

APRIL 2020

NEWSLETTER



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Donald Robert Howie
1937 to 2020
Life Member
Constellation Model Flying Club

Donald Robert Howie -1937 to 2020

Life Member, Constellation Club

Don passed away on the 2nd of April 2020 after a short illness. Don was born in 1937 and attended Highgate Primary School and then on to Unley High School. He worked at the E&WS and managed to retire at 55. His father was in the clothing business and his family keen on horse racing so as a young, well-dressed dude he was a regular at race meetings in Adelaide.

He remembers meeting many returning pilots from the War visiting his home, and it was this that generated his lifelong interest in aircraft and models in particular. He was part of the excitement in 1948 when Gordon Burford started making model engines and Bill Evans started to produce kits. He joined many other young people introduced to powered model flight in 1948 by the monthly control line sessions at Colley Reserve. He also flew free flight models at West Beach before the airport was built with guys like Bill Evans, Mal Sharpe, Kevin Greene and Rob Thompson.

Days were spent with small diesel engines and later Jetex power and he flew with legends like Allan Coppock and Max Starrick at the Rakes road field. His lifelong passion and knowledge of model engines of all kinds resulted in him being recognised as a real authority here and around the world.

He joined Brian Horrocks and others flying in a DC3 for flying demonstrations in Port Lincoln and Kangaroo Island.

He designed several control line and free flight models at that time and in later years had 4 plans published in Airborne magazine.

Don joined the Constellation Club in 1969 after the purchase of "Woodstock", becoming Secretary/ Treasurer in 1970. With careful budgeting, Don was good with money, helped pay off the loan in 3 years. In 1978 the club purchased land at the current site and he arranged a loan from the State Bank, again all paid off in 3 years. He was awarded "Life" membership after many years of effort on behalf of the club. His skill as a treasurer saw him also appointed to the Willunga Club and the Old Timer group in those positions.

Don was a prolific and gifted writer and in 1970 started writing articles for the local magazine on radio control and special events, until this year. He continued a column started by Max Starrick in Airborne "For Old Timer's Sake" from number 23, January, 1978 and continued until the magazine closed. After Golden Era 1999 he was asked by David Boddington to write an article for Aviation Modeller International and he continued to write a Vintage section for them from 2000. Until recently he wrote for Aero Modeller and various other newsletters. A good photographer, his articles were supported by carefully posed and documented photos of high quality. We don't mention the "Girlie" photos he took for the front page of Airborne using "models" from work.

A keen competitor Don flew in many Nationals and regularly travelled interstate to competitions such as Canowindra, Swan Hill and Cowra for Oily Hand. He also found time to go bowling with the Beaumont Bowling Club.

His situation allowed him to travel freely so he saw a good part of the world and attended many flying meetings in the UK, Italy and the USA. The fare for ships returning to the UK after dropping off a load of English migrants was as Don would say, "good value", which he took advantage of.

He regarded himself as a true aeromodeller and frowned on foamies, he made a huge contribution to our hobby and will be missed by many.



Click on this link to view a visual tribute to the life of Don Howie compiled by Pete Leaney and Trevor Pearce.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H7OXPkaByLA&feature=youtu.be>



From the Editor

Whilst the newsletter will continue to be published, due to these uncertain times there is going to be a lack of material. So now is the time to dust off those unfinished projects and get them ready for when this all ends, and it will end.

I personally have four projects in various stages of completion and I wager I'm not alone. So why not put pen to paper and tell us all about them. As a good example, read the story submitted by Frank Weeks on page 9.

On another matter, unless I've been instructed otherwise, all event flyers have remained in this publication. If you plan to attend any of these events, it would be wise to check with the hosting club if the event is still on.

In closing, the majority of us fall into the high risk category with this virus, so please take care out there.

Bob

Latest news on the 2020 F4C/F World Championships

Hi everyone.... its not great news, but the CIAM committee and the Norway WC committee have come up with the best option for the health and safety of all the teams that were competing this year. Rest assured that all the donations thus far is still sitting in a bank account and will remain there until we start organising 2021!, which I am super excited for! Its not a cancellation, just a postponement to bigger and better things in 2021!

Cheers, Melissa Law... F4 Team Manager



Scale Aircraft Society of South Australia



Be a Part of It.

Next event: Fun Fly Moonta MAC

Date: 15 Mar 2020

Next meeting: Hanger 30, Parafield AP

Date: 16 Apr 2020



Scale Aircraft Society
of South Australia

President: Ray Melton
Vice President: Steve Marriner
Sec/Trea: Trevor Woolfitt
SecAssist: Peter Lyas

Secretary/Treasurer
Phone: 0402 815 957
E-mail: t.woolfitt@bigpond.com

*We are a Special Interest Group.
A society of like-minded people
who have scale aeromodelling
amongst some of our passions.*

*We exist for sharing and
enhancing all aspects of scale
aeromodelling, irrespective of
experience. If you have a scale
model or want to get involved
with the Scale Society, come to
one of our meetings at the FTA
classrooms, Hanger 30, Parafield
AP. We are open to all MAAA
affiliated members.*

For more
information check
out the SASOSA
SIG Page on the
MASA website.



MODEL AEROSPORT SA INCORPORATED NOTICE OF MEETING

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
MODEL AEROSPORT SA INCORPORATED
will be held on Friday 29th May 2020
at the Restless Dance Theatre meeting room
195 Gilles Street Adelaide.

Commencing at 7.30pm

2020 Annual General Meeting Agenda

1. Meeting declared open.
2. Apologies.
3. Minutes of 2019 AGM.
(Published in June 2019 MASA Newsletter)
4. Business Arising from Minutes
5. Executive Reports
6. Category Chairmen's Reports.
7. Financial Report.
8. Honorary.
9. Fees 2020/2021.
10. Election of Officers.
11. General Business
12. Close.

Refreshments will follow the meeting.

MASA INC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE

NOMINATIONS ARE CALLED FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS.

President	Retiring Member	Neil Tank
Secretary	Retiring Member	Paul Kumela
Treasurer	Retiring Member	Garry Oakley
C/L Chairman	Retiring Member	Peter Anglberger
<i>R/C Chairman position now vested in the MASA committee.</i>		

Under the Constitution, Retiring Executive members are automatically eligible for reappointment.
Other nominations are to be made on the form below signed by both the Nominee and the Proposer

Nominations must reach the MASA Secretary by FRIDAY April 24th 2020.

***Nominations for executive positions are open
until April 24, 2020***

MODEL AEROSPORT SA INCORPORATED NOMINATION FORM

I hereby nominate(full name) (VH No).....

For the position of

At the 2020 Annual General Meeting Signed (Proposer) (VH No).....

I accept the nomination: Signed (Nominee)



Position of MASA Secretary

At the 2018 AGM the current secretary expressed a desire to stand down from the position of secretary after five years of service to MASA. Unfortunately, no nominations were received and the secretary agreed to caretake the position until a suitable replacement is found. The flexibility for this arrangement has now reached its elastic limit and the current incumbent **will** stand down at the May 2020 Annual General Meeting.

Model Aero Sport SA is seeking to recruit a suitable applicant to fill the position of Secretary and seeks expressions of interest from the committee and members of MASA.

A job description has been prepared and is available on request.

Reality Check

MASA has experienced consistent leadership for a long period of time and members should not become complacent in the fact that any long serving members will continue indefinitely.

At the next AGM, the positions of President and Treasurer will also be up for re-election. If the existing incumbents elect not to re nominate and no nominations are forthcoming, the continuity of the MASA committee could be in a dire state and being unable to function, control of Aeromodelling in SA may well relegate back to the National body. State guidance will not be available, persons making decisions may have no knowledge of the South Australia environment.

Utilisation of our younger membership, encouraging them to step up and transition into the future leadership of MASA, would be a logical and realistic investment in the future survival of Aeromodelling in SA. At present this can be done, and advantage taken of the existing team knowledge base. This may not be available if we wait too long. If you value the future of your organisation, MASA, now is the time to ensure its future.

Expressions of Interest in the position are welcomed

and requests for the Job & Person Description should be forwarded to:

secretary@masa.org.au



FUN FLY



MILDURA May 2nd & 3rd 2020

MAAA Affiliated flyers only

SUPERB FACILITIES



FREE CAMPING SITES
TOILETS & SHOWER
AVAILABLE



ON FIELD CATERING

A GREAT DINNER SATURDAY NIGHT

Current FAI licence *MUST* be produced when registering

PLEASE NOTE: Heavy model certificates
must be produced before flying such
models.



FOR FURTHER DETAILS PHONE:

Jack Dodd 0499 044 661

Darrel Blow 0400 570 814

2020 National Electric Flight Rally

Cootamundra State Field

Easter 2020 – 10th to 13th April

Field open on Thursday 9th for camp setup and free flying

A jamboree of electric flying events and activities



Events include:

- Foamy Pylon Racing – new 300 watt event, see website
- F5J - Open and Limited
- LEG - Limited Electric Glider
- Radio glider - Sportsman & Expert
- Electric Scale
- Electric Scale
- OT - Electric Old Timer 5 classes
- Free flying
- Roast dinner at the field
- AEFA AGM

Great site - toilets and shower on the field

Undercover areas

Free camping - no powered sites

Charging sites for batteries

Catering on the field

Pre-registration required - entry form on website

MAAA membership required



Location: 34°43'16.4"S, 148°02'34.2"E

Presented by the Australian Electric Flight Association
all details on website:

www.aefanet.com

The CRAP project

Like most things in life there is usually a long series of events that all lead to one point, this one involves Frank Weeks (me) and Cubs. Many of you especially Constellation members, are aware that Frank has a high dislike for Cubs, referring to them as spew yellow high wing trainers designed for old men with their only positive point being that they may keep you warm on a cold night when you burn them. Of course Cub owners feverishly denying all this and are continually trying to convince Frank that they are “sooo good”, and keep telling him that “they can do anything”. Of course this friendly rivalry has now been going on for some years, with the Cub owners persisting that one day Frank will eventually see the light and own a Cub. Years have gone by and Frank still hacks up the skies with his pylon racers laughing at how slow Cubs are. As Frank is getting older and there is still no sign of him ever owning a Cub, the Cub owners decided they had better take things into



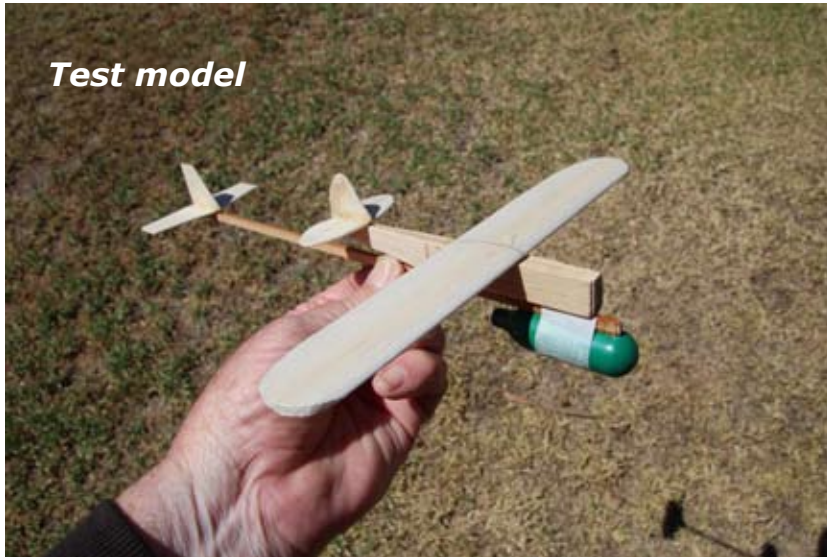
Frank's Christmas present

their own hands, and so this year gave Frank a Cub as a Christmas present. Of course this was met with a great deal of verbal sparring but the end result is that Frank now owns a spew yellow Cub. Well that is the short version of many years of friendly jousting. The present was a plastic Academy Minicraft 1/48th scale Cub kit. On close examination Frank found that despite its shortcomings of being a Cub, it was of good quality and had extreme high detail. Not wanting to be rude to his “friends” he thought that it would be a shame to throw it away so decided to put it together. On completion the model was put at the end of the bench where Frank observed that it did absolutely nothing, it was completely useless and wasn't worth the space it was taking up. Then he remembered a previous conversation where he was told “they can do anything”. Inspired by this thought the Cub was immediately sent to Frank's Skunk works



Completed model

to become one of his black projects, “Cub Rocket Assisted Propulsion” now known as CRAP. The aim was to make a model shuttle out of this “do anything” plane. Unfortunately things have changes from when Frank was a boy and the do-gooders have been active outlawing all the materials needed, sky rockets had been banned. Not wanting to fall at the first hurdle, Frank remembered his youth where he used to make rockets using his own home made



gun power. Unfortunately most of the rockets used to blow up on the launch pad but Frank thought this would be an appropriate end for such a useless plane. Once again foiled by the do-gooders, you now can't buy Potassium Nitrate anymore; how are kids suppose to have fun these days? Not wanting the CRAP project to fall into the crap he decided that a CO2 cartridge may be powerful enough to get the Cub flying, and

would probably flying more scale like than he had originally planned. A hand device was built to puncture the CO2 cartridge then release the shuttle when thrust was built up. Of course this device had to be tested so a replica test model was made as he didn't want to break the proper model before all the bugs had been sorted out. The test flights were conducted at Frank's own Area 51, the Constellation field. Rumours had got out that the Cub had been sent to Frank's Skunk works, so of course everything was denied about this mysterious looking model. On the first flight the model crashed into a shrub, at this point it was realized that if he had painted it spew yellow it would

have be easier to find, after all the full size plane were painted this colour to help rescuers when finding the crash site. Shake down test were completed with the trial model eventually flying around 10 meters. The distance flown was not as far as hoped but his "friends" had kept insisting that these Cubs can do everything better than any other plane so greater flight distances were to come. The first flight was met with great expectation with Frank hoping the model would fly off into the wild



blue yond-a never to be seen again. Unfortunately the tests gave disappointing results with the average flight distance being around 2 meters. These results were met in true government tradition with the project being declared a great success and much was learnt. In reality the project was found to typify cubs, where owners spend lots of time messing around while getting very meagre thrills for all their hard work. It was finally concluded that the CRAP project was just that, crap.

Author Frank Weeks

SAMPRA

Well it is March and the second race meeting for the year. It was good to see a full field after the first meeting's misfortunes where half the field didn't get to make it to the end of the day. Flying was better with the holiday rust now shaken off and the first meeting bugs sorted out. Competitors are now starting to look seriously at their goals for the year, with some having their eye on qualifying for the Australian team as selection trials will be starting in June. It seems as though the last trials had only just been held. There is always lots of preparation for these types of events so June will be here before we know it. In the main most competitors are just trying to get that



Craig Spratt with reliable Q500

little bit better while others couldn't care less and are just out there having fun. It was good to see Greg Leigh back again flying his Avionic F5d which he hadn't raced for some years. Back then it was a fast model but now it is struggling. It is hard to believe just how much faster the F5d class has become in a couple of years. High Tech is creeping into racing with competitors trying to get that edge. Trevor Peace has put together an automatic light system to assist with race practice. The system has 2 cameras which detect when a model is in line with number one pylon, it then triggers a high intensity LED light to let the pilot and caller know when he has reached the pylon. It is surprising just how accurate the camera is as it uses a very wide angle of view yet it is still able to detect small models against a grey clouded sky. Another piece of tech that has crept into the racing scene is dynamometers. F5d competitors



are using dynamometers to find the most efficient speedy setting for their prop motor set ups. They are also helpful when modifying propellers as any changes to the prop load can be quickly related back to race performance. With some competitors now making their own propeller, prop comparisons can be made without the having to go to the field. Another area of research is with batteries as all batteries aren't equal, as a





Greg Leigh with F5d

result test gear has been developed to compare battery performance. The results have been quite enlightening as some of the test figures are nothing like what is being claimed by manufactures. Quad copters have also got into the scene, using their GPS locking capability they are being used to hover over pylons and take video, pilots can later review recordings to work out how they can improve their flying. It is all getting too complicated. While all this is going on the Q500 still keep plodding along as the main backbone of racing. This class still has the largest number of competitors and is probably where the guys having the most fun as the planes just keep going with a minimum of problems. The Jacobsen's clan were again out there in force, it seems the event is being used as a family picnic, where wives, girlfriends, babies and grandparents all get together, it is great to see. It was also great to see Mike Savil back as in recent years soccer commitments have restricted his Sunday flying. Mike was a bit rusty to the old Mike I remember but you could see him getting better and better with each flight. I am sure it won't be long before it's back to the old days with Mike out in front and everybody trying to chase him down. Thanks again to Joe who once more did the BBQ. It is one of those jobs that just get quietly done in the back ground "seen but not heard", but not with Joe; those that know Joe always know when he is around, thanks Joe. As normal it was a good social day with everybody having a great time.

Author Frank Weeks



Camera light system



Jacobsen clan picnic

MINUTES OF THE MASA EXECUTIVE MEETING

In line with Corona Virus update information circulated on 25/26th March 2020.

**A meeting of the MASA executive was held on 1st April 2020
via Zoom Teleconferencing**

Meeting opened by the President at 7.32Hrs

PRESENT: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Adelaide Aero-Modellers [AAC], Adelaide Model Aero Sport [AMA], Adelaide FPV Racing [AFPVR], Barossa [BVMAC], Concorde, Constellation [CMFC], Helicopter [SARCH], Holdfast [HMAC], Goolwa Indoor Model Flyers Club [GIMFC], Indoor Flyers [SAIF], Moonta [MMAC], Noarlunga [NMAS], Northern Soaring League [NSL], Old Timer [OT], Onkaparinga Radio Aero Modellers [ORAM, Newsletter Editor, Pylon [SAMPRA], Scale Society [SASOSA], Skyhawks [SA], South Coast [SCMAS], South Hummocks [SHMAC], Southern Soaring League [SSL], Strathalbyn [SMAC]

VISITORS: Nil. **APOLOGIES:** Nil

Minutes of previous meeting It was moved by the President seconded by the Secretary that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES Nil

CORRESPONDENCE IN

Treasurer	-- Financials
CMFC	-- Event cancellation
V.President	-- APA Event Cancellation
SCMAC	-- MAAA Assistance scheme application
J Ramsay	-- AGM Nomination
Concorde	-- Bore Pump
Restless Dance Theatre	-- Room Hirers notification

CORRESPONDENCE OUT

BMF	-- Decision on water meter
MAAA	-- CMFC Incident report
Club Secs	-- Scale Society feeler
Club Secs	-- Sidewalk Sale cancellation
Club Secs	-- Cancellation of all MASA meetings

BUSINESS ARISING from Correspondence

SCMAC Application. South Coast Model Aerosport Club have submitted an MAAA Assistance Scheme application for MASA endorsement. If successful, the application to MAAA will contribute towards providing a suitable hard surface for a car parking area at the club venue. The executive duly endorsed the application which on receipt of additional information will be forwarded on to the MAAA secretary.

BMF Water Supply charges. The meeting was advised that an email was sent to the club which to date had attracted no response. Following discussion, it was agreed that the secretary is to make further contact with the BMF Club Secretary and request the club address the outstanding matters.

Reeves Plains Bore pump. Following a request from Concorde that MASA pay for a replacement bore pump at Reeves Plains. The matter was discussed by the executive and in line with constitutional compliance, a decision on expenditure will be held over until the next full committee meeting of MASA.

MASA AGM Nominations. To date one nomination for the position of Treasurer or Secretary has been received from J. Ramsay.

MEMBERSHIP 844

Clubs Affiliated with MASA (29)

Senior 820	Junior 24	Life 6
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CATEGORY REPORTS

No category reports this month.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- 1. MASA Corona Virus update.** Information notices were circulated out to all club's secretaries on the 25th and 26th March highlighting clarification from Commissioner Stevens direction in relation aeromodelling activities and compliance with the Emergency Management Act. Since enacting the direction, nine MASA affiliated clubs have elected to take the direction and shutdown operations until further notice.
- 2. Newsletter during shutdown.** Despite the cessation of model flying and the ability to report on events and activities, the executive agreed that the MASA newsletter should continue during the shutdown. Members are encouraged to contact the newsletter editor newslettereditor@masa.org.au with content of creative activities and modelling projects other members will be interested in during the downtime.

- 3. Website Payment.** MASA is currently happy with the website, however until now payment costs for the website have been achieved by direct debit from the Treasurer's personal account. The treasurer proposed that this can and should be changed to a 12 month in advance payment invoiced direct to MASA. Proposal agreed.
- 4. Leases Payments.** The Vice President opened a discussion in relation to MAAA and MASA leases and suggested some thought be given to assisting clubs by deferring payments. Following further discussion and the fact that club membership will be down until flying can resume both MAAA and MASA will be affected. It was also stated that clubs with private leases would have to negotiate with their respective landlords for any concessions. The executive agreed that there was no immediate cause for concern and monitor the situation should things deteriorate.

There being no further business

**Meeting Closed 20.48 Hrs
Next Executive Meeting Wednesday 6th May 2020**

President Update

If you had have told me two months ago that the majority of model aircraft club would be closed, our hobby put into semi hibernation and all members relegated to the man cave, I would have said that it was an April's fool's joke come early

Recommendations, legislation and directives have been issued daily to curb the spread of Covid-19 and I am pleased to say most members have contributed in a positive manner. I thank all club committees and members for taking this action in the interest of members safety and the health of the general community. Some have not agreed however these decisions have been made in the interest of the general membership and not for a few.

The demographics of our membership is such that most members fall within the vulnerable high-risk age group and the decision to close clubs was, in my view, a responsible decision. The more of us who follow the advice of health and other officials, the quicker we will get through this and resume what we love to do.

Clubs and special interest groups are rising to the challenge and engaging members in other ways utilising the electronic medium. Topics such as share your latest project, model kits you found hidden for years and unfinished repairs, all for the purpose of keeping in touch and keeping the aeromodelling community alive and active. It has been said many times that aeromodelling does not only include flying, some of the ARF brigade may disagree; aeromodelling includes many diverse activities such as building (repairing), electronics and engine maintenance to name a few. Use this time to improve your skills in these areas by researching articles etc. and sharing the ideas with others. Who knows, we may all come through this knowing more and with increased enthusiasm. I am aware of some clubs who are already planning for the big, dare I say it – a "Coming out Flyathon".

From an administrative perspective, the MASA Annual General Meeting has been postponed until restrictions on movement and gatherings are lifted; from the 30th of June the organisation will go into caretaker mode and run by the current Executive.

- Regular internet meetings, utilising Zoom, will be conducted and issued raised by clubs considered.
- Monetary decisions will only relate to the day to day business, major decisions being put on hold until full committee meetings resume.
- Elections will be put on hold until a Special Meeting can be called.
- The MASA Newsletter will continue to be prepared by Bob McEwin. The newsletter will contain the minutes of the Executive meetings and any other reports.
- The MASA Executive have reviewed the current financial position and consider fees for the 2020-2021 financial year will remain the same.
- Members wishing to renew their membership can do as normal through their clubs.
- Obviously, a few events have been cancelled however, I am sure there will be a flurry of activity when we are let loose again.

Until next time, please all keep safe, look out for your families, friends and fellow club members, in particular those who live alone.

Neil Tank
President

We're OPEN and here to help you
stay healthy, happy and sane
during these challenging times.

We have made some changes at
our Goodwood store to improve
your and our staff's safety. We still
have the same range of stock and
our friendly and knowledgeable
staff are there to help.

Visit us in-store or online

Phone
Online / Store
08.8186.4250 / 08.8271.1816



www.modelflight.com.au

Visit your local store: 130 Goodwood Road, Goodwood

**BEST
BRANDS
IN RC**

modelflight RC

MASA EVENTS CALENDAR 2020

DATE EVENT

VENUE

HOST

***The events calendar
will return when club
fields re-open, which
we hope isn't too far
into the future.***

The views expressed in this Newsletter are those of the writer of the article and not those of the Newsletter or MASA Inc.
Closing date for each Newsletter is the **Monday** prior to the MASA meeting. (First Wednesday each month)

Executive and Office Bearers

President **Neil Tank** Ph. 8325 3056
email: president@masa.org.au
Secretary **Paul Kumela** Ph. 0490 371 869
12 Sapphire Road, Morphett Vale SA 5162
email: secretary@masa.org.au
Treasurer **Garry Oakley** Ph. 0417 814 373
email: treasurer@masa.org.au
Vice President **David Mifsud** Ph. 0413 512 350
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Garry Oakley Ph. 0417 814 373
Garry Oakley Ph. 0417 814 373
email: sfi@masa.org.au

ANNUAL FEES: 2019 - 2020

Senior \$118.00 Pensioner \$118.00 Junior \$59.00
Reductions apply after 1st Jan. FOR NEW MEMBERS ONLY

Club Affiliation Fee \$10.00 for all Clubs
Please note:- **Member clubs of MASA must affiliate through the MAAA**

CATEGORY MEETINGS

Control Line Second Tuesday monthly at 8.00pm
Seven Stars Saloon, Angas St, ADELAIDE
Radio Control Nil

Category Chairpersons

Control Line **Peter Anglberger** Ph. 0448 433 282
email: peteranglberger@hotmail.com
Radio Control **Bill Kent** Ph. 0414 883 429
email: wmkent48@gmail.com

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