



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

Volume 3, Issue 9,
October 2007

SADARC

SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

ANTENNA REMOVAL AT TOCUMWAL



The removal of the antenna from the silo in Tocumwal took place on Saturday October 20th, and all went well.

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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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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Presidents Report for October 2007



Hi,

We had a great meeting and AGM, both the general Meeting and AGM was well supported, thanks to all those members that turned up and supported the meeting with all having very positive input. A special thanks to Daryl VK3KL for providing the cooking at the pre meeting Barbeque, plenty of food for everyone, and more.

The new proposed club restructure was adopted, Kane (Vice-President) VK3HKH will head the Business Management Team, and I am looking forward to receiving some positive feed back from their first meeting.

I announced at the AGM that I would be heading a DX Expedition team next November

2008 to the Cocos Islands, at this stage it is proposed that we take a team of 8 operators, we have had 4 confirmed interested persons that would like to participate, I will have more news on this proposed DX Expedition in next months newsletter, Rob VK3ECH and myself are currently doing some home work on the logistics of the operation.

Neil VK3KAL announced the new frequency for the proposed 6-mtr repeater to be installed at Mt Wombat has been approved; at this stage the expected time frame for this project is approx 6 months.

That's all for now folks, due to personal time constraints, I will have a full report on Jota and the SES Tocumwal project in the next newsletter.

73s Roger

CARAVAN FOR SALE

EXTERIOR. Cabin:- Length 14ft.6ins. (4.45 m) Width 7ft.6ins (2.29m)
Over-all length 18ft 7ins (8.23m) Height Top Up 8ft 8ins (2.44m)
Top Down 7ft (2.13m) All of the above are overall measurements.

Registered and Insured until May 2008. Tare about 950 KG, can be towed by a four cylinder car, although a V6 is a lot better.

MANY Additional items are included and All Instruction manuals for everything!

Has done very low mileage. Condition through out is as new. A suitable tow vehicle is also available if required. For Inspection, or a CD, or more details contact Bruce Plowman at (03) 5762 6540 or bplowman@westnet.com.au



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Minutes from the AGM

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Inc. A6677S held at the Mooroopna Community Centre, Echuca Road Mooroopna on Saturday 13 October 2007.

Roger VK2RO opened the meeting at 1555 hours and handed the chair to Peter VK3MV. The secretary Duncan VK3MDC read the minutes of the 2006 AGM.

Present: Roger VK2RO, Duncan VK3MDC, Danny VK3FDTH, Kane VK3HKH, Hilton VK3AHY, Les VK3FLGL, Max VK3DSF, Ron VK3COP, Geoff VK3FABV, Neil VK3KAL, Terry VK3FTHS, Rob VK3ECH, Alan VK3FALN, Brian VK3HBW, Bill VK3DWG, Allan VK3AYD, Geoff VK3FTAS, Mark VK3HMB, Les VK3TEX, Nandor Barabas SWL, John VK3FJHM, Ernie VK3BSD, George VK3HV, Rae Billing – Visitor, Barrie VK3KBY, Thomas Ray – Visitor, Kevin VK3BPH, Tibor Nemeth SWL, Terry VK3FTED, Ed VK3BG, Peter VK3MV, Daryl VK3KL, Jac VK3TJS, Lars VK3LAR.

Apologies: Rodney VK3UG, Bruce VK3QC, Muriel VK3BJO, Lisa - Newsletter Editor, Greg VK3ZKV, Ian VK3JNC, Pat VK3OV, Ray VK3RW, Indy VK2XB, John VK3PXJ, David VK3ANP, Norma Matthey SWL, Max Matthey SWL, Peter VK3FBEN.

Election of Office Bearers: Peter VK3MV indicated that all existing positions were dissolved.

President: Roger VK2RO was nominated by Daryl VK3KL, seconded by Ed VK3BG and was elected unopposed.

Vice President: Kane VK3HKH was nominated by Duncan VK3MDC, seconded by Roger VK2RO and was elected unopposed.

Secretary: Duncan VK3MDC was nominated by Roger VK2RO, seconded by George VK3HV and was elected unopposed.

Treasurer: Daryl VK3KL was nominated by Terry VK3FTHS and seconded by Ed VK3BG.
Danny VK3FDTH was nominated by Alan VK3FALN and seconded by Kane VK3HKH.
After a close ballot, Danny VK3FDTH was elected Treasurer.

Assistant Treasurer: Daryl VK3KL was nominated by Danny VK3FDTH, seconded by Roger VK2RO and was elected unopposed.

Editor: Lisa Laffan was nominated by Roger, seconded by Roger VK2RO and was elected unopposed.

Public Officer: Duncan VK3MDC was nominated by Daryl VK3KL, seconded by Roger VK2RO and was elected unopposed.

News Relay Manager: Neil VK3KAL was nominated by Kane VK3HKH, seconded by Jac VK3TJS and was elected unopposed.

Technical Committee: Ray VK3RW and Neil VK3KAL were nominated

by Roger VK2RO, seconded by Les VK3FLGL and were elected unopposed.

Education Committee: Les VK3TEX, Pat VK3OV and Max VK3DSF were nominated by Roger VK2RO, seconded by Ron VK3COP and were elected unopposed.

Comms Day Committee: Daryl VK3KL was nominated by Roger VK2RO and seconded by George VK3HV.
Roger VK2RO was nominated by Terry VK3FTHS and seconded by Danny VK3FDTH.
Terry VK3FTHS was nominated by Danny VK3FDTH and seconded by Roger VK2RO.
Kane VK3HKH was nominated by Rob VK3ECH and seconded by Roger VK2RO.
Danny VK3FDTH was nominated by Daryl VK3KL and seconded by Roger VK2RO.
The above members were all elected unopposed.

Awards and QSL Manager: Les VK3TEX was nominated by Terry VK3FTHS, seconded by Roger VK2RO and was elected unopposed.

Station Equipment Manager: Roger VK2RO was nominated by Kane VK3HKH, seconded by Daryl VK3KL and was elected unopposed.

Public relations Officer: Roger VK2RO was nominated by Terry VK3FTHS, seconded by Jac VK3TJS and was elected unopposed.

Membership Secretary: Pat VK3OV was nominated by Roger VK2RO, seconded by Terry VK3FTHS and was elected unopposed.

IT/Web Committee: Lisa Laffan was nominated by Roger VK2RO and seconded by Les VK3FLGL.
Jac VK3TJS was nominated by Duncan VK3MDC and seconded by Roger VK2RO.
Kane VK3HKH was nominated by Roger VK2RO and seconded by Duncan VK3MDC. All were elected unopposed.

Radiocomms Adviser: Rodney VK3UG was nominated by Roger VK2RO, seconded by Terry VK3FTHS and was elected unopposed.

General Business: It was agreed that the club should purchase a PA amplifier. Moved Daryl VK3KL, seconded Ed VK3BG and carried.

The president closed the meeting at 1630 hours.

Minutes of October meeting

Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Inc. A6677S. Minutes of monthly meeting held on Saturday 13 October 2007 at the Mooroopna Community Hall, Echuca Road Mooroopna.

The president Roger VK2RO opened the meeting at 1305 hours and welcomed all present. A special welcome was extended to George VK3HV and Rae from Morwell and Peter Young from the WIA

Present: Roger VK2RO, Duncan VK3MDC, Danny VK3FDTH, Kane VK3HKH, Hilton VK3AHY, Les VK3FLGL, Max VK3DSF, Ron VK3COP, Geoff VK3FABV, Neil VK3KAL, Terry VK3FTHS, Rob VK3ECH, Alan VK3FALN, Brian VK3HBW, Bill VK3DWG, Allan VK3AYD, Geoff VK3FTAS, Mark VK3HMB, Les VK3TEX, Nandor Barabas SWL, John VK3FJHM, Ernie VK3BSD, George VK3HV, Rae Billing – Visitor, Barrie VK3KBY, Thomas Ray – Visitor, Kevin VK3BPH, Tibor Nemeth SWL, Terry VK3FTED, Ed VK3BG, Peter VK3MV, Daryl VK3KL, Jac VK3TJS, Lars VK3LAR.

Apologies: Rodney VK3UG, Bruce VK3QC, Muriel VK3BJO, Lisa - Newsletter Editor, Greg VK3ZKV, Ian VK3JNC, Pat VK3OV, Ray VK3RW, Indy VK2XB, John VK3PXJ, David VK3ANP, Norma Matthey SWL, Max Matthey SWL, Peter VK3FBEN.

Acceptance of minutes of last meeting: The secretary Duncan VK3MDC read the minutes of the last meeting and these were accepted. Moved Duncan VK3MDC, seconded Ron VK3COP and carried.

Treasurers Report: The treasurer Danny VK3FDTH presented the report on the club finances. Moved Danny VK3FDTH, seconded Brian VK3HBW and carried.

Outward Correspondence: Nil.

Inward Correspondence: Other club newsletters, QSL cards, three membership renewals, Two WWC notifications.

General Business:

Hall Committee AGM: Kane VK3HKH reported on the Hall Committee AGM and the following points were noted:

Club Training nights are to be changed to Thursday nights to avoid a clash with other scouting activities.

The club was requested to notify security when using the hall at times other than normal club meeting days.

Club members were requested to park

vehicles outside the hall rather than in the car park to allow more space for scouting groups.

The club was requested to ensure that the kitchen is left clean and tidy.

The hall committee is to arrange a clean up of the downstairs area which will allow more space for storage of club materials. Daryl VK3KL asked Kane if he could enquire about the club's missing 20lb gas bottle.

It was decided that the club would obtain cups, tea, coffee etc for use by the club members. Geoff VK3FABV said he would donate cups to the club.

Comms Day:

Roger VK2RO outlined details of the money raised from a very successful Comm's Day and thanked all those involved. Roger expressed special thanks to Daryl VK3KL for his work in organising the day and also to Wayne VK3XQA for his donation of equipment and his work on the day. Wayne is to receive special recognition at the end of year function.

Roger also thanked Jac's daughters for their work with the raffles, and also the ladies who did a terrific job in the kitchen.

JOTA 20/21 October: Roger VK2RO informed the meeting that 50 to 60 young people were expected over the weekend and that small groups would be accommodated in the radio room. Food will be provided for members present on Saturday evening, and details of members to assist over the weekend will be finalised on the Wednesday evening club net.

2008 Call Books: The club will order 24 books from the WIA for sale to club members.

Working with Children Cards: Roger VK2RO indicated that the club needs to maintain a register of all members who possess a working with children card. This is still to be finalised.

Club Name Badges: A list of members wanting name badges was compiled and provided to the secretary. Duncan VK3MDC will forward a request to Jac VK3TJS for production of the badges.

Visit to Radio Australia: Danny VK3FDTH said he could arrange a club visit to Radio Australia and asked the meeting if they were interested. Many members were interested and Danny is to arrange the visit in the New Year. It was also suggested that we could extend

an invitation to members of the Midland Club.

Search and Rescue Project: Roger VK2RO gave details of a project that he and other club members are carrying out which involves restoring the communications system for the Tocumwal Search and Rescue Group. The system has been down for three years and the project involves repairs to radio equipment and the erection of an antenna on the silos at Tocumwal.

6M Repeater Project: Neil VK3KAL gave a report on the 6M-repeater project. The 6m Repeater application has been approved and has been assigned the frequency of 53.725 MHz with a letter from Peter Mill, the WIA representative for repeater licensing. He says in his letter: "Hi, after a few false starts with the frequency allocation at Mt. Wombat, please find a copy of the 6 metre allocation. This should lift the 6 metre activity considering the other new one on Mt. William. Regards Peter Mill".

The repeater will be on test at Neil's QTH for a time and should be installed on Mt Wombat in autumn next year.

Club Restructure: Roger VK2RO outlined his proposed new structure for the club's management team as detailed in the September newsletter and added a ladies auxiliary to the structure. Roger then asked the meeting if the club would endorse his proposal. The meeting accepted the proposal unanimously.

Moved Barrie VK3KBY, seconded Ron VK3COP and carried.

Guest Speaker: Roger VK2RO introduced Peter Young VK3MV to the meeting and Peter gave a very interesting presentation on the many activities carried out by the WIA and also provided an update on BPL.

Roger VK2RO thanked Peter for his informative presentation and presented him with a bottle of wine.

Club Library: Roger VK2RO expressed thanks to Ross VK3KVC for his kind donation of books for the club library.

DX Trip: Roger VK2RO proposed that the club participate in a DX trip to the Cocos Island in November 2008. Eight operators will be required and some costs will be involved. More details will be provided later.

The meeting was closed at 1545 hours.

Build the “Tiny 3”- 2m Three Element Beam

Submitted by Geoff Cooper (BSW; BEd; Grad.Dip.Ed; Grad.Dip.Rec; Grad.Cert.Num.) VK3FABV.

After getting my F call in May this year and purchasing an IC706mk11, I became aware that what I needed next was another antenna that would help me get into the Shepparton repeater from my QTH in Beechworth.

I had no problems tripping Big Ben using the ground plane I had made with coat hangers and a UHF chassis socket, but not into Shepparton. I concluded that I needed an antenna that would concentrate my signal like a light beam towards Mnt Wombat; I immediately thought of the Yagi.

Doing a search on the net I found dozens of Yagi designs, from 5 to 15 elements and even more. All had complicated and fiddly matching requirements and would take a long time and expertise to make. None were really suited to what I wanted – that of something very simple and easy to make. I found it in the “tiny 3” two metre 3 element

beam. The focus of this article then will be to comprehensively describe this antenna and how to build it.

As with any standard three element designs, this three element direct connect antenna utilizes a reflector and a director to achieve gain. The designer of this antenna (W4SAT) claims he was able to “Manage to obtain 6.52 dB over a dipole in free space”. This and its simplicity appealed to me. It is very easy to build, and after getting all the parts from the local hardware store, it took me about 2¾ hours to make using just a tape measure, hacksaw, wood curtain rod, a wood rasp (to sit the elements in on the doweling), an off-cut of 4 ply, 6 screws and 2 coach screws!

The reasons for its simplicity is that it IS a direct connect antenna. The design allows you to hook your cable directly to the antenna without the time consuming process of matching, yet the

SWR is just 1.18 to 1. The 6 1/2 dBd gain is of course a nice side bonus.

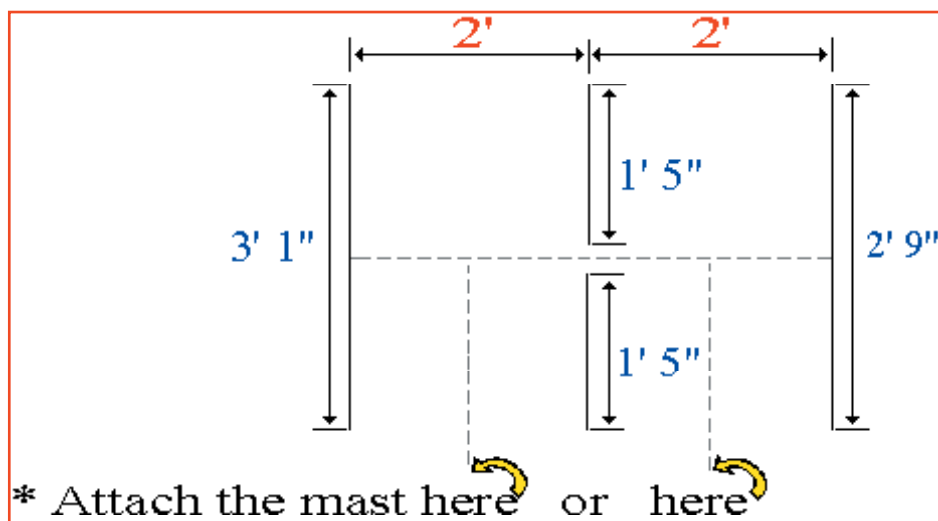
Another feature of this design is the element diameter. Each of the elements are made from 1 inch diameter aluminium tubing. I like the fact that you don't have to play around sliding elements in and out trying to get to the proper lengths.

You simply cut each to the lengths shown in the box below and position the elements on the wood dowel boom as described in the drawing. Use my photograph of the finished beam to help also.

To finish off the antenna push onto the ends of each element plastic 1 inch furniture tips. These are also available at your local hardware store which, when fitted, gives the antenna a nice professional look!

Materials Size list (in Imperial measure) -

Element name	Boom Length	Relative position on the boom	Element length	Centre point of element
Reflector		0	37"	18 1/2"
Driven		2'	17"	N/A
Director		4'	33"	16 1/2"
Wood Boom	4' 2"			



Build the "Tiny 3"- 2m Three Element Beam- Cont.

Boom Length-

You will need a boom length of 4 feet 2 inches even though the distance between the reflector and the director is only 4 feet. The extra space is needed to allow for mounting the reflector and director elements to the boom. Centre each of the elements by using the centre point column in the chart above.

When mounting the Driven Element, remember that it is split at the centre and must be insulated from the boom, you can use a wooden dowel the same thickness as the boom to accomplish this. It not only helps insulate the elements, but also supports them at the same time.

Attaching to Mast -

The proper location for connecting the mast is exactly centre, shown above, either between the driven element and the director, or between the driven element and the reflector. See photo below how I achieved this using a piece of 4 ply.



It can be noted that connecting a metallic mast any closer



to the elements will detune the antenna causing a higher SWR. Pictures: The finished Beam showing construction details and mast attachment.

Conclusion

To conclude, after building this beam and mounting it on a 3 metre length of PVC thick walled water pipe, I connected it to the Icom and tested it. To say the least, it worked great! I triggered the Mnt Wombat repeater which returned an S9 + signal on the S metre. I had achieved my goal – to build a simple and easily tuned beam and to get into the Shepparton repeater from Beechworth.

If any new F calls would like to try this antenna, I would encourage you to do so, and you need further information / building hints just give me call on the Shepparton 2m repeater any evening or contact me by email – vk3fabv@westnet.com.au

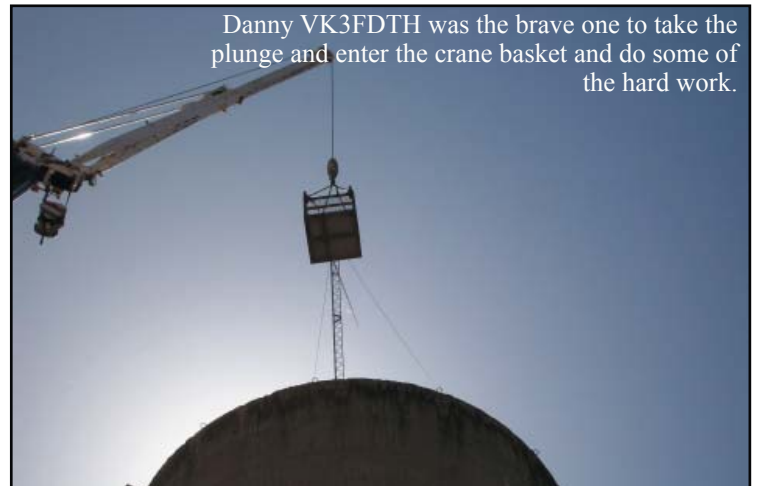
ANTENNA REMOVAL AT TOCUMWAL



Another S.A.D.A.R.C project will be restoring the communications system for the Tocumwal Search and Rescue Group. The system has been down for three years and the project involves repairs to

radio equipment and the erection of an antenna on the silos at Tocumwal when time permits. Saturdays project would not have been possible if it were not for the help and assistance of Babcon

Plant Hire of Cobram. Babcon Plant Hire donated the use of a crane and operator for the morning, which was very much appreciated.



Danny VK3FDTH was the brave one to take the plunge and enter the crane basket and do some of the hard work.

JOTA 2007

Below: Front, Roger VK2RO, Back from right: John VK3PXJ, Pat VK3OV & Peter VK3FBEN. Right: Duncan Cameron VK3MDC helping some young participants make contact with others at JOTA 2007.



JOTA kicked off this year at 1PM at the scout hall in Mooroopna. A few club members were able to attend. Those who came a long way should know how much their effort

was appreciated by the club. Activities included operation from our radio room and everybody got a chance although the operators reported slow JOTA activity. Sunday may be a better day but

still may not suit some members. I notice that JOTA calling frequencies were advised on the Sunday broadcast but too late for those who operated on Saturday. We should note these

for the future. 9 crystal set kits were made up by the boys and one little girl. Peter, VK3FBEN, got the receiving wire up and tuned the sets for the excited youngsters. We did not foresee the blocking effect that operation on HF would have on the crystal sets

with aials near each other but everybody had fun in the end. The kids also had fun with simple projects the Cub Mistress, Karyn, provided. It does not need to be complicated. I reckon a couple of tin cans and string would work for cubs or even a wired two

station morse setup would be popular. Other members could produce something similar for our scouting friends!

On the whole I was satisfied with our efforts and the leaders seemed happy too. 73's Pat, VK3OV



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