



P&DARCS

Pakenham and District Aircraft Radio Control Society



P&DARCS NEWSLETTER MARCH 2026



Stevie Malcman with his EF 260. Maiden Flight completed.

Next Club Meeting Apr 01 (Wed) 7.30 - 9.30 pm

Committee Members:

President: Keith Quigg

president@pdarcs.com.au

Vice President: David Law

vicepresident@pdarcs.com.au

Secretary: David Gibbs

secretary@pdarcs.com.au

Treasurer: Peter Harris

treasurer@pdarcs.com.au

Registrar: Trevor Garey

registrar@pdarcs.com.au

IT Manager: Daniel Jenkins

webmaster@pdarcs.com.au

Safety Officer: Alex Williams

safety@pdarcs.com.au

Facilities Manager: Norm Morrish

facilities@pdarcs.com.au

Field Manager: David Law

fieldmanager@pdarcs.com.au

Editor: Liz Ventevogel

editor@pdarcs.com.au

S.I.G. Coordinator: John Van de Waterbeemd

sig@pdarcs.com.au

Ordinary Committee Members:

Melissa Law

mlaw@pdarcs.com.au

Phil Singh

psingh@pdarcs.com.au

In This Edition:

President's Report

Editor's Report

Facilities Manager's Report

Great Local Service Still Exists

Monty Tyrrell Scale Rally

Know Your Batteries

Alex's Corner

Recipe of the Month

Useful Links

[P&DARCS Homepage](#)

[P&DARCS Calendar](#)

[CP&DARCS Club Rules and Safety documents](#)

Upcoming Events

Feb 18

Committee Meeting

18 Feb (Wed) 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Feb 22

VPA Classic Pattern

22 Feb (Sun)

Mar 18

Committee Meeting

18 Mar (Wed) 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Apr 1

Club Meeting (Online)

01 Apr (Wed) 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm

Apr 17

ASA Monty Tyrrell Scale Rally

17 Apr (Fri) – 19 Apr (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

Alex Williams has sent another awesome piece this month and it is greatly appreciated. He always gives everyone a laugh with his witty and clever writing.

Don't forget to save the date for the Monty Tyrrell Scale Rally in April this year. Tickets are now on sale below:

<https://australian-scale-aerosport.square.site/>

“WHO ARE THESE TWO AMBASSADORS OF LIFE, LOVE AND LAUGHTER”

Mario Schembri

“TWO OF MY FAVOURITE PEOPLE!”

Simon Ventevogel



Cheers
Liz

Facilities Manager's Report

New Fire Extinguisher Trolley Feb 2026

Hello members, the old 4-wheel trolley and the two-wheel trolley that were used for transporting fire extinguishers to a fire has been replaced with a heavy duty two-wheel trolley.

This new trolley also has two fire blankets fitted to help control a fuel or LiPo battery fire. I have also marked the two extinguishers one as Powder and the other as Water.

The Water extinguisher is used for wood and grass fires. The Powder is for fuel and LiPo battery fires.

The powder smothers a fire so that the fire is starved of oxygen. Note the powder does not cool the fire like water does so you need to be careful of it reigniting.

Norm Morrish



Great Local Service Still Exists

The day hadn't started well. It was a pattern competition at P&DARCS and I had damaged an undercarriage leg on my first flight and was contemplating an early drive home. I opted to stay for lunch and was in the Clubhouse when someone walked in and asked who owned a particular car in the car park. I had that sinking feeling as I said it was mine, only to be told I had a flat tyre.

Apparently, this is not uncommon as Glenn Burgdorf and Don Klein educated me, Glenn having had exactly the same thing a few weeks back. As I thought about changing tyres and driving back home with the space saver on, Glenn offered the two pieces of wisdom: first, full size tyres and rims, even when flat, do not fit in the space saver tyre area; and second, they also don't fit in the cargo area with a 2-metre model! Both proved true. Bugger!

I set about changing the tyre anyway with the standard issue kit in the car, only to find the standard wheel wrench wasn't up to standing on. I was about to call the RACV when another colleague volunteered a real wheel wrench. That solved that problem and space saver was fitted (note to self to augment car with proper wheel wrench).

Given plane and tyre couldn't travel together I started looking for local tyre shops – most of which are major chains in Pakenham or Clyde. But just as I was about to start ringing around, Glenn (supported by Don) offered another gem of wisdom. One of the tyre shops called 'Clyde Tyres' is actually in Cardinia – literally a kilometre west along Ballarto Road from the field. And they had done Glenn's tyre on the spot.

That sounded too good to be true, but I figured worth a try. Sure enough, on the south side of the road in the middle of Cardinia is a slightly non-descript tyre garage. So far so good. I wandered in to find the sole mechanic with his head under the bonnet of a car.

To cut to the chase he stopped what he was doing and 15 minutes later had the tyre repaired and refitted. I was more than happy to pay him his very reasonable fee plus a good tip. Awesome and unexpected local service at work – and seemingly consistent according to Glenn and Don.

So if you have a flat at the field well worth a try! Thankyou Clyde Tyres, Cardinia!

David Gibbs



We are excited to announce that the Monty Tyrrell Scale rally will be held April 17th–19th at P&DARCS—a three-day celebration of fun flying in a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere. We'd love for you to be part of making this event great.

As you can imagine, organizing an event like this takes time and teamwork, and every bit of help, no matter how small, makes a difference. Your participation helps create the friendly atmosphere we all enjoy, and we truly appreciate any support you can offer.

We're looking for volunteers to assist the ASA committee with a variety of tasks, including:

- Site set up before the event
- Flight line directing
- Managing the gate
- Car park directing

We understand that many of you will want to participate in the rally, so we're not asking anyone to volunteer all weekend. Even just an hour or two each day, or whatever you're comfortable with, would be a tremendous help toward ensuring the rally runs smoothly.

If you're able to help, please reach out to Alex on [0433 580 286] or vicscaleinfo@gmail.com to discuss how you might get involved. We hope to see you there both as a supporter and a participant!

Thank you again for being part of our community. Your support means a lot and helps make the Monty Tyrrell Scale rally such a special event.

Warm regards,

Alex Butler
ASA President

MONTY TYRRELL

Scale Rally

2026

ASA

AUSTRALIAN SCALE AEROSPORT



P&DARCS CLUB



Bigger than Ever

17-19 APRIL '26

30 Fowler Road, Cardinia

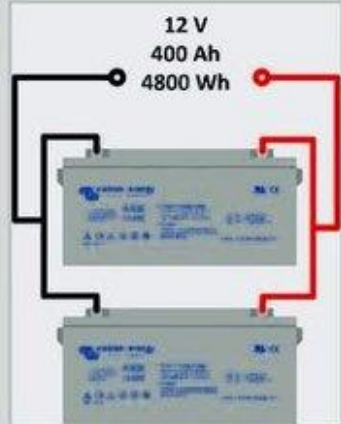
Know Your Batteries



Single battery.



Two batteries in series.



Two batteries in parallel.



Four batteries in series/parallel.



Four batteries in series.

Alex's Corner

Reasons To Be Flying

Part 1

G'day folks,

A tip-of-the-hat to Ian Dury and the Blockheads for the title.

I've touched on this in a previous story, but today I'm coming from a different angle.

There are many points of focus associated with being part of a model plane flying club. And as we are all individuals, we each have our own order of which are the most important to us.

The list, in no particular order, includes –

- Building planes from scratch
- Building planes from a design plan
- Building planes using a 3D printer
- Building planes that are as close as possible to the real thing, including the number of rivet points, but in a smaller size
- Buying and putting together interesting foam models straight out of the box
- Building foam models, but mixing and matching the various components
- Resurrecting older or dilapidated models
- Continually moving up the quality scale for a particular style of plane
- Finding and collecting difficult to find pieces and spare parts, including specific but not common nuts or screws
- Collecting all the diverse tools and devices that might be needed to fix a plane at some unspecified time in the future
- Flying a particular style or class of plane
- Becoming knowledgeable in the details associated with batteries or fuels

- Understanding the technicalities of why a plane actually flies and what is really keeping it airborne as the pilot performs a knife edge
- The club atmosphere and “men’s shed” camaraderie that pervades
- The sometimes mind-numbing banter that happens, interspersed with flying /crashing planes
- The committee and other club officials, banding together to ensure the smooth and safe running of the club
- Meeting new people and getting to know them
- Fixing planes
- Becoming expert in a particular aspect of fixing planes, so your name is the first mentioned after a nasty crash

And I’m sure you could add at least 10 more to the list.

I could even add to that list the opportunity to scratch a particular itch that I have, which is to write stories. Being part of this club has even given me an opportunity to scratch that itch.

If you enjoy an easy-to-read, rollicking tale, copy, and paste this link in your browser.

You will find Amazon is the easiest and most straight forward place to look.

www.google.com/search?q=alex+williams+marathon+des+sables+a+type+1+diabetes+adventure

What I haven’t included in the list are the occasional niggly disagreements and frayed nerves. Sadly, that is part and parcel of being human, but we can only hope that the big list of bullet points always outweighs the human foibles we all carry on our shoulder.

Keep on flying and happy reading, *Alex Williams*

alex_of_oz@yahoo.com



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Dumpling Noodle Soup

This quick and easy Asian style soup is ready in under 20 minutes using good quality frozen dumplings. Enjoy.

Tips:

I used home-made chicken stock. You can use bought stock, but just be aware of the salt content. Keep in mind the chicken stock powder and the soy sauce both contain salt, so taste as you go.

The miso adds a lovely umami and is highly recommended. It is readily available in supermarkets.

The toppings for your soup are yours to choose. I used what I had at hand. Throw in some bok choy with the dumplings for a few seconds to soften.

Amounts shown will feed two people.



Ingredients:

4 cups of chicken stock

1 teaspoon of chicken stock powder

2 slices fresh ginger

2 spring onions (scallions)

1 tablespoon of soy sauce

1 tablespoon of miso paste

150g of udon noodles or another noodle of your choice

200g choy sum or another green vegetable of your choice,

10 good quality frozen dumplings

1 boiled egg, halved

1/2 a zucchini, peeled into thin ribbons

Shredded lettuce for garnish

chilli oil, to serve (optional)

Method:

In a large saucepan, place the chicken stock, ginger, spring onions and soy sauce

Turn the heat on and bring to a simmer

In the meantime, bring a large pot of water to the boil.

When the broth starts to simmer, place a ladle of the warm broth in a large bowl

Add the miso paste and whisk until smooth

Then transfer the miso mixture back into the simmering broth

Add the dumplings to the boiling water and cook for 4-5 minutes or until cooked through

At the same time tip your noodles into a spider or sieve and lower into the same boiling water for a few seconds to soften

Shred some lettuce

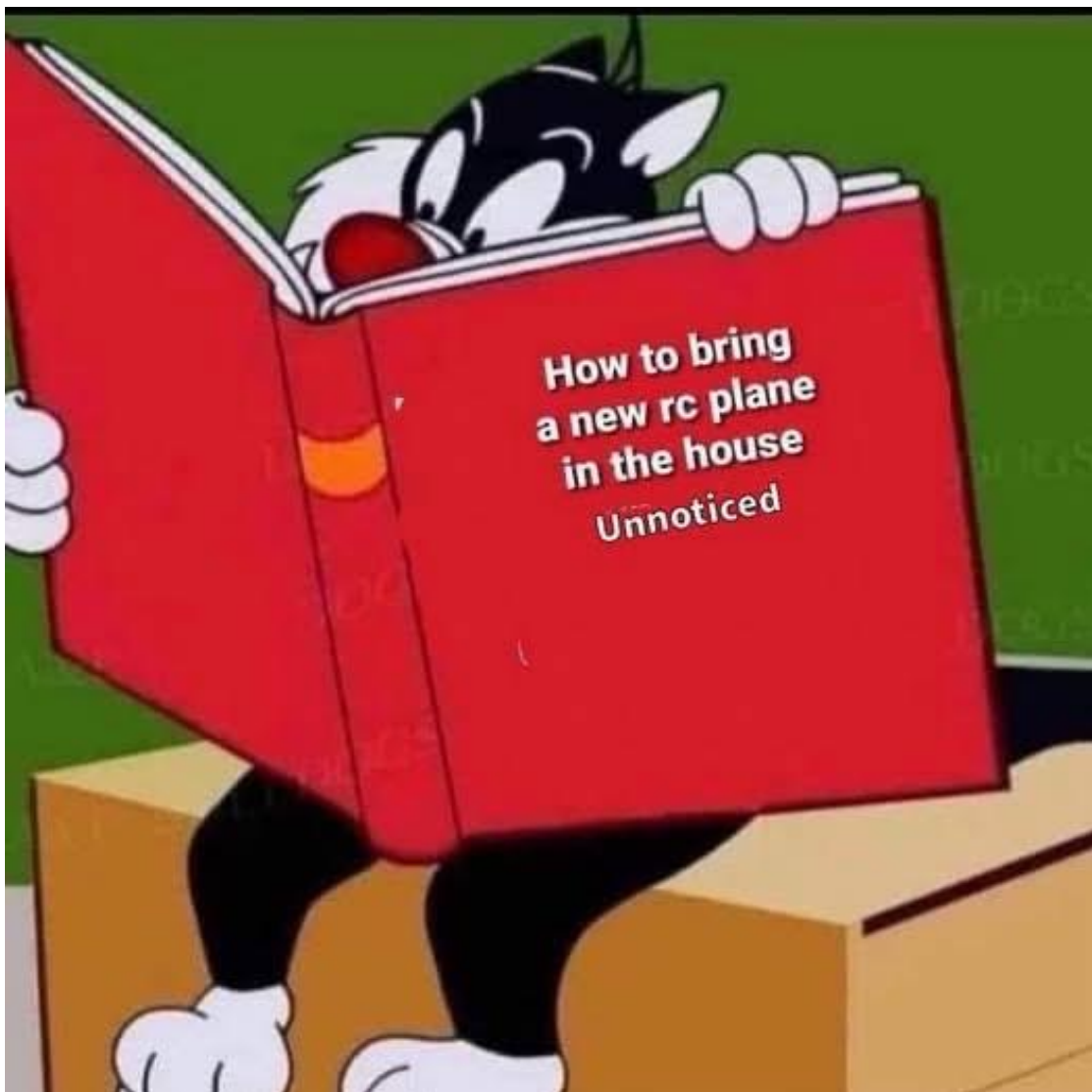
Peel zucchini into thin ribbons

Transfer the noodles and dumplings to the serving bowls

Ladle the broth into the serving bowls

Top with the lettuce and zucchini strips

Place half a boiled egg on top and drizzle with chilli oil, if using



P&DARCS Calendar

February, 2026

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

22 (Sun) [VPA Classic Pattern](#) Field Open: **Partial**

March, 2026

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

April, 2026

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

17 (Fri) - 19 (Sun) [ASA Monty Tyrrell Scale Rally](#) Field Open: **No**

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

May, 2026

17 (Sun) [ASA Scale Competition](#) Field Open: **No**

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

June, 2026

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

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

July, 2026

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

August, 2026

05 (Wed) 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm [General Club Meeting & P&DARCS AGM \(Online\)](#)

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

September, 2026

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

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**

13 (Fri) - 15 (Sun) [ASAA IMAC 2026 Nationals](#) 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](#)

