

Hi Fellas, welcome to 2009.

I am writing this as the memorial service for the Victorian bush fire victims is on TV. This has to be the worst Victorian disaster in my 72 years on this earth and I hope never to be witness to another.

Our web master, Trevor Boundy, was one of the lucky, and I'm sure well prepared, victims. He lost his fences, pump, and half of his back paddock in the Gippsland fires but managed to stop it before it reached his house. Three other houses in his street were not so lucky.

Our opening comp for the year was the ROY ROBINSON Memorial Trophy held at P&DARCS field and I am pleased to say the best turn-up of flyers for many years, with 17 entries in each event. There was very calm weather until about lunch time then it blew a little, but still flyable.

What was so pleasing was the re-appearance of Greg Mitchell and Alan Male from Warragul after many years out of the old timers and the re-location back to the southern states of Ted Hall, also after many years away. Welcome back fellas, we are pleased to have you back flying with the old farts.

We were also very pleased to see Peter Bennett, Barry Barton, Norm Campbell and Danny Missen back flying after a short lay-off for various personal reasons.

Someone said to me "did you have a good day?". My reply was, "as a competitor I had a rotten day, nothing seemed to go right, but as a contest director I went home on a great high". I think it was a successful and terrific day because when all is said and done, a contest needs to have competitors to succeed.

As you already know, Swamps was canceled due to predicted strong winds. Boy did it blow.

Our next comp is at Haddon via Ballarat on the 21st & 22nd March, so lets all turn up and make it as good a weekend as was the Roy Rob.

See you all there, Brian Laughton, President.