



**Founded 1979 Incorporation No A6677 P.O. Box 692, Shepparton 3632**

**Repeaters VK3RGV Freq: 53.725MHz (1 meg offset),**

**146.65MHz (IRLP Node #6992 withdrawn from service. Technical upgrade in progress.**

**(Echolink active.) (600 kHz offset),**

**439.775MHz (5 MHz offset), 438.2MHz (D-Star) [D-Star not operational at this time on Mt Wombat]**

**Access to the analogue repeaters is by sub-audible 123 Hz tone or noise mute (less sensitive).**

**Club Network informal on air get togethers. All welcome.**

**Club callsign VK3SOL:-**

**Wednesday evening -**

**3.62 MHz  $\pm$  interference 7.00pm,**

**2mx repeater 8.00pm**

**The WIA Sunday morning broadcast is often re-broadcast in the evening on the 2 mx repeater.**

**The local vintage radio club has a get together at 11.00am of a Sunday on the 2 metre repeater. Many of their club members are members of SADARC too, so join in for a chat.**

**Meetings are held at 1 pm on the first Saturday of the month (except January when no meeting occurs) at the Mooroopna Scout/Guide Hall off Echuca Road, Mooroopna. Variations in these times and days are normally notified in the preceding newsletter.**

**Website – [www.sadarc.org](http://www.sadarc.org)**

**Facebook - [www.facebook.com/sadarc.org](https://www.facebook.com/sadarc.org)**

**Info for page contact Denny on [denny3782@gmail.com](mailto:denny3782@gmail.com)**

**DISCLAIMER. No guarantee is given as to the accuracy of information in this newsletter. Warning: - There is a danger of electrocution or injury when working on electrical/radio gear. You do so at your own risk.**

**President:- Peter Rentsch**

**VK3FPSR**

**[pages.cobram@bigpond.com](mailto:pages.cobram@bigpond.com)**

**Secretary:- Andy Ashley**

**VK3AJA**

**[andyashley@icloud.com](mailto:andyashley@icloud.com)**

**Vice-President:- Barrie Halliday**

**VK3KBY**

**Treasurer: - Ron Burns**

**VK3COP**

**Membership Sec: - Pat O'Shannessy**

**VK3OV**

**Webmaster: - Steven Hamer**

**VK3DP**

**Station Manager: - Vacant**

**Publicity Officer: - Vacant**

**Technical Committee: - Phil VK3ELV, Ray VK3RW, Geoff VK3ZNA, Kevin VK3BPH & Rodney VK3UG**

**Newsletter:- Rodney VK3UG (Editor) [rodlynn6@bigpond.com](mailto:rodlynn6@bigpond.com) & AndyVK3AJA (Printing/ Distribution)**

**\*\*\*\*\***

#### **OTHER CLUB'S NEWS**

**Bendigo Amateur Radio & Electronics Club nets – Tuesdays 8pm 147.15MHz VK3RCV with club callsign VK3CMZ and Thursday 8pm 3.655MHz  $\pm$  interference. All welcome to participate. Many SADARC members are able to access their 2mx repeater.**

**Ballarat Amateur Radio Group – email [vk3bml@barg.org.au](mailto:vk3bml@barg.org.au) and [www.barg.org.au](http://www.barg.org.au)**

## Presidents Report October 2016

A good roll up for our last meeting even though it was Grand Final day. Good to see members getting their priorities correct!

The regular meeting was followed by our AGM. The AGM went well with all positions being filled within the Club. Basically there is no change to the positions so to all those people who are able to put their name forward, thank you for the work you did last year and thank you for the work you are going to carry out this coming year.

There are also other members of the Club who contribute on a regular basis but are not on any of the committees, thank you to you also.

It was agreed at the AGM that we establish a Facebook presence and Denny, Mark VK3KMF, s XYL has already got this up and operating. Check out [www.facebook.com/sadarc.org](http://www.facebook.com/sadarc.org). Make sure you "like" the page.

If you have any information to add to the page please send it to Denny at [denny3782@gmail.com](mailto:denny3782@gmail.com)  
Denny would be very happy to receive information and we need to keep the page current.

On Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October some of our members assisted with the JOTA event. Thank you to Andy VK3AJA, Bruce VK3FBNG, Darren VK3HEN and Alan VK3FALN for your efforts in making this a most successful day. (If I missed anybody please accept my apologies.) About 60 Scouts were in attendance and most of them had an opportunity to talk on the Radio. A great attendance and by all reports lots of fun was had by all.

As a reminder to all members, on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November the Murray QUAD event will be held. Our Club is involved in the Comm's for this day and we require at least 12 operators. So, if you are available we need your help on the day. Bruce VK3FBNG and Darren VK3HEN are organising the day from our perspective and final arrangements will be made at our next meeting. Please if you possibly can make yourself available to assist with the event.

At our next meeting Les VK3TEX will demonstrate the new Icom 7300 SDR Radio. The Icom 7300 is a full SDR Radio in the more traditional radio appearance. These radios have become very popular since their release and all those that I have heard on air sound very good.

See you all on the 5<sup>th</sup> November.

Cheers & 73

Peter – VK3FPSR  
President – SADARC

### SADARC Calendar of Events

November 5 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting with Guest Speaker – Les VK3TEX - the Icom 7300
November 19 <sup>th</sup>	Murray QUAD
December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Combined Christmas Lunch with Vintage Radio Club

**AGENDA**  
**Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Meeting**  
**1:00 pm 1 Oct. 2016**

- ☐ In Attendance were:  
VK3FBNG Bruce, VK3HEN Darren, VK3ZNR Ross, VK3GRK Graeme, VK3NMK Mike, VK3NQS Colin, VK3OV Pat, VK3ZE Huntly, VK3BPH Kevin, VK3FCVT Graeme (BAREC), Lindsay Washusen, VK3AFD Arthur, Bill Crocker, VK3TEX Les, VK3DP Steve, VK3PXJ John, VK3CKC Kevin (BAREC), VK3UG Rodney, VK3COP Ron, VK3FPSR Peter, VK3ZNA Geoff, VK3AJA Andy. A total of 25 in attendance.  
Apologies: VK3KJB John, VK3AO Alan, VK3FALN Alan, VK3DSF Max, VK3GEB Bob, VK3KBY Barrie, VK3FNQS Jason.
- ☐ Confirmation of Minutes of previous Meeting  
Read by Peter. Moved by John, second by Darren.
- ☐ Matters arising from the Minutes  
None.
- ☐ Inward and Outward Correspondence  
In: QSL cards. Info from WIA.
- ☐ Reports

Financial:

Read and moved by Ron, Second by Bruce.

Technical:

Unfortunately, the lock had been changed on kitchen door and we could not get in to work on station till well after 12pm. So no work was done. The new key will be dropped off to Myself (Andy) this week.

Due to poor weather, nothing to report on Mt Wombat.

A 2 Meter repeater has been presented to our club (at HAMFEST) as promised by ARV.

Thank you very much to Ross Pittard for this equipment, it is great to have support from them.

IRLP setup needs to be investigated as a new node can be easily purchased as agreed last meeting but we will still have issue with repeater sending ident. across node connection. Andy will sit down and discuss with tech. committee at some point.

- ☐ General Business  
Bruce has discussed the Murray Quad for Saturday November 19<sup>th</sup> and requires at least 12 Radio operators for the event, so far only has 6. **PLEASE support Bruce and the Club with this event.** There is some concern that the river level may be too high for the Quad as planned, so a plan B has been planned if need be.

Hamfest was a success, numbers were a little down but all in all it went well. Peter has thanks all those who helped setup, run the event and pack up as made for a pretty easy day.

I will send a letter of thanks to Azim for his food truck, the feedback has been very good in regards to food. (and He made egg and bacon rolls as requested by Me on Ron's instructions) Ha Ha.

Kevin and Graeme from BAREC talked about the DMR system repeater they are going to trail. SADARC may well follow as members were happy to support the same trial for us. More to follow in the next few months. It was discussed that we may link BAREC and SADARC DMR systems to enhance our coverage and would be a great way to keep both our clubs in contact. BAREC is quite progressive and we thank them for visiting us.

JOTA.

Bruce has confirmed that we will be involved in JOTA this year. Both Bruce and Darren are going to attend and I (Andy) will also attend. It is a requirement that all members involved have a current Working With Children Card (Ruling from Scouts) I will bring along a selection of portable wire antennas and a HF radio as our HF station is not operational. 2 m and 70 cm are working fine. I may setup HF downstairs or even outside if weather is ok.

Don't forget XMAS lunch 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec. at Royal Mail Hotel, Mooroopna.  
Please come along! And don't forget XYL's

- ☐ Closure and date of next meeting  
Closed 2.25 PM next meeting 5<sup>th</sup>. Nov 1pm.

+++++

**AGENDA for AGM**  
**Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club AGM**  
**2:41 pm 7 Nov. 2016**

- ☐ In Attendance were:  
VK3FBNG Bruce, VK3HEN Darren, VK3ZNR Ross, VK3GRK Graeme, VK3NMK Mike, VK3NQS Colin, VK3OV Pat, VK3BPH Kevin, VK3FCVT Graeme (BAREC), Lindsay Washusen, VK3AFD Arthur, Bill Crocker, VK3TEX Les, VK3DP Steve, VK3PXJ John, VK3CKC Kevin (BAREC), VK3UG Rodney, VK3COP Ron, VK3FPSR Peter, VK3ZNA Geoff, VK3AJA Andy.
- ☐ Apologies:  
VK3KJB John, VK3AO Alan, VK3FALN Alan, VK3DSF Max, VK3GEB Bob, VK3KBY Barrie, VK3FNQS Jason. VK3ZE Huntly.
- ☐ Confirmation of Minutes of previous AGM  
Ready by Peter, moved by Steve, second by Jacek.
- ☐ Matters arising from the Minutes  
None.
- ☐ Reports
  - o Financial:  
Read and moved by Ron, send by Bruce.
  - o Technical:  
Nothing to report from Rodney.  
Presidents report read by Peter, second by Geoff.  
Membership now at 50. Members!
- ☐ General Business

All seats have been vacated (former president Greg has taken seat temporarily for vote) Thanks Greg. With all positions filled with same people as last year. No other members were nominated for positions.

The positions are as follows;

President: Peter Rentsch

Vice President: Barrie Halliday

Treasurer: Ron Burns

Secretary: Andy Ashley

Technical:

Rodney Champness, Kevin Reid, Ray Wales, Geoff Angus, Phil Dwyer

Website: Steve Hamer

Membership: Pat O'Shannessy

Thanks all for a great year. Looking forward to another great one!

☐ Closure and date of next meeting

Closed 3:31 PM

+++++

## Jamboree On The Air

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Oct. Myself (VK3AJA) Alan (VK3FALN) Bruce (VK3FBNG) and Darren (VK3HEN) attended our clubhouse to help the Scouts/Guides and Cubs with JOTA (Jamboree On The Air).

This comprised of a number of activities setup by their leaders, one of which was to establish contact with other Scouts/Cubs/Guides using amateur radio bands.

The other events included:

Making a simple Morse code key and sending a simple message using an oscillator.

Using handheld UHF CB radios to converse with each other.

Making a simple circuit to light a LED using both conductive and non-conductive playdoh to complete the circuit. (They had a made both using different recipes)

These and other activities all went towards obtaining the Signs, Signals and Codes Badge. I must say the activities were very well organised by the leaders on the day and a lot of work must of gone into it.

We setup a HF station outside and hung a G5RV antenna up so they could see just what was being used to send their voices into the air! (Thanks Steve VK3DP for throwing rope up for us in advance)

We also used 2 meter repeaters to chat with other groups pre organised with members of Bendigo Amateur Radio and Electronics Club. (BAREC) and some other groups out camping. While Alan was very busy upstairs with groups we were also busy on the HF setup outside. There was around 60 ( I was so busy didn't get exact numbers) Cub/Scouts/ Guides attending on the day and nearly all of them used Amateur radio bands to make contact with other groups. We spoke to some in Tasmania and a another group in Adelaide for some time and they also had a number of members keen to chat on radio. Some were a little shy when presented with microphone but most of them handled it quite well. One group was quite intrigued to know that they weren't talking to a radio rather to another group of boys and girls just like them at the other end, it was funny to see the faces as I told them this fact.

We signed a large number of cards confirming they had completed the “contact via radio” task. I was a very successful day I think. Lucky the HF bands were not too bad on the day!

They all thanked SADARC with a 1-2-3 WOOF and we in turn thanked them with the same (thanks Alan for explaining how that works to me)

I hope that SADARC will be invited again next year. Andy VK3AJA



**NOTE:-**It has been proposed that we send out a pack to amateurs and SWLs in our area encouraging them to join our club. Below is our proposed mail out. See in [Editors Ramblings](#) section in **red** for more details.

# WELCOME



**THE SHEPPARTON AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
INCORPORATED A6677 (SADARC) WOULD LIKE TO  
WELCOME YOU TO OUR CLUB.**

**Some of you receiving this invitation have never been a member of our club whilst others have been but due to changed interests at the time drifted away.**

**The club also has changed over the years and endeavours to cater for the activities and interests of Amateur Radio enthusiasts whether licensed or aspiring to become licensed. A partial list of our activities is shown below.**

- Four FM repeaters on Mt Wombat, which cover a radius from 80km on 70cm to 120km on 6 mx. Work is in hand to upgrade these facilities further this year.
- IRLP and Echolink on the two metre repeater.
- Soon we expect to re-install our D-Star UHF repeater at Mt Wombat and hopefully with an internet connection.
- Club station facilities at the club rooms (Scout/Guide hall, Echuca Road, Mooroopna)
- Club get togethers on air each week on the 2 metre repeater and on 80 metres.
- An occasional BBQ at the club rooms in Mooroopna, and outings with other clubs.

- Examination facilities in process of being established.
- Talks and demonstrations by members and outside specialists on various amateur radio related subjects conducted at club meetings.
- Where possible assistance is given to members with antenna and similar problems.
- A monthly newsletter is sent to members by Australia Post or preferably by email. Email allows us to get time sensitive information out to members promptly.
- Members get a 10% discount on most purchases at Jaycar locally.
- Once a year a Hamfest is held where new and pre-loved equipment and spares are traded.

The following information shows at the head of our monthly newsletter to keep members aware of what is happening and is updated each month.

Repeaters VK3RGV Freq: 53.725MHz (1 meg offset), 146.65MHz (IRLP Node #6992, and Echolink active.) (600 kHz offset), 439.775MHz (5 MHz offset), 438.2MHz (D-Star) [D-Star not operational at this time on Mt Wombat] Access to the analog repeaters is by sub-audible 123 Hz tone or noise mute (less sensitive).

Club Network informal on air get togethers. All welcome. Club callsign VK3SOL:-  
Wednesday evening - 3.62 MHz  $\pm$  interference 7.00pm, 2mx repeater 8.00pm

The local vintage radio club has a get together at 11.00am of a Sunday on the 2 metre repeater. Many of their club members are members of SADARC too, so join in for a chat.

Meetings are held at 1pm on the first Saturday of the month (except January when no meeting occurs) at the Mooroopna Scout/Guide Hall off Echuca Road, Mooroopna. Variations in these times and days are normally notified in the preceding newsletter. Website – [www.sadarc.org](http://www.sadarc.org)

President:- Peter Rentsch	VK3FPSR	03 5871 1000	<a href="mailto:pages.cobram@bigpond.com">pages.cobram@bigpond.com</a>
Secretary:- Andy Ashley	VK3AJA	0409 716 713	<a href="mailto:andyashley@icloud.com">andyashley@icloud.com</a>
Vice-President:- Barrie Halliday	VK3KBY	Treasurer: - Ron Burns	VK3COP
Membership Sec: - Pat O'Shannessy	VK3OV	Webmaster: - Steven Hamer	VK3DP
Station Manager: - Vacant		Publicity Officer: - Vacant	
Technical Committee: - Phil VK3ELV, Ray VK3RW, Geoff VK3ZNA, Kevin VK3BPH, & Rodney VK3UG			
Newsletter:- Rodney VK3UG (Editor) 03 5825 1354 <a href="mailto:rodlynn6@bigpond.com">rodlynn6@bigpond.com</a> & Andy VK3AJA (Printing/Distribution)			

If you would like to come to a meeting and see what there is on offer contact the President, Secretary or Newsletter Editor on the phone numbers above or via email.

Our membership is currently just under 50. Our members reside in a region nominally within the area enclosed by Alexandra, Mansfield, Broadford, Echuca, Wangaratta and just north of the border. We know that there are many more amateurs in this area than the 50 we have as members hence this is why we have contacted you.

## Editor's Ramblings:-

- **VALE:-** Jan van Kirkwich ex VK3ALF and life member of the club died on 26 September at the age of 85. His funeral was on 4<sup>th</sup> October. Jan held a number of positions in the club over the time he was a member. Jan was employed in the PMG for many years.
- **VALE:-** John Woodward. John was an amateur in Mooroopna for many years possibly not a member of the club. He died on 30<sup>th</sup> September aged 92. He was a TV serviceman and in later years a miniature steam railway buff.
- Kevin VK3CKC reported that the Rochester 2 metre repeater VK3RCA on 146.675 MHz will be operational soon. Note this is only 25 kHz higher in frequency than our Mt Wombat repeater.
- Kevin VK3CKC spoke about Digital Mobile Radio and the possibility of having a test run with a borrowed repeater and one mobile. Kevin is very passionate about DMR and gave a number of reasons why it is decidedly better than the D-Star system which was all the rage for a very short time back a few years ago. From the tone of the response of members it seems unlikely that D-Star will be reinstalled onto Mt Wombat. I am waiting on more information about DMR from Peter Brennan to put in the newsletter.
- Steven VK3DP reported that the club website [www.sadarc.org](http://www.sadarc.org) is up to date.
- As reported in the minutes the committee positions have been filled again by the same members as from last year. This does not mean that other members cannot help do things in the club.
- The club purchased a length of LDF4-50 coaxial cable from Les, that is to be kept in store to be used for repeaters or what have you into the future. A length of LDF4-50 was purchased several years ago for the same purpose and unfortunately it went missing.
- Whilst we may not have been able to work on the club station antennas we were still able to enjoy a BBQ run by several of our sausage and hamburger cooking whizzes.
- We are still waiting for the weather to improve so that an 8 ton truck can get to the top of Mt Wombat to do the transfer and installation of antennas. We should have more info later.
- We have a Tait 50 watt repeater supplied by Amateur Radio Victoria. How it compares to the existing Philips FM814 we have yet to determine. It will be a while before it is installed as it has to be set up to do the same work as the existing repeater. See photo.
- It is the aim of the club to encourage amateurs in the area to join the club so that we can achieve more for members. **Attached above is a suggested mail out to local amateurs and we (the committee) would like your input if you feel anything needs to be added or altered, etc. Your thoughts can be presented directly to the President, Secretary or Newsletter Editor for consideration.**
- As a club project to get more activity on our 6 metre repeater, the Technical Committee requests the following information. 1. Who needs a radio to operate on the 6 metre repeater? and, 2. Who needs an antenna to operate on the 6 metre repeater? Contact Geoff VK3ZNA or other members of the Technical Committee. I (Rodney VK3UG) have operated mobile to this repeater out to nearly 170 km from Mt Wombat. A fixed station would do even better.
- Geoff VK3ZNA has heard that the 2 KW broadcast transmitters at both 3BO and 3CV will be moving from where they currently reside to some other location. This may be to the local scrap merchants yard as happened with the old 2 KW 3SR transmitter several years ago. This

would be a crying shame if either of these old pieces of our radio heritage were to just become scrap metal. I imagine Geoff will keep us informed of any movement in this area. We as radio enthusiasts whether amateur or belonging to our sister club the vintage radio club should seriously think about whether as a group or individually such interesting pieces of radio heritage could be obtained and installed in some convenient location. Geoff believes the price would be quite low. However they are heavy at around 2.5 tonnes.

- Geoff has VK3ZNA has had the antenna mounting pole assessed and all is well. Geoff wants to test and install the 3 element yagi (currently at VK3POPs QTH) and the wire antennas some time soon.



Top left – BBQ at the AGM

Top right – Tait 2 mx repeater

Bottom – Members at AGM