



# HOLDFAST BUZZ

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### Oct 7th - Save the Date!

At our General Meeting at 7:30 pm on Friday October 7th, Bill Kent will show and discuss his Osprey project. Modelling a VTOL fixed wing aircraft presents many challenges, so this will be a very interesting presentation.

### Nov 4th - HMAC Auction

Bring your unwanted equipment to Cosgrove Hall, or just bring cash to bid for a bargain!



More than 60 people gathered at Club Marion on August 6th to celebrate HMAC's 60th anniversary. From the feedback received, a great time was had by all. More details on page 4 ...



## From the President



Kingsley Neumann

*"...The Committee has adopted a policy of advertising in advance the nature of our Social Meetings. We have arranged a number of interesting guest speakers ..."*

Well, It's back in the saddle again for me. I would like to sincerely thank Graham Paterson for handling the President position so well over the last 12 months. Graham has now stood down from the Committee and is concentrating on his model flying and full size flying. Graham and wife Kathy continue to support the Club in many ways, including the monthly competition days and mowing duties.

The Club's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner was attended by more than 60 people. It was gratifying to see so many familiar faces and to hear reminiscences of the early days. The Marion Club was an excellent choice of venue (even if the steaks were a bit tough!)

The Annual General Meeting was well attended and I was pleased to welcome the newer Members to the Committee. The names and positions are at the end of this article.

The Committee has potentially a big year ahead with the focus being on development of our facilities. The rate of progress will depend on the success or otherwise of our applications for grants and other low cost finance. We have now used up the money from Marion Council for improvements to the public viewing area but we have been invited to apply for further funding. Early work has begun on the installation of a new septic tank system, replacing the sub-standard older one. Money for this comes from the MAAA Club Assistance Scheme and it is the first step towards the erection of a new Club Shed for storage and shelter. Details of this major project will be confirmed at a later date.

Meanwhile the Committee is putting the final touches to a Master Plan for development, known as the "Strategic Plan". When we think that this is a viable and attainable plan it will

be put to the Members for adoption. All funding applications require a formal indication of how the Club intends to proceed into the future.

The Committee has adopted a policy of advertising in advance the nature of our Social Meetings. We have arranged a number of interesting guest speakers and the program is published in this Newsletter as well as the HMAC website. Why not come along and meet some of your fellow hobbyists? You may well be surprised at the sophistication level that some people achieve with model planes.

The First Sunday of the Month is Competition and BBQ day. This year's competition has only two more flying days. Flying Training (including LIFT) is still available on that Sunday but with a slightly earlier cut-off time of 11.30 AM. We will finish the year off with the Annual Club Trophy Presentation Day and special luncheon on Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup> (see notice).

Of course the much anticipated Annual HMAC Auction is rapidly approaching. The date is Friday November 4<sup>th</sup> (see notice). You can be assured of picking up a bargain or two or maybe cashing up by selling unwanted modelling goods. It is always a good night.

After a long wet winter with many days that have been unsuitable for flying, we are now well into Spring. And I guess you could say that not much has changed! It is still wet and windy more often than not. Never fear, I have it on good authority that sooner or later it will get warmer and we can enjoy our hobby more regularly.

Kingsley Neumann  
President



### 2016-17 Committee

The following members were elected to form the HMAC Committee for 2016-17.

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>President:</b>                  | Kingsley Neumann                           |
| <b>Vice president:</b>             | Geoff Haynes                               |
| <b>Secretary:</b>                  | Ian Faulkner                               |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>                  | John Boath                                 |
| <b>Assistant to the Treasurer:</b> | Mike Mildren                               |
| <b>General Committee members:</b>  | Ted Carter, Russell O'Brien, Henry Tomczyk |
| <b>Public Officer:</b>             | John Modistach                             |

## Build Project - Mini Contender - by John Jefferson

Just as I was finishing my second Fokker DVII, which is yet to have its maiden flight, club member Bob McEwin asked if I was interested in building a Mini Contender. He said it was a nice handling sport plane which I would enjoy flying. I had no idea what a Mini Contender was, so the first thing was to see what I could find on the internet. Apparently the original Contender, an American design, was released by Top Flite in 1969. It had a wingspan of 1350 mm, intended for a .40 to .60 glow engine. The Mini Contender is based on the original design, but has a shorter wingspan of 915 mm and is electric powered (.10 equivalent motor).

I have a soft spot for nice looking vintage aircraft, and being a build junkie I couldn't refuse Bob's offer. A short kit duly arrived with photocopies of the Contender build manual as well as the Mini Contender's assembly manual (the Mini is available in ARF form). Bob's short kit comprised the usual set of CAD cut wing ribs, wing tips, fuselage formers and doublers, firewall, tail feathers and various other assorted balsa, ply and hardwood shapes. Given the number of components it was closer to a full kit than a short kit. Anyway, Bob was developing the model as one of his product lines and wanted some feedback about how it went together; and I was happy to be the guinea pig.

As the saying goes, read the instructions; which I obediently did. As anxious as I was to start, I still had to put the finishing touches on the DVII which was hogging the building board. A week or so later the DVII was finished and the building board was clear. I was now ready to start working on the Mini Contender in earnest. Looking at the Contender build manual (which was essentially the instructions for building the Mini Contender) I listed what items I'd need that weren't supplied in the short kit. Rummaging through my parts bin as well as my scraps/offcuts bin I had most of what I'd need to complete the model. Moral: never throw anything away, you never know when it will come in handy for the next building project or repair job. If you do throw it away, more than likely you'll need it the day after.

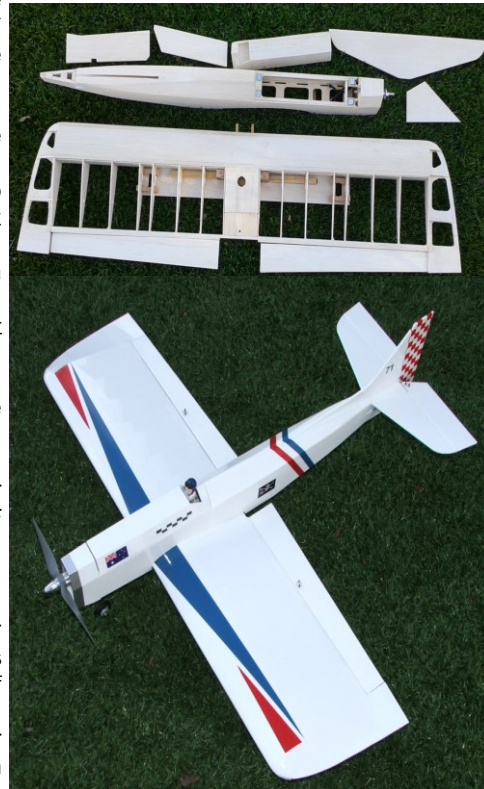
*"...Moral: never throw anything away, you never know when it will come in handy for the next building project or repair job ..."*

I started putting the wing together following the usual procedure: ribs, spars, leading edge, trailing edge, servo rails, undercarriage mounts, wing mount dowels (front) and wing support (rear), sheeting top and bottom from the leading edge to the spars. So far so good. Wing tips next. Nothing unexpected with that, I was very happy with how it all came together. Ailerons and tail feathers next, too easy.

Now for some thinking and planning before tackling the fuselage. Where to install the elevator and rudder/steering servos, ESC and receiver? The full size Contender instructions could only be used as a guide, and I had to improvise things for the Mini Contender. OK, it was clear in my mind what I had to do. Once again the usual procedure: doublers, formers, sides, firewall, underside with a vent for the cooling air to escape. Making the turtle deck and top hatch was a bit of a drama because I couldn't follow the plan, so here I definitely improvised. The model is supposed to have a moulded canopy and cowling, which are obtainable from Top Flite in the USA, who also supply pre-bent undercarriage legs. I improvised again, making an open cockpit (more of a vintage appearance in my opinion), making a balsa cowling and bending piano wire for the main undercarriage legs. For the nose wheel I used a spare tail wheel from a Boomerang trainer which was in my parts bin. The final shape of my Mini Contender fuselage doesn't follow the shape of Top Flite's ARF exactly but that won't affect its flying characteristics. Besides, who can tell when it's in the air?

Getting close to finishing the build I decided on a colour scheme; predominantly white with red stripes underneath the wing to help orientation. A splash of blue with a little red trim on the top of the wing, complemented with red and blue stripes on the rear fuselage. A couple of decals to finish it off - yes, I can live with that.

Almost there. Glue the tail feathers, install the electrics, connect the control rods. Set up the control throws and C of G according to the Mini Contender assembly manual, set up dual rates with a bit of expo and it's ready for the all-important maiden flight. That will have to wait for a nice day, which we're not getting too many of lately; but it won't be long before we explore its flight envelope.



## HMAC Celebrates 60 Years



To celebrate the Club's 60 Year Anniversary, a special dinner was organised for members & partners at Club Marion on Saturday August 6th. More than 60 people attended, including some members from bygone years. In addition, Brad Merryweather and his partner Nicolle represented Model Flight as our guests, as did Garry Oakley for MASA.

Graham Paterson welcomed everyone and promised us a good time and a good meal. He did an excellent job as MC, introducing the guest speakers, drawing the prizes and throwing in a few jokes for good measure. Speaking of prizes, Model Flight generously donated a DX6 radio (Tx & Rx) which was won by Bob Fisher. Other prizes were a nice ARF kit and a T-shirt and cricket bat signed personally by the SA Sheffield Cup Cricket Team. Kingsley Neumann had been busy prior to the night collecting as many photos of past and present members, compiling them into a continuously running slide show that was displayed on the TV monitors in the function room.

Bob Fisher, John Modistach and Steve Johnson gave memorable accounts of the 'good old days' of the Club, and doubtless many tales were told around the tables about interesting past experiences at HMAC.

All in all, it was a very enjoyable and entertaining evening that brought back both memories of the past and fellow members who had not seen each other for years. I'm very much looking forward to the next one!

Geoff Haynes



### Flying Achievements

|        |                    |  |
|--------|--------------------|--|
| Solo   | <b>Ron Harwood</b> | Instructors - Graham Paterson, Dave Whitten    |
| Silver | <b>Jon Read</b>    | Instructors - Kingsley Neumann, John Jefferson |

### Spectator Facilities Upgrade

Work is progressing on improvements to our spectator area. The aluminium bench seats have now been installed and should withstand the weather conditions much better than the old wooden furniture.



**Looking for a Bargain?**  
Check out the "Buy & Sell" page on our website.

The next phase is to install paving in front of the seats. This work is scheduled for the 2nd week in October. With these improvements completed, we will hopefully attract more visitors to the Club, which may well lead to an increase in membership.

## Welcome to New Members

Welcome to the following new Members from the last few months.

Benn Cooper, Barry Ellson, Tristan Hall, Dave Munro, Matthew O'Halloran, Jon Read, Robin Rendell, Greg Standley, Joda Walter, Varun Ponraj, Callum Veale

We hope you gain enjoyment and a sense of achievement as you pursue this rewarding, sometimes challenging, sport.



## Name Badges Now Available



Holdfast Model Aero Club

**Orville Wright**

Name badges for both new and renewing members are now available for collection from the clubrooms. Please make sure you pick up your badge on your next visit to the club.

Oh, and if you haven't yet collected your MAAA card, please do so ASAP.



## Flying With Safety - Pre-flight Checks

HMAC is very safety conscious. We teach all manner of safety checks but it has come to our notice that some people are not actually doing the most basic of checks. In particular I am referring to the Range check and Fail safe Check.

You should carry out a proper range check before the first flight of the day whenever you fly. You should also check the "Fail Safe" settings on your radio. For the Spektrum and JR radios the Fail Safe is part of the Bind process but nevertheless you should check it. The model must be restrained because you should do both of these checks with the motor running above idle. The range of your radio should be at least 30 meters with reduced TX power (Range check function selected).

To check Fail Safe function, switch the TX off while the motor is running. It should go to idle cut off and all controls should remain at neutral (some specialist operators might program additional functions such as "Flaps down")

Of course it is a very wise to confirm that all controls are moving in the correct sense before attempting to fly. Remember Controls, Antenna, Trim/Rates or C.A.T.

The MAAA rule on general model Safety is contained in MOP 056.

<http://www.maaa.asn.au/images/pdfs/mops/MOP056-Policy-SAFE-FLYING-CODE.pdf>

Kingsley Neumann



## Looking for a Bargain?

Check out the "Buy & Sell" page on our website.

## General Meeting Presentations

To give members a clearer picture of what to expect at our Monthly General Meetings, we will now publish a list of upcoming presentations for several months ahead. This listing will be updated in each issue of BUZZ, as well as the HMAc website. The currently scheduled presentations are listed below.

| Month      | Theme                            | Presenter/Details   |
|------------|----------------------------------|---|
| October 7  | Helicopters                      | Bill Kent will show and discuss his Osprey model project. The Osprey is a vertical takeoff convert to horizontal flight plane. Bill has a helicopter system on each wing tip. |
| November 4 | Auction no meeting               |   |
| December 2 | Show and tell.                   |   |
| January 6  | No meeting                       |   |
| February 3 | FPV and drones                   | TBA   |
| March 3    | Battery charging and maintenance | TBA   |
| April 7    | Aerobatics/ Pattern              | TBA   |
| May 5      | Full size flying                 | TBA   |



## HMAc Annual Auction

On Friday November 4th, HMAc will hold its Annual Auction at Cosgrove Hall, York Ave. Clovelly Park.



This is one of our most popular and well-attended events on the calendar. It is a great opportunity to bring along those items you no longer need, but for which someone else is willing to buy.

If you're after a bargain, this is the place to be, as most sellers are prepared to do a deal!

Doors open at 6:30 pm for those who bring items for sale. Trading between sellers and buyers commences at 7:00 pm, after which the Auction of all remaining items starts at 7:30 pm.

Admission is \$5.00 for adults and juniors (under 18) are admitted free.

Snacks and refreshments will be available throughout the evening and all attendees will be in the draw for a range of very nice door prizes.

So mark the date in your calendar - Friday November 4th - and join in the fun and thrill of the bidding fever!



### Looking for a Bargain?

Check out the "Buy & Sell" page on our website.



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## 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.

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Sun Oct 2 - Pylon & Combat
- Wed Oct 5 - MASA Meeting
- Fri Oct 7 - General Meeting
- Sat Oct 15 - Aviation Museum
- Wed Oct 19 - Committee Meeting
- Sun Oct 23 - MAAA R/C Day
- Wed Nov 2 - MASA Meeting
- Fri Nov 4 - HMAC Auction
- Sun Nov 6 - Pylon & Combat
- Wed Nov 16 - Committee Meeting
- Sun Dec 4 - Christmas BBQ & Trophy Presentation

## Pylon & Combat Results

### August 7

#### Open class pylon

Tom Jacobsen (Noarlunga) 103  
Finn Kanck (Noarlunga) 57

#### Standard class pylon

John Jefferson (HMAC) 71  
Ian Cole (HMAC) 58

#### Electric class pylon

Greg Leigh (Noarlunga) 107  
Bob Tait (HMAC) 90  
Drew Ames (HMAC) 85  
Ian Cole (HMAC) 68  
Shawn Jones (HMAC) 5  
Bob McEwin (HMAC) 1

#### WW I combat

Luke Szarek (HMAC) 11  
John Jefferson (HMAC) 7  
Merv Harris (HMAC) 2  
Max Thomas (HMAC) 1

#### WW II combat

No missions flown

### September 4

#### Open class pylon

Tom Jacobsen (Noarlunga) 110  
Fin Kanck (Noarlunga) 75  
John Yianni (Connie) 1

#### Standard class pylon

No races flown

#### Electric class pylon

Greg Leigh (Noarlunga) 112  
Drew Ames (HMAC) 91  
Bob Tait (HMAC) 90  
Ian Cole (HMAC) 77  
Bob McEwin (HMAC) 58

#### WW I combat

No missions flown

#### WW II combat

No missions flown

## Instructor Roster (October - November)

| Date   | Instructor       | Instructor      | Assistant         |
|--------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| SEP 25 | Kingsley Neumann | Graham Paterson | Ted Carter        |
| OCT 2  | John Jefferson   | Peter Robertson | Trevor Baudinette |
| OCT 9  | Kingsley Neumann | Graham Paterson | Max Thomas        |
| OCT 16 | John Jefferson   | Peter Robertson | Ted Carter        |
| OCT 23 | Kingsley Neumann | Graham Paterson | Trevor Baudinette |
| OCT 30 | John Jefferson   | Peter Robertson | Max Thomas        |
| NOV 6  | Kingsley Neumann | Graham Paterson | Ted Carter        |
| NOV 13 | John Jefferson   | Peter Robertson | Trevor Baudinette |
| NOV 20 | Kingsley Neumann | Graham Paterson | Max Thomas        |
| NOV 27 | John Jefferson   | Peter Robertson | Ted Carter        |

The following instructors are often available and are invited to assist when they can:  
Luke Szarek, Shawn Jones, Alan Ayles, Ian Cole

The Club is fortunate to have a dedicated band of Instructors and Assistants who offer their services to learners almost every Sunday. We would like to have more people on the Roster to ease the workload. If you can help please speak up and we can arrange the necessary Instructor Course. Gold Wings standard is a prerequisite for all Instructors.