SADARC
SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Repeaters: VK3RGV 2m - 70cm - Packet.
Freq: 146.650 - 439.775 - Packet 147.575
Founded 1979
Incorporation No. A6677
P.O Box 692 Shepparton 3632

REPEATERS VK3RGV 2m & 70cm	President:- Ed Roache	VK3BG
VK3RGV B D-Star	Vice President:- Tibor Nemeth	VK3MRO
70cm IRLP Node # 6992	Secretary:- Steve Hamer	VK3DAG
CLUB CALL SIGN VK3SOL	Treasurer:- Ron Burns	VK3COP

Volume 6 No 5 April 2011

From the Editor

Continuing on in the use of IRLP. Last month we discussed the basics to get you up and running. We spoke about connecting to a node and the protocol required to make that connection and the how to contact somebody at the other end.

IRLP nodes have time outs on them just like any normal repeater. These time outs vary between 1 minute and 4 minutes, so if you speak too long you time out and drop off. The time out facility on the IRLP node is controlled by the software on the nodes associated computer, not necessarily by the repeater itself. Therefore, if the node is set to time out after 3 minutes and the repeater is set to time after 4 minutes you will time out after 3. The time outs for the repeaters and nodes is affected by the times set on both receive and transmit repeaters and nodes.

Occasionally when you try to disconnect at the end of a session the system will not disconnect. If this occurs then the system will automatically disconnect after 15 minutes of inactivity. This is not an ideal situation as it means that repeaters at both ends of the connection are still connected and that can then interfere with any local communication that may be wishing to use the repeater. The auto time out is really only a last ditch fail safe fix, so I suggest that if you can't disconnect immediately leave it for a minute or so and try again.

In your reading about IRLP you may have come across the term "reflector". A reflector in IRLP parlance is a computer that is connected to multiple nodes. It allows many nodes to be inter connected simultaneously. The time out process is overridden by entering a sequence of codes known to the reflectors administrator. A normal IRLP connection gives you a one to one connection whereas connecting through a reflector gives you a one to many connection. To connect to a reflector you use a four-digit number the same as you would for a normal node. These reflector node numbers are found on the IRLP web site.

Most IRLP communication is through repeaters that use 2m or 70cm. Occasionally you will find a node that uses 6m or another frequency. Foundation licensees need to be aware of what frequency the nodes they are calling is on. If it is a frequency that under their licence rules they are not permitted to use then that is what applies except if it is in another country. Therefore if I, as an F call contact a node that is on 6m in Australia I am outside my band allocation and should not use it, but if I contact a node in the USA that is on 6m I am permitted to use it. Note that at this time I am not aware of any nodes anywhere in the world that use anything but 2m or 70cm.

That's it from me for this month on IRLP. Next month we will look at the actual physical side of the IRLP network. Where the computers come into it, is it really Amateur Radio or is it just a different form of Skype.

Cheers & 73's

Peter.
VK3FPSR

Dairy Dates.

Saturday 7th May – Regular Meeting
Saturday 4th June – Regular Meeting
Sunday 11th September – SADARC HamFest/Comms Day

From the President

It was a pity the weather was not a little warmer for our Annual BBQ picnic at Goulburn Weir, but at least the showers that were threatening held off till we had finished. That said, it was a great day and the 25 or so members enjoyed catching up with our counterparts from the Midlands Amateur Radio Club and discovering what had been happening over the last 12 months. A few of our newer members and partners also got the chance to meet others in the hobby that they may have only spoken to on air before this. Of particular interest was Kevin's, VK3CKC trailer with portable wind-up tower and his Chatterbox audio interface, for use during contests & JOTA.

I must again thank Peter and Karen for taking on the task of cooking at the BBQ this year, Jacek & Bozanna for gathering all the items we took and Steve for setting up the club radio and putting VK3SOL on air. From the Bendigo side thanks must be given to Monica for arranging the salads and sweets. And thank you to all that attended. It has been decided that from next year each individual will bring his or her own food due to the difficulty of getting accurate numbers attending for catering purposes. This will also apply for the get-together at Yarrawonga in October.

On other matters, the next club meeting will be on Saturday May 7th , 1 pm at the clubrooms (those members with wives or partners don't forget Mothers day the next day – in a lot of cases your enjoyment of this hobby depends on them) and the following Saturday the 14th , weather permitting, a working bee up at Mt. Wombat. We won't need many members up there as the hut is very small inside and the purpose of the trip is to find out just what is the problem with the 2M repeater, repair it and install the 6M repeater, plus a bit of pre-winter maintenance. Also, if it's ready to go, re-install the 70CM repeater. Anyone wanting to help, please contact me before, or at, the meeting.

Hope you all relaxed over the Easter break and look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

73

Ed
VK3BG

Prior to our last meeting some of the Club members met at the Clubrooms to clean out all the "junk" from underneath the building. Thanks to Steve who provided the BBQ and thanks to all those who attended to help clean up.

Pres. Ed VK3BG decides what to do with some of the junk.

Three wise Hams.

Pres. Kevin, VK3CKC with the trailer aerial.

Pres. Ed VK3BG talks radio with Monica VK3FMON

Minutes for S.A.D.A.R.C.

Saturday 2 April 2011

Meting Open: 13:22 at the Mooroopna Club Rooms

Present:
Ed VK3BG (President), Steven VK3DAG (Secretary), Ron VK3COP (Treasurer), Ian VK3CHV (Station Manager), Peter VK3FPSR (Newsletter), Les VK3TEX, Toby VK3PNF (D-Star), John VK3PXJ, Brian VK3HBW, Jan VK3ALF, Max VK3DSF, Bill SWL, Trevor VK3VG, Terry VK3MAR, Wayne VK3XQA, Jack VK3TJS.
Apologies:
Tibor VK3MRO (Vice President), Dave VK3VCE, Matt VK3FMDB, Barry VK3AXX (Web Page), Ian VK3JNC, Clint VK3CAF, Jim VK2TWY, Rob VK3ECH, Ray VK3RW (Technical Committee), Rodney VK3UG (Technical Committee), Alan VK3FALN, John VK3FJHM, Pat VK3OV (Membership), Duncan

VK3DCX, Barrie VK3KBY, Alan VK3AYD, Alan VK3AO.

Previous Minutes past: John (VK3PXJ) moved that the last minutes be passed and Toby (VK3PNF) seconded this.

Correspondence:

Inwards: Ed (VK3BG) received a e-mail back from the Wagga Wagga Amateur Radio Club and are in favour of a picnic day at Yarrawonga. The Vintage Radio Club was also keen on this event. Nothing still heard from Albury Club. A receipt was received from the club room hall administrators for the rent. I (VK3DAG) received an e-mail from Nick Presser (VK3BA) informing me of the $50 donation that he paid into the club account for helping with the Internet cost associated with D-STAR.

Outwards: I (VK3DAG) sent a letter of thanks to Daryl (VK3KL) in appreciation of the work he had done constructing the new club signs.

Treasures Report:

Ron (VK3COP) handed out the treasurer's report for all members present. A motion was raised by Ron (VK3COP) as to the treasurer report and seconded by Terry (VK3MAR).

Ron (VK3COP) moved that this month's accounts be paid and Trevor (VK3VG) second it.

General Reports:

Six Meter Repeater: Ed (VK3BG) gave a report on this repeater. The six meter repeater is currently operating at Geoff Angus location. It is going well accept for a few minor tweaks. The cavities need more tunning as to the repeater low range. Ed mentioned all these little problems are better fixed down here than before it goes on top of the hill.

Looking into a tilt over tower: Ed (VK3BG) and Rodney (VK3UG) went up to Mt Wombat to assess the probability of making the main tower fold over. To do this would take a lot of effort. And the conclusion was that it would be a lot cheaper to get a rigger on the odd occasion when maintenance was needed.

The Pipe Mast through Repeater Hut: Ed (VK3BG) gave a report on the pipe mast that runs through the roof of the repeater hut. The pipe mast is leaking into the repeater hut. As well as rusting away. No one is sure of the level of rusting as to its structural strength. It needs to be removed and the hole in the roof sealed.

A new arrangement for mounting antennas on repeater hut: Ed (VK3BG) and Rodney (VK3UG) spotted and structural frame on the fire spotter's hut. This design would work well on SADARC repeater hut. This would replace the existing pipe mast that is rusting away. This involves a frame that runs around the roof of the repeater hut. With a small mast that runs vertical off each corner. Each of these masts is braced diagonally back to the frame that runs around the repeater hut. This will allow for four masts off each corner of the hut. Ed (VK3BG) and Rodney (VK3UG) are drawing up a more detailed plan to view.(*see photo below – Editor)*

Toby (VK3PNF) did some interference shielding for D-STAR repeater: Toby did some RF Shielding of the CAT5 cables. And ferrite beads around the power cable and associated cabling to the D-STAR repeater. Toby believes there was some RF getting into the D-STAR repeater and upsetting its functions. He hopes this will solve the problem.

Toby (VK3PNF) report on automated WIA broadcast: The automated system will down load the WIA broadcast sound file from WIA. Deactivate the timeout of the repeater. The WIA broadcast will then be transmitted out. The timeout function of the repeater will be re-activated. The call back session will be then recorded. When the call back session has been completed. The sound file will e-mailed to the WIA for record keeping. This automated system should be on trial on the 70cm to get any bugs out. And the 70cm is better equipped to implement this type of automated system. We should support this trial as it is a test to get it onto 2 Meters where it will have a better range.

General Business:

Max (VK3DSF) needs more support for the 2 meter call back: Max (VK3DSF) has had a poor response to the 2 Meter call back in the last month. He is calling on <u>all</u> members and non members to participate more often in

the 2 Meter nets. Max puts his time into running these nets. We should participate more often and not just do the check in only paradigm.
Ron (VK3COP) mentioned the updating of the club web site: Barry (VK3AXX) has been doing a lot of work to the club web site. Updating information on member lists and upcoming events etc. It is worth a checking out for information.
Ed (VK3BG) mentioned interference to SADARC Two Meter Repeater: There has been a new repeater established in the Ballarat area. Of the same frequency as the SADARC repeater on Mt Wombat. This new repeater when being used is causing heavy interference to SADARC two meter repeater and disabling the SADARC repeater for considerable length of time. Sometimes you can hear the intended Ballarat traffic being retransmitted out of the Mt Wombat repeater. It was suggested that SADARC repeater be installed with tone access. But this will not eliminate the problem completely. As to when someone keys up the SADARC repeater with tone access. The transmissions to the Ballarat repeater will then be heard conflicting in the background on the SADARC repeater.
Ed (VK3BG) mentioned about club shirts: Ed (VK3BG) is taking orders for the club shirt. These shirts are in club colours but haven't got club call sign on. A deposit would be appreciated but not necessary.

I hope these minutes help us keep informed. Remember that a club is made up of interested people. More that help out will benefit us all. I hope to see you at the next meeting.

Meting Closed at 3:12PM

Cheers 73,
Steven Hamer VK3DAG
S.A.D.A.R.C. Secretary

DSE Aerials

Boom gate to Mt Wombat.

Announcements

John Fisher VK3DQ, facilitater of the VK3ARK Training Academy is happy to come to Shepparton to run an upgrade course for those “F” calls that wish to upgrade.

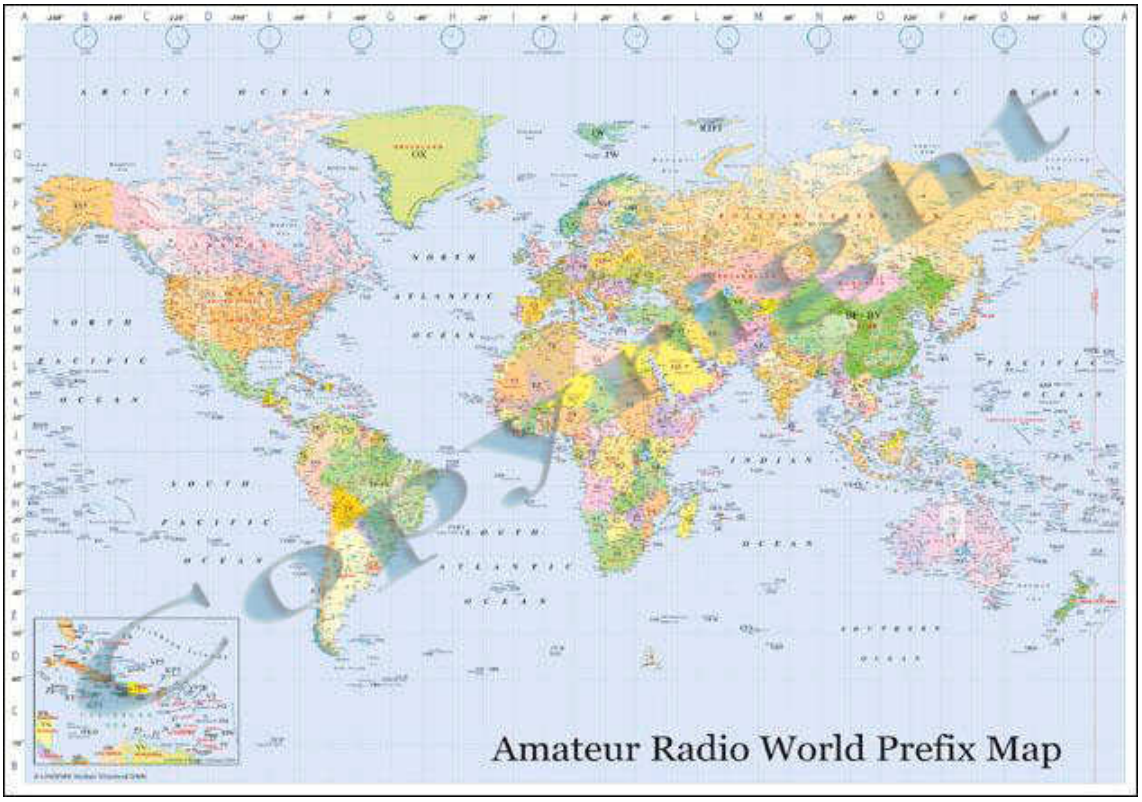
John runs these courses frequently in Melbourne. The upgrade from Foundation to Standard is a five week course. As it is not practical for us to travel to Melbourne over a five week period John is happy to come to Shepparton. His courses are normally free in Melbourne but there may be a cost involved if John travels to Shepparton. We would need at least five people that are happy to upgrade to make it worthwhile for John. If you are interested could you please contact Peter VK3FPSR – Ph 5871 1000 to register your interest.

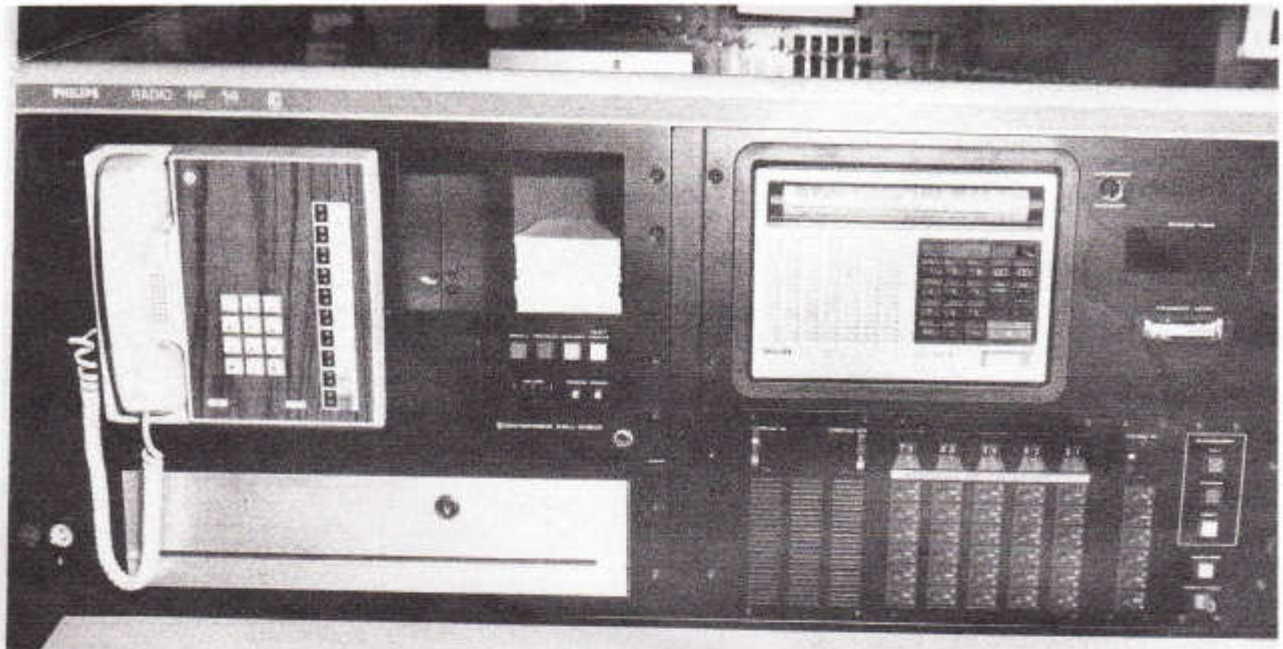
If any members have articles for the Newsletter please send them to me. Thanks to those who have contributed to date.

If you have an E-mail address and to save the Club some money we are very happy for the Newsletter to be E mailed to you. Can you please let me know your E-mail address and I will record it for future Newsletters. My e-mail address is Petenkaz@tpg.om.au or Pages.Cobram@bigpond.com

If anyone is interested I have access to a **Amateur Radio World Prefix Map (Full Colour and Great detail).** These maps are new, **Large 39" x 27" Amateur Radio World Prefix Map**, a perfect size for your wall. This map is fully up to date and includes all DXCC entities including Ducie Islands (VP6D), East Timor (4W), Peter Island (3YP) among others.

The price per map is $25.00 delivered to the Club meeting. A lead-time of three weeks from placement of order to delivery is required. Payment is required with order.. Please contact Peter VK3FPSR – Ph 5871 1000 if you are interested.





THE NERVE CENTRE

D24 had its beginning in 1922. It was first located in a small blue stoned building which was situated almost on the spot now occupied by the reception office at Russell Street Police Complex.

At this time calls were rung through to the Domain Gardens (where the shrine now stands) to the Ship to Shore Radio Station "V.I.M." and later sent by morse code to the cars on the road. D24 used voice radio for a short time, however this procedure, in its infancy, proved unsatisfactory and by 1926, D24 had reverted back to morse code. This remained the system of communication until the early years of World War II (1938/39) when the voice radio was re-introduced.

By this time the Communication Section had moved to the mezzanine floor at Russell Street. It was not only broadcasting to a much larger fleet but also to country stations.

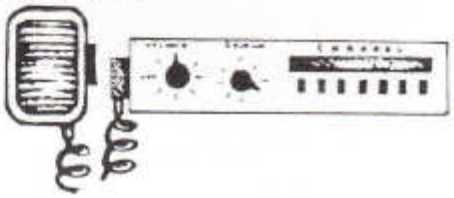
D24 remained on the mezzanine floor with its dedicated band of operators until the late 1950's when once again the call was for more room and more radio channels. It then moved to the 6th floor at Russell Street, increased its staff and started working one radio channel north of the Yarra River and one channel south of the river. The Communications Section continually expanded to accommodate a larger Regional (Country) Radio, a Telex Centre and 10 radio channels operating for in excess of 1500 units. The growth of the police force both in physical numbers and work capacity demanded a larger and more localized communications network.

Hence a third move for D24 was executed this year. It moved from the sixth floor back down stairs but this time to the first floor. The current location is close to where the D24 Communications room was first established.

The new D24 complex opened in May this year, heralds a new concept in police broadcasting; a push button, computerised electronic room, fully equipped and the foundation to propel us into the 21st century.

It has provision for 14 telephone operators to accept calls from a computerised telephone distributor. Telephone operators average a four second delay in answering calls. There is also the inclusion of a fast conveyor belt to take telephone messages to a total of eight radio operating positions. There is an instant capability to expand the system to sixteen radio positions without further alterations to the control room. Each radio operator has an assistant radio operator. They are both in constant radio contact with all the units on that channel. An added advantage of the computer terminal is that it can instantaneously provide information for the operator to relay to the enquiring unit. Each operator has the use of the "Random Access" which is a rear lit automatic slide projector showing all Melways pages covering the listening/broadcasting area. Many slides of instructions and procedures consistent with urgent calls are also available.

From such a humble beginning to a modern equipped broadcasting centre handling in excess of 120 calls an hour, the Communications Section is very deserving of the title, "The Nerve Centre".



The above article was submitted by Ron VK3COP.

Who and what is one of members up to dressed like this?

REWARD OFFERED

A reward of 500 microfarads is offered for information
leading to the arrest of this desperate criminal - Hop-A-Long Capacity
This unrectified criminal escaped from a western primary
cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the gauss chamber.
He was charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named
Millihenry who was found choked and robbed of valuable joules
He is armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killer. If
encountered, he may offer series of resistance.
Capacity is also charged with driving dc motor over a
Wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band-pass
The electromotive force spent the night searching for him in
a magnetic field, where he had gone to earth.
They had no success and believed he had returned ohm via a short circuit
He was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend eddy
current who was playing a harmonic