



# TORQUE BACK

**Hobart Model Aero Club Inc.** (00549C)

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**December 2019**

**Editor – Sue Venn**

## *President's Corner*

When I was around 10 years old I used to make kites out of two bamboo sticks, string, brown paper and twisted newspaper for the tail. I am seriously considering taking up that interest again.

I need not tell you that flying opportunities recently have been few and far between but there has been the good day occasionally like Friday a week ago when there was a good rollup.



The cameraman has been busy with excellent material recently and some of this will appear in this Newsletter.

A television has been installed in the clubhouse thanks to Damian's partner Leanne. This will be available to show videos of air shows, models etc. or anything you may have and if we can get the hardware issues sorted we hope to extend it's use to flight simulation for trainees.

You will have received a club notice regarding voluntary contributions (copy in the Newsletter) to assist in the maintenance costs for grounds upkeep and also help offset the costs of water irrigation. We are irrigating at a minimum at present however with the assistance of the field maintenance donations it may be possible to increase the number of hours to make things a little more green and less dusty.

The Xmas lunch preparations for the 15th December are under way and also the Buy and Sell. If you intend to be at the lunch please RSVP to Ken Ward asap so that we can get a handle on expected numbers.

Ian Searle has a number of models for club benefit sale and these should be at the Buy and Sell on the 15th.

Well that is all for this month.

Happy and safe flying and Merry Xmas/New Year to those members we may not see before the end of the year.

**Barry Gerrard**

## NOTICE FROM HMAC COMMITTEE TO ALL MEMBERS

On Sunday 24th September the Committee addressed the issue of raising additional revenue to assist in the maintenance of the property, particularly the runways and outfield grasses that are not part of the horse agistment arrangements.

There are very few options open to us to generate income therefore a suggestion that had been floated recently by a member was addressed and was passed unanimously. This was that we adopt a system whereby members whenever at the field for flying can make a gold coin donation to assist in our expenses.

This innovation is entirely voluntary and members are under no obligation to participate. When you consider that the actual fee to the club per member is low compared to other organizations such as golf clubs, boating clubs etc. any injection of additional funds will go well toward maintaining for you what is now probably amongst one of the finest model airfields in the country and we wish it to remain so.

Should the majority of members participate in this then the positive impact on our present and future finances will be significant.

So that this can become a reality a 'pipe bank' has been mounted at the shelter to accept any donations.

On behalf of the Committee,  
Barry Gerrard-President  
26th November 2019

*Barry Gerrard with his  
indestructible Wild Wing  
(just had its tenth birthday!)*





# Editor's Corner

Its such fun for me to be editing the newsletter for HMAc, as all I've known thus far about the club has been limited to some oft repeated names, and the occasional visit to the club - **and** a garage with an ever growing collection of model aeroplanes and Chris's cluttered work benches!



Although I know nothing about aircraft I am very impressed with the skills and knowledge of the members in their areas of interest - and what a nice friendly bunch of chaps you all are!

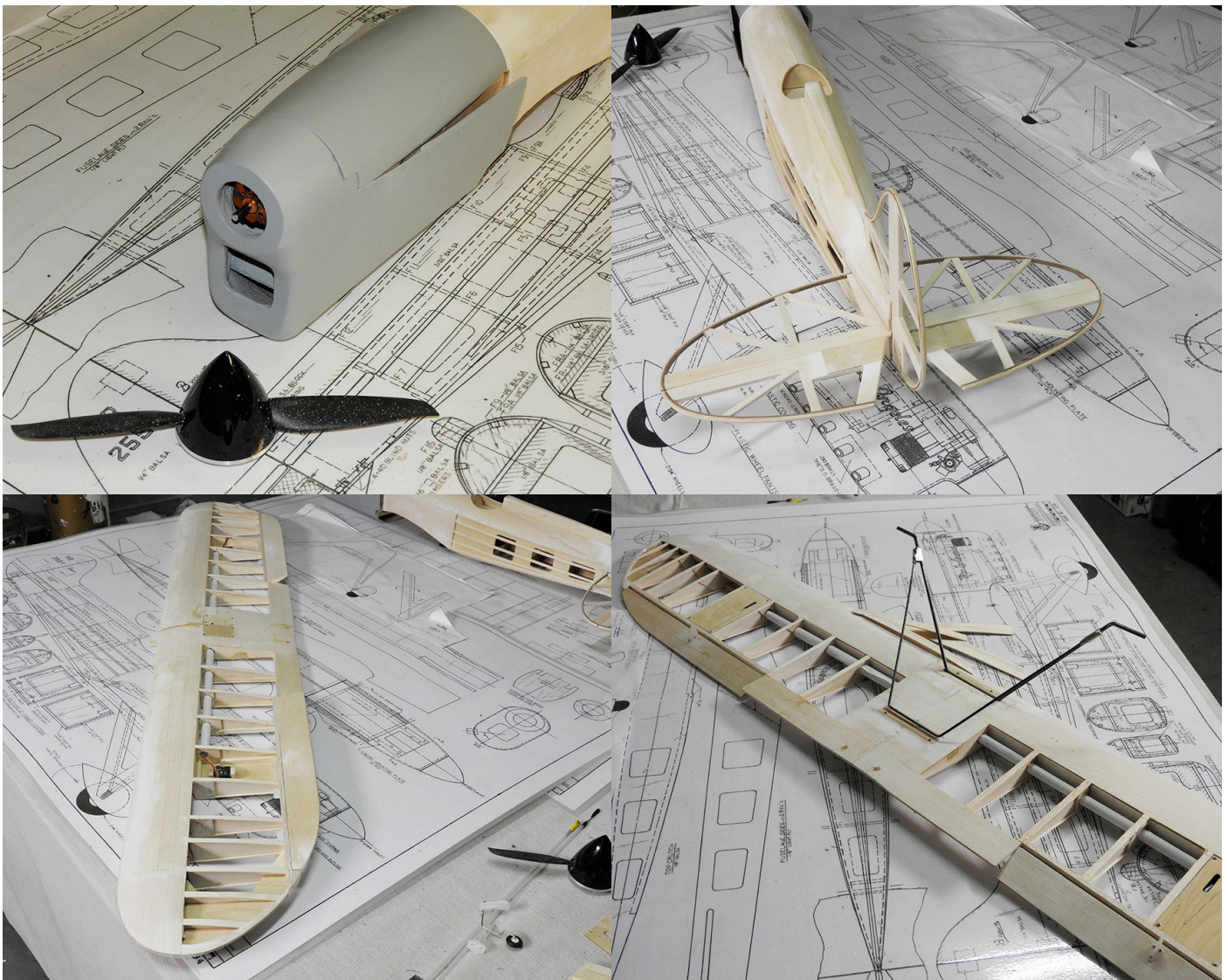
So here I am and I'm very open to your help with the newsletter. I would love to do some articles on members as I believe you have some interesting stories behind your passion for model aircraft.

If you have any contributions for your newsletter please email them to me by the last week of the month at: [csvenn@bigpond.com](mailto:csvenn@bigpond.com)

See you at the Christmas Barb B Que,

**Sue Venn**

*Chris's bench with 1934 Brown Racer progressing - already one year on!*





# Sky Bolt Thoughts

**Peter Ralph**



The Steen Skybolt is an American homebuilt aerobatic biplane. Designed by teacher Lamar Steen as a high school engineering project, the prototype first flew in October 1970.

As far as can be ascertained, there are five models in the club. Kevin Jacobson bought a damaged model around 2000/2001 and repaired the model and then successfully flew it. The model was built from a Great Planes kit and powered by a Magnum 120 four stroke. Due to a hectic schedule Kevin has not done a lot of flying lately and he estimates that he has not flown his Skybolt for ten years.

The other models are ARF models by Great Planes except for a larger version than the Great Planes versions owned by myself. This model is a Seagull ARF and powered by an RCGF petrol 20 cc twin cylinder two stroke. I also own two Great Planes ARFs, one powered by a Saito FA 90TS, (15cc), four stroke opposed twin cylinder. The other model is powered by a Saito FA 120R3 which is a 20cc 3 cylinder four stroke radial. Jason Bedelph's Skybolt is also a Great Planes ARF and is powered by a Saito FA 125a 20.5cc single cylinder four stroke. There was an 82 Saito powered Great Planes model also but was sold to some one at an East Coast model club.

The Skybolts are amazingly easy to fly. Extremely docile and stable yet fully aerobatic if that is what one wants. Definitely not 3d capable though. My 120 radial powered model is an every day general usage model. Oversize wheels, no spats or cowl and average performance. The 90 twin, with small scale wheels, spats and a sleek scale cowl is considerably faster despite the 90 having less power than the 120. Is kept for special occasions. Jason's 125 powered model is the top performer among the Great Planes models.

The Seagull model has never been as pleasant as the other models but I have spent the last fortnight, (after about four years), working on fine tuning and coordinating the controls. Damian Blackwell has been flight testing after changes, and he has suggested the model is almost perfect now. The model has more than adequate power from the RCGF petrol 20cc twin. Cruises nicely on one quarter throttle.

The larger size and bulk of the Seagull model compared to the Great Planes versions is clearly evident in the picture of my three models together. Modelers who have electric versions of the Great Planes versions have often commented in forums on the excellent flight characteristics of the design.



# *Pics from Kelly Field*

*thanks to 'The Cameraman'*

## **Old Kelly Field snaps**



*Chris Venn:  
Newport 11*

*Garth Wilmot: Skywalker*



*Ian Searle: Hep Cat. Glow powered  
and quite a hot performer.*

*Peter Lambert: Very nice, true to  
scale Gloster Gladiator. Electric*





*Chris Rowe: Old KF snaps*

*R: A very old version1 of his current Pottier P130 UL. OS glow powered.*

*2: Below: An excellent scale model of a Druine Turbulent D31 OS glow powered.*



## ***Recent Kelly Field snaps***



*Bill Shannon:  
Another addition to his  
quadcopter squadron.  
Model BUGS2 se*





*Damian Blackwell:  
Hobby King MIG 17*







*Bob Miller:  
E-Flite Piper Cherokee*

*Peter Ralph:  
Seagull brand Skybolt  
powered by a 21cc twin  
cylinder petrol engine.*



*Ken Ward: Very much rebuilt  
electronic Boomerang trainer.*

*JJ's trainer*





The committee is asking for volunteers to assist with preparation, serve and clean up to give the ladies a break. ie we want this event to be a Ladies Day Out

Volunteers please reply by 7th December 2019



## **HOBART MODEL AERO CLUB**

### **HMAC 2019 XMAS Luncheon & Buy, Swap & Sell Meet**

**RSVP [hmacsec@gmail.com](mailto:hmacsec@gmail.com) by 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

Sunday 15<sup>TH</sup> December 2019 at Kelly Field, Richmond

Hopefully a day for fun flying.

From 9.30 am: Buy, Swap and Sell Meet. Car Boot or table.

(Bring your own table if required)

From 12 Noon (approx.)

Luncheon Spit Roast BBQ (a knife and fork do)

Includes BBQ, salads, desert and soft drinks.

Also included is a donated cask of 'special brew beer'

or BYO wine and glass

Cost: \$20.00 per person (NB. members children under 16 free)

NB. The committee has approved the consumption of alcohol. However, if an attendee

consumes alcohol, the attendee cannot fly. (refer HMAC Operations Manual and MAAA procedures MOP055