

Lismore Model Flying Club Newsletter

June 2026



INSIDE



- President's update
- Land Acquisition Progress
- New Shed
- Solar Upgrade
- AGM
- eGlider Comp

President's Update

I seem to be following on from last month with another late newsletter. This is our June newsletter coming to you well into July. I am blaming the wet weather....yes, our work at the field has been heavily impacted by both the weather and the breakdown of our contractor's equipment. The seemingly endless rain has added to our workload with a section of our concrete slab needing to be pressure washed to remove the fast-growing mould, moss and everything else that was making the concrete very slippery. In addition to this, the same growth had appeared on our solar panels, and this has also now been cleaned. Unfortunately, most of our roof panels also need cleaning and this task has been added to the maintenance list. Cleaning the solar panels resulted in twice the charging current and this, combined with a very efficient new fridge, has reduced the load on our batteries.

Once again, I would like to thank the Tuesday flyers who assisted with taking down the wood panels supporting the 24V charging outlets inside the shed which allowed for cleaning of some corroded terminals. All 24V outlets are now functional, and these should be your first choice if your charger supports 24V.

In between rain showers, our mowing team has managed to mow every week. Yesterday the cross strip was fully mown along with about 2/3rds of the main strip. Please try to avoid landing or taking off on the northern half of the main strip which remains very spongy and not mown. The car park and most of the area surrounding our runways were also mown.

We are still seeing a lot of mid-week and weekend flying and it is great to see just how well the field drains have helped to keep us operational through an incredibly wet period. Proof of this was also seen with the successful June eGlider competition and further details along with photos are included in this newsletter.

Thank you to the 51 members (as of 10th July) who have renewed or in some cases joined our club for the first time. We finished the year with 65 members, and this is a final reminder that you must be a current financial member of our club, or any affiliated MAAA club, to fly at our facility.



This Sunday, at the eGlider competition, we will open the raffle for the Bucker BU 131B Jungmann model (from the John Morgan collection) shown on the left. The model flies beautifully and is in pristine condition. The raffle will be drawn immediately following the AGM on Sunday 26th July. You do not have to be present to win, and you do not have to be a member of our club. The raffle is for the sole purpose of funding our current solar upgrade

project (see article in this newsletter). Tickets are 1 for \$2, 3 for \$5 and 7 for \$10. You are welcome to direct deposit into the club account with your name as a reference and receipts will be issued. BSB 533 000 Account 10509714.

See you at the field.

Peter Whitely

ylismfc@gmail.com

Land Acquisition Progress

The Council has confirmed that everything is tracking well around our sale contract. The apparent delay is due to the backlog of projects that Council staff are currently working on. Our draft sale contract is now with the Council legal team, and we are awaiting a further update.

On behalf of the club, our committee continues to do everything possible to preserve club funds pending advice as to the final fees payable for legal services, stamp duty, surveyor and any associated Council fees. Once the final fee structure is known, we can determine the level of grant/loan that we need to secure to purchase a tractor for slashing for additional field maintenance.

Please think about what you might like to see to celebrate our land ownership once the contract has been signed. Perhaps an updated club logo, signage, club hats, polo shirts? Feel free to send any ideas through to ylismfc@gmail.com

New Shed

We have a couple of attempted starts to this project which have been delayed or affected by both wet weather and the breakdown of contractors equipment. The container has now been relocated to its new position, many coral trees removed, drains dug and leveling of the new base for the shed has started. Unfortunately it is at this point, that the hired digger developed a hydraulic leak and has been sent to Ongmac for repair. One full day is need to complete the earthworks and this is now planned for Monday 27th July, immediately after our Annual General Meeting. The cost for this phase of the project remain within the agreed budget.

Solar Upgrade



I know it seems like only yesterday, however our current solar system has been in use for four years. Countless flight packs have been charged, the fridge has run constantly and hot water for tea and coffee has been available whenever the shed roller door is up. This has all been possible by having 4 X 250W panels feeding a 24V 100aH lithium battery pack. The existing panels (before cleaning) are shown in the photo on the left. We now have the opportunity to double our solar capacity thanks to another donation of panels and mounting rails. The committee agreed to expenditure of approximately \$500 for new connectors, rail mounts, fuses etc. to complete the project, noting that the expenditure will be offset by the proceeds of the Bucker BU 131B Jungmann model raffle and the BBQ at the AGM. The solar upgrade is expected to be completed before the AGM, and a future project will increase

the lithium battery storage capacity.

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held on Sunday 26th July and will include Nigel's fun fly event combined with a club BBQ. The day will also see the drawing of the raffle for the Bucker BU 131B Jungmann model with all funds raised contributing to the solar upgrade project.

The AGM will be preceded by a brief General Meeting to update all members on current club activities. Our AGM is very important to the ongoing running of the club. I am somewhat concerned that several current committee members have multiple roles. It would be great to see some new members wanting to join the committee and take on an executive role, such as Treasurer or Secretary. So far most of our committee have indicated that they are prepared to stand again for another 12 months and I too am happy to put my hand up for President, but would also be supportive of helping transition this position to another member if anyone is interested. Our club needs committee members who are prepared to step up and own a range of actions and we are in the unfortunate situation where several committee members have had to take on multiple roles. If you would like to chat about any of the committee positions, please feel free to call or email me for further information.

The AGM will be followed by Nigel's fun fly event. I encourage everyone to have a go at the fun manoeuvres that have been planned . I am sure the range of prizes will justify your attendance!

Each participant will perform a series of manoeuvres (limbo, touch and go, throttle cut and spot landing etc, etc,) with Ben offering to score each flight and help with the running of the event.

eGlider Competition

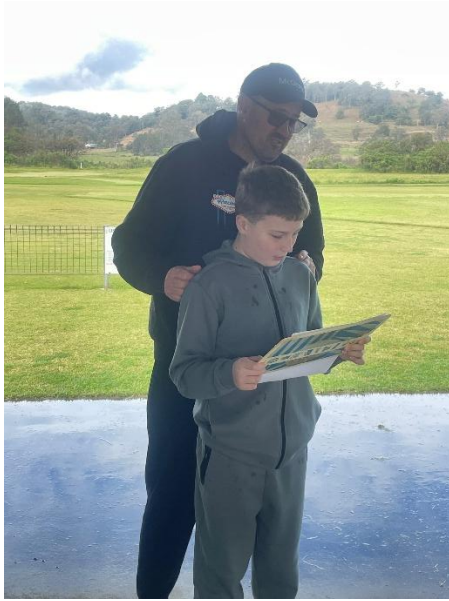


Sunday 28th June started with ominous clouds and the imminent threat of rain. My drive to the club saw drenching rain at Alstonville which turned into drizzle and fog by the time I reached the field. Several members were considering whether the competition would go ahead when the fog miraculously lifted and the skies cleared. Nigel said the comp was on and everyone was ready for a round one start just after the planned 10am kick off.

I setup the BBQ and the first four rounds went off without any issues. In fact, conditions produced very close finishes with most competitors easily making their five-minute flight times.







The second round saw the timing gear fail during one of the flights with Scott running to the car to find his back up timer and the round was completed successfully. Results are not published here, however the competition is heating up as results for each round continue to be aggregated towards a final result later in the year. The club will now be supporting a range of trophies along with a BBQ for the presentation. Future competition dates along with the proposed final round will be announced to all members via email.

I do not have a "Seen at the Field" section for this newsletter. All photos and articles are always welcomed. I do know that several additional Mini Stick models will be taking to the skies soon as a result of the interest in Ben and Howard's models and several new control line models are also nearing completion. We will mow the control line circle as soon as the ground dries out enough to get the mowers back onto this area.

Please try to attend our AGM. We will keep the meeting as brief as possible to allow plenty of time for the fun fly and the BBQ.

See you at the field,

Peter Whitely
President – Lismore model Flying Club