



## Westside RC Newsletter April 2023

Flying Field Location :420 W Wagner Rd, Yukon, OK  
73099 Membership Meetings on the second Monday of  
each month at the flying field in the warm months.  
Location as announced in the cold months

# Next Meeting

**Next Meeting May  
10 7:00 PM At the  
Flying Field if weather  
is good or at the  
Resurrection Lutheran  
Church 675 W.  
Vandament Ave if the  
weather is bad.**

**President: Keith Gorrell** [Keith.r.gorrell@gmail.com](mailto:Keith.r.gorrell@gmail.com)  
**Vice President: Tyler Young** [quailplazabarbershop@yahoo.com](mailto:quailplazabarbershop@yahoo.com)  
**Treasurer: James Thomas** [jthomas3@gmail.com](mailto:jthomas3@gmail.com)  
**Field Marshal: Kip Rackley** [l84golf@cox.net](mailto:l84golf@cox.net)  
**Safety Officer: Mike Hankins** [appliance-guy@outlook.com](mailto:appliance-guy@outlook.com)  
**Club Newsletter Editor: Jim Kale** [jimkale@pldi.net](mailto:jimkale@pldi.net)

NL Editor. . . . Laugh or Cry Safety Comment From the old RC MODELER magazine safety column

**Hand Launch:** A glider club can tell you events like this happen every year. The glider pilot goes to hand-launch a glider hooked to a **HIGH START** but threw the transmitter instead? On a similar note, some pilots have launched powered gliders into the antenna of the transmitter held in the other hand. And I have personally witnessed 2 incidents about launching the glider and then discovering the receiver switch had **NOT** been turned ON. Moral: Maybe these pilots should switch to model trains. . . . .

## Model Humor



# **President's Notes**

Keith Gorell

Well the first meeting scheduled at the field for the year did not go as planned. Thunderstorms managed to arrive in the area right around 6:30. Five members did make it to the field before the weather started and a couple managed to get flights in, so that's a plus. The meeting was moved to the church for drier conditions.

We are actively looking at storage containers for the field. A member brought up that his company had one the size we are looking for and he is working on seeing if they will part with it at a reasonable price when they are done using it. Once we secure a container, we will begin the mower search.

The club will be hosting a booth at the Yukon Festival of the Child on May 6<sup>th</sup>. We will be there from 9:30 to 4:00 discussing the club, having a static display of aircraft, and running a couple of flight simulators for the kids to try. The next day we will be holding an event at the field for anyone who stopped by the booth and would like to try their hand at flying the real thing. We will be serving hot dogs, chips, and drinks. This is going to be a good community outreach for the club. Anyone who would like to help with either day let me know.

Tax Day fun fly was scheduled for Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> and we discussed event ideas. Look for a report on the event later in the newsletter.

Club fiscal year change was discussed again. A different group of members was present at this meeting from the first time it was discussed. We reviewed the March – April time frame that was discussed at the March meeting and the concerns that were raised about it. We then discussed the possibility of changing to May – June. It was brought up that rent for the field is due in June and that could possibly cause a cash flow issue. The consensus was March – April would probably be best. Most members start thinking about flying again since that's when the weather starts warming up. It was also discussed that if we changed the fiscal year, we would need to change the section on the early dues payment to match the month shift. We will continue to discuss this at the next meeting.

That's it for this month. Hope to see you at the field.

**From the Vice President: Tyler Young**

**Hey guys I'm starting to see the events pages heat up a bit with the weather I've added a few to my list. If you see something I've missed, please let me know so I can get it out to the club.**

**May 13 Tulsa glue daubers fun fly**

**May22 Plano Texas hobby town swap meet**

**May 20 and 21 arks fun fly Amarillo Texas**

**April 23-26 Texarkana fun fly**

**June 8-11 summer of fun fly Duncan**

**June 23-25 jet fun fly Tulsa gluedaubers**

**Sept 8-10 warbirds over Tulsa**

**From the Treasurer**  
James Thomas

We have added 3 members this month, 2 adult and 1 youth. We now stand at 32 members. With the weather starting to get nicer and the flying season is getting more predictable we should start seeing more members rejoin.

The AMA club charter paperwork has been submitted for the year.

That's it for this month.

**If any of your contact info has changed, please send me an update email to: [westsidercyukon@gmail.com](mailto:westsidercyukon@gmail.com)**

## From the Field Marshal

Kip Rackley

I have been working on getting the mowers in shape for the season. Here is the Craftsman all cleaned up with some new tires, blades and belts. The Poulan is next on the list to get a makeover.

We will be having a workday at the field to do some sprucing up with May 13<sup>th</sup> being a tentative date. Watch for more information on this.

The mowing schedule is in work and will be sent out to those who mow shortly. If you haven't volunteered to mow and would like to help, let me know. I will get you added to the list.



## From the Safety Officer

Mike Hankins

With May just about here and the weather warning up and showing signs of good flying days ahead now is the time most people are getting their planes out to start another flying season. Let's fall back to the basics!

- Pre-Flight Inspection may save you time and money. Help increase the odds of a successful flight and take the proper amount of time to check your plane and radio setup. Try not to get in a hurry ☐
  - Check batteries for swelling and always use a battery meter to check the Voltage(V) and Internal Resistance (IR) for each cell.
  - Check radio setup and radio battery level
  - Call out and be LOUD with your intentions or warnings while flying; "on the field"... "off the field" ... "dead stick" ... "taking off" and "landing" are all great communications skills to help alert other pilots around.
  - Please show acknowledgment when you hear call outs so that pilot knows he/she has been heard.
  - Please place membership cards in the radio frequency control box prior to flight.
  - Please keep all flying EAST of the PVC markers. At no time may you over fly the taxiway, pilot stations, pit area or parking area.
  - Flight control shall take place from the designated pilot stations. Please, please reframe from flying any aircraft while standing on the field east of the pilot stations.
  - Too many to list all. We encourage you to read and refresh your memory on the club field rules and visit [The Westside R/C Flyers, Inc \(westside-rc.org\)](http://The Westside R/C Flyers, Inc (westside-rc.org))
  - Be familiar with AMA Rules, visit [100.pdf \(modelaircraft.org\)](http://100.pdf (modelaircraft.org)) to read more.
- Flying RC planes and helicopters is such a fun and enjoyable hobby and a great way to spend time with friends and family. Invite someone new to come out with you this season to the flying field and club meetings. People are all around us daily, invite and encourage others around you to help foster and promote this great hobby!

Definitely want to thank Steven Poe for helping one of our newest members get his first flight using a buddy box and Stevens plane. Great interaction with the younger generation and definitely a great way to help invest and promote our hobby whiling simply helping another person. Steven is often seen helping other new members at the flying field and I personally wanted to recognize him for his wiliness to help others! Great job Steven and THANK YOU for your time investing into others!!!

**YOU have a circle of influence!**

**Think Safety - Practice Safety - Encourage Safety**

## **SAFETY CONTINUED**

**While you are talking and watching your buddy tighten a propeller nut on his gas-powered plane you notice he shows signs of shortness of breath, sweating and chest discomfort/pressure. He ignores these signs but you are already alerted of what might be going on. What do you do?**

**Take NO risk and waste NO time, call 911 ... it costs absolutely nothing for an ambulance to arrive at the flying field to check your buddy out to ensure all is well and if they find something is definitely wrong you have saved precious time potentially saving a life!**

### **Cardiovascular Disease**

#### **Controllable Risk Factors**

- cigarette smoking**
- high blood pressure**
- obesity**
- lack of exercise**
- high blood cholesterol levels**
- uncontrolled diabetes**
- high fat diet**
- high stress**

#### **Uncontrollable Risk Factors**

- race**
- heredity**
- sex**
- age**

**Cardiovascular disease is the number one killer in the United States. The Center for Disease Control reports that in the United States over 650,000 people die each year from cardiovascular disease.**

**Cardiovascular disease causes damage to the heart and blood vessels.**

**Cardiovascular disease often leads to heart attack or stroke. The best way to survive a heart attack or stroke is to never have one. The key for cardiovascular disease is to focus on prevention.**

**You can give yourself the best chance of preventing cardiovascular disease with proper nutrition, consistent physical activity, weight management, stress management, eating proper fats and oils, and quitting smoking.**

## **SAFETY CONTINUED**

### **•Heart Attack**

#### **Signs and Symptoms may include**

- Chest discomfort-pressure, tightness, that may radiate to jaw and arms.
- Nausea
- Sweating
- Shortness of breath
- Denial
- Feeling of weakness

Women present more with shortness of breath, extreme fatigue, or flu-like symptoms About a third of women experience no chest pain.

#### **Treatment:**

Recognize the signs and symptoms of a heart attack, activate EMS, have patient remain in a position of comfort, offer 1 adult dose aspirin, and keep the patient calm and quiet.

### **Stroke**

Stroke is the 3rd leading cause of death in the United States. Strokes can be one of two types: ischemic– a clot in a blood vessel that restricts or obstructs blood flow to the brain; hemorrhagic- a blood vessel that ruptures and prevents blood flow to the brain. In either case, the brain is deprived of oxygen and tissue starts to die. The longer the stroke goes unrecognized and untreated, the more damage is done.

#### **Signs and Symptoms may include**

- Numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body. The acronym FAST helps in assessing a stroke: F– facial droop, A– Arm drift, S– Speech, T– Time
- Confusion, trouble speaking or understanding
- Trouble seeing in one or both eyes
- Trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- Severe headache with no known cause

#### **Treatment:**

Recognize the signs and symptoms of a stroke, activate EMS, give nothing to drink or eat, and keep the patient calm and quiet. Monitor patient and be prepared to start CPR if necessary.



Jim Kale

## **ELECTRIC POWERED RC SAFETY**

I jumped on the electric powered RC bandwagon early on. My first electric powered RC airplane was built when I was in Germany in 1987. In those days the concept was in its infancy. NICAD, a trade name for Nickel Cadmium batteries were about the only available power source with enough power to make an RC model fly, and even with those, it was a struggle to keep the fairly heavy airplane in the air. Nicad batteries were developed in the 1950 for the then new US Space program to go up in rockets. Soon, however, they began showing up in all sorts of products. In the 1980s they were improved some and called Nickle Metal Hydride

One situation modelers had learned was that the glow fuel engines or gas engines had to be connected to a starting battery and cranked to start and run. Many modelers learned, the hard way (getting fingers chewed up) was that an electric motor could start and run any time an electrical connection was completed either on purpose, or by accident. Also, if fingers accidentally entered the propeller arc and were not immediately removed, the glow engine would slow down and maybe even stop. If fingers enter the propeller arc of an electric motor, it will slow down some but gain power and try to speed back up doing even more damage to the fingers..

Although, Nicads had a higher energy density per cell than most other available sources, they are rather puny when compared to Lithium cells of the current variety. One advantage was that they were more stable (less prone to catch fire) than lithium cells (lithium cells are normally stable if handled properly and serviced properly but are slightly more prone to catching fire. The problem is that many RCers either don't educate themselves on safety precautions, or just disregard them to get a little more power for the flight or get in a few extra flights for the day. In the early years of RC use of lithium cells, unfortunately, some modelers burned their houses down due to carelessness or inattention in the use and care of lithium batteries. The ensuing unattended fires could be devastating for modelers. Any time a lithium battery is dropped on a hard surface, such as concrete, it should be considered TOAST and properly disposed of, even though this can be expensive. Better to buy a new battery than have your model catch fire in flight or the workshop.

Slowly, safety procedures were developed to prevent accidental fires. One of the items to be developed was NOMAX fireproof bags to store the lithium batteries in. NOMAX is a Dupont trademark name for a NON-MELTING NYLON material. If a lithium battery catches fire while in a NOMAX bag, the fire will normally be contained inside the bag, however, the bag material will char and get hot enough to melt synthetic surfaces. Also, it gets hot enough to char fabrics or wood surfaces. So, the NOMAX bags definitely add a measure of protection, but are not the ideal solution for safety.

After I saw my first lithium battery fire at a flying field, I began thinking about safety procedures for the charging, discharging, and storage of lithium batteries. I went to LOWE's and got some ceramic tiles, like you might find lining the walls of a bathroom shower. I glued them together with some industrial strength glue and made-up boxes to store, and charge the lithium batteries in.

The accompanying photos show what I came up with. Ceramic tiles are inexpensive, if you choose the plane-jane tiles, and not the designer tiles. You can glue them together with some high quality industrial epoxy, or silicone rubber glue. I mounted my boxes on some plywood, so as not to shatter them if I sat them down hard on a hard surface. I also found a fool proof way to attach straps on them to enable me to carry them around easily.. See the photos on the next page.

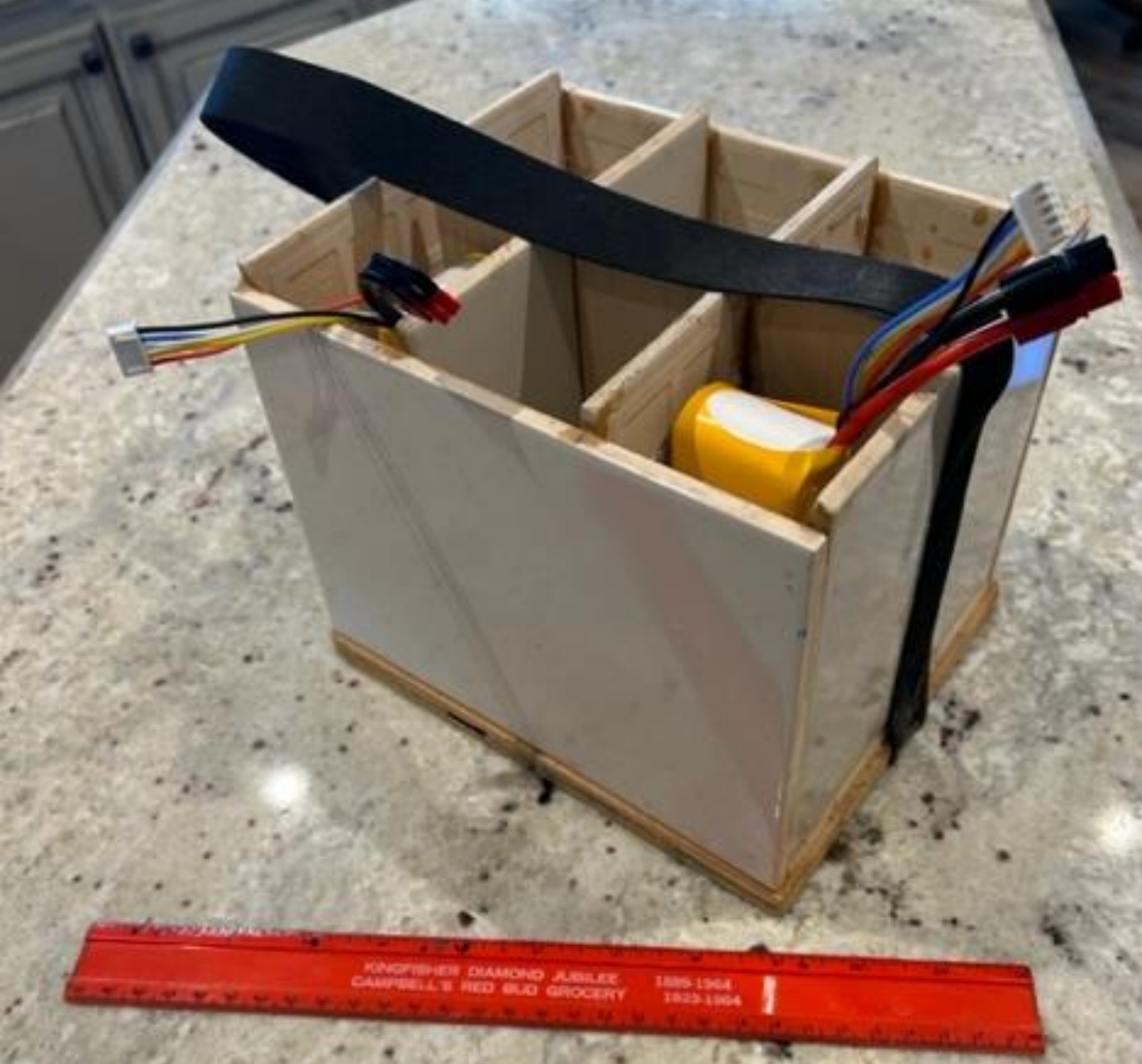




**This Ceramic Tile Box is made of 4 inch by 5 inch tiles that are glued together with silicone glue. The glue is good for temperatures up to 600 degrees F. I think I will stretch some stainless steel wire tightly around it to keep it from falling apart in case a lengthy duration fire could cause the glue to burn and the tiles to fall apart. The bottom tile is sitting on some plywood to make the box less likely to get busted up if I sit it down hard on some concrete. Total cost to make this fire-proof box was less than \$5.00**

**These are 4 cell, 4,000 mah batteries**

**I use these small boxes to transport batteries to and from the flying field, and for charging them. When I store them at home I sit them down on a concrete floor in the garage and not near anything that can burn, such as paper or wood. If a fire were to ignite, there would be lots of smoke but no ensuing house fire.**



**This is a larger box made from 6 inch by 8 inch tiles. It is deeper than the small box on the previous page. The yellow battery is a 4 cell, 5,000 mah battery. The bottom tile is on top of a piece of plywood to prevent breakage if I sit it down too hard on a hard surface. Also, I stapled a strap on the plywood and glued it to the side of the box to facilitate carrying it around. The strap folds down on the side for charging or storage.**

**This particular ceramic tile box will easily hold 6 batteries that or 5 or 6 cells.**

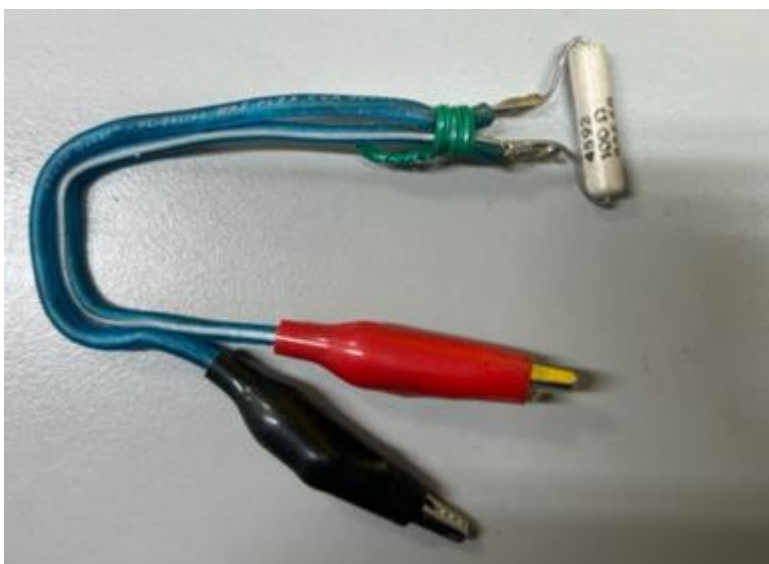
**I also keep this on the concrete garage floor with no combustible materials within a couple of feet of it or over it. In the event of a fire, my garage would get all smoked up and set off the fire alarm, but there would be on other damage. Total cost of materials: about \$10.00.**

**While on the subject of electric flight batteries, or any other types of batteries in general, I would feel REMISS if I did not discuss a safe way to dispose of batteries that are no longer usable.**

**Any time you dispose of used up batteries of any sort you should think of safety. Most of us never give that any thought when we dump our old AA battery cells in the garbage can. However, it does not take much in the way of hot metal to set the trash can in your kitchen or office on fire. Now you really don't want to meet the fire fighters in your area by having a fire in your house. If you want to convince yourself how dangerous the situation can get, just take any old 9 volt battery that no longer has enough voltage to power your battery operated device. Rub a little steel wool over the 2 terminals on top of the battery. The sparks will amaze you. This could be done with almost any type of battery, but it is easiest to demonstrate because the 2 terminals on the 9 volt battery are in close proximity to each other. Even seemingly dead AA battery cells are capable of starting a fire. However, any kind of AAA, AA, C or D cell is quite capable of starting a trash fire, but those type cells have the Positive and Negative cells separated by a good distance. But . . . . . A gum wrapper foil could manage to short the top to the bottom of one of these cells.**

**Then you too, might find an answer to that age old electrical question , , , , , JUST HOW LONG IS A SHORT CIRCUIT . . . . .**

**I ordered some 100 OHM 5 watt resistors on eBay and got some small wire and alligator clips and made up some LITHIUM DISCHARGERS for discharging any lithium batteries before disposing of them in the normal garbage. With consumer cells, like AA cells, just put a small piece of any type of tape over the positive terminal and toss it in the trash. Some magazines have recommended leaving your used lithium cells in a container of salt water for a couple of days. I tested that advice and found that about a month is required to discharge them completely.**



**This a 100 Ohm 5 Watt Resistor with some alligator clips to attached to an RC flight battery. It will take the voltage down to zero on just about any 2S to 4S Lipo battery in 6 hours. Then it will be safe to throw it out with the garbage. Use 200 ohm resistors for 5 or 6 cell Lipos.**

**Be ware though, discharging any lithium cell below 2.8 volts, makes it unusable . . . ITS TOAST**



# **For Sale by Members**

Please list

your Name to be used when contacted by a potential buyer

brief description of the item for sale

the sale price

your contact information

a photo if you have one in .pdf or MS PP format

You must remind me to relist each month

Send this direct to the newsletter editor email: [jimkale@pldi.net](mailto:jimkale@pldi.net)

The subject of your email: WESTSIDE RC NL FOR SALE

As a Senior Citizen, I will do my best, however, I will likely not remember your name on the email. When it is published depends on when I find the email, when I compos the NL, and when I submit the NL to the President. He is the final NL approval authority and he forwards it to the membership.

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## **FOR SALE ITEMS**

## Tax Day Fun Fly

Well, we held the Tax Day Fun Fly this year although it was moved to the 16<sup>th</sup>. The weather forecasters all said that the wind would be blowing gale force on Saturday and more manageable on Sunday. As usual, they got it wrong, the wind only slowed down a little. This did not stop our die-hard members from coming out and getting some flights in. For lunch we enjoyed hot dogs, chips, brownies, and drinks. Although the flying was light, we did get to socialize and enjoy the sunshine. Here are some pictures from the day's activities.



The windsock stayed like this most of the day. The direction did change from time to time.



Mike's family came out to enjoy the day.



Phillip, Kelsey and Daryl enjoying some lunch.



Phillip getting his new aircraft ready for its maiden. It is his own design foam aircraft.



Takeoff for the successful maiden.





Steven getting a flight in with Aaron spotting.



Mike making it look easy flying his helicopter in the wind.