



VALLEY FLIER



NEWSLETTER OF THE LATROBE VALLEY MODEL AERO CLUB
(INCORPORATED IN VICTORIA.)

REGISTRATION No A0001822M

ABN No 40445727221

39 KURT ST, MORWELL. 3840

SEPTEMBER 2026

PRESIDENT	SECRETARY & EDITOR	TREASURER
GODWIN BUGEJA	CRAIG McMAHON	WAYNE LEWIS
5 LISLE ST	4 DEANE ST	39 KURT ST,
MOE. 3825	TRARALGON. 3844	MORWELL. 3840
Mob 0417 333 588	Mob 0431 498 997	Mob 0422 627 169

Club Email address is secretary@lvmac.org.au

Have you checked out our WEBSITE at www.lvmac.org.au

VMAA Website is at www.vmaa.com.au

MAAA website is at www.maaa.asn.au

Facebook -<https://www.facebook.com/flylvmac>

General Flying at Lake Narracan on Thursday, Saturday & Sunday mornings when the weather allows.



Above – a “Stuka”, another nice big Model from the Inglewood festival of Aeromodelling

SUNDAY	AUGUST 30	General flying at all sites
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 2	FATHERS DAY
WEDNESDAY	SEPTEMBER 6	Committee Meeting at the Moe RSL meeting room – 7.30pm start
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 13	Club Flyday at LAKE NARRACAN.
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 20	General flying at all sites–& Combat Classic Event 4 at 11.30am
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 27	General flying at all sites
SUNDAY	OCTOBER 4	General Flying at all sites (Daylight Savings starts – clocks forward)
WEDNESDAY	OCTOBER 7	Monthly Meeting at the Moe RSL meeting room – 7.30pm start
SUNDAY	OCTOBER 11	Club Flyday at LAKE NARRACAN
SUNDAY	OCTOBER 18	General flying at all sites –& Combat Classic Event 4 backup day
SUNDAY	OCTOBER 25	General flying at all sites

Presidents Report



Hi All club members.

As it's well known I'm your newly elected club President. This isn't a position I thought I'd be doing, but as circumstances have it, here I am. I will try my best to fill the roll for this beloved club. I'd like to thank former President Jamie McLaughlin for the great job he has done over the past year. Many Thanks Jamie.

Club meetings will now be held every second month and Committee meetings in between. I'm hoping more members will attend these meetings so everyone can have a say and be more informed what's happening in our club.

The past few months has seen some new members join us. Some from the past and others just new. When new faces appear I encourage everyone ,to make yourself known with a welcome to our club.

August weather hasn't always been great but still there has been some good days for those who ventured out and had a fly.

That's all from me this month, hope to see you at the field.

Regards Godwin Bugeja.

Combat Classic Event 3 – After several postponements we finally got to fly Event 3 on Sunday 2nd August 2026. The day started out with a light frost and fog, but the fog cleared by 9.30am and, with the Sun was shining and a light Easterly wind, the grass was dry enough to run the Combat event after a Sausage Sizzle lunch, with a 12.10pm start. There were 7 starters for the Combat and there was some really close Combat Flying and several models did not survive the Event. There were plenty of spectators watching from the sidelines and they really enjoyed the action.

Round 1 got off to a bad start with Lofty's streamer breaking on hand launch and he was out of that round. Dave and Craig had a midair that trashed Dave's Balsa model but Craig's Blue Angle SPAD flew on and only needed a minor repair. Wayne got a cut on Dave's streamer before the midair and ran out of battery 20 seconds before time was called and landed down the track undamaged.

Round 2 saw Lofty and Godwin get cuts and Lofty lost his streamer then Lofty & Godwin had a midair collision and both models were damaged. Lofty's fuselage survived but the wing didn't. When Landing, Wayne had to duck below the fence to stop a model hitting him and his model crashed on the drain bank but luckily no damage.

In Round 3 was very close flying and Brian got 1 cut and Dave got 2. Unfortunately, Wayne's model hit the Deck when he took his eves off his model for a split second and it wasn't there when he looked back. It was in the paddock with the Fuselage broken in half.

In Round 4 there were 7 cuts. Wayne got 2 cuts, Craig got 2 cuts and Dave got 1 cut, Brian got 1 cut and Godwin got 1 cut.

This day had quite a bit of carnage, more than usual, but it was all in the name of fun and none of the crashed models were expensive and it was good that everyone had at least 1 backup model.

Thanks to Fred for doing the Sausage Sizzle Lunch and to Bill and Eric for doing the timekeeping & scoring.

At the end of Event 3 of the Combat Classic the results are:

	Event 1	Event 2	Event 3	Event 4	Total to date
Stephen Loft	750	900	680		2330
Wayne Lewis	750	750	880		2380
Dave Lewis	750	700	850		2300
Ian Partleton	750	800	750		2300
Brian Adams	800	710	780		2290
Godwin Bugeja	750	680	830		1430
Craig McMahon	000	550	800		1350

Round 4 of the Combat Classic will be on Sunday September 20th at 11.30am if the weather permits.



Above – Brian’s Combat Models



Above - Lofty & Godwin had a midair and this is the result



Abo0ve – Dave Lewis put his Combat model in the incinerator

Agenda for LVMAC 2026 Annual General Meeting & General Meeting to be held at the MOE RSL at 7:30pm Wednesday 5th August 2026

1 Meeting opened at: 1929

2 Present: *Craig McMahon, David Thiedeman, Godwin Bugeja, Jamie McLaughlin, David Lewis, Sam Flack, Fred Barabasz, Ian Heafield, Stephen Loft, Brian Adams, Ian Partleton, Bill Reid, Michael Dye, Wayne Lewis, Rex Mitchell, Paul Mitchell.*

3 Apologies: *Ivan Walker*

4 Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 6th August 2025.

Moved: Secretary

Seconded: Brian Adams

5 Business arising from the previous AGM minutes:

5.1 CCMT changes seemed to work ok.

6 Reports:

6.1 President's report

It's been a great 12 months serving as your President, and I'd like to thank everyone in the Club for your help and support throughout the year.

We've had a good year and had the chance to try a few new things, like our Bunnings display nights, getting started with Come & Try Days, and applying for grants again. Thankfully, they've all been a success.

The thing I've enjoyed most is seeing how willing everyone is to help out. Whether someone was asked or just saw something that needed doing, people stepped up and got it done. That's what makes this Club such a great place to be.

As this is my last President's Report, I'd like to wish the new President and Committee all the best for the year ahead. Thanks again to everyone, and I'll see you at the field.

Moved: President

Seconded: Godwin Bugeja

Looking back over the past year, it's been great to see the Club continue to move forward. We've introduced new initiatives, strengthened our connection with the community, and continued improving the way the Club operates.

Some of the highlights included the first Come & Try Day the Club has held in many years, giving us the opportunity to introduce new people to our hobby and welcome new faces to the Club. We were also successful in securing funding through Latrobe City Council, allowing us to invest in a new 12V battery system that will enable members to charge larger and more aircraft batteries for years to come. In addition, thanks to the support of the VMAA, the Club secured a new Apprentice RC trainer aircraft, giving us another valuable resource for training new and prospective members.

Membership has remained healthy, with the Club finishing the 2025–2026 year with 45 members. As we begin the 2026–2027 membership year, we currently have 41 financial members, with more renewals expected over the coming weeks.

Of course, not every goal was achieved this year. The search for a suitable long-term home for the Club remains our biggest challenge. While we are still no closer to securing a new site, I'm confident the Club will continue exploring every opportunity until the right location is found.

What has stood out to me most this year, though, isn't any one project or event—it's the people behind them. Time and time again, members have been willing to step up, lend a hand, share their knowledge, and volunteer their time whenever it's needed. Whether it's helping at an event, working around the field, mentoring a new pilot, or simply offering advice, that's what makes this Club such a great place to be.

As this has been my first year as Secretary, I'd like to sincerely thank everyone for the support you've shown me throughout the year. It's been a privilege to serve the Club, and I truly appreciate the opportunity to give something back.

Moved: Secretary

Seconded: Brian Adams

6.3 Treasurer's report

It has been another good year for the club financially and as usual, all is looking good in the books. The Auditors have checked out the financial situation as per the Rules of Incorporation and they are satisfied that all is ok as presented by the Treasurer.

We finished the year with \$6202.13 in the CBA bank account, which is \$8.84 more than the balance at the start of the year and there is \$10.70 in Petty Cash.

Starting Balance – \$6202.13

Income - \$12,823.14

Expenses - \$12,814.30

Balance - \$6,210.97

Total TD interest in the **CBA account** was better than last year at \$2,475.71 leaving us a total of \$56,295.39 which will be reinvested for 12 months @ 4.75% in July. (was 3.50%)

The **Bendigo Bank** Term Deposit total interest was \$183.14 leaving a total of \$5,728.01 which is invested for 9 months @ 3.20%.

This leaves us with a combined yearly total interest of \$2658.85 which was \$378.96 more than last year in the combined Term Deposits.

Total available Club funds at 30/4/26 are \$68,245.07 which is \$2667.69 more than last year so we have done well.

Our Total Club Assets value at 1/5/26 is sitting at \$12,311.00 which is \$932.50 less than last year and that is due mainly to depreciation as most of our assets are getting older.

There was one major purchases during the year which was the DJI Drone.

There are no major foreseeable expenses unless we lose the Lake Narracan site and then we will have expenses in finding and establishing a new flying site.

Moved: Treasurer

Seconded: Jamie McLaughlin

7 Treasurer's report for the month of July 2026

Starting balance (01JUL26)	\$
Income	\$
Expenses	\$
Closing balance (as of 27JUL26)	\$
Comm Bank TD (due for renewal on 10JUL27 @4.75%)	\$
Bendigo Bank TD (this investment was renewed 26APR26 for 1 year @ 4.8%)	\$
Investment total	\$
GRAND TOTAL	\$

Moved: Treasurer

Seconded: Brian Adams

8 Treasurer's report for the **year 2025/2026**

Starting balance (01MAY25)	\$
Income	\$
Expenses	\$
Closing balance (as of 30APR26)	\$
Petty Cash	\$
Comm Bank TD (Due for renewal on 10JUL27 @4.75%)	\$
Bendigo Bank TD (due for renewal on 24APR27 @4.8%)	\$
Investment total	\$
GRAND TOTAL	\$

Moved: Treasurer**Seconded:** Godwin Bugeja

8 **All Committee positions are now declared vacant.** For those positions for which nominations have been received, an election will be conducted by a show of hands from members present, with proxy votes included where applicable, to determine the Committee members for the 2026/2027 term.

9 Election of 2026/2027 Committee

President – **Godwin Bugeja** (Michael Dye formally withdrew his expression of interest for the President position).

Vice President – **Michael Dye**

Secretary – **Craig McMahon**

Treasurer – **Wayne Lewis**

Ordinary Member 1 – **Brian Adams**

Ordinary Member 2 (optional) – **Fred Barabasz**

Ordinary Member 3 (optional) – **David Thiedeman**

Ordinary Member 4 (optional) – **David Lewis**

Ordinary Member 5 (optional) – **Samantha Flack**

Ordinary Member 6 (optional) – **Jamie McLaughlin**

10 Election of appointed positions

Assistant Secretary – **Wayne Lewis**

Assistant Treasurer – **Godwin Bugeja**

Safety Officers – Lake Narracan – **Ian Partleton**
Warragul – **Dirk Kurpershoek**

Auditors x2 – **Craig McMahon & Michael Dye**

Plans Officer – **Brian Adams**

LNAG representative – **Godwin Bugeja & Michael Dye**

Newsletter editor – **Wayne Lewis & Craig McMahon**

CCMT Coordinator – **Wayne Lewis & Samantha Flack**

Combat Cup/Classic coordinator - **Wayne Lewis & Samantha Flack**

NOTE: Following a discussion, the meeting agreed in principle to amalgamate the roles of CCMT Coordinator and Combat Cup/Classic Coordinator into one position for future terms. Final decisions regarding the exact scope and title of the new role will be decided upon at a later date.

11 General business

11.1 Confirm fees for the 2026/2027 year

11.2 2026/2027 Club Annual Program

11.3 All members present unanimously agreed to update the authorised bank signatories. The approved signatories for the 2026-27 financial year are Wayne Lewis, Godwin Bugeja, and Craig McMahon. It was further agreed that Paul Mitchell be removed as an authorised signatory, subject to confirmation that he is currently listed on the account.

ACTION: Wayne Lewis

11.4 The replacement of the first entry gate to Narracan is still under investigation. It has been suggested that the Latrobe City Council's "Snap. Send. Solve." app be utilised to initiate the replacement process.

ACTION: Michael Dye

11.5 The lock on the mower container will be changed to allow anyone with a gate key to access it.

ACTION: Wayne Lewis - **COMPLETED 09AUG26.**

12 New member applications:

- 12.1 Danny Rapisarda
- 12.2 Robert Woodroffe
- 12.3 Anthony Slocum (returning member after several years)
- 12.4 Bobby Sheehan (new Junior)

13 Current membership:

Current financial Membership is 24 Seniors, 13 Pensioners, 2 Life & 2 Junior. Total members currently sit at 41.

14 Safety:

- 14.1 During Combat please ensure that no one steps out onto the field until ALL models have landed.
- 14.2 All members must ensure that damaged LiPo batteries are disposed of safely and correctly.
- 14.3 Members were reminded of the importance of maintaining situational awareness when taxiing aircraft back to the pilot box after landing. It was noted that the mown area immediately in front of the pilots box is designated as a taxiway and should be used where practicable, particularly when aircraft land to the east and are returning to the pits at the west end.

15 Relocation update:

- 15.1 While there is no current update on the Club's relocation, the new Committee strongly encourages ALL members to remain vigilant and report any potential sites that may be suitable for development.

16 Bent Wheel Award nominations for July 2026

- 16.1 Jamie Sjamsudin for one of his gliders.
- 16.2 David Lewis for EFXtra look-a-like.

WINNER: Jamie Sjamsudin for one of his gliders. Congratulations and commiserations Jamie!

17 Bomb Award nominations for July 2026

- 17.1 Brian Adams for an "incorrect" landing during a combat round.

WINNER: Brain Adams as there were no other nominations. Congratulations Brian!

18 Show & tell: None

19 The next **Annual General Meeting** will be Wednesday 4th August 2027.20 The next **General Meeting** will be 7th October 2026.

21 Meeting closed at: 2050

Club Flyday at Lake Narracan (Sunday 9th August 2026)

It was a cold and very wet morning and there was no one at Lake Narracan on this day !

Please make sure that before flying, the Main Container is open for access to the Fire Extinguishers, Defibrillator and First aid Kit.

COME & TRY Days : It was suggested at the last meeting that we should have 2 Come & Try days each year and that they should be in May/June and November/December so that anyone wishing to Join up can take advantage of the full year or half year fees. Therefore, our next Come & Try Day is programmed for Sunday 15th November 2026 !

<http://www.maaa.asn.au/images/pdfs/forms/Form-016-POWER-BRONZE-SILVER- WINGS.pdf>

<http://www.maaa.asn.au/images/pdfs/forms/Form-017-POWER-GOLD-WINGS.pdf>

<http://u.b5z.net/i/u/10194601/f/Flight Intruc/Part 5 5 -Description of Gold Wings Manoeuvres.pdf>

(read in conjunction with the MAAA Bronze, Silver & gold Wings Sheet as there are maneuvers that we do not do, included in this pdf)

Locking the Caravan Park Gate key box– please make sure that when you lock the box you have to push the lock down from the top and up from the bottom to lock it successfully. Then pull it down to make sure it is locked.

Just pushing up from the bottom will not lock the lock successfully, even though you may think it has.

The sagging gate issue has been worked on by the Council and now the actual gate lock is a little difficult to get out I have been told !

Please make sure that before flying, the Main Container is open for access to the Fire Extinguishers, Defibrillator and First aid Kit.

Have you paid your fees yet ?

No flying at Club Sites after 30th June if you haven't.
Please return your "Club Key" if you are not rejoining.

Fees for the 2026-2027 year are now overdue and were payable before 30th June 2026

2026/2027 YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION (1/7/26 to 30/06/27)

	MAAA	VMAA	Club Fee	=	Total
JOINING FEE for NEW SENIOR MEMBER (once only fee)					\$25.00
JOINING FEE for NEW PENSIONER & JUNIOR MEMBERS (once only)					\$25.00
NOTE : A Printed Newsletter fee applies to those on Posted newsletters					\$12.00
Add \$20.00 if you want a Key to the Lake Narracan Gate Box					\$20.00
SENIOR MEMBER	\$80.00 +	\$54.00 +	\$86.00 =		\$220.00
JUNIOR MEMBER (under 18yrs 1/07/26)	\$15.00 +	\$15.00 +	\$2.00 =		\$32.00
PENSIONER MEMBER (Centrelink Pension)	\$80.00 +	\$54.00 +	\$50.00 =		\$184.00
LIFE MEMBER or member over 90 years old	\$80.00 +	\$54.00 +	\$0.00 =		\$134.00
ASSOCIATE MEMBER FEES (see note below)	Appropriate Club Fee as above =				?????
SOCIAL MEMBER (no flying rights-no insurance- basically a newsletter member)			\$20.00=		\$20.00
Note: A Club Family membership is available on application for families with more than 1 Adult member & 1 Junior member					

BSB 063530 Acc No 10068336 Acc Name: Latrobe Valley Model Aero Club

Current Financial Members as at 25August 2026

Brian ADAMS	Stephen LOFT	Danny RAPISARDA
Fred BARABASZ	Alan MALE	Bill REID
Godwin BUGEJA	Dale MARSH	Bobby SHEEHAN
Bill BURROWS	Jamie MCLAUGHLIN	Jamie SJAMSUDIN
David CAMPBELL	Craig MCMAHON	George (Tony)SLOCOMBE
Ray COOPER	Graham MCMAHON	Anthony (Tony)SLOCUM
Tim DAWSON	Rex MITCHELL	Eric SPRATT
Mick DYE	Paul MITCHELL	David THIEDEMAN
Samantha FLACK	James MORFITT	Ivan WALKER
Ian HEAFIELD	Greg MULLINS	Roy WHITE
Rod HILLSLEY	Jaidev MUPPAUARAPU	Ollie WILSON
Dirk KURPERSHOEK	Glen NEAL	Robert WOODROFFE
Wayne LEWIS	Paul O'BRYAN	Jason YENDALL
David LEWIS	Ian PARTLETON	

If your name is not on the list you are not a financial member



Above - Jamie Sjamsudin and Godwin Bugeja retrieving Jamie's Ra Ra after it went for a swim

Please remember that if the HEMS Helicopter comes over the Lake to do the winching or whatever, there is no flying whilst they are in the area !! If you are flying and hear the Helicopter approaching, land as quickly as you can.



and

HOBBYWORLD

74 Seymour St, Traralgon

PH 5174 2088

FOR ALL YOUR HOBBY NEEDS !

Fuel, parts and more

**A new range of indoor Aircraft
In store now !**

**Present your Club Card for your
10% discount.**

CURRENT FUEL SITUATION – 1-12-25

Roy and Goddy are still supplying fuel in Bulk at a discount and leaving a small quantity in the flying field container.

Current prices are:

2 Stroke \$48 / 4 litres (via Roy)

4 Stroke \$42 / 4 litres (via Godwin)

For 2 Stroke Fuel could club members please ensure that they immediately advise Roy (at field or text 0417 562014) when taking any fuel and pay prior too, or shortly after.

If you want to transfer the money here are Roy's Bank details:

BSB 063530

Account No 10029601

Account Name: Roy White.

ALTERNATIVELY:

Pay ID 0417562014 (ie Roy's Mobile No.)



Above -7yo Bobby Sheehan is our latest Junior Member and is learning on the Apprentice. Bobby has been flying the apprentice and other models on my Phoenix RC Simulator for a year or so and he was so good on it that I put him on the real SAFE Apprentice and he is doing really well. After 14 flights he is taking off and landing on SAFE. (Perfect conditions though !)

PHOENIX RC SIMULATOR – You may not know that the Phoenix RC Simulator is now available as a free download as V5.5 and can be upgraded to V 6.1 by following the instructions. You can also download hundreds of extra models.

<https://www.rc-thoughts.com/phoenix-sim/>

All you need is a Transmitter that has a trainer plug and you will have to buy a 22 in 1 Simulator dongle on ebay (between \$10 and \$35). Some have cables for different Transmitters. It's a great way to get your Grandchildren interested !

RC USB Flight Simulator With Cables All round 8ch Dongle RF9.5 RF8 Phoenix 6.0

rangzai_62

(329)

97.7% positive

[Seller's other items](#) [Seller's other items](#)

[Message](#)

AU \$10.40



Thanks to the Godwin, Ivan and any other Club Members who helped clean out the 2 containers at Lake Narracan recently. It was a job that just needed to be done and they look good and are not so cramped inside. Thanks to Fred for donating a couple of Dump Vouchers that were used

Thanks also to Godwin, Mick and any other Club Members that helped cut some firewood and stack it in the shelter one miserable Sunday Morning.

Left – Alan Male had an interesting flight with his glider. The wingtip broke at about 400ft and he managed glide it down to land it safely

Many thanks to those who have contributed to the newsletter with Articles, Pictures and information this month. It would be good to get some new contributors. Thanks also to our regular contributors in particular for their monthly contributions.

The Valley Flier Newsletter is owned and published by the Latrobe Valley Model Aero Club (incorporated). Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the editor and authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Club or Association. Contributions accepted for publication may be edited as required. Whilst the publishers exercise due care with regard to the newsletter contents, no responsibility can be accepted for errors and/or omissions or any damage or offence that may be caused as a consequence.