



# P&DARCS

Pakenham and District Aircraft Radio Control Society



## P&DARCS NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2026



Most hobby projects top out at a shelf, a garage, or maybe a driveway. Ramy RC, a YouTuber with a well-documented obsession with large-scale aircraft, went considerably further – spending months constructing what is now recognized as the largest remote-controlled Airbus A380 ever built, then sending it into the sky wearing Lufthansa’s 100th anniversary livery. Head to page 10 for details.

**Next Club Meeting & AGM Aug 5 (Wed) 7.30 - 9.30 pm**

## Committee Members:

**President: Keith Quigg**

[president@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:president@pdarcs.com.au)

**Vice President: David Law**

[vicepresident@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:vicepresident@pdarcs.com.au)

**Secretary: David Gibbs**

[secretary@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:secretary@pdarcs.com.au)

**Treasurer: Peter Harris**

[treasurer@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:treasurer@pdarcs.com.au)

**Registrar: Simon Ventevogel**

[registrar@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:registrar@pdarcs.com.au)

**IT Manager: Daniel Jenkins**

[webmaster@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:webmaster@pdarcs.com.au)

**Safety Officer: Vacant**

[safety@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:safety@pdarcs.com.au)

**Facilities Manager: Norm Morrish**

[facilities@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:facilities@pdarcs.com.au)

**Field Manager: David Law**

[fieldmanager@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:fieldmanager@pdarcs.com.au)

**Editor: Liz Ventevogel**

[editor@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:editor@pdarcs.com.au)

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

[sig@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:sig@pdarcs.com.au)

**Ordinary Committee Members:**

**Melissa Law**

[mlaw@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:mlaw@pdarcs.com.au)

**Phil Singh**

[psingh@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:psingh@pdarcs.com.au)

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## Useful Links

P&DARCS [Homepage](#)

P&DARCS [Calendar](#)

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

## Upcoming Events

**5 Aug**

**[General Club Meeting & P&DARCS  
AGM \(Online\)](#)**

**05 Aug (Wed) 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm**

**19 Aug**

**[Committee Meeting](#)**

**19 Aug (Wed) 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm**

**30 Aug**

**[60th Anniversary Celebration Lunch](#)**

**30 Aug (Sun) 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

**31 Aug**

**[P&DARCS 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary](#)**

**31 Aug (Mon)**

# President's Report



# P&DARCS

Pakenham and District Aircraft Radio Control Society



## P&DARCS NOTICE 08 JULY 2026

Hello

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – FIELD COORDINATOR POSITION

The Pakenham & District Aircraft Radio Control Society (P&DARCS) Committee is seeking expressions of interest from members who may be interested in undertaking the role of **Field Coordinator**.

As part of ongoing governance improvements, the Field Manager position will no longer be elected at the Annual General Meeting. Instead, the position of Field Coordinator will be appointed by the Committee as required, ensuring continuity and flexibility in managing this important club function.

This appointment plays a vital role in overseeing the maintenance, presentation and operational readiness of our field, working closely with the Facilities Manager, volunteers and contractors to ensure Burley Field remains one of Victoria's premier aeromodelling venues.

Strategic planning, budgeting and facilitation of further developments of the western strip and the next phase of the water catchment and distribution will be undertaken by the Committee. The new Field Coordinator will be expected to assist the Committee with these activities.

Members who have an interest in contributing to the ongoing development and maintenance of our club are encouraged to express their interest.

Expressions of interest should be submitted by email to the Club Secretary:

[secretary@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:secretary@pdarcs.com.au)

Please include a brief outline of your availability, and any ideas you may have for the future management and improvement of the field and facilities. The Committee will review all expressions of interest and may invite applicants to discuss the role further.

Thank you to all members who continue to contribute their time and expertise to the ongoing success of P&DARCS.

**Keith Quigg**  
P&DARCS President 2025/2026

# **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.**

# Secretary's Report

13 July 2026



## P&DARCS

Pakenham and District Aircraft Radio Control Society



### NOTICE OF THE P&DARCS 2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be held as an on-line “Zoom” meeting on Wednesday August 5th 2026 at 7:30pm. Please look out for an email with the details of the invite to be sent out the weekend before the AGM.

#### Business of the Annual General Meeting

- To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
- To receive and consider the Financial Statement submitted by the Club in accordance with section 30(3) of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act (2012) and the Committee's Declaration of Approval.
- To appoint the Auditor of the Club accounts.
- To elect office-bearers for the ensuing 12 months.
- To deal with any special business of which notice has been given in accordance with the Club Constitution.
- Motions
  1. That the audited Financial Report as presented by the Treasurer be Accepted
  2. That [Name TBC] be appointed as the independent auditor of the association for the 2026/27 financial year
  3. That any two jointly of the President, Secretary, Treasurer and Administrator of the PayPal account of P&DARCS are authorised to operate the Accounts of the Club

## Committee Positions for 2026/27

- The Officers of the Club Committee shall be
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Registrar
- The **Specialist Ordinary Members** of the Club Committee shall be
  - Facilities Manager
  - IT Manager
  - SIG Coordinator
- There will be 3 **Ordinary Member** positions not directly tied to specific functions
- Each member of the Club Committee shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting after the date of his or her election but is eligible for re-election.
- Notes
  - The Safety Officer role has been withdrawn and the responsibility distributed across the Committee and all Club Members (General Meeting 3/6/2026)
  - The Field Manager role has been removed as an elected position and replaced by the Field Coordinator role which will be appointed by the new Committee in response to Expressions of Interest (Email to all members 8/7/2026)

## Election of the Committee

- Nomination of Candidates for election as Officers, Specialist or other Ordinary Members of The Committee will be accepted from the Full Members attending the Annual General Meeting.
- A candidate may only hold one Officer position.
- A candidate may hold a Specialist Ordinary Member position in addition to an Officer position but shall only have one vote on the Committee.
- If insufficient nominations are received to fill all positions on the Committee, the candidates nominated shall be deemed to be elected.
- If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated shall be deemed to be elected.
- If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a ballot must be held. Only Full Members will be entitled to participate in the ballot.
- The ballot for the election of Officers and Ordinary Members of the Committee must be conducted at the Annual General Meeting in such manner as the Committee may direct.

- If a Club Officer position becomes vacant during the year, nominations for that position may be received and voted on at a General Meeting. Only Full Members will be entitled to participate in the vote.

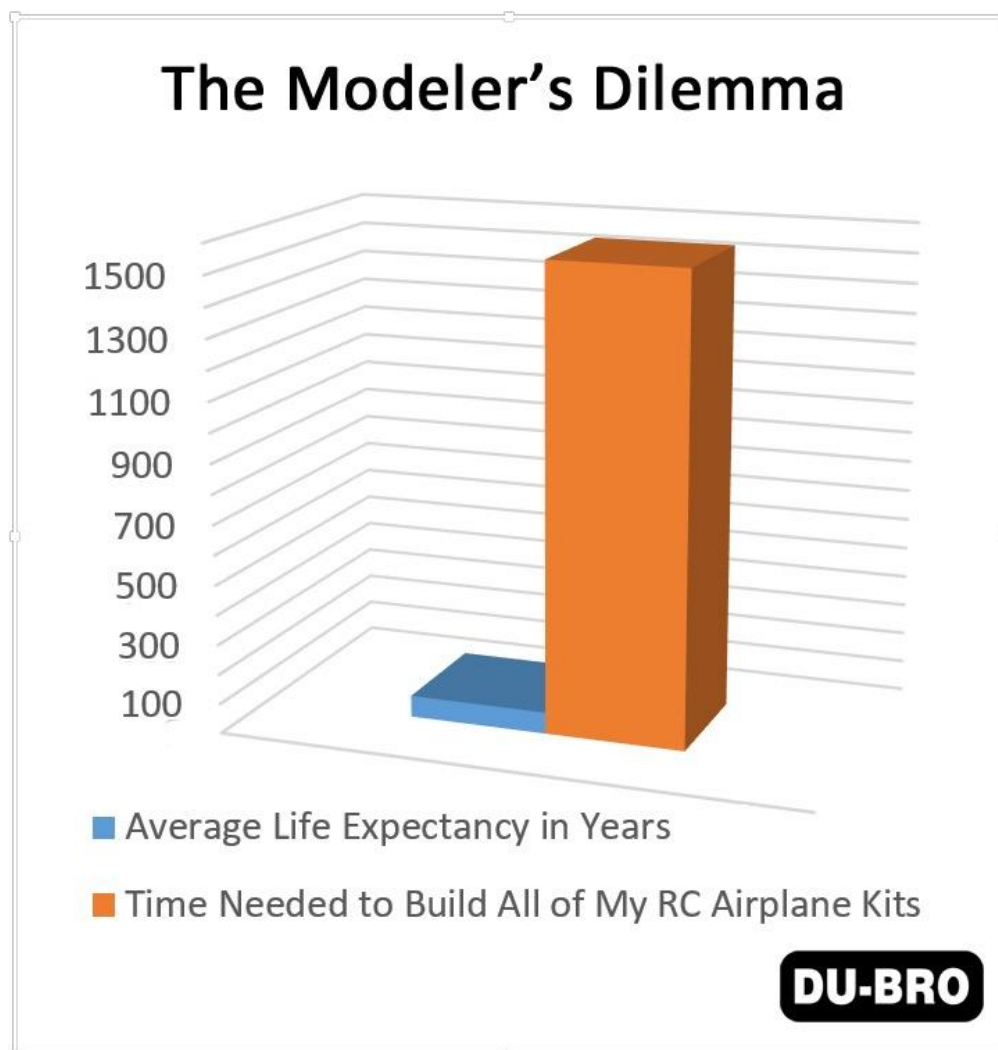
### Nominating for Positions

Full Members of the Club wishing to nominate for any of the positions on the Committee can send in nominations to the secretary at [secretary@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:secretary@pdarcs.com.au). Written nominations are the preferred method, and to be received no later than 2 days before AGM. Nomination forms can be downloaded from [www.pdarcs.com.au/nomination](http://www.pdarcs.com.au/nomination)

### Full Member Voting

All club members are welcome and encouraged to attend the AGM, however, to facilitate voting by Full Members only, attendees who are not Full Members will be temporarily placed in the Waiting Room during polls.

David Gibbs  
P&DARCS Secretary



## Editor's Report

A dear neighbour of ours sent me an article on the biggest RC Airbus A-80 ever built which is fascinating. He joked, imagine Simon building this one in your apartment! I have included a link if you would like to see the entire process.

Thanks again to Alex who is continuing to send his fabulous stories which are always amusing.

P&DARCS 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary approaches and there will be a luncheon to celebrate this wonderful milestone.

Please register to attend. The details are in the flyer below.

Cheers

Liz

### **WANTED - Articles for Newsletter**

How to, event reports, product reviews, what's on your bench, photos from your flying

Please send content to Liz at [editor@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:editor@pdarcs.com.au)

### **CLASSIFIEDS**

Is there any RC related gear you'd like to buy, swap or sell?

Contact Liz at [editor@pdarcs.com.au](mailto:editor@pdarcs.com.au) for inclusion in Newsletter



## Celebrating 60 Years of Friendship, Fellowship and Achievement

We warmly invite members, past members, family and friends to come together for a special afternoon of great food, fond memories and fellowship as we honour six decades of our club's rich history.

**Date**

Sunday 30 August

**Time**

12:00pm – 4:00pm

**Venue**

Dandenong Club – Heatherton Room  
1579 Heatherton Road, Dandenong North

**Dress Code**

Smart Casual

Your ticket includes a delicious three-course meal and the opportunity to celebrate this significant occasion with fellow members, guests and friends of the club.

**Ticket Prices**

**Members: \$40**

*(The club is generously subsidising member tickets by \$20)*

**Non-Members: \$60**

Come and celebrate the people, achievements and memories that have made P&DARCS such a special club over the past 60 years. We look forward to sharing this memorable occasion with you.

**PLEASE RSVP BY 12 AUGUST, 2026**



**CLICK TO BUY TICKETS**

Register at [www.pdarcs.com.au/60thlunch](http://www.pdarcs.com.au/60thlunch)



# YouTuber Builds a 29-Foot RC Airbus A380—Then Actually Flies It in Lufthansa's 100th Anniversary Livery



Most hobby projects top out at a shelf, a garage, or maybe a driveway. Ramy RC, a YouTuber with a well-documented obsession with large-scale aircraft, went considerably further – spending months constructing what is now recognized as the largest remote-controlled Airbus A380 ever built, then sending it into the sky wearing Lufthansa's 100th anniversary livery.

The numbers genuinely require a second read. The model stretches 29 feet in length with a wingspan of 32 feet – roughly the same footprint as a real Cessna 150. At 800 pounds, it weighs a significant amount!

It is, by any reasonable measure, not a hobby item.

## ***Engineering That Would Embarrass Most Prototypes***

The aircraft packs 39 servos and five actuators governing systems including the flaps, landing gear-doors and spoilers.

Four 250-millimeter electric ducted fans are mounted beneath the wings on reinforced pylons, producing around 500 pounds of combined thrust.

High-torque servos rated between 90 and 190 kilograms drive the flaps, spoilers, ailerons, elevators, and a split rudder system – the upper section of which disengages during flight, mirroring the behaviour of the full-size aircraft.

The inner engines even feature operational dummy thrust reversers, fabricated from 3D-printed components and small servos replicating real-world movements.

Once airborne, a gyro system stabilizes the aircraft, with advanced receivers and power boards managing the substantial number of servos involved.

A 12-wheel undercarriage with individual braking on each wheel rounds out the mechanical packaging.

Getting the Lufthansa colours onto the airframe was its own undertaking. The [paint](#) job alone required a month and a half of work, with a dedicated crew applying the anniversary livery over the bare carbon and composite structure. By the time the paint was finished, the model had already completed five successful flights in its bare form.

## ***The Flight That Nearly Wasn't***

On its sixth outing – the first in full Lufthansa dress – the plane clipped a tree shortly after take-off.

There was no serious damage, and the pilot fortunately brought it in for a controlled landing. From there, the flight delivered everything the build had promised.

Instruments recorded a top speed of around 103 mph, the landing lights worked correctly, flaps deployed at 15 degrees, and the reverse-thrust system helped scrub speed during rollout.

In the air, the result is difficult to dismiss as a model. The combination of scale, authentic livery detail, and smooth flight behaviour makes it look, from any reasonable distance, exactly like the real thing – just without 500 passengers and a transatlantic routing.

At 362 kg, 39 servos, four electric ducted fans, and 12 individually braked wheels, it represents months of engineering work and a level of systems integration that most professional engineers would find demanding. The Cessna 150 has nothing to worry about competitively, but as a statement of what a determined hobbyist can put in the sky, this one is hard to top.

Taken from [MotorBiscuit.com](https://www.motorbiscuit.com)

# Spotlight

***Gordon Trotter***

*Name:* Gordon Trotter

*Age (optional):* Old and decrepit - 67

*Any particular discipline?:* Pattern

*Preferred type of aircraft?:* Pattern

*Do you prefer scratch building or ARF?:* Neither, pay someone to do it for me.

*Do you have a favourite model plane?:* Sky Leafe Leader

*Electric/Gas/Turbine preference?:* Electric

*What radio gear do you use?:* Futaba TS26SZ

*What do/did you do for a living?:* Service Manager

*When and how did you get into the hobby?:* I was 12 years old and I started building and flying control line models at Faulkner Park opposite the Alfred Hospital. I took up radio control in my early 40's and soon started pattern flying. I gave up 20 odd years ago and since retiring have taken it up again.

*Do/did you fly in competitions?:* Yes, I fly F3A pattern competitions.

*If so, have you won or placed in them?:* I've competed in 3 so fare and have placed 2nd, 1st and 1st.

*What other hobbies or interests have you got?:* Learning Japanese and riding motorcycles.

*Do you have pet?:* Two cats, Bruce and Lucy.

# ***LETTERS FROM AFAR – THIS IS ALEX CALLING***

G'day folks,

Hello to all from sunny / windy / wet / warm / calm Queensland.

Sadly, there's not as much calm as I would like.

The new club – SAAMBR – have taken me in with open arms. They're mostly a very friendly bunch, with lots of back slapping and joking.

Getting used to the new field is taking some time, with the different orientation and the proximity of large trees. I had my first flight of the turbine during the week, after getting approval to fly it, and came eerily close to the large trees on the final approach.

It's funny how, when the adrenaline is pumping, you seem to have heightened hearing ability. I could hear the two observers suck in their breath on my final approach as I came a bit too close to those dramatic trees. After a successful landing I made a mental note to make adjustments in the next flight.

I was very relieved to get that flight over and done with. In that slight pause at the start, before I throttled up, I was quietly hoping there was a sudden earth tremor, just to give me a manly excuse to avoid the take-off, because every take off is followed by a landing, all going well.

I've been getting regular reports from P&DARCS re conditions and flyability and, with the appalling and unsettling weather we've been having here, teeth have been clenched. But with minimum temperatures in the mid to high teens here, some compensation has been welcomed.

Away from the field, we've almost completed the setup of our new house, so we are settling in nicely.

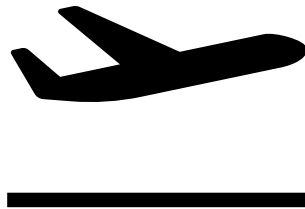
And now for a smirk opportunity for some. I wonder if there is anyone involved with this story who went off today and picked up a new 2m Conscendo from RCMA. Oh yes there is .... me.

So, after losing 3 Conscendos as they flew away with the flick of their hair, and barely a glance over their shoulder, I've gone and bought an even bigger one.

I promise, promise, promise, promise, promise not to fly so high it becomes a dot, or worse, invisible. I promise, promise, promise.

Stay tuned. The maiden is tomorrow.

Alex\_of\_Oz



# RECIPE OF THE MONTH

## Moroccan Chicken

I have been making this recipe for decades and is a quick and easy go-to on a weeknight. Enjoy.

### Tips:

This is a very versatile recipe – you can add more or less of practically everything and include other ingredients such as preserved lemon, olives, or cubes of butternut pumpkin. It tastes even better the next day.

Moroccan Chicken goes well with rice or couscous. You can replace the almonds with pine nuts or even cashews. Use prunes or figs instead of dates.

It freezes very well but don't add in the herbs and almonds if freezing. Add them in after reheating the frozen meal so the texture of the herbs and nuts stays nice and bright. I often double the amounts so I can fill up the freezer.

Amounts shown will feed four to six people.



## **Ingredients:**

500g chicken thigh fillets

1 cinnamon stick

12 pitted dates (I've used figs as well)

1 large can of apricot halves in natural juice

1/2 cup of blanched almonds

Handful of mixed herbs such as parsley, mint, or coriander

Salt, cracked pepper

1 large onion, roughly chopped

4 small red chillies, finely chopped

2 tablespoon of olive oil

2 cloves garlic, chopped

2 teaspoons of sweet paprika

4 teaspoons of cumin powder

3 bay leaves

1/2 cup of chicken stock

## **Method:**

Clean and dry the chicken thighs, then cut into pieces and season with salt and pepper.

In a large frypan or cast-iron saucepan over a medium heat, sauté the onion and chillies in oil.

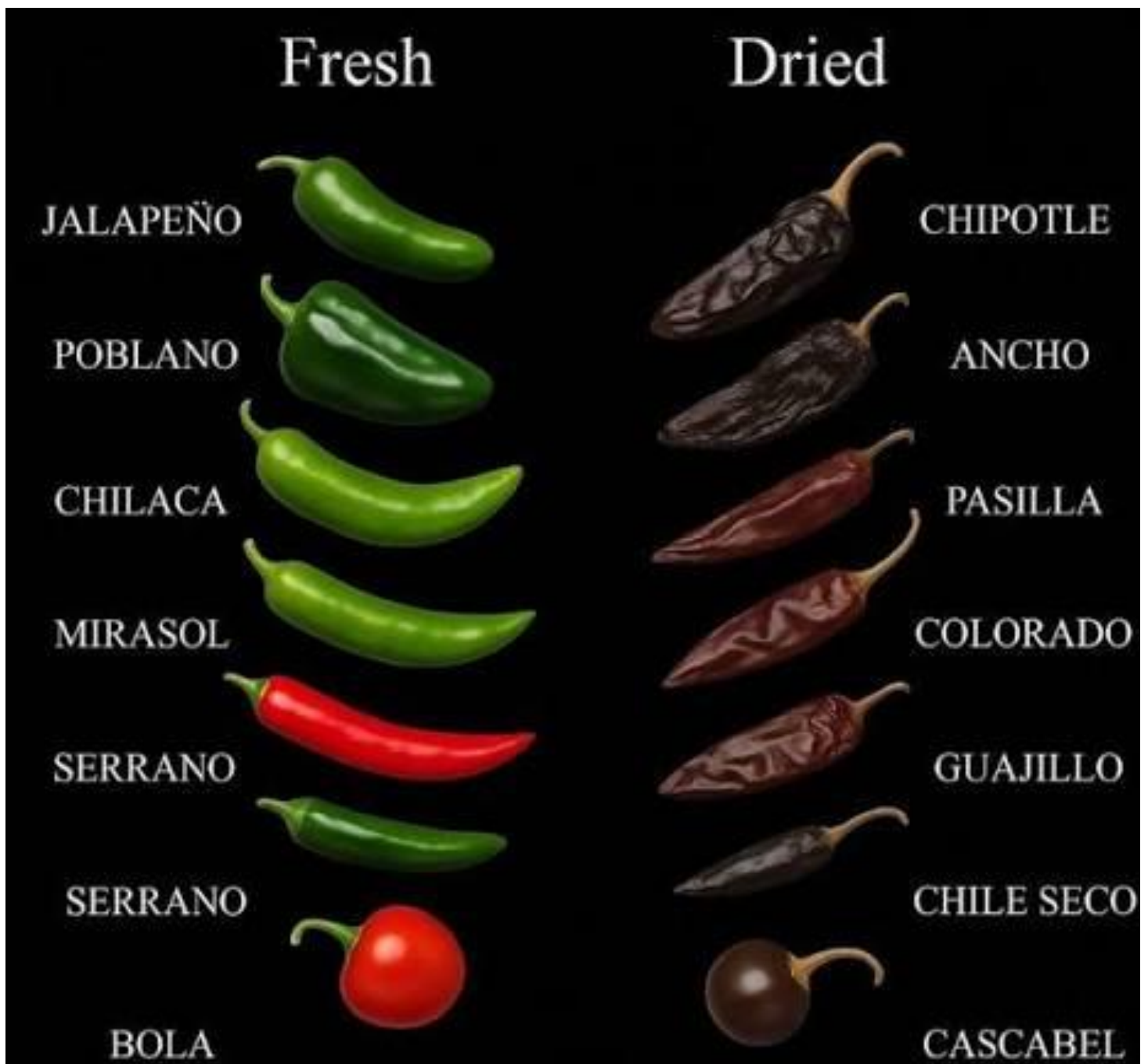
After several minutes, turn up the gas and add the chicken pieces and garlic to sear the chicken. Next add all of the remaining spices, dates, apricots, and their juice and bring to the boil.

Add a touch more salt and pepper and pour in the stock.

When the liquid hits the boil again, turn down the heat and simmer uncovered until sauce thickens – about 30 –45 mins

Throw in the chopped herbs and almonds and serve with rice or even better fluffy couscous.

*Did You Know?*



## P & DARCS Calendar

### 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](#)  
30 (Sun) 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm [60th Anniversary Celebration Lunch](#)  
31 (Mon) [P&DARCS 60th Anniversary](#)

### 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**  
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**



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Laser cut kits and modeling accessories



[www.balsacentral.com.au](http://www.balsacentral.com.au)

For your balsa supplies



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