



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

VK3RGV repeaters and transmitter operating frequencies

53.725MHz (1 Meg offset),

146.65MHz (600 kHz offset) (IRLP Node #6992 inoperative. Will return ASAP) (Echolink active.),

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).

Please note that work is progressing on the Mt Wombat repeater site, hence, repeaters may or may not be on at any particular time and if on, may not be working at their best. We'll keep you posted.

Club Network informal on air get together. All welcome. Club callsign VK3SOL:-

Wednesday evening - 3.63 MHz ± interference 8.30pm. 2mx repeater 8.00pm

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, days and location are normally notified in the preceding newsletter.

Website – www.sadarc.org Face book - www.facebook.com/sadarc.org Info for page contact Denny on denny3782@gmail.com

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.

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	
Secretary:- Andy Ashley	VK3AJA	andyashley@icloud.com	
Vice-President:- Barrie Halliday	VK3KBY	Treasurer:- Graeme Martin	VK3FCVT
Membership Sec:- Pat O'Shannessy	VK3OV	Webmaster:- Steven Hamer	VK3DP
Station Manager:- Vacant		Publicity Officer:- Vacant	
Communications Managers (External Events):- Bruce (VK3PNF) & Darren (VK3HEN)		Glasson	
Technical Committee:- Phil VK3ELV, Ray VK3RW, Geoff VK3ZNA, Kevin VK3BPH & Rodney VK3UG			
Newsletter:- Rodney VK3UG (Editor)	rodlynn6@bigpond.com	& Andy VK3AJA (Printing/ Distribution)	

Next meeting - 10.30am 4th November commencing with a working bee to put up the HF antennas. BBQ at midday and meeting 1pm.

Note the 70cm repeater is operational as normal. Contacts can be had also on the VK3RDU 2 metre (146.850MHz) and 70cm (439.875 MHz) repeaters on Mt Major.

Presidents Report October 2017

To all those who attended our October meeting and the AGM thank you for being there. A pleasant day with a BBQ to commence and a chance to talk radio.

The general meeting for the day was dealt with very quickly as we had more formalities to cover with the AGM. Both meetings went well and I thank those who served on the committee for the past year. Excepting that Ron VK3COP has retired after many years' service as Treasurer all the other positions on the Committee have remained the same. A special thank you to Ron who after approximately 9 years as Treasurer has decided to hang up his red and black pens. At the age of 91 Ron has to be congratulated on the effort he has put in. Well done Ron.

A couple of years ago I suggested that we incorporate a little more of the Electronics Community into our structure and I met with some strong opposition. I note with interest that the WIA is advertising the next WIA Conference to be Radio and Electronics Conference. (No – they did not pinch my idea). On chatting to the a Board Member from the WIA one of their reasons behind this is that Electronics, Computing, Raspberry Pi and Arduino are now playing a much greater role in Amateur Radio and this will continue to increase over the next few years. The Makers and Hackers of society that are out there are all independent of each other and there is no unifying group. Sure, they share ideas by the Internet but there is no central body. Perhaps it is time that we welcome these people to our groups so as we can share our ideas and learn from them.

As the weather is now very pleasant I felt after discussion with the Geoff from the Technical Committee that we have a working bee at the next meeting on November 4th. So, the order of the day would be to meet at 10.30am for a working bee and set up the HF Antennas and do anything else that we may have time for. A BBQ would be provided for lunch at 12.00 noon and then this would be followed by our regular meeting.

So I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible to help get our Club Station up and running again.

Cheers & 73

Peter – VK3FPSR
President – SADARC

AGENDA

Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Meeting

1:00 pm 07/10/2017

- In Attendance were:

VK3HEN Darren, VK3PNG Bruce, VK3OV Pat, VK3FCVT Graeme, VK3PXJ John, VK3FDV Dave, VK3PGK Graeme, VK3KBY Barrie, John Stevens (Stevo) VK3FPSR Peter, VK3COP Ron, VK3FALN Alan, VK3AJA Andy, VK3FNQS Jason, VK3TJS Jack, VK3DSF Max, VK3ZNA Geoff, VK3BPH Kevin.

- Apologies:

VK3ZE Huntly, VK3UG Rodney, VK3DSF Max, VK3KJB John, VK3NQS Colin, VK3AO Alan, VK3VSM Max, Peter Glasson.

- Confirmation of Minutes of previous Meeting. Read by Peter moved by Barrie, second by Dave.

- Matters arising from the Minutes. None.

- Inward and Outward Correspondence

In; Council Letter. QSL cards.

Out;

- Reports

- Financial: Read by Ron. Second by John.

- Technical: Read at AGM.

- General Business

Discussion was had about further efforts to find new suitable club rooms.

Andy will check again with Dennis (Vintage radio club) about Xmas lunch. Possibly at same venue as last year. (Royal Mail Mooroopna). And book for Saturday 2nd Dec.

Bruce talked about Triathlon and Murray quad. *Needs more Members for Murray Quad.

No JOTA this year Mooroopna scouts/cubs aren't participating.

Andy spoke about Hamfest and thanked all for helping.

Jason has returned IRLP node to clubrooms, is ready to connect. Thanks to Jason.

- Closure

Closed 1:38 PM

AGENDA

Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club AGM.

1:48 pm 07/10/2017

- In Attendance were:

VK3HEN Darren, VK3PNG Bruce, VK3OV Pat, VK3FCVT Graeme, VK3PXJ John, VK3FDV Dave, VK3PGK Graeme, VK3KBY Barrie, John Stevens (Stevo) VK3FPSR Peter, VK3COP Ron, VK3FALN Alan, VK3AJA Andy, VK3FNQS Jason, VK3TJS Jack, VK3DSF Max, VK3ZNA Geoff, VK3BPH Kevin.

- Apologies:

VK3ZE Huntly, VK3UG Rodney, VK3DSF Max, VK3KJB John, VK3NQS Colin, VK3AO Alan, VK3VSM Max, Peter Glasson.

- Confirmation of Minutes of previous Meeting

Read by Peter moved by Geoff, second by Darren.

- Matters arising from the Minutes
None.
- Reports
 - Presidents: Read by Peter. Second by Geoff.
 - Technical: Read by Geoff, second by Max
 - Financial report Read by Ron, Second by Barrie.
- General Business

A vote of thanks was moved by Barrie and second by Kevin, for Ron's contribution as treasurer and we all thank Him for a fantastic job (Nothing escapes Ron Hi Hi)

At vote of thanks was moved by Kevin for Andy and was graciously accepted by Him (Thanks Guys)

It was moved by Barrie and noted that Subs should remain unchanged till next AGM and reviewed then. This was seconded by Pat and all agreed.

Peter suggested getting club station back up and running till new rooms found, all agreed.

All committee Members stepped down. And nominations were taken for positions. Ron has stepped down as Treasurer and wished not to be re-elected.

All positions were restated as follows;

President; Peter VK3FPSR. Vice President; Barrie VK3KBY.
Treasurer; Graeme VK3FCVT. Secretary; Andy VK3AJA

Technical committee remained unchanged.

And we all agreed that Rodney should continue with newsletter, Thanks Rodney!

A new position of Comms. Manager was created and Bruce VK3PNG and Darren VK3HEN were happy to fill. This would be for managing external events (As they do VERY well!!)

A great year was had by SADARC and we all agreed that it was quite positive. HAMFEST went well, numbers were a little down but all has a great day.

We look forward to seeing you all next year!
AGM closed 2:39 pm.

Editors Ramblings

- The attraction of the outback has meant that Steve VK3DP has been travelling up hill and down dale on the Canning Stock Route. Andy VK3AJA and Rodney VK3UG were not so remote being in around the Flinders Ranges gorging themselves on gorges, and in fact for several days they were only about 50 km apart but didn't realise it. Andy commented it is just so quiet electrically in these areas, which makes HF so great to use. Regrettably where I live it is full of electronic smog. I have a round TOIT and haven't got around to seeing if I can reduce the smog at all.
- Ron Burns VK3COP has been a stalwart of the club for many years and until the AGM he was our worthy treasurer. Not bad when you are on your own and are well passed the 90 mark. Ron was still acting as a pilot vehicle driver for over dimensional loads on our roads until a year or two back. Thank you for your contribution to making SADARC a great club as well as your contribution to the Vintage Radio Club as well.
- Later in the newsletter is an agenda supplied by Neil VK3XNW of astronomy happenings by the Bendigo Astronomy Club, etc. Whilst not radio you should be able to see the moon and start thinking about moon bounce communications, which is becoming more common with the latest digital modes of communications. Sorry I didn't get this in a couple of newsletters ago Neil.

+++++++

Email from Canada.

From: John Fallows VE6EY [ve6ey@fallows.ca]
Sent: Thursday, 5 October 2017 5:04 PM
To: Executive
Subject: Arduino Ham Radio Starter Kit
Webmaster or Executive - Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club

Earlier this year, I published a series of articles on my web site called the "Arduino Ham Radio Starter Kit". The purpose of this information is to encourage more hams and their clubs to engage with the local maker community as a gateway to amateur radio.

These articles explain Arduino basics in a ham radio context. They contain many suggestions about how amateurs can use Arduinos, as well as how a ham club can engage other makers in hobby activities.

Please take a moment to review the Arduino Ham Radio Starter Kit articles. If you find them to be useful, please consider passing these along to your members or contacts.

You can use these articles by linking them to your web site, Twitter feed, Facebook page or by e-mail. The URL is: <http://play.fallows.ca/wp/series/arduino-ham-radio-starter-kit/>

Thanks for your consideration. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me.
73 John Fallows VE6EY
Calgary, Alberta



The Coffee Pot

Not radio but interesting just the same. This is the only remaining steam coach of this type in the world dating from 1905 and it is on the Pichi Richi Railway at Quorn in South Australia. It is affectionately called "**The Coffee Pot**". It carries a total of 22 passengers, weighs around 20 tonnes and has a top speed of around 27 mph. The crew consists of a driver, fireman and a conductor. It is seen here at Quorn railway station just prior to its excursion trip to Woolshed Flat and back, with pre trip nibbles then a three course lunch at Woolshed Flat. If you are a real steam buff, \$177 each return is probably perceived as good value.



Going Going Gone

On **Wednesday 18th October 2017** the lattice windup mast was removed from the Mt Wombat amateur radio repeater site and is now stored along with the old 148 MHz (pager) spare antenna and the spare UHF antenna that was used with D-Star. The photo on the left shows the mast telescoped down to one section only and the one on the right shows the site with the self supporting tower and the hut antenna poles only visible. The new tower is well populated with antennas.

In attendance doing various things were Geoff VK3ZNA, Kevin VK3BPH, Rodney VK3UG, Bill Crocker, Clint VK3CAF from the club, plus Alan Tattersall (Austereo) and Paul Watters VK3YLS (Rubicon) and Nathan... (Rubicon).

The biggest job undertaken was the removal of the lattice mast which weighs several hundred kilograms. This took several hours of work under the direction of Bill Crocker who has the equipment to do it safely and with the experience. A job well done Bill.

With the equipment at his disposal Paul swept the antennas to make sure all was well with their work - which it was. He also did a sweep of the 2mx and 6mx repeater cavities. The 2 mx cavities have one cavity a bit off tune, but it could have been like this for some considerable time. We had hoped that the 2mx repeater could be returned to service but it also had developed a fault and Geoff has it now at his QTH for a check over. However, the 6 mx cavities did not fare well as it would appear that the vibration or accidental

knocks during the work in the hut has upset them considerable and they will need retuning. As a result the 6 mx repeater was not installed.

The 70cm repeater is operational and should be operating much the same as before the work was commenced. The cavities for all the repeaters will need to be shifted so that the layout as planned can be finalised. This will take a while as several coaxial patch cables need to be made up.

Whilst the UHF CB repeater on channel 3/33 is not the concern of the club we do endeavour to help where we can. Due to a fault on this repeater it has been removed to be serviced by Ray VK3RW.

There are still things needing tidying up at the site both inside and outside the hut and more will be done soon. This has been a big project which has largely been done by Austereo and Rubicon and the standard of the work is high and professional. Another visit to do more work will occur soon.

On **24th October**, Bill Crocker and Rodney VK3UG from the club plus Alan Tattersall (Austereo), Paul Watters VK3YLS and two of his workers (Rubicon) and Peter Mill VK3ZPP (ARV) were again at the Mt Wombat repeater site.

The site used for the lattice tower has now been brought back to what it was before it was originally installed. The number of pipe/mast/poles on the repeater hut has been reduced to one pole. The pole/pipe/mast on the North West corner of the hut was stripped of both its antennas which were the notchy pattern 6 mx side mount dipole and the small standby 70cm/2m antenna. Now on this pole are the 70cm analog repeater antenna (shifted from another pole on the hut) and the 6 mx antenna we had been using on the lattice tower which is now the standby. The UHF CB repeater antenna was also removed and has been replaced with a new equivalent antenna mounted on the new tower. We have now a total of 4 2 metre antennas on the main tower so none are needed on the hut. There is also a good supply of UHF antennas too. The view to the horizon has been improved for the fire spotter.

The three antennas removed need attention as they do have problems. All are back at Mooroopna.

Peter Mill brought a number of new (to us) cavities and filters for 70cm and 2mx and fitted them on the northern wall of the hut. These filters coupled with what we already have will mean that additional services in the future can be added if thought necessary. I am no expert with these particular devices so Geoff VK3ZNA and Phil VK3ELV are the ones to ask about details of what they do and how.

The 6mx repeater cavities are now at Mooroopna and Geoff and Rodney will have a go at tuning them.

All the outside of the hut work has been done (Rubicon and Austereo) except for some cleanup work of scrap material (you may be asked to assist with this) and it is up to us to do the inside work, incorporating the new equipment with our existing equipment for the time and as time progresses fitting the newer equipment. This has been a mammoth task so far and more work is to be done. The end result is looking good and professional and will work better in the long term. The original service was installed in 1982 – 35 years ago so the upgrade was desirable as inside the hut was a dog's breakfast.

Rodney VK3UG 25/10/2017

The Greater Shepparton City - Active ~~Life~~ Living Dept
(Activities in the Park) 03 5832 9431

Astronomy Night
star gazing in the Park
(part of the Greater Shepparton City
activities in the park)

28 Thu Sept @ 7:30 pm at Marchison

The night before AFL public holiday

25 Thu Jan 17 @ 8:30 pm at Tallygropna
in the Park behind Tallygropna Hall

The night before the Australia Day public holiday

Tue 24 April 17 @ 6 pm in Shepparton
at Victoria Park Lake

The night before the ANZAC public Holiday

An Idea is to have a ~~shared~~ BYO
BBQ
before or during the event

be good if some one could receive radio
signals from satellites or FME

Neil 3130
0427794080

The Boule's Astronomy club bring their telescopes