



Founded 1979 Incorporation No A6677 P.O. Box 692, Shepparton 3632
November 21

VK3RGV repeaters and transmitter operating frequencies Mt Wombat

53.725MHz (-1 MHz), **In Service** 146.65MHz (-600 kHz), **In Service**
 438.2MHz (-7 MHz -D-Star), **In Service** 438.650MHz (-7 MHz 91.5 Hz tone), **In Service**
 438.9MHz (-7 MHz - DMR), **In Service** 439.775MHz (-5 MHz), **In Service**, IRLP (node #6990)

476.475 MHz (+750 kHz) CB Repeater WBT03 Channels 3- 33, **In Service**
 VK3RDS, 438.7625 MHz (-7 MHz DMR) **Shepparton on test @ VK3YNV QTH**
 Mt Major VK3RDU, 146.850 MHz, 439.875MHz. Mt Bruno VK3RWC 147.325 MHz **(-1.6 MHz 123Hz)**

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

Your TX offset shown in brackets

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.

The vintage radio club have a sked at 11.00am Sunday on the 2 mx repeater. All welcome.

Meetings the first Saturday of the month from 10 am for informal chats and technical talks. A BBQ follows (a gold coin donation). Business meeting 1 pm (except January when no meeting occurs) at Flexible Learning Centre, 18 Channel Road (250 metres from Archer Street), Shepparton.

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

Social luncheon, 12 noon at Noble Monks 4th December. For details see later in newsletter.

Website – www.sadarc.org or www.sadarc.org.au Face book Page - Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Direct Link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/481867453084459>

Note: Want to get your licence? SADARC has examination assessors, contact the secretary for details.

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. 28/11/2021

President: - Peter Rentsch	VK3AXI	peter@rentsch.com.au
Vice-President: - Barrie Halliday	VK3KBY	
Secretary: - Andy Ashley	VK3AJA	secretary@sadarc.org
Assistant Secretary: - Geoff Angus	VK3ZNA	
Treasurer: -Andy Ashley	VK3AJA	secretary@sadarc.org
Membership Sec: - Andy Ashley	VK3AJA	"
Webmaster: - Ray Gardiner	VK3YNV	ray@etheira.net
Communications Managers (External Events):- Bruce (VK3PNG) & Darren (VK3HEN) Glasson		

Tech. Committee: Geoff VK3ZNA, Ray VK3YNV, Josh Gardiner & Rodney VK3UG – with power to co-opt.
Newsletter: - Rodney VK3UG (Editor) rodlynn6@bigpond.com , Andy VK3AJA (Distribution)

Presidents Report November 2021

Finally, we were able to meet face to face again. We nearly had to give everybody name badges as it seems such a long time since we had seen everybody, we just about forgot who they were. There was lots of chatter about radio and projects, it was great to hear it and the enthusiasm people have for their interest.

We continued the process of members giving a brief report on what projects they had been up to during the last month. Most members had made some time to do something, and it is interesting to hear what is going on. Even Andy revisited his younger days of technology and had purchased a couple of reel-to-reel tape decks that he was in the process of restoring. It is encouraging to see that no matter how big or small, complicated or simple, everybody is supportive of others in what they do and assist if need be. I feel our group is rather unique. The respect shown to others and their differing levels of understanding is something that as a group we should be very proud of. Thank you everybody for this approach to each other.

Our next meeting will be our Christmas Lunch. As Restaurants are now allowed to open with reasonable numbers, we will have our usual combined Radio Club/ Vintage Club Christmas Lunch on Saturday 4th December. To attend this lunch, you must be double vaxxed as this rule applies to Restaurants. (Noble Monks, Maude Street, Shepparton just South of Nixon St at Noon. Editor)

To all our members and their families Karen and I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and safe New Year. Keep safe, keep well, and enjoy this special family time of year.

Cheers for now.

Peter Rentsch
President

CLUB CALENDAR

4th December 2021 – Christmas Meeting with the Vintage Club. Noble Monks 12.00 noon. Same venue as last year. PS: Don't forget your Christmas Tree LED Project.

5th February 2022 – BBQ at 10.30am followed by our Regular Meeting and then our AGM.

SADARC MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES NOV.2021

At Club rooms 6/11/2021

Apologies: VK3ZE Huntly, VK3YYY Ian, VK3EB Dallas, VK3GSR Geoff, VK3PNG Bruce, VK3TEX Les.

Inwards: Chris VK3FY asking about Fusion repeater, QSL cards, Memberships

Outwards:

Minutes from last meeting: ready by Peter, moved by VK3KBY Barrie, Second by VK3ZNA Geoff.
Reports: Financial ready by Andy, Moved by VK3 second by VK2RK Rob. All in agreed.

Technical: Read by Ray, some power issues at Mt Wombat, circuit breaker trip, unknown reason, appear to be resolved now after several visits to Mt Wombat, Ray has suggested adding surge protection in hut. Ray has also suggested we may need to look at updating power management and has suggested Perhaps and quote needs to be done by electrician some time. Ray has swapped the 2m antenna to see if the new antenna has issue. This suggests new antenna may be faulty.

VK3UG Rodney has moved we look at getting upgrades be done, second by VK3FALN Alan. All in agreed.

VK3BPH Kevin moved we thank Ray and Josh all agreed.

Josh added usage statistics on repeater usage

General business:

Xmas function mention by VK3AXI Peter and suggested we look for a venue. 4 Dec. Andy will see if Noble Monks is available.

Andy will let Rodney know so he can advise the Vintage Radio Club.

VK3AXI Peter has 6 bottles of wine. One of which he gave to Geoff for winning last quiz.

Rob has moved that Andy ask MOVE if space would be available to display radio Aust. Equipment and perhaps HAM radio gear, all agreed.

Meeting finished 1:55 pm

Editor's Ramblings

- Our first face to face meeting on 6th November had a good rollup of 18 members including one new member from Deniliquin (Jim) sorry didn't catch the callsign. Many Covid lockdown projects made their appearance. They were either shown to all and sundry, or were talked about either outside the meeting or during it.
- A number of members had items for give away or items for sale or swap, etc. Your editor gained a box of valves (things he has a chance of understanding and how they operate in circuits). A HF linear amplifier was available for purchase and it has valves too! Printed circuit boards for a GPS locked frequency standard were available from Rob VK2RB for a very reasonable \$10. These are but a few of the items brought along.
- Remember if prove you are a current member of SADARC Jaycar will give you a discount. Minimum purchase needed.
- Remember you can advertise your surplus items for sale or items that you may want for free in the newsletter. Any who wish to advertise items are reminded that once this newsletter is sent from my computer at the end of this month there will be no newsletter until the end of January 22.
- Here is a short list of items that were demonstrated or talked about at the meeting – I didn't get around to taking to the creators or seeing some items working. Denyse VK3ZYZ brought three of his modified Codan HF transceivers along showing various modifications he has done and they are impressive Denyse showed a small tool kit he obtained from Jaycar. Remember you can get discounts locally if you prove you are a member of SADARC. Ray VK3YNV showed a PCB power divider/combiner for 1296 MHz operation. It would appear to be a tricky little device to get right as specific PCB material standards need to be consistent for success. Is there an article there Ray? Ray also spoke of some drone experiments he

and Josh have been involved in with a company that they do work for. Sounded quite interesting. Bill Crocker had his solid-state curve tracer on display and once again an interesting device – good for comparing the characteristics of two supposedly identical devices due to the switching system Bill used.

- Some interest has been shown in loop antennas and Andy told us that with his MFJ tx/rx loop he recently worked a station in the Ukraine. Loops to handle 400 watts PEP are not easy to construct as extremely high RF voltages appear across the loop tuning capacitor.
- However, one thought to consider why not use the loop only on receive (less noise hopefully) and transmit on a separate vertical or horizontal antenna. This can be done with care – use the linear control feature on your rig to change the antenna in use. It is necessary to make sure that the transmitting antenna is firmly selected before transmission commences. The average changeover relay takes around 20 milliseconds to do the changeover. 400 watts into a receiving loop would likely fry it in 20 milliseconds. Therefore, this is unsuitable for CW or AM transmissions with standard rigs. However, it is probably okay for SSB if you don't bellow into the microphone as you press the PTT.
- On UHF and to a lesser extent VHF mast head receiving preamplifiers were fitted when I was more interested in long distance coms. These had protection circuits so that the preamp wasn't fried by 100 watts of RF fired up the antenna cable whilst the pre-amplifier was switching out of circuit. A similar style of circuit should help here.
- Hurrah, we will be having our end of year social meeting on the 4th December with a meal commencing at 12 noon at Noble Monks in Maude St just south of the Nixon Street intersection in Shepparton. You will need to make sure you are double vaccinated and can prove it. Meals are available at reasonable cost. The Vintage radio club will be joining with us. Bring your friends or family, there is room for around 50 people. No doubt Peter will have more to say in his report.
- Dallas VK3EB has found an excellent site near Shepparton that is very suitable for stringing up good high antennas and very low noise levels for portable activity. My noise level on 7 MHz is around S8 at Dallas's portable site S0 to 1. Dallas has made his own very good open wire feeders to attach to his manual ATU. Maybe more of us should think of going to a low noise level location and do some portable work!
- A nice neat workshop - VK5ZAI



CLUB TRANSISTOR LIST (Freebies to Club Members)

The club was given a significant quantity of transistors several years ago. Some members have taken advantage of this supply. The numbers in stock vary from one or two of some types to several hundreds for some small signal types. Contact Rodney VK3UG if you require some. You'll have to come and get them yourselves. They are in plastic bags although some of these are deteriorating. The list below may not be 100% accurate.

AC126	BC337	BFY10	PN3690	2N2222	2N3707	2N5088
AC127	BC338	BFY51	PT4537	2N2270	2N3772	2N5190
AC132	BC549	BFY55	PT3164C	2N2646	2N3773	2N5245
ACY17	BC558	BLY89C	PT4207B	2N2647	2N3829	2N5486
ACY20	BC559	BSX19	SE3002	2N2859	2N3866	2N5589
ACY21	BC577	BSX20	SE4002	2N2966	2N3879	2N5590
AD161	BC637	BSX59	SE4010	2N3011	2N3904	2N5591
AD162	BC638	FPN3577	SF173	2N3019	2N3906	2N5770
AF139	BC639	FVO9230	SX18	2N3020	2N3926	2N5883
AF178	BD135	ITS5656	TT3638	2N3053	2N3927	2N5885
AS148	BD136	ITS5657	TIC45	2N3054	2N3963	2N5961
ASZ16	BD137	JE350	TIS60	2N3299	2N4002	2N6179
ASZ18	BD139	MFE131	TIS61M	2N3563	2N4033	2SA509
AV9139	BD204	MJ2955	TT4010	2N3566	2N4036	2SB367
B12-12	BDX96	MJE520	1N28133B	2N3478	2N4037	2SC32
BC107	BF166	MJE521	2N277	2N3553	2N4121	2SB415
BC108	BF180	MJE3055	2N301	2N3564	2N4231	2SC458
BC109	BF198	MJE3771/0	2N706	2N3565	2N4234	2SC509
BC149	BF173	MPS3564	2N914	2N3614	2N4241	3794
BC177	BF483	MPS3702	2N918	2N3638	2N4250	7812
BC178	BF184	MPS6513	2N1100	2N3640	2N4289	40250
BC179	BF200	MPSA12	2N1671	2N3641	2N4292	40280
BC186	BF494	NTE161	2N1183	2N3642	2N4342	40281
BC287	BF495	PE1010	2N2017	2N3645	2N4360	40468
BC287	BFS22A	PN3568	2N2083	2N3692	2N4427	
BC317	BFW16A	PN3643	2N2102	2N3693	2N4933	
BC327	BFX89	PN3644	2N2218	2N3694	2N5060	
BC328		PN3646	2N2219	2N3704	2N5070	



A fully rotatable vertical and horizontal direction and polarisation ISS control station antenna system - VK5ZAI at Kingston South Australia

In the radio world what happened 42 years ago around Shepparton???

I came across this excerpt from **Amateur Radio** from the September 1988 issue written by the late Jim Linton. So for those who have only been a member for a lot less than the 40 years plus the club has been functioning here is a chance to learn a little more about SADARC. The **Wombat Award** was an award sponsored by the club which was reasonably popular in the early days of the club but has largely been forgotten in recent years.



SHEPPARTON AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (SADARC) INC

It was with great enthusiasm that over 20 people attended a meeting on June 6, 1979, which saw the formation of this club.

But it had its early beginnings back in the 1960s when radio amateurs in the Goulburn Valley, north-central Victoria, had a net on 80 metres.

This hook-up continued for many years before interest waned and it lapsed.

In the late 1960s, the WIA journal, *Amateur Radio* featured a card insert listing two metre repeaters, including one on Mount Major, near Shepparton.

This raised some eyebrows among the locals who knew that the repeater, although listed and planned, did not exist. They were then galvanised the idea of a repeater to serve the area.

Mount Major is visible from Shepparton and the prospect of the hobby being enhanced by a repeater began to haunt local radio amateurs, but little progress was made.

In the mid-1970s, the CB radio boom was heading for its peak, and the Novice licence was introduced. Club President, Peter O'Keefe VK3YF, said; "CB radio made the general public aware of the concept of hobby communications."

"This was in stark contrast to the radio amateurs who had traditionally kept a low profile."

The local TAFE college organised several local radio amateurs to run a Novice course mainly for CBers, and this started in June 1977, ending in time for the following November examination. But despite initially attracting a large number, many gave it away fairly early leaving only eight dedicated souls determined to get the Novice ticket.

Most passed the examination at their first attempt, while the remainder were successful at their second attempt.

With the encouragement of TAFE staff, the majority then formed a self-help group with the intention of passing the AOCF.

By mid-1979, the self-helpers had achieved their aim. It seemed those who had participated formed a human bond, and wanted to continue meeting socially. The obvious way was to form a radio club. A meeting was convened at the PACE Building, in Shepparton, by Jim Scott VK3KFD, who was elected the club's inaugural president.

About 80 percent of those attending were newcomers to the hobby and full of enthusiasm. They were typical of the radio amateurs born out of the CB boom. The club's name was suggested by Frank VK3NMY, the founding secretary.

Other committee members elected were Jim VK3BNM, Barry VK3KBR, and Graeme VK3ZSQ.

Soon after its formation the club became a member of the WIA. The first organised activity for SADARC was the Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) weekend of 1979.

After an address by John Waters (who later became VK3PXJ), from the local scout district, the club members set up portable stations at local scout halls.

Striking while the enthusiasm was still running, Graeme VK3ZSQ, raised the almost forgotten issue of a local repeater. Wayne VK3XQA, speaking from CB activity experience, knew that Mount Wombat, near Euroa, and not Mount Major, was the ideal site. Mount Wombat provides access to the Goulburn Valley and southern New South Wales, and large areas of Melbourne.

After considerable volunteer effort and support, and a contribution by the WIA Victorian Division, which provided half the costs of construction materials for the repeater hut, VK3RGV, Mount Wombat, started operation in 1982.

The club has been vocal on issues affecting the hobby, and was among the first to enter the debate on future directions after the release in 1985 of the Linton/Harrison discussion paper.

Its members are keenly involved in packet radio and have set up a digipeater, VK3RPW, on Mount Wombat, to provide part of the intra-state and inter-state path for packeteers.

SADARC sees packet radio as the new frontier of amateur radio, and is voicing its opinion on the still nagging protocol hassle.

The biggest event on the SADARC Calendar-of-Events is the Communications Day, held in September. This single day activity being held this year on Sunday, September 18, takes place in the middle of the SHEPPtember festival activities sponsored by business and community groups.

Being ideally located in north-central Victoria there has consistently been high attendances from

throughout the State and from southern New South Wales.

Full details of the Communications Day '88, which is also aimed at the general public, appear elsewhere in this edition of AR magazine.

"It's most important to put our hobby before the general public," Peter VK3YF said.

For that reason, SADARC members have participated in various public events, including street displays, and WICEN activities, to help with out hobby's image in the community, he said.

The club sponsors the Wombat Award, although in recent times, the wombat has been in a state of hibernation. But, with the club's new call sign, VK3SOL — very appropriate because Shepparton is Victoria's Solar City — the Wombat Award will be re-activated with possibly a solar powered flavour!

VK3SOL will have a good HF signal from an IC-730 transceiver donated by Bert Randall VK3BRR, who in recognition for his fine gift has been made the club's first life member.

SADARC is an active and progressive club willing to speak its mind on issues affecting the hobby, and play its part to further the pursuit of hobby communications.

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AMATEUR RADIO IS THE HOBBY

A special station VE3CNE (Canadian National Exhibition) will be operating from Toronto until the September 5. The display is exhibiting all facets of the hobby. A special QSL will be forwarded to all stations contacting this station who is using the apt motto "Amateur Radio is the hobby!"

—Condensed from *The ARRL Letter* by Ken McLachlan VK3AH

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