

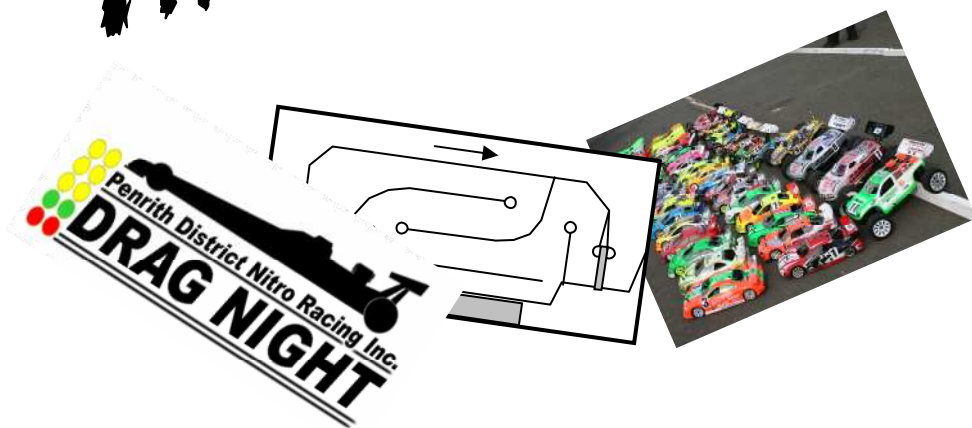


www.pdnracing.org.au



February 2008

The Racer's Edge



2008 – HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES?

Welcome to the first edition for 2008 of *'The Racer's Edge'*. What a year 2007 was and what a year 2008 is going to be. The race calendar is 'chockers' with more racing than ever, but more on that later.

The traditional end of year Spring/Christmas Presentation BBQ has come and gone and as those who were there will tell you, it was hot, then it got somewhat dark, the clouds rolled in over the mountains, the rain fell, and fell and fell, along with some hail and lots of wind. The BBQ was moved out of the rain as the sausages started to float on the plate, and then moved again as the weather turned back on us and we did it all over again! Ahh what a night remember!

But in the true PDNR spirit we battled on through adversity and come out the other side holding the trophies aloft and Santa was right on cue.

Speaking of committee our 2007 AGM was held directly after the presentation night and with it a new committee was elected.



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President Kevin Maton
Vice President Darrell Thompson
Secretary Michael Turner
Treasurer Michael Turner
Competition Secretary Tony Firth
Registrar Rod Albronda
Publicity Officer Chris Stanley

General Committee

Grahame Jones, Steve Valletta, Matthew Russell, John Bates, Nathan Ryan, David Lo Iacono, Jonathan Freund.

As you can see there are some familiar names in the company of some new ones and with some new position holders. At a glance the committee has an excellent variation of experience mixed with enthusiasm and willingness.

Remember, the committee is here to represent you and your opinions so if you have any ideas, experiences, thoughts or suggestions please approach one of the committee members and let them know so that they can present and explore them further. ***Your club, your ideas!***



Western Weekender Photograph 18/1/2008

EL PRESIDENTE'S REPORT

Welcome back to all our drivers for what I think is going to be a great 2008.

For all our newcomers this year, I hope you have lots of fun whilst you are driving with us and don't forget if you need help, there are plenty of other drivers that will give you a hand so don't be too shy to ask.

2008 will hopefully be the year that PDNR can finally have or be one giant step closer to having a permanent track and a place to call home. Everyone cross their fingers!

I would also like to formally welcome the new committee members of 2008, and again thank the outgoing committee for a job well done in 2007. I feel that PDNR is the number one club in Australia, this is due to the great efforts of the committee and ongoing support from our drivers and sponsors.

There are many events scheduled during 2008 and I urge all PDNR members and drivers to try and attend a race meet outside the normal Tuesday night meetings. We have numerous drivers that attend other race meets and the knowledge and support you get from attending an outside meet is well worth the effort.

Our generous sponsors are back in 2008 and I hope you thank them by trying to use their products and services. Their support throughout the year is essential to the ongoing development of PDNR.

I hope everyone has a great 2008, and if any drivers or spectators have any ideas or feedback, be it good or bad, we would like to know about it. You can pass on your comments to any of our committee members or come up and see us at race control.

Until the next issue – Smile & the world will smile with you!!!

El Pres

Kevin Maton

2007 – CHARTY CHALLENGE – KIDS RACE DAY

A good day was had by all, but the rain did get us in the end, however the day was about the kids, with racing being a very distant second. Just over \$1700 dollars was raised and donated to the St George Rotary Club who organised the day.

Steve O matched his Serpent 1/8 up against a Nissan 300ZX Drift Car (which had a 5.7 Chev bolted in) and I'm pretty sure Steve won 3 to 1. At one stage there, Steve thought his car was going to become a permanent fixture of the main straight at Oran Park, as he nearly put it under the Nissan on two occasions. Apparently a number of his body parts become very tense and contracted enormously. Steve also had a crack at a Police cycle who is still trying to work out how to change from 1st to 2nd without smoking the clutch or valve bouncing it!
Police 0 - Steve 2.

Although the rain fell, the traditional Dunny Derby was still held and provided some very entertaining viewing but I'm not really sure who was declared the winner in the end as a bit of drift session seemed to take over.



A lot of kids got the chance to drive some of the RC cars around and I can tell you the smiles on their faces were a sight to see.

The drivers that were helping the kids out and lending their cars were having just as much fun as the kids. A special mention and a BIG thanks must go to Barry Gavin who donated an RC car as a raffle prize for all the kids that took the opportunity to test drive the cars. A young boy by the name of Alex took it home.

Last but by no means least a VERY BIG THANK YOU, to the drivers that entered the event and provided some entertainment for all the kids. It just goes to show what we can achieve when we want to.

Sponsors for the day; **Auswide Hobbies and Collectables, Graham's Hobby Centre, Caster Racing (JPM Racing), Graham Jones (personal sponsor), Custom T-Shirts and Trophies.**



2008 RACING EVENTS – *Put em in ya diary!*

Saturday 23-February	Sydney Grand Prix - SORMCC (Whalan) Round 4 - 2007/2008 Nitro Interclub Series
Friday 21-March Saturday 22-March Sunday 23-March	NSW State Titles (Moorebank) Round 5 - 2007/2008 Nitro Interclub Series
Friday 4-April	PDNR Drag Night - Round 2
Saturday 19 April Sunday 20 April	Summer Nats Re-Run (practise day) Summer Nats (race day)
Saturday 26-April	PDNR - Proline 2.4 Hour Le Mans
Saturday 14-June	PDNR Drag Night - Round 3
Friday 27-June Saturday 28-June Sunday 29-June	Practice – HPI Winter Champs Nitro Only – Round 7 Nitro Interclub Series Electric Only
Saturday 12-July	PDNR Drag Night - Round 4
Saturday 23-August Sunday 24-August	PDNR Challenge (SIRC - Penrith) Round 1 - 2008/2009 Nitro Interclub Series
Saturday 30-August	PDNR Drag Night - Round 5
Saturday 27-September	PDNR Drag Night - Round 6
Saturday 4-October Sunday 5 October Saturday 11-October	Lithgow Grand Prix (Lithgow) - TBC Round 2 - 2008/2009 Nitro Interclub Series RC Bathurst 1000 (Bathurst)
Saturday 8-November Sunday 9-November	Mingara Cup (Mingara) Round 3 - 2008/2009 Nitro Interclub Series
Saturday 29-November	PDNR 3 Hour Classic
Sunday 21-December	PDNR Charity Challenge (Oran Park)

THE DRIVE THROUGH INTERVIEW

Name: David Lo-lacono
RC Nickname: Lolly Licker & Lick-a-lot-of....
Age: 26
Home Suburb: Cambridge Gardens
Occupation: Gardener
Marital Status: Engaged
Kids: None
Racing at PDNR for: 3 years
Current Division/s: Outlaw
Current Car/s: Team Magic G4S Pro
Current Radio/s: Spektrum DX3
Current Engine/s: JP.....modified
Current Fuel/s: Meccamo
Career Highlight/s: 3rd in Nitro Kit
First RC Car: Ofna CD3
Total number in garage: 3 (that he's telling Amanda about)
Favourite RC car: Team Magic G4S
Describe your racing in 5 words: A very clean racer, sometimes
Best thing about PDNR: Everybody likes to help each other out, no matter what level of racer you are.
Biggest Disappointment: None
Biggest Pleasure: Being on the committee
What makes you angry: Not being able to finish a race
Favourite Drink: Bourbon
Favourite Food: Pizza
Favourite 1:1 Car: Ford XR8
Is there anything better than RC racing:
Drag racing and speedway

Who would you like to meet: Craig Lowndes
Comments/Advice about RC racing:
As long as you finish a race you're a winner.



MEET OUR SPONSORS

Graham's Hobby Centre is the longest serving sponsor of PDNR. Started in 2002



by current owner Graham Fisher, Graham's Hobby Centre has over the years established itself as a dependable, family owned hobby shop, catering for both the RC racer and fun-time enthusiast. Graham's involvement at PDNR can be traced back to before he opened his hobby shop doors, frequently attending race meetings (as a spectator only in those days) at the old track in the Harvey Norman Car Park.

Graham's Hobby Centre became formally involved at PDNR when a young and energetic Jonathan Freund, who was PDNR Publicity Officer at the time, approached Graham in the hope PDNR could get a discount on a Nitro RC car to raffle off as fundraising. Without hesitation Graham came to the party, completely donating that very first raffle car. Since that day, Graham's Hobby Centre has donated a Nitro RC car for every single PDNR Championship – that's something like 15 RC Cars in total, and we're still counting!

In addition to his donation of a raffle car, Graham has continually put his hand in his pocket for many other PDNR events, having sponsored divisions each year for the Charity Challenge and donating auction items and prizes for the Trivia nights. He is also the first stop for raffle ticket salesperson, having never refused to purchase tickets.

Graham and his staff have worked endlessly to establish a reputation for excellent customer service, experienced advice and the right price. Graham's Hobby Centre stock a wide range of spares, parts, and hop-ups for a variety of brands – and particularly Kyosho! – and offer PDNR members a 10% discount!

For the last 5 years, Graham has been a regular fixture at PDNR Tuesday nights. In the beginning, he was just a spectator, and at one stage PDNR organisers reserved a VIP viewing area beside Race Control for their No. 1 Sponsor! This was to be where he met his first employee Tony Firth, who quickly convinced Graham he

Graham's
HOBBY CENTRE
67A Queen Street St Marys NSW 2760
02 9833 9044
Open 7 Days
www.grahamshobbies.com.au

needed to have a transmitter in his hand. Now you rarely see Graham without a transmitter in his hand, running two classes, Off Road Truck – Kyosho Inferno ST, and Outlaw – Hyper GPX4 Pro! Graham has even taken home some trophies over the years, with several podium finishes...but he still has never won the raffle car...but he still buys tickets to support the club!



PDNR would like to thank Graham for his generous support over the years. Without Graham's Hobby Centre's contribution, PDNR may not be where it is today.

Merchandise

Personal Transponders (AMBrC)	\$155.00
Frequency Crystal Set (TX/RX AM 27MHz, 29MHz)	\$18.00
PDNR Cap	\$15.00
PDNR Polo Shirt	\$35.00
PDNR Torque Shirt	\$60.00
PDNR Torque Jacket	\$90.00

THE DRIVE THROUGH INTERVIEW

Name: Charles Piloto
RC Nickname: Potato
Age: 42
Home Suburb: Blacktown
Occupation: Fork lift driver
Marital Status: Married
Kids: Daughter (Gabrielle - who races)
Racing at PDNR for: 5 years
Current Division/s: Buggy and Outlaw
Current Car/s: Rex X/Hyper 21 and Kyosho RR Evo
Current Radio/s: Spektrum DX3
Current Engine/s: Novarossi
Current Fuel/s: Premium blend
Career Highlight/s: 1st Single speed – 1st Top Fuel
First RC Car: Kyosho V One S
One RC wish: Have a drive of a 1/8
Total number in garage: 13
Favourite RC car: Kyosho RR Evo
Describe your racing in 5 words: Great relief from a stressful week
Best thing about PDNR: Well organised
Biggest Disappointment: Rain
Biggest Pleasure: RC drag racing
What makes you angry: Bad driving
Favourite Drink: Bourbon & Coke (Jim Beam)
Favourite Food: Lasagne
Favourite 1:1 Car: Mustang '65'
Is there anything better than RC racing:
1:1 Drag racing

Who would you like to meet: Craig Lowndes

Comments/Advice about RC racing:

Don't be afraid to ask the more experienced drivers questions.



WEB SITE UPDATE

www.pdnracing.org.au

Thanks to Tony Firth the PDNR web site has had a facelift and I must say it looks fantastic. All the same great information can be found on the site which includes an extremely large collection of photos.

Drivers can also find all the contact details for the club and committee, including phone numbers and email address.

The 2008 racing calendar, weather updates, driver information brochures, race results (past and current), latest news and information, upcoming events, merchandise and sponsors can also be viewed.

The site is well worth a look!

www.pdnracing.org.au

Graham's
HOBBY CENTRE

67A Queen Street St Marys NSW 2760

02 9833 9044

Open 7 Days

www.grahamshobbies.com.au

Also keep up to date with all the information, updates, rumours, gossip and sledging on the RC Tech thread at www.rctech.net.

CHASSIS CHAT– Ask the Gurus!

This is a new addition in 2008 where the drivers have the chance to ask the experts (gurus) technical questions in an attempt to improve their understanding of their cars and driving ability. Your questions can be as simple or as confusing as you like.

Who are the experts you ask? Well unbeknown to them, the panel will include 4 experienced RC drivers, and seeing as we're using the term 'guru' that is where we'll start, 'GU' and 'ROO'. This is how they got their nicknames believe it or not.

Jonothan 'Gu' Freund – Current PDNR Committee member, holder of many past division and event trophies, lives and breaths RC racing and an owner of Auswide Hobbies and Collectables who sponsor PDNR.

Tony 'Roo' Firth – Current PDNR Club Champion 2007, winner of many divisions and events in the past, PDNR Competition Secretary, *the man on the mic every Tuesday night*, and still occasionally works at Graham's Hobby Centre who also sponsor PDNR.

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Matt 'RB' Russell – *What this man can't do with a dremel aint worth doing!* If its got a nitro or petrol engine, floats or has wheels then Matt will be racing it and more often than not at the pointy end of the field. Enjoys the art of setup and modifying engines. PDNR Committee member and is a major part of JPM Racing, who you guesst it sponsors PDNR.

Phil 'Lithgow or Johnny' Woodbury – Lithgow is never at the pointy end of the field, he is the pointy end of the field. He's the guy you always see out in front, but never at Uni???? Phil has recently made two major changes in relation to his racing. He's become a full member at PDNR (which we are more than happy to accept) and joined the Mugen Factory Drivers Team (Factory Driver). This guy makes it look all too easy, with his trophy cabinet overflowing with various kinds of major titles.

So if you have a question email it to publicity@pdnracing.org.au or see any one of the committee members who will pass it on.

This months question is, ***'If you could only put one optional part on your chassis what would it be and why?'***

Matt Russell –

The Xray NT1 is a fantastic car out of the box and really needs nothing to be added to be competitive, but the first change I would make is to change from a front diff to a multi diff (one-way/solid/locker). When used this will stop the car spooling one of the front wheels harder than the other and will stop the car weaving all over the track while accelerating out of the slow corners (hairpins) this will give you a much more consistent car to drive and it also has less rotating mass which will result in the car accelerating harder.

I am sure that no matter what 200mm tourer you drive a multi diff would be one of the most important option parts that you could buy and will give great tuning ability to suit all track types. Prices range from approximately \$35 to \$120 depending on the manufacturer and car it is to be fitted to.

If your finances don't stretch that far then a less expensive alternative would be to increase your front diff oil to around 100,000 wt. Although it will not respond the same as a multi diff it will give you a far better drive out of the corners and reduce spooling on one wheel.



Multi Diff

FREESTYLE BARBER SHOP

Shop 4, 429 High St, Penrith

Ph 4722 8884

Mention PDNR when you visit Roger for your next hair appointment and you will receive a DISCOUNT RACE FUEL VOUCHER TO THE VALUE OF \$5.00

(See in store for full details)

Tony Firth –

It still surprises me how many RC cars, even the higher end competition cars don't come standard with front CVD's. Recently the trend has been changing with many of the better brands starting to include CVD's, but if your car doesn't include them I would certainly put them to the top of my option parts wish-list. CVD's as they are typically called, are actually Continuous Velocity Driveshafts. This is basically where the dogbone and wheel axle are joined together as one part. CVD's are not only more efficient and effective at transferring the power from the drive train to the front wheels, but they virtually eliminate the chance of a dog bone being lost or spat out under full steering lock (or an accident) in the middle of a race. I am almost certain that everyone at some time would have spat a front dog bone, and those who have will know just how difficult it is to race a 3 wheel drive car! The other issue that can arise with dog bones is if they are incorrectly installed, the dogbone can move in and out and not align properly with the outdrive cup and/or axle. This can allow the dogbone pin to skip around the cup causing inconsistent power delivery. CVD's are usually available as a genuine option part, but there are also many aftermarket brands available such as 3 Racing and K-Factory.

Price range varies between brands, but expect to pay between \$20 and \$90 depending on your car.

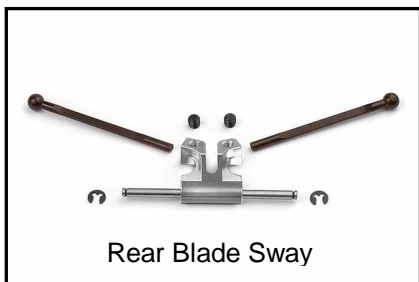


CVD's

Jonothon Freund –

The first optional I would choose for my Xray NT1, or any 200mm tourer for that matter, would be a rear blade sway bar. Although the car does run a rear wire type sway bar, the bladed sway bar offers drivers an infinite amount of adjustment via a simple, quick and easy twist on the blades.

As a driver's skill increases they are more frequently looking to increase the handling of their car, and one of the most common methods is to fine tune the front and rear sway bar. Fine tuning is greater with the blade type sway bar and an important part of your every day race setup.



Prices range from \$20 to \$90 depending on manufacturers however a less expensive method would be to carry individual wire type sway bars. These have a similar effect but the ease of adjustment is significantly reduced and time consuming.

Phil Woodbury –

DNF.....

Well DNS (did not start)

It would appear that our mighty Lithgow does not yet have internet. However he's sent a carrier pigeon with a message saying that he concurs with Johno in that the bladed rear sway bar is a priority when adding optional parts to your car.



Hopefully by next issue Lithgow may have morse code?

NITRO INTERCLUB SERIES

Well 2008 has arrived which brings us to the second half of the Nitro Interclub series. The first half of the series sees PDNR out in front (Yay) with NSWRC in Second & Mingara RC in third. The second half of the series is fairly hectic with 5 rounds to be decided before the series winds up in June with the Winterchamps. For those that haven't followed the series PDNR took the honours back in August at the PDNR Challenge. Results were called on qualifying due to rain on the Sunday. Round 2 was hosted by Lithgow in very windy conditions & again PDNR were at the fore to bring it home for 2 wins on the trot. Round 3 at Mingara in November was also rain affected but not badly enough not to get a result. PDNR again taking the win to open up a nice lead in the point score. Round 4 at Fairy Meadow was due to run on 19th of January but unfortunately the weather Gods had other ideas & the racing was postponed. Dates for the re-run are to be advised.



Congratulations are in order to all PDNR members that have supported this series, especially those that have made the effort to support the away rounds. We have had some excellent results being pretty much unbeatable in Pullstart & being right at the pointy end in 1/8th scale & Pro Tourer. The Nitro Sport class hasn't been as well supported as we had hoped with only a few drivers supporting this class. We have got good results by the few that have attended & would love to see some newer

drivers make the jump to this level of racing. The idea of this class is to keep it for up & coming racers that are not yet ready for the challenge of the faster classes. It is a fantastic way to experience a full blown race meet without fear of being a speed hump. The new drivers that have attended are having a great time & learning plenty. So if you fit the mould we would love to see you in a PDNR shirt having a blast at the next round.

So in closing we hope to see all the regular faces & hopefully a few fresh ones at the next round. The biggest challenge will be at Moorebank in March so the more drivers we can get to that one the better. Nothing would be sweeter than to knock off NSWRC on their home turf. For a full break up of results & upcoming events check out www.interclub.org.au

See you at the track,

Steve O'Connor



THE DRAG LOUNGE

Welcome to the 2008 PDNR Drag Racing Year. After last year's wash out (with only 1 round being run and won) we have decided to extend the drag racing to a FULL series being made up of a total of six (6) rounds. Points will be awarded at each round in a similar fashion to the current ANDRA series. Points will be awarded to overall winners; best ET; best Speed; record breaking runs etc.

As well as this there has been a revision of the classes being offered with the emphasis being placed on purpose built Dragsters.

Having said this we will still be able to offer a class for nearly everyone who wants to "come drag racing".



The PDNR Drag Racing committee has put a lot of thought into the new race structure and with the emphasis on trying to reflect a **'true drag racing'** environment at our events we will hopefully reflect that real Drag Race feeling.

The club feels that there is a strong and genuine feeling towards the ¼ mile style of racing and we hope that many of our club members, as well as visitors from near and far, will take the opportunity to embrace the upcoming series.

So if you would like to get involved below is a list of dates that should go straight into your diaries.

Cheers

Jonesy (Graham Jones)

Mr 1/4 Mile High.

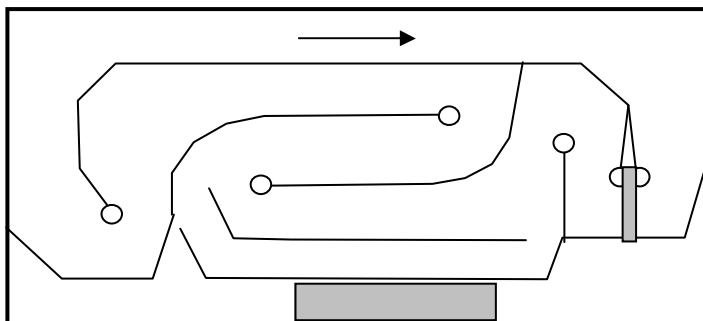


2008 PDNR DRAG NIGHT SERIES

Round 1	Friday February 8	Round 2	Friday April 4
Round 3	Saturday June 14	Round 4	Saturday July 12
Round 5	Saturday August 30	Round 6	Saturday September 27

2008 NEW TRACK LAYOUT

2008 brought many changes, the most notable was a new track design. For something different, this year drivers were able to try two different track layouts, and then their feedback was used by the committee to decide the final layout for Summer 2008. The new layout was quite a change from what had been used over the last few years and could be best summarised by two words, FAST and FLOWING.



It's a fairly simple track design and with the increased average speeds there is less room for error. The track starts the lap from the sweeping pit straight as the cars fly past the front of the drivers stand into a 180 degree hairpin. Then a burst up the centre straight into another 180 degree hairpin then flat out down the inside sweeper with the brave drivers hugging the inside timbers with the trigger still firmly pressed.

A quick change of direction is then needed for the right turn onto the back straight approach feeding the power on as the car drifts onto the back straight. The bump/jump about three quarters down the back straight can still catch out the unsuspecting driver, and then the sweeper off the back straight feeds into the hairpin under the timing bridge. After the bridge there is another quick hairpin that leads onto the front sweeping straight to complete one lap. The lap times have already started to plummet with Michael Turner recording at 13.033 on Round 1 (But I expect many drivers will be into the 12sec bracket by the time this newsletter goes to print)

Tony Firth

LATEST NEWS

PDNR TO HOST 2008 WINTER CHAMPS

The 2008 Winter Champs, the sister event to the Summer Nats which are organised and promoted each year by *Racing Lines* magazine, will be held for the first time at PDNR. Naturally PDNR are excited to announce that they have been given the opportunity to host this major event, and are looking forward to putting on a great meeting - as PDNR have a reputation of doing! More information will be available closer to the date, but make yourself available on June 28 (GP - Nitro) and June 29 (EP), with practice scheduled for Friday June 27.

PDNR will be calling on help from Members to assist with many duties on both the Saturday and Sunday, so if you are able to volunteer your services for this event, please talk to Race Control.

SUMMER NATS - RAINED OUT

The 2008 Summer Nats GP day (Saturday) was rained out, but the good news is organisers are looking to re-schedule the event for a later date. With a very busy race calendar over the next couple of months it will be tricky to slot the re-run in. **Late breaking news the re-run will be on Sunday the 20 April 2008, practise on Saturday for those interest.**

PERSONAL TRANSPONDERS

The club has personal transponders for sale at \$155, and I can tell you they are worth their weight in gold. I for one didn't appreciate their convenience, however like a lot of things in this world, once you've had them you never go back. If you would like to purchase one just see Race Control and they will be able to help you out.



PUNTED!

Fact, Fiction, Rumour, Gossip, Sledge or Joke!

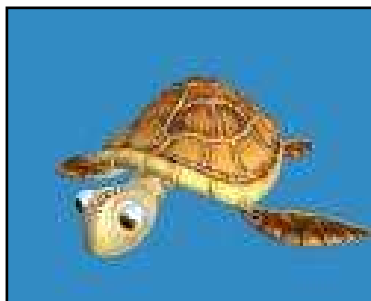
This is another new section for 2008 where drivers get the opportunity to provide information anonymously about anything, whether it be RC related or not, and depending on the content, we may publish it.

So, if you have a fact, fiction, rumour, gossip, sledge or joke and you think that it may be a little bit of fun, please see one of the committee members or send an email to; publicity@pdnracing.org.au and well see if we can help.

- A baby turtle was standing at the bottom of a large tree and with a deep sigh, started to climb. About an hour later, he reached a very high branch and walked along to the end. He turned and spread all four flippers and launched himself off the branch. On landing at the bottom in a pile of soft, dead leaves, he shook himself off, walked back to the bottom of the tree and with a sigh started to climb.

About an hour later, he again reached the very high branch, walked along, turned, spread his flippers and flung himself off the branch. Again, he landed on the bottom, shook himself off, went to the bottom of the tree, sighed and started climbing.

Watching these proceedings from the end of the branch were two little birds. Mummy bird turned to Daddy bird and said, "Don't you think it's time we told him he was adopted?"



- Rumour has it that Tony Firth breaks out in a rash every time he wears his new Club Champion shirt because it has the Auswide Hobbies logo on the sleeve. It's been suggested that the shirt should have been presented to him with a small tube of allergy cream. (Sorry mate, nobody is protected!)
- According to the grapevine Luke Gunton is going to get through a championship in 2008 without blowing up a motor. As for which championship we don't know yet. We all wish Luke the very best of luck.



2005 – Victorian State Titles
 Matt Russell and
 Phil Woodbury
 (Yeah I couldn't believe it
 either)

The Patane Connection.
 Mingara Cup 2007





www.pdnracing.org.au

The PDNR website is updated regularly with news and results.
You can also download entry forms and event calendars.

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