



# HOLDFAST BUZZ

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### Membership Fees Reminder

Just a reminder that your annual membership fees should have been paid by June 30th. You are not permitted to fly unless you have paid your fees for 2015-16.

### HMAC Annual General Meeting

The HMAC Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday August 7th at the Clubrooms, commencing at 8:00 pm. Please attend and support your Club. Election of the new Committee will take place and supper will be provided following the meeting. More details on p. 4



On Sunday July 19, the Scale Society of SA visited the HMAC Flying Field and put on a great display of some scale models. It was a perfect day for flying and the good weather attracted quite a few visitors, as evidenced by the sellout at the BBQ!

The HMAC newsletter is your vehicle for sharing information, experiences, building projects, etc with your fellow members. If you have photos of your latest model, a construction in progress or handy tip you'd like to share, please send it to Geoff at [buzz@holdfastmac.asn.au](mailto:buzz@holdfastmac.asn.au) for inclusion in a future edition of BUZZ.



Kingsley Neumann

*"... We have had a better than normal rate of renewals for 2015-2016 and we are getting a steady number of quite serious enquiries from potential new Members ..."*

## From the President

It was a pleasure to host the SA Scale Society at HMAc on Sunday 19th July thanks to a perfect sunny Sunday. Usually the Scale Society visits happen to coincide with very poor weather. A number of beautiful models were demonstrated by some very competent pilots. The Scale Society has been affected by some of the fine ARF kits that are now available, but in typical fashion, extra scale details are commonly added. Of course there were some original scratch built models too, not the least of which was the dainty Farman Moustique built by our own Merv Harris. It is Merv's 90th project!

I was pleased to see that the visitors respected our HMAc training session, as requested. Flying Training seems to occupy my mind a lot lately. It is very important that we offer a good system to our newer Members. To that end the Club has purchased two Spektrum DX6 transmitters from our friends at Model Flight. Instructors have had the opportunity to learn the intricacies of these radios in conjunction with the latest training model planes. The Club is hoping to build on this knowledge and improve our training product even more. We now have two serviceable high wing electric trainers and will soon have a third low wing aerobatic trainer.

An important aspect of learning to fly RC is for the student to really come to grips with the typical modern computer radio. We tend to forget that newcomers to the hobby need to learn many new terms and jargon related to the functionality of modern radios. I hope to be able to announce a radio workshop soon to teach this in a classroom situation instead of trying to pick it up on a Sunday morning.

A new Instructor Course will be conducted at our field on Saturday August 15th. There will be more visitors and some flight testing on that day. HMAc has two candidates for the course, Luke Szarek and Shawn Jones. These two Members have already been practicing their abilities under supervision. I am sure that they will acquit themselves admirably.

It is pleasing to note that our Membership numbers appear to be rising. We have had a better than normal rate of renewals for 2015-2016 and we are getting a steady number of quite serious enquiries from potential new Members. The Committee is working on some new material to be handed out to these persons. We rely heavily on the goodwill of our volunteer Instructors and Assistant Instructors. That first contact, over the fence is very important. If anyone wants to get involved in this aspect of the hobby please step forward.

The Working Bee is getting closer. The Committee has identified a number of tasks to be attended too. We won't do it while the weather has the potential to make it difficult, but a call will be made soon.

The Annual General Meeting is almost upon us. There will be the usual reports to consider and elections to various positions. I will not be eligible for re-election as Club President having reached the end of five years continuously in the position. All positions will be declared vacant and nominations are called for. A supper will be served at the end of the meeting.

*Kingsley Neumann*



## Have You Picked Up Your Membership Card?

After you have paid for your annual membership, your new membership card will be available for pickup in the "pigeon holes" in the old clubhouse. Bronze Wings holders will be automatically upgraded to Silver Wings during this renewal period, so these will also be included with your membership card. Be sure to pick up your card (and wings if applicable) at your earliest convenience.



### Heli Pilots Take Note!

Check out the "Buy & Sell" page on our website for a range of heli items for sale.

## Vintage Model Flies - and Dies! - by John Jefferson



At last, the pseudo 1930'ish vintage model was ready for its maiden flight. All control movements were set to what I considered appropriate, then lesser rates set up on the aileron and elevator dual rate switches just in case my settings were too twitchy. A little bit of exponential on the ailerons (15%) and elevator (10%) were dialled in. I also dialled in 30% differential on the ailerons to counteract any adverse yaw. The centre of gravity was set at one third of the mean aerodynamic chord, a safe starting point; this was achieved simply by placing the 3700 mA LiPo battery in the required position.

The day of the maiden flight turned out to be ideal, a gentle northerly breeze straight down the strip. I was ready, the model was ready. Transmitter fully charged, lipo flight battery fully charged and balanced, range check satisfactory, all control surfaces moving in the correct direction. Taxi out to the middle of the strip, line up and go. A little rudder input to keep it straight, fast acceleration and airborne with a touch of up elevator. In the air it was very responsive; in fact the ailerons were too responsive so I switched to their low rates – much better. The elevator was spot on for my liking after a couple of clicks of down trim.

After a few circuits at what I considered a safe height (two mistakes high) I decided to check out the stall characteristics. When it was on the far (eastern) side of the field I pulled up the nose and cut the throttle. So far so good, speed washed off, nose dropped gently and started mushing down; it looked like a benign stall. Suddenly the left wing dropped and the model snapped into a spiral dive. I tried to recover but there was no response. Although there was ample height to pull out of the dive, it continued downwards despite my efforts. Crunch! Not the landing I wanted. Oh well, go out and pick up the pieces.



*"...The good thing about losing a model is that it gives you an opportunity to make another one. I'm already starting to get balsa bashing withdrawal symptoms, ..."*

When I came home with the remnants I undertook a post mortem. The transmitter was holding its charge, so I discounted that as a contributing factor to the incident. The LiPo battery also showed it was about 70% charged and the balance between the cells was even. The receiver was brand new and operated as expected during the range check; and there was no obvious damage to it. The servos all worked; there was no evidence of jamming or stripped gears. The motor still turned freely with no evidence of damage.

All the wires on the speed controller, receiver, servos and battery appeared to be properly connected. The elevator and rudder control runs between their respective servos and control horns were wood dowelling with heavy gauge wire ends so they shouldn't have flexed under load; indeed, the snap occurred at minimum speed so the load would have been minimum also. I was at a loss to work out what happened. It flew very well; there were no obvious vices to its handling at flying speed. Maybe it was a design fault notwithstanding a simple low wing layout. Perhaps I had a temporary loss of connection between transmitter and receiver, who knows?



The good thing about losing a model is that it gives you an opportunity to make another one. I'm already starting to get balsa bashing withdrawal symptoms, so I'll do some research and come up with another design for the next project.



### Visit Us on Facebook



For up to date news and general gossip about what's happening at our Club, visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/holdfastmodelaeroclub](http://www.facebook.com/holdfastmodelaeroclub). If you have a Facebook account you can also comment on the posts and submit your own items and photos.

## Annual General Meeting

As you are probably aware, the 2015 Annual General Meeting will be held at the Flying Field Clubrooms on Friday August 7th 2015 at 8.00 PM. Members are encouraged to attend, as there will be some changes being proposed to our Constitution. A new Committee will be voted in, and this is your opportunity to participate in the running of the Club by nominating as a Committee Member.

### AGENDA

1. Opening & Welcome to New Members and Visitors.
2. Apologies.
3. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
4. Business arising from the Minutes.
5. President's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. General Business.
  - 7.1 Proposed changes to the constitution and By Laws to be voted on at the September General Meeting.
8. Election of Officers
  - 8.1 Temporary Chairman
  - 8.2 President
  - 8.3 Vice President
  - 8.4 Secretary
  - 8.5 Treasurer
  - 8.6 Assistant Treasurer (may be appointed)
  - 8.7 Committee persons (at least four required prefer five)
  - 8.8 Public Officer
  - 8.9 Auditor
9. Close & Supper

We look forward to seeing you there



### Retirement of holdfastmac.com.au

We trust that everyone is now comfortable with the use of our domain name, **holdfastmac.asn.au**. Consequently, we will soon be retiring the use of the domain name **holdfastmac.com.au** for website and email addresses. This means that you can only access the HMAC website using the .asn.au suffix once web hosting for the old domain name is cancelled. Likewise, you must use the email addresses ending in .asn.au when contacting the executive committee members, e.g. [president@holdfastmac.asn.au](mailto:president@holdfastmac.asn.au).

Note that you can also access the website's home page as [hmac.asn.au](http://hmac.asn.au), which saves a few keystrokes. This does not apply to email addresses, however, which must use the full domain name as shown in the example above.



## Proposed Changes to Club By-Laws and Constitution

### (a) BY-LAWS

The Committee has been working on changes to our By-Laws to keep them current in respect of General Safety and Flying Standards.

Our landlord, DEWNR, has advised that they have authority to close their parks (and hence the HMAC field) on days of extreme fire danger. To that end we are proposing the addition of a Fire Safety clause to comply with DEWNR requirements. The wording of the proposed change is as follows:

#### **Fire Safety**

*There is a potential for fires to be started by crashed model aircraft. Members should take extreme care at all times and especially during the fire danger season. On days of extreme fire danger the O'Halloran Hill Recreation Park, including the HMAC field, may be closed. Access to the field is prohibited when the "Field Closed" sign is displayed on the gate.*

In regard to Flying Standards, the MAAA has introduced a new Silver Wings category which came into effect on July 1st. It is proposed that additions to Section 6 of the Club By-Laws will align our Flying Standards with those of the MAAA. References to Wings Standards will be expanded to include Silver Wings.

### (b) CONSTITUTION

We were excited to hear that the National Sporting Organisation (NSO) recently recognised aero modelling as a sport. This has a significant impact on our ability to seek grants from bodies such as the Department of Recreation and Sport. To reinforce this recognition, it is proposed that the Objects of the Club be expanded to reflect the sporting nature of aero modelling and flying.

The proposed revised wording in the Constitution is as follows:

#### **2. OBJECTS**

- 2.1 *To promote, host and advocate for the recreational and sporting activities associated with aero modelling in South Australia.*
- 2.2 *To provide a safe and enjoyable environment in which people of all ages can participate in model aircraft construction and competitive and recreational flying.*
- 2.3 *To affiliate and otherwise liaise with the state sporting organisation for aero modelling, Model Aero Sport South Australia Inc (MASA) and, in turn, the National Sporting Organisation for aero modelling, the Model Aeronautical Association of Australia (MAAA) to further these objects.*
- 2.4 *To hold and manage real and personal property in any way consistent with the above objects.*

A full description of the proposed changes to both the Constitution and By-Laws can be downloaded from the HMAC website:

[www.holdfastmac.asn.au/rule-changes/](http://www.holdfastmac.asn.au/rule-changes/)

**These proposed changes will be put up for discussion and formal approval at the September General Meeting**





## HOLDFAST MODEL AERO CLUB

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Newcomers to R/C modelling are catered for by setting aside every Sunday morning from 10 am when qualified instructors will teach all aspects required for the safe operation of the model. During the training period no other models are allowed to fly, ensuring the least possible distractions to the student.

## Pylon & Combat Competition Results - July 5, 2015

### Electric class pylon

Bob McEwin (HMAC) 91  
Ian Cole (HMAC) 77

### Standard class pylon

John Jefferson (HMAC) 76  
Ian Cole (HMAC) 65  
Peter Oliphant (HMAC) 45  
Les Mephram (HMAC) 34  
James York (Noarlunga) 18

### Open class pylon

Tom Jacobsen (Noarlunga) 100  
Peter Robertson (HMAC) 99  
Vin Pike (HMAC) 92  
Graham Paterson (HMAC) 80  
Finn Kanck (Noarlunga) 68  
Greg Leigh (Noarlunga) 37

### WWI combat & WWII combat

No missions flown due to adverse weather

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Sun Aug 2 - Pylon & Combat
- Wed Aug 5 - MASA Meeting
- Fri Aug 7 - HMAC AGM
- Sat Aug 15 - Instructor Course
- Wed Aug 19 - Committee Meeting
- Wed Sep 2 - MASA Meeting
- Fri Sep 4 - Social Meeting
- Sun Sep 6 - Pylon & Combat
- Wed Sep 16 - Committee Meeting



## Flying Achievements

Gold

**Philip Norwood**

Instructors - Merv Harris, Graham Paterson



Phil Norwood (L) receives his Gold Wings from President Kingsley Neumann

## Instructor Roster (August - September)

Date	Instructor	Instructor	Assistant
AUG 2	John Jefferson	(Open)	Max Thomas
AUG 9	Graham Paterson	Ross Lloyd	Ted Carter
AUG 16	Kingsley Neumann	Peter Robertson	Trevor Baudinette
AUG 23	John Jefferson	(Open)	Max Thomas
AUG 30	Graham Paterson	Ross Lloyd	Ted Carter
SEP 6	Kingsley Neumann	Peter Robertson	Trevor Baudinette
SEP 13	John Jefferson	(Open)	Max Thomas
SEP 20	Graham Paterson	Ross Lloyd	Ted Carter
SEP 27	Kingsley Neumann	Peter Robertson	Trevor Baudinette

Our thanks go to those keen instructors who offer their assistance to train new pilots. Some even turn up even when they are not rostered on. Advanced Flying Training is available on request, so if you want to brush up your flying for a Wings test, please arrange a session with one of the Instructors. There are still a number of "Solo Only" flyers out there who could easily qualify for the Bronze Wings.