

Issue 508

Apr 2017

Victorian Association of Radio Model Soaring



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Cover photo:

A cost effective alternative to the club's need of a new mower

Des Bayliss photo

21st April
General Meeting

Wednesday at VARMS Field – The 3 F's night
Fly, food, fix

5th May - Deadline for next edition



Well hasn't the weather been nice, although it cooled down some when daylight saving ended.

Please note that due to our meeting night being Good Friday, the April General Meeting has been held over for a week. Now on Friday 21st... Same time.... Same place.

The biggest subject we are hearing about at the moment is membership fees, bought about because our new committee from last year are attempting to simplifying things, while still ticking all the box's (not an easy task). Let me say that the "year" isn't any different to other years. It runs July to June and VARMS close our books in May. By asking our members to pay a month early has some significant advantages. It gives the Treasure a month to do his final account for the year, it gets our moneys into MAAA/VMAA early and avoids the queue, it gets our badges done before the queue and on the home front it insures that our members are financial for the AGM. And the cost to members.... 1/12 of maybe 3% of around \$200. You do the math.

So, humour us, pay early, and don't forget to fill in a membership form:

http://varms.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/VARMS_Membership_Form_2017-2018.pdf

or use the one included in Aspectivity. It's important to have the form and the money for John to match up. He already has 5 unmatched cheques and 3 unpaid forms.

On a similar vein, the letter some got about wings is because our data base does not match the MAAA data base. I have no idea how this came about, but this is how we are trying to fix it. Please help if you can.

Climbing down from the soap box....

Sandown display went well; thanks to Geoff Hearn, Geoff Glover, Russell Pearce and Thomas Tan. Good PR for VARMS

The field is looking good at present, especially for the end of summer. Don't forget the ANZAC day event "Warbirds over Wantirna", the ALES comps coming up the VMAA Trophy. We are looking for a few flyers. Some spectators/supporters would be nice, it's always an entertaining day.

I had a fly at Glenfern Rd the other day. Still a great place close to home for slope soaring, I must get there more often.

That's enough from me, just remember.... The April general meeting is **NOT ON GOOD FRIDAY'**

Please send articles & photos for
publication to
editor@VARMS.org.au

March General Meeting minutes

Members present: 40 approx
Apologies: B. Spencer, D. Anderson, P. Eagles, G. Sullivan, L. Rodman
Visitors/New members: Hugh Gurney

Minutes of the previous meeting Accepted R. Kassell Seconded ?

Matters arising: Nil

Treasurer

John Cott asked for a volunteer to help with treasurer duties

To date \$24,600, \$6169 expenses

NAB account closed

Must use new membership form (as included in Aspectivity)

Invoices will be sent in April, mainly via email.

Registrar

New form asks for 'next of kin' contact number/s. This is for emergency use only.

General Business

- Sandown Display setup today
- Air display on Sunday
- Good publicity
- Wings over Wantirna
- Senior Festival October
- VMAA Trophy, need one more volunteer
- Volunteer needed for clothing
- Alan Mayhew – Electric Flight Association raffle. \$10 per ticket, 1st prize is a \$2800 plane
- Anthony Peate – Wangaratta Aerotow this weekend

Training

12 students

ALES Comp

12 pilots but windy. 1st Alan Mayhew, 2nd Bob Wilson (visitor) 3rd Zednick

Foamy Comp

Last one for this season. 3 way mid-air. 1st Col Collyer, 2nd Alan Mayhew, 3rd Russell Pearce

R. Savage – Weather Station at club house. Request for show of enthusiasm. Rough cost \$200 capitol, recurring \$50 - \$60 month (guess). In favour 16, against 13.

Raffle drawn

Alan Mayhew gave a presentation re thermal catching early near ground. Discussion included wind vectors and tem changes

Supper

Please send articles & photos for
publication to
editor@VARMS.org.au

It has been over two years since our last Taranis workshop and a number of new Taranis owners have been added to our midst.

At the same time I think a refresher workshop would also be beneficial to existing Taranis owners.

The first in the series will be a refresher covering OpenTx fundamentals and mixing examples, which will be held on Friday the 5th of May 2017 in the VARMS club room.

The following session will presented by Tim Stewart, who will systematically take us on a journey of “How To Program your Taranis” based on the fabulous material published on his web page www.rcadev.info this will again be held in the VARMS club room on Friday the 19th of May 2017.



The workshop is aimed at anyone who may be interested in learning or to sharpen their skills with the 'Taranis' Open Tx radio operating system.

It is also open to non VARMS members.

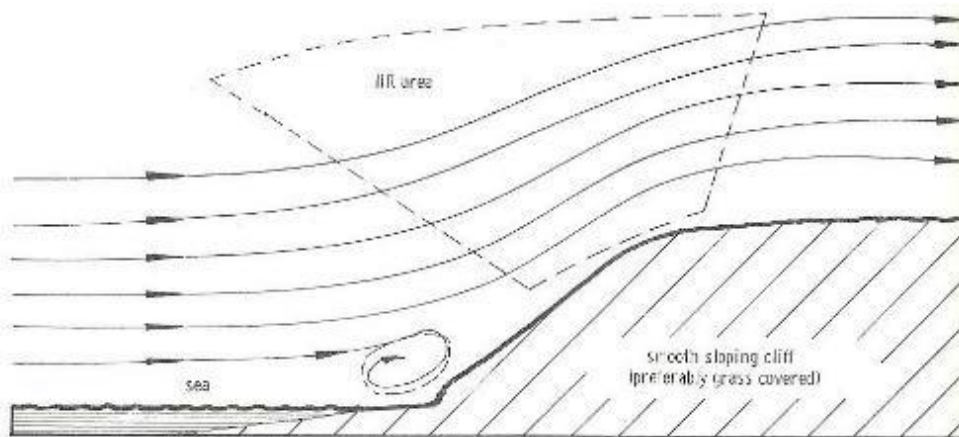
Flying Event Calendar			
Name	Date/s	Location	Further Info
Aerotow	14-17/4/17	Jerilderie	VARMS.org.au
General Meeting	21/4/17	VARMS Glider Field	VARMS.org.au
ALES	22/4/17	VARMS Glider Field	VARMS.org.au
VARMS Training	23/4/17	VARMS Glider Field	VARMS.org.au
AEFA Meeting	27/4/17	VARMS Glider Field	aefanet.com/
Warbirds over Wantirna	25/4/17	VARMS Glider Field	VARMS.org.au
VMAA Trophy	29-30/4/17	Darraweit Guim	vmaa.com.au
F3K #8	30/4/17	Longwood	rcga.org.au
VARMS Training	7/5/17	VARMS Glider Field	VARMS.org.au
F5J & ALES	7/5/17	VARMS Glider Field	VARMS.org.au
General Meeting	12/5/17	VARMS Glider Field	VARMS.org.au

21st April
General Meeting

This article is for newer members who haven't yet tasted the delights of slope soaring

What is slope soaring?

When the wind blows in the right direction onto a hill, sand dune, ridge or cliff it flows *up* the slope and creates an updraft of air, just like a thermal. The result is *endless* lift for your glider as shown below.



This means you can fly *for hours* until your thumbs, eyes, brain or neck give out and you *never have to turn your motor on*. Full size gliders, hang gliders and birds all slope soar so why not join them?

What type of plane can you fly on the slope?

Pretty well anything can be flown on the slope. If the wind's not too strong your Radian or similar 2m thermal ship is fine. When the wind gets stronger you need something a bit more agile and manoeuvrable (ailerons and flaps are handy) and maybe something a bit smaller, stronger and heavier. Then again, I've had my old Prelude up in near gales without a problem.

There are lots of ships around designed primarily for the slope. On a windy day things can happen very quickly and it's good to have something that's very manoeuvrable and/or able to take a lot of abuse. A foamy flying wing like a Zagi (powered or not) is great on the slope.

Old jungle saying: '*Thermal ships are built to fly but slope models are built to crash*'

It's may be fair to say any flat field glider can be flown on the slope but not all slope gliders can be flown on the flat.

Why go slope soaring?

- It's great fun. A day out with a few fellow slopies is a good day out.
- It's a great way to improve your flying skills, learn aerobatics and fly a wider range of planes.
- Slopes sites are usually very scenic and nice places to be.
- Because you're up so high and if the conditions are right thermalling can be awesome. If you hit a thermal and decide to go with it, it's usually big, fat and definitely wants to party.
- You can fly more often and in lots more places. As Dave Thornburg says, '*if it's too windy to fly thermal it's almost definitely a good time to go slope soaring*'

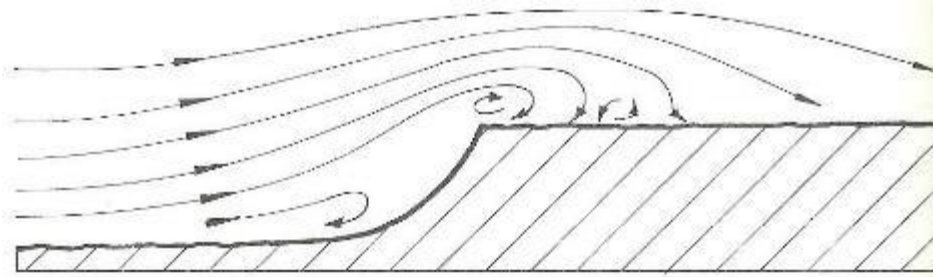
Where can you fly slope?

There's lots of places to fly and these are listed in the *VARMS Flying Site Guide* given to new members. '

There's also an online guide to sites: <http://www.slopesoaring.com.au>, but some of these are a bit iffy because they're near busy roads etc.

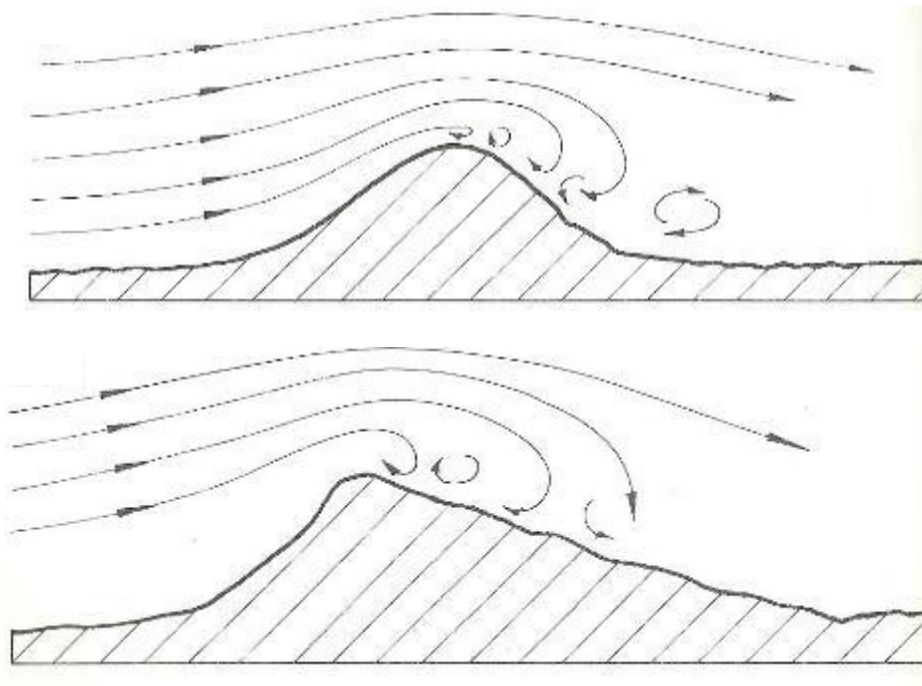
Favourite sites for VARMS members include Kilcunda (on the way to Wonthaggi), Hollowback Mountain outside Ballarat (one of the best sites), Camperdown lakes (also very good) and Glenfern Rd near Ferntree Gully.

Slopes are very wind direction dependent and therefore the forecast wind determines the right slope for the day.



Slopes are all different. The slope in the pic above is ideal: a nice flat unobstructed surface going way out from the bottom of the slope, good angle on the hill and a nice flat area behind at the top, preferably grassed.

The slopes below are good for flying but the landing areas at and behind the top make for exciting touchdowns because of the turbulence.



Comfort

Most slope sites are well away from shops, toilets, taps, picnic areas etc so it's worth taking a few creature comforts like: a folding chair, plenty to drink, a thermos maybe and something to eat.

It can get pretty cold at times so warm and windproof clothing and solid footwear are handy.

Safety

All the VARMS safety requirements apply to slope flying and then some. Gliders on the slope are usually flying *a lot* faster than at the VARMS field. A 1, 2 or 3kg or more ship belting along the slope at maybe 40 or 50 knots can do a lot of damage, so you need to know your flying limits and not be afraid to talk to anyone who's hooning around and putting you and others at risk,

The pics below are all *unpowered* slope gliders.



What next?

The Club is now organizing **2 Slope Fun Days** each year and the dates will be on the Event Calendar. These events are a great way to see and try sloping. Ian Slack organises regular VARMS slope outings and sends out emails when these are on, so if you want to be on his mailing list contact Ian ian@utah.com.au

A lot of VARMS members are regular slopers and happy to help with advice etc. There's tons of stuff on the net - Googling *slope rc* or similar. YouTube has lots of great vids on all aspects of slope flying.

(PS Two books written by David Hughes I've found really helpful are *Radio Control Soaring* and *Radio control slope soaring*. They're both pretty old (70's, 80's) but still very useful. You can buy them second hand, just search on the net. All the diagrams above are from *Radio Control Soaring*. RC technology has changed a lot in 40 years but not aerodynamics and the physics of flight.)

This is the fourth such event that I have run since October 2016. As most members would be aware the competition is not listed on the events calendar because if weather conditions aren't suitable we don't get upset that the comp doesn't take place.

Bearing this in mind we have been extremely lucky as the weather on the evening of our monthly general meetings has allowed us to undertake our low profile competition.

My arrival at the field around 4:30pm found me with only one other club member in attendance and my initial thoughts were I might have a break from running the comp this month. However, over the next 90 minutes many members arrived and were prepared to participate.

We had an initial 9 entrants which reduced to seven when two entrants had to withdraw with technical difficulties.

Five rounds were run in a low stress manner amongst some light-hearted banter. One comment by Phil Eagles grabbed my attention when he cautioned Ron Hickman to be careful with his model as it might burn up on re-entry to the earths' atmosphere (Ron's 15 second motor runs with his Pixler launched him to great heights).

There were a couple of incidents, one being a mid-air collision at about 2 metres height whilst in the landing phase. Both model escaped unscathed and flew again in the next round. The second incident was when first time comp entrant who mistakenly started to fly someone elses model, with the result being that her Radian Pro spiraled into the ground causing substantial damage. Dianne feels she has learnt a valuable lesson, in that you must never take your eyes off your own model. Dianne wasn't the first to experience this and won't be the last. She assures me that repairs will start immediately and the model will be back in the air in no time.

Entrant	Model	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Total	
Phil Eagles	MPX Solius	6	6	4	5	5	26	
David Prattley	Radian	3	5	7	4	4	23	
Thomas Rawlins	Radian	Did not start						
Kevin Fryer	Radian	4	3	1	3	2	13	
Roger Stevenson	Radian	Did not start						
Frank Neilson	Radian	1	1	3	2	1	8	
Colin Collyer	Radian	5	4	6	7	6	28	
Ron Hickman	Pixler	7	7	5	6	3	28	
Dianne Rodgers	Radian Pro	2	2	2	1	DNS	7	

Round Winners

Ron Hickman	2
Colin Collyer	2
David Prattley	1

Placings

=1	Colin Collyer	28
	Ron Hickman	28
2	Phil Eagles	26
3	David Prattley	23
4	Kevin Fryer	13
5	Frank Neilson	8
6	Dianne Rodgers	7



ALES 5 MAR 2017 - Overall Results [VARMS 5/03/2017]

www.GliderScore.com

Rank	Name	Score	Pcnt	Raw Score	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6
1	MAYHEW, Alan	5969.2	100.00	5969.2	1000.0	1000.0	984.8	993.6	990.8	1000.0
2	WILSON, Bob	5784.9	96.91	5784.9	946.3	993.9	990.9	942.7	1000.0	911.1
3	BUSEK, Zdenek	5657.0	94.77	5657.0	997.0	908.3	978.1	1000.0	874.5	899.1
4	COLLYER, Colin	5610.1	93.98	5610.1	942.1	1000.0	1000.0	923.6	1000.0	744.4
5	PEATE, Anthony	5587.7	93.61	5587.7	997.0	960.2	1000.0	905.8	996.9	727.8
6	TRONE, Geoff	5121.1	85.79	5121.1	644.3	883.8	960.6	917.2	907.9	807.3
7	PRATLEY, David	4871.4	81.61	4871.4	960.4	457.9	700.0	1000.0	753.1	1000.0
8	RYAN, Gary	4798.1	80.38	4798.1	1000.0	504.7	800.0	936.2	957.2	600.0
9	EAGLES, Phil	4450.7	74.56	4450.7	597.3	514.0	806.3	949.0	880.7	703.4
10	CLAPPERTON, Bruce	4394.3	73.62	4394.3	805.4	899.1	915.6	410.3	669.5	694.4
11	KIRSCHENHUSER, Sep	4129.8	69.19	4129.8	698.0	386.3	921.9	607.9	749.0	766.7
12	TAN, Tom	4087.3	68.47	4087.3	620.8	314.6	896.9	875.8	724.8	654.4



The Victorian section of the above Association now meets at the VARMS Clubroom on the 4th Thursday in every month, except December when there is no meeting. Starting time is around 8.00 pm. Supper is provided and friendly discussion follows. Attendance fee \$3.00 to cover costs.

The meeting takes the form of a "show and tell" with members, and others, bringing along their projects to present to the gathering. Also there may be discussion on technical matters related to electric models. There is normally a lot of experience amongst those present, so it is a good time to sort out any problems.

Max Haysom 9801 3899



Great weather, plenty of models and their owners, non-stop launching, first time aerotow inductees, different towplane/glider combinations, a couple of first flights for new models and lots of conversation and social interaction.

There were in excess of twenty different scale sailplanes flown on the day.

Many thanks are to be extended to Steve Malcman for his tireless aerotow launching and to Keith Schneider who ably manned the barbeque for all to enjoy.



1:4 scale K8B – Colin Khan



1:4 scale S2G ASW-28 of Danny Malcman



DG1000S of x Batterby



Nearly complete 1:4 scale Kirby Kite of Neil Harker



1:4 scale Olympic built by Gary McDougall and now owned by Ron Hickman



Neil Spencer's 1: 4 scale Olympia



Gary Ryan's 1:4 scale K6E



Flex Innovation's BNF Semi-scale Cessna 170 owned by Keith Quigg



Cub & Willow Wren



Gary Ryan's 1:4 scale Willow Wren shortly after its 1st flight



Colin Collyer's 1:4 scale Swift



Valiant tug of Keith Quigg

VARMS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Financial Year 2017 / 2018

Circle & Complete ONE of the following, **RENEWAL**, **RE-JOINING** or **NEW**, then **SIGN** and **DATE** application.

RENEWAL - current membership, if no change since last year complete **1,3, 7, 8** If changes, **1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8**

RE-JOINING – lapsed membership greater than 12 months, complete **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8**

NEW - membership, complete **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8**

1. Name
Surname First name Second name

Preferred **Christian Name** on **Membership Badge**

2. Address
Number Street/Road Suburb / City / Town Post Code

Home Ph **Mobile**..... **MAAA No**

E mail **Date of Birth**

3. In an emergency Contact Name **Phone**

4. New membership or lapsed member wishing to re-join must nominate a current financial member to endorse application for consideration by the committee.

Nominating Member **Phone**

5. Circle your MAAA category and rating. **Glider** - None / Bronze / Silver / Gold / Instructor
Power - None / Bronze / Silver / Gold / Instructor **Helicopter** - None / Bronze / Silver / Gold / Instructor

6. If you are not holder of a glider, power or helicopter bronze wing you must have a “buddy” with you at all times when you are flying to assist and maintain safe flying. A nominated buddy must be a current VARMS member and holder of minimum bronze wing in the relevant category.

Buddy Name **Signature** **Date**

7. Circle method of payment EFT, CHQ or Cash **Total payable to VARMS \$**

If insured via another club provide club name insurance **Rec No**

8. New or re-joining members agree to a probationary period of 12 months prior to full membership. Members agree to abide by the Constitution, Club Rules, Field Rules and any Operating Disciplines of the Victorian Association of Radio Model Soaring Inc. in force during their time of membership. The information provided is true and correct and it is understood that failure to comply with these rules may result in expulsion from the club.

Applicants Signature Date

No payment by 30 June = No insurance + No flying
No fully completed membership application = No nametag + No flying
No display of current nametag = No flying

INFORMATION TO COMPLETE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Full year 1 July – 30 June, Half year 1 Jan – 30 June, for new members only.

MAAA insured via VARMS full year, Senior:	VARMS \$96 + VMAA Ins \$114 = \$ 210.00
MAAA insured via VARMS full year, Junior or FT student:	VARMS \$25 + VMAA ins \$57 = \$ 82.00
MAAA insured for full year via another club, Senior:	VARMS \$96 = \$ 96.00
MAAA insured for full year via another club, Junior or FT student:	VARMS \$25 = \$ 25.00
MAAA insured via VARMS half Year, Senior:	VARMS \$43 + VMAA ins \$62 = \$ 105.00
MAAA insured via VARMS half Year, Junior or FT student:	VARMS \$12.50 + VMAA ins \$ 23.50 = \$ 41.00
MAAA insured for half year via another club, Senior:	VARMS \$48 = \$ 48.00
MAAA insured for half year via another club, Junior or FT student:	VARMS \$12.50 = \$ 12.50
MAAA insured via VARMS, life or honorary:	VMAA Ins \$ 114 = \$ 114.00
Joining Fee applies only to re-joining or new members , juniors are excluded	Joining fee = \$ 50.00

PAYMENT

E mail completed Membership Application to, treasurer@varms.org.au, or

Post to **The Treasurer, VARMS Inc., P.O. Box 4096, Knox City Centre, Vic. 3152**

Payment can be made by EFT, CHQ or Cash.

For EFT payments use BSB 633 000, Account No 158421362, include name and MAAA # as reference.

Make cheques Payable to VARMS.

INSURANCE

If insured through another club, VARMS membership card will not be issued until MAAA have received payment from the other club.

Insurance through VARMS eliminates this issue.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

1. VMAA/MAAA insurance policy provides all members with public liability cover and includes personal accident cover for members aged 10 to 90 years.
2. A full time student is defined as 18 to 25 years as at 1st July of the current year and attending a secondary or tertiary institution on a full time basis. Proof of attendance is required.
3. Junior membership is intended for those under the age of 18 years at the 1st July of the current year.
4. You may be asked to provide a copy of your wings certificates and/or your MAAA affiliate card to confirm your claimed wings.

ANZAC DAY 2017 Warbirds over Wantirna



When: ANZAC Day Tuesday April 25 until 1:00pm

Where: VARMS Glider Field

Who: All VARMS club members and MAAA-insured family and friends are welcome

Planes: All planes are welcome for static display or flying, but warbirds of any era are especially welcome

Questions: Speak to Graham Sullivan on 0417 566 728

VARMS Level 2 Thermal Duration Task

This task is designed for you to fly with only a timer and no other assistance.

1. Launch glider to approximately 100 metres altitude using bungee, winch or electric motor. If using electric launch, then switch off motor.
2. A stopwatch is then started by an adult observer. Fly for 10 minutes. No restarting of the motor is allowed and the use of a variometer is not allowed.
3. After 10 minutes, land within 30 sec. The nose of the model must finish within a rectangle 15x4 metres. The 15 m dimension is in line with the wind direction. The VARMS landing ropes are easiest to use for this.
4. The task is to be completed on 2 different dates. Any number of attempts can be made to achieve the task. 1, 2 and 3 must all be achieved in the same flight.
5. Complete this form and send it to the VARMS secretary for recording.



Address : PO Box 4096 Knox City 3152

Pilot's Name and address	
Date	Observer's Name and signature
Date	Observer's Name and signature

Training Dates

23rd Apr & 7th May

VARMS Training is kindly sponsored by:

[Hyperion Australia](http://www.hyperionaustralia.com.au)



www.hyperionaustralia.com.au

ph: (03) 98870558
0415412096

Mowing Roster



Field	Alan Gray Graeme Hollis Martin Hopper Robert Kassell Tim Stewart Geoff Moore
Runway & Pits:	Ken Thompson 1st week Peter Griffiths 2nd week Paul Van Tongeren 3rd week Alan Taylor 4th week
Heliport:	Geoff Moore

Any Problems with the field, ring
Henry Wohlmuth
9764 1921



www.Foam-Wings.com
waynej@aonet.com.au

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Standard Operating Times for VARMS Glider Field:

*Aerotow: Second Saturday each month, 12.00 Noon till 5.00 pm
"Glider" is any Glider, or electric glider, flown as a glider, ie. climb and glide

Clubrooms: All days 7.00 am till 11.00 pm

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
8am-Noon (power) Dawn-Noon (glider)	Power	Glider	Power	Glider	Power	Power	Glider
Noon-5pm (AEST) (power) Noon-5pm (AEDST) (power) Noon-Dusk (glider)	Glider	Power	Glider	Power	Glider	Glider	Glider

For queries or problems regarding this timetable, please contact Max Haysom or Colin Collyer.

The Keyboard

Your frequency key should have your full name written clearly on it so that you can be easily recognised and contacted in case of a frequency clash. Mobile phone number on the key is a good idea too, in case you have departed and left your key in the board thus stopping someone else using that frequency. Members using 2.4 GHz sets should still insert a standard key in the appropriate section of the keyboard.

Opinions expressed in Aspectivity may not represent the view of VARMS Inc. Editor or Printer. VARMS Inc., the Editor and the Printer accept no responsibility for the accuracy of the content.

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VARMS Web Site: <http://www.varms.org.au> – for up to date info on VARMS

Current Members: If you change your address, please notify the Registrar and VMAA, so that we can maintain the correct addressing of this Newsletter.

Potential Members: If you are interested in joining VARMS, or learning more about our activities, please contact the Secretary, or other Committee member.

Victorian Association of Radio Model Soaring Inc.

Organisation No. A0001504U

Affiliated with the Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI)
The World Air Sports Federation



VARMS (Inc.) was formed in 1968 to get together aero-modelers who were interested in building and flying radio controlled gliders. Members fly at many places, but have a home field, within the Knox Regional Sports Park (South Wantirna) some 60 metres west of the rear of the State Basketball Centre- Entrance off George Street, where Training Classes with dual controlled gliders are held every second Sunday 10-1.00pm. A calendar for training is attached to the flying field gate.

VARMS Training is kindly sponsored by Hyperion Australia.

VARMS organizes regular competitions in both Slope and Thermal Soaring, from fun-fly, scale, open competition and self launching (electric) gliders.

General Meetings are held on the SECOND FRIDAY of each month (except January) – at the VARMS Clubroom near State Basketball Centre (as above) and, during daylight saving time there may be limited flying allowed before Meeting starts at 8.00pm. Visitors are welcome. Formalities are usually followed by lively discussions on matters of interest to all **modellers** followed by a cup of your favourite brew.



If undelivered return to:
VARMS Inc.
P.O. Box 4096
KNOX City Centre VIC 3152

