
¹ VALLEY FLIER

NEWSLETTER OF THE LATROBE VALLEY MODEL AERO CLUB
(INCORPORATED IN VICTORIA. REGISTRATION NUMBER (A0001822M))
39 KURT ST, MORWELL. 3840
Mob 0422 627 169

December 2025

PRESIDENT	SECRETARY & EDITOR	TREASURER
JAMIE McLAUGHLIN	CRAIG McMAHON	WAYNE LEWIS
5 McDONALD WAY	4 DEANE ST	39 KURT ST,
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.lymac.org.au

VMAA Website is at www.vmaa.com.au

MAAA website is at www.maaa.asn.au

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

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



A very nice turbine powered F22 Raptor at the Bairnsdale Warbirds Weekend

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

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30

CHRISTMAS LUNCH at the Moe RSL at 12.30pm
General flying at all sites -

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 3

Monthly Meeting at the Moe RSL meeting room – **7.00pm** start.

A Club Auction is to follow the meeting.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 7

Club Flyday at LAKE NARRACAN.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14

General flying at all sites.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21

General flying at all sites.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day

THURSDAY DECEMBER 26

Boxing Day

SUNDAY DECEMBER 28

General flying at all sites.

THURSDAY JANUARY 1

New Years Day

SUNDAY JANUARY 4

Club Flyday at LAKE NARRACAN

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7

No monthly meeting

SUNDAY JANUARY 11

General Flying at all sites

SUNDAY JANUARY 18

General Flying at all sites - **Combat Classic event 1 at 11.00am**

SUNDAY JANUARY 25

General Flying at all sites (**Floatplane Day**)

MONDAY JANUARY 26

Australia Day



President's Report



Hello all, well another month of windy weather is almost behind us and I'm sure although we have been getting some good flying days here and there we all look forward to a bit more consistently good days, as the seasons change. I will say there has been some great mornings for flying during the week, some weeks so, I hope the ones that could make it are getting out there and enjoying these days when we do get them.

Hope to see you all at the next meeting.

Regards, Jamie McLaughlin

Minutes for November 2025 General Meeting held at the MOE RSL at 7.30pm Wednesday 5th November 2025

- 1 Meeting opened at: 1930
- 2 Present: Ivan Walker, Ian Partleton, Bill Reid, Chris Davenport, Stephen Loft, Craig McMahon, Jamie McLaughlin, Wayne Lewis, Fred Barabasz, Ian Heafield, Godwin Bugeja, Mick Dye, Brian Adams.
- 3 Apologies: *As per the attendance book.*
- 4 Visitors: *As per the attendance book.*
- 5 New member applications: None
- 6 Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st October 2025.
- 7 Business arising from the previous minutes:

Moved: Secretary

Seconded: Ian Heafield



- 7.1 Club brochure needs to be decided upon. It has been suggested that 500 be initially ordered as the club location could change before we require more. Can we also get new Club promotional items? For example, an A-frame (with a brochure holder) and new Club banner? Can the proceeds from the recent Bunnings sausage sizzle be allocated to help fund this?

Craig – 1000 Club brochures have been ordered and delivered. Craig will bring samples to the meeting.

Mick – A-frame design is yet to be decided upon. It was decided that less is more. **Craig** will work with **Mick** to get this complete. **Mick** said that it will be \$160 to complete and it will be made from thick plastic.

Craig & Wayne – ‘Come & try’ day has been decided upon for the 1st March 2026, with the backup as 23rd March 2026. This has been added to the Club annual program.

- 7.2 Club email address. The current address has served the Club well. To build on this, the Secretary would like to explore alternatives that provide a more professional image for Club communications and support succession planning by making future role handovers smoother.

Craig – New Club email address was open for discussion with Club Committee members, and no objection was given. Cost to club is \$118.80 per user per year.

- 7.3 Club auction and ‘Come Try Day’. Can these be integrated into the one day sometime in November?

Club auction will be held **after December’s General Meeting**. Communications will go out closer to the date. **7pm start for General Meeting. Please send a list of aircraft to Wayne before the meeting.**

- 7.4 Members have proposed a float day to be conducted at the Hover Craft Club. **Mick** – Will reassess at a later date.

- 7.5 Club displays at Bunnings events. If the Club is going to do these regularly, can we alternate between Traralgon and Morwell?

Craig – Bunnings Traralgon is happy for us to attend their events as well. The next event (Christmas) is 4th December. Due to Bunnings rules, sausage sizzles will continue at **Morwell ONLY**.

- 7.6 Club Christmas lunch. - **Craig** – An email was sent out to all members and suggestions were as follows:

- BBQ at the field.
- Personalised invitations to try and boost the incentive to come along.
- Catering and Hall hire like what has been done in the past. Extend the invites to family members as well?
- **It was decided at the meeting to have the Christmas Lunch at The Moe RSL Club @ 1230 Saturday 29th November.** Suggestions are welcome for something different next year.

8 Correspondence In & Out and Business arising from Correspondence:

- 8.1 In: VMAA Executive Meeting minutes. It was forwarded to members on 9th October.

- 8.2 In: Quick response Grants from LaTrobe City Council.

Fred put forward a motion that we apply for the grant for a new Deep Cycle Lithium battery for the charging station. This was carried by majority of members present. **Craig** will apply before the closing date. **UPDATE 13NOV25 - Due to recent changes in La Trobe City Council's grant application process, all applicants (including incorporated bodies) require an ABN. There is an auspice option, however we will possibly need to reach out to the VMAA to try and get them to sponsor us. This will not be possible before the grant cut-off time of 4pm Friday 14NOV25. We will reassess before the next round of quick grants in January.**

Fred also put forward a motion that the Club purchase a DJI Mini 5 Pro to assist in locating downed aircraft. This was carried by majority of members present. **Craig** will purchase using Club funds. Training of members in the use of the drone is suggested before they fly it.

- 8.3Out: November agenda contribution email.

Moved: Secretary

Seconded: Ivan Walker

Starting balance [date]	
Income	
Expenses	
Closing balance	

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	

Seconded: Brian Adams

As of 29th October 2025, the Financial Membership was 29 Seniors, 10 Pensioners, 3 Life & 2 Junior. Total currently sits at 44.

The last meeting was cancelled and a new meeting has been programmed for the 17th December 2025.

- The Hover Craft Club are hesitant to visualise how both Clubs can co-exist. Ultimately neither Club may have much choice.
- Toners Lane may have potential, however there are many conditions that will require to be sorted before anything goes ahead, such as; how far to the East will we be able to go? Will we disturb the Dog Club? Will the Lease Holder allow us to fly there?
- The Hazelwood site looks promising.
- **Action items:** The sub-committee need to come up with a general layout on all sites before they are presented to the Council and/or Hazelwood, and document any potential issues discovered during the planning.

14 Safety: No incidents reported

Congratulations Wayne, and good luck to all next year!



16 Bent wheel award nominations

- 1 Jamie McLaughlin – Zeus jet
- 2 Ian Partleton – Super Stik and a Bitza
- 3 Mick Dye – Ultra Stik
- 4 Jamie Sjamsudin – RaRa & Glider
- 5 Eric Spratt – Canard
- 6 Fred Barabasz – Slick

Voting was held and majority of members present agreed that Jamie M deserved this month's award. Congratulations and commiserations Jamie, and welcome to the Club!

17 Bomb award nominations:

- 1 Ian Partleton for his first Stik crash
- 2 Ian Heafield for not refueling his plane properly.

Voting was held and majority of members present agreed that Ian H deserved this month's award.

18 Show & tell: None

19 Confirm upcoming program: 9th November is a Club Fly Day at Lake Narracan

16th November is the inaugural Remembrance Fly Day. This year will be dedicated to Doug.

29th November is the Club Christmas lunch at the Moe RSL Club. **Please send numbers to Wayne or the Secretary ASAP.**

20 Next meeting: General Meeting on Wednesday 3rd December 2025 at 7pm at the Moe RSL meeting room. This will also include the Club Auction at the end of the meeting.

21 Meeting Closed at: 2050

AUCTION – It has been decided to have an auction at the RSL after the December meeting. **The December meeting will start at 7.00pm.** If you have something to bring to the Auction please put a starting price on it before the meeting. If you let Wayne know before the next newsletter I will put in a list in the newsletter.

At this stage we have for Auction a T28 starting price \$50

Giles 202 with OS46 engine – never been flown – just needs a receiver & battery – Starting at \$150

Nexstar Trainer with OS50 engine – never been flown – just needs a receiver & battery – starting at \$150

Electric starter – no reserve

Club Flyday at Lake Narracan (Sunday 9th November 2025)

It wasn't a very good day weatherwise with a 20 to 24Kph Westerly wind to start and only 4 members arrived. The wind was up and down as there were several rain bands moving through and there were several sunny breaks. By 11.30pm the wind was gusting to 50kph from the South and there was no more flying.

Wayne Lewis had the usual collection for the day and had 5 flights with the Boomerang V3 and 2 with the SPAD 40. Wayne also had a newly built Twin SPAD and the Teksumo but it was too windy to fly them.

Mick Dye has 1 flight with an OS1.08 powered Focke-wulf 190 and damaged the undercarriage on landing.

Fred Barabasz just socialized on this day

Graham McMahon flew a Foamy Cub in which he put a battery that wouldn't allow the model to penetrate the wind so that flight only lasted 20 seconds. A second flight with a different battery went well. Graham also had one flight with a High Wing Trainer on a 6S battery and struggled to land it in the wind so Wayne landed it ok.



Above -Wayne's new Twin SPAD – basically a combat SPAD with 2 motors – fly's quite well

Always make sure you have a phone with you so that you can make or receive a call if you need to go into the paddocks and always wear appropriate footwear.

Remembrance Flyday

Sunday 16th November was set down for this day to remember past members and especially Doug Jowett who passed away recently. The weather was not kind and the day started out overcast with thick grey cloud and a 15 kmh to 20 kmh wind Westerly wind which increased to 20kmh to 41kmh from the WSW by 11.00am so there was not a lot of flying with most members only having 1 flight.. 12 members attended and an early "Hot Dog" lunch was supplied by Ian Heafield. Thanks Ian, it went down well.

Ollie flew 2 of Doug's old models, the Easy Trainer foam glider and a Timber which both flew very well in the Conditions.

Wayne flew a 6S battery powered Pitts Special that Doug only had one flight with, then he sold it to Wayne at a very reasonable price. Wayne also flew the Boomerang, Teksumo & Spad 40 and all went well in the windy conditions.

Rex Mitchell also flew a 6S powered Pitts Special that Doug donated to him.

Roy White flew his new 6 S powered Spacewalker and had no issues.

Ian Heafield flew a .46 powered Boomerang.

Lofty flew his SPAD and the Canard.

Eric flew his Stick 100

Jamie S flew his RaRa and managed to break it. He then flew his Phoenix 2000 glider and also broke it.

Ivan flew his 6S powered Jackaroo

Jamie M flew his 35cc powered Edge 450

Graham McMahon flew a couple of nitro powered models including a 1.20 size Dragon Lady.

Fred Barabasz flew his Raven.

Chris Davenport came to socialize.

By 11.30 we had all gone home !



Above – Doug gave Rex a Pitts and sold another to Wayne at a very good price.

Below are some pics from the **“Warbirds Over Bairnsdale”** weekend. The Bairnsdale State field was in excellent condition for this yearly event as always and the weather was good. Dave Lewis flew his 35cc Tuskegee Mustang and Craig McMahon flew his F-14 Tomcat



Above – Craig’s F14 Tomcat



Above - Line up for takeoff



Above - A nice F7F Tigercat and B17 Flying Fortress



Above – Dave's Tuskegee Mustang taking off

Club Fees 2025-2026 – Half Year fees apply from 1 January 2026 for new members.

	MAAA fee	VMAA fee	Club fee	
SENIOR MEMBER	\$80.00 +	\$54.00 +	\$86.00 =	\$220.00
JUNIOR MEMBER (under 18yrs 1/07/25)	\$15.00 +	\$15.00 +	\$2.00 =	\$32.00
PENSIONER MEMBER (Full Government Pension or HCC)	\$80.00 +	\$54.00 +	\$50.00 =	\$184.00
LIFE MEMBER	\$80.00 +	\$54.00 +	\$0.00 =	\$134.00
ASSOCIATE MEMBER FEES (see note below)	Appropriate Club Fee as above =			Club fee
NEW JUNIOR MEMBER for first year	Club fee only =			2.00

<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_Manoevres.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 – Fred and his new Flex Innovations “CAP 232”.
It is a 70cc size model running on 12S battery power (2x6S 6000’s in series)

Remember it’s the time of year when those wriqqly things may be hiding in the grass. A Tiger Snake has recently been seen in the area of the toilets so be careful.

**Remember to always keep an eye on your Charging Lipo’s
And dispose of those damaged ones appropriately.**



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 – 25-4-25

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

Current prices for 2 stroke is -

2 Stroke \$40 / 4 litres

4 Stroke \$42 / 4 litres

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 the details:

BSB 063530 Account 10029601

Account Name: Roy White.

Godwin is looking after the 4 stroke fuel so see him if you need some.



Above - Ivan's new Cub hit the fence and broke !

The Club Floatplane day didn't happen due to the fact that it was raining through the night and into the morning which was unfortunate.

Agenda for December 2025 General Meeting to be held at the MOE RSL at 7pm Wednesday 3rd December 2025

- 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 5th November 2025.



Moved: Secretary

Seconded:

- 7 Business arising from the previous minutes:
 - 7.1 **Fred** put forward a motion that we apply for the grant for a new Deep Cycle Lithium battery for the charging station. This was carried by majority of members present. **Craig** will apply before the closing date.

UPDATE 13NOV25 - Due to recent changes in La Trobe City Council's grant application process, all applicants (including incorporated bodies) require an ABN. There is an auspice option, however we will possibly need to reach out to the VMAA to try and get them to sponsor us. This will not be possible before the grant cut-off time of 4pm Friday 14NOV25. We will reassess before the next round of quick grants in January.

Fred also put forward a motion that the Club purchase a DJI Mini 5 Pro to assist in locating downed aircraft. This was carried by majority of members present. **Craig** will purchase using Club funds. Training of members in the use of the drone is suggested before they fly it.

UPDATE: The Secretary was approached by some members expressing their concern that a DJI Mini 5 Pro may be too much for what the Club requires, both in flying weight (borderline 250g) and expense. It is suggested this matter be resolved during the December General Meeting.

- 7.2 Craig & Jamie suggested that we reach out to other local Clubs (BADMAC, SADAC and BRAG) and invite them to come and have a fly with us. The intention is to build up productive relationships with other Clubs in the local area. **Craig will follow up when the weather improves.**
- 8 Correspondence In & Out and Business arising from Correspondence:
 - 8.1 In: VMAA Secretary requesting the Club provide banking details for Club brochure reimbursement.
 - 8.2 In:
 - 8.3 Out: December agenda contribution email.
 - 8.4 Out:

Moved: Secretary

Seconded:

9 Treasurer's report

Bendigo Bank investment has been renewed for 7 Months @ 3.8%

Starting balance [date]	\$6,688.72
Income	\$238.20
Expenses	\$54.88
Closing balance	\$6,488.72

Comm Bank TD (this investment was renewed on 10-7-25 for 1 year @ 3.50%)	\$56,295.39
Bendigo Bank TD \$ (this investment was renewed on 26-9-24 for 1 year @ 4.40%)	\$5,728.01
Investment total	\$62,023.40
GRAND TOTAL	\$68,512.12

Moved: Treasurer

Seconded:

10 Current Membership:

No change as of 29th October 2025, the Financial Membership was 29 Seniors, 10 Pensioners, 3 Life & 2 Junior.
Total currently sits at 44.

11 Lake Narracan Advisory Committee:

12 Relocation update & Sub-committee report:

13 Flight proficiency: None

14 Safety: No incidents reported

15 GENERAL BUSINESS

15.1 Traralgon Bunnings night 4th December. Can we use the Club banner again?

Volunteers are: Craig McMahon,

15.2 Presidents request for Warragul site.

15.3 Others

16 Bent wheel award nominations

- 1 Eric for his Stik with reversed ailerons
- 2 Graham McMahon for his Sportster 40 crash
- 3 Ivan for his Cub
- 4 Others

17 Bomb award nominations:

- 1 Eric for reversed ailerons
- 2 Ivan for servo arm on back to front
- 3 Others

18 Show & tell:

19 Confirm upcoming program:

20 Next meeting: **There will be no General Meeting in January** at this stage

21 Meeting Closed at:



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas
from the Committee.

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.