

ROTORUA MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB (INC)

April 2024 NEWSLETTER

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AOTEAROA
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Rotorua Trust
MŌ TĀTAU KATOĀ



Welcome to the April 2024 newsletter

AGM

The AGM was held on March 13 with a small turnout. The existing committee was re-re-elected as there were no other nominations. Yes that's right 3rd yr running.

The Treasurers report showed the Clubs finances are in a sound position despite a 35% increase in insurance costs. For the third year running subscriptions remain unchanged. A remarkable achievement given the rate of inflation over the last two years. Membership renewal accounts have been sent to all members.

More Wings Badge Achievements

Congratulations to Neal, Andy, Graham and Tessa.

Neal now has his FPV endorsement to his multi rotor badge.

Andy has achieved his rotor wings badge.

Tessa is now an official observer and Graham passed his helicopter test.

Well done all!

On the flying scene there has once again been plenty of activity.

Great to see Dave Monty back.

We have had some excellent flying conditions lately and two Tomboy fliers have started recording times for the international event. (see below)

Neal has been having lots of fun flying his Huey chopper lately. There is an excellent video of him flying on the clubs Facebook page. Well worth a look.

Andy has his Hawker Sea Fury back in the air after some repairs. Its now flying better than ever and looks fantastic.



Andy with the Sea Fury
after getting back in the air

ANOTHER NEW MODEL

Graham has recently acquired an EXTRA 300. Test flown on the 1st in perfect conditions. Several flights followed with some very polished aerobatics demonstrated.



And Who is this at the Wanaka Airshow



Our very own Dave checking out Ivan Krippner's Pitts Special. Originally built by Ray Phillipot this aircraft is now owned by Ivan (left) who flew an aerobatic display with it at the show. Ivan was into R/C flying in an earlier life with the Hamilton MAC. Also in the picture is fellow HMAC club member Grant Finlay.

Contributions to this esteemed publication are always welcome. Otherwise we end up with endless tales about vintage models and Arduino projects. (All good stuff of course). Which reminds me Andrew M^c has almost refurbished his Tomboy complete with a Frog 100. (The rumor mill has it Ray is looking at building a 35cc size one however he has been offered a Mills 75 so watch this space). The engine has been degumed and running again. When this gets airborne this will be the first time in over 50 years a Frog engine has been in the air in Rotorua possibly in NZ!

International Tomboy Event On Again This Year

L'AQUILONE SAM 2001

TOMBOY RALLY INTERNATIONAL POSTAL CONTEST

01/07/2023 - 30/06/2024

We wish to present this competition to all the lovers of this nice model with the only aim of having fun in a postal contest which is organized to provide some fun flying together or at the same time as are all postal contests. The Tomboy Rally wants to prove the performance of this model along with the ability of the builder and pilot, without reaching the peak agonism of usual contests and only wishing to fly the model having fun in a relaxed manner. After having carried out some tests we have decided to admit the use of i.c. engines and electric motors trying to reduce the gap between them.

Model

- The **36" or 44"** wing span (as per plan Aeromodeller) and **48"** (as per Boddington plan or 36" scaled up) models are admitted:

- Models may be fitted with floats as per plan (scaled-up for 48" version);
- no minimum weight;
- reinforcement or lightening of the structure with respect of the basic outline of the original model are admitted;
- materials to be used are those found on the plan;
- plastic covering in place of tissue, silk or other is admitted.
- More than one person can use same model;
- Same model can flight in L.G. or float version;
- Lone fliers can self launch on time

Engine/motors

I.c. engines and electric motors are admitted within the following limits:

36"-44" WINGSPAN

I.C. Engines:

- Any engine with 1 cc. maximum displacement;
- Fuel tank : 3 cc.
- R/C carburettor is admitted.

Electric Motors:

- Any electric motor is admitted with direct drive
- The engine cannot be stopped and started again: the motor must run continually without interruptions till the end of the battery charge or competitor's decision;
- no folding prop is admitted: if a folding prop is used the blades must be held open with a rubber band;
- freely assembled admitted batteries:
- **500 Mah 2 cell LiPo**
- separated batteries pack for Rx alimentation is allowed

48" WINGSPAN

I.C. Engines:

- **Any engine with 2,5 cc. maximum displacement;**
- **Fuel tank : 6 cc.**
- R/C carburettor is admitted.

Electric Motors:

- Any electric motor is admitted with direct drive

- The engine cannot be stopped and started again: the motor must run continually without interruptions till the end of the battery charge or competitor's decision;
- no folding prop is admitted: if a folding prop is used the blades must be held open with a rubber band;
- freely assembled admitted batteries:
- **500 Mah 3 cell LiPo**
- separated batteries pack for Rx alimentation is allowed

Flights and results

- Each competitor may fly as many flights as wished during the admitted period but only the best flight will be considered for the final result.
- Hand launches are admitted.
- The flight time start when the model is released or takes off. The flight time ends when the model lands or hits a fixed obstacle. In case the model flies out of sight the timekeeper will time for 10 seconds after losing sight of the model. Timing will continue if model is seen again or stopped after 10" deducting this time from the total time of the flight.

Awards :

A diploma for all competitors and prizes for the first three in each version rank. Special prize for best flight in float version.

Results

Results, address, photos and technical specification about model must be forwarded to the Organization within **the 15th July 2024** to Curzio Santoni (cusanton@tin.it).
 . Many pleasant flights and happy landings to ALL. !!!

SPECIAL PRIZE VIC SMEED

SAM 2001 have scheduled an extra Diploma that will be awarded to the best flight in Tomboy floatplane version (**36",44" or 48"**) taking off from water. The Editor will send to the winner a Diploma signed By SAM 2001 President and a bottle of special Italian Wine to drink to Vic Smeed! Good ROW and flight

SPECIAL PRIZE DAVID BECKER

The 2012 was the 5th edition of SAM 2001 Tomboy Rally and we have scheduled a special prize for the three best flights obtained with 36" Tomboy F/F. Only engines diesel max 0.75 c.c. shall be used. The other rules are the same for 36" or 44" wingspan type. It is possible to use a R/C Tomboy, however, being this a free-flight contest, the time must be stopped when transmitter is used, since the aircraft model should fly freely from any control from the ground.
 Good thermals

Last year three members competed in this event and achieved 8th, 11th and 12th place. It's a very simple event. Make as many flights as you like whenever you like before 30/6/24 and submit your best time.

Snapped by Andrew M^c



Button Man

ANOTHER ARDUINO PROJECT

Sometimes when setting up servos and pushrods or if you just want to check a servo it can be a pain in the neck hooking up a receiver and battery pack and find a transmitter. Over the years several portable servo drivers have been constructed using transistor multi vibrator circuits, the famous 555 timer ic and various other integrated circuits.

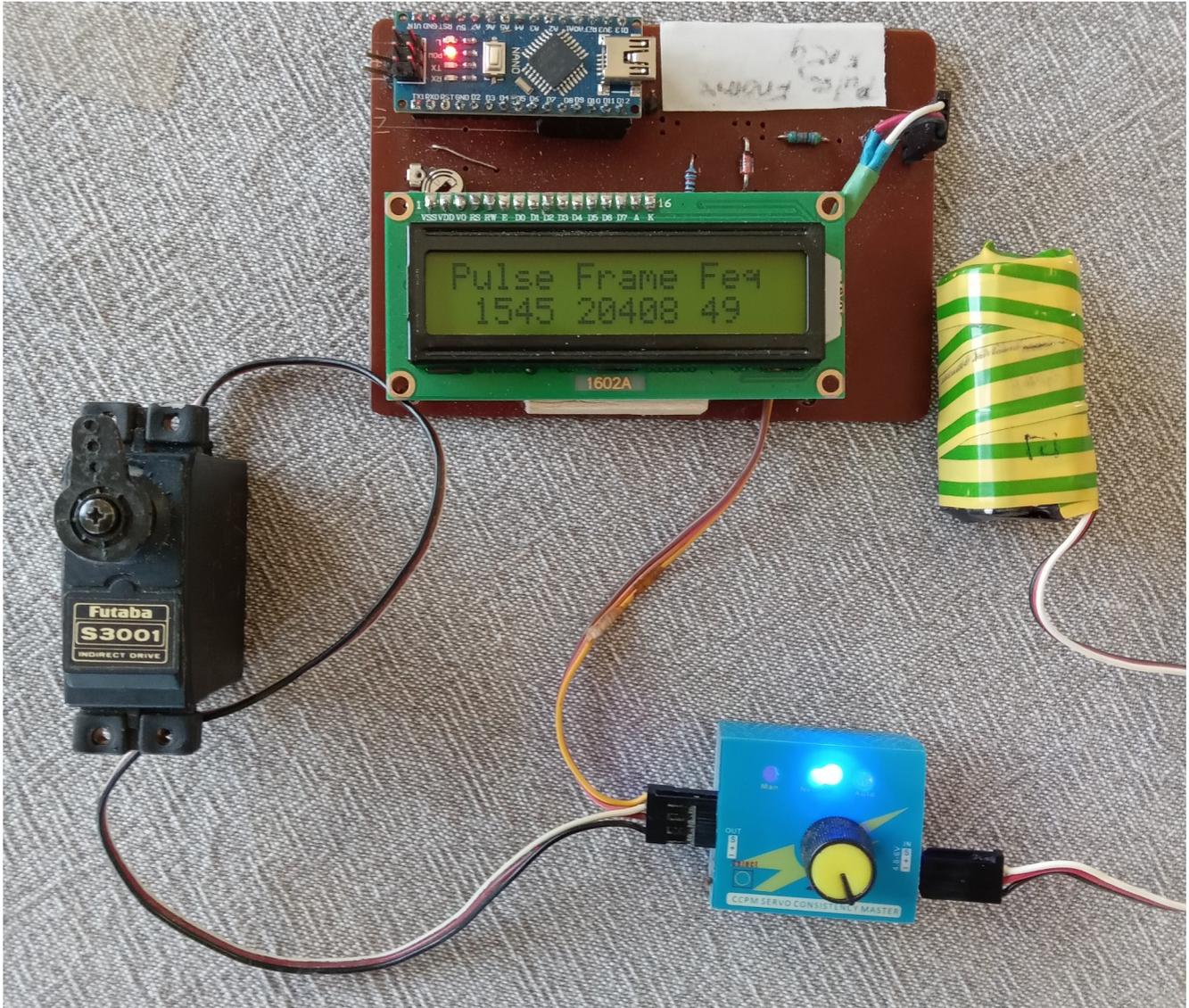
For about \$12 you can buy a servo tester from almost any good model shop so you don't have to make one.

There is one problem with the one I have is that when the neutral setting is selected it measures about 1550 microseconds



way off the standard 1500 microsecond centre pulse of any half decent transmitter.

Here we see the servo tester set to its neutral setting and producing a 1545 us signal

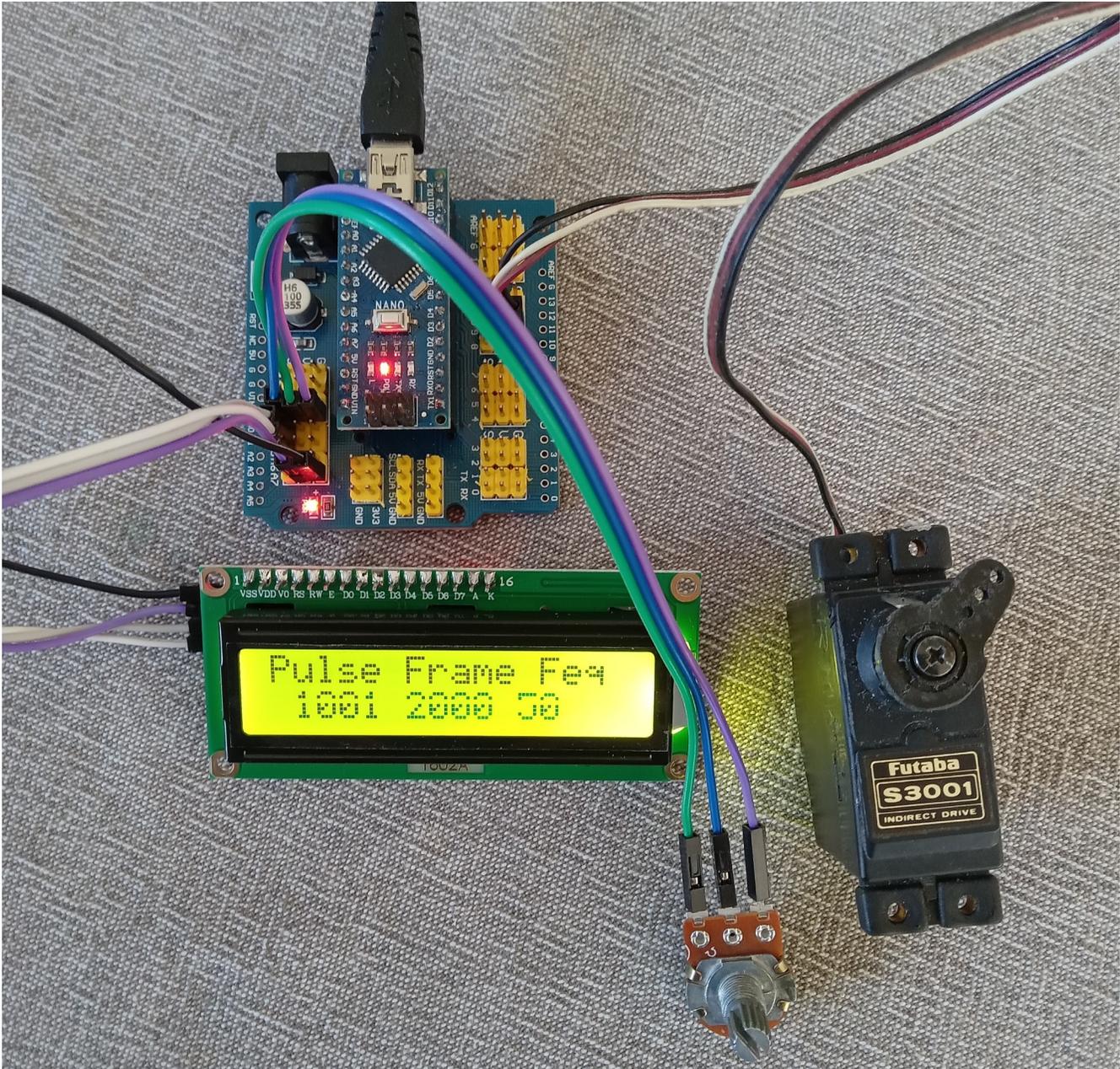


This isn't the end of the world. However it is equal to 10 clicks of trim on the transmitter or a trim setting of 44!. So its pretty useless for setting up neutral control surfaces.

What if we could have a servo tester with a display showing the pulse length. Well we can. Filling in time on a couple of recent wet days with some spare Arduino parts soon

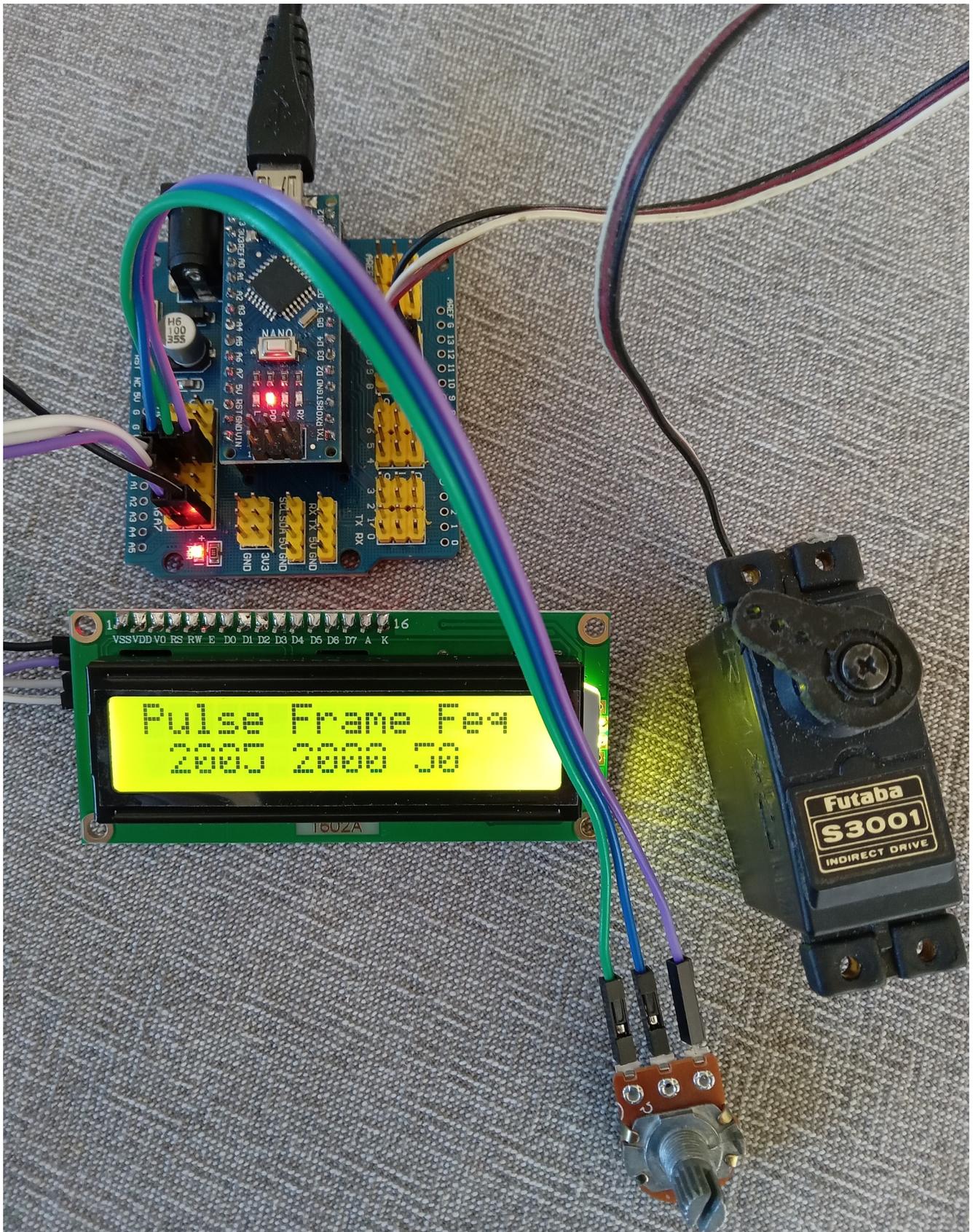
had a prototype working.

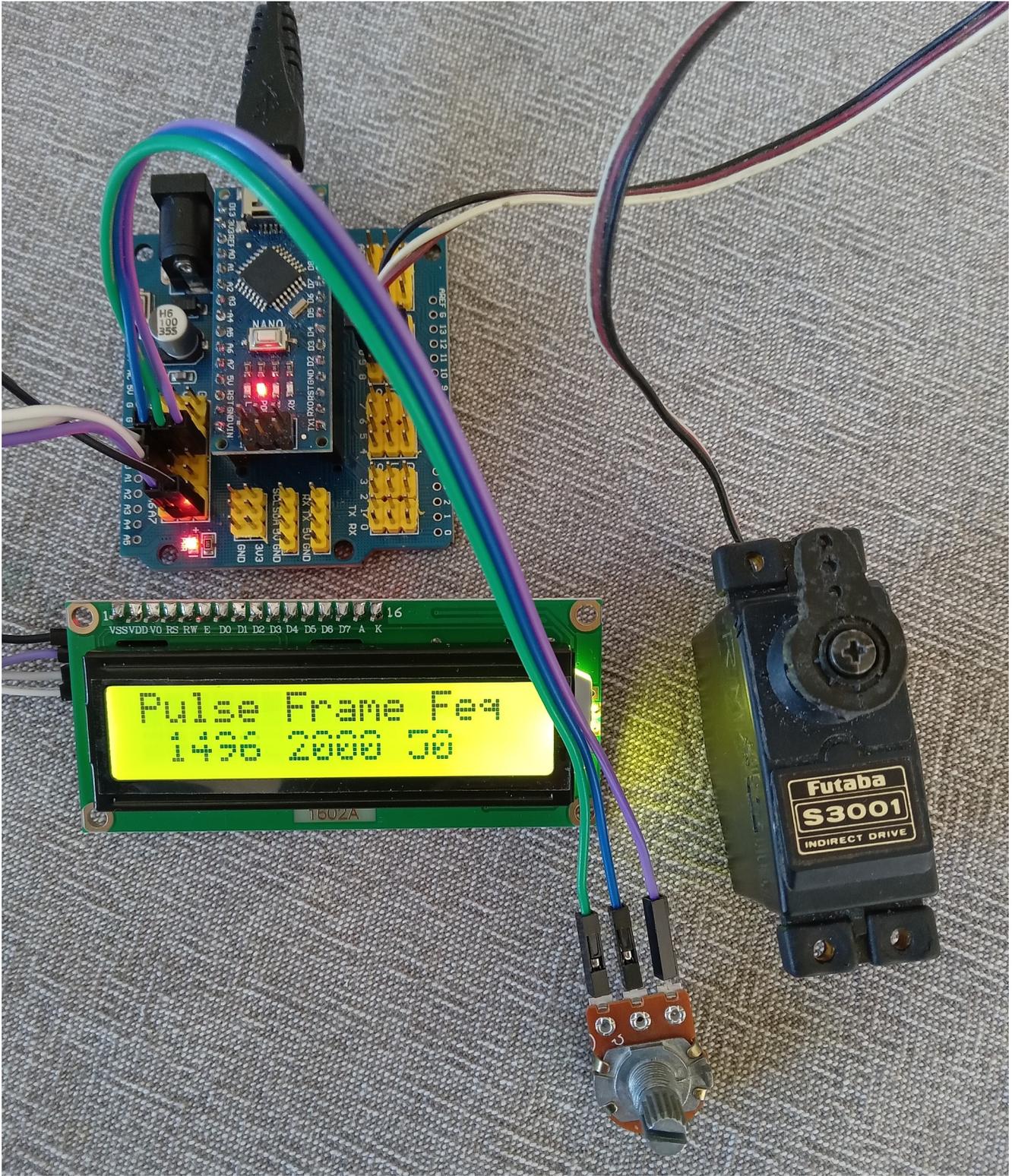
If anyone wants the code just send me an email.



Servo at + 45 deg at 1000us and a 20000us frame rate

Servo at - 45 deg with 2000us pulse





Servo almost centered at 1496us
That's it for another month.

FOR SALE

Thanks to several generous donations to the Club we have a couple of 46 size beginners models for sale. These are complete with servos have been set up test flown and only require a receiver and battery pack. We also have a slightly smaller electric one which needs some setting up and a new set of servos is advised.

MODELS FOR SALE

The Club has two beginners models for sale

Both models have been restored to near new condition and make excellent beginners models.

- **Skyraider** complete with ASP46 and servos.
- All set up and test flown. Just install your receiver and go flying
- A good buy for a beginner or someone wanting a straight forward tidy model





- **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 either of these models we can arrange a buddy box trial flight.

Contact John on 020 4118 5597



Electric model for sale requires some setting up and we recommend a new set of servos although we have flown it as is.

There are also a couple of other models, Futaba servos and Futaba 40Mhz receivers
Various fittings and nuts and bolts for sale.

For more details on any of this gear contact
Any Committee Member

COMING EVENTS

March	NDC Vintage Duration
April	NDC Precision
May	Class R eRES2M 2m soaring
June 16	Tauranga Auction