



P&DARCS

Pakenham and District Aircraft Radio Control Society



P&DARCS NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2017



Brian Evans with his DE Havilland Twin Otter, electric conversion, Brian flew the Twin Otter Saturday 16th in cold and windy conditions, the model performed well

**Next Club meeting, and Coop AGM, Sunday 1st October
At the Burley Field, 1-00pm start**

BURLEY FIELD

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EDITOR'S BIT

What's got a 72 inch, 18 blade metal propeller, can't fly, does not have a motor, gets used day and night, in all weathers, and does **not** need;

- * A transmitter or receiver
- * A battery or fuel
- * Club insurance or registration

Is involved with water, but is not a water rocket, is a long way from our Clubhouse, and is hard to see at a distance ? ?

YES, you guessed it, it's our **WINDMILL**



Here it is in it's new position, in the North Western corner of our property, our Club buildings are in the far distance
For all the details of the windmill / water bore relocation see Rob Till, and Norm Morrish's reports in recent Newsletters, plus the President's report in this Newsletter

Frank McPherson Editor

WHAT'S ON At P&DARCS 2017

Look in the Club Calendar on page 11

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NOTICES

ATTENTION MEMBERS

The Club's **Kit & Scratch Built Scale Rally** is on November 11 & 12 and we desperately need members to assist in running the event.

We need **gate attendants** and **parking directors** for both Saturday & Sunday. We will be running 1 hour rosters so it will not be too difficult to help out on the day. There will also be a small working bee on the Friday before the weekend to get the field up and ready. You are welcome to attend.

If you can help on either or both days please contact Ivan Chiselett at chiseli@optusnet.com.au or on 9898 4379 advising what days, and how long you can give.

We really want this to be a great success for the club and we need your help to run it.

Kit & Scratch Built Scale Rally November 11 & 12 2017

Don't forget the Clubs big event. There are great trophies to be handed out in three categories as well as over \$1,000 in prizes handed out by lucky draw during the two days.

Why not get out one or more of your "hand built" scale models and come along and be part of the weekend. It does not have to be spectacular, just hand made from a kit or scratch. If you only have a project on the go, please bring them. The weekend is all about celebrating building models a sort of show and tell. If you do not have an aircraft that qualifies just come and have a look at the models that will be there. There is also a Diorama section which will be interesting to see as well. Please tell your friends about the weekend, we have a Public Display Permits so the public is OK to attend and enjoy looking at great models.

It is only \$5-00 per car. No additional registration fee, just the \$5-00 is all it costs. All profits go back to our great club. Please get behind the rally and come and enjoy the weekend.

HELP REQUIRED

As you would have read in previous newsletters Due to health & safety reasons, the club needs to erect a new fuel storage shed. The new base for the shed has been laid, **we now need help erecting the shed structure.**

If you have some experience or feel this is a project you could do, please contact Daniel Jenkins. We have several infrastructure type activities on the go at present which are all being done by Committee members, so some assistance would be greatly appreciated.

PRESIDENT

The weather has not been kind over the last few weeks so many of us have not been flying, hopefully this will change very soon.

Many of you would be aware of the **Avlite strobe installation** issue to prevent low flying aircraft.

This has been ongoing for a year now with a lot of work done by the Committee.

Despite the fact that we have support from flying schools and CASA we have been advised that we were not successful in obtaining a grant from MAAA.

This is very disappointing as I would have thought that such a safety issue as this would be of prime concern to the MAAA.

Despite this, the club has purchased the Avlite and it will be installed very soon.

Paul Somerville has taken on the task of fabricating the appropriate steelworks and installation.

A number of members have asked the Co-Op why we had to **fund the re-location of the windmill, a new bore and associated works**. The Co-Op leases the land to a tenant farmer who relies on sufficient water to feed his stock and manage the land.

We are fortunate to have a good tenant who takes responsibility to maintain fences, slash the paddocks, bale hay and take care of the property in general. In addition of course he pays leasing fees to the Co-Op.

The bore is owned by the Co-Op and is not the responsibility of the tenant under lease. Without water we would have no tenant and I doubt if the mower men would look forward to mowing and slashing 100 acres.

I look forward to improved weather as we're heading towards summer and get back to what we all enjoy doing.

Alan Foley President

SAFETY

No report for this Month

Alan Coleman Safety Officer

FIELD MANAGER

No report for this Month

Norm Morrish Field Manager

FACILITIES

Paul is working interstate, so no report for this Month

Paul Somerville Facilities

SECRETARY

General Meeting Held Saturday 2nd September 2017 At Burley Field Cardinia.

Meeting Opened: 1300 Hrs

Members Present: 26

Apologies: P Harrison, R Till, B Reynolds, M Norton F Dibble

Visitors: Nil

Minutes of previous Meeting: Motion that the minutes of meeting of the previous be accepted Moved D White, Seconded D Glossop. Carried

Business Arising: Nil

Reports:

President:

Welcomed everyone to his first meeting as President and advise he had nothing to add to his report in the September Newsletter.

Secretary:

- Advise that we had received response from 3 Sponsors for the Scratch build Day and had also received one pre-entry for the event.
- Have been negotiating with the APA and they have confirmed that they will accept our fee per day for the weekend World Masters event in March of next year

Treasurer:

- The Treasurer provided report on finances. We have had good influx of renewals although around 17 members haven't yet renewed. Income from renewals is around \$2,000 short of budget but still sufficient to proceed with current projects.

Registrar:

The registrar was an apology, the treasurer noted that current membership is now at 137

Editor

- Along with our webmaster he has reviewed the current mailing list and as a result reduced the number of "snail mail" issues to 18 The balance of members receive the electronic copy.

Social

- Next outing planned to be a Point Cook RAAF Museum most likely on the 13th or 14th January 2018.

Safety

- Reported that there was an incident at the field where a member had his fingers attacked by a propeller. It appears that the model was restrained securely on the table but the actual model restraint, that wasn't being used was moving towards the propeller with the vibration and without thinking the member grabbed it to stop it. In the process he put his hand through the propeller arc. A freak accident but a good lesson to learn NEVER become complacent when starting your model. Use full concentration at all times and if something out of the ordinary happens your first reaction should be to stop the motor. Then attend to the stray object. Easy to say in hindsight but let this sink in the old brain for when it happens to you.

Webmaster

Nothing to Report this month

Field

- Norm has sharpened the mower blades
- Norm and Daniel will be Spraying for Beetles and cope weed later this month. Probably fertilise in October.

Facilities

- Will mount the Strobe light later this month.
- Will look at erecting the fuel shed once the instructions are digested. Need to plan move of fuel tanks and will then erect shed around them.

General Business

- Point made that there are proposals for a major airport with CASA around the Koo Wee Rup area. Probably won't impact on our use if it is built apart from possibly restricting our height to 400 feet. Point was made that it may also stop light aircraft flying so low over our field. Could be quite a few years away but worth keep our eye on.

Barry Law gave Co-op report on bore and windmill situation and there was general discussion of why we need water to the property. Reason being to keep a tenant farmer on the property as his stock need water. The bigger picture would be If we had no tenant we would have 100 acres to maintain and slash

- So, while cost has been high to restore water in the short term the long-term cost would be much higher without water.
- Fred Webb, suggested that we approach hobby suppliers such as Model flight to sponsor our windsock or an event day now Model Engines had closed. It was pointed out that the committee had thought about this but hadn't seriously discussed until things settle down with the Exit of Model Engines from the industry. Committee will put more consideration into this in the future
- Peter Harris mentioned Frank Mac efforts to create a tough possibly expendable model for the VMAA Trophy event. Frank had the Core Flute model at the meeting.

Meeting Closed 1420 hrs

NEXT CLUB MEETING: Sunday 1st October 2017 at Burly field Cardinia. 1pm Start.

David Walsh Secretary

REGISTRAR

New Member Application

Adam Chipchase, Keysborough – rejoining Full Member

Inductions/Orientation

This is an important process as it ensures that new members are aware of how the Club operates and is intended to save future problems for both the new member and the Club. Club badges and keys will not be issued to new members until they have attended an induction.

Changes to your contact information

Please remember to keep me up to date with changes for contact details, especially **email** changes as this is our preferred method of keeping in touch with you.

Membership status

These figures only include forms received by the Registrar

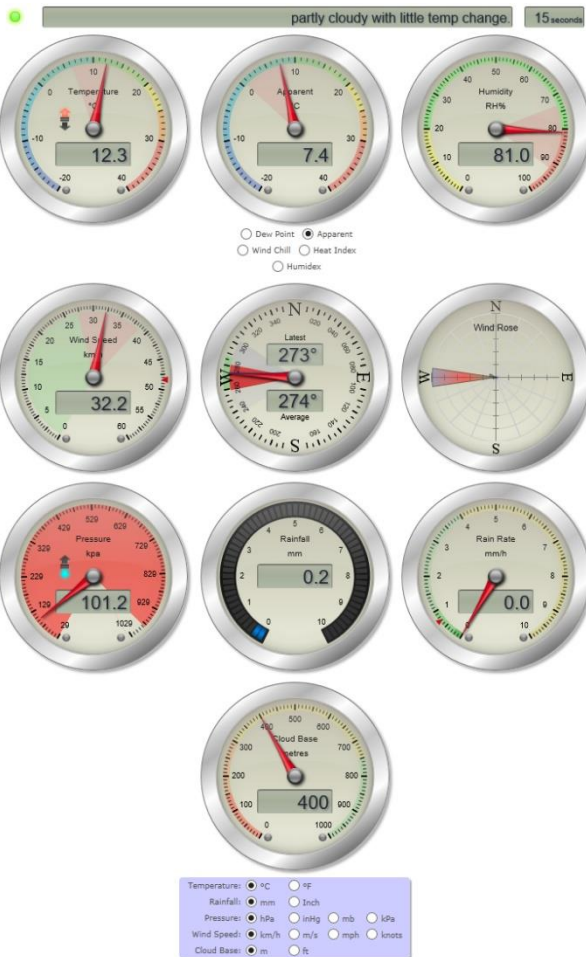
| | Paid 2017/18 | Unpaid | Last Year |
|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| Full | 90 | 8 | 96 |
| Associate | 8 | 6 | 10 |
| Junior | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Life | 3 | | 3 |
| Pensioner | 25 | 1 | 26 |
| Probationary | 9 | | 13 |
| Prospective | 1 | | |
| Student | 0 | | |
| Spouse | 1 | | 1 |
| Honorary | | | 2 |
| Total | 139 | 16* | 154 |

* includes 7 resigned

Rob Till Registrar

New Weather Gauges to Display Data

Over the last month I have put in place some new software to display the data from the P&DARCS Weather Station. The two main reasons I chose to do this are:



1. To make the data easier to read. The new view is a lot cleaner, it does not have any of the graphs. These new gauges also look a lot better on mobile devices, especially phones.

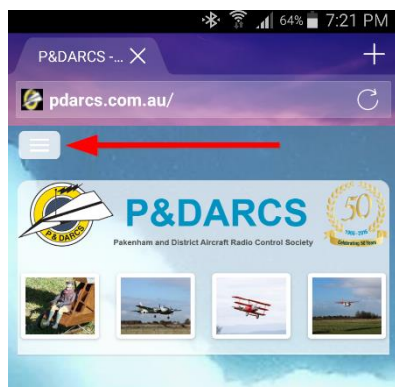
2. The new gauges are near real time. They pull data every 15 seconds from the server, whereas the old view only updated every 5 minutes

If I'm honest I've always found the weather station view a bit chaotic. With dials and graphs a lot of information is available, but for most people it's irrelevant. These new gauges view just displays the basic stats.

For the time being both versions are available on the website. Please have a look under Our Field → Club Weather

As mentioned above, this data is near real time, the green light at the top right indicates data is live. If the data stops for 20 minutes or more, this would go red. So, whilst this does not show any timestamp like the old view, if it's green, it's working

Whilst viewing the gauges, you can also click on a specific gauge to get some more statistics above that item. If the Wind Rose gauge confuses you (it did me) Google it to get an understanding of how it works. So, go have a look at the new gauges and let me know what you think!!



Viewing the club website on a mobile

Obviously, It's possible to view the club website & the above gauges on a mobile phone. One question I get asked a lot is how to navigate when viewing via a mobile. If you look at the screen capture you'll see three horizontal lines. If you click that, you can then navigate the menu as you would on a PC. I've also modified the P&DARCS logo to make it look nicer on a mobile device as previously it did not resize properly to fit.

Daniel Jenkins Webmaster

Notice of Annual General Meeting Darcsfield Co-operative Limited

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at the **Club Field** at **1pm on Sunday 1 October 2017**.

Ordinary business of the meeting will be:

1. To confirm the minutes of the last AGM
2. To receive from the Board, Auditor or any officer of the Society reports upon the transactions of the Co-operative during the financial year including balance sheet, trading account, profit and loss account, statement of cash flows, and the state of affairs at the end of the financial year.
3. To elect and confirm the remuneration (if any) of the Directors. Mr A Smallridge and Mr D Walsh are retiring as directors and offer themselves for re-election.

Nominations for election as Director to fill these vacancies are to be submitted to the Secretary in writing on the form available at www.pdarcs.com.au/nomination. Forms to be submitted at least 21 days prior to the meeting. (*Rule 41 (3)*) No nominations will be accepted from the floor at the meeting.

4. To appoint an Auditor
5. To transact any special business of which notice has been given to members in accordance with the rules.

The rules provide that any member having a resolution to submit to a general meeting "*shall give written notice thereof to the Society not less than twenty-one days prior to the date of the meeting*". Any such notice must be sent to:

The Secretary
Darcsfield Co-operative Limited
58 Baker Road
HARKAWAY VIC 3806

BUILDING A “ SMOOTHIE 40 “ MODEL

Article by Ian (Thommo) Thompson

When I heard Balsa USA had released three nostalgia kits one of them caught my eye. It was the Smoothie 40. They have the larger version, the Smoothie XL but the 40 was the one for me. I have been dabbling with a couple of older designs, mainly C/L, and converting them to R/C which can be a challenge sometimes. The Smoothie 40 was designed back in 1973 and except for one change it is how it was manufactured back then, all balsa and ply and not one piece of fiberglass or ABS. If you want a cowl then made it from balsa blocks.

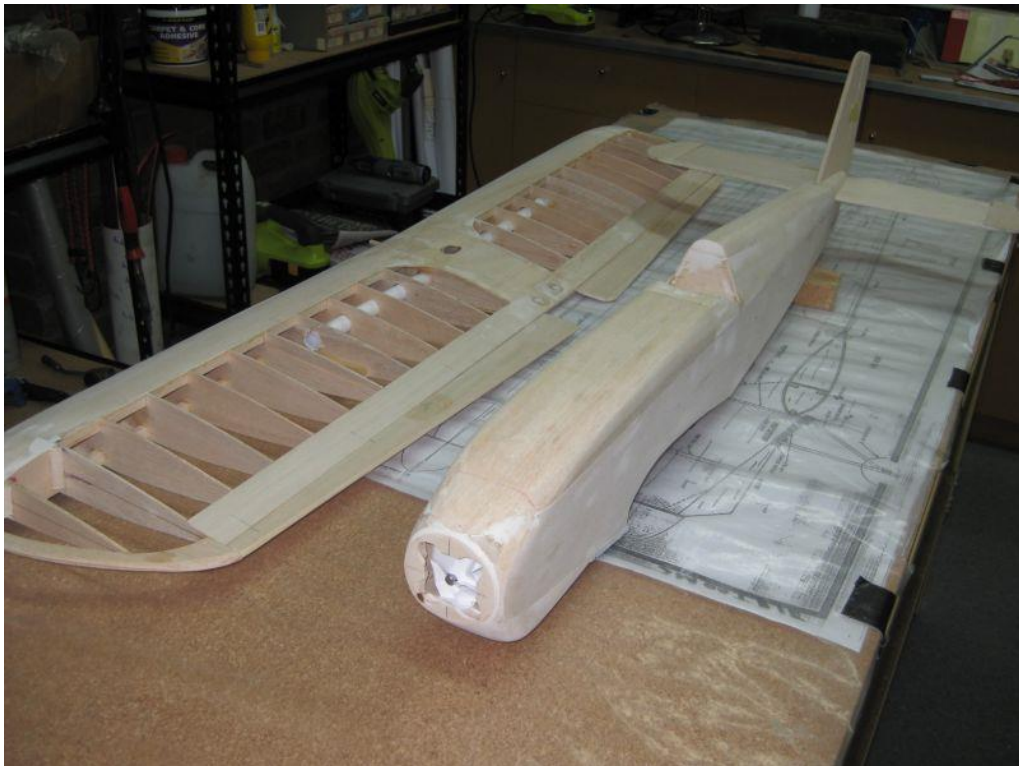
Building is straightforward and I converted it to electric. The only factory change was to have two servos for the ailerons instead of one in the center of the wing. I do tend to over build sometimes so I added some sheer webbing and a fiberglass “bandage” to the center section of the wing. I was surprised not to see that on the plan or in the instructions. Maybe they didn’t do that back then. Anyway I ended up with a nice strong wing. I also lowered the cockpit canopy to give it a more racy look.

The undercarriage is pre-bent wire and all you have to do is bind it with copper wire and solder it together. It is also mounted forward of the leading edge so ground handling and nosing over shouldn’t be a problem. The chrome wheel hubs and spinner also set it off.

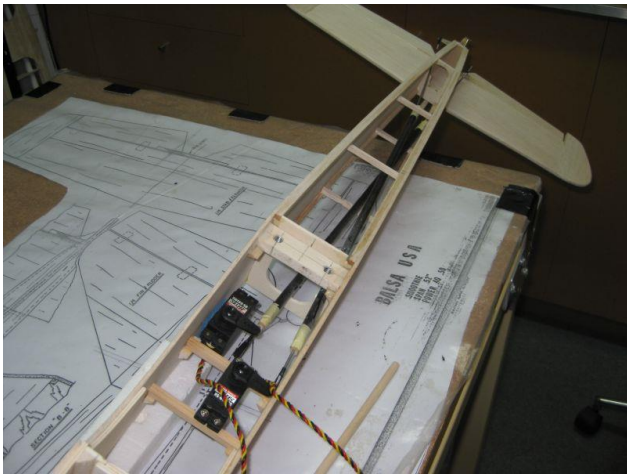
The wing and tail feathers are covered in Solartex but I glassed the fuselage because I wanted to paint it. I used auto paint in a spray can for the fuz and the same colour trim for the Solartex. The trim came out great with a nice sharp line from the masking tape which is not bad considering the Solartex is textured. The Smoothie came in just under the maximum weight which somewhat surprised me because of the fiberglass and paint.

Anyway it was good to get back to the old ways of building with eyes and nostrils full of balsa dust. Some things never change

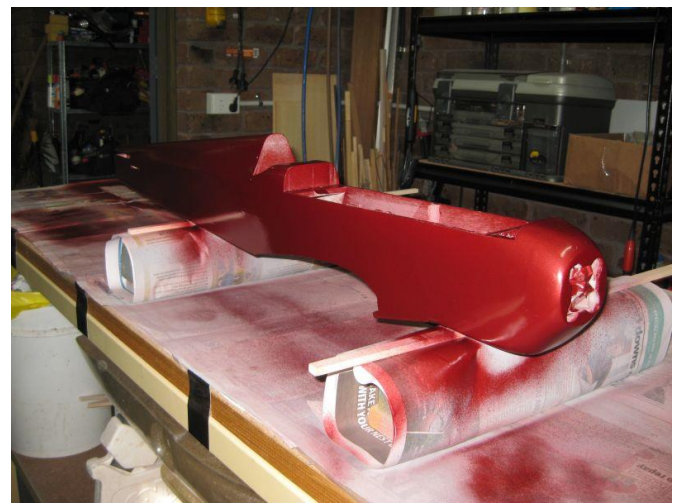
Thommo



Smoothie ready for glassing



Showing the internals



Fus' painted



Wing finished



Finished on the bench



Smoothie nice overhead shot

P&DARCS CALENDAR FOR 2017

September

- 02 (Sat) 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm [Club Meeting](#)
- 28 (Thu) 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm [Committee Meeting](#)

October

- 01 (Sun) 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm [Club Meeting & Coop AGM](#)
- 19 (Thu) 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm [Committee Meeting](#)
- 28 (Sat) [Twi-Fly](#)
- 28 (Sat) [Spring Cleaning Working Bee](#)

November

- 04 (Sat) 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm [Club Meeting](#)
- 07 (Tue) [Melbourne Cup Aero Tow](#) Field Open: **Partial**
- 11 (Sat) - 12 (Sun) [P&DARCS Scratch / Kit Built Scale Rally](#) Field Open: **No**
- 23 (Thu) 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm [Committee Meeting](#)

December

- 02 (Sat) 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm [Club Meeting](#)
- 03 (Sun) [VPA Pattern](#) Field Open: **No**
- 09 (Sat) [P&DARCS Christmas Dinner](#)

March 2018

- 09 (Fri) - 12 (Mon) [APA World Cup \(Provisional\)](#) Field Open: **No**

April 2018

- 08 (Sun) [Monty Tyrrell Scale Rally 2018](#) Field Open: **No**
- 21 (Sat) - 22 (Sun) [VMAA Trophy](#) Field Open: **No**

P&DARCS Calendar can now be viewed online at www.pdarcs.com.au/calendar



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**Next Club meeting and Coop AGM Sunday 1st October
 At the Burley Field, 1-00 pm start**

P&DARCS Newsletter
 Pakenham & District Aircraft Radio Control Society

If undelivered return to
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