Face Bearings for an Air X Marine Wind Machine

Bearings: 6203-2RS and a 6203-Z.

My Air X Marine, after 3 years in service, stopped turning. Not the yoke, that was fine, the propeller. It would turn by hand, not easily, but the thing remained static in the wind.

I assumed, correctly, that the face bearings were shot. The rear one was seen to be fine but the front one was cactus. Water ingress it seemed.

Before going further, there is a good YouTube thing on this. Read it.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzUwj3q6vKg

But, the machine the youtube man pulled apart was a brand new one and mine had been in the weather for three years and spinning most of the time. Well not spinning lately. So I had some minor obstacles to overcome.

No problem removing the blades. But I could not easily remove the blade hub from it's shaft. I tried timber wedges between the hub and the face but it seemed I would soon damage the paintwork if I kept this up. Fortunately I have a small 3 leg puller and this did the job easily.

I then removed the face plate from the main housing and the plate was left attached to the housing by 3 blue wires. I chose to leave these wires attached as I envisaged potential damage to the circuit board by separating the pieces.

I was then very careful working on the face plate (bearing housing) so as not to pull the wires. It was not a problem.

I supported the face plate with the shaft up on two 30mm X 30mm pieces of wood. Then knocked out the shaft and magnet head. Took quite a blow. A powerful magnet and the shaft was not too tight into the bearings.

The bearings are then easily removed and replaced with the new ones using the gel that came with the original supply of the unit. This gel was also used on all other fastenings.

Reassembly was straight forward.

The bearings were replaced with a 6203-2RS at the front and a 6203-Z at the rear. Very cheap at A$14 for the pair! And that was the total cost to do the job. Success!