



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

## April 2023 Newsletter

### SADARC committee

President:- Peter Rentsch – VK3AXI  
Secretary:- Arthur Duke - VK3AFD  
Membership Sec:- Ian Saunders - VK3YYY  
Webmaster:- Ray Gardiner - VK3YNV  
Newsletter (editor):- Peter Simpson – VK3ASK  
Technical Committee: Geoff VK3ZNA, Ray VK3YNV, Denys VK3ZYZ & Josh Gardiner – power to co-opt.  
Vice-President:- Barrie Halliday - VK3KBY  
Treasurer:- Ian Saunders – VK3YYY  
Assistant Secretary:- Peter Rentsch - VK3AXI  
Hamfest Co-ordinator:- Peter Rentsch - VK3AXI

To contact any member of the committee above, email [committee@sadarc.org](mailto:committee@sadarc.org) and specify who you wish to communicate with and the subject. Items for the newsletter [newsletter@sadarc.org](mailto: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 May 13<sup>th</sup> at Mount Wombat, details below.

**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), Now back 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**

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 together, 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](http://www.sadarc.org) or [www.sadarc.org.au](http://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.

## In this Issue

- **Next Club Meeting.**
- **Editors comment**
- **President Report**
- **VK3ARM Fundraising raffle**
- **Interesting articles from our forum.**

The next SADARC meeting will be held on Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup>, which is a visit to Mount Wombat.

The plan for the meeting is as follows;

- 10am Kevin Eagles VK3KFM has an 8 seater vehicle and is happy to pick up members from our club room at 10am, to drive to Euroa.
- 11am Meet at the home of Alan Tubb at 11am for a BBQ lunch, BYO food.
- Allan's address is, 1 Kirkland Avenue Euroa 3666.
- 12pm Travel to Mount Wombat to hold an informal meeting, view onsite installation and play radio from the top of the mountain.

May 6<sup>th</sup>, Denys will be holding an Arduino training session at the club rooms starting at 10am, all are welcome.

## Calendar Dates

6 <sup>th</sup> May	Arduino training with Denys.
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Comms Support for Heathcote Rail Trail Athletics Project.
13 <sup>th</sup> May	Visit to Mt Wombat starting with a BYO lunch at Alan Tubb's home in Euroa.
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Club Meeting
9 <sup>th</sup> September	Hamfest.

## **Editor's Comments**

Well, what a great meeting we had in April. Everyone enthusiastically enjoyed the many projects and displays being carried out on the day.

- Denys provided his usual Arduino training and an interesting video.
- Ray and Josh trained many members in the art of surface mount soldering.
- Bill presented his home brew communications receiver, which has many unique design approaches to building a 1<sup>st</sup> rate receiver, including using an Australian built transistor radio from the 60's as the 2<sup>nd</sup> IF and audio stage.
- Many other members also brought along projects and gear for display.

Hopefully this enthusiasm can continue as this is what our hobby is all about.

It was also great to hear from Stevo, Josh and their team on the plans for an amateur radio demonstration and BBQ, outside our local Jaycar store.

Permission has been granted us to publish an article, which was presented in AR magazine, regarding our dear friend Rod Champness.

Unfortunately, I did not receive the copy in time, but it should be good to go for our next newsletter.

Hopefully the weather is good for Mount Wombat and I will see you there.  
73's Peter Simpson VK3ASK.

## **Presidents Report – April 2023**

Thanks to all those who made the effort to attend out last meeting. It was our first meeting with the new format of limited business. It seemed to go over quiet well and hopefully everybody felt sufficiently informed as to where we are at as Club. There is no way that we can avoid some discussion but if we can limit it to 20-30 minutes then that seems acceptable.

Since our last meeting the Committee have met via email and have approved the go ahead for our Hamfest on the 9<sup>th</sup> September, so please keep that date free. We need all hands on deck to make it successful. It is our major event for the year, not only financially but socially as well.

Ray, VK3YNV has sent me a list of ideas that I think is very good for show and tell/ speaker timeslot. Ray's list included:

1. SMD soldering school.
2. Practical Fault Finding
3. Nano VNA how to.
4. Baluns.
5. Yagi Construction tips.
6. Grounding and Lightning.
7. PCB Design and manufacture.

I had some other ideas in addition to Ray's

8. Build your own Raspberry Pi Hotspot

9. How to make N Type fly leads

10. What test equipment do people use?

There are many aspects to Amateur Radio, and everyone has their favourite. The list above is not all there is and if you have any other ideas that you would like explored, please let me or any of the committee know and we will endeavour to make it happen.

Some great ideas are also up on the Club Forum. Josh, Stevo and Arthur have put together a very extensive list of ideas to encourage people to become involved in Amateur Radio and Electronics.

<http://www.sadarc.org/xenforo/upload/index.php?threads/recruitment-sub-committee.401/#post-1787>

As we have discussed many times in the past, we must attract younger members to our great hobby.

A long story short. There once was a bloke who wrote some software for computers. Yes, it was for business, but he made sure it was placed in most of the schools in his country. The schools adopted that software and when the students graduated, they were au fait with it and put pressure on their employer to use the same software thus generating sales for that software developer. That bloke was Bill Gates and we all know Microsoft is today.

We don't want to generate sales; we want to generate young enthusiastic Amateur Radio operators, so we need to start with the young.

How many of you finally got to realise your dream of becoming an Amateur later in life because you had a yearning interest for many years. We need to create opportunities for the young to be exposed to what we now experience.

Peter Rentsch

VK3AXI

President

A conundrum from our President.

I was reading some promotional material the other day about high quality speaker cable. They commented that the more you use the cable the better the sound became. This is

due to the alignment on the electrons in the cable allowing a more efficient flow.  
Comments please!

Our Secretary Arthur VK3AFD, received the following message from Robert, VK3ARM in regard to a fundraising raffle. Members may find this interesting.

### VKS-737 RADIO NETWORK CODAN ENVOY FUND RAISING RAFFLE 2023



G'day Fellow Amateurs...

I'm a volunteer with the Australian National 4WD Radio Network, otherwise known as VKS-737 Radio Network. This Network is a Public Benevolent Institution, providing emergency HF Radio communication services to travellers throughout outback and remote areas of Australia.

For the last few years we've been running a fund raising raffle to support the work of this network. This year is no exception, thanks to the kindness of Codan Australia who donate the prizes.

At just \$5.00 a ticket with 3000 available, this raffle runs through to June. You have until the 9th June to put yourself in the running. Buy a number of tickets, support the work of VKS-737 and increase your chances of winning this Envoy package which includes a Codan 3040 Autotune Antenna.

If you miss out on the first prize you could walk away with one of two Minelab Metal Detectors.

Head to our Website. The details, and a link to the application form pops up when you first open the website:

<https://vks737.radio>

You don't have to be a Subscriber on VKS-737 Radio Network to enter but do need to live in Australia. Licensed Amateur Radio Operators can also make good use of this rig, with full VFO control on all HF Bands.

The Codan Envoy is a beautiful radio with all controls on the microphone. Check out this review of the radio:

<https://vks737.radio/codan-envoy-radio-review/>

I make good use of this radio, talking on Amateur HF Bands as well as communicating with our operators on VKS-737.

Go to it! Put yourself in the running! Tickets are available now.

Cheers.... Robert VK3ARM

**Robert Wright** I Base Coordinator



**The VKS-737 Radio Network is a division of the Australian National 4WD Radio Network Inc. a national Public Benevolent Institution (Established 1993)**

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Australian National 4WD Radio Network Inc acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land, and pays our respect to Elders past, present and future.

*"The bitterness of poor quality and service remains long after the joy of a perceived cheaper price has been forgotten"*

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## **Interesting Articles from the SADARC Forum.**

- A reminder to all readers, there are some really interesting articles appearing regularly on the Forum.
- Some that caught my eye recently are;
- Redgum tree antenna, must try this one.
- A thirty one MHZ, low pass filter
- VHF Bandpass filter
- Starship launch, live stream.

These and many more great articles, can be found on the forum.

Peter VK3ASK