



VALLEY FLIER



NEWSLETTER OF THE LATROBE VALLEY MODEL AERO CLUB
 (INCORPORATED IN VICTORIA. REGISTRATION NUMBER (A0001822M)
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DECEMBER 2023

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Our 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>



Turbine powered Pilatus PC 21 in South African PC 7 colour scheme on a flypast at the Bairnsdale Warbirds Event

SUNDAY	DECEMBER 3	General flying at all sites
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 6	Monthly Meeting at LV Airport - 7.30pm start
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 10	Club Flyday at LAKE NARRACAN.
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 17	General flying at all sites.
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 24	Christmas Eve -
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 3	No monthly meeting
SUNDAY	JANUARY 7	Club Flyday at LAKE NARRACAN
SUNDAY	JANUARY 14	General Flying at all sites
SUNDAY	JANUARY 21	General Flying at all sites - Combat Classic event 1 at 11.00am
FRIDAY	JANUARY 26	Australia Day
SUNDAY	JANUARY 28	General Flying at all sites(Floatplane Day)



From the President...

Hi all

In the past month, I observed the final combat session for this year. The standard of the flying was impressive and the friendly banter expressed by all combatants discussing their hits and misses was indicative of the good nature of the club.

It was great to see at our last meeting, a full house. Good to see such enthusiastic attendees.

The Floatplane day went well with excellent weather for the event and the Lake was calm all day and as it was cloudy there was no sun to look into. We haven't seen those floatplane conditions for some time.

Our Christmas Lunch at the Moe RSL went off well with 34 attending. It was good to see a few of the wives, partners & family coming along.

I'd also like to acknowledge our two young flyers, Ollie and William who are coming along nicely with support from the 'Old Hands'.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I hope Santa brings you what you wish for !

See you at the field.

Cheers Bill

Combat Classic Event 4 of 4

This was the last round of the Combat Classic for 2023 and it was a great day. The sun was shining and the Easterly wind was only gusting 13kmh to 20kmh but that was no problem. In the lead up to the Combat, Lofty & Rex had a mid air in which Lofty's Sparkler's wings folded and Rex's Christian Eagle had minor damage and landed ok. There was plenty of General Flying up to 11.00am, when the Combat started.

There were 6 starters in round 1 and there were 3 streamer cuts in this round Wayne cut about a metre of James and Brian cut the rest of James streamer. James got a cut on Lofty. Godwin was flying the only nitro powered model and the engine failed on take off but he eventually got airborne to complete the round.

Round 2 saw Lofty get a cut on James and Wayne got a cut on Brian. Ian's model had a bad landing and then it turned out to be a problem with his Transmitter so he didn't fly again. There were a couple of damaged models in this round with Lofty & Brian needing backup models for the next round.

Round 3 saw James get the only cut and Lofty had forgotten to change batteries so he didn't make the 3 minutes and Godwin also didn't make the 3 minutes.

In Round 4 there were a lot of close calls with 5 models whizzing around and it saw Wayne & James have a minor "Clip" where James lost his battery cover and Wayne got a cut in the wing but both models finished the round and landed ok. Lofty & Brian also "clipped" each other and only had minor damage. Thanks to Chris & Eric for doing the scoring & timekeeping. It was all over in 45 minutes.

The event score was tied with Brian & Wayne both on 850 points, then came James with 800 points followed by Lofty on 680 and Ian DNF. Final positions at the end of the 4 rounds follow.....

The way the scoring works is the best 3 of 4 rounds are counted in each event and the best 3 of the 4 events are counted at the end of the 4 events.

When the scores of the best 3 Events are counted and there is a tied score, we look at the 4th event score so in this cast Wayne & Brian are tied on 2400 points after the 3 event scores are added so the 4th events scores are counted making Wayne the overall winner on 3100, Brian Second 2400 & James in 3rd place on 2380.

Thanks to those who assisted with the Scoring & timekeeping

COMBAT CLASSIC final Scores

	1	2	3	4	total
After the 4 Events the scores are as follows.....					
Wayne	700	+ 800	+ 750	+ 850	= 3100
Brian	750	+ 000	+ 800	+ 850	= 2400
James	830	+ 750	- 000	+ 800	= 2380
Godwin	730	+ 750	+ 800	- 730	= 2280
Lofty	750	+ 750	+ 750	- 680	= 2250
Ian P	750	+ 750	+ 750	- 450	= 2250

After the Combat there was general Flying and Paul Mitchell put on a great display with his Dad's Christian Eagle. Unfortunately, he got a little low and ended up with a "high speed tip stall" which ended in disaster for that model (see the pic).

Wayne was flying his Sig Wonder and the engine made some strange noise and it crashed. (for the 6th time). (see the pic)

As I was leaving, I saw Lofty picking up his Combat Model and I noticed the Fin was bent. Brian had landed on top of his model on the ground.

There were 19 Club Members and some visitors on site on this day and it was a most enjoyable day.



Above – Brian lost half of his motor when he and Lofty had a midair in round 2



Above – This Eagle has well & truly landed

Minutes of the November 2023 General Meeting **held at the Latrobe Regional Airport at 7.30pm on Wednesday 1st November 2023**

1 Meeting Opened at : 7.30pm

2 Present – 14 Members - Wayne Lewis, Bill Reid, Godwin Bugeja, Dave Lewis, Brian Adams, Stephen Loft, Ian Partleton, Fred Barabasz, Chris Davenport, Ollie Wilson, Ian Heafield, James Morfitt, Paul Mitchell & Rex Mitchell.

3 Apologies – Mick Dye

4 New Members applications – None

5 Visitors – Anthony Wilson, Roy Urand & Bret Mitchell

6 Confirm the minutes of the previous Meeting held on 4th October 23 – As per the October 23 Newsletter

Moved : Secretary Seconded: Brian Carried: yes

7 Business arising from the previous minutes –

7.1 agreement with Swinburn Air Hub – ongoing

7.2 HMI – Rod Hilsley has been reappointed and David Lewis has put in an application – The Club endorsed David's Application and Wayne will send on to the VMAA.

7.3 Bendigo Bank signatures – Godwin getting the paperwork.

7.4 Cadet Mower has had its 50hr service at Georges Mowers – Blades needed changing

7.5 Bunnings Sausage Sizzle – several members put their name down to assist – Godwin to contact Bunnings and organise a date for sometime in 2024.

8 Correspondence In & Out and Business arising from Correspondence

8.1 Out - Newsletter to members, VMAA & various others

8.2 Out – email members re F3A event cancellation.

8.3 Out letter to LVAC advising that we won't be meeting at their Clubrooms after December.

8.4 In -VMAA AGM & September Minutes

8.5 in – email -VMAA confirmation of Rod Hilsley's reappointment as an HMI (he is now on the official VMAA list)

Moved : Secretary Seconded: Paul Carried: yes

9 Treasurer – As supplied	Starting Balance	\$ 7902.51	
	Income	\$ 86.00	
	Expenses	\$ 399.84	
	Balance	\$ 7588.67	
	Comm Bank TD	\$ 49701.58	(this investment was renewed on 9-7-23 for 1 year @4.74%)
	Bendigo Bank TD	\$ <u>5277.80</u>	(this investment was renewed on 26-3-23 for 1 year @ 3.75%)
	Total Investments	\$ 54979.38	
	Total Funds	\$ 62568.05	

Moved : Treasurer Seconded: Chris Carried: yes

10 2023-2024 Membership at 24-10-23 – = 45 Financial Members - up by 1 Associate Member –
24 Seniors, 10 Pensioners, 2 Junior, 3 Life, 5 Associate, 1 Social.

11 Lake Narracan Advisory Committee: - Next meeting Bill to mention the need for ” keep Dogs on Leash” signs, needed for either side of our site. Will the Council supply them ? Bill to also mention the Caravan Park keys to our site should go to the Wooribinda Camp.

12 Relocation Update: - ongoing

13 Flight Proficiency – None

14 Safety - Someone almost launched a model into someone darting out to get a motor stalled model at The Combat Classic. It was agreed that the rules to be changed to a 2 minute “ready time” and pilots are to line up and launch safely one at a time. Once all models are airborne the hooter to commence combat will be sounded.

15 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 15.1 John Deere Mower needs deck repairs. Godwin will repair it.
- 15.2 Sausage Sizzle on Sunday if the weather is suitable Bill volunteered to cook.
- 15.3 A lady from Trafalgar has lots of stuff to sell – kits, ARF, big stuff. Godwin will contact her and organise something.
- 15.4 Gate open or closed on hot days – It was decided to leave the gate open for now but if we do get cars in the Cadet area we may have to shut the gate.
- 15.5 Other

16 BENT WHEEL AWARD – There were 3 nominations

- 16.1 Wayne crashed his S1500 Stick due to dumb thumbs and also crashed his Wonder for the 6th time.
- 16.2 Doug crashed his Timber after going OFF Safety and killed the motor when he tried to get back ON Safety.
- 16.3 Paul Mitchell crashed his Dads Christian Eagle after putting on a very good demo of what that model could do. He then got too low and did a tight turn causing a high speed tip stall. The models wing clipped the ground and then shot straight into the Pilot Line fence. The wings survived but the fuselage didn't.

Congratulations Paul. It was a unanimous decision

17 BOMB AWARD - There were 2 nominations –

- 17.1 .Mick Dye for bringing the wrong Tx. He had to go home and get the right TX.
- 17.2 Stephen Loft for forgetting to change batteries in the Combat. He was so busy replacing his Streamer and untangling the string around his motor, that he forgot to change the battery and the motor died soon after the next launch.

Congratulations Lofty

18 SHOW & TELL –

- 18.1 Godwin showed a small scratch built Stampe that his is building from plans. Will have a .20 nitro engine when finished.
- 18.2 Rex showed a model similar to a Corby Starlet that he is building from scratch. Will be electric when completed.

19 CONFIRM PROGRAM - Club Floatplane day - Sunday 19th November & Club Christmas Lunch – Saturday 25th November

20 Next meeting will be a General Meeting and will be on Wednesday 6th December 2023 at 7.30pm at the LV Airport.
This will be our last meeting at this venue. 2024 meetings will be at the Moe RSL meeting room.

21 Meeting Closed at : 8.25pm



Bairnsdale Warbirds Weekend

It wasn't a nice weekend weatherwise but several flyers attended this event. David Lewis flew a 35cc Mustang and Rex Mitchell flew his smaller OS powered Mustang and his Warhawk in the unsavoury conditions. Saturday morning saw rain and when the rain cleared the wind came up but there was plenty of flying. Sunday saw conditions the same as Lake Narracan with a strong wind and some keen flyers did brave the conditions. There were some very nice Models at the event.



Club Flyday – Sunday 5th November 2023

It was a cloudy & sunny morning at Lake Narracan with that dreaded Easterly wind gusting 20 to 35kmh at 9.00 and there was only 5 members in attendance. There was more socializing than flying !

Doug Jowett was first up with his Conscendo on Safety and his first flight was successful but his second flight didn't go so well and he landed out near the concrete pile, some 750metres away. No damage !

Eric Spratt flew his S1500 Stick and his Craze Wing but didn't fly his Crusader.

Wayne Lewis flew his S1500 Stick and the SPAD 40

Chris Davenport didn't bother to get anything out of his van except his flask of Coffee.

Fred Barabasz also didn't bother to fly in the conditions.

We didn't bother doing the snags for lunch and we had all departed by 11.00am

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Club Floatplane Day- Sunday 19th November 23

The weather forecast was good and actually came true for a change. It was calm and overcast to start and the sun did eventually come out and warmed things up nicely. The light Westerly wind was just perfect.

Wayne had several flights off the Lake with his Skipper.

Godwin flew his Albatross and Tundra on floats and gave Lofty a fly which was Lofty's first time flying off water and all went well.

Chris flew his Beaver, Twin Otter & Skipper with no issues

Alan Male has just finished building a Nautilus Floatplane with an OS61 engine and was keen to put it in the water. It taxied out ok and all looked good but when the throttle was applied the nose went down and the model took in some water and flipped over. We had to get the boat out to pick it up. No damage, just some wet gear. Alan will have to find a way to seal the cockpit for next time.

There was also plenty of flying off the grass strip by the 12 members that attended and we also had some visitors. Mike Schaarschmidt was a member 20 years ago and, now a member of the SWAMPS Club, just came for a look and to socialize.

It was all over by 12.30 and conditions were still perfect for flying off Land or Lake.

Our next Floatplane event is programmed for Sunday 28th January 2024.



Above – Alan Male & his Nautilus

VALE – Edward Knowles, AUS 29990

Ted passed away suddenly and a card has been sent to his Wife & Family from the Club. I never met Ted as he was a Member of the P&DARCS Club and an Associate member of our Club and did not fly at Lake Narracan. He was a Precision Aerobatics flyer and from what I hear he was pretty good at it.



Above – Eric's Sparkler hit the post after looping on takeoff



Above – Wayne's new S1500 Stick had the wing spar break in flight. He had been kind of wringing it out on a very windy day.

Have you got the correct Wings ? Several members have “Bronze Wings” and should be upgrading to “Silver Wings” or even “Gold Wings. Don’t be afraid to have a go at the manoeuvres, especially when you may be the only one in the air. It can only make you a better pilot. There is more to flying RC than just flying around in circuits.

<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%20Intruc/Part%205%205%20-%20Description%20of%20Gold%20Wings%20Manoeuvres.pdf)

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

Chris Eeles from Warragul has just successfully completed a VMAA Instructors course at the VARMS Club. Congratulations Chris and well done.



Above – State Flying Instructor Les Mariner (left) & Chris Eeles with his Certificate

Bunning Sausage Sizzle – It was suggested at the last meeting that we should have a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle day to promote the Club and make a few dollars. This would include a static display of models if the weather was suitable. We would need at least 8 members to put up their hand up to assist on either a Saturday or Sunday. Several members put their hand up at the last meeting so Godwin will arrange something with Bunnings for 2024.

Thanks to Godwin for doing some repairs on the John Deere Mower and Thanks to Fred & Wayne for doing a lot of the mowing. The grass is really growing at the moment. Just remember - if you crash out in the paddock, try to get a line on when it ended up. The grass in the paddock is quite long and its not easy to find a model, even when you know where should be.

Also please make sure you wear appropriate footwear and watch where you are walking if you have to go into the paddock. There are bound to be some slithery creatures out there somewhere.

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CURRENT FUEL SITUATION – 13-6-23
(Note the price change for 4 stroke)

Roy is still purchasing fuel from Toy World in Bulk at a 20% discount and is leaving a small quantity in the flying field container.

Current prices inclusive of the 20% discount for 2 stroke and 10% discount for 4 stroke are:

2 Stroke \$48 / 4 litres

4 Stroke \$63 / 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.

Roy has also left some Glow Plugs and Ply wood in the Container at marked prices.



James Morfitt has built and been flying the Gyrocopter. It fly's really well.

Monthly Meetings.

It was agreed at the September Committee Meeting to move our monthly meetings to the MOE RSL meeting room in 2024, so the December Monthly Meeting will be the last meeting at the LV Airport. We have been meeting there for 33 years. Ian Partleton has organised the Moe RSL for us and there is no cost involved. Thanks Ian.

Brian Adams was out with his camera one day and sent in a heap of pics. Here are a few.....



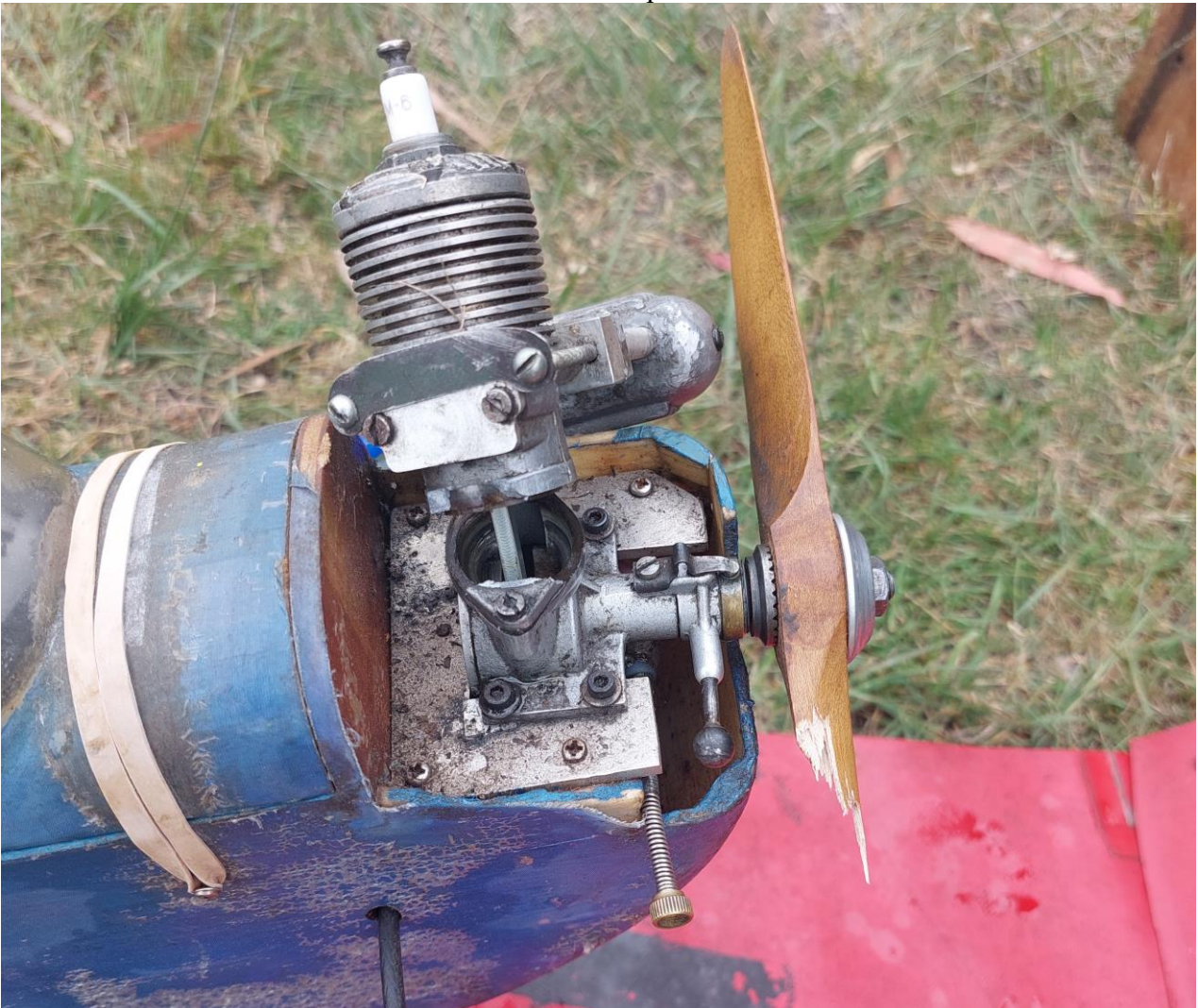
Above Glen Neal's Super Stick



Above - Dave Thiedeman's Wot 4



Above - Chris Davenport's Falcon



Above - Alan Male went to fly his 3 channel Cloud King Old Timer on a windy morning and the model was blown over at take off and broke the engine that Alan Male had built from castings, given to him many, many, many years ago. It was a Spark ignition, Baby Cyclone copy. Nice crankshaft holding it together !

Agenda for the November 2023 General Meeting
held at the Latrobe Regional Airport at 7.30pm on Wednesday 6th December 2023
This will be our last meeting at the LV Airport after 33 years

1 Meeting Opened at :

2 Present –

3 Apologies –

4 New Members applications –

5 Visitors –

6 Confirm the minutes of the previous Meeting held on 1st November 23 – As per the December 23 Newsletter

Moved : Secretary Seconded Carried:

7 Business arising from the previous minutes –

- 7.1 agreement with Swinburn Air Hub – ongoing
- 7.2 HMI – Rod Hilsley has been reappointed and David Lewis has an application
- 7.3 Bendigo Bank signatures – Godwin getting the paperwork.
- 7.4 Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

8 Correspondence In & Out and Business arising from Correspondence

- 8.1 Out - Newsletter to members, VMAA & various others
- 8.2 In & Out – email from Latrobe City Council– clarification on our needs for a new site & club Numbers x 2
- 8.4 Email from Consumer Affairs informing us that the Model Rules have changed – (we are under our own rules)
- 8.5 VMAA AGM & September Minutes

Moved : Secretary Seconded: Carried:

9 Treasurer – As supplied

Starting Balance	\$ 7588.67	
Income	\$ 0.00	
Expenses	\$ 190.71	
Balance	\$ 7397.96	
Comm Bank TD	\$ 49701.58	(this investment was renewed on 9-7-23 for 1 year @4.74%)
Bendigo Bank TD	\$ <u>5277.80</u>	(this investment was renewed on 26-3-23 for 1 year @ 3.75%)
Total Investments	\$ 54979.38	
Total Funds	\$ 62377.34	

Moved : Treasurer Seconded: Carried:

10 2023-2024 Membership at 24-11-23 – 24 Seniors, 10 Pensioners, 2 Junior, 3 Life, 5 Associate, 1 Social. = 45 financial members

11 Lake Narracan Advisory Committee: -

12 Relocation Update: - ongoing

13 Flight Proficiency –

14 Safety -

15 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 15.1
- 15.2
- 15.3 Other

16 BENT WHEEL AWARD – Wayne – Stick, Eric – Sparkler, others

17 BOMB AWARD -

18 SHOW & TELL –

19 CONFIRM PROGRAM -

20 **Next meeting will be a General Meeting and will be on Wednesday 7th February 2024 at 7.30pm at the Moe RSL meeting room.**

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.

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