



# HOLDFAST BUZZ

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## Annual Awards winners for 2015

### Launch of LIFT Program

Join us on Sunday Feb 7 from 10:30 for the official launch of our LIFT Training Program. Then grab a sausage & drink and stay on to watch the Pylon & Combat events

### Make a Difference!

Join the HMAC Committee and be part of a team that works well together and strives to make HMAC the best Model Aero Club in SA

December 13th was a day for good cheer and celebration as HMAC hosted its Annual Christmas BBQ and Presentation of Annual Awards. For more details, see page 3

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.

## Committee Report

The Committee will provide regular reports to Members via this column in BUZZ. Any important items will be notified directly to Members by e-mail.

The Committee held its first meeting for 2016 recently and a number of important items were discussed:

### Flying Training

We are very pleased to push ahead with the LIFT (Low-cost Integrated Flight Training) Program., sponsored by Model Flight. It was decided that we should have an Official Launch day for the program even though we are in fact ready to run with it right now. The date will be Sunday 7th February, which coincides not only with normal Flying Training but also with our regular Club BBQ and competition day. The Committee expects that the new "Learn to Fly" banners which will be raised on the Main road will attract considerable attention. We may also seek publicity in the local press.

One problem that concerns the Committee is that we might have our Instructor resources stretched to the limit on that particular day. All Instructors and Assistant Instructors are requested to make a special effort to attend and assist on February 7. Prospective Members will be asked to sign a Membership Application Form but pay no money until they have had three trial flights. A new Attendance Register will be raised, to accompany our Visitors Book. It was also noted that a number of new Members have already signed up in January.

### Field Improvements

President Graham Paterson expressed

concern at the state of the flying surfaces. The rabbit population has exploded once again and the dreadful cracks have become a real problem. Various remedies were discussed. We cannot afford to increase the rate of watering to reduce cracking. A private venture might help to control the rabbits. Meanwhile all Members are urged to take great care when walking off the maintained areas, especially to the east and north of the Flight Line. A Working Bee will be called in the cooler weather to catch up on a number of outstanding maintenance jobs.

### Financial

The Club is in a good financial position. We are currently negotiating with contractors for the installation of pavers in the new shade and a new Public shade structure. In order to further improve our facilities, the Committee is following up all available opportunities for Financial Grants from a number of statutory authorities. We currently have 104 Flying Members and 11 Social Members.

### New Members

The Club extends a warm welcome to Matthew O'Halloran, Rodney Tikel, Benn Cooper and Aaron Watson who have joined in recent months. We hope you enjoy participating in this fascinating sport and we look forward to your continuing membership.

Kingsley Neumann  
Vice President



Kingsley Neumann



## Official Launch of LIFT - Sunday Feb 7

Join us at the field on Sunday Feb 7 for the official launch of the LIFT Training Program. We hope to attract new members with this initiative, so let's impress them with a nice static display of models by enthusiastic current members.

There will be a sausage sizzle and refreshments too, so come along and enjoy the action from 10:30 am.

Increasing our membership is the best way to avoid increasing membership fees, so spread the word about the LIFT program!



### Looking for a Bargain?

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

### Flying Achievements

|        |                        |   |
|--------|------------------------|---|
| Solo   | <b>Michael Maloney</b> | Instructors - John Jefferson, Max Thomas        |
| Solo   | <b>Graham Scannell</b> | Instructors - Kingsley Neumann, Graham Paterson |
| Silver | <b>Scott Davies</b>    | Instructors - Graham Paterson, John Jefferson   |

## Annual Christmas BBQ & Trophy Presentation

Despite a last minute change of date due to very hot weather, we had a very good attendance (~ 60) at the Christmas BBQ & Trophy Presentation on Sunday, December 13. John Anthony, ably assisted by Kathy Paterson, Sonya Cole and Marika Jefferson, once again did a wonderful job with the catering. We were privileged to have Pam & Andrew Lloyd, wife & son of the late Ross Lloyd, as special guests. Pam graciously accepted the invitation to present the Inaugural Ross Lloyd Memorial Award for outstanding contribution to the Club.

President Graham Paterson welcomed everyone to the event and gave recognition to all who have given their time to help the Club with its activities throughout the year. The presentation of annual awards followed and the recipient list is tabled below. It was a most enjoyable social occasion. If you didn't get to attend, make sure you don't miss it next year.

### Annual Award Recipients

The Catering Crew



President Graham Paterson (L) acknowledges the great work done by Marika Jefferson, John Anthony, Sonya Cole and Kathy Paterson

Encouragement Award



Encouragement awards were given to Graham Scannell (pictured) and Henry Tomcyk (absent)

WW1 Combat



Merv Harris receives his trophy for winning the WW1 combat competition

Standard Class Pylon



John Jefferson was the proud recipient of the trophy for Standard Class Pylon Racing competition

Open Class Pylon



Graham Paterson accepts his trophy from Kingsley Neumann as winner of the Open Class Pylon Racing competition

President's Award



Kingsley Neumann receives the President's award from Graham Paterson in recognition of his hard work throughout the year

Ross Lloyd Memorial Award



Geoff Haynes accepts the Ross Lloyd Memorial Award from Pam Lloyd for outstanding services to the Club

Our Special Guests



Pam Lloyd and son Andrew were our special guests at the Christmas BBQ.

Encouragement Award



Henry Tomcyk receives his Encouragement Award from President Graham Paterson at the regular Monday get-together. Henry was unable to attend the Christmas BBQ



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## Battle Damage - by John Jefferson



The club's monthly pylon racing and combat events are well attended, although the contestants are generally the same for each event. The club, as well as us that compete, would like to see more flyers participate in the various events. It's also great entertainment for club members and other visitors that drop in.

Currently we have three classes of pylon racing: open, standard and electric class. Simple rules require each plane to conform to a basic construction formula so that no pilot has an unfair advantage over others - pilot skill will largely determine the outcome of races. It's also a form of flying that will help sharpen your reflexes and improve your overall abilities. Those three minutes in the air with up to three other competitors at the same time can be intense, but immensely rewarding when you clock up a reasonable number of laps.

Similarly, combat aircraft are subject to some simple rules to ensure an even playing field for all combatants. We have two classes of combat: World War I and World War II. Obviously the class you fly in has to be with an aircraft representative of that particular war. Here the flying is a free for all, a classic dogfight. It's also an intense three minutes, but absolute fun. Admittedly there is a risk that you could be involved in a mid-air collision, but the upside is that you score points for that as well.

Now, whilst I'm trying to encourage newcomers to try these disciplines, please don't be put off by the intensity of the event or the possibility of a mid-air collision. Although such collisions do occur, their frequency is relatively low. Even if it does happen, often the aircraft is repairable, which leads me into my recent World War I combat experience where my Fokker DVII was "shot down".

During the dogfight my aircraft was hit, losing the left side tailplane and elevator, together with the fin and rudder. As soon as it happened I closed the throttle, the aircraft rolled onto its back and slowly spiralled down like a falling leaf. It hit the ground inverted, nose first. When I picked it up I expected the damage to be more severe than it actually was. There was minimal damage to the wings, with most damage on the forward fuselage/nose area. Even the pilot survived, brave chap! Definitely not a write-off, the repairs should see the aircraft back in the air and flying combat again.

In one respect it could be said that my shooting down was from "friendly fire" as my attacker was flying a Fokker DVII also. Or perhaps it was a captured aircraft pressed into service by the enemy. I'll find out when we meet next in the skies over the (HMAC) "Western Front".



## March General Meeting

At the March General Meeting (Fri Mar 4), a motion will be put forward to amend the Constitution so that it complies more fully with the Association Act. Please mark this date in your diary as we need a quorum of at least 15 voting members to approve this change.

*"... As soon as it happened I closed the throttle, the aircraft rolled onto its back and slowly spiralled down like a falling leaf. It hit the ground inverted, nose first ... "*



## 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

- Wed Feb 3 - MASA Meeting
- Fri Feb 5 - General Meeting
- Sun Feb 7 - LIFT Program Launch, Pylon & Combat
- Sat-Sun Feb 13-14 - MASA Presidents' Conference
- Wed Feb 17 - Committee Meeting
- Wed Mar 2 - MASA Meeting
- Fri Mar 4 - General Meeting
- Sun Mar 6 - Pylon & Combat
- Wed Mar 16 - Committee Meeting
- Sat-Sun Mar 26-27 - RC Scale Championships (Constellation)

### Safety Matters - by Kingsley Neumann

This is a friendly reminder to all HMAF Flyers and guests regarding a few safety related matters based on my observations over the last few months.

1. Don't forget your green safety tag for all electric models. Do not arm electric model in the shelters. Use the tables or the starting blocks (with a restraining anchor if necessary).
2. Remember the 10 Metre rule. You must not fly closer than 10 metres to the flight line. It is permissible to take off in a line more or less directly away from the safety barriers if desired (south east, east or north east wind). Basically we try to operate in a North or South runway direction. Landings from one corner (across the field) are acceptable but do not come closer than 10 metres to the flight line and do not land directly towards the flight line.
3. Remember the 400ft height rule. You are permitted to fly up to 400 ft above the height of the field. This is a bit tricky to judge if you do not have telemetry but you must endeavour to stay below 400ft. This is a Civil Aviation rule for our field. If a full size helicopter or fixed wing approaches our field you MUST avoid that aircraft. This does not mean that you have to land but you do have to "give way" and avoid the plane if it comes close to our field. The HMAF flying field is not marked on pilot's charts.
4. Keep a good lookout for other models around in the air when you are flying. Mid-air collisions can and do occur.

## Instructor Roster (February - March)

| Date   | Instructor       | Instructor      | Assistant         |
|--------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| JAN 24 | John Jefferson   | Graham Paterson | Trevor Baudinette |
| JAN 31 | Kingsley Neumann | Peter Robertson | Max Thomas        |
| FEB 7  | John Jefferson   | Graham Paterson | Ted Carter        |
| FEB 14 | Kingsley Neumann | Peter Robertson | Trevor Baudinette |
| FEB 21 | John Jefferson   | Graham Paterson | Max Thomas        |
| FEB 28 | Kingsley Neumann | Peter Robertson | Ted Carter        |
| MAR 6  | John Jefferson   | Graham Paterson | Trevor Baudinette |
| MAR 13 | Kingsley Neumann | Peter Robertson | Max Thomas        |
| MAR 20 | John Jefferson   | Graham Paterson | Ted Carter        |
| MAR 27 | Kingsley Neumann | Peter Robertson | Trevor Baudinette |

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.