



GlidingVicTas

VSA NEWSLETTER MAY 2024

Motor Glider Accident - 27 Apr 2024

On the afternoon of Saturday 27 April, Gliding Australia received news of a fatal accident at Mount Beauty aerodrome involving a visiting Grob G109B motor-glider. Gliding Australia advised that Greig Wanless of the Melbourne Gliding Club and his passenger, Ms. Kate Callingham, tragically passed away whilst undertaking a flight to scatter the ashes of Kate's father, Max Callingham.

Our sincere condolences are expressed to the family and friends of Grieg and Kate. Our thoughts are also with those members of the Melbourne Gliding Club, Alpine Soaring Mount Beauty, and Mount Beauty Gliding Club colleagues and friends, first responders and supporters.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

[Women and Gliding - Grampians](#)

[Women and Gliding - Mount Beauty](#)

[Beryl Hartley](#)

[Women's Airworthiness Course](#) - June

["Fix the Mix"](#)

[Play by the Rules](#)

[VSA State Championships 2024](#)

[Around the Clubs](#)

[Funding and Reimbursement](#)

[Affiliation to VSA](#) (Gliding VicTas)

[Gliding Australia Club Development](#)

[Webinar](#)

[Your Fast 5](#)

[What's Coming Up?](#)

VSA Women and Youth in Gliding Introduction Weekend Grampians Soaring Club April 13-14 2024



The [Women and Youth in Gliding](#) weekend recently held at Grampians Soaring Club was an outstanding success. Harbans Mann, Gliding Australia Women's Co-ordinator contacted me several months ago to see if our club might be interested in hosting the event. I did not hesitate in agreeing and a date was set to host the weekend.

An enormous amount of work goes into holding a weekend such as this, not only at the state level, but also at club level. Phil Henderson and Harbans Man from the VSA have been absolutely fantastic with their support prior to the event taking place. A lot of Facebook marketing and local media advertising was undertaken by the GSC prior to the event as well.

We thank all of our members for their fabulous contributions. We also had a visiting Instructor in Alf Mcmillan, assisting with the flying duties, which was absolutely fantastic.

In conclusion, the Grampians Soaring Club are extremely happy to have been involved with this initiative and would happily do it again in the future. I would urge all VSA clubs to consider hosting a similar event as at the end of the day you have nothing to lose and you might just gain some long lasting benefits, not only for your club but for gliding in general.

We ended up conducting 22 introductory flights over the weekend which I must say exceeded my expectations on what may be able to be achieved.

All of the participants emerged extremely happy with the whole experience, which was absolutely fantastic. We have gained one new member directly from the weekend with the possibility of another two members at least. I do believe that this may also lead to subsequent flights being conducted, not only by us, but also from several clubs around the state. Once the participants from the weekend tell their friends and family what a fabulous experience that they had the flow on benefit should be substantial.

As we are a relatively small club conducting this many flights, it was big for us and I must than
David Lovell - President
Grampians Soaring Club

Mount Beauty Women and Gliding Weekend

On 27th January, Alpine Soaring Mt Beauty, GCV and Mount Beauty Gliding Club hosted an amazing event initiating young [women to gliding](#) with some great flights into the mountains.

Thanks to Harbans Mann and Noah Tanzen for organizing and all the volunteer pilots who turned up to a fly, have fun and assist. Congratulations to Emily Macklan who won a glider flight!



Want to know more about what our women in gliding have been up to? Check out all the activities for women and girls in gliding by going to the [#YesGirlsGlide](#) Facebook page or [Gliding Australia Rockettes](#)

Gliding VicTas are seeking Expressions of Interest from clubs who wish to host the next Women in Gliding weekend.

Send to president@victas.glidingaustralia.org

CONGRATULATIONS, BERYL HARTLEY!

At the gala dinner of the 2024 annual Australian Women Pilots' Association conference in Mildura, our very own [Beryl Hartley](#), previous GFA President and long-serving gliding advocate was awarded the AWPANancy-Bird Walton Memorial Trophy. This award is AWPAN's most prestigious award. It is awarded for the most noteworthy contribution to aviation by a woman of Australasia.

Pictured: Beryl Hartley (Narromine Gliding Club) and Barbara Trappett (AWPA Past President (2021-2024))



Women's Airworthiness Course 2024

#Rockettes

We are back at it!! [Rockettes](#) through [Gliding Australia](#) is bringing another [Women's Airworthiness Course](#) in June 2024 at [Bathurst Soaring Club](#). 🥳🥳

Register 👉

<https://forms.gle/T8DDce8YxmhdB8v38>



"FIX THE MIX"

There is a concerted effort by clubs to get more women into gliding and address the gender imbalance. We need to continue to celebrate overcoming obstacles, fulfilling dreams, and welcoming more women into the gliding community.

So, it's time to ["Fix the Mix"](#) and truly get on board with not only women, but junior programs, inter-generational outreach and LGBTI communities.

We are in an ageing sport and the research substantiates that we have an extreme gender imbalance that is perpetrated throughout the movement. In one word – SUSTAINABILITY. The sport is currently struggling to attract and RETAIN new members, so a "look in the mirror" approach is a good start!

10 Point Plan

To get you started on fixing the gender imbalance in your club, here is a simple **10 Point Plan**.

Addressing gender imbalance in any field requires a multifaceted approach. The 10-point plan is specifically tailored to address the gender gap in gliding. You may want to start with one cohort, such as addressing the lack of females in your club, and then move on to other diverse groups.

Research and Awareness - Conduct surveys and studies to understand the reasons behind the gender gap in your club

and **BE HONEST** even if it raises uncomfortable issues, such as "men's shed", "my weekend space" et al. Raise awareness within your club about the importance of gender diversity and the benefits it brings to your club and the community you fly in.

Outreach Programs - Establish outreach programs aimed at introducing girls, young women, youth and LGBTI to gliding. It's not a "one off" event program. You need to have a plan that is at least 3 years in duration. Collaborate with youth organizations and community groups, such as Scouts and Air League or Air Force and Navy cadets, to

name a few, to organize introductory flights and educational sessions.

Female Role Models - Highlight the achievements of female glider pilots and instructors and showcase them on your social media platforms continually and *hashtag* them to other adventure sports. *(You do have a social media platform, don't you?)*

Create mentorship programs where experienced female pilots can mentor and support aspiring female pilots. This can be previous female pilots who are no longer flying, but still interested in your club.

Inclusive Policies - Implement policies that promote inclusivity and eliminate barriers to entry for women, youth, LGBTI and others into gliding. This could include offering scholarships or financial assistance, ensuring gender-neutral language in promotional materials, and providing facilities that cater to their needs.

Training and Education – In relation to females, develop training programs specifically designed to support female pilots, focusing on areas where they may face unique challenges or barriers. If you don't know, ASK! Provide resources and support for female pilots seeking advanced certifications and ratings.

Promotion and Visibility - Increase the visibility of female pilots in marketing materials, competitions, and media coverage. Feature stories and profiles of successful female pilots to inspire others and showcase the diversity within the gliding community.

Gliding Community Engagement - Foster a supportive and inclusive community within the gliding community. Encourage

SO! Go to it! You will have pockets of resistance to changing “how we do things around here”. The Vision and Key for the future is your club's Long-Term Strategy so that your club can grow and be sustainable into the future.

AND, to assist in the journey, see the Resources below to get you started!

collaboration and networking among female and gender diverse pilots through social events, online forums, and networking opportunities.

Safety and Well-being - Address personal safety concerns and create a supportive environment that prioritizes the well-being of all pilots, regardless of gender. Provide resources and support for female and gender diverse pilots facing harassment or discrimination.

Appoint Member Advocates – Appoint a Female Member Advocate, an LGBTI Member Advocate and a Junior Member Advocate to ensure that there is a “Go-To Person(s)” to sort out issues or inappropriate conduct. If you do not have a flying member who can undertake this, seek a social member who can assist. Remember, *if you see it, call it out!*”

Research and Development - Invest in research and development initiatives aimed at making gliding more accessible and appealing to all, including Access to All Abilities. This could include developing new equipment that does not require being Mr. Universe to lift or manoeuvre it, as well as exploring alternative formats for competitions and events that are over a long weekend as opposed to a week event.

Long-term Strategy - Develop a long-term strategy for promoting gender diversity at your club, including goals, measuring your programs for success and ongoing evaluation and adjustment of initiatives through member surveys and member forums. Involve all your members in the planning and implementation process.

Resources

Learn more about those championing equality in sport and the opportunities available:

- [Meet the 11-year-old who created Her Way magazine to tell stories about women's sport](#) - ABC News
- [Women in sport reports, research & expertise](#) - Victoria University
- [Female Performance & Health Initiative](#) - Australian Institute of Sport
- [Office for Women in Sport and Recreation](#) - Sport and Recreation Victoria
- [Women in Sports Media Program](#) - Change Our Game

PLAY BY THE RULES

Make sure your club is across the [Fair Play Code](#) and has a copy on your club noticeboard and is undertaking the Play by the Rules training!

All Gliding VicTas funding going forward will be predicated on member clubs initiating a program of ensuring that all their members are undertaking [Play by the Rules](#) training and loading their credentials into the Gliding Australia JustGo portal.

The Club with the greatest percentage of uploads for the Play by the Rules training to the Gliding Australia JustGo membership portal will receive \$1000. This offer finishes at the end of June 2024. GO TO IT!!



Play By the Rules- Club Resources

Free infographics addressing issues that impact on safe, fair and inclusive sport can be accessed [here](#).

All Club committee members are being asked to undertake the Learning modules and Clubs will be asked for feedback as to how many modules per capita of committee have completed via "Sport Integrity Australia" <https://elearning.sportintegrity.gov.au/login/index.php#>. A login creation is required. This requirement is expected to be cascaded down to members.

Sport Integrity Australia- Club Resources

National safeguarding policies, resources and education can be accessed [here](#).

The following resources are now available for sport integrity related issues and are available [here](#):

Vicsport Child Safe Training Modules

Online Child Safe training modules can be accessed [here](#). If you want young people to ensure sustainability into the future, then this information is important for your Governance and Integrity and future funding.

Member Protection Information Officer Training

Sport & Recreation Victoria are looking to run Member Protection Information Officer Training Sessions. If you would like to register your interest to complete training, you may do so [here](#).

Dispute Settlement Centre Victoria

Provides free dispute resolution services to all Victorians can be accessed [here](#).

VSA State Championship 2024

We call for interest from clubs to hold the [VSA State Championships](https://victas.glidingaustralia.org) for 2024. Please indicate your interest as soon as possible so that a date can be fixed into the calendar early. All responses to president@victas.glidingaustralia.org

AROUND THE CLUBS!

CONGRATULATIONS, SUNRAYSIA GLIDING CLUB

Sunraysia Gliding Club hosted the Australian Women Pilots' Association AGM and Communications sessions along with some very sought after gliding flights! Well done to the SGC team for putting on a magnificent effort to accommodate these amazing pilots who cover all the spectrum from gliding, ballooning, recreational, airline and military. Some very accomplished women pilots in this lot!



Tomorrow Today Foundation's Come and Try Day and Youth Careers Expo - Benalla

On Sunday 21st April, GCV participated in the first Tomorrow Today Foundation's Come and Try Day and Youth Careers Expo. It was a great day to introduce young people to the sport of gliding. The "Win a Glider Flight" was on offer and we look forward to arranging the recipient's flight soon!

GCV also thank all our young pilots who came to assist; they did a wonderful job! The future of gliding in Australia is in good hands, but we need more of you!



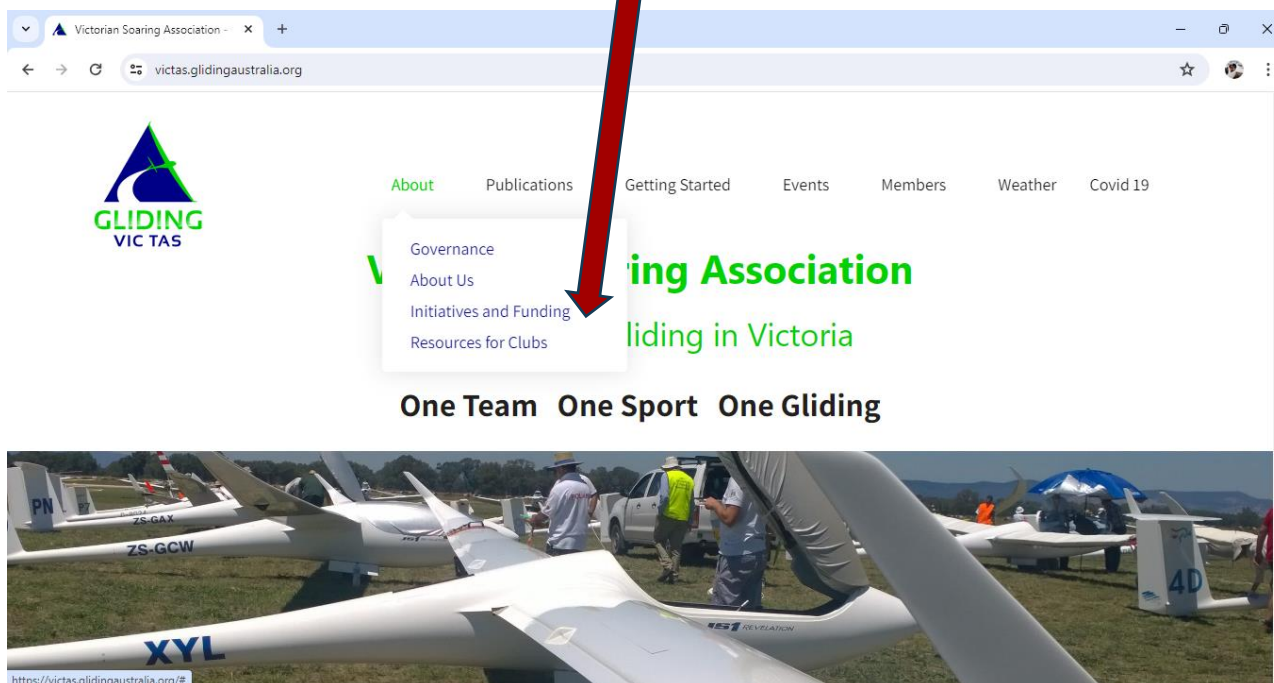
WANT SOME FUNDING? NEED TO CLAIM AN EXPENSE?

OK! Yes, there is a process! So, let's check out the VSA website

You need to fill out a [Funding](#) Application Form! (Who would have thought?!) Just like any other entity that is providing funding or grants, we need to know what you want, and that you know the guidelines of what is available.

Open the website - <https://victas.glidingaustralia.org/>

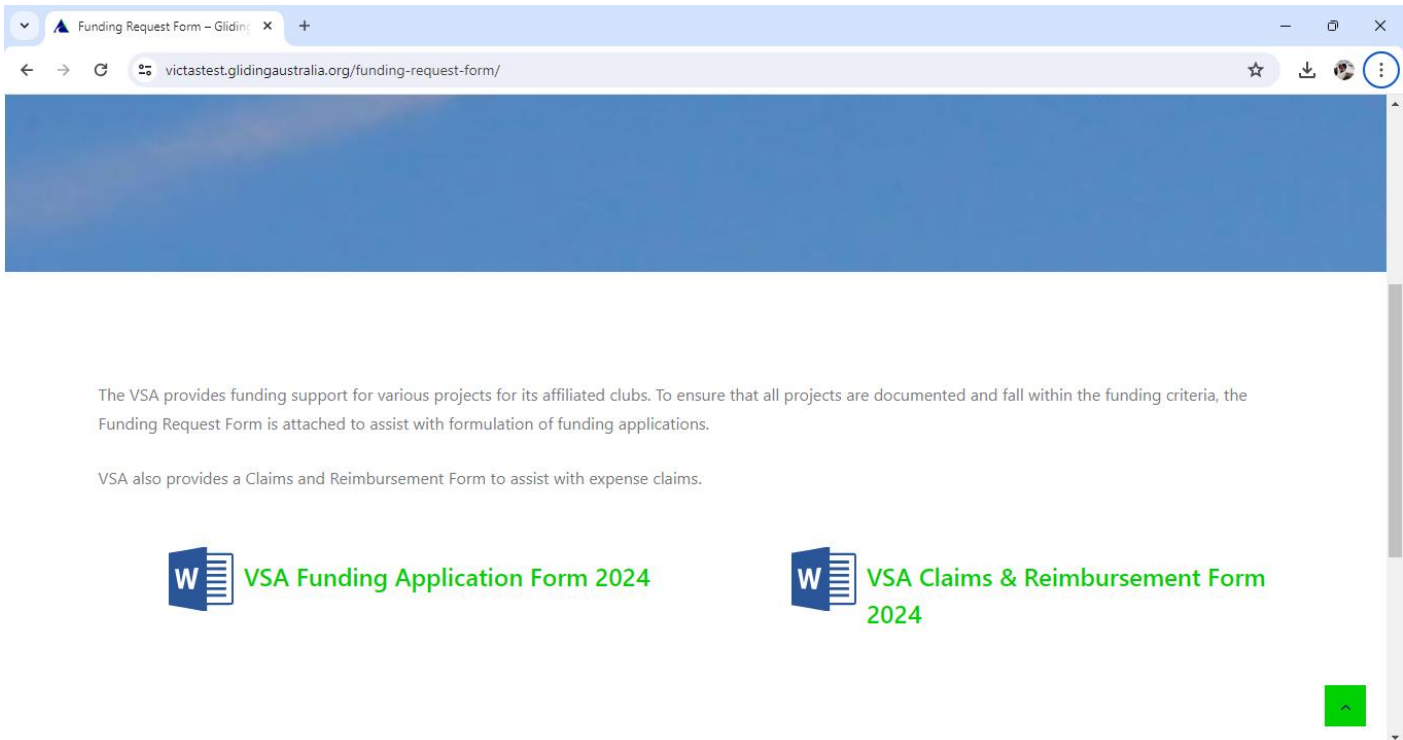
Select About, then [Initiatives and Funding](#)



Scroll down to see the list of Initiatives and Funding criteria. Select "Read More" on Funding Applications & Claim Forms.



Then select either the [VSA Funding Application Form](#) or the [VSA Claims & Reimbursement Form](#).
Simple!



AFFILIATION TO VSA

To be an active gliding club, you must be [affiliated](#) to the VSA. This is a legal requirement.

Is your affiliation up to date?

Being a Member of VSA means a club recognised by the Association. Each Member Club appoints a Delegate to represent their interests to the VSA.

Division 1 of the Articles of Association - Membership

Clause 8: Who is eligible to be a Member

Any gliding club or organisation which supports the purposes of the Association and is affiliated and remains affiliated with the GFA

Clause 9: Application for membership

(1) To apply to become a Member of the Association, a person must submit a written application using VSA Membership Application form appendix 4 and VSA Club Delegate Nomination form Appendix 3 to a committee member stating that the club:

- (a) wishes to become a Member of the Association; and
- (b) supports the purposes of the Association; and
- (c) agrees to comply with these Rules

(2) The application must be signed by the applicant's authorised officer and may be accompanied by the joining fee if requested by the association.

Clause 10: Consideration of application

- (1) As soon as practicable after an application for membership is received, the Committee must decide by resolution whether to accept or reject the application.
- (2) The Committee must notify the applicant in writing of its decision as soon as practicable after the decision is made.
- (3) If the Committee rejects the application, it must return any money accompanying the application to the applicant.
- (4) No reason need be given for the rejection of an application.

Clause 11: New membership

- (1) If an application for membership is approved by the Committee—
 - (a) the resolution to accept the membership must be recorded in the minutes of the committee meeting; and
 - (b) the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, enter the name and address of the new Member and Delegate(s), and the date of becoming a Member, in the register of Members.
- (2) A Club becomes a Member of the Association and, subject to rule 13(2), is entitled to exercise its rights of membership from the date whichever is the later, on which the Committee approves the Club's membership; and
 - (b) the Club pays the joining fee.

For further information on the rules of the VSA, see [Articles of Association](#) on the VSA website.

Gliding Australia Club Development Webinar

Did you see it?! Should have!

The [Club Development seminar](#) *“The Future is Now So What Does This Mean For Your Club”* with Amanda VanderWal was a really interesting presentation on the state of play for gliding as a sport, and some of the factors all clubs should be considering in their club development strategies going forward.

Amanda has made the recording available, and Gliding VicTas strongly encourages everyone to watch this and allow it to percolate in your minds for a bit, so that some of the lines of thought can be explored as all clubs move into Winter and work through their own strategy and understanding of what they want the future of their clubs to look like.

It is around an hour long, so grab a coffee and a snack, sit back and enjoy some of the insights Amanda has been able to glean by scanning the general sporting landscape.

Club Development Webinar link [HERE](#)



Your Fast 5

5 Ways to Improve Member Retention and Recruitment

1. **Offer Diverse and Appealing Programs:**
Provide a variety of programs that cater to different skill levels and abilities within your club.
2. **Build a Positive and Supportive Culture:**
Recognise and celebrate the achievements and contributions of members, both active flying members and social members, to reinforce a sense of belonging and pride in the club.
3. **Invest in Coaching and Development:**
Implement the GFA Coaching Course pathway that focuses on skill progression, goal setting, and feedback to help pilots reach their full potential.
4. **Engage with the Community:**
Actively engage with the local community through outreach programs, partnerships with youth organizations, and participation in community events.
5. **Communicate Effectively:**
Maintain clear and consistent communication with members and stakeholders through various channels, including email, social media, and website updates.

Airworthiness

John Wharington, VicTas RMA, has jumped the ditch and delivered the “whizz bang” Altimeter Tester to Tassie. It’s easy to use, so have fun!

Want to know more?

Contact John on: Vic/Tas RMA – John Wharington – jwharington@gmail.com



What's coming up!

GRAMPIANS SOARING CLUB is proud to announce they will again be running their famous wave event held at Ararat airfield from Friday 9th June until Sunday 18th June.

With last year's event being extremely successful, we're excited to offer a great event once again.

A couple of key points below.

- Oxygen refills available.
- Bunkhouse accommodation is available but books out fast (\$15 per night).
- Camping available (\$15 per night).
- Daily lunches and dinners will be organised at reasonable costs.
- 2 tugs will be on site for the whole event to ensure tow wait times are kept to a minimum.
- There will be an online briefing session in the weeks prior to the event.
- Winching available on "non wave days" if the weather allows.



For more information and the Application Entry Form, please reach out to Heinz or Brendon. Their details are as follows:

Brendon Lovell
Ph- 0432 878 852
Email- secretary@grampianssoaring.club

Heinz de Chelard
Ph- 0448 507 374
Email- hdechelard@gmail.com
[VSA Events Calendar](#)
[VSA Facebook](#)