

# ROTORUA MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB (INC)

OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

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AOTEAROA  
GAMING  
TRUST



# Welcome to the September 2025 newsletter

## BEYOND THE BLACK STUMP

Greetings from a warm sunny Brisbane. It's 8am not a cloud in the sky and already 22 deg as we sit on the balcony overlooking the beach. In fact perfect flying conditions! More than can be said for conditions back home.

A couple of weeks ago I went out to The QANTAS Founders Museum at Longreach. 1,200Km from Brisbane. After a two day drive through some interesting country including a look at the Black Stump at Blackall. The stump is actually an old tree stump where in 1887 the Surveyor General set up an Astro station and made astronomical observations to establish latitude and longitude. The stump was then used as a reference point for a lot of the original surveys in Queensland. Anything west of the Black Stump became known as Beyond the Black Stump. (Longreach is another 300km beyond).

Starting at 8 am a four hour guided tour included a visit to the original hangar built in 1921 where a DH50 and DH9 were crawled over also a jig they made for making laminated propellers. This locked in the pitch, thickness and wash out. Ready for final hand shaping and finishing.

Next it was on through the Connie, DC3 Catalina, 707 and 747 including a walk out on the wing of the 707 and 747. Fantastic! Luckily they weren't too busy and there were only two others in the group. They take up to eight.

After lunch you were free to wander through the indoor exhibits. I did so until 3pm then it was off to the Power House museum where the original town electricity generation plant has been set up as a museum. Lots of interesting old stuff. Gas engines, generators and control gear that looks like it all came out of the pre transistor single channel age.

After a beer and early dinner at the RSL it was back to the Founders Museum again for the Luminescent Longreach Show where the history of Qantas is projected on the side of the 747. This was way better than expected and very well produced.

A fantastic day well worth spending the kids inheritance on!



Fun at Longreach





The evening light up show



On the way back to Brisbane I stopped at Oakey to refuel and discovered there was an Army Aviation Museum at the local airport so this had to be investigated.



The Army Aviation Museum at Oakey





## Tokoroa Jet Meet 27 & 28 September

Some of the gang visited the Tokoroa Jet meeting and thanks to Andrew here are a few pix of some of the models.



F86 Sabre



Aircraft inline waiting to fly



Hawker Hunter

Rebel





Tim is continuing his travels in Europe and reports he has recently been up in Scotland and France.

I hear we might have a new member young Alex who impressed the Club Captain with his impressive flying of his little P51 Mustang. Well done Alex.

He has apparently has inherited some old diesel engines from his grandfather. Can't wait to get back to see what they are.

### **TRACKING MODEL FLIGHTS**

Last month I mentioned that some of the guys on the Mode Zero forum had been playing round using old phones as GPS trackers then exporting the data to excel and playing about. Andy also has a tracker he's tried and we showed his flight path in a previous newsletter.

To fill in a bit of time I down loaded an app called GPS logger. After fiddling about the need to see what it would do was too much so it was down to the bus stop right outside the apartment block and off on a bus ride to collect some data. Sure enough it records latitude and longitude and height every second. Two files are produced showing the distance traveled and average speed as well as the raw data. Another file shows the route on google earth.

By selecting a couple of data points we can get a north / south and east /west change ie two sides of a triangle in minutes of arc. Some high school maths and excel came up with the same answers.

I've a few old phones at home so will have to put one in a model and give it ago.

The things one does when you don't have your shed and models!

That's it for this month. Lets hope the weather improves and we have some flying to report on next month.

A bigger  
bench  
required?





## FOR SALE

The Club has a number of small items for sale like hinges and other small items. Also a couple of gliders and an aerobatic model.

Contact any Committee member for details.

### Beginners model for sale

#### Arising Star

- Complete with servos and ASP 46
- Test flown and ready to fly just requires a receiver and battery pack.
- Another good beginners model.
- Has had a bit of use but has plenty of life left



If you are interested in this model we can arrange a buddy box trial flight.

Contact John on 020 4118 5597

## COMING EVENTS

November	NDC Vintage Precision
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