



REPEATERS VK3RGV 2m  
& VK3RGV 70cm  
CLUB CALL SIGN VK3SOL

Volume 3, Issue 10,  
November 2007

# SADARC

SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## A JOB WELL DONE



3 wise men? more like 3 very proud blokes after a job well done at the Tocumwal silo replacing the Antenna for the Search and Rescue Squad. L - R: Daryl VK3KL, Roger VK2RO and Danny VK3FDTH. Article Page 6.

## Office Bearers

**President:**

Roger Conway VK2RO

**Vice President:**

Kane Hinchliffe VK3HKH

**Secretary:**

Duncan Cameron VK3MDC

**Treasurer:**

Danny Hender VK3FDTH

**Public Officer:**

Duncan Cameron VK3MDC

**Membership Secretary:**

Pat O'Shannessy VK3OV

**Technical Committee:**

Ray Wales VK3RW

Neil Webster VK3KAL

**Newsletter**

Editor - Lisa Laffan

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\*Members please provide your SADARC members badge to receive these discounts



# A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

## Presidents Report for November 2007

Hi,

Well the November meeting was very light on for numbers, hence we had an early finish, at one stage it looked like we could not get a quorum together, not sure why we lacked the numbers, but I thank all of those members that attended.

It was decided at the meeting to hold our end of year meeting at the Mooropna Golf Club, a notice was sent out to all the members on email, this will be in the form of a sit down meal, meal prices from \$10-\$25, the club will provide the first round of drinks for those that attend, please note it will be held on **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2007 for a 12.00 noon Start.**

The Sunday Broadcast did not go ahead on the 4<sup>th</sup> November, this was due to a member of the Club accidentally keying up the repeater and timing it out

for approx 2 hours, Please be very careful with your equipment and make sure the microphone is always in a position that it can't accidentally key up the Repeater, its part of your license conditions to have your equipment secure at all times.

Membership numbers are still growing, Lisa has revamped the membership list on our web site, [www.sadarc.org](http://www.sadarc.org) have a look and see if you are listed, also if you do not wish to have your email details on the web site please let us know and we will remove them.

I have been asked by a lot of the new comers about the finer points of our hobby, such as how to qsl and dx, award hunting, software programs etc, at the February Meeting I will do a very in depth presentation on all of these matters, with a demonstration on software/ radio/logging/how to QSL direct/ how to

successfully work rare DX Stations and the working tools required to be proficient at dx hunting, there is more to it than the microphone and a radio, I will take questions and answers as I walk you through the process, I will also bring along some of my DX awards and explain how you can achieve the same success.

The project at the Tocumwal SES is nearly complete, plenty of man hours have been put into this project, once the project has completed I will do an editorial on the project from start to finish, we can make this a feature in Decembers newsletter.

Plenty of DX on the bands at the moment, new countries in the log book for me in September 2007, ZK 2,5R8,7Q7,ZL7,8Q7,TR8,8R1,PZ5 ,J3A,FY5,VP5,V47,ZP0,HV50,YK 9SV, and the jackpot was the very rare Zone 2 VE2IM, this gives me the 'worked all zones' award, once I receive the QSL Card, for those that don't know, we have 40 cq zones in the world, Zone 2 and Zone 34 were the hardest, plenty of patience is required here.

A special thanks to Geoff VK3FABV for the donation supply of approx 24 coffee mugs for the clubrooms for our use.

Our planned Cocos-Keeling Island DX Expedition VK9C for November 2008 is in the early stages of planning, at this stage we have 5 members who have made a commitment to take part, more on this proposed DX Expedition in the coming months,  
73s Roger VK2RO



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» Every purchase of a Makita power tool made before January 31st, 2008 will go into the draw to win 1 of 50 LXT pen impact drivers.

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## Welcome to Amateur Radio Victoria



### VK3 Outwards QSL Bureau

The end of the year dispatch of QSL cards overseas will occur in early December. Anyone registered with the VK3 Bureau should take the opportunity of getting their cards in as quickly as possible.

The VK3 Outwards QSL Bureau is to continue to provide its high level of service into 2008, as it has done for more than 80 years.

Recent changes were announced by the WIA take affect from 1 December 2007.

This means that WIA members can post their outwards cards to the WIA Outwards QSL Bureau, PO Box 3073, Teralba NSW 2284, or they may continue to access the VK3 Outwards QSL Bureau at 40g Victory Boulevard, Ashburton.

The VK3 Outwards QSL Bureau will continue to receive pre-sorted cards for registered users, either from individuals or bulk lots from radio clubs, under the established guidelines.

Cards received from overseas QSL Bureaux by the VK3 Inwards QSL Bureau will continue to be provided to registered users of the Bureau, mostly through a network of club-based distribution points.

Revised information sheets will be issued concerning both the VK3 Outwards Bureau, and the VK3 Inwards Bureau.

29 October, 2007.



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# Minutes of November meeting

Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Inc. A6677S. Minutes of monthly meeting held on Saturday 3 November 2007 at the Mooroopna Community Hall, Echuca Road Mooroopna.

The president Roger VK2RO opened the meeting at 1305 hours and welcomed all present.

**Present:** Roger VK2RO, Duncan VK3DCX, Kane VK3HKH, Daryl VK3KL, Ed VK3BG, Alan VK3FALN, Les VK3FLGL, Ron VK3COP, Tibor Nemeth SWL, Neil VK3XNW, Rodney VK3UG, John VK3PXJ, Geoff VK3FABV, Jac VK3TJS, Lars VK3LAR.

**Apologies:** Terry VK3FTHS, Bill VK3DWG, Pat VK3OV, Brian VK3HBW, Max VK3DSF, Jan VK3ALF, Neil VK3KAL, Angela VK3FELT, Les VK3TEX, Ray VK3RW.

Moved Rodney VK3UG, seconded Ed VK3BG and carried.

**Acceptance of minutes of last meeting:** The secretary Duncan VK3DCX read the minutes of the last meeting and these were accepted. Moved Duncan VK3DCX, seconded Tibor SWL and carried.

**Business arising from minutes of last meeting:**

**Visit to Radio Aust.** Rodney VK3UG indicated that Broadcast Australia will take over the operation of Radio Aust. from 1/12/07 and that access arrangements may change

after that date. He suggested that we wait until after that date and then discuss the visit with Broadcast Australia.

**2008 Call Books:** 24 books have been ordered but not yet delivered.

**Working with Children Cards Register:** The following members now have WWC cards: Roger VK2RO, Alan VK3FALN, Ron VK3COP, Neil VK3XNW, Duncan VK3DCX, Ray VK3RW.

**Cocos Island DX Trip:** Roger VK2RO indicated that five members have shown interest in the trip and he reported on the progress he has made with arrangements for the trip.

**VK3SOL QSL Cards:** The new QSL cards for the club station have now been delivered and were tabled at the meeting.

**Treasurers Report:** No report was available at the meeting. Roger VK2RO indicated that new signatories were required for the Bendigo Bank account.

John VK3PXJ moved that the position of treasurer be resolved at the next meeting. This motion was seconded by Ed VK3BG and was carried.

**General Business:**

**Search and Rescue Project:** Roger VK2RO presented a report on the progress of the project being carried out by the club to restore

communications for the Tocumwal Search and Rescue Group. Roger indicated that the final stage of the project is expected to be completed on Tuesday.

**Club Xmas Function:** Roger VK2RO again asked members for suggestions regarding suitable venues. It was decided to hold the function at the Mooroopna Golf Club and John VK3PXJ is to investigate prices etc. The function will be held on Sunday 9 December commencing at 12 noon and a bulk email will be sent to members requesting numbers attending. Members not on email can indicate their intention on the Wednesday evening net.

**Comms Day:** Rodney VK3UG raised the issue of recognition for the ladies who did such a marvellous job at Comms Day in running the kitchen and conducting the raffles. It was decided to present the ladies with a certificate of appreciation and a \$20.00 gift voucher.

**PA System:** Roger VK2RO indicated that after investigation, a good PA system would cost approximately \$500.00. Arrangements will be made to purchase a suitable system for the club.

Roger VK2RO thanked Geoff VK3FABV for his donation of cups to the club.

The president Roger VK2RO closed the meeting at 1440 hours.

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**2008 CALL BOOKS HAVE ARRIVED !!!!!**

**We have 24 to sell  
First in, Best dressed  
\$25 each**

**Contact Daryl vk3kl@netspace.net.au  
Assistant Treasurer (SADARC)**

# SIMPSON BARRACKS

SADARC & Vintage Radio Club trip to the Army School of Signals Museum at Simpson Barracks Melbourne October was attnded by (L to R) Ed VK3BG, Noel Meagher, David VK3AMP, Dennis Leseberg & Eric VK3BXA.

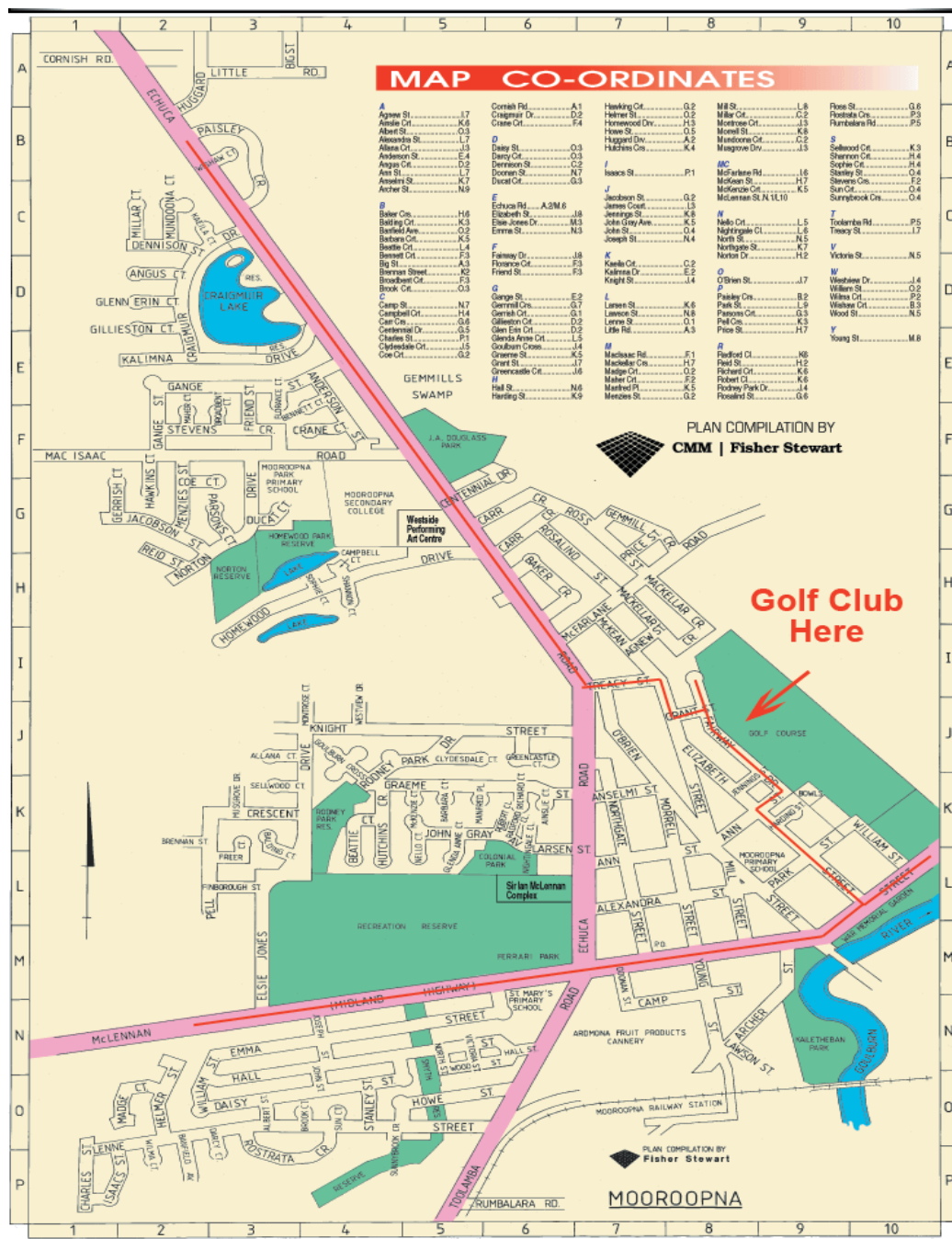


## END OF YEAR MEETING

Sunday the 9th of December beginning at 12.00pm  
Where: At the Mooropna Golf Club, Fairway Drive Mooropna, Victoria.

Sit down meal Prices start from \$10 and range to \$25 Attendance numbers are required urgently, please reply ASAP to [newsletter@sadarc.org](mailto:newsletter@sadarc.org)  
A printable version of the map is available at <http://www.sadarc.org/Moormap.pdf>

The CHIP 'N' RUN BISTRO has a fine selection of Chinese and Australian cuisine, with Entrees starting from as low as \$2.80 to main meals of Chinese or Australian dishes priced up to \$20, and of course don't forget dessert, prices start at \$5. there will be something for everyone to choose from. If you have any special dietary needs or queries then call the Club on (03) 5825 4798 and they can assist you.

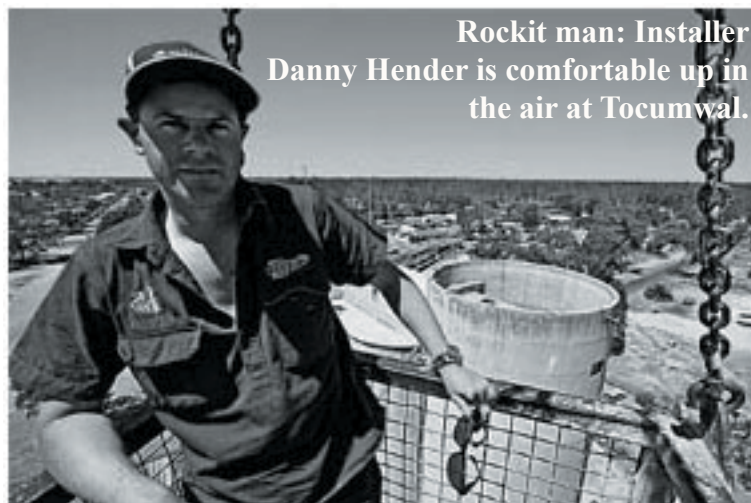






# RADIO TO RESCUE

*Cobram Courier article November 7 2007*



**Rockit man: Installer Danny Hender is comfortable up in the air at Tocumwal.**



**Greater range: The new radio equipment enables Tocumwal rescue squad members to stay in touch during emergencies.**

Tocumwal Volunteer Rescue Association's communications have received a boost recently.

The emergency rescue group will now be able to communicate much more effectively - including through the infamous bends between Tocumwal and Koonoomoo - thanks to the efforts of some helpful volunteers and generous donors.

Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club president Roger Conway of Tocumwal said the project came about after the VRA asked him for assistance.

"The problem was that their repeater system on top of the Tocumwal silos was not functioning," Mr Conway said.

"I investigated and found that birds - galahs or cockatoos - had chewed through the coaxial cable.

"So we made a decision to revamp the whole system - we pulled out the repeater, serviced it and replaced it.

"Then we set up a separate temporary antenna system and we're servicing all VRA mobile radios and their base station." The next problem SADARC encountered was the antenna on the tower. It was deemed unsafe to climb and a crane was called in - courtesy of

Babcon in Cobram.

"We decided to install a telemast tower for future serviceability," Mr Conway said.

"Once we got the antenna down with the crane we saw it had been destroyed by birds.

"The repaired antenna will go back up with a new telemast that can extend up to 10 m but can be lowered for servicing.

"Everything has been donated - the fittings, telemast and guys have been donated by Rockit at McPherson Media, the new battery was donated by Crawford's in Tocumwal and the flexible conduit was donated by VRA president John Elphinstone.

"And Greg Bisogni of Babcon Plant Hire donated all his time which was worth a lot.

"We've supplied the technicians and manpower - the whole project has taken about 200 man hours," Mr Conway said.

"We anticipate coverage to Numurkah and north to Jerilderie and across to Cobram.

"With 72 members around the district we are always mindful of what we can do for the community." Would-be ham radio operators can contact Roger Conway on 0412 255 300.

**Radio works: Babcon swings Rockit Broadband's Danny Hender above the Tocumwal silos to dismantle the old radio communication equipment for the Volunteer Rescue Association. Pictures: Grahame Whyte**

