



HOLDFAST BUZZ

HMAC proudly sponsored by
modelflight RC

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Small Planes Fly Just Great



IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday May 3

We are hosting a
Bunnings BBQ at the
Marion Store
(On Election Day!)
Come along and
support us.

AND

Sunday May 25

_HMAC FUNFLY
See Poster P3

President Kirk Winters is an avid Indoor Flyer at Mount Barker in addition to his endless commitments at Holdfast. He showed this cute Boeing Stearman Biplane at a recent Friday night HMAC Meeting.

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.



Kirk Winters

“Please, when you are at the field and you see people arrive to view our sport, give a few minutes of your time to have a friendly chat.”

From the President

Hot, hotter and hottest, that is my memory of a saying by our tour guide when my wife and I celebrated our wedding by a short holiday in Thailand and for a couple of days we headed up to see the Death railway, war graves and history.

And here in Adelaide it has been hot for way too long, no rain of any use till my writing of this on the 16th March 2025. Our field has been punished due to the relentless heat and no rain. No matter how much we irrigate, it will never be as good as the real good stuff from the skies in plentiful supply.

I'm pleased to inform our membership that we have recently gained two instructors into our LIFT programme.

Ian Williams has decided to come back and officially be recognised as an instructor even though Ian unofficially instructed and helped many a new comer and also a seasoned flyer. Ian's history is impressive both as a club volunteer and active flyer but also his working career. Ian was active in initiating our LIFT programme plus many other things.

Terry Gold has also put his hand up to become an instructor, thank you Terry. Likewise, Terry also had an impressive working career, which I believe is still ongoing.

Midweek instruction continues when conditions are suitable for instructor and student. If you are looking to sit for your next wing achievement, you can get valuable information and instruction during the week also.

Please contact Andy Hollitt or Ian Williams. Kim Whitburn may also be available when the weather cools.

The heat has slowed the volunteers a little, so you may see signage that would have been erected in the past few weeks, completed when it is cooler (especially the digging). The clubroom verandah posts are being replaced due to corrosion of the base of the existing posts.

Loam mix is currently being spread to form a pathway from clubrooms to the flight line and also for pylon participants and helpers in their standing areas by filling some of the deeper cracks that are posing a tripping hazard. Please be aware of your surroundings and watch your step.

HMAC will be running a BBQ at Bunnings Marion store on Saturday the 3rd of May

2025. Volunteers are required to setup, cook, serve, clean, take money and pack up.

The anticipated profits will be very beneficial for our club. Keep an eye out for Mail Chimp emails and information in our BUZZ magazine.

Holdfast Model Aero Club will be hosting a MASA advertised Fun Fly on Sunday the 25th of May 2025. Please prepare your aircraft in anticipation and come support and enjoy the day with fellow enthusiasts from various clubs.

A BBQ lunch will be available.

Static and operational displays of engines, transmitters and aircraft spanning the years are requested.

There will be a brief display of pylon, control line and a glider aero tow. Get involved, bring along something unique to show others and prepare to have fun. Please see the official advertisement in this edition of BUZZ.

For those of you that have volunteered or would like to bring along displays, please prepare early.

For those of you flying operational displays, please confirm with me who will be doing the flying.

I will reach out as soon as the Bunnings BBQ organisation is under control.

The MASA Trophy 2025 commenced on Sunday 23rd March with Noarlunga hosting the first Southern Districts round. The aim is *"To provide some friendly rivalry, a lot of fun, camaraderie, club-to-club interaction and the opportunity for pilots to expand and enhance their flying skills."*

Holdfast had just two participants, John Jefferson and myself. We placed third, however we had fun. The next events are:

1st June South Coast at Clayton

13th July at Holdfast. Please support our club and enter the event and/or come and buy a sausage from our BBQ fund raiser on the day.

21st September at Strathalbyn.

You can join us for any or all of the rounds. Please contact me for further information or to put your name on the team nomination form.

Kirk



FUN FLY

MAY 25TH 2025

STATIC AND OPERATIONAL DISPLAYS

FLIGHT SIMULATORS

GATES OPEN 9:30 AM

FLYING FROM 10:00 AM

BBQ Lunch & drinks available, EFTPOS or cash welcome

- All pilots require a current MAAA membership, minimum of bronze wings and abide by HMAA rules.
- Please have your paperwork for your heavy models. Sorry, no turbines but ducted fans welcome, 400ft ceiling. Noise limited to 96db.
- Demonstrations of pylon racing, glider aero tow and control line at 11:30 am.
- Static displays, operational engines, old engines and transmitters.

For further information phone:

Kirk Winters 0422797203 Mike Nelson 0417867702

Website: <https://holdfastmac.asn.au>

1 LONSDALE ROAD, TROTT PARK, SA

CORNER OF MAJORS ROAD AND LONSDALE ROAD



Carlo Espartero gave a very interesting presentation on 3D printing to our March Social Meeting at the clubrooms. He had a couple of models to show including this semi complete Lockheed Super Constellation which was flown recently at our field. Carlo has a You Tube channel and posts a lot of footage, including Hints and Tips.

There are a number of 3D printing modellers in HMAC!

Talk about starting them young! Daniel Dienes and his wife Sun couldn't wait to show young newborn son Ethan the ins and outs of Model Flying. If he turns out half as skilful as his dad we will have a champion in the making!



Garry Head is into anything with wings on! A retired Cathay Airlines pilot, Garry is a dedicated model flyer and can often be seen at the field testing a new model or flying an old favourite. This Calmato Alpha fits the bill!



Congratulations to Dave Graham on attaining his Silver (P) Wings recently. Instructors were Ian Williams (L) and Kirk Winters (R). Dave has progressed steadily since joining the Club and despite a few bingles earlier is now able to fly models in the heavier category of 2-7KG.

Congratulations to Neil Oxley. He is the proud owner of a Trojan lightweight electric model. Neil has a Restricted Solo qualification on this model and he can now operate at our field in SAFE Mode and he will steadily gain confidence to present for the Bronze Wings test. You can read about this new initiative on the CFI's Page. Andy Hollitt (L) and Kirk did the honours.



Congratulations to young Sam White who gained his Bronze (P) Wings just recently after running through the LIFT training syllabus in record time. Sam has been practicing at a park near his home with his own UMX Apprentice. He is now enjoying the wide open spaces of HMAc field and the security of Insurance.



Pylon Racing Results

2 February 2025:

Electric class

Trevor Pearce (Connie) 96

Greg Leigh (Noarlunga) 91

Craig Spratt (Connie) 87

(No combat, open or standard class races flown due to weather.)

2nd March 2025:

Electric class

Trevor Pearce (Connie) 93

Greg Leigh (Noarlunga) 89

Pete Robertson (HMAC) 88

Craig Spratt (Connie) 81

Open class

Tom Jacobsen (Noarlunga) 95

Pete Robertson (HMAC) 90

Standard class

John Jefferson (HMAC) 48

Bryan Christie (HMAC) 43

(No combat missions flown)

Thanks to the ongoing dedicated commitment to Pylon racing, this group thrives—despite the weather



Lucky

I was sitting at the field thinking how lucky we are. The field stretches out in front of me, the local Maggies are flying about chasing grubs, the field is bordered by scrub and the Mt Lofty Ranges are in the distance and a big blue sky. Very scenic and less than 30 minutes from the city! In many places people are trying to kill each other. In other places they won't be able to fly model aircraft for 6 months because it's winter and they're snowed in. We're very lucky to live in this time and place.

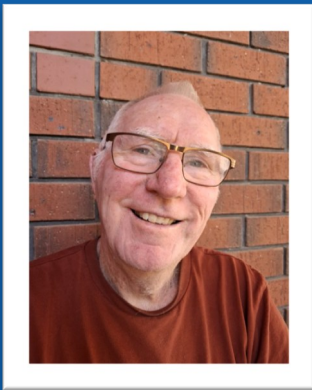
We rent the land, we pay for water and we pay for maintenance. The committee manages the facility, guys cut the grass, paint the sheds, fix the road, kill the weeds, train newcomers and do general maintenance. All volunteers and always looking for more volunteers.

If you're reading this then you're a member of HMAC and you have a model aircraft. Make the most of it. Maybe you're a bit unsure about flying. Been a while? The instructors aren't just here for new guys. We're here to help everyone and we are happy for existing members to contact us for a refresher flight on a buddy box.

Make the most of it, we're the lucky ones,

Andy Hollitt, CFI

"We are the Lucky ones."



Andy Hollitt

CFI's Corner

We've added an E-Flite 1.1M Trojan to the HMAAC fleet. This is a great little plane. It looks good, it flies really well, it has a tricycle undercarriage, it weighs just 1Kg ready to fly, provides 8 minutes duration with a 3S 2200 and it has SAFE. Currently \$470 at Modelflight.

The Horizon Hobby 'Sensor Assisted Flight Envelope' has been around since 2013. It's designed to help the pilot fly the plane and it does this by using gyros to stabilise the plane, combating turbulence. SAFE also prevents the plane from rolling or pitching beyond preset levels.

We have 2 main roads bordering the field and anyone flying at HMAAC must be competent to fly. Our test for competence is the MAAA Bronze Wings schedule, flown without a gyro. However, try as they might, not everyone can fly with enough precision to achieve Bronze Wings.

They may be a candidate for a Restricted Certificate. Our experience is that with the help of the SAFE system, these guys CAN fly the Bronze Wings schedule. Bronze Wings allows the pilot to fly any model weighing up to 2Kg RTF, but the Restricted Certificate will specify only the 1.1M Trojan can be flown (and any UMX plane).

There are some negatives:

1. The plane is small and must not be flown too far away. I've helped orientation by fitting a very bright LED in the cowl and I've painted one wing tip red. It should not be flown in 20kph wind as it will be blown away (but still stable!). I feel that 12kph is the limit.
2. Being inherently stable, if you lose visual, the plane will happily fly away all by itself.
3. SAFE can be programmed to be on or off with a switch, or programmed to be permanently on or permanently off. As SAFE can give a false sense of flying ability, switching SAFE off may end in tears, so we program it to be permanently on.

If you feel that your flying days are over, you may well find that you can still have a lot of fun flying this E-Flite Trojan with SAFE. You can try it out by contacting an instructor.



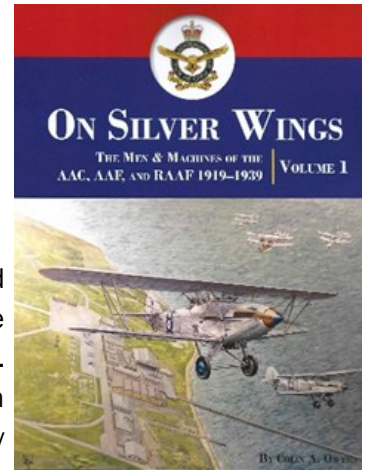
(Reprinted with permission from the South Australian Aviation Museum's "Props & Mags" newsletter.)

On Silver Wings – The Men and Machines of the AAC, AAF and RAAF 1919-1939

By Colin A. Owers

Aeronaut Books, 2023, RRP varies but not below \$70 per volume

Review by Group Captain Greg Weller (RAAF Edinburgh; member of the South Australian Aviation Museum History Group)



This three-volume collection of books released in 2023 provides a detailed collection of profiles of all the aircraft that served in the Australian Air Corps, the Australian Air Force and the Royal Australian Air Force between 1919 and 1939. The period in question is often overlooked, being the era between the wars when the fledgling RAAF was fighting for survival, competing for resources with the Army and Navy and even routinely justifying its existence as an independent air force.

Meanwhile, with the threat of war emerging in the 1930s, there was a recognised need to ramp up its capability, causing a distinct gap between desired and actual capability. The period was the focus of Chris Coulthard-Clark's excellent work *The Third Brother* in 1991. However, surprisingly, there have been few other serious detailed works on this all too important period in the development of military aviation in Australia. But while *The Third Brother* is very much an analytical analysis of the era, *On Silver Wings* is undeniably a detailed analysis of the aircraft of the era.

The level of detail and research is truly impressive, ensuring the three-volume set will become an essential, definitive and trusted source. There is an incredible array of imagery with some never-before seen photographs. Each aircraft has a three-view drawing and official drawings where available. Some aircraft have details for each serial of the aircraft (e.g. Avro Anson, CAF Wirraway) but unfortunately, such detail is not available for every aircraft. It would also have been valuable to have such data detailed in a table format rather than included as paragraphs in general text.

The three-volume set provides the aircraft in alphabetical order rather than chronologically, which is a little off-putting at first but once one is aware of the volumes' structure and content, it provides a simple means to find an aircraft. The Table of Contents in each volume actually provides a table of contents for all volumes, allowing one to easily find a specific aircraft. However, it is disappointing that a general index is not included at the rear of each volume to provide the means to find references to locations, people, events and units throughout the book.

Volume One provides a foreword by the Air Commodore (Retd) Mark Lax, another foreword by the author and a general introduction to military aviation that provides a general background on the development of the RAAF. This introduction could have been a bit more comprehensive. Volume One has entries for Avro 504K to de Havilland D.H.9A. Volume Two covers de Havilland D.H.50A to Supermarine Seagull III while Volume Three covers Supermarine Seagull V to Westland Wapiti. Unusually, the third volume has an appendix on HMAS Albatross, the RAN seaplane tender that supported amphibious aircraft such as the Supermarine Seagull III and Fairey IID aircraft.

Noting it is a three-volume set with a significant 300 to 350 pages in each volume at 28 X 22cm, the three-volume set is a significant investment with each volume being priced no less than AUD\$70 on Amazon. However, it is a reference collection and an equivalent 1,000-page folio book of such detail would be equally expensive. The decision to publish as a softback three-volume set is probably a sensible approach, keeping costs reasonable.

The three volumes are easily available online through Amazon but difficult to find through commercial booksellers. The South Australian Aviation Museum has the three-volume set in its library.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Pylon Racing

6th April (Daylight Saving ends)

General Meetings

4th April (Social)

9th May (Budget Agreement)

6th June (Social)

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 Sunday mornings (except the 1st Sunday of the month) 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.

New Members

The Club extends a warm welcome to the following:

Luke Styles

Sam White

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

Flying Training reminder: Due to a shortage of Instructors, we have had to reduce the rostered Instructor Days. The first Sunday of the month is now available for Pylon practice and some General Flying. Instructors will only be rostered for the remaining Sundays subject to occasional Special Events. The good news is that we have a couple of new Instructors coming soon. Always check the website for the latest weather update. We will cancel instruction if it is too windy, wet or excessively hot.

Flying Achievements

Name	Award	Instructors
Dave Graham	Silver (P)	Ian Williams, Kirk Winters
Sam White	Bronze (P)	Ian Williams, K. Neumann

E-flite

Sportix 1.1m RC Plane

Bind-N-Fly Basic



The E-flite Sportix 1.1m is a sporty, high-performance RC plane that's perfect as a "next step" after a trainer. Designed with modern convenience in mind, it features hands-free servo connections, a two-piece horizontal stabiliser, and tool-free assembly. Factory-installed LED navigation lights add to its realism, while digital metal-gear servos ensure precise control. Power comes from a Spektrum outrunner motor paired with an Avian 45A Smart Lite ESC, supporting 3S and 4S 2200-3200mAh batteries for flexible performance. Plus, it includes a Spektrum AR631+ receiver with AS3X+ and optional SAFE Select for added stability. Whether at a sports field or RC flying club, the Sportix 1.1m is the perfect companion for pilots ready to push their limits!



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IN RC**

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