



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

Repeaters VK3RGV Freq: 53.725MHz (1 Meg offset),
146.65MHz (IRLP Node #6992 inoperative. Will return ASAP)
(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 - 3.63 MHz \pm interference 8.30pm. 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, days and location are normally notified in the preceding newsletter.

Website – www.sadarc.org

Facebook - www.facebook.com/sadarc.org

Info for page contact Denny on 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

Secretary:- Andy Ashley

VK3AJA

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 & Andy VK3AJA (Printing/ Distribution)

Presidents Report May 2017

Thanks to Ian VK3JNC for his most interesting talk on Radio Navigation from the Ground Up. If you missed this talk you missed learning about a part of Aircraft navigation that is now not used anymore. Some of what Ian used to do and manage is now the "old hat" methodology and will be lost if no one understands it. His work in making the sky's safer for flights was very critical to the safety in our sky. A most interesting vocation that a lot of us would never ever think about. Ian commented

to me after the meeting that during the busiest part of his career there were only about 200 technicians doing what he did in Australia. Thanks Ian for a great presentation.

Thank you to all those attended. This makes the effort that guest speakers go to worthwhile.

I have been cogitating over the big picture of Amateur Radio over the last few days. Where it is headed, where will we be as users of the service, what technology will we have, what technology will we be forced to use and who are the Amateurs of the future.

In this day and age everything has to be done yesterday, it is something that I don't necessarily like but it is a fact life. We can't ignore change so we need to embrace it. Amateur Radio is caught up in this culture as well but to a far lesser degree. The nature of Amateur Radio is that a lot of what we use is old technology. Yes we now have solid state radios as opposed to valves but these are only refinements of what already existed.

I wonder how long it will be before we have no 6m, 2m or 70cm repeaters sitting on top of a mountain as we are all talking via digital modes through the internet. I don't believe that this style of change will be brought about by the end user but I don't think it is beyond the realms of possibility that it will be enforced upon us by the powers that be because they can make more money selling the bandwidth to commercial enterprises.

New major developments are occurring, the development of SDR, new digital modes and the internet as a medium for voice transfer are evolving at great rate of knots. These new modes of operation tend to attract the attention of the younger tech savvy individual who was exposed to this technology from a very young age and it is just part of life.

We as a Club need to embrace these new mediums of Amateur Radio with as much passion as we have the old mediums. There is room in this world for all styles of Amateur Radio some of which have not been discovered yet. If we want to keep Amateur Radio as hobby and a means of experimentation for new technologies then we need to attract the younger generation. In some ways it is a little bit like the chicken and egg debate, what comes first – getting young people involved so as they bring the new technologies and knowledge or having the new technologies available so as we can attract our successors' to the hobby?

Cheers & 73

Peter – VK3FPSR
President – SADARC

SADARC Calendar of Events

June 3rd BBQ at 11.00am followed by regular meeting. Guest Speakers will be Bill SWL talking about his latest Homebrew Projects and Andy VK3AJA talking about DMR and SharkRF Openspot.

June 10th & 11th Steam Rally – Echuca

July 1st Club Meeting at 1.00 pm followed by a Show n Tell. (note, President Peter will be away at GippsTech on the day so need an acting President)

August 5 th	Club Meeting
September 2 nd	Club Meeting
September 10 th	SADARC Hamfest
October 7 th	Club Meeting with AGM

AGENDA - MINUTES

Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Meeting

1:00 pm 06 May 2017

- In Attendance were:

VK3FBNG Bruce, VK3PXJ John, VK3KJB John, John Stevens (Aust. DX SWL), VK3JNC Ian, VK3AO Alan, VK3UG Rodney, VK3ZE Huntly, VK3KUG Ray, VK3ZNA Geoff, Bill Crocker, VK3OV Pat, VK3VSM Max, VK3FCVT Graeme, VK3FDV Dave, VK3DMD Doug, VK3COP Ron, VK3FPSR Peter, VK3TJS Jack, VK3VMF Mark, VK3XNW Neil, VK3AJA Andy.

- Apologies:

VK3FALN Alan, VK3FNQS Jason, VK3TEX Les, VK3KBY Barrie, VK3DSF Max. VK3NQS Colin.

- Confirmation of Minutes of previous Meeting

Read by Peter, Moved by John (PXJ) second by John (KJB).

- Matters arising from the Minutes . None.

- Inward and Outward Correspondence

Inwards: PO box bill from Aust. Post.

Membership form.

Email from Tim re Murray Quad.

Outwards: Thank you letter to Tim re Murray quad donation.

- Reports

- Financial:

Read and moved by Ron, second by Bruce.

- Technical:

Read by Rodney. A fair bit of action on Mt. Wombat was mentioned with several emails to various people regarding this. Moved by Kevin, second by John.

- General Business

Hamfest: Hall booked. Food truck Booked.

It was motioned to give traders that donate raffle items a discount of 50% on tables.

All agreed. Moved by Kevin, second by John.

An email will be sent out to Members regarding attending Echuca Steam Rally. The Vintage radio club are also going to attend.

- Closure and date of next meeting

Meeting closed at 1:55 pm date of next meeting 3 rd. June 2017

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

- Good news Bruce VK3FBNG passed his Standard upgrade exam on 3rd of May. Congratulations Bruce and we look forward to hearing you with a new calling soon.
- Jason VK3NQS is unwell at this stage and we wish him a speedy recovery to good health.
- Work is progressing on Mt Wombat. Huntly VK3ZE and Rodney VK3UG went to Mt Wombat on 3rd May to meet with Alan Tatersall of Austereo regarding the revamping of the repeater hut to better accommodate our equipment and theirs. The work will involve removal of the battery box. This was installed to house vented batteries which is now superfluous as our current back up batteries are sealed types. The central mast which now serves no useful purpose will also be removed. Then the work of generally tidying up a rather cluttered equipment hut that grew like Topsy will begin. There will be two 19" racks installed and the equipment will populate one rack whilst the other will accommodate most of the cavity resonators. Alan has drawn up the proposed layout, and there are photos later in the newsletter to show what is proposed.
- It is proposed initially that our current equipment will populate the racks and once all of that has proven to work satisfactorily installation of the equipment supplied to us will proceed. We will probably replace our current FM814 6 metre repeater with a more modern unit. Discussion on this is happening.
- Antenna installation on the new tower has been delayed, as the Cherry picker was damaged in an accident.
- Several members have said that they may be able to assist on the work in the hut which is appreciated. There is very little room in the hut and only one maybe two at times can work there. The idea of having several who may be able to help is handy as not all members will be available to help at short notice.
- At our meeting, Ian VK3ZNC, gave us an excellent talk on the theory and operation of aircraft navigational aids. Ian worked in the Department of Civil Aviation at Mangalore Airport for a number of years before his retirement. There are or were quite a few different aids used to assist aviators go from place to place without getting lost or flying into mountains. Many of these are now obsolete and GPS has made navigation quite a bit easier. I could talk about them a bit but Ian has said he will put together some information for the newsletter in due course. We'll look forward to that.
- How accurate is your direction finding ability to determine what direction a signal is coming from? The navigational aids were able to give directional accuracy of less than 2 degrees. A lot of the work was done by comparing phase angles of various signals. We'll wait for Ian's notes.
- Note there will be a delay in getting our club room antennas reinstalled, but we hope to have them well and truly in by the Scout Jamboree on Air.
- This club allied with the Vintage Radio Club will be attending the Echuca Steam Rally on the Queen's Birthday holiday weekend in June. If you can assist at the display contact Bruce or Andy.
- **Note**, if you are a member of **SADARC** you can get a discount on many items at **Jaycar** in Shepparton on **presentation of your membership card** on purchases above about \$10.

- Andy VK3AJA has become very enthusiastic about Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) and has purchased a TYT MD380 UHF DMR/analog FM handheld transceiver for about \$138 off eBay. Peter VK3FPSR has also bought one so I imagine that as time goes by that our 70cm repeater may become a DMR repeater. However, for the time it is a matter of getting our existing services up and running well. Andy has said he'll supply info on DMR for the newsletter.
- Geoff VK3ZNA comments that there are two common digital modes P25 and DMR. Geoff considers that DMR more closely addresses our needs. It would appear from discussion that when we go down this track, DMR will be the one selected.
- There is a 3 page attachment to the newsletter on the last Murray Quad for your info.
- **It appears that our collective efforts to have Radio Australia reinstated have failed. There is a FOR SALE notice at the front gate (photo attached). It would appear that behind the scenes whether it be Government or ABC had decided to close HF radio transmissions well before the closure occurred. This action flies in the face of the Senate Committee action on the reinstatement of the services. It would seem some people in authority speak with forked tongues.**



FOR SALE :- Bare circuit boards for an AC power supply to power vintage battery radios \$22 posted in Australia. Circuit board and components to populate the board Mk V \$80 posted in Australia and Mk Va and Mk VI \$70 posted in Australia. The supplies are designed to supply DC LT voltages between 1.4 and 9 volts at up to 3 amps regulated, and DC High Tension voltages between 22.5 and 135 volts at up to 25 ma, plus bias voltages between -1.5 and -22 volts. All voltages are regulated. Circuit, circuit information and construction ideas are supplied for the version purchased.

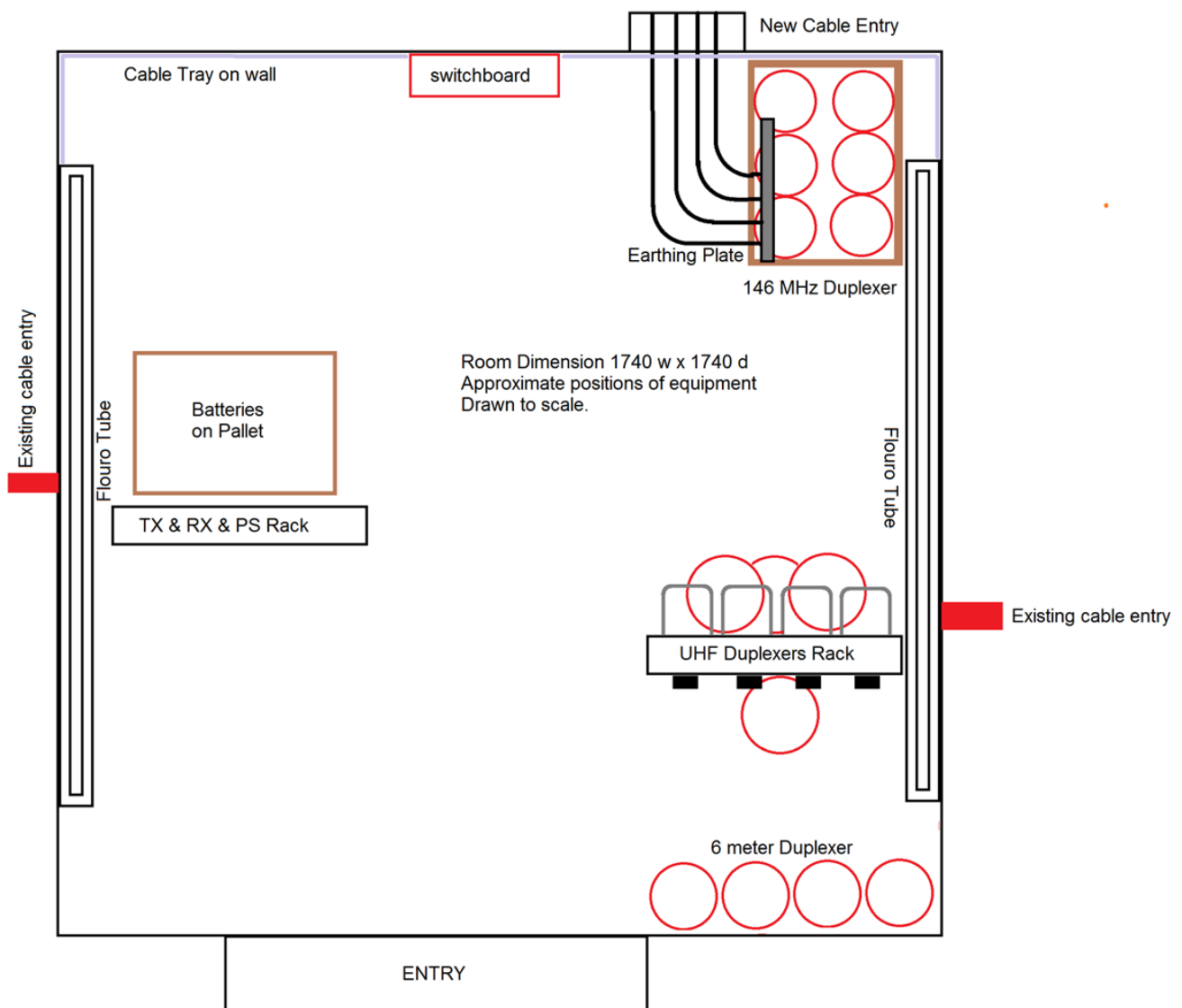
Contact Rodney VK3UG 03 5825 1354 or email rodlynn6@bigpond.com

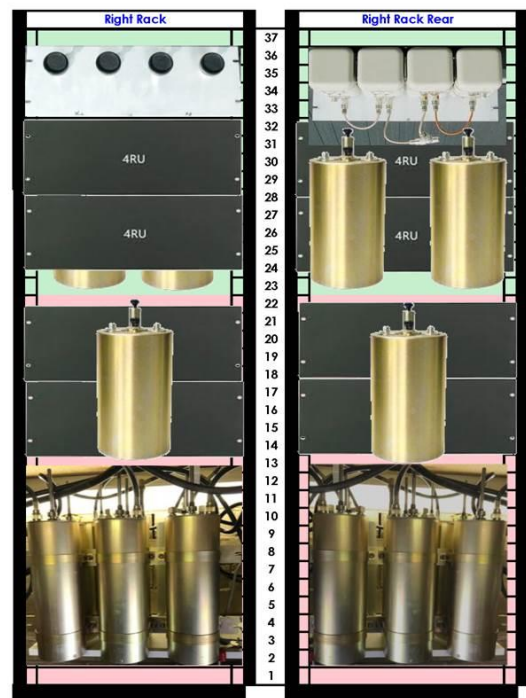
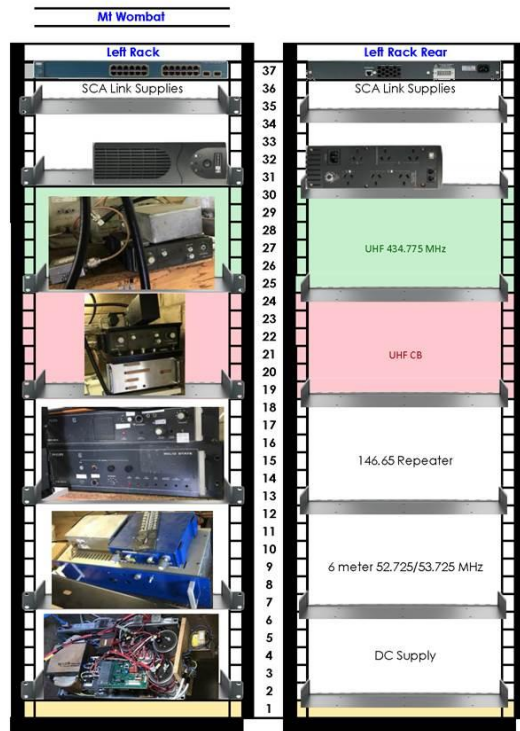
FOR SALE:- New RG58 MIL spec coaxial cable. 75c a metre in small lengths, a better price for longer lengths.

Contact Barrie VK3KBY 0427 116 101

Wanted:- Ads for your surplus equipment, information sought, or wanted to buy.

Below is the proposed layout of equipment in our repeater hut on top of Mt Wombat.





By the author of *Minimum QRP*

Getting back into Amateur Radio

What's new and what you forgot

Peter Parker vk3ye dot com