



VALLEY FLIER



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

REGISTRATION No A0001822M

ABN No 40445727221

39 KURT ST, MORWELL. 3840

May 2026

PRESIDENT	SECRETARY & EDITOR	TREASURER
JAMIE McLAUGHLIN	CRAIG McMAHON	WAYNE LEWIS
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CHURCHILL. 3842	TRARALGON. 3844	MORWELL. 3840
Mob 0409 466 385	Mob 0431 498 997	Mob 0422 627 169

Club Email address is latrobevalleymodelaeroclub@gmail.com

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 - Fred's Hangar 9, OV-10 Bronco - 84" span, 2 x 20cc 6S electric equivalent motors.

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

SUNDAY MAY 3
 WEDNESDAY MAY 6
 SUNDAY MAY 10
 SUNDAY MAY 17
 SUNDAY MAY 24

WEDNESDAY JUNE 3
SAT/MON JUN 6/7/8
 SUNDAY JUNE 7
SATURDAY JUNE 13
 SUNDAY JUNE 14
 SUNDAY JUNE 21
 SUNDAY JUNE 28

General flying at all sites – Combat Classic Event 1 at 11.00am
 Monthly Meeting at the Moe RSL meeting room – 7.30pm start
Mothers Day & Club Flyday at Lake Narracan
 General flying at all sites (Combat Classic backup day)
Bairnsdale Club Mid May Muster & General flying at all sites

Monthly Meeting at the Moe RSL meeting room – 7.30pm start
KING S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND.... Various Events see VMAA calendar
 Club Flyday at LAKE NARRACAN.
Bunnings Sausage Sizzle at Morwell Bunnings (volunteers needed)
 General flying at all sites
 General flying at all sites & **Combat Classic Event 3 at 11.00am**
 General flying at all sites

Presidents Report



Another month down, another month closer to winter, and don't we know it! It's good to see we're still getting some good flying days, especially the last week with a good run of fine, sunny & windless days, but, when the wind is here, it blows hard and it's can be cold!

Great also to see members still getting out to the field and having a fly on the good days and it's also great to see so many clubs hosting so many good events around the country with the VMAA calendar looking quite full with most of them also seeing good attendance figures at these events.

Craig and myself took the time this month to go visit P&DARCS for their Monty Tyrell flying RC event this month, some of you may have seen some pictures and videos I posted online. It really was a great event and well worth taking the time to go check it out.

The Club Warbirds & Military Day went well and was well attended. Probably the best attended Club Event for some time.

Anyways that's all from me, see you at the field!

Regards, Jamie McLaughlin

Bunnings Easter Event

Jamie, Wayne & Ian Partleton represented the Club with a small display of models at the Bunnings, Morwell, Easter event. It all went well and the simulator certainly got a workout, unfortunately with most children having a go, too young to get involved with the club. Its just good PR for the Club !



Minutes of the April 2026 General Meeting held at the MOE RSL at 7:30pm Wednesday 1st April 2026

1 Meeting opened at: 1930

2 Present: *Fred Barabasz, Mick Dye, Wayne Lewis, Ian Partleton, Craig McMahon, Jamie McLaughlin, Brian Adams, Godwin Bugeja, Rex Mitchell, Ollie Wilson.*

3 Apologies: *Ian Heafield, Stephen Loft, Bill Reid, Ivan Walker, Paul Mitchell.*

4 Visitors: *Geoff Bruerton, Anthony Wilson.*

5 New member applications: Dale Marsh, Jaidev Muppavarapu, Sai Pathuri

6 Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4th March 2026.

Moved: Secretary

Seconded: Ian Partleton

7 Business arising from the previous minutes:

7.1 Bunnings BBQs. When do members want to participate? ABN is not currently a requirement. Members present all suggested that we do some more bunnings BBQs, however it would be preferable to do it on a Saturday.

ACTION: Craig to contact Bunnings Morwell to get a date for a BBQ on a Saturday. **(COMPLETED)**

Barb from Bunnings Morwell has booked the Club in to do a BBQ on **Saturday 13th June 2026**. Volunteers will need to be locked in closer to the date.

7.2 Volunteers were needed for the Easter Event at Bunnings Morwell Thursday 26th March.

Volunteers were: Jamie McLaughlin, Ian Partleton & Wayne Lewis.

7.3 Craig asked if any members would like to order additional Club apparel (polo shirts, jackets, etc.). Members interested are requested to email the Club Secretary.

ACTION: Jamie has said that he will chat to some local suppliers to find out costs (see 15.2).

7.4 The new field camera requires a new SIM card. The current SIM is \$25/month and a motion was carried to put that against the monthly Club expenditures.

ACTION: Craig to change SIM account details. **(COMPLETED)**

8 Correspondence In & Out and Business arising from Correspondence:

8.1 The VMAA Sports Grant of \$250 was successful. The Secretary will need to provide the following to the VMAA:
 - a report that can be uploaded to the VMAA website; and
 - Copies of receipts (Trophies, Facebook marketing, etc.) totalling grant funding amount. **(ACTION: Wayne** has now provided receipts to the Secretary)

Moved: Treasurer

Seconded: Brian Adams

9 Treasurer's report

Starting balance (01MAR26)	
Income	
Expenses	
Closing balance (as of 30MAR26)	
Comm Bank TD (this investment was renewed on 10-7-25 for 1 year @ 3.50%)	
Bendigo Bank TD \$ (this investment was renewed on 26-9-24 for 1 year @ 4.40%)	
Investment total	
GRAND TOTAL	

Moved: Treasurer

Seconded: Ian Partleton

10 Current Membership: Current financial Membership is 30 Seniors, 10 Pensioners, 2 Life & 3 Junior. Total members currently sit at 45.

11 Lake Narracan Advisory Committee: Nothing to report

12 Relocation update & Sub-committee report: Nothing to report

13 Flight proficiency: 13.1 Dale Marsh – Bronze Wings
 13.2 Samantha Flack – Bronze Wings

14 Safety: Discussions were held about the importance of engaging throttle cut before walking back to the pit area. The setting up of failsafe was also discussed.

15 GENERAL BUSINESS

15.1 The Club now has an ABN.

15.2 Clothing order. Still trying to find a supplier.

15.3 Please ensure that the lock is fully engaged on the front gate when locking up, as there have been several instances where the gate was not locked fully over the last couple of months. You have to press down on top and up from the bottom and pull down to check its locked properly

15.4 There were discussions about changing the sign on the gate to make it more inviting.

16 Bent wheel award nominations

- 1 Ivan Walker – Jackaroo & a model in the lake.
- 2 Graham McMahon – Sputnik again & Extra 300.
- 3 Fred Barabasz – Cessna 310 into a tree upon landing approach.
- 4 Ian Heafield – Boomarang into a tree.
- 5 Dale Marsh – Turbo Timber
- 6 Michael Dye – Cartwheeled on landing
- 7 Godwin Bugeja – Combat model losing its wing.
- 8 Ian Partleton – Super Stik
- 9 Ollie Wilson – Crashed plane due to a desoldering of a battery adapter.

WINNER: Fred Barabasz for his Cessna 310. Congratulations and commiserations Fred!

17 Bomb award nominations:

- 1 Fred Barabasz for forgetting a wing spar when coming out the field.

WINNER: Fred by default since there were no other nominations. Congratulations Fred!

18 Show & tell:

18.1 Rex brought in a scratch-built Beaver that also has hidden control linkages in the tail.

18.2 Mick brought in parts of a rudder and elevator for a Hawker Hurricane.

11 Events

Upcoming program for LVMAC:

April 2026

Sunday	19 th	General flying at all sites
Saturday	25 th	ANZAC Day
Sunday	26 th	General flying at all sites & War Birds Day at Lake Narracan

Upcoming local program for VMAA

April 2026

Friday 17 th – Sunday 19 th	P&DARCS Monty Tyrrell Scale Rally
Saturday 18 th – Sunday 19 th	BRAG Blue Rock Float Fly

12 Next meeting: General Meeting on Wednesday 6th May 2026 at 7.30pm at the Moe RSL meeting room.

13 Meeting Closed at: 2039hrs



Above – Rex Mitchell showed the DHC Beaver that he is scratch building – Wing still to be covered



Above – Mick Dye showed the Elevator & rudder of a 25Ft span Hurricane that he is building. This a real Aeroplane, not a model

Note -The **Club Drone** is kept in the Mower Container in the "White Box". It has one fully charged battery with it and I will change the battery weekly. Also in the box is a drone mat, shade screen and some instructions. If you have to use the Drone, please let me know. Several members have now had some instruction on how to fly the Drone.

Club Flyday at Lake Narracan (Sunday 5th April 2026)

It was Easter Sunday and the end of Daylight Savings and it was a reasonable morning being fine and sunny with some cloud, but it was pretty windy with the Easterly wind gusting 20kmh to 33kmh at 10.00am, with only 7 members, 2 visitors and a new Junior member arriving at the Lake.

Craig McMahon flew his Hawk EDF Jet wearing the FVP goggles (with Rex keeping a visual) for some flights and he also flew his Typhoon EDF jet.

Wayne Lewis flew the Boomerang V3 and the Teksumo and had the Corsair and some Combat models in the trailer but it was too windy to fly them.

Rex Mitchell flew his Pitts Special and his P40 Warhawk. Unfortunately, when landing the Warhawk had an issue with one retract not locking down and that became a problem. Rex tried to get the retract to lock down permanently but to no avail so it only had the 1 flight. He also has issues with the muffler on the 4Stroke motor

Godwin Bugeja had a few flights on an electric Combat Model. Godwin also flew his Giles 202 with no issues.

Fred Barabasz flew his 1100mm span Laser and all went well although the wind was throwing the model around somewhat.

Graham McMahon and Fred spent a while playing around with the 4stroke engine on his Marathon and he did manage to fly a Combat SPAD. He had the Sea Fury repaired and ready to go but it was too windy for a test flight.

Jaidev Muppavarapu, our latest Junior member arrived but it was too windy for him to fly the Club Trainers.

Dale Marsh from Mirboo North rocked up with a couple of mates from the Westernport Club. He flew his Turbo Timber on a new Transmitter and need some assistance from Phil to get it under control in the wind.

Phil from the Westernport Club flew a Piper PA18 Super Cub and it seemed to handle the wind ok.

Les, also from the Westernport Club did not fly but did spend some time talking to Fred who he knew from the Hallam Hobbies days.



Above – Rex Mitchell flew his Pitts Special on the Club Flyday

Combat Classic Event - The Combat Part of the Combat Cup was Round 2 of the Combat Classic Event. Due to the weather and other extenuating factors, Event 1 of the Combat Classic has not yet been run but Event 2 results are:

	Event 1	Event 2	Event 3	Event 4	Total to date
Stephen Loft		900			900
Ian Partleton		800			800
Wayne Lewis		750			750
Brian Adams		710			710
Dave Lewis		700			700
Godwin Bugeja		680			680
Craig McMahon		550			550

Hopefully Event 1 will be held this coming Sunday, 3rd May

Warbirds & Military Day at Lake Narracan (Sunday 26th April 2026)

It was a great day with 19 members and some visitors in attendance and 11 of those members flying Warbirds. The morning was fine and cloudy with a light Easterly Wind gusting to 10 Kph and as the day progresses the sun came out and the wind died off. There was plenty of general flying along with the warbirds. Best turnout we have had for a long time. Maybe it was that free Sausage Sizzle Lunch that Fred cooked for us. Thanks Fred.

Dave Lewis had his large 55cc powered Mustang but it never got to fly, having engine problems

Fred Barabasz flew his large Fockle-Wulf 190 with a 120cc petrol motor

Ian Partleton had a large Corsair and a large Spitfire. Unfortunately the Corsair didn't get to fly due to a servo problem. The Spitfire flew very nicely but damaged the undercarriage on a reasonably good landing.

Rex Mitchell flew a Warhawk and a Mustang and damaged one of the Warhawk's undercarriage legs

Craig McMahon had several flights with his new PC9 with no issues.

Wayne Lewis had a car and trailer load load and flew the P51 Mustang, T-28 Trojan, P40 Warhawk, Corsair, a Hurricane & the Typhoon and they all went home in one piece.

Godwin Bugeja flew a Hurricane and a Corsair and had no issues.

Stephen Loft flew his electric .40 size Zero and a small foamy Corsair. The Corsair handled the wind well.

Graham McMahon flew his P51 Mustang, a Spitfire and a T-28 Trojan

Brian Adams flew a Martinsyde Elephant Biplane, a Sopwith Pup Biplane and an AT6 Texan and all went well.

Mick Dye had a Spitfire and it hadn't flown whilst I was there.



Above – Wayne's collection for the day – P40, P51, Hurricane, T-28, Typhoon & Corsair – All flown on the day, all survived !



Above – Ian P’s Spitfire & Rex’s Mustang in the background



Above – Graham McMahon’s Spitfire

Round 1 of the Combat Classic will be on Sunday 3rd May 2026 at 11.00am if the weather permits. (or 12 Midday if the grass is too wet at 11am)



Above – Mick’s 50cc Wot 4 went off the air and crashed – cause - a screw through a switch harness lead.

<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](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)



Above - Graham had an incident with his Stega Mustang for the 3rd time

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 !



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 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 Goddy)

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:

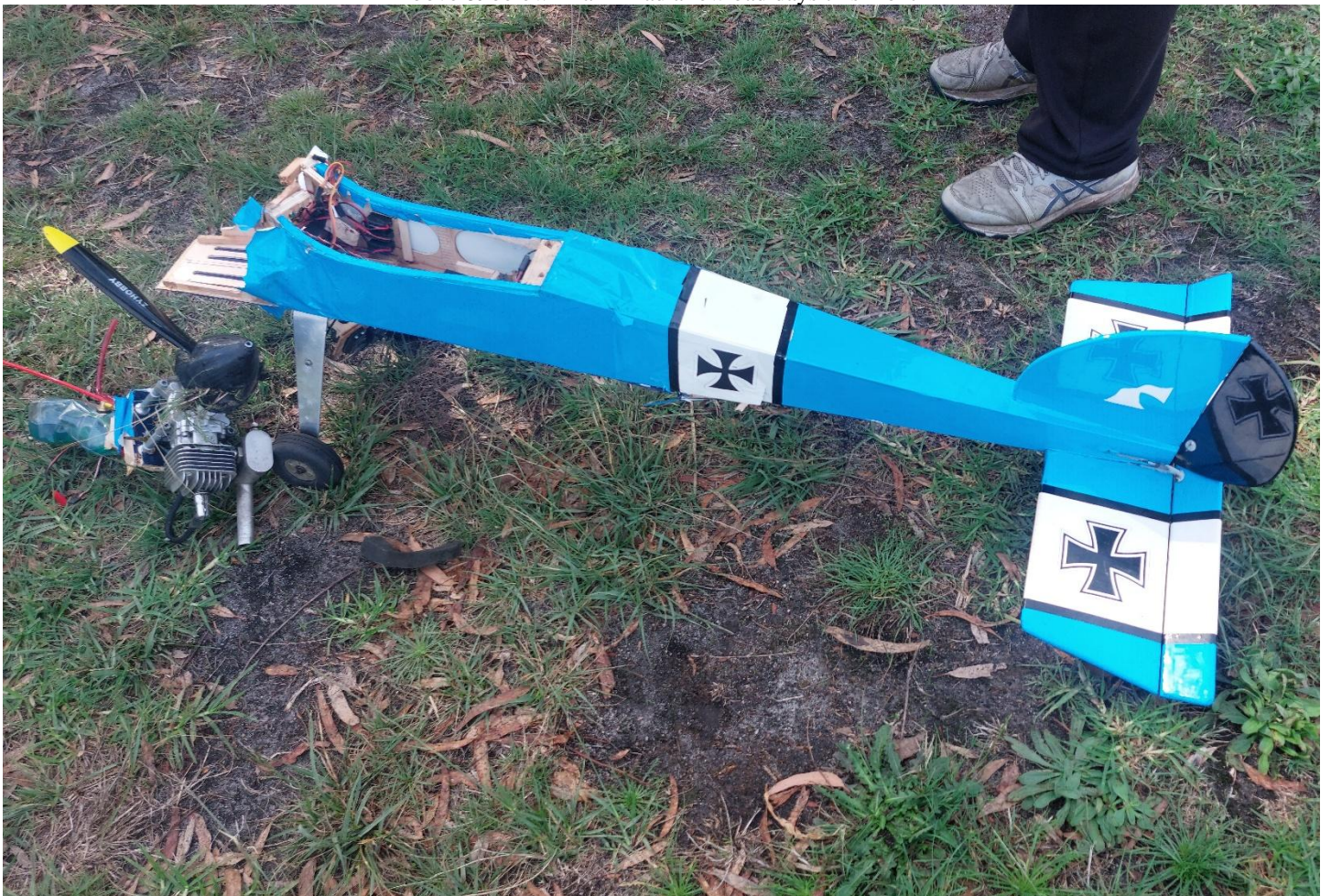
Pay ID 0417562014 (ie Roy's Mobile No.)



Above – Wayne's P40 Warhawk found its way into a tree – cause was only 1 underwing flap was down on take off – no damage



Above & below – Ian P had a few bad days this month





Above - James Morfitt is now flying this 3D Extra 300



Above – Rex Mitchell’s scratch built DHC Beaver is almost ready to fly.
I’m sure Rex will really enjoy flying a Scale Model without a retractable undercarriage !

Agenda for May 2026 General Meeting to be held at the MOE RSL at 7:30pm Wednesday 6th May 2026

1 Meeting opened at:

2 Present: *As per the attendance book.*

3 Apologies: *As per the attendance book.*

4 Visitors: *As per the attendance book.*

5 New member applications:

6 Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st April 2026.

Moved: Secretary

Seconded:

7 Business arising from the previous minutes:

7.1 Clothing order. Still trying to find a supplier.

7.2 Please ensure that the lock is fully engaged on the front gate when locking up, as there have been several instances where the gate was not locked fully over the last couple of months.

7.3 There were discussions about changing the sign on the gate to make it more inviting.

8 Correspondence In & Out and Business arising from Correspondence:

8.1 The VMAA Apprentice invoice was received 24APR and has now been paid.

8.2 Bunnings Morwell has requested a Public Liability insurance certificate before the fundraising BBQ on the 14th June.

ACTION: Craig

Moved: Secretary

Seconded:

9 Treasurer's report

Starting balance (31MAR26)	
Income	
Expenses	
Closing balance (as of 27APR26)	
Comm Bank TD (this investment was renewed 10JUL25 for 1 year @ 3.5%)	
Bendigo Bank TD (this investment was renewed 26SEP25 for 1 year @ 4.8%)	
Investment total	
GRAND TOTAL	

Moved: Treasurer

Seconded:

10 Current Membership:

Current financial Membership is 30 Seniors, 10 Pensioners, 2 Life & 3 Junior. Total members currently sit at 45.

11 Lake Narracan Advisory Committee:

12 Relocation update & Sub-committee report:

13 Flight proficiency:

14 Safety:

15 GENERAL BUSINESS

15.1 Club fees for 2026-2027

15.2 The VMAA has accepted the Club's application for a Sports Grant, however will only pay the value of \$250. What can the Club do to assist in receiving the grant?

15.3 New sign at the front gate.

15.4 Other general business

16 Bent wheel award nominations

- 1 Michael Dye – Wot 4
- 2 Graham McMahon – Strega P-51 Mustang
- 3 Ian Partleton – Big Stik & SBach
- 4 Craig McMahon – Rare Bear
- 5 others

17 Bomb award nominations:

1. Ian P
2. Others

18 Show & tell:

19 Events - Upcoming program for LVMAC:**May 2026**

Sunday	3 rd	General fly at all sites & Combat Classic Event 1
Sunday	10 th	Mother's Day & Club Fly Day at Lake Narracan
Sunday	17 th	General fly at all sites (Combat Classic Event 1 backup day)

June 2026

Wednesday	3 rd	Monthly Meeting at the Moe RSL meeting room – 7.30pm start
Sunday	7 th	Club Fly Day at LAKE Narracan

Upcoming local program for VMAA

May 2026

Saturday 23 rd – Sunday 24 th	Bairnsdale Mid-May Muster at BADMAC
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12 Next meeting: General Meeting on Wednesday 3rd June 2026 at 7.30pm at the Moe RSL meeting room.

13 Meeting Closed at:

Barb from Bunnings Morwell has booked the Club in to do a BBQ on Saturday 13th June 2026.

Volunteers will need to be locked in closer to the date.

(If you haven't already done a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle, please put your hand up)

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.

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