



HOLDFAST BUZZ

HMAC proudly sponsored by
modelflight RC

Inside this issue:

From the President	2
Vale Sonny Carroll	3
Incident Reporting	3
The Windsock	4
MASA Comp Success	5
Security at our Field	6
New Members	7
Pylon Results	7
Upcoming Events	7
Achievements	7

Attend the AGM!

Fri Aug 4, 7:30 pm
via Zoom.

Check your email for
details on joining the
Zoom Meeting.

MASA Trophy

HMAC will be hosting
the last round for the
Southern Group in
this exciting state-
wide competition on
Sunday 10th Sept.

Read about our
team's success on
page 5.

Another Happy Customer



Sean Bartlett gained his Bronze Wings by completing the LIFT program in June. He is shown here after checking out on his very nice Piper Cherokee with President Geoff Haynes

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 The Editor at buzz@holdfastmac.asn.au for inclusion in a future edition of BUZZ.



Geoff Haynes

"... We have secured the lease on our property for another ten years, along with an affordable rent schedule."

From the President

It seems just a short time ago that I accepted the role of President, yet here we are 12 months later, beginning another membership year and preparing for the AGM. It is pleasing to see that most members have completed the renewal process. Hopefully a few more will do so in the upcoming weeks. Some members made a donation to the Club in addition to their renewal fees. Thank you sincerely for your generosity. It does make a difference and is much appreciated.

We have secured the lease on our property for another ten years, along with an affordable rent schedule. It is comforting to know that we can continue to enjoy the convenience of our location and invest in further development of the facility.

No doubt you are aware of the tragic passing of Sonny Carroll at the flying field in mid-June. Sonny was a member of HMAAC for many years and was quite a character, as well as a very proficient pilot. He will be sorely missed by those who knew him. We have offered to sell Sonny's superb collection of model aircraft and give the proceeds to his family. This will be done via an online sale on our website in the coming weeks.

Earlier this year, HMAAC applied to MAAA for funding to replace our ageing safety barriers with a more permanent safety fencing system along the flight line and in front of the pits area. The Club Assistance Scheme is open to all clubs in Australia and there is a very limited number of applications that receive funding. We were delighted to receive notification from MAAA in

June that our application was successful. Weather permitting, we hope to complete construction of the fences before the end of this calendar year. Some volunteer help will be needed, so please put up your hand if you can assist with some simple tasks.

A couple of our regular Instructors have recently stepped down from Sunday teaching, so we have vacancies for fresh faces on the Sunday roster. Teaching the basic flying skills to new students can be a rewarding experience. If you have Gold Wings and would like to become a Club Instructor, please let us know and we will give you every assistance to fill the role. The more people we have on the roster, the less frequent the attendance requirement of each instructor on a Sunday morning. Our current instructors will appreciate the extra help too!

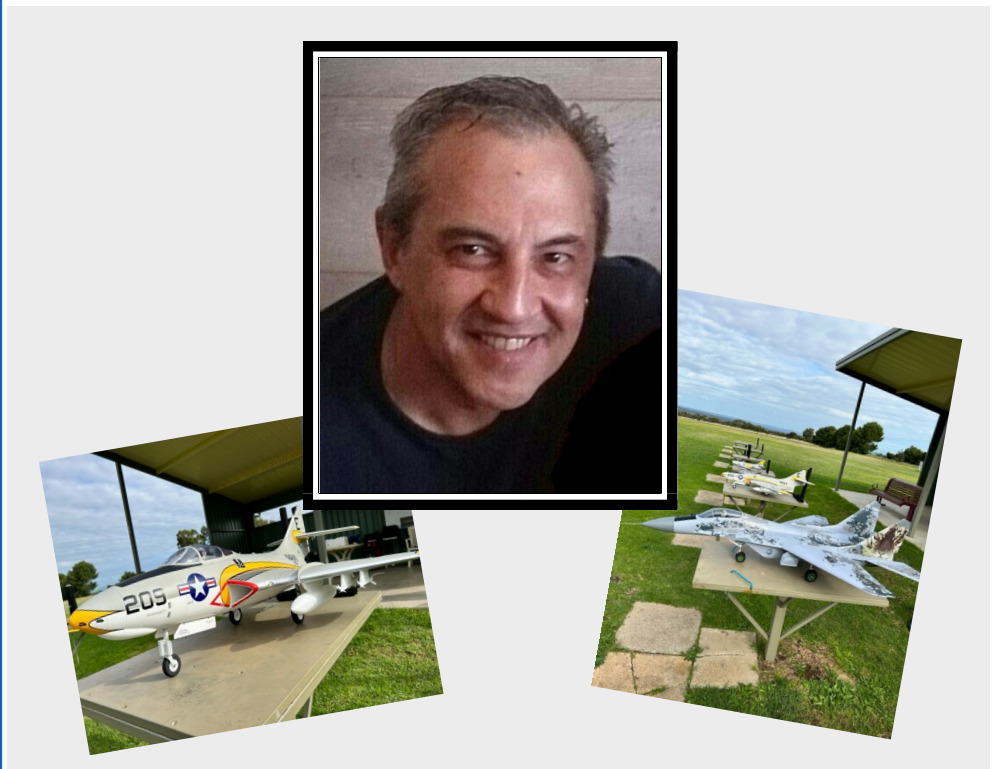
HMAAC is a participant in the MASA Trophy Challenge for 2023. Our team – Kirk Winters (captain), Dave Whitten, Mike Schneider, John Jefferson and myself - competed in Round 3 at the Strathalbyn Club in late July, gaining first place overall in the Southern Chapter, with one round to go. The fourth round will be held at HMAAC on September 10th, so please come and support Team HMAAC. If we maintain first place after that round, we will compete in the Grand Final against the first-place holder in the Northern Chapter.

That's all for now. Happy flying!

Geoff



VALE Sonny Carroll



Incidents

Members are reminded to read the Club's policy on Incident reporting on the website: www.holdfastmac.asn.au/incident-reporting

Please understand that the Club has a very positive approach to safety and we want to know how we can prevent some of those unfortunate out landings. There is usually a reason for not making it back to the field for a landing. Reports are received in confidence and any subsequent advice to Members is not intended to identify or to embarrass the person involved.

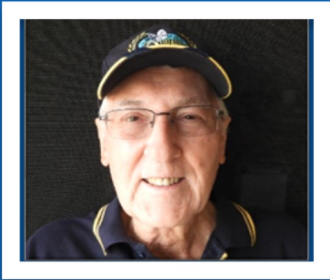
By way of example, a common reason for losing control while flying is due to loss of orientation. This can happen to anyone regardless of experience. A common cause is allowing your model to track a bit too far away, especially with the sun behind the model. Suddenly you can't tell if the model is turning towards you or away from you.

An attempt to turn back to the field could suddenly surprise you and have the model go further away. Then things suddenly get difficult. Some people recommend different colour markings on each wing but often the model can just be a dark silhouette when it is a long way from you and colours become irrelevant. Camouflage or silver colours are notoriously difficult to see at a distance. Small models are easily lost at distance.

The solution of course is to stay closer to the field and avoid the situation. If you are caught out, make only minor banking corrections and watch for a change. Don't panic. Close the throttle and pull a bit of up elevator to avoid a dive. But don't stall the plane! Try to avoid the roads and playing fields. Good luck!

Kingsley Neumann (an old and not so bold flyer)





John Jefferson

“Don't forget the element of wind gust. The wind sock gives some indication of gusting but this is at ground level, not in the air where you are flying.”

THE WIND SOCK

One of the key items I impress upon students during flight training is the importance of reading and understanding the wind sock, then flying accordingly.

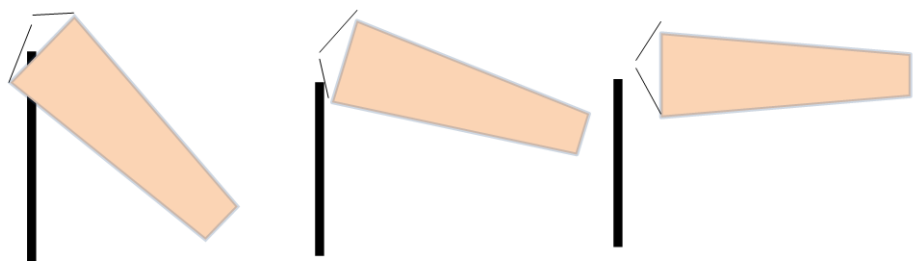
You walk toward it every time you go to the flight line and should be looking at it to check wind speed and direction before taking off. The wind sock (wind cone or wind sleeve) gives us sufficient information to determine whether it's safe to fly or not, what direction to take off from, what circuit direction to fly, what direction to land from, and what drift factor there is likely to be once in the air. These elements are part of your pre-flight planning which will enable you to undertake a safe flight and avoid the no-fly areas around our field.

Once in the air do not assume the wind speed and direction will remain constant, as weather conditions have a habit of changing throughout the day. For example, you may find that the northerly wind on take-off shifts to north easterly or north westerly, or even more extreme, shifts to a southerly (which has happened). Obviously you will need to change circuit direction and landing to compensate. Standing on the flight line you cannot see the wind sock as it is behind you, so it is good practice to be aware of the wind, such as sensing if the wind is on the left or right of your face. In the past when we used 36 MHz transmitters with a 1 metre antenna it was easy to attach a small ribbon to the tip of the antenna which gave you constant wind information, but unfortunately our 2.4 GHz transmitters use a different, very short antenna system.

Don't forget the element of wind gust. The wind sock gives some indication of gusting but this is at ground level, not in the air where you are flying. A good reference point which gives a useful indication of gusting is the tree line on Lonsdale road diagonally opposite the flight line. The treetops are at a reasonable height, approximately your circuit height. Understanding wind drift is important as students and new graduates (and the rest of us) need to ensure we fly within the field's boundaries. Reading the wind sock will tell you that the downwind to crosswind turn needs to be started earlier as the model will continue drifting downwind while turning. You don't want the model to get so far away that you lose orientation or worse, lose sight of it.

You would be aware of our weather station which relays information to our website. Checking the site before you decide to come to the field will give you a heads up as to what the flying conditions are at present; as well as the forecast for the rest of the day. Take the time to use this function; it could save you a wasted trip, or it could help you decide which model to bring depending on the wind strength.

The humble wind sock doing its job to help you safely fly your model.



About 10 kph

About 20 kph

Forget it!



HMAC Success at Strathalbyn !



Dave Whitten, Mike Schneider, Geoff Haynes, John Jefferson, Kirk Winters, Marina Winters and Bella

MASA Trophy Round 3 was held at Strathalbyn Club on Sunday 23rd of July. Clubs represented in this Southern Group were, Strathalbyn (hosts), South Coast, Noarlunga and Holdfast. Our Team did extremely well in all tasks and gained enough points to achieve the highest score for this round. Scores are cumulative and HMAC is now holding prime position. Well done HMAC!

The next round will be hosted by HMAC at our field on Sunday the 10th of September. As host Club we are responsible for organising a lunch. The Northern and Southern groups will have a grand final fly-off on Sunday the 19th of November at a field to be named. Prizes are significant thanks to sponsorship by Modelflight and additional funding by MAAA. Put those dates in your diary. There will be no Flight Training at HMAC on 10th September. We will have a lot of visitors and some exciting competitive Fun Flying. Our customary BBQ Lunch will be available.



Security at our Flying Field

A Gentle Reminder

Gate Access.

Please remember to lock the padlock onto the chain if you are first in at the field. This prevents it from being stolen while you are flying or working.

Please remember to check that the Club Shed/Canteen and main Clubrooms are secure if you are last to leave. Lock the gate securely with the padlock after you drive out. If you do not know the combination, please contact the Secretary.

Clubrooms

Only authorised persons have access to the main Clubrooms. It is alarm protected.

Sometimes after a gathering the Clubrooms have been left locked but the alarm is not set. This can happen sometimes if a group of people have been using the rooms and the last one to leave does not know the combination. If this occurs please notify the Secretary or another committee person who can assist .

There have been occasions when the curtain has been drawn back to allow natural light in. Please check that the curtains are all drwn when vacating. A surprising amount of light comes from the internal emergency exit light and this can reveal everything inside.

General access

We all have a responsibility to ensure that our rooms and sheds are securely locked and alarmed when not in use. To this end the Committee is currently reviewing the existing alarm system. It is sometimes difficult to use the access key pad on the device and we will replace it. We are also monitoring the gate padlock as it is showing signs of wear.

Kingsley Neumann

Secretary



UPCOMING EVENTS

Pylon Racing

August 6th

September 3rd

MASA Comp at HMAc

Sunday September 10th

Social Meetings

Friday August 4th

Friday September 1st

Friday October 6th

HOLDFAST MODEL AERO CLUB
 P.O. Box 94
 O'Halloran Hill SA 5158
 Club Phone: 08 8377 2708
 Web: www.holdfastmac.asn.au
 Newsletter Editor
Buzz@holdfastmac.asn.au

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 Racing Results

4th June 2023

No racing due to inclement weather conditions



2nd July 2023

Open class

Greg Leigh (Noarlunga) 88
 Graham Paterson (HMAc) 88

Standard class

John Jefferson (HMAc) 75
 Bryan Christie (HMAc) 58

Electric class

Trevor Pearce (Connie) 98
 Pete Robertson (HMAc) 92
 Greg Leigh (Noarlunga) 89
 Craig Spratt (Connie) 75
 Dave Whitten (HMAc) 64



New Members

The Club extends a warm welcome to the following:

DAVID GRAHAM (returning member)

We trust that you will enjoy the facilities at Holdfast and have a great time flying RC

Flying Achievements

Name	Award	Instructors
Sean Bartlett 11/06/2023	Bronze	G Haynes, John Jefferson

Flight Instruction Sessions

Members please note that we have a shortage of Sunday Instructors once again. Anyone who is willing to help and holds Gold Wings (or can pass the Gold Wings schedule) will be welcomed as a Club Instructor. You will be initially under the guidance of a Rated Instructor and if everything goes well we will arrange attendance at an MAAA Instructor Course.

NEW

E-flite Twin Timber 1.6m STOL

Not "just another Timber" – it's the most capable, durable, stable, and unique Timber model yet!



NEW



E-flite UMX Air Tractor



Seagull Models PC-9 Roulette .46



E-flite P-51D Mustang 1.2m



Seagull Models Cessna Turbo Skylane 182



Phoenix Model Dauntless .46 size



E-Flite Ultimate 3D Bi-Plane

For more planes, go to modelflight.com.au

130 Goodwood Road, Goodwood SA 5034
Phone: 08 8271 1816

modelflight **RC**