*The magazine for all those who love Free Flight*

# THE BFFS DIGEST

December 2025



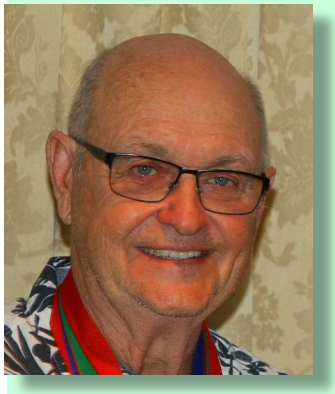
## In this issue:

- 36 inch Bungee Glider news
- P30 State Champs
- CLG/HLG/TLG State Champs
- 74th Free Flight Nationals
- 2025 Christmas Party
- 2026 Flying Calendar

*COVER PAGE:*

Len Surtees has put a lot of effort into his balsa gliders recently. He achieved great success at West Wyalong and also at the State Champs in Queensland. Now he's off to New Zealand for their State Champs.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



I must be getting older as the years seem to pass by quicker - hard to believe our flying program for 2025 has come to an end. We had perfect days for all our State Champ events this year. However, It was quite the opposite for our club events with wind or rain resulting in all of them being cancelled. We had one of the best years I can remember with our Indoor days so I guess the weather doesn't affect us flying inside the hall.

I think it was a positive move to include RC assist models on Col's Vintage Day. Those that witnessed Ron's monster powered glider flying over head will no doubt agree. I think it was the happiest I have ever seen Ron when he landed the big model so gently on the thick lush grass. It encouraged Larry to make the trip to Coominya as well. We will be trialing 36" bungee launch gliders next year, so for those with ageing legs (most of us) it will allow us to get the models airborne without any effort for a short recovery flight. Hopefully 2026 will provide us with favourable weather conditions. Looking forward to seeing you at this year's Christmas party and at next year 's flying activities.

***John Lewis***

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| | |
|---|---|
| **PRESIDENT:** | John Lewis |
| **VICE PRESIDENT:** | Pieter de Visser |
| **SECRETARY:** | Malcolm Campbell |
| **TREASURER:** | Kathy Burford |

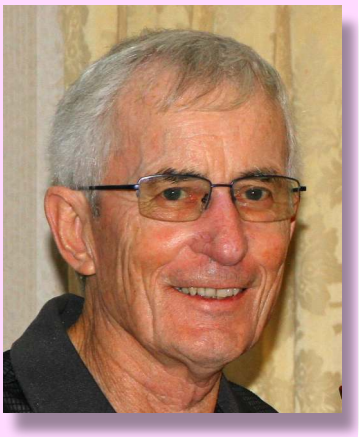
**Got you interested? See page 14.**

**EMERGENCY LOCATION ADVICE – phone 000**
**BFFS Flying Field, Banool Road Tarampa**
**GPS coordinates of the gate are:**
**27º 26' 74.7" South 152º 26' 28.2" East**

**REMEMBER**
**FIRST DUTY OF THE KEYMASTER ON FLYING DAYS:**

**Text Jesse 0417 077 781**
***"BFFS on the field"***.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT



While we've had some lovely days flying, the calendar has been changed many times during the year because of inclement weather. We managed to get most State Champs events completed but club event days and testing days suffered. I don't think we'll be giving out any chocolates this year and therefore we don't have a Club Champion for the first time in the 19 years I've been editing the Digest.

Even the March Digest wasn't published until May and then a big gap to September before I published another - only three Digests in the year - that's never happened before. But we do have some interesting news in this edition, thank goodness. Through all this turmoil, all the Indoor events were completed - Indoor doesn't stop if it's raining or windy outside.

Pieter de Visser's return to flying has helped make events more viable and he hasn't lost any of his skills. It's good to have him back. Keith Fisher also returned to the fold, much to the delight of Len Surtees. Keith used to be pretty good in the balsa glider classes.

The Power classes did suffer in 2025 - no QDP, F1J or Mini Power - they're back in the 2026 calendar so let's hope the weather is kinder.

Our little group of four who went south to West Wyalong did very well in the 74th Free Flight Nationals. Read all about it in this Digest.

Des Slattery turned 92 this year, and also celebrated his 70th Wedding Anniversary. This is an incredible achievement. He's been receiving some very highly ranked acknowledgements from the King down, as well as the Pope, Federal and State Government. He's our most noted member!

I've been looking through old records recently and noticed that we've been using the Zischke flying field at Coominya (actually it's at Lockyer Waters) for 26 years. Doesn't time fly!

I'll close by wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year.

*Cheers, Malcolm Campbell*

# CONSTRUCTION CORNER

## Here's a project for over the Christmas break

### 36 inch catapult glider event next year.

You can build any glider with a wing span up to 36 inches launched on the club's hi-start (very gentle launch), no running is required. There's a 60 second max and three flights. No weight restrictions.

Visit Outerzone on the web for plans. Just search for **gliders**. You can scale up your favourite glider or scale down to 36 in span. We won't be checking the wings as this is a relaxed event flying small gliders.

They have flown this in the UK for years now. So build one of the classic gliders you built as a young Aeromodeller. Search the Outerzone site for 'Three Foot Ruler', 'Swan' or 'May Morning', to name just a few gliders. You can even scale down an A1 glider or scale up a HLG or a kit plan. Add a 'Munson' DT timer to keep it all simple. Have a go!

**Pieter de Visser**

**More info on page 17. This can be a build project over the Christmas Break!**



**Julie made a perfect birthday cake for her husband Pieter, an SES man**

**DO YOU HAVE AN ARTICLE FOR THE BFFS DIGEST?**

**Contact the Editor:**

**Malcolm Campbell**
**77 Freshwater Circuit**
**Forest Lake QLD 4078**

**Ph: 07 3278 7164**
**Mob: 0417 774 826**
**actrain@ozemail.com.au**

# P30 State Championships

## COOMINYA 14 September 2025

**Photos by Julie de Visser and John Lewis**
**Report by Malcolm Campbell and John Lewis**



A foggy start to the day - a good sign

What a fantastic day – dense fog on arrival, not too hot during the morning, very light and variable breeze but tricky at times. It was perfect for P30s. Some drama on the day with Craig Ferguson saying goodbye to his P20 and later his P30, when his models were caught in massive thermals, going OOS around the 15-minute mark. Keith Fisher put in some great launches with his rather old TLG, catching the eye of Len Surtees who was there to test his big STING 36 TLG and a Sting 15 CLG. Both of those flew every well. Keith also came close to losing his TLG when he placed it in a very nice thermal. He walked under it to see it down after a 12-minute flight, thankfully in light winds! Peter Nash wasn't so lucky. He was trimming his F1J for the upcoming championship later in the month. A timer malfunction put it in very hard, so Peter has to build a new fuselage. The tests of his E36 were more rewarding. John also had his new Purple Haze E36, running a Red Max motor and Texas Timer. He was reasonably happy with his initial short flights.

Back to the Main Event – the P30 State Championships. Malcolm spent a few hours during the week, addressing the problems of last year. His initial test flight looked great but as soon as he put a watch against it, it went rogue. Probably too much torque and, after then blowing a motor or two and damaging the rear end in the stooge, he retired the model and focused on supporting Kathy.

A poor first flight was disappointing for Kathy but a change to side and down thrust gave her a great second flight max, landing in 4 minutes. A little bit more tweaking and a fully wound motor for the third flight saw the model circle low around two Mylar poles at least three times before the torque came off and it started a long ascent to

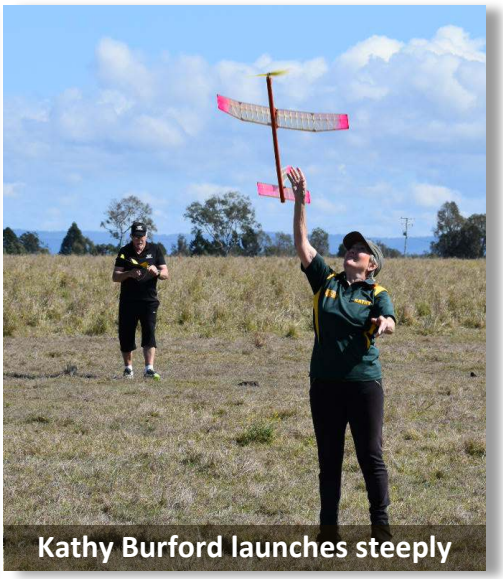


8 cars, 9 flyers and 10 people - a good roll up

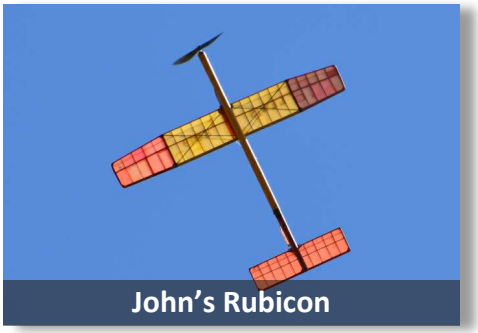

John Lewis launches his Rubicon


Ron Munden flew a Teacher's Pet


Waiting for air


Kathy Burford launches steeply


Watching Craig's flyaway


John's Rubicon


Team Munden


Pieter de Visser winds his Pirate


Craig Ferguson picked the biggest thermals

great height. The model touched down after 6 minutes and it was retrieved only 300 metres from where it was launched.

I mentioned Craig Ferguson's flyaway but that was his final P30 flight. His other two flights did not give him a great score, but he wasn't last. Keith Fisher wanted to fly but his model said otherwise. A mishap sidelined him. It was good to see Ron Munden out flying and he recorded two scores. Pieter and Julie helped him on the day and we were all happy for him.

Pieter's Pirate got caught out in the early morning air gaining very good height before falling from the sky in sink. Taking more care in his final two flights, he recorded two magnificent maxes. John's first flight was an easy max and his second flight should have been as well, but he let the timer run down waiting for lift and it DT'ed after 60 secs! He didn't do that on his third flight and went on to easily win the event.


Kathy gets ready to max

It was a great day for flying free flight with lots of lift and the grass seems to be getting shorter. Ten at the field was a pretty good roll-up, and with two active photographers, plenty of photos!

| Name | Flt 1 | Flt 2 | Flt 3 | total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| John Lewis | 120 | 104 | 120 | 344 |
| Pieter de Visser | 78 | 120 | 120 | 318 |
| Kathy Burford | 58 | 120 | 120 | 298 |
| Craig Ferguson | 35 | 72 | 120 | 227 |
| Ron Munden | 48 | 29 | 5 | 82 |
| Malcolm Campbell | 33 | - | - | 33 |


Winners are grinners, lined up in order of place, and height!

# Test Time at Coominya



Tip launch glider school - Len Surtees and Keith Fisher



Len - TLG



Len - CLG



Keith - TLG



Peter Nash - E36



John Lewis - E36



John's new Purple Haze



**Kathy launching her Apache back in July 2021. We've lost two of these. I think I can see why!**

Malcolm Campbell photo

# Not the F1J State Champs

## Coominya 28 September 2025

**Report and photos by John Lewis**

Graham Maynard had an F1J but the pacifier tank had split. He had a ½A style model he was going to fly but the DT line crimp let go when he was hooking it up so Graham went home early. John Lewis tested his Purple Haze 2 which went really well after repairing the wing the damaged last year. And Peter Nash didn't make it as his F1J has still not been repaired after a test crash on P30 day.

So, there were not enough models to fly the F1J event. John went on to test two new E36 models and, after lots of trimming flights, they are starting to show some promise. He made further trim changes after he got home.

Keith Fisher tested his tip launch gliders and also flew his little pink rubber model.







# CLG - HLG - TLG State Championships

## COOMINYA 12 October 2025

**Photos and report by Malcolm Campbell and John Lewis**



**Len, Keith and John in the glider pen**

What a magnificent day; it was a bit warm with the occasional big thermal. We were all there before the bell and Len had been sorting his models since sun up!

Malcolm had a shocker with untrimmed models damaged during the 5 flights he put up. Kathy on the contrary was focused and picked up some reasonable scores early before a huge max in her 4th flight, taking 55 secs to land after the wing DT popped! Her 5th flight was critical but her nails clipped the stab and robbing her of another max. Her final flight took forever, with very little lift around at 11 am. When the scores were tallied she was only 6 secs behind the winner, Len Surtees. If only, if only.

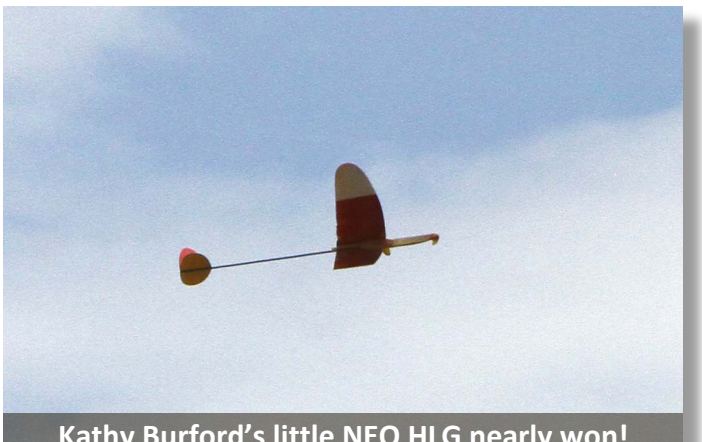
Keith, Len, John, Malcolm and Kathy had a fun day with light winds and mostly short retrieves. Perhaps its and indication of old age but only 2 flew (Len and John) in the hand launch glider event. Len had good launches but failed to find lift, still he only required 2 flights to come out on top. Each year John finds it harder to gain much height with his current models and is intending to try a new design.



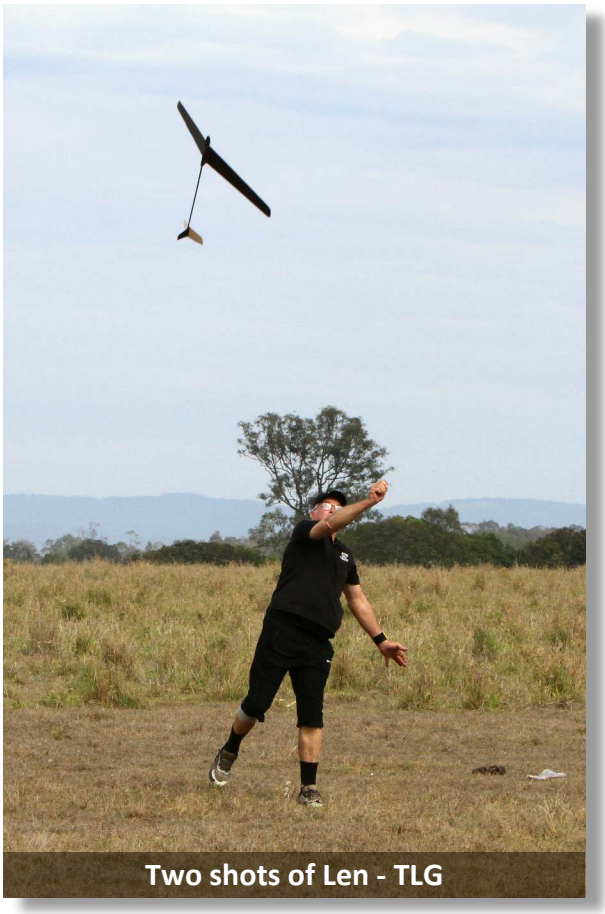
**Len's new 18 inch HLG**



**Keith Fisher - TLG**



**Kathy Burford's little NEO HLG nearly won!**


Two shots of Len - TLG




John launches his CLG

Likewise with Tip launch glider John struggled to get his models to work but has some ideas to do better next year. Keith began well but had his model spinning in on his later flights. Len began very well with two high scoring flights but struggled to maintain his initial high standard but still was a long way ahead of the rest of the field.

CLG was the popular event attracting 5 entries. Once again Len started well with an easy max. John had a good unofficial flight but was unable to get much success with his first official flights breaking both models. After repairing one model he finished well with a near max. Malcolm was having the worst CLG event he could remember also breaking models with a series of low scores. Kathy was focused and picked up some reasonable scores early before a huge max in her 4th flight, taking 55 secs to land after the wing DT popped! Her 5th flight was critical but her nails clipped the stab and robbing her of another max. Keith was also doing well making a string of good flights slipping past John's total. Len figured he needed a max on his last flight to win the event and produced the necessary result. Kathy's final flight took forever, with very little lift around at 11 am. When the scores were tallied she was only 6 secs behind the winner, Len Surtees.


John launching his TLG


Keith and John discuss TLG techniques

## HLG

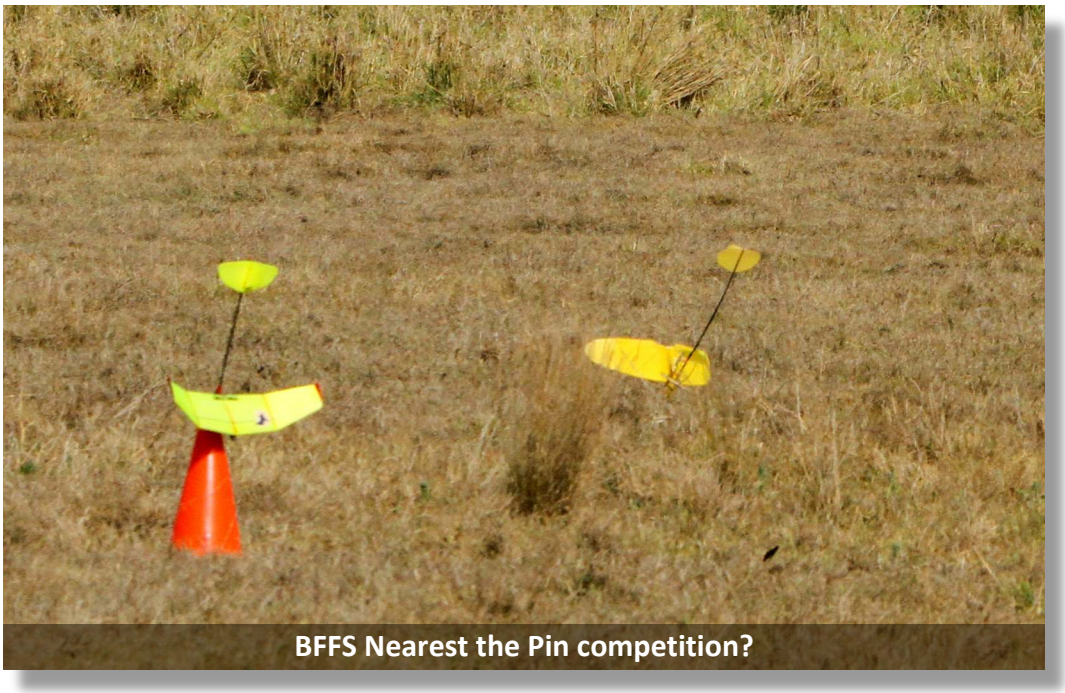
| Name | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Len Surtees | **22** | **28** | | | | | 50 |
| John Lewis | 3 | 3 | **13** | **18** | **11** | 4 | 42 |

## TLG

| Name | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Len Surtees | **60** | **56** | 16 | 26 | **44** | 34 | 160 |
| Keith Fisher | **34** | **39** | 18 | **20** | 6 | 8 | 93 |
| John Lewis | 12 | **17** | **12** | 11 | **13** | 3 | 42 |

## CLG

| Name | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Len Surtees | **60** | 35 | **40** | 30 | 28 | **60** | 160 |
| Kathy Burford | 12 | 26 | **46** | **60** | 37 | **48** | 154 |
| Keith Fisher | 23 | **34** | 32 | **43** | **51** | 23 | 128 |
| John Lewis | 14 | **21** | 4 | **26** | 17 | **57** | 104 |
| Malcolm Campbell | 3 | 3 | **3** | **15** | **3** | - | 21 |



**BFFS Nearest the Pin competition?**

# Trimming and Fun Fly Day

## COOMINYA 9 November 2025

**Photos and report by Malcolm Campbell**



Seven cars and nine members on the field

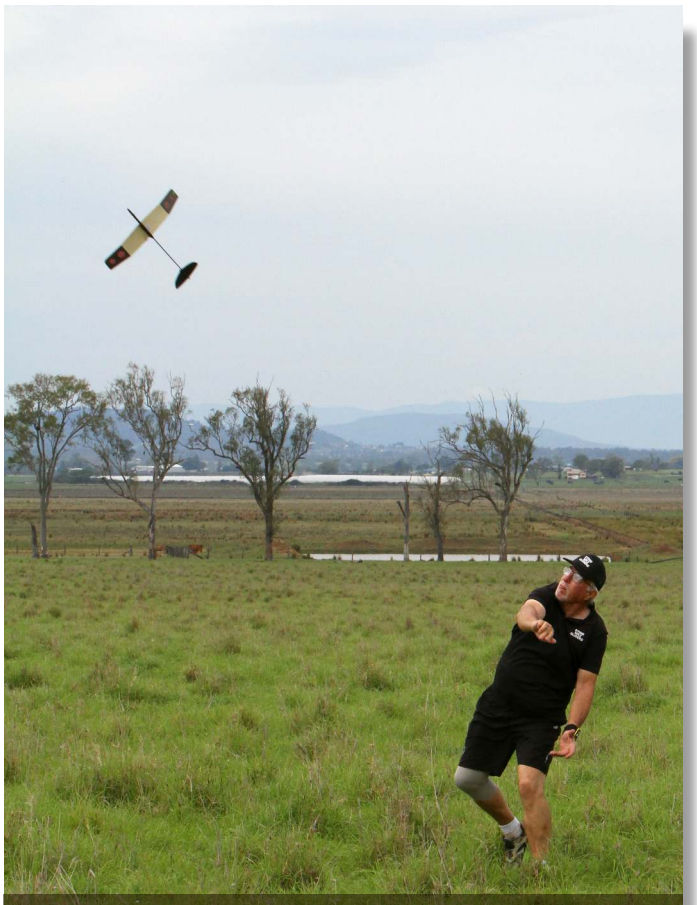
It was one of those days where everyone had fun. The sky was overcast and the winds were light. We set up close to the northern entry gate. I can't remember when we last flew from there all morning. Len Surtees put up plenty of CLG, HLG and TLG flights, getting them ready for the NZ Nationals. John Lewis had some great flights with his electric Junior Playboy and later surveyed the field with his drone. I think he also flew his NEO CLG. Graham Maynard busied himself running up some motors and I think I saw him test glide one model. Larry Brownlow was back with his veteran E36 (Watt's Up), a model he flew 7 years ago. Now with a modern Cobra motor, it test glided OK but wasn't able to handle the stronger motor. It's now a WIP. Larry also ROG'ed his electric radio model. Malcolm got his old E36 sorted and was very happy with the result. This is his third of that type, he'd lost the other two. Pieter towed up his Asteroid A1 with limited success. But the big event for the day was visual ecstasy - Ron's giant RC glider - admired by all, it was a group effort by the club's four RC flyers to get it ready to cruise the sky above. What a day.



Malcolm E36 and Len TLG walking back in



Malcolm and John discussing the day

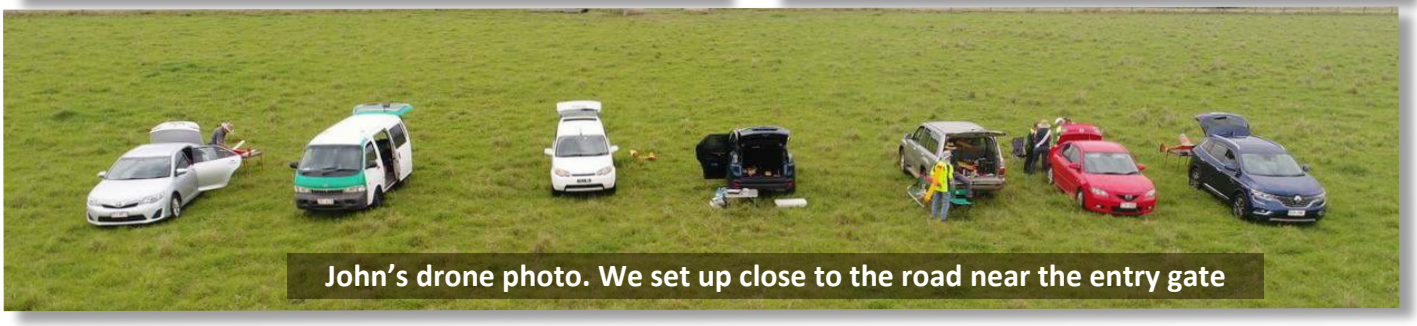


Len launching his HLG

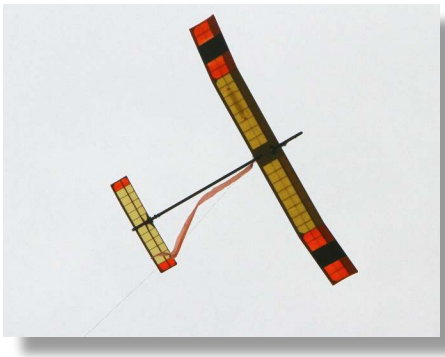

Larry Brownlow test glides his E36, Watt's Up


Watt's Up going up, but not for long


Larry ROG'ing off his makeshift airstrip


John's drone photo. We set up close to the road near the entry gate


Julie launching Pieter's Asteroid




Graham runs up his little Mills .75


Malcolm's ApachE E36



Pieter gives it an energetic throw during early hand glides, tail tilt absorbed by the RC gear

Ron Munden had the structure nearly complete when he displayed it at our Christmas Party in December 2020. Five years later with the help of Pieter, John and Larry, the model was trimmed and it took to the air with John at the controls. It looked magnificent. I think Ron was relieved and pretty chuffed with the result. A real club effort! The model is 100 inch span, a Dutch design called "Planeur Flamingo" from 1944. Ron used laminated balsa and hardwood in this extraordinary build. Floating high up, it looked ethereal.



Ron, with help from Larry, Pieter and John, gets ready



Bare bones of the giant model at 2020 Xmas Party



Ron looks pensive at the start of the day



But he was overjoyed as the day progressed

# 74th Free Flight Nationals

## 18 - 29 October 2025

## Adrian Bryant Field, West Wyalong

Generally, the weather at West Wyalong was pretty reasonable, breezy but manageable. Only the Dixielander event on Monday was postponed with winds reaching 8 m/sec. There was no rain on any day.

The field was in excellent condition with "roads" mown to each of the flight lines, and these too were mown for our comfort. The road in had been recently graded and was in very smooth. It was pleasing to see that most kept under the 40 kph speed limit. The facilities and clubhouse continue to improve with each visit. Quite a few stayed on the field in the clubhouse, tents or caravans. Others stayed in town to enjoy the excellent pub and club meals.

Albert Fathers, Len Surtees, Kathy Burford and Malcolm Campbell represented Queensland, and we did pretty well. Albert won F1A and placed 2nd in Open Rubber. His OR model remained hidden for 24 hours after the fly-off, until he found it nestled amongst the trees. Len did well in HLG, CLG and TLG, winning HLG and TLG. One might say he cleaned up, but not quite. Kathy cleaned him up in the windy CLG event. He also placed 3rd in F1H. Malcolm placed 1st in Vintage Glider, 2nd in F1A and F1H, 4th in F4A Scale (0.8 points off 3rd!) and 5th in E36 (because he accidentally set 5 secs for his second flight!). So Kathy was our STAR performer - 1st in F1H and CLG, 2nd in Vintage Glider and 3rd in E36.

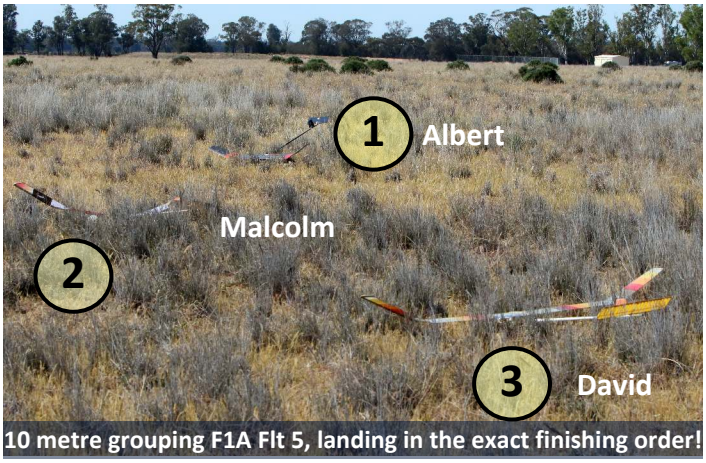
Len Surtees dominated Indoor HLG, on another level to 2nd place getter Michael Towell who in turn was a level above 3rd place getter Lindsay Muffett. Similar comments apply to Indoor CLG.

Organisers used helium balloons each morning to establish wind drift. These were excellent and reliable as the drift was quite often very different to that on the ground. They were also used during the day to validate flight line changes and also late afternoon fly offs.

No models were treed and, although flights were going up to 800 or 900m, the car (or bike) retrieval allowed on the Adrian Bryant field made flying an easy business. It is also pleasant to be able to retire to the farmhouse for coffee, lunch, beer and discussion.

The 74th Free Flight Nationals were a success. Perhaps the weather prediction may have affected the number of entries. I'm sure Albert, Len, Kathy and I will be back again next year.

**Malcolm Campbell**

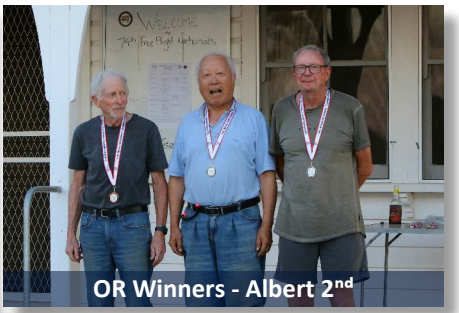


10 metre grouping F1A Flt 5, landing in the exact finishing order!


CLG Winners – a Queensland Trifecta!


F1A Winners


F1H Winners – another Q'LD Trifecta!


OR Winners - Albert 2nd


Malcolm won the Lucky Door prize - a Windbag

**THE WINDBAG**
049 powered, it wouldn't fit in our car. Roy S says he'll trim it ready for me next year!

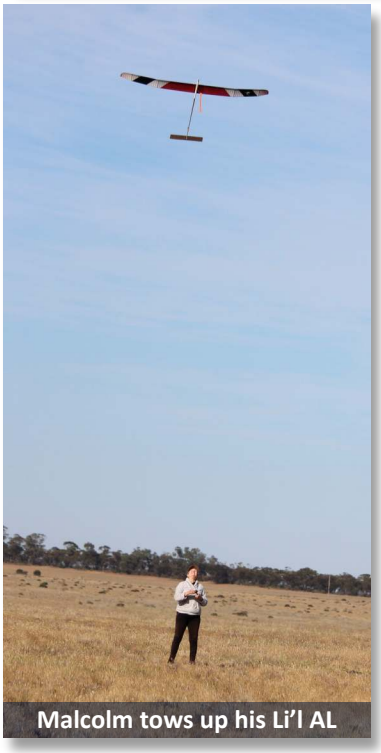


Malcolm's Piper Cub


Len's fistful of medals


Kathy keeps an eye on Albert's F1A preparation


She also made sure Malcolm's F1As were in order


Malcolm tows up his Li'l AL

Here are some more photos from West Wyalong of the Queensland flyers who competed. We all did pretty well I think. Michael Towell and Natalie Beckett (Secretary of the AFFS), took these photos.

74th MAAA Nationals
West Wyalong
2025


Helping serve the Country Roast Lamb dinner

NSW FREE FLIGHT SOCIETY

MAAA


Waiting for air in E36

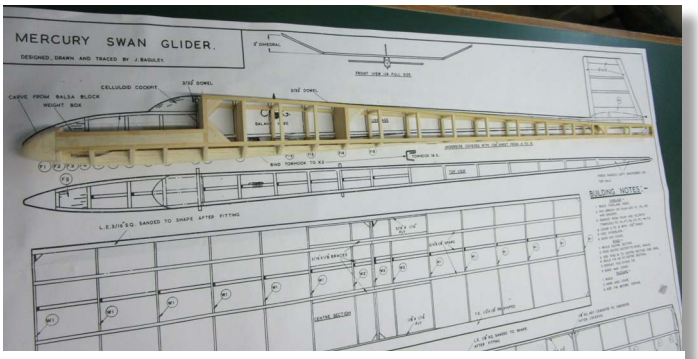

Kathy on her way to another max in E36


Len prepares his F1H

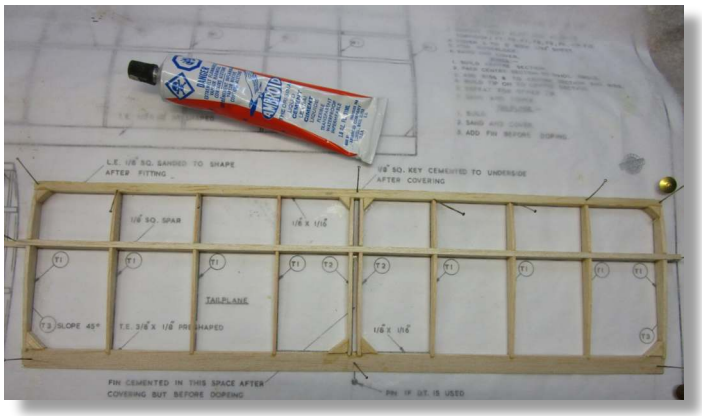

Kathy tows up her Aiglet in the F1H comp

# SWANNING AROUND OVER CHRISTMAS

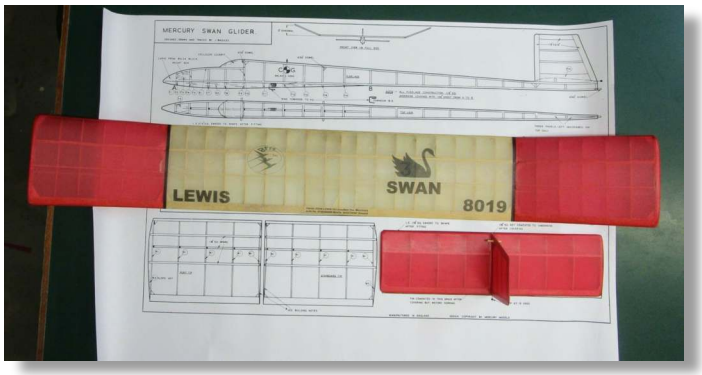
John has made some real progress on his Bungee Launch project. It's a Mercury Models "Swan" and the build looks promising. Here's a few photos to get you enthused. Start yours today!

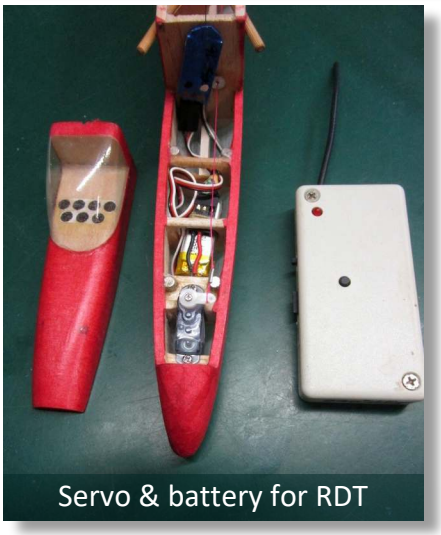



https://outerzone.co.uk/plan_details.asp?ID=9116







Servo & battery for RDT

BUNGEE



Simple towhook



Internal tracker beacon




Ready to rumble

BUNGEE




Bungee bits

# 2025 CHRISTMAS PARTY!







F1A State Championship



F1B State Championship



F1G State Championship



F1H State Championship



E36 State Championship



Open Rubber State Championship



Scale State Championship

**No photos for the events below**

**HLG State Championship 1. Len 2. John**

**TLG State Championship 1. Len 2. Keith 3. John**

**CLG State Championship 1. Len 2. Kathy 3. Keith**

## Champion of Champions




John Lewis

## Perpetual Trophies



F1A



F1B



F1H



Scale

# Championship points 2025

## Outdoor State Champs Points

| Name | F1H | F1A | F1B | F1G | Scale | O/R | E36 | P30 | F1J | HLG | TLG | CLG | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| John | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | 5 | 2 | 5 | | 4 | 3 | 2 | 37 |
| Ben | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | | | 3 | | | | | | 23 |
| Malcolm | 3 | | | 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 | | | | | 1 | 18 |
| Pieter | 2 | | | 3 | 4 | 4 | | 4 | | | | | 17 |
| Len | 1 | | | | | | | | | 5 | 5 | 5 | 16 |
| Kathy | | | | 1 | | | 5 | 3 | | | | 4 | 13 |
| Keith | | | | | | | | | | | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Craig | | | | | | | | 2 | | | | | 2 |
| Peter | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Ron | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 |

## Indoor State Champs Points

| Name | Delta Dart | EZB | HLG/CLG | H/Rat | P18 | P/Scale | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| John | 5 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 22 |
| Brian | 2 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 21 |
| Ben | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 19 |
| Ashton | | | 1 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 11 |
| Larry | 4 | 3 | | | | | 7 |
| Len | | | 5 | | | | 5 |
| Craig | | | | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Ron | | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Van | 1 | | | | | | 1 |



EZB State Championship



Delta Dart State Championship



F1N State Championship


Hangar Rat State Champs


P18 State Championship


Peanut Scale State Championship

William's life was celebrated at Willowbank Raceway, on 6 October 2025. BFFS Club President John Lewis delivered the following Eulogy.

# William Jones - a Celebration of Life - 6 October 2025

My name is John Lewis, and I am a longtime friend of William Jones.

William, like me, and most of us here, spent our childhood days making, breaking and repairing things. We didn't have television, computers or Tik Tok. We made our own entertainment and at that time many young boys spent endless hours making model planes. Life in many ways was simpler - just be home by dark Mum would say.

I didn't know William then but I assume he, like me, made model aircraft, then got interested in cars and girls. So, once we had married, settled down, and started producing kids, I rediscovered some model planes I had stored away. I went to Arthur Gorrie's Hobby shop and made some inquiries about where people fly. (Yes, the same Arthur Gorrie the correctional centre is named after). I had spent many Saturday mornings in Arthur's shop looking at plans etc and therefore Arthur knew me quite well. He confided in me the one to beat at the contests at Beaudesert was Bill Jones. So, when I arrived at the flying field, I looked up the legendary Bill Jones and found he had a wife Dale and two young children, Darren and Wayne who, from memory, were two and three years old. I had one son at that time who was less than 1 year old (now 55) so I guess that's how long I have known the Jones family.

I soon discovered that Arthur's assessment was correct and Bill, as he was known then, was damn good at every class he flew. When most people think of model planes, they automatically think of scale models that are radio controlled. The models Bill made and flew were Free Flight. That means they fly unassisted once they are released and need to be recovered a kilometre or so down wind. Therefore, these models need to be made aeronautically sound so they can fly by themselves and need to be made straight and true.

So why was Bill so good at it? If you saw anything Bill made you would probably understand his attention to detail. He often told me how he wasn't much of a woodworker and was more suited to metal work. That was another characteristic of Bill - he was so modest. As a retired Manual Arts teacher, I like to think I have good wood and metal skills but I was not in the same class as Bill - when it came to precise workmanship.



As time progressed, we both became more involved with our modelling interests and Dale became the Free Flight contest director. Later on, Dale became the Model Aeronautical Association of Queensland's secretary. Each year, we would have a National Championship that rotated around the Australian states. Mid-way through the year before the Queensland hosted Nationals event was to be held, disaster struck - with a mini tornado totally destroying Bill and Dale's home with all the entries and associated paperwork being lost. Understandably, Bill's modelling took a back seat as he had a home to rebuild and a business to look after.

We lost contact with Bill and Dale for a number of years then one day I got a phone call from my old mate. Bill had gone to the Southside hobby shop and discovered we were still flying Free Flight models and, as the club president, I was the best one to contact.

Bill was back, but kept saying how we were all experts. Yes, things had moved on with carbon fibre replacing spruce spars etc but I had no illusions about Bill's abilities. It didn't take long and Bill was again the one to beat, although he always said he was just a learner. As a school teacher, I would have liked to have more learners like Bill. Dale became our club treasurer looking after our club, as well as their business Weldwell Engineering and Bill.

Dale would ring and say Bill wants to talk to you. And talk he did, but then I was just as guilty, prolonging our two-hour phone calls.

Anyway, as you probably guessed, Bill's learner plates fell off long ago and he continued to advance through the ranks, gaining selection on the Australian team to fly overseas at the World Championships.

The following extract from "Free Flight Down Under", the national free flight newsletter, says it well —

> *William was one of Australia's best F1B flyers and had represented his country in the World Championships at Odesa in 2007 and Croatia in 2009. He was an excellent model builder and also had superb machining and welding skills. He was heavily involved in drag racing, where his skills were called upon by many. William was three weeks short of his 86th birthday.*

It would have been Bill's birthday today.

Bill preferred to be called William in his later years. He was very unassuming, and very generous, and was very keen to always pay his own way. I would often offer to lend him a tool or give him some materials but he would always just want to know where he could get his own. Dale was our club treasurer for 16 years and stayed on, finally retiring from flying a couple of years ago, as William's health diminished.

It's an understatement to say I and our fellow club members will miss William Jones - he was the perfect club member and a great mate to all of us.

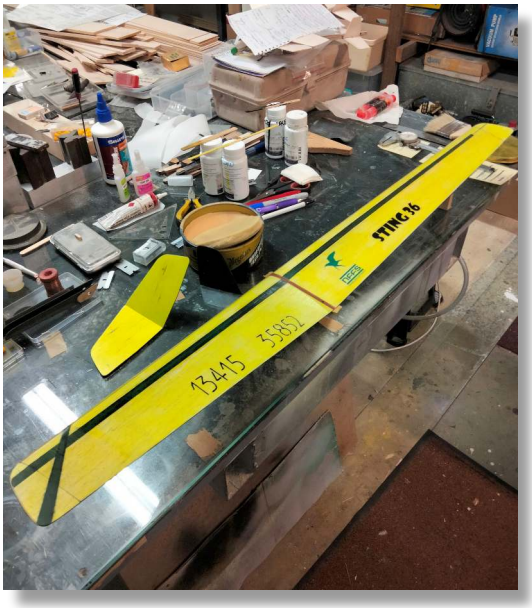





# STING MK2 GLIDERS

Len Surtees has been very busy finishing off new gliders for his trip to New Zealand for their Free Flight Nationals. I also heard that he may be going to Muncie USA for their Nationals. In recent months, Len has been at our field trimming and testing his new models. In the photos below, the middle one shows a yellow wing that is being polished and waxed. This TLG is 15 g lighter than TLG he flew at our final event for the year, a testing and trimming day. He says this will be a real floater, keeping the heavier one for windy conditions. He believe the green one in the photos below is his best ever glider. He sounded pumped up and excited for the events ahead.









# JOKES

I can't afford an Ancestry DNA Kit to learn about my relatives. So instead, I posted online that I had won the lottery.

FUN FACT: a majority of archeologists are women due to their natural ability to dig up the past



Most people have heard of Karl Marx, but few know of his sister Onya, an Olympic runner. Her name is still mentioned at the start of every race.



In 1980s I was riding my bike and fell off and hurt my knee. I'm telling you this now because we didn't have social media then

I took my suit to the cleaners, who wanted to charge me $15.00 So I gave my suit to the charity shop next door.
They cleaned and pressed it and put it in the window.
I bought it for $4.50!

All of us older folks know all about living on the edge. We used to answer the phone without knowing who it was.




"I ran a half marathon" sounds so much better than "I quit halfway through a marathon" 🏃

## BRISBANE FREE FLIGHT SOCIETY

# 2026 Flying Calendar

| Month | Date | Start | Events | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **February** | Sat 21st | 12-4pm | Bar-B-Que lunch & General Meeting | John's place |
| **March** | Sat 7th | 3-6 pm | **Indoor** – Delta Dart | BSSHSS |
| | Sun 8th | 8-12pm | Club Day 2 min class models/trimming | Coominya |
| | Sun 22nd | 8-2pm | F1H State Champs (5 flights) and E36 club event (3 flights) | Coominya |
| **April** | Sat 11th | 3-6pm | **Indoor** - EZB | BSHS |
| | Sun 26th | 8-12pm | Trimming / Reserve Day | Coominya |
| | Sun 26th to | 3rd May | AFFS State Champs & Southern Cross Cup Narrandera and W- | Wyalong |
| **May** | Sun 3rd | 8-12pm | F1G State Champs (5 flights) | Coominya |
| | Sat 9th | 3-6pm | **Indoor** - HLG/.CLG | BSHS |
| | Sat 16th | 8-1pm | F1A State Champs (5 rounds, R1 240 secs) | Dalby |
| | Sun 17th | 8-1pm | F1B State Champs (5 rounds, R1 240 secs) | Dalby |
| | Sun 24th | 8-12pm | Trimming / Reserve Day | Coominya |
| | Sat 30th | 8-1pm | Reserve F1A | Dalby |
| | Sun 31st | 8-1pm | Reserve F1B | Dalby |
| **June** | Sun 7th | 8-12pm | Reserve day | Coominya |
| | Sat 13th | 3-6pm | **Indoor** - Hanger Rat | BSHS |
| | Sun 14th | 8-1pm | Club Fun Day including P29 and ½ hour Walking Scramble | Coominya |
| | Sat 27th | 12-4pm | Bar-B-Que and AGM | John's place |
| **July** | Sat 4th | 3-6pm | **Indoor** - P18 | BSHS |
| | Sun 12th | 8-1pm | Scale State Champs and testing | Coominya |
| | Sun 26th | 8-1pm | Fun Fly and testing day including E36 | Coominya |
| **August** | Sun 8th | 3-6pm | **Indoor** – Peanut Scale | BSHS |
| | Sun 9th | 8-1pm | Mini Power and QDP (each 3 flights) | Coominya |
| | Sun 23rd | 8-1pm | E36 State Champs (5 flights) | Coominya |
| **September** | Sun 13th | 8-12pm | P30 State Champs (3 flights) | Coominya |
| | Sun 27th | 8-1pm | F1J State Champs (5 flights) | Coominya |
| **October** | Sun 11th | 8-1pm | HLG, TLG & CLG State Champs | Coominya |
| | Sun 25th | 8-1pm | 100gm coupe and A1 Glider (each 3 flights) | Coominya |
| **November** | Sun 1st | 8-1pm | Reserve day | Coominya |
| | Sun 15th | 8-1pm | Col's Vintage and RC assist Sports model Rally | Coominya |
| **December** | Sat 5th | 12-4pm | Christmas Party and prize presentation | John's place |

**FIRST DUTY OF THE KEYMASTER ON FLYING DAYS Text Jesse 0417 077 781 "*BFFS on the field*"**

## 2026 FREE FLIGHT CALENDAR

**Ver 1 as at 11 November 2025**

**CONTACTS:** John Lewis 07 3848 4280 Malcolm Campbell 07 3278 7164