



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

October 2022

SADARC committee

President:- Rob Hose - VK3BLD
Secretary:- Arthur Duke - VK3AFD
Membership Sec:- Ian Saunders - VK3YYY
Webmaster:- Ray Gardiner - VK3YNV
Newsletter (editor):- Peter Simpson – VK3ASK
Tech. Committee:- Geoff VK3ZNA, Ray VK3YNV, & Josh Gardiner – power to co-opt.

Vice-President:- Barrie Halliday - VK3KBY
Treasurer:- Ian Saunders – VK3YYY
Assistant Secretary:- Geoff Angus - VK3ZNA
Hamfest Co-ordinator:- Peter Rentsch - VK3AXI

To contact any member of the committee above, email committee@sadarc.org and specify who you wish to communicate with and the subject. Items for the newsletter newsletter@sadarc.org

Communications Manager (External Events):- Darren Glasson (VK3HEN) – subject to confirmation.

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.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday November 5th

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

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. 25/08/2022

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), **Testing, out of 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**

The three following repeaters are not the clubs but are allied to the club in one way or another.

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 is shown in brackets

Club informal on air get togethers, all welcome. Club call sign VK3SOL:-

Wednesday- 2mx repeater 146.65 MHz 8.00pm, 3.63 MHz SSB ± interference 8.30pm,

Sunday – 2 mx repeater 146.65 MHz 2 pm & 8 pm & The Vintage Radio Club – 2 mx repeater 11 am

A number of semi-private HF skeds take place either daily or weekly, locally or further afield.

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.

Some Really Sad News for our Club

It saddens me to have to report that our dear and loyal friend Rodney Champness, passed away on Saturday morning October 22.

On behalf of all members, can I express our deepest sympathies to his wife Lyn and all his family. Rodney did so much for our club and will be sadly missed by us all.

Our president Rob. VK3BLD has known Rod since the 1970's where they worked together at Radio Australia. Rob knew Rodney very well and enjoyed their common interest in all thing radio.

At the end of this newsletter is an article written by the HRSA and published in their Radio Waves magazine.

Unfortunately, I also have to report that Eric Irvine VK3BXA passed away on Sunday October 23. Eric had also been a member of our club for many years and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts and sympathies are also with Eric's family.

I am sure more will be written in future newsletters about Rodney and Eric and their many contributions to our group.
Rest in Peace Rod and Eric.

In this Issue

- **Next Club Meeting**
- **Editors comment**
- **President's Report**
- **Minutes of the last meeting**
- **Some thoughts from Geoff Angus VK3ZNA on the future of the club and possible name change.**
- **Brief history of Rodney Champness VK3UG. Copied from the Radio Waves magazine.**

Next Meeting

The next SADARC meeting will be held at the Flexible Learning Centre on Saturday November 5th. 10am, classes conducted by Dennis and Ray on the skills to program Arduino.

11am, General chat and catch up

12.00 Lunch, gold coin donation

1.1pm Club meeting, followed by the AGM, please come along and have your say.

Editor's Comments

As I prepare the newsletter, Shepparton, Mooroopna and surrounding areas are all battling extreme flood issues, with many houses needing to be evacuated and many badly damaged.

Sadly, many of our members have not been spared in one way or another. Some have had to leave their homes and others have a massive clean up task ahead.

I am sure I speak on behalf of all club members, by expressing our thoughts and concerns for you all and offering assurance that we will rally to offer assistance.

Thanks to Ray Gardiner, VK3YNV who has been running regular skeds to keep up with flood issues and to find out how members can help.

Unfortunately, we do not have any technical projects to publish this Month, I think most people are more concerned about protecting their properties from floods.

There is however a very interesting article and collection of thoughts from Geoff Angus regarding the future of our club and possible name changes.

Our October meeting certainly generated plenty of lively debate about the need for an AGM, in order for the club to be compliant, so please come along to this meeting and elect our new committee.

We will also be discussing how we move forward for future AGM dates and the financial year times.

See you all at our next meeting

Regards Peter Simpson VK3ASK

Presidents Report

I think we can all agree our Hamfest was a great event. Congratulations to the organizers, and many thanks to everyone who helped make the event a great success. I am sure everyone had a good time there and hopefully a few bargains were obtained.

I am still recovering from my multiple surgeries but I am gradually improving. I still listen to comments on air and I understand there are a lot of projects on the go. That is great to hear. I am still working with the committee to upgrade our membership to include electronics as part of our hobby. It is vital that we expand into this area to ensure continued growth for the club.

Our next meeting will be our AGM and will be on 5th November commencing at 1:00 P.M. and will be preceded by the Arduino course run by Denys VK3 ZYZ commencing at 10 a.m. Members are asked to bring their laptop with the IDE software installed and ready.

I hope to see you all there.

73's Rob (VK3BLD)

SADARC Oct. 2022 Meeting Minutes.

Club Rooms, Shepparton

In Attendance: VK3BLD Rob, VK3FALN Alan, VK3AXI Peter, VK3KBY Barrie, VK3YYY Ian, VK3AFD Arthur, VK3OV Pat, VK3ASK Peter, Bill C., VK3TJS Jacek, VK3JSD Steve, VK3ZNA Geoff, VK3AXI Peter, VK3FBEN Peter, VK3ZYZ Denys, Josh, VK3KUG Ray, Visitor Paul.

Apologies: Geoff VK3GSR, Allan VK3BF, Dallas VK3EB, VK3BPH Kevin, Rodney VK3UG and Jim VK3JKN.

Minutes of last Meeting: Read by Arthur VK3AFD, Moved by Jack VK3TJS, Seconded by Peter VK3ASK all in favor.

Business arising:

There were no complaints about the state of the room after our last meeting, instead compliments.

Inward Correspondence: Nil

Outward Correspondence: News Letter with much thanks to Peter VK3ASK Moved
Ian VK3YYY moved that the Correspondence be accepted. Seconded by Peter VK3AXI, carried.

Financial: Ian VK3YYY Reported income \$2386.08 being money from Hamfest plus interest on account. Outgoing \$620.00 was for membership cards and floats.

Moved by Ian VK3 YYY Seconded by Pat VK OV, all in favor.

Technical:

Ray VK3YNV reported that a trip to Wombat is planned for next week weather permitting, to check the 2meter installation and to return the Repeater that has been on test.

Fusion. Geoff VK3ZNA, has forwarded paperwork to Brian Cook VK3FY in Brisbane to secure frequency allocation and licensing. Once these details are in hand, Chris VK3FY can program the fusion repeater

We have an antenna for the repeater and coax is already on the tower. The microwave link is there thanks to Geoff, if we need to replace it, the cost could be \$700. Rigging work on the tower could cost \$1000

Moved Ray VK3YNV, 2nd Geoff VK3ZNA, all in favor.

AGM The club was hoping to move our AGM to FEB of each year, but the “rule” for an incorporated body requires that the AGM be conducted within 5 months of the end of our financial year. Our financial year ends 30th of June.

There is a fee of \$191.10 to change the rules. This payment is for any number of rule changes within the one application.

There was much discussion as to changes we could make re. end of financial year date and name of club.

Arthur VK3AFD moved that as we are bound by the existing rules applied to our club we must hold our AGM within five months of the 30th of June, and that any changes be left to a later date. We should hold our AGM on the 5th Nov.2022. Seconded by Peter VK3ASK all in favor.

Ray VK3YNV suggested that we provide, with the AGM announcement, an invitation to membership with an application form.

As previously announced, membership fees were waived for calendar year 2022 – membership fees payable Feb. 2023.

At the club moves more towards electronic interests, there was much discussion re a suitable change of name for the club.

Hamfest

Peter VK3AXI moved that our local Jaycar manger be thanked for his generous discounts on raffle prizes. Seconded VK3YYY, all in favor.

The day was a success with close to 200 people through the door. Reports suggested that sales were very good.

The 6:00AM start not necessary, 7:00AM would allow sufficient time to set up.

A better method of collecting vendor's table fees needs to be implemented.

Christmas Breakup

Our Christmas breakup will be held at the Royal Mail Hotel, in Mooroopna on Sat. 3rd Dec. 2022.
At 12:30PM.

Mast From Mount Wombat

Bill C. is storing a mast from Mount Wombat, he would like the club to make moves towards selling it. This will be promoted in the newsletter and posted on the forum.

Meeting Closed. 2:15 pm.

Editor; The following article was sent by Geoff Angus VK3ZNA for inclusion in this Newsletter.

Please take the time to read and I am sure Geoff would be happy to receive any responses, or comments.

Hi all,

This is a compilation of thoughts from the last 2 meetings and questions I have asked from former members.

I trust it will encourage some discussion on the subjects, i.e. Membership and Name Change.

With the notice from Peter VK3ASK that the property has been sold and within 12 months we could be looking for another location, our vigilance in seeking out a new (suitable) club room(s) should be the forefront of members minds.

Your positive feed back and encouragement is welcomed.

Regards All.

Geoff

Change of Club Name – A few thoughts. 02/10/2022

Most Amateur Operators and Radio Enthusiasts have noticed a decline in those participating in Radio as an interest and hobby. They are generally older, notice the grey hair amongst the Hamfest attendees!

Those younger members of our Club have tended to stay away. The reasons? In some cases, harassment to upgrade the call sign status from Foundation to Standard and to Advanced. Encouragement is the order of the day and some Advanced callsigns acting in a superior way towards the hobbyist Amateur.

The Amateurs Code List should be in a prominent place for all to see, read and absorb and conduct themselves accordingly.

As a Club, to increase membership, we should endeavour to attract the younger persons to join our Club.

Do members agree that joining an Amateur Radio Club is the best way to get into electronics? Yes/No
Then, by joining an Amateur Radio Club, is it a way to engage with other Electronics Enthusiasts? Yes/No

If an Electronics Club were to commence in this area, would it attract non-radio minded members? Yes/No
Then, by joining an Electronics Club, is it a better way to engage with other Electronics Enthusiasts? Yes/No

The Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Inc. is primarily a radio club. Yes, radio is electronics, but some people do not associate radio with electronics. Modern radios are essentially an electronic device that just happens to communicate via radio waves; that is, wireless, for the computer enthusiast.

So, what is in a name.

The name should be brief and 'tell' persons our primary interest. The location of the Club is incidental to the Club Name.

A few example- (with meaning gathered from the Internet)

Shepparton Electronics and Radio Club. SERC (it is also the name of a prescribed drug)
This gives a location and the 2 primary interests of the club.

Greater Shepparton Electronics Club. GSEC (GIA Security Essentials Certification)
This gives a broader location and the primary interest of the club.

Goulburn Valley Electronics Club. GVEC (Goulburn Valley Equine Club)

This also give a broader location and the primary interest of the club.

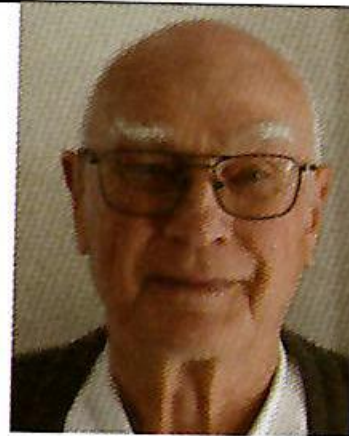
Northern Victoria Electronics Club. NVEC (NVEC is a listed company on the NYSE)
This also gives a much broader location and the primary interest of the club

Radio Australia Electronics Club. RAEC (was, Royal Army Educational Corp)
Non specific location (at this time) and the primary interest of the club, (electronics) with the underlying inference of Radio Australia.

Your thoughts.

Geoff Angus
VK3ZNA

Rodney Champness, VK3UG, is one of our long-time contributors, also appearing in magazines such as Silicon Chip.



Rodney's love of radio began when he built his first crystal set, aged 11. Nobody had told him that he needed a local radio station a lot nearer than 150 km from his home in Mundulla! His enthusiasm was rekindled when he saw Radio and Hobbies in a local newsagent.

A Stott's Correspondence course led him to a job in a local repair shop. Moving to Kaniva, he set up his own business, but saw the need for more training. He attended the Marconi School of Wireless, going on to acquire several Certificates of Proficiency. A job at radio station 3GI led to another change: 13 months at Macquarie Island as Radio Supervisor with the Australian Antarctic Division. A turn in radio and TV servicing led to a position with the PMG's Radio Branch as Benalla's District Radio Inspector. He moved on to Type Approval, assessing radio equipment for its suitability and reliability, and spent time on Maritime radio. Finally, after seven years at Radio Australia, Rodney retired from full-time work, but became one of Silicon Chip's most prolific contributors.

We are also fortunate to receive Rodney's contributions here at Radio Waves.

Thank you, Rodney, for sharing the wealth of your experience with all of us.

