



P&DARCS

Pakenham and District Aircraft Radio Control Society



P&DARCS NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2026



A pic of Club members who attended our 60th Anniversary Lunch. Thanks to Fred Webb's daughter Catherine for taking the picture

Next Club Meeting & Coop AGM Oct 7 (Wed) 7.30 - 9.30 pm

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Useful Links:

P&DARCS [Homepage](#)

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Upcoming Events:

Oct 7

[Club Meeting & Coop AGM](#)

7 Oct (Wed) 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Oct 21

[Committee Meeting](#)

21 Oct (Wed) 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Nov 8

[P&DARCS Scratch/Kit Built Rally](#)

Nov 8 (Sun)

For more info visit

<https://pdarcs.com.au/scalerally>

Nov 14

[IMAC State Champs](#)

14 Nov (Sat) – 15 Nov (Sun)

KEEP OUR CLUBHOUSE CLEAN

- **YOU USE IT.**

- **YOU CLEAN IT.**

- **YOU PUT IT AWAY.**

**Nothing is to be left on the tables,
in the sink or on
the benches. Chairs to be stacked
up once you have
finished.**

Editor's Report

Congratulations to P&DARCS on the 60th Anniversary on August 31st.

A celebratory lunch was held at The Dandenong Club and was huge success with over 60 members and associates attending.

Sadly the main organiser of this lovely luncheon was unable to attend but Don Klein was in everybody's thoughts and we all sincerely thank him for the work he put in and the successful day enjoyed by all.

Personally, I would like to thank the committee and club members who made me an honorary member along with a beautiful trophy. I was completely overwhelmed and humbled by this lovely gesture.



Cheers Liz

MOWER MEN

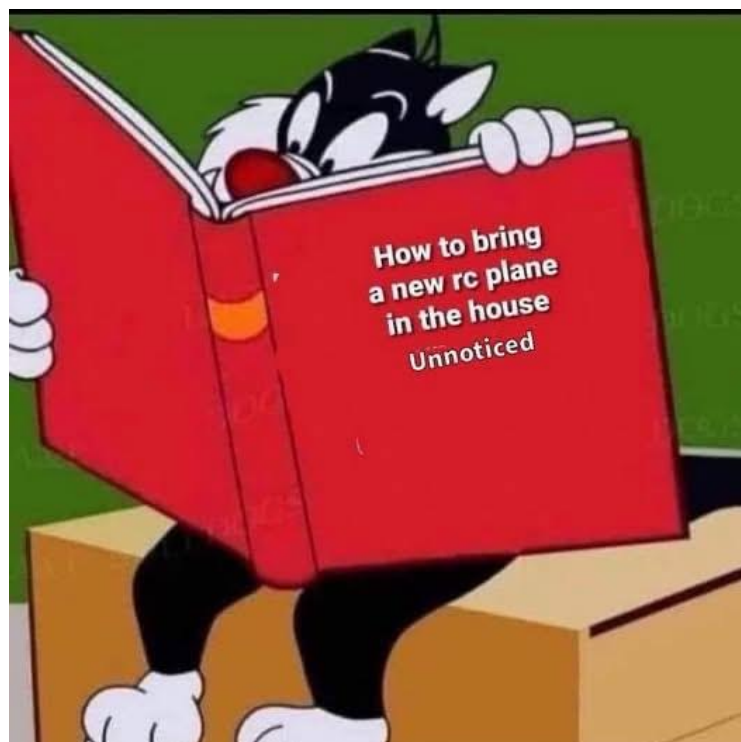
Was great to catch up with some of the field mowing team today. With such a glorious to be had, these guys had the field looking in first class condition as usual.

Today was the first trial of our new Husqvarna ride on mower, replacing an older unit that was in need of maintenance. Thanks to Norm Morrish for spearheading the replacement unit.

As usual, a huge thanks to everyone on the entire mowing team for putting in the work you do to keep our asset looking sharp!







P&DARCS Wings to the FUTURE

What a fantastic celebration of our 60th year of D&DARCS and P&DARCS club.

A sincere thankyou to all members and their partners who came along to make it a special occasion.

Only sad part was Don Klein was not able to join us, but all his work made the venue look terrific. Andrew Sill did an incredible job as MC and Keith Quigg arranged the magnificent cake.

One foundation member Frank Dibble joined us along with Mel Norton, David Glossop, and Fred Webb. All spoke about their involvement in the early days.

Norm Morrish



What a wonderful way to celebrate 60 years of P&DARCS!

A sincere thank you to everyone who joined us today at the Dandenong Club for our 60th Anniversary Luncheon. It was fantastic to see so many members, partners, friends, and familiar faces come together to celebrate this very special milestone.

Sixty years is about much more than the history of a flying club. It represents generations of members, friendships, volunteers, and a shared passion for aeromodelling that have made P&DARCS what it is today.

A very special thank you must go to Don Klein, who led the organisation of the luncheon, together with the members of our 60th Anniversary Committee. An enormous amount of work went on behind the scenes, and the result was an occasion of which our club can be extremely proud.

To everyone who attended — thank you. You helped make the celebration something very special and a fitting tribute to everyone who has been part of the P&DARCS journey since 1966.

We can be enormously proud of our first 60 years, while also looking forward with excitement to what lies ahead.

Here's to P&DARCS — 60 years strong and still Advancing Aeromodelling! ✈️
Keith Quigg











Spotlight

Tom Bloodworth

I hate to admit this, but I turned 80 in June this year and I have been flying model aircraft of one type or other since I was seven. Ages ago!

I started flying control line models my dad made for me around 1953 – 54. The field was at Surrey Dive in Surrey Hills/Box Hill. My very first model was a Hearn's Hobbies HOT ROD trainer powered by a Taipan 1.5 diesel.

After an unremembered amount of time, I advanced to a control line stunter called an All Australian, again a Hearn's Hobbies kit and this was powered by a Glow Chief 49 which I believe was made in South Australia by Gordon Burford who also made the Taipan.

It was at Surrey Dive that I saw my first radio model. I think it was Bruce Hearn that turned up with a transmitter that seemed the size of a kero tin with a stick aerial about two metres long. I can't remember if a model was actually flown but I have a very clear memory of the transmitter. He had a smaller handpiece attached to the Kero tin presumably the controller.

I flew C/L off and on for three or four years and then in my early teens I tried Free Flight. I can't remember the name of the model but I'm pretty sure it was also a Hearn's Hobbies kit. The last I saw of that model was when the dethermaliser didn't. It was high over the field (boundary Road Brooklyn) heading to Geelong! After that I moved away from modelling until I was around 28.

There were other things on my mind!

In the early 70s I was coming home from a Hill Climb at the Lakeland track in Lilydale when I happened on the Lilydale club. Flying that day was the late Brian Green whom most of you knew well. He was flying F3a with a model that I think was a Northerner. I was hooked immediately and turned up at the field the next weekend and started to fly RC.

One thing I believe quite strongly is that for me aeromodelling is not just flying but building and flying! I can honestly say virtually every model I have ever owned (indoor excluded) was made by me either from a kit or was scratch built.

I started flying F3A around 1973 at the Lilydale club and I soon met Henry Hutchinson who guided me into the F3A group at that time. There were plenty of competitions all over the state which I went to frequently. Over time I rose up through the classes and eventually achieved the top class – Masters, for a short while. I flew in one international F3a competition in Japan. I did very badly but the experience was fantastic. I was also an international F3A judge and judged at the Swiss F3a world championships in 2015 and the AOC (Asian championships) in Taiwan a few years later.

By around 1986-87 my son Bill was showing interest (after some arm twisting!). Over the next 10-15 years he very quickly moved up through the ranks to eventually represent Australia in four World Championships and three or four international CAOC/AOC events. I built some of Bill's World Champs models either from scratch to his design or from Kits. I was team manager for the Australian F3a team for Poland in 2003 and France in 2005.

In 1991 I was part of the committee that was led by Brian Green that sought and was awarded the 1991 World Championships for F3a, Pylon and Helicopter. 1991 was the last time these individual competitions were held together. As you might imagine, running the three was a hell of a task but ended up being very successful.

I don't have a favourite plane but the one I am most proud of building is the Valkyrie Old Timer.

The wing of the Valkyrie is a challenge like few others. I built it about eight years ago and have only flown it a dozen or so times – it's very precious!

I gave up IC motors when F3a went to electric and haven't looked back. No flicking apart from the on switch! All my F3a aircraft and my gliders and old timers are electric even including my two classic F3a models.

Most of my radios have been JR with a fairly short excursion to Futaba some time back. Servos are sourced from whatever manufacturer has the right servo at the right price.

My only other significant hobby these days is driving my two 1970 Mini Cooper S's . I did hill climb one of them for a few years, but discretion and the value of the cars has put that behind me.

I restored one of the Minis from a wreck to a concourse winning car around 13 years ago. I didn't do the body work or paint, but I did do everything else from stripping it down a bare shell to rebuilding including all the wiring. My second car has never been restored but is in sturdy original condition even if it does show its age. I love both of them!

A bit about me.

I turned 80 in June this year. This appears to be having a detrimental impact on my eyesight. Fair enough I guess but it's a bummer!

I worked for the ANZ for 44 years and enjoyed every minute of it.
I have a son and a daughter and three grandchildren.

My wife died five years ago so I live alone in my own home and spend a lot of my time building model so I can fill up the house now that the shed is severely overburdened with models of all ages and varieties.

My 13-year-old pup GEORGE keeps me company and forces me to walk every day which keeps both of us fit.

And I greatly value my friend in the F3a group, they keep me sane and challenge me to keep flying and building.

Tom Bloodworth



1. A model my son Bill and I designed and I built. He took two of them to the 2003 F3a World Championships in Poland.



2. My two darlings. I restored the light blue one and the green one is much as it came but mechanically refreshed



3. Me and my Valkyrie



4. The Valkyrie showing the complexity of construction. All ribs are built up from 3mm balsa and the spars are a combination of 3mm balsa and 3mm Spruce.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Homemade Chicken Stock

Now that we are retired we have the luxury of time. Time to make a lot of the things we used to buy for convenience; we were too busy to make when working full time. My husband bakes his own bread now. I make my own dips and pickles and stocks and we really enjoy it...

Being the queen of leftovers I can't bear to throw food away. Once a month or so I make a big batch of stock and freeze it in one litre containers. I always have some on hand and use it for soups, risottos, casseroles, and sauces. The difference it makes to a Bolognese sauce or a curry is amazing. And of course any soups made with homemade stock is automatically more delicious...

Tips:

I keep large snap bags in the freezer and top them up as I prepare meals. Every time we have a roast chicken or chicken wings the bones go into the bag. I also save the following:

Carrot ends and peelings

Potato peeling

Onion ends and skins

The green ends of spring onions

The thick green stems of leeks

Mushroom stems and skins

Any coloured peppers, green, red, yellow – all the leftover bits

The thick heads of celery and leaves

Any and all leftover herbs that are looking a bit tired: parsley, rosemary, thyme, bay leaves, coriander...

Tomatoes that are a bit too soft

Garlic ends and peelings

Fresh ginger peelings

If I don't have enough bones I can buy bags of carcasses at a fresh chicken shop or chicken frames from a butcher which have a lot of flavour...

I usually get about four litres of stock – it depends on how much bones and vegetables you have – this time I got five...

In place of chicken you can use beef bones for a different flavour

And of course you can just make a vegetable only stock





**Ingredients:**

Any left-over chicken bones or carcasses

Any left-over vegetable scraps

Enough fresh cold water to cover

1 teaspoon of salt

Method:

Tip all the bones and vegetables into a large soup pot

Fill with fresh cold water until vegetables are covered

Add salt and simmer covered for six or more hours until everything is cooked down

Top up with water if needed but the more water added will lessen the intensity of the stock

Season to taste but leave the stock a bit under salted as you will be adding salt to the dish you use the stock in

Leave to cool down then strain through a colander

Strain again through a fine strainer to sift out any seeds or fine leaves

It can also be strained again through a tea towel for a clearer stock but that is optional

Discard the cooked vegetables and bones

Place in fridge until cold or overnight

Pour into containers and place in freezer



P & DARCS Calendar

October, 2026

07 (Wed) 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm [Club Meeting & Coop AGM \(Online\)](#)

21 (Wed) 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm [Committee Meeting](#)

November, 2026

08 (Sun) [P&DARCS Scratch / Kit Built Rally](#) Field Open: No

14 (Sat) - 15 (Sun) [IMAC Vic State Champs](#) Field Open: No

18 (Wed) 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm [Committee Meeting](#)

December, 2026

02 (Wed) 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm [Club Meeting \(Online\)](#)

05 (Sat) - 06 (Sun) [VPA F3A Precision Aerobatics](#) Field Open: No

09 (Wed) 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm [Pre Christmas Committee Wrap Up Meeting](#)

19 (Sat) [ASA & P&DARCS - Xmas Break Up and General Flying](#) Field Open: Partial

19 (Sat) 11:00 am - 3:00 pm [P&DARCS Christmas BBQ](#)

March, 2027

05 (Fri) - 08 (Mon) [ASA F3A Masters](#) Field Open: No

April, 2027

16 (Fri) - 18 (Sun) [ASA Monty Tyrrell Scale Rally](#) Field Open: No



www.holkrc.com.au

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www.balsacentral.com.au

For your balsa supplies



www.austars-model.com