



REPEATERS VK3RGV 2m & 70cm

VK3RGV B D-Star

2m IRLP Node # 6992

CLUB CALL SIGN VK3SOL

Repeater Frequencies: 6 meters: ( 53.725Mhz Out, 52.725 In. 123Hz tone)

2 meters ( 146.650Mhz Out, 146.050Mhz In 123Hz tone)

70cm ( 439.775Mhz Out, 434.775Mhz In 123Hz tone)

D-Star (438.200Mhz Out, 432.800Mhz In 123Hz tone)

President:- Peter Rentsch

Vice President:- Phil Dwyer

Secretary:- Darren Glasson

Treasurer:- Greg Keegan

VK3FPSR

VK3ELV

VK3HEN

VK3POP

## Presidents Report June 2013.

Thank you to all those who attended the last meeting and again my apologies for not being able to attend but family must come first and you don't get a new Grandson every day. Thank you to Greg VK3POP for chairing the meeting and for Rod VK3UG who ably assisted. A special thank you to Felix VK3FAR for his presentation. From all reports I received it was most interesting and he enlightened people to the fact that there are satellites up there that are contactable by amateurs.

Rod VK3UG has ordered the Squid Poles and these should be available at our next meeting. Those that ordered please bring along your money to pay for the poles prior to collection.

Bruce VK3FBNG has been in touch with the Scouts concerning their involvement in JOTA. He has been in touch with Mark Sergeant, the District Commissioner and Mark was taking our invitation to the group meeting that night. He was most enthusiastic about the Scouts being involved in JOTA and will get back in touch with us in due course.

Our Club Hamfest to be held on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September. Please keep this in mind. We need to start thinking about and planning this event now. If anybody has any ideas as to how we can improve our Hamfest please bring them to the meeting. I was wondering what members thoughts were on arranging a social gathering for those that come up and stay night. Perhaps a dinner at one of the local eateries or something along that line. Also, what are your thoughts on organising something for the ladies to do whilst their husband is perusing the treasures on offer? My thoughts might be that we organise a Mini Bus and take them to the SPC Factory outlet or some of the other shopping locations in the town.

These are only ideas to attract more people to our Hamfest, if we offer more we may attract more? I am not sure about them as ideas but unless I bounce them around with the members and get your

feedback nothing will happen. Please give these ideas some consideration and we will discuss them at our next meeting plus any other ideas that you may have. I am looking for your input to make this a very successful Hamfest.

At our next meeting we will have Kevin VK3CKC as our guest speaker. Kevin will be known to many of you as he is the immediate Past President of the Midland Amateur Radio Club. Kevin's topic for the day will be his ability to go Trike Mobile and the purpose behind the whole exercise.

So, please come along and support your Club at the next meeting and listen to a great guest speaker on a topic that is educational, fun & purposeful.

That's it for this month and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the next meeting.

Peter – VK3FPSR  
President – SADARC

## Minutes for SADARC

### Sat 1st June

Present/ Vk2fbng,vk3hbw,vk3cop,vk3hkh,vk3ug,vk3kby,vk3atx,vk3pgk,vk3dsf,vk3ov,swl  
Bill Crocker,vk3chv,vk3gmw,vk3xnw,vk3caf,vk3dp,vk3tjs

Apologies/

Vk3fpsr, vk3fmdb, vk3geb, vk3pxj, vk3elv, vk3faln.

Previous minutes accepted

Correspondence

Inward Nil

Outward Nil

Treasurers Report accepted as correct. vk3atx/vk3cop

Technical Report/

The D/star repeater has been repaired and will be reinstalled at a later date when the weather improves. We still need to look in to cutting the cost of the internet connection for the D/star repeater. And if it is possible for the WIA to assist with this. The 6 meter antenna has arrived and will be installed around November this year. A stand by power supply for Mt Wombat is under construction. Rodney also asked about putting DSP on

The 2 and 70cm repeaters the motion was accepted (vk3kby/vk3pg).

General business/

Insurance quote was presented and decided to look into what the WIA insurance covers us for. Rodney will be getting squid poles and to let him know if you would like any. The vintage radio club sets up a display at the Cobram show, would we like to help them with the display on the 11<sup>th</sup> August.

Vk3fbng has made contact with the scouts about JOTA awaiting more feedback but they sound very keen to get back into it.

Waiting to get back prices from the RSL for the joint club Xmas break up.

The hamfest will be on the 8<sup>th</sup> September and need to get an add in the WIA mag.

There was some confusion about the Jaycar discounts but seems to be sorted out.

# TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT – July 2013 (19/6/2013)

## 70cm D-Star Repeater

The repeater is not operational at this stage and it has been out of service for around eight months. It was sent to Icom for a quote on repair (\$55). It has been serviced and brought back from Melbourne and is currently at Greg's. We haven't been supplied with details of what was wrong with it. It will be reinstalled by Toby VK3PNF and Greg VK3POP in the near future. Kane Hinchliffe is looking at what suitable options are available for connecting the internet to the D-Star repeater in collaboration with Toby. Some tests with 3G equipment may be necessary

## 70cm, 2 metre and 6 metre Analogue Repeaters

All analog repeaters are working well. The new six metre antenna will be installed later in the year when the weather improves. In the meantime work is progressing to determine the best compromise location for the various antennas off the side of the lattice mast. Phil VK3ELV is using antenna design computer programs to get this right as it appears that our placement of antennas over the years may not have been optimum. Additionally improved mounting techniques are being investigated.

## Miscellaneous

The cold standby power supply is at the testing stage. As was mentioned in earlier reports a power supply for use on Mt Wombat must be more fail safe than the ones we use in our shacks. That is why commercial power supplies are so expensive. We were quoted over \$1400 for a suitable commercial quality supply. Ray VK3RW has had to repair the damage caused by at least two supplies that didn't fail safe in the past.

At the last meeting Phil VK3ELV was authorised to obtain two Digital Signal Processor (DSP) modules in the next month or so if he deems the asking price for them is reasonable. These would be used on both the two metre and 70cm repeaters in the same way as a DSP module is used on the six metre repeater.

The antenna systems at the meeting hall are to be checked. Greg VK3POP has been able to organise a cherry picker for a very attractive fee and this work will take place at a mutually convenient time and your assistance may be required to assist. The working bee for 15<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to the wet conditions. Don't wait to be asked – volunteer.

## Other work to be done.

The list that has appeared for some months on the outstanding work on Mt Wombat can be seen in previous Technical Committee reports.

Rodney Champness VK3UG on behalf of the technical committee, Ray VK3RW, Phil VK3ELV and Geoff VK3ZNA.





Photos of weekend at Mt. Franklin radio get together. The group that arrived early

Photo 1. Friday getting to know one another



In to a Tassy lobster.



Bruce VK3FBNG and Friend.





Steve catching up with the guys. Gavin's birthday banner made by VK3VCR Garry..



Kevin VK3NKC enjoying one of his home brews. Happy Birthday!

A good weekend enjoyed by all. About 30 attended the annual get together by the Bottle Club and No Name Group members.

## Royal Navy Key Type AP7681

This key belongs to an elderly ex-amateur radio operator who is unable to operate from his current address. He wants the key to be found a home in a museum that would value such an item. It is a very nicely balanced key and a joy to operate. What intrigues me is the sheer size of the key contacts which are 9 mm in diameter. This suggests that the key is quite old and the Admiralty pattern device that it was intended to be used to key spark transmitters. Alternatively the design was so fundamentally sound that this model was made for many years and used on both spark and valved transmitters.

I am wondering if anyone can give me an idea of its age and details about it and possibly a museum that would value it in its collection. It is not intended to go to someone's private collection. Your assistance in this matter would be appreciated.

Rodney Champness VK3UG QTHR email- [rodlynn6@bigpond.com](mailto:rodlynn6@bigpond.com)

