



1405 Stud Road, ROWVILLE 3178



Aspectivity

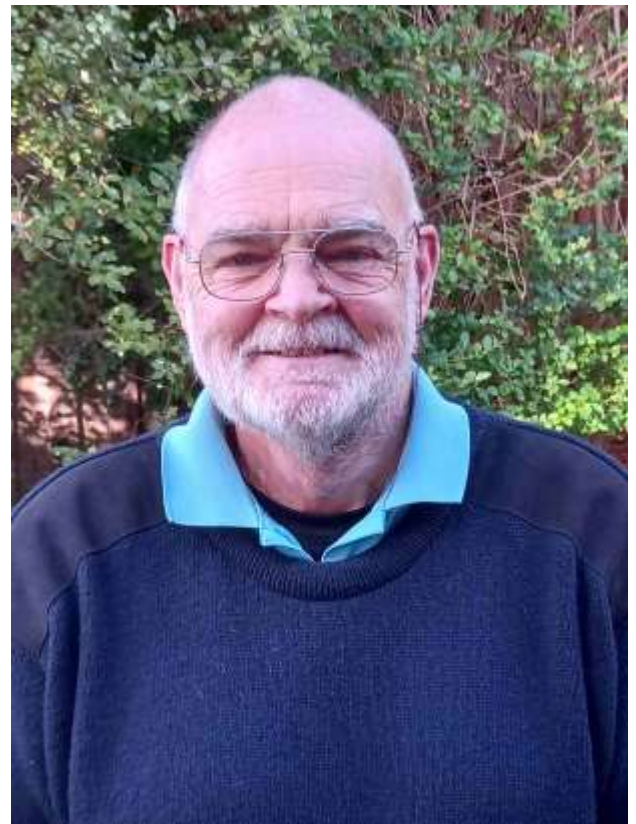
Deadline for the next Aspectivity is Friday 6 September or earlier, one week prior to the general meeting held on the second Friday of the month, Friday 13 September at 7:30pm in the club rooms.

President's Prattle 10

by Ken Madill

Winter has arrived with a vengeance. Despite cold, wet and windy conditions there is still a lot of activity around VARMS. The 3Fs Wednesday group is still very active although they have mostly moved indoors and the number of empty red bottles in the recycling bin has increased. We continue to have a steady stream of new members. Most are either members from other clubs who are joining VARMS because of the opportunity to fly without having to travel too far, or retirees who want to get back into flying after a break of several years. I managed to get in a fly last Saturday before the rain. Our runway is in surprisingly good condition after the recent rain. I would encourage you not to be put off by winter. If you notice a strange yellow thing shining in the sky, I recommend you charge up your batteries, put your winter woollies on and go for it.

We have had to replace both gas bottles at a cost of around \$100 each. On most days the solar panels will fully recharge the batteries. However, if the heaters are used for extended periods the generator will have to run. While it is fine to switch the heater on, I would ask all members to be mindful that using it costs money and unnecessary use should be avoided. I have found that setting the thermostat at 20 degrees works fine. Having the heater going and the roller door open should never happen. If you switch the



heater off half an hour before you are ready to leave it will not make any significant difference to your comfort level. I have just arrived back from VARMS at 9.45 pm. It is 6 degrees outside. The heater has been running since it was switched on at 7.00am. Please ensure it is switched off when you leave.

On the 9th August we have our annual general meeting. I encourage you all to attend. The majority of the Committee are prepared to remain in their positions for the coming year. The Vice President and Treasurer have indicated that they will not be available next year so we have two positions to fill. We also have to vote on the membership fees. Supper will be provided.

While I was in the Darwin Aircraft Museum I picked up a book "Flying Safely" for a bit of light reading on the plane back. While it was written in the late 1970s and relates to light aircraft, the information provided applies directly to model flying. Mechanical failures occur but are most often caused by human errors such as poor maintenance. How many mechanical failures of models are caused by not properly checking, poor maintenance, dirty fuel filters, using old batteries and using old suspect equipment? Modern equipment is very reliable if used correctly. If you look at competition flyers such as IMAC, they fly the same model for years and crashes are a rarity. I believe this is because the models are set up well, regularly serviced, have redundancy systems such as backup batteries, backup receivers and a servo on each elevator surface. One of the reasons they do this is because the models are more expensive. Just because a model is cheap, does not mean it should be considered disposable.

Pilot error is the greatest cause of light aircraft accidents and also for model aircraft accidents. The problem is we all want to push the boundaries and improve our skill levels; but pushing the boundaries can lead to crashes. My recommendation when trying something new is to do it initially at high altitude, preferably two mistakes high, have a clear plan in mind for what you are doing, only try one new thing at a time and have thought through in advance what to do if it goes wrong.

It is worthwhile looking for any bad habits that you may have developed and planning how to overcome them. I had a bad habit of putting in rudder when using elevator. Loops would often end badly. It took a while to realise that in jerking the elevator stick back I was often putting in up to ¼ rudder. Try pulling up elevator with the model in front of you and watch the rudder. Increasing the tension on the transmitter rudder spring, decreasing the elevator spring tension and using more exponential on rudder made a huge improvement.

Safe Flying!

Ken Madill
President

July General Meeting minutes



Date:	12 July 2024
Time:	7:30pm
Venue:	VARMS Clubroom, Rowville
Apologies:	Colin Kahn, Graham Sullivan, Nigel Murray
Visitors:	Nil

Meeting

1. **Opening:** Meeting was opened by the President at 7:45pm with 18 members present.
2. **New Members:** Nil.
3. **Previous minutes:** The previous minutes could not be accepted in the absence of a quorum.

Note: It was acknowledged that there was not a quorum and, as such, no decisions could be made. General discussion and show and tell only.

4. **Business arising from the minutes:**

- a. Parking Sign: Council to ask footy club to cease & desist from parking in our car park.
- b. No other business was discussed.

5. **Correspondence:** The following items of correspondence were received and sent.

a. **Received:**

- i. Australian Men's Shed newsletter.
- ii. Australian Men's Shed Nuts and Bolts newsletter.
- iii. KCC Various emails.
- iv. KCC re Parking Sign to inform that any non-VARMS cars will be locked in after the last member leaves.
- v. VMAA Executive minutes.
- vi. Other emails – political party and junk.

b. **Sent:**

- i. Various - KCC.

6. **Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer's report was presented. The Treasurer advised the meeting of the finances which are in a healthy state. Unable to accept the report in the absence of a quorum.

7. **Reports:** The following reports were presented.

- a. Power – nothing to report.
- b. Glider – try for aerotow this Saturday. Club calendar updated with aerotow dates.
- c. Helicopter – nothing to report.
- d. Fun Fly: New custodians, Mick Clifford and Peter Mac, indicated eagerness to get going with a program of events. Possibly different activities each time. President suggested a quarterly event. David Milne suggested an event for Hallowe'en using "funny" planes.

8. **General Business:** The following items were discussed.

- a. Earth Works – Update on progress - work proceeding very well.
- b. Overflow parking area - quote from KCC - approximately \$40k. Can we get subsidy from Council? Ongoing.
- c. Air-con/heater now fitted with automatic shut-off thanks to Anthony Peate. We need to be careful on winter nights as prolonged use of the heater on hazy days could deplete the batteries and use up the gas supply for the generator.
- d. Tim Morland has achieved Heavy Model Inspector status. Noted & congratulated.
- e. Membership renewal process and progress. Going well, some minor hiccups.
 - i. The future evolution.
 - ii. Badges in process of printing.
- f. All members to check their details via the web. Evan/Ken to walk through the procedure.
- g. Motions to be submitted within time frame for AGM.
- h. Proxy forms already printed in Aspectivity.

- i. Committee proposal forms also printed in Aspectivity. Treasurer and Vice President stepping down at AGM. Nominations should be sought. Power rep also stepping down - to be replaced by Mick Clifford.
 - j. AGM will be after next General Meeting 9th August 2024.
 - k. Clarification that all members at end June were still up to date for 2023/24 as fees are all based on Financial Year ending last day June.
 - l. Need for a 3 to 5-year plan with forecast of fixed and recurrent expenditure. Jack Bhalla suggested asking the membership to forward suggestions of what would be nice/useful. This list could be reviewed based on cost benefit analysis and ratified by GM motion. Possible items:
 - i. Shade cloth
 - ii. Extended parking area
 - iii. Soil and planting of seed on the runway
 - iv. Roll out of turf next to the pits artificial turf.
 - v. Backup plan for watering the runway in summer
 - vi. Inter club invitational events
 - vii. Ongoing costs, viz:
 - 1. SMS system for quick messages to members
 - 2. Laser cutter repairs and maintenance
 - 3. Free food at events
 - 4. Security system
 - 5. More events
 - m. As we move towards the AGM, what do members want for next year? There could be a "Membership Renewal Package".
 - n. Recommendation to revert to original membership fee structure could include a provision for a "no questions asked" hardship allowance.
9. **Next Meeting:** The next General Meeting will be 7:30pm Fri 9 August 2024 at the clubhouse immediately before the AGM. Food will be provided.
10. **Closure:** There being no further business, the President closed the meeting at 8:45pm.

F-F-F @ R-R-R

R-R-Regular F-F-F (Feed, Fix, Fly) nights are held at R-R-R (Rowville Recreation Reserve) 5:00 to about 9:00pm on W-W-Wednesday each w-w-week. Come and j-j-join in the F-F-FUN.

WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN YOU CROSS AN AIRPLANE WITH A MAGICIAN? A FLYING SORCERER.

Annual General Meeting, 9th August 2024

Victorian Association of Radio Model Soaring Inc.
P.O. Box 4096, Knox City VIC 3152
Organisation No. A0001504U



Email:- secretary@varms.org.au

VARMS

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON THE 9th OF AUGUST 2024

The Secretary of VARMS Inc. hereby gives notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held on Thursday the 9th of August 2024 at the clubrooms, 1405 Stud Road Rowville commencing 7:30pm.

The business to be transacted at this Annual General Meeting shall include:-

- (a) To confirm the Minutes of the last AGM;
- (b) To receive the President's report;
- (c) To receive the Secretary's report;
- (d) To receive the Treasurer's report;
- (e) To approve the fees for the 2024/2025 year as recommended by the committee;
- (g) To elect Officers of the Association;
- (e) General Business

Nomination of candidates for election as Officers of the Association or as Ordinary Members of the Executive shall be in accordance with the Constitution of VARMS Inc.

Colin Kahn

Secretary VARMS Inc.

The VARMS AGM will be held immediately following the General Meeting on Friday 9th August which commences at 7:30pm in the club rooms. Nominations for Committee should be submitted on the form below and mailed to: VARMS Inc., P.O. Box 4096 Knox City Centre VIC 3152, or handed to the Secretary, no later than seven days prior to the AGM.

VARMS Inc. COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM

(Please print names clearly)

I, _____ VARMS/MAAA No. _____

hereby nominate: _____

for the position of (circle one): President / Vice President / Treasurer / Secretary / _____

Signed: _____

Seconded by: _____

Candidate's consent

I hereby accept this nomination for the aforementioned position.

Signed: _____



FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY FOR VARMS AGM 2024

I, _____ of _____

being a financial member of the Victorian Association of Radio Model Soaring Inc., hereby appoint

_____ of _____

also being a financial member of VARMS Inc. as my proxy to vote for me, on my behalf, at the Annual General Meeting of Victorian Association of Radio Model Soaring Inc. and any adjournment of that meeting. My proxy is authorised to vote FOR / AGAINST / ABSTAIN (delete as appropriate below) any motion put to the meeting. If not indicated below they may vote as they think best represents my interests.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| FOR / AGAINST / ABSTAIN | 1. Confirm the Minutes of the 2023 AGM. |
| FOR / AGAINST / ABSTAIN | 2. Acceptance of reports and the recommendations contained therein. |
| FOR / AGAINST / ABSTAIN | 3. Acceptance of the Balance Sheet for 2023/24. |
| FOR / AGAINST / ABSTAIN | 4. Election of Officers of the Association. |
| FOR / AGAINST / ABSTAIN | 5. Motion to confer Life Membership on Ron Hickman. |
| FOR / AGAINST / ABSTAIN | 6. Other (please nominate items). |

Signed: _____ VARMS/MAAA No. _____

this _____ day of _____ 2024.

AGM Minutes 2023

Date: Sunday 16 July 2023
Time: 2:40 pm
Venue: VARMS Clubroom, Rowville
Apologies: R. Hickman, D. Anderson, M. Best, P. Eagles, M. Barlow, G. Egan, G. Hearn, C. Smith, and P. Van Tongeren
Visitors: None

Meeting

1. **Opening.** Meeting was opened by member Peter Cossins as Meeting Chairman at 2:40 pm with 40 members present.

2. **Previous Minutes.** The previous minutes were accepted as published in Aspectivity.

Moved: K. Schneider

Seconded: T. Rawlins

Passed

3. **Business Arising from Previous Minutes.** There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

4. **Treasurer's Report.** The treasurer gave a verbal report and will publish the end of year financial statements in the next issue of Aspectivity. The following were discussed:

- a. The club has sufficient funds to meet all its obligations.
- b. The club currently has 173 paid up members.
- c. Due to changes around the Men's Shed movement, VARMS will need to apply to the ANC for recognition as a charity/non-profit organisation. The Treasurer will begin work on the application.
- d. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was proposed.

Moved: K. Madill

Seconded: A. Peate

Passed

5. **Fees for 2023/24.** There was a motion to accept the club committee's decision to keep the club fees at the current level of \$50 per senior.

Moved: J. Riley

Seconded: A. Peate

Passed

6. **Committee Elections for 2023/24.** The meeting chairman thanked all the current elected and appointed committee members for their contributions to the management of the club in the last few years through some particular difficult times. He then declared that all committee positions were now vacant and called for any nominations from the floor. There being no other nominations for the committee positions than those already received, they were filled without the need for elections. The new position holders are:

- a. **President:** Ken Madill
- b. **Vice President:** Graham Sullivan
- c. **Treasurer:** David Milne
- d. **Secretary:** Colin Kahn

7. **Next Meeting.** The next general meeting will be held before December 2024 at a date, time and location yet to be determined.

8. **Closure.** There being no further business to discuss, the president closed the meeting at 2:50 pm.

WANTED - Articles for Aspectivity

New articles for Aspectivity needed now. Looking for some "Hints & Tips" items if you can do it. Send your images and imaginings to editor@varms.org.au. Thanks to prior contributors.



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Club Merchandise

I have VARMS embroidered caps in stock for \$20 each, embroidered VARMS logos \$10. If you would like one, email me at lewmar@iprimus.com.au

see me at the club or call me on 9887 1060.

Lew Rodman



Upcoming Events

VARMS General Meetings are held at 7:30pm on the second Friday of the month (except January) in the Rowville clubrooms (8:00pm during Daylight Saving). Committee meetings are held on the Monday two weeks before the General Meeting at the clubrooms. Here is the schedule for 2024.

C'ttee Mtg	General Mtg	C'ttee Mtg	General Mtg	C'ttee Mtg	General Mtg
29 Jan	9 Feb	26 Feb	8 Mar	25 Mar	12 Apr
29 Apr	10 May	27 May	14 Jun	1 Jul	12 Jul
29 Jul	9 Aug - AGM	2 Sept	13 Sept	30 Sept	11 Oct
28 Oct	8 Nov	2 Dec	13 Dec		

Date	Description	Location	Contact	Host
10 Aug	Aerotow	Rowville	Anthony Peate	VARMS
14 Sep	Aerotow	Rowville	Anthony Peate	VARMS
21, 22 Sept	41 st Mammoth Scale Fly-in	Karramomus, Shepparton		Valley Radio Flyers
27-29 Sept	Aerotow	Cootamundra	To be confirmed	
12 – 13 Oct	VMAA Festival of Flight	Goon Nure, Bairnsdale		BADMAC
Sat 26 Oct	Hallowe'en Fun Fly	Rowville		VARMS
2 – 4 Nov	Warbirds over Bairnsdale	Goon Nure, Bairnsdale		BADMAC
22-24 Nov	Bordertown Scale Glider Fun Fly	Bordertown Airport, S.A.		SSL

Also see more RC events listed on the [VMAA website](#) and in the [VMAA News](#).

WHAT DO YOU CALL IT WHEN YOU'RE SICK OF BEING AT THE AIRPORT? A TERMINAL ILLNESS.

Training

VARMS training sessions are free to members and the public and are run at Rowville from 10am to noon every second Sunday. You will learn to fly a two-channel glider. Training can take you from beginner to your bronze wings and going solo, through to silver and gold wings and becoming an instructor.

L	11 th August	25 th August	8 th September	22 nd September	6 th October
	20 th October	3 rd November	17 th November	1 st December	15 th December

General Meeting

The next general meeting will be 7:30pm Friday 9 August at the VARMS clubrooms.

News from the Committee

- The Committee approved a suggestion from Bruce Clapperton to invite members of the Bayside Vintage Car Club to attend the November aerotow.
- Three new member applications were approved this month.
- The VARMS AGM will be held immediately following the General Meeting on 9 August. The Committee gives notice of intention to propose Ron Hickman for Life Membership. Nomination and proxy forms are included on page 6 above.

Nigel Murray, Editor



Aerotow



by Anthony Peate



The next club aerotow is Saturday the 10th of August, weather permitting. Aerotow is normally held on the Saturday after the monthly Friday General Meeting. Check the Events calendar on the [VARMS website](#).

VARMS is keen to encourage members who haven't tried aerotowing to give it a go. This includes both new glider pilots and new tug pilots.

The timings for the day are: 11:30am BBQ lunch; 11:50am Pilots' briefing; 12:00pm start aerotowing.

Here are the dates for the next twelve months:

- Saturday 13th July 2024
- Saturday 10th August 2024
- Saturday 14th September 2024
- Saturday 12th October 2024
- Saturday 9th November 2024
- Saturday 14th December 2024
- Saturday 11th January 2025
- Saturday 15th February 2025
- Saturday 15th March 2025
- Saturday 12th April 2025

- Saturday and Sunday 10th & 11th May 2025 (VARMS Inter club Aerotow weekend)
- Saturday 14th June 2025

Other Aerotow Events

- Cootamundra (To be confirmed): 27th to 29th of September 2024
- Border Town: 22nd to 24th November 2024
- Jerilderie: 18th to 21st of April 2025



PRESENTS

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ENQUIRIES

PRESIDENT: LES SAWYER 0427 215 704

SECRETARY: WARREN SMITH 0428 216 957

EMAIL: vrfshepp@gmail.com

Entry forms available at
www.valleyradioflyers.com.au

VARMS Office bearers

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Vice President	Graham Sullivan		vp@varms.org.au
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VARMS Web Site – <http://www.varms.org.au> – for the most up to date information

If you change your address, please notify the Registrar and the VMAA, so we can maintain the correct addressing of this Newsletter. If you are interested in joining VARMS, or learning more about our activities, please contact the Secretary or any Committee member.



Victorian Association of Radio Model Soaring Inc.

Affiliated with Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI),
The World Air Sports Federation, Organisation No. A0001504U,
Model Aeronautical Association of Australia (MAAA), and
Victorian Model Aeronautical Association (VMAA)



VARMS inc. was formed in 1968 to bring together aero-modellers who were interested in building and flying radio-controlled gliders. Members fly at many places and the club has a new base on Police Paddocks at 1405 Stud Road Rowville, an outer eastern suburb of Melbourne, Australia with the assistance of Knox City Council.

VARMS organises competitions in slope and thermal soaring and members operate models from fun-fly to scale, open competition, aerotow, bungee, winch and electric gliders. Members also fly a range of power and rotary wing models.

General Meetings are held at 7:30pm on the second Friday of each month (except January) at the club rooms in Rowville (8:00pm in Daylight Saving). Visitors are welcome. Formalities, and sometimes a special presentation, are usually followed by lively discussion on matters of interest to aero-modellers followed by a cup of your favourite brew.



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

