



P&DARCS

Pakenham and District Aircraft Radio Control Society



P&DARCS NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2021



Great shot of Keith Quigg's big Decathlon, a Seagull Model with a DLE 60 twin petrol engine, using a Jeti DS24 radio system, at our flying field recently

Please be advised that the P&DARCS AGM will be held on August 7th 2021.

Nomination forms for Committee positions can be downloaded from
<https://www.pdarcs.com.au/nomination>

If any Covid restrictions are in place on July 31 then the Club AGM will move to an on-line, Zoom Meeting

Information regarding the AGM location will be placed on the club website after 1st August

BURLEY FIELD

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Chief Flying Instructor

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Editorial Submissions to:

editor@pdarcs.com.au

EDITOR'S BIT

"Mug of the Month"

Last Month I resurrected the idea of having a Mug Of The Month article in each Newsletter

I can only do that if I get MOM fodder from you, our Members

To get it started, I have dobbed myself in as the MUG for the Month of July

See page 12

I expect some serious competition for the prestigious award, of MUG OF THE YEAR, as shown below



Frank McPherson Editor

WHAT'S ON At P&DARCS 2021

Look in the Club Calendar on page 15

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Scratch & Kit Built Scale Rally

Sunday November 7th 2021

Field Location; Wenn Rd. Cardinia, (50K East of Melbourne) Vic



All Kit & Scratch Built Scale Aircraft welcome. No ARF's please

Tell your friends to come and see some great model aircraft.

- No documentation required – just fly and have fun. Starting 9am.
- Pilots must be MAAA affiliates – MAAA cards and Model Permits must be sighted.
- 1,500ft ceiling height enforced.
- Catering is available.
- See web site, www.pdarcs.com.au/scalerally for information & entry forms.
- Please note; dogs NOT allowed at field, even on a leash.

**\$5 per car entry/registration fee for pilots and spectators.
Support our Sponsors**



www.holkrc.com.au
Laser Cut Kits and
Modeling Accessories



www.balsacentral.com.au
For your balsa supplies



www.mytoolstore.com.au Lots of fantastic modeling tools

A BIT OF HUMOUR



An oldie but a goodie

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As this is the final newsletter for the 20/21 club year, it is the time to think over what has been achieved during a difficult and very interrupted year, and still your Club Committee men have kept you up with things as they progressed.

However, its more important now to look into the year 21/22 and to select those members you would wish to 'take the reins' for the next twelve months.

If you are approached to nominate for a Club Committee position, please give careful consideration not only to the type of knowledge the office may require, but, importantly, the amount of your time that will be required for execution of the operational side of the portfolio, and various Committee meetings, sub Committee meetings, and the general bits and pieces that go with it.

Don't feel you must do it because you are asked, but on the other hand, if there is something in particular that you would like to do, then put your name forward for that portfolio and ask a friend to nominate you and of course, another to second the nomination.

Give careful thought to the Club elections, the people you vote into office will have the responsibility of running and caring for your club for the next twelve months.

In spite of the odd hiccup now and then, I have enjoyed the past year as your President, and I thank the marvelous Committee for their work and perseverance through the year, and special mention to the Secretary for efforts above and beyond, and the Treasurer for successfully wearing so many hats,---thank you to you all.

Good luck and smooth sailing (flying) to the new Committee and to all our members.

Bill Reynolds President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of the P&DARCS General Meeting held on Saturday July3rd 2021 at Burley Field.

Meeting opened at: 1:00pm

Chair for this meeting: President, Bill Reynolds

Members Present 23

Apologies: Darryl Slade & David Glossop

Visitors; Nil

Minutes of previous Meeting:

Motion; the minutes of previous general meeting be accepted. Moved by Steve Malcman Seconded by Gavin Sexton **CARRIED**

Business Arising from Previous Minutes; In General Business.

Reports

President:

Bill advised that the next meeting is the AGM and asked members to consider standing for committee positions.

Secretary:

Nothing to report.

Treasurer:

The Treasure gave a report on the Club's financials over the past year. He also noted that the number of renewals for this year covered the budgeted items for the club.

Treasurer moved his report be accepted. Seconded; Frank McPherson **CARRIED**

Registrar:

Absent but the Treasurer advised that 120 have rejoined with 55 still to reply. He noted that the share offer for Full Membership of the Club has been taken up by 12 Probationary Members so far.

Field Manager:

Craig reported that the field is in great condition with some 12mm of rain in recent days. The field has been rolled and trees around the big tanks trimmed. Broad-leaf weed spaying will be done shortly. He noted that there is a vacancy on the mower team.

Facilities Manager:

Absent. It was noted that he had set up a sample of plastic fencing that may be suitable for the pilot barriers set up for members to observe.

Peter Harris gave a presentation about the sample fencing. He noted that the sample model shown was not currently available but should be on sale in a few weeks. The estimated cost of the sample would be about \$3,000 per barrier of which we would eventually require 3, one for each runway. Members were encouraged to have a close look at the sample on display. Members appeared to be supportive of the sample fencing.

There were a number of ideas about how to secure the posts given the moveability of our soil. One suggestion was to have 100X100mm treated pine posts set on concrete with the plastic support posts slid over the pine posts. It was suggested that the whole pilot area be concreted which would keep the posts from moving.

There seemed to be general agreement of the system on display and also for the removable option as opposed to the fully built in system of the fence sections.

Concern was expressed at the apparent ease that panels could be removed/stolen.

Safety Officer: Absent.

Editor;

Advised that he was revising the old but popular column, "Mug of the Month" and asked for members to let him know of possible candidates and actions.

Webmaster: Absent.

Social Secretary: Absent.

Club Captain:

Advised that there was not much happening. The VMAA had not advised anything about the 2022 VMAAA Trophy with regards to rule changes and or new events.

Chief Flying Instructor;

Advised that the new Club Trainer is ready to go.

General Business

1. VMAA Grant & Loan funding for the proposed new Irrigation scheme.

The Secretary advised that notice was given at a previous meeting, and in the Newsletter, that the matter of whether to accept the offer of a 50% loan & 50% grant to fund the proposed new irrigation scheme. Full details, including drawings, of the scheme were published in the June Newsletter. The Treasurer advised of the financial implications of accepting the offer. It meant an additional \$1,200 per year which was not included in the approved budget.

He considered that if we did not accept the offer than it would be some time before we could put in the water system which he considered to be vital to keep the field in good condition.

He therefore recommended that we accept the offer. One member spoke against accepting the offer noting that the VMAA gave more support to State Fields.

It was moved by Peter Harris and seconded by Peter Harrison that the club take up the 50% : 50% grant/loan option from the VMAA for the irrigation system.

CARRIED There were 2 votes against the motion.

2. Problem with Members assisting.

Peter Harrison noted that a member had recently crashed a \$7,000 model after members assisted him setting up his radio. He thought this was very poor and members should not give advice if they were not 100% confident in their advice.

3. 3D Flying on the Strip

It was reported that a member was flying aggressive 3D manoeuvres over the runway which is contrary to Club Rules. It was noted that he had been advised of the rule and asked to stop the activity however he had continued to do it.

The Committee was asked to do something about it. It was suggested that a feature be made of each Club rule in the Newsletter each month to make sure all members were aware of the rules.

Editor agreed that it would be a good idea.

It was noted that the committee was aware of the situation and would discuss at their next meeting.

4. Safety Incident Report

Paul Somerville expressed dissatisfaction of the Committee's handling of his Safety Incident Report and claimed he received an official warning for making the report. There was an interjection from Peter Harris advising that the official warning was for his abusive letter and attitude to the committee not for making the making the Safety Report.

Order was called and after Paul made further abusive and derogative comments about a particular Club member the President called a point of order and halted to the meeting noting this type of behavior/comment was not acceptable. He then noted that he was closing the meeting.

Mark Smith then requested that the meeting be reconvened as he wished to advise the members of the perceived radio problem identified by Peter Harrison.

The President then reopened opened the meeting to allow Mark to advise the members of the potentially safety related radio matter.

5. "Problem" with Radios

Mark Smith noted that with respect to the matter identified by Peter Harrison, he considered that there may be a problem with radios when lots of changes are being made to the settings without doing a "re-bind" and a range check. He noted that members should make themselves very conversant with the radio manuals of their systems and do range checks before each flying session.

6. Resignation.

Paul Somerville then approached the front table and dropped his Club issued keys on the table near the President saying "I am done with this Club". He then left the area.

Meeting closed at 1:55pm

July 2021 Committee Meeting Summary

The Club's committee met for the seventh time in 2021 on Thursday night July 22nd via Zoom.

Some of the items considered are noted below;

- Due to the COVID restrictions currently in place several projects have been delayed.
- The changes to the COVID restrictions to be continue to be monitored to ensure the club conforms.
- Three new member applications have been received.
- Two new members voted to be admitted as Probationary Members
- A sample of a possible Pilot Barrier Fence is still in place and investigations are continuing on the best way to install it.
- The servicing mechanic of our equipment has recommended that the John Deere mower be replaced due to its problems. Craig has been tasked to investigate a replacement.
- Toilet and Club House cleaning will continue to be done by Peter Harris and Norm Morrish.
- A small additional windsock will be installed for the Western Runway.
- The Club has advised VMAA that we have accepted their funding offer for the new irrigation system.
- The new "fire pit" has been purchased and installed at the field.
- The sponsors listed on the Club web site and Newsletter is under review.
- It was agreed to purchase some plastic chairs to replace the type that are breaking.
- Some sign frames have been purchased for a Turbine start up area. The signs for them are currently being sourced.
- There is a large number of maintenance items currently identified and once the COVID restriction are removed there needs to be a concerted effort to form "work groups" to attack the tasks.
- Organize AGM considering COVID implications.
- Seek and ABN for the Club to enable free access to on-line storage.

Ivan Chiselett Secretary

P4DARCS SECRETARY 2020/21 REPORT

I think we will long remember 2020/21, it was all about the Virus. Due to the restrictions in place we obtained permission from Corporate Affairs to delay the AGM. After quite a delay it appeared that the restrictions for gatherings would not change for the foreseeable future so it was decided that we would run the AGM via the internet. The election for office bearers was unusual in that some of the early nominees withdrawing their nominations quite late and then re submitting them on the day of the AGM. Not an ideal situation, but fortunately we finished up filling all positions with an excellent group of members on the committee.

The AGM was rather unusual in that it was run via Zoom. Thanks go to Daniel Jenkins for his expertise in setting up a "webinare" via Zoom so that all members that wished to could participate in the AGM. We were very fortunate to have VMAA President to act as our Returning Officer for the voting which was also done via the internet.

The fact that we have gone through the entire year under the constant cloud of the virus is rather sobering, certainly something that we never thought would happen. This "monster" has presented real challenges for the committee and the members alike. I think those that still enjoy the challenges of building models at least had something to occupy their time whereas those "fliers" only would have had to do "cold turkey".

We were fortunate to be able to run a successful Monty Scale Rally early in the year and with the easing of restrictions were able to enjoy being at the field whenever possible. Hopefully we can reactivate the Scratch Built Scale Rally in November. Unfortunately the committee has had to deal with a few unpleasant situations during the year which resulted in Official Reprimands being issued. We are a big club and no doubt some people do not get on with others but we must all try to be pleasant and comply with Club Rules and exercise general common sense and keep things pleasant. It always astounds me how some are super quick to criticise the committee and others via social media but do not have the courage to sort the matter out face to face in a calm manner. Most of the criticism directed to the committee appeared to be based on false assumptions.

None thought it might be prudent to ask the committee why decisions were taken before jumping up and down on "social", ignorant of the facts behind the decision.

A member recently wrote to the committee identifying some areas of the Club's constitution that he thought would benefit from examination and maybe slight changes. It appeared that he had some valid and worthwhile ideas. This will no doubt be taken up by the new committee and examined.

During the year we had a visit by **Jordan Crugnale** who is local State Government representative. She enjoyed an afternoon at the field and had several flying lessons. She actually showed a good grasp of model flying, completing a couple of flights with no intervention by me. She was amazed at our set up and found it hard to believe that our set up was all done by us

She is an aviation enthusiast and noted that she will be back as she really enjoyed the visit. Having established a contact like Jordan will be beneficial to the club. She was of real assistance during the lockdowns by providing valuable advice on what we should do.

Let's all look forward to good time once the restrictions are lifted. I for one am looking forward to getting a model on the runway.

Ivan Chiselett Secretary

FIELD MANAGERS REPORT

Our last month has been fairly quiet, but plenty of rain has fallen. Our field is green and lush, the grounds are quite soft.

Our machinery have all been serviced, blades replaced and all in readiness for our upcoming growing season.

On our mowers, our John Deere ride on mower is getting tired and worn out, I'm looking at a replacement mower for the John Deere.

Maintenance still continues at the field during our lockdowns so it's ready for our return to flying.

Lime has been spread on the runways recently as this will enhance plant growth and PH levels of the soil.

Spraying of the runways and pit areas will recommence once we get little rain and light winds, a notice will be put on our webpage and Facebook pages.

I intend on running a working bee for our overdue field maintenance jobs, all members are welcome to attend, plenty to do, more on this shortly.

Craig Fitzsimons Field Manager

REGISTRAR'S REPORT – August 2021

Farewell from the Registrar

“ The time has come the Walrus said, to speak of many things “

(The Walrus and the Carpenter by Lewis Carroll)

Well, this is my **final** report as Registrar. As I am in my 80th year and have been Registrar for 18 of the past 24 years (I started in August 1997) it is time to hand over to a younger and more handsome person – whomever that may be. It has been fun (mostly) to contribute to the running of PDARCS in this role. My thanks go to my fellow committee members who have been very supportive and to YOU the MEMBERS for your support and friendship. It is always a pleasure to chat by telephone or email whilst answering questions or explaining how the share system works.

I continue to fly my Heli here in Canberra at the Belconen club. Rather like a mini PDARCS, mostly friendly, varied flying skills and sausages most Saturdays.

My one regret with PDARCS is the development in recent years of factions within the club who seem more interested in finding fault with each other rather than enjoying friendship and flying. If these people spent all that energy supporting the club rather than fighting, then PDARCS would be the best club in the country – not Just Victoria.

New Member Applications

New member application this month:

Brodie Alexander, Mount Waverley - Probationary member

Theodore Arvanitakis, - Probationary member

Jacopo Dall'Acqua, Richmond – Probationary member

Frank Laguda, Yuroke - Probationary member

Any objections to this member application may be raised by sending in an official objection in writing to the Secretary. Note that only FULL members have the right to raise an objection.

Membership Renewals

The process seems to have gone well this year. A few questions and corrections but only one incorrect address – hurray!

Remember that if you have not paid your membership then YOU are now UNINSURED and you cannot fly at PDARCS.

Membership statistics

	Paid 21-22	Unpaid	Last Year
Associate	13	8	19
Full	93	18	100
Honorary	0	0	2
Junior	5	3	6
Life	3	0	3
Non-flying Full	0	0	0
Pensioner	14	6	22
Probationary	4	1	18
Prospective	5	0	0
Student	0	0	0
Spouse	1	0	1
TOTAL	138	36	171

Byeeeeeeeeeeeeee !!

Rob Till Registrar

Fellow P&DARCS Members

With the forthcoming AGM of the P&DARCS elections, it is my intention to offer my services as a candidate for the position of President. I would like to share a little about myself for those members who know little about me or my history.

I am originally from Queensland, have been a resident of Melbourne for seven years and have been a proud member of the **P&DARCS** since 2016. Prior to me leaving full-time employment, I enjoyed a career primarily in large electrical projects, mediation and contract management. I have a passion and background in full size aviation which also contributed to my love of aeromodelling over the past 40 years.

I have been President and was a founding member of the Kingaroy Aero Modelers Society in Queensland, President of the Townsville Aero Modelers Society and President of the MAAQ. I was also a member of the MAAA Lands Council.

P&DARCS is a sporting club in a truly fortunate position. Members have access to one of the best flying facilities in Australia and are given an opportunity to become shareholders in the land the club sits on. This is indeed a unique position that very few sporting clubs enjoy, let alone model aero clubs.

The 2020/2021 P&DARCS Committee had been given a very tough road to travel. The advent of COVID placed the committee in the inevitable task of intermittently closing the field as part of the State Government imposed COVID restrictions. The Committee was duty bound to adhere to those restrictions to maintain the health and safety of individuals and the best interests of our club. It was a thankless task that was clouded in direction with no real precedents guiding them. The standing committee heeded the advice of both local and state governing bodies to provide the best possible outcome for all. For their work and especially the work of the P&DARCS Secretary and Treasurer, they should be thanked and applauded.

Many clubs and businesses managed to thrive during the recent period of restrictions and P&DARCS can claim a good share of that prosperity. Several past members returned to the club, some new members began their membership and some current members of the VARMS have now made our field their home. These were unfortunate circumstances for VARMS as they have been forced to vacate their flying field that they have called home for decades. But this seemingly unfavorable circumstance brings with it a host of benefits to P&DARCS in welcoming some highly experienced glider and power pilots to our membership and the benefit to our club is obvious.

Little is wrong with our club. Essentially, there are a few basic guidelines that we need to follow which will allow us to continue as a prosperous and successful club now and into the future. As a club, we must:

- Be conscious of the needs of our current and long-term membership.
- Embrace and encourage new members and help student pilots achieve their personal goals.
- Continue to maintain and improve our current facilities.
- Promote our club in a positive light within our local community and schools, via public displays.
- Initiate a program to align ourselves with prominent local businesses and politicians.\
- Ensure our relationships with surrounding landowners, CASA, MAAA and VMAA continue a positive footing.

It is worth noting that Ivan Chiselett, our current Secretary has made great inroads into the State and Local Government and his efforts continue. Ivan's efforts resulted in valuable consultative advice during the 2020/2021 COVID period. So much so, that a recent visit from a prominent sitting Victorian Government State member to our field was met with awe from the Victorian Government Member. This visitation will invariably assist us in any application and assessment of grants provided by the State Government for sporting bodies moving forward.

In conclusion and on a positive note, I believe that the experience that I have accumulated in my professional career, together with the leadership roles I have held within the aeromodelling arena position me well as President of the P&DARCS moving forward into what will be a great 2021/2022. With your confidence, coupled with a collaborative and dedicated team of aeromodellers on the P&DARCS committee, we will guide our club into the new financial year 2021/2022 with a vision to promote what we love and what we do best – that is to pursue our passion to fly our model aero planes with a great deal of camaraderie.

Sincerely yours

Keith Quigg | AUS 22897 | 0448 749 865



GETTING STARTED IN RADIO CONTROL AEROMODELLING

IMPORTANT

When deciding to start being involved in Aeromodelling, it is very tempting to go to a Hobby Supplier, see a very nice looking model and think " I would love to own and fly that"
That is a mistake some beginners make, most " nice looking models " are expensive, and require good flying skills to control safely

It is imperative that you first learn to fly, safely, and with confidence
Depending on how much time, and effort you are prepared to put into training, this can take 1 or 2 months, with an instructor assisting
The best type of model to use while learning to fly, is an inexpensive basic trainer

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

This is a list of basic flying equipment that will get you started, **other types and brands of equipment will also be suitable**

Bixler, or equivalent, foam model airplane, electric powered



Spektrum radio receiver 4 channel



Spektrum DX7, Radio Transmitter



Battery Charger, and connecting cables



LiPO 3 cell battery



This equipment can be purchased from a number of local Hobby suppliers, or via the internet

JOIN A CLUB

Join your nearest Flying Club, such as P&DARCS

This will give you access to a Safe Flying Area, Instructors, and Public Liability Insurance, It is not safe to “ fly alone “ at your local park, as it puts you and other people at risk, and you do not have any form of insurance

FLYING SOLO

When your instructor considers your safe flying skills are sufficient, you will be offered to do a simple flying safety test.

Passing that test, you will be awarded a “ Wings “ badge, and you can then fly solo, thus further improving your flying skills, and confidence

Have a safe, fun time flying your Models

Frank McPherson [Ed](#)

MUG OF THE MONTH

To start **MUG OF THE MONTH** off, I will do myself in as a “ Mugger “

Some weeks ago, yours truly was flying his much crashed, and badly repaired, foam **Sky Walker**, towing a crepe streamer, in the hope of someone being brave enough to do a spot of steamer cutting
See photo below

Peter Timms was flying his nice **Trojan** foamy at the same time, see also photo below

After much cajoling and belittling I could not convince Peter to attempt streamer cutting

So it came time for that compulsory maneuver, LANDING

Peter called out that he is landing, and I remained at height

As Peter was taxiing home, I decided to land also, **So** I brought the Sky Walker in over the strip threshold, and in line with my right shoulder, all correct procedure, and reduced throttle to 10%

As my model advanced along the strip, I thought I would do a quick look to see if Peter's **Trojan** was out of the way, it was not, (at this time the **Sky Walker** was still advancing along the strip at my right shoulder position up against the pilot's side of the strip) I omitted to position the model into the center of the strip

As I glanced back at the **Sky Walker** it was in front of us, and made smart contact with the side of Peter's **Trojan**, thankfully at low speed, Peter's **Trojan** received a small scratch, the **Sky Walker** survived to fly another day

Ahh, the benefits of foamies

Frank McPherson, Ed and MUG



Much repaired foam Sky Walker + streamer



Foam North American Trojan

From A While Back

March 2015 Flying on the water at Camperdown



Peter Harris's model lifting off



Bill Reynolds model, about to unstick ?



Bill R's model at height



Some of their models had an argument with one of the local wedge tailed eagles, ouch



Bill R in the " Arc Royal " recovery craft

From A While Back # 2

March 2016 at our Flying Field



Andrew Mysliborski's Yak



Andrew Smallridge's Yak



Ivan Chiselett's aerobatic Model



Wally Schubach's ill fated twin boom apparatus, it was seriously lacking elevator authority



Alan Foley's neat gyrocopter

P&DARCS CALENDAR FOR 2021

July

22 (Thu) 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm [Committee Meeting](#)

August

07 (Sat) 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm [P&DARCS AGM](#)

15 (Sun) 9:00 am - 4:00 pm [Classic Aerobatics](#) Field Open: **Partial**

19 (Thu) 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm [Committee Meeting](#)

September

04 (Sat) 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm [Club Meeting](#)

23 (Thu) 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm [Committee Meeting](#)

October

02 (Sat) 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm [Club Meeting & Coop AGM](#)

21 (Thu) 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm [Committee Meeting](#)

November

06 (Sat) 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm [Club Meeting](#)

07 (Sun) [P&DARCS Scratch / Kit Built Scale Rally Field open](#) **no**

18 (Thu) 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm [Committee Meeting](#)

December

04 (Sat) 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm [Club Meeting](#)



**P&DARCS AGM, 7th August
See Front Page for Details**