary had this plane's little brother (50 size) for a very long time which was his favourite plane so he couldn't resist; he had to try out the big brother. The big plane flies even better than the smaller plane. He is very happy with it, especially since this plane goes exactly where you point it. At 3.8 kg, it looks a picture.



Mandom Paje flew his Duraflly from Hobby King T28 Trojan, painted and equipped as a fictitious counter-insurgency version. Mandom has put his efforts into detailing and painting the model based on the paint work for an A1 Skyraider from the Vietnam war. He added machine guns, pilots and ordinance under the wing. It flies on 4S instead of



the original 3S 3000 mAh and Mandom upgraded the ESC to 55 Amps with the original motor. The plane flies very nicely, is very quiet and weighs about 1.7kg.



Although it flies fairly fast it has flaps which tame things down for landing. Plane was \$130 to buy without Rx and battery.

Mandom Paje also flew an SMS B25. It was supposed to be a 3S setup, but is flying as 4S 2650 mAh. with the same motor and speed controller.



Mandom has added a bomb bay and was doing bomb drops on the day. Mandom has added some weathering effects but other than that the model is stock standard.



Corinne Pellatt's Raven 50cc ARF model made by EG (brought in by Modelflight) is powered by

a Hacker A60-18L motor with a 12S 5000 mAh pack, a Turnigy Sentilon 100 Amp HV ESC and a 23"x12" prop. It uses 4 Align DS610 servos as well as a Hitec 7955 for the rudder.

The receiver is powered by a 3200 mAh 2S LiFe Rx battery pack. The current peaks at 80 Amps with up to 11 minute flight times which completely drain the battery.

The nice Bling spinner and under carriage (carbon fibre) came with the plane. It was flown by Corrine's husband Benjamin Burrell on this occasion but both Benjamin and Corrine fly the plane. It knife edges beautifully and that is only at half throttle.

## Blacktown Electric Fly-In by Rob Watson

Corrine Pellatt also had a Hanger 9 130" Piper Pawnee 1/3 scale model. It weighs 14 kg and uses a Rimfire 65cc electric motor, a Turnigy Sentilon 120 Amp High Voltage ESC and 12S 6500 mAh batteries. About 6000 Watts is achieved out of that setup with 130 Amp peak current and about 8 minutes flying time.



This model has a cavernous interior. Corrine has made some modifications by adding the scale cockpit, pilot, instruments and seats. She has added navigation lights on the wing and the landing light on the nose. Other than that it is pretty much standard.

About 500g lighter than it would be as a gas powered model, it is 3 months old and has had at least 20 flights. There is no tow hook at present but Corrine has plans to add a spray bar.



## LEG Postal Competition Results for March 2012.

Gary Andrews

There were five entries for March in the LEG postal competition for 2012. Mel Gillott has pushed Bob Hickman into second place for this month. However Bob remains four ahead of Mel on total scores thus far.

		Duration	Motor	Land Pts	Pts	Duration	Motor	Land Pts	Pts	Duration	Motor	Land Pts	Pts	Duration	Motor	Land Pts	Pts	Total
Mel	Gillott	5.00	6	20	314	5.02	3	25	320	5.02	4	25	319	5.00	3	25	322	961
Bob	Hickman	5.00	3	25	322	5.06	5	25	314	4.56	4	25	317	5.02	4	25	319	958
Gary	Andrews	5.06	8	20	306	5.04	6	25	315	4.57	6	25	316			0	0	937
Peter	Pine	5.02	7	15	306	4.54	10	15	299	4.47	8	20	299	5.00	5	25	320	925
Phil	Stevenson	5.06	8	20	306	5.12	12	15	291	5.06	11	20	303			0	0	900