



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

VK3RGV repeaters and transmitter operating frequencies

53.725MHz (1 Meg offset), **Out of Service ***

146.65MHz (600 kHz offset), **Operational.**

438.2MHz (D-Star) **Off-air (to be re-installed) ***

438.650MHz (7 MHz offset and 91.5 Hz tone access only), **(Operational)**

439.775MHz (5 MHz offset), **(Operational, IRLP to be fitted)**

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

Club Network informal on air get togethers - Wednesday evenings. All welcome. Club call sign VK3SOL:-

2mx repeater 8.00pm 146.650 MHz, 3.63 MHz \pm 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 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 Mt Wombat Channels 3- 33, 476.475 MHz (Out of service) * 27/03/2019

(*) These services will be back on air once refurbishment and lightning damage is repaired.

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	vk3aja@wia.org.au
Vice-President: - Barrie Halliday	VK3KBY	
Treasurer (acting): - Andy Ashley	VK3AJA	vk3aja@wia.org.au
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)

Presidents Report March 2019.

Even though it was a very hot day we still had a great attendance for February meeting. You may recall that it was decided to relocate our meeting venue to Vision Australia as of March. This required us to clean out all our equipment located in Mooroopna. A great roll up for the Working Bee and all is moved and in various different locations for now. Once properly established we will move our relevant items to Vision Australia. Thanks to all those who attended and I hope you all enjoyed the Pizza!

Regarding Vision Australia, I have read and signed the lease and returned it to them. Vision Australia have also signed the lease and returned it to us. Currently we have a lease for the months of April, May and June. Assuming all is good we will renegotiate a lease for the following year after discussions during our next couple of meetings. All is progressing well.

On a personal note some of you will have heard that I have ceased work. Yes, that is correct I no longer work in paid and gainful employment, although I will still keep www.radiobooks.com.au operating from home. My departure from work was much earlier than I anticipated but for health reasons I was advised to leave. The stress of working in an organisation where you had all the responsibility but no authority simply exhausted me mentally or perhaps it is what is commonly known as the Peter Principal (not coined by me) “that everybody rises to their level of incompetence”. I need to rest now and not place myself in situations that cause anxiety.

Don not forget that on Sunday 14th April we will have our combined gathering with the BAREC group at Goulburn Weir. This is a great way to socialise with people of similar interests and to often meet the voice behind the microphone. As per normal we will have a Car Boot Sale so if you have treasure that you no longer require please bring it along and all being well you won't have to take it home again.

That's it for this month and I look forward to seeing you all on the 6th April.

Peter – VK3FPSR
President – SADARC

Calendar

6th April – Regular Meeting – Vision Australia Venue. – discuss your thoughts on the best use of the space we have at Vision Australia. Rodney – VK3UG – voice behind the Mic

14th April – Goulburn Weir Interclub Meeting and Car Boot Sale

4th May – Regular Meeting at Vision Australia – BBQ @\$11.00am.

Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of Meeting 2nd Feb 2019

Held at the Mooroopna Scout Hall (for the last time)

President Peter opened the meeting at 13:00

Present were :VK3KJB, VK3CAF, VK3FPSR, VK3TEX, VK3OV, VK3TJS, VK3AO, VK3KBY, VK3UG, VK3YNV, VK3ZE, VK3EB, VK3ASK, VK3ZYZ, Bill Crocker, John Stevens, Geoff Russell

Apologies

VK3PNG, VK3DSP, VK3FALM, VK3AJA, VK3ZNR

Apologies be accepted Moved VK3OV Seconded VK3UG Carried.

Minutes of Last Meeting be accepted as a true record Moved VK3TJS Seconded VK3UG Carried.

Business from Minutes

As Graeme has resigned as treasurer; Andy AJA has taken over and will move the bank account to Bendigo bank in coming weeks.

Cheque for the scout hall hiring will be sent when the cheque book is available.

A full financial statement will be available for the next meeting.

Correspondence in none

Correspondence out

A letter be sent to the Murray Quad organiser requesting a donation for our contribution to the event.

General Business

The move to Vision Australia: Peter VK3ASK gave a report that there has been a number of discussions with head office and a fee of \$33.00 per month has been agreed to for the remainder the financial year. A contract has been drawn up it was agreed that the president sign it. A new contract will be negotiated for 2019/2010. A store room has been assigned and a key is to left with the centre manager.

A suitable area is available for a BBQ is available.

Thanks to Peter VK3ASK for all his work in finalising the venue

Reports :

Technical report

Rodney gave an update on the status of the equipment on Mt wombat

The CB UHF repeater and cavities will be tuned before being installed. Power Supply is OK.

New power supply protection is to be installed to prevent future lightning strikes.

A new 2M antenna needs to be purchased as the existing one has an intermittent problem. It was suggested that we purchase a new 6Db antenna and have it installed in one operation to save on cost of riggers and crane. A suitable antenna may be available from Amateur Radio Victoria. Rodney to check. Tech Committee to obtain quotes to present at next meeting so speed up approval process. The cost will be in the \$1800 to \$2000 mark.

This request moved by Les VK3TEX and Seconded by Barry VK3KBY and carried..

The next visit to Wombat will be to install DSTAR, IRLP, and CB repeaters. The DMR repeater is awaiting the return of Peter Brennan.

Examinations;

A submission has been sent to Australian Maritime College (AMC) for us to conduct future exams for licences

HAM Fest An email has been set up for table bookings and has been tested John and Geoff to draw up plans for the hall for allocation of tables.

Radio Australia The report is Radio Australia will not be restored!

A Club Facility

Jack VK3 TJS reported there is an opportunity for the club to obtain two demountable class rooms at no cost from a local school.

A committee of 4 VK3TJS, VK3KJB, Geoff Russell and John Stevens is to investigate the possibility of relocating the classrooms to Geoff's property or another suitable site. This presents a good opportunity for the club to have their own facility.

Moved VK3KBY Seconded VK3ASK carried.

The next speaker will be Rodney VK3UG

The annual BBQ at Goulburn Weir will be 14th April (GOOD weather)

The meeting was closed at 2:25pm.

Next meeting April 6th at Vision Australia.

Repeater Notes as at 2/3/2019

- The UHF CB repeater is now on test having had a nasty de-sensing problem resolved. Its cavities are yet to be retuned.
- Following the disastrous electrical storm damage in January the following has occurred. The damaged power supply and DC controllers have both been repaired and run on test for some time. The account for the electrician to attend the site is to be paid (acting treasurer away). The cost of an upgraded switchboard in the hut is still being investigated. The 6 mx repeater is still to be repaired and is still on site. The total cost of restoration of the damage is expected to be below \$500.
- It has been observed over a period of several months that when there is a some wind that there are crackles on the 2 metre repeater audio output. This indicates that there is a fault with the receiving antenna which is on top of the tower probably a cracked soldered join. The transmitter is on another antenna. It has been found that the transmitter signals to the East and South are not good although the signals into the West and North West are very good.
- Because of the apparent fault in the 2 metre receiver antenna, the less than optimum radiation pattern and the fact that overall the 2 mx repeater is our most important repeater for normal use and in an emergency, the technical committee believe that we should replace the antenna at the top of the mast and to use the replacement for both receive and transmit as had been the case before the new tower was installed.
- Quotes are being obtained for a new 6dBd gain antenna plus the cost of having it installed. The cost of this will be considerably above the \$500 amount that only members attending a club meeting can

approve. **A minute several years ago stated that all members should have the opportunity to vote on expenditures above \$500. This was brought into being because of some reckless spending of club funds a number of years ago. We should have the quotes well before the next meeting and hopefully before this newsletter goes out. If you are not able to attend, a vote yes or no can be done by email or post. If no vote is made it will be assumed that you wish us to go ahead. You can be assured that we will be careful in this matter.**

- It is expected that we will be able to install the new 5 meg split repeater (50 watts instead of 25 watts) and fit it with IRLP in the very near future. Soon a DMR repeater and a link to Mt Big Ben will be installed.

More Repeater Info

- Since our last meeting Geoff VK3ZNA has had a trip to a Melbourne hospital for some work on his heart. He is home again but is restricted to light duties for quite some time so he won't be climbing over rocks on Mt Wombat for a while. Glad you are back with us.
- All being well the 5 meg split UHF repeater with IRLP, the DC controller and the UHF CB will be re-installed by the time of the meeting. The 6mx repeater will be removed for service at the same time.
- Geoff VK3ZNA has received a very attractive quote for the supply and installation of a new 6 dBd gain 2 metre antenna to replace the existing antenna which has a noise problem – possibly cracked soldered joints or similar. The price is in excess of \$500 (see above paragraph in **red**) but is a very reasonable cost (exact amount will be advised at the meeting) and the tech committee believe the club should take up the offer. If members of the club believe we shouldn't spend this figure please contact us before the meeting if possible.
- When we have things running well it has been suggested that we have a meeting up on Mt Wombat.

Editor's Ramblings

- At our last meeting, the shack at the Scout Hall was cleared of equipment and club records. They are stored at a couple of amateurs' homes at this stage as is the telescopic mast from Mt Wombat. The antennas are still to be removed. It was too hot to do that on the day.
- Pat VK3OV has some of Bruce Gillies old amateur radio gear to dispose of. Contact Pat on 5821 7774 or call at 63 Regent St, Shepparton.
- Ray VK3YNV gave a talk at the meeting on his radio history. Ray's initial interest was in analogue radio/electronics but gradually changed to digital. He now deals with both as he believes that digital and analog are more closely related than they were initially. In the 1980s when computers such as Vic 20s and Commodore 64s, Micro Bee, Atari, Oric, etc were all the rage, Ray along with one or two others designed and built a computer (in kit form) which as I understand it rivalled many of the above designs. Ray worked with many organisations designing and producing cutting edge equipment. He is still doing so with his son Josh. Thanks for an interesting talk.
- Not a long newsletter this month as I haven't had time to get more info. Likewise the tech committee hasn't had either spare time or in the case of Geoff no spare time and his medical problems having to be addressed.
- Note - the newsletter header may appear identical each month, but it often isn't and is updated with any relevant changes.