



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

VK3RGV repeaters and transmitter operating frequencies

53.725MHz (-1 MHz offset), **In Service**
146.65MHz (-600 kHz offset), **In Service**
438.2MHz (-7 MHz - offset -D-Star), **Off-air (to be re-installed) ***
438.650MHz (-7 MHz offset and 91.5 Hz tone access only), **In Service**
438.900MHz (-7 MHz offset- DMR repeater), **In Service**
439.775MHz (-5 MHz offset), **In Service, IRLP (node #6990)**

Access to most analogue repeaters is by sub-audible 123 Hz tone or noise/carrier mute (less sensitive).
Club informal on air get togethers - Wednesday evenings. All welcome. Club call sign VK3SOL:-
2mx repeater 8.00pm 146.650 MHz, 3.63 MHz SSB ± interference 8.30pm.

Meetings are held at 1 pm on the first Saturday of the month (except January when no meeting occurs)
at Vision Australia, Channel Road (just off the southern end of Archer Street), Shepparton.
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 the page contact - Denny French on denny3782@gmail.com

Note: Want to get your licence? SADARC has examination assessors, contact the secretary for details.
The vintage radio club (including many SADARC members) have a sked at 11.00am Sunday on the
2 mx repeater.

The following repeaters do not belong to our club but provide good signals for many members.
Mount Major VK3RDU repeaters and TX operating frequencies, 146.850 MHz and 439.875 MHz
UHF CB Repeater WBT03 Mt Wombat Channels 3- 33, 476.475 MHz, In Service 20/07/2019
(*) This service will be back on air as soon as practical.

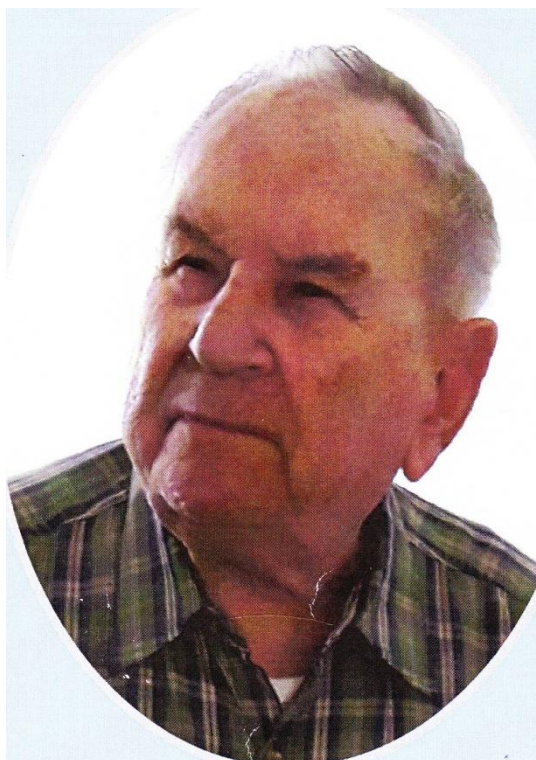
DISCLAIMER:- No guarantee is given as to the accuracy of information in this newsletter.

Warning: - There is a danger of electrocution or injury when working on electrical/radio gear or working
at heights doing antenna work. You do so at your own risk.

President: - Peter Rentsch	VK3FPSR	peter@rentsch.com.au
Secretary: - Andy Ashley	VK3AJA	secretary@sadarc.org
Vice-President: - Barrie Halliday	VK3KBY	
Treasurer (acting): - Andy Ashley	VK3AJA	secretary@sadarc.org
Membership Sec (acting): - Andy Ashley	VK3AJA	"
Webmaster: - Ray Gardner	ray@etheira.net	VK3YNV
Publicity Officer: - Vacant		
Communications Managers (External Events):- Bruce (VK3PNF) 0427 715 663 & Darren (VK3HEN) Glasson		
Tech. Committee: Geoff VK3ZNA, Ray VK3YNV & Rodney VK3UG		
Newsletter: - Rodney VK3UG (Editor) rodlynn6@bigpond.com Peter & Andy (Printing/ Distribution)		

President's short report at the end of the newsletter. Next meeting 10am start, 11am BBQ

Vale – Max Johnston - 7/4/1925 to 1/7/2019 - 94



A minutes silence was held at the beginning of the July 6th meeting in honour of Max VK3DSF. Max's funeral was held at the Owen Mohan Funeral Home in Shepparton Wednesday 10th July at 2 pm. Many of the members of the Vintage and Amateur radio clubs attended. We heard many tales of Max's life that many of us did not know and what a life it was. Following the service we were invited to the RSL for the wake. A time to talk about our good friend Max. The following segment has been written by Pat O'Shannessy who had a long association with Max.

I met Max in 1963 at Radio Australia transmitting site in Shepparton. He was already working as a Technician, I was just a trainee with the PMG' S Department. I learned a lot from Max about the station operation. He could operate, fault find and repair the transmitters and aerial systems in use at the time.

The station broadcast to a 24 hour schedule on many frequencies and aerials to most parts of the world on short wave.

The equipment was all manually operated in those days and Max worked on shift and daytime maintenance. In time, Eventually transmitters and aerial switch became automatically operated needing less hand on but faults always happened and maintenance men like Max were always needed.

I do not remembering Max retiring. I guess he just got to the "right age" and settled down with his wife Anna at their home in Shepparton and then he started having eye sight problems.

Max had many interests including Amateur Radio, Vintage Radio, U3A.....he liked geology.....and the Men's Shed and was heavily involved with the construction of our repeater hut on Mt Wombat while other local hams in the early days of the club put the repeater radio equipment together.

Max helped some new comers to get their F calls by giving classes at night from his home.

Max was a good friend and easy to like. He had no tome for wingers or negative thinkers and will be greatly missed by all.

Pat, VK3OV.

SADARC MEETING MINUTES

1:00 pm 6th July 2019 Vision Australia Centre (Club rooms)

In attendance were:

VK3KBY Barrie, VK3ZNA Geoff, VK3OV Pat, VK3UG Rodney, VK3ZE Huntly, Stevo, VK3YNV Ray and Josh, VK3ZYD Denys, VK3AO Alan, VK3TEX Les, VK3VK3FBEN Peter, SWL Cameron, VK3PGK Graeme, VK3MRO Tbor, VK3FPSR Peter, VK3AJA Andy.

Apologies: VK3BPH Kevin, VK3PNG Bruce, SWL Peter G. VK3FNQS Jason, VK3EB Dallas, VK3PSK Peter, VK3KJB John.

Minutes of last meeting, moved by peter, second by Jacek, All agreed.

Reports:

Financial: Read by Andy.

Andy Moved to have moneys paid back to Him from SADARC for bill paid when funds were unavailable.

The club agreed to this and Andy asked if the Club would like one payment or separate (One for each bill) SADARC agreed to separate payments and Andy said this would be easier to reconcile. This was second by Geoff, all agreed.

Tech: ready by Rodney.

Antenna removed from scout hall. No water leaks were discovered from antenna infrastructure.

All equipment at Mt. Wombat is working as it should.

Ray spoke about the IRLP system briefly and noted the future install of another DMR repeater on Geoff's tower.

Rodney spoke about his range test on new repeaters and suggested other members do the same test.

This report was moved by Graeme, second by Les. All agreed.

General Business:

Huntly moved a motion of condolence for the passing of Max VK3DSF who was a life member of SADARC. This was second by Denys. All agreed.

Hamfest: Pat spoke about Hamfest arrangements and noted SADARC members will be required to assist.

Further info. And discussions will be made at next meeting.

We spoke about Training nights for members and further discussions will be had on this next meeting.

Ray Moved we do this training, this was second by Peter and all agreed.

Andy has paperwork for the CB repeater License transfer and will chase up with ACMA.

Peter suggested continuing with the "bottle of wine pop quiz" all agreed (especially Barrie)

Ray moved D-Star software be changed and asked SADARC members permission, this was second by Jacek, all agreed.

Rodney will start working on asset register.

Meeting ended 3:00 pm

VK3ZNA Geoff, has 15 min of fame. we all learned a lot!

He has nominated VK3TJS Jacek for next 15 min of fame.

Technical committee report

- We have changed our meeting venue and the Scout Hall committee in Mooroopna asked that we remove the antenna systems on the roof of the scout hall. On 28th June Kevin, Dallas and Rodney ventured up onto the scout hall in Mooroopna to remove most of the antenna systems on the roof and after around 3 hours from start to finish the job was complete. We were fortunate that there was no more than a very gentle zephyr blowing which made the work much safer.



Kevin and Rodney getting up on the roof of the scout hall.



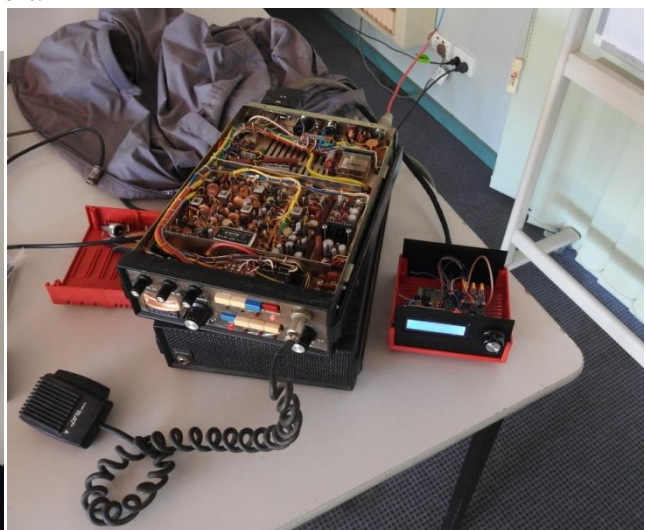
Kevin pondering the best method of getting the mast and antennas down safely

- The 40/80 metre antenna system has been left as it may be used for Jamboree on the Air at some stage. We have not used the VHF, UHF and SHF antenna system for some years so taking them down was prudent. The sealing of connectors and holes etc had been done well and no ingress of water was apparent throughout the system. The RG213 cable has stood up to the rigors of the environment well. Currently most of the material is located at Kevin's home.
- The IRLP on the 5 meg split UHF repeater has been malfunctioning if there is a power disruption which puts the receiver out of action. Until the cause of this is found the repeater has been put onto the battery supply on a temporary basis. This problem was not uncommon on repeaters of this type with their previous owners. A fix for this is being sought from them.
- There have been some upgrades on the DMR repeater software.
- Peter Brennan VK3TE is going to install another DMR repeater in the area on Geoff's 200' tower in Shepparton. The details of the repeater will be TX 438.7625 MHz, RX 431.7625 MHz with the call sign VK3RDS. It is anticipated it will be linked to Mt Wombat and the Bendigo DMR repeater.

- There are software upgrades being done on the D-Star repeater which should go up on the mountain soon, The meeting of potential D-Star users decided on the software most suited to the needs of users.
- I went on a trip to Charlton recently and had the opportunity to assess the performance of the 6 and 2 MX repeaters in a Westerly direction from Shepparton. The 2 MX repeater was useable to nearly Calivel and then rapidly disappeared after that. This is a distance of near 150 Km.. It had not been as good as this the way the original antenna system was configured. It was better than the 6 Mx tested.
- The 6 MX repeater performance was inferior to the 2 MX repeater and disappeared before the 2 MX repeater. However, it was heard well enough to work on a rise out of Borung and again a rise at Buckrabanyule which is East of Charlton. The rises on the main road would be no more than 50 metres. I have never been able to access the repeater in either of these locations before and at Buckrabanyule the distance to the repeater is roughly 200 Km.
- Why the difference in the 2 MX and 6 MX repeater performances is not known with certainty at this time. My suggestion is that sometime during Spring or early Summer we arrange for several members to travel to areas of weak but useable performance on these repeaters and the UHF repeaters and observe their performance with the various antenna installations on Mt Wombat. This would be a good amateur experiment.
- The UHF CB repeater licence is being transferred from the late Norma Mathey to the Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Inc.

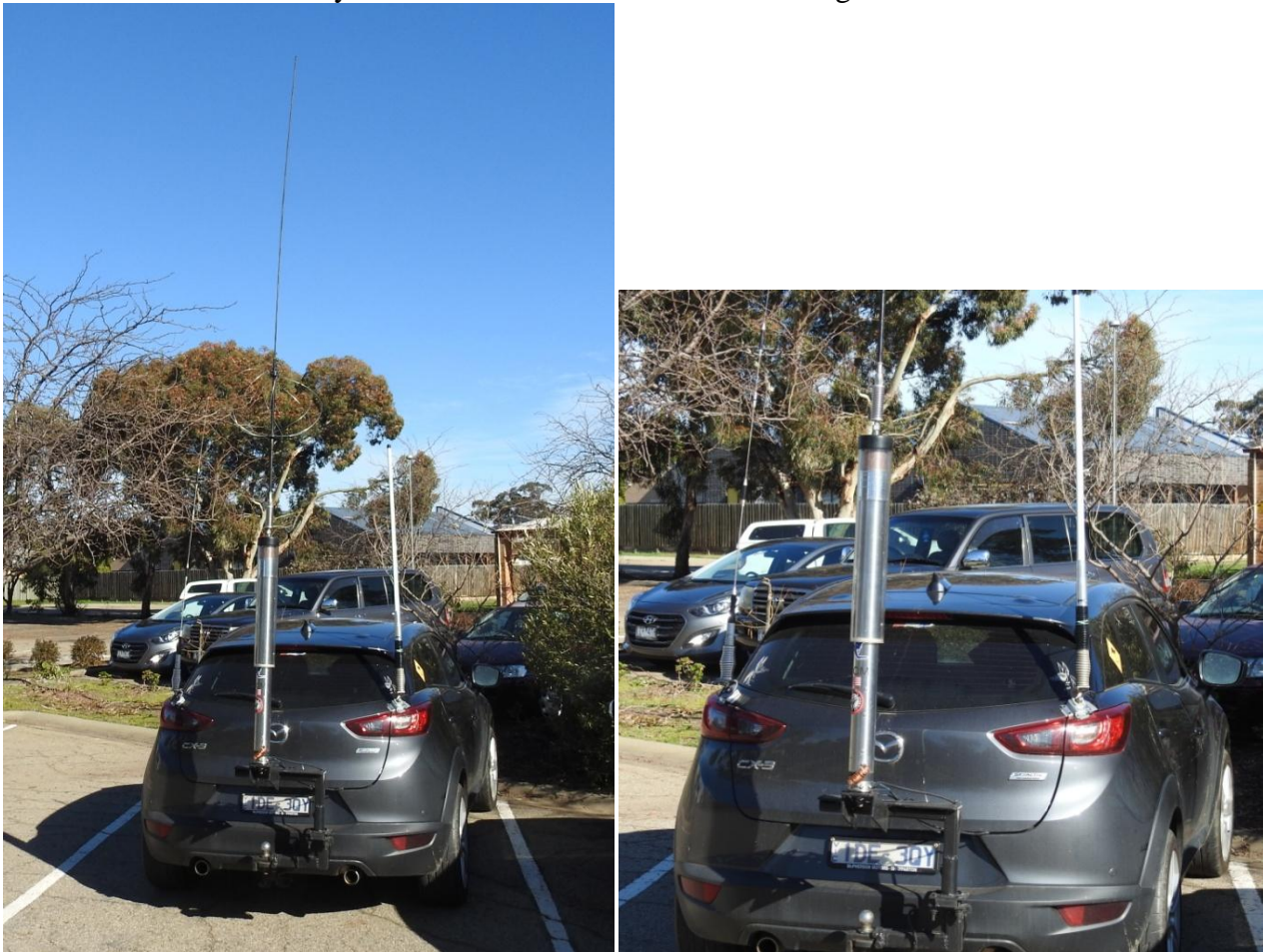
Editor's Ramblings

- Members are asked to make a list of club assets that they have at their QTH or that they know is on Mt Wombat repeater site. The assets list is quite out of date since the alterations on Mt Wombat and since we removed our equipment from the scout hall. Your assistance to get this up to date would be appreciated. You can send a list of what you have to me Rodney VK3UG.
- There was considerable discussion about tuition for members to get their amateur radio ticket. It was decided that next meeting (or part of it) would start at around 10 am for those wishing to get a licence or upgrade what they have to turn up and Andy will give a presentation on this. There are quite good books to assist members learn more on the subject and Peter has several available on his website. Give him a ring.
- Denys had another rig on display that he has converted from crystal control a Yaesu FT75 to control from an Audino. The PCM Hawk recently displayed that had also had an Audino frequency control system is shown on the left.



- A strange car drove into the parking area of Vision Australia last meeting. It sported antennas big enough to be used with the tramways to connect to power and certainly could not go into

many car parks. A photo of the antenna array and the diminutive car straining under the load of the antenna array is shown below. Tibor K3MRO emerged from the car.



- Geoff VK3ZNA spoke on his radio history and certainly Geoff has had many and varied positions in the radio, TV and Electronics areas. Jacek VK3TJS will give a talk on his radio history at the next meeting.

President's report.

Peter is away at the time of the newsletter being completed but has given me the following information by phone.

- **Our next meeting 3rd August will commence at 10am with Andy VK3AJA giving an outline of how exams are conducted and general tuitional information.** Classes may be instigated if there is enough interest. Members must realise that Andy or whoever does conduct the classes that they can help you on your way but don't expect them to take the place of your own research. If something doesn't make sense or is hard to grasp then talk to some of the gurus in the club. Books available to help are good and Peter VK3FPSR has some in his book shop. Peter has placed a notice at Jaycar concerning the above meeting.
- **At around 11am a BBQ will be stoked up for a BBQ lunch.**
- Discussion on preparation for the Hamfest – **Can you help?**
- The subject following the meeting is a Show and Tell of your latest project.