



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

May 2023 Newsletter

SADARC committee

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

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). Main 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 June 3rd, at the club house.

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 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.

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The next SADARC meeting will be held on Saturday June 3rd. This is a regular meeting at our club rooms as follows.

- 10am continuation of Arduino training, conducted by Denys VK3ZYZ, Ray VK3YNV and Josh.
- 12pm, our regular BBQ with gold coin.
- 1pm, An informal meeting with time to display and discuss projects and bring up any club issues. Our president Peter may decide to hold a brief meeting to keep everyone posted with club activities and news.

Calendar Dates

June 3 rd	Regular club meeting
July 1st	Regular club meeting.
August 5 th .	
September 10 th .	Hamfest.

Editor's Comments

Our visit to Mount Wombat on May 13, certainly turned out to be a great success. The weather was kind to us, nobody got lost finding Alan's farm, the lunch was great and we all enjoyed the visit to the Mount.

We were greeted by Kevin Eagles, VK3KFM, at the club house and 5 of us travelled to Alan's farm in Euroa where we caught up with the rest of the club members.

Plenty of time was spent checking out his 150 year old property on 10 beautiful acres, fantastic for amateur radio with plenty of high trees and a wind up tower, which Alan is currently installing on the property.

Alan has spent a lot of time and effort cleaning up his property and the house and is doing a fantastic job.

We also enjoyed a great lunch, not just sausages in bread, but some beautiful veggie soup whipped up by Alan's wife Julie. She really is a great host and we all appreciated her efforts.

I am sure Alan would agree that the only down side to his property is the continual noise from the Hume Freeway, but that is a small price to pay to have a lovely 10 acres, with plenty of room for antenna's.

One topic which did generate plenty of discussion was Bill's article about using a large tree as a receive antenna. We are all still wondering if this was an April fools joke, or does it really work. Bill assures us all that it does work.

We all then headed up the Mountain and were pleasantly surprised to find that the weather was warm and sunny, and virtually no wind, very unusual for Mount Wombat.

We spent plenty of time inspecting the range of antenna's installed on the tower and also on the roof of the hut, with lots of discussion about the problems with the 2 mx antenna and the receive issue.

Ray and Josh gave everyone a great description of the gear installed and the functions of the various rigs and monitoring equipment.

A great day was had by all and thanks to all those involved in organising this day out and to Alan VK3BF and Julie for opening up their farm for the day.

There are some photos at the end of this newsletter taken during our visit.

As president Peter states in his report, it looks like the demonstration day at Jaycar, will happen some time in July. Hope all members can get behind this effort and promote our club and hobby.

73's Peter Simpson VK3ASK.

Presidents Report – May 2023

A different month for our Club in May with some of us attending the Arduino Training, some going to Mt Wombat and some doing the Heathcote Rail Trail Comms.

By all reports a good attendance at the three events which is great to see. I personally was at Heathcote for the Comms. A very well run- no pun intended event. My estimate was there would have been close to 200 participants over a 42k course. Some ran the full distance; others did a half marathon. The Comms was organised by Keven, VK3CKC who in his very efficient manner had it down to a fine art. All went very smoothly without any hitch's.

Next, an apology from me. In the last report I stated that the Hamfest was on the 9th September. This is the incorrect date; it is **Sunday 10th September**. My apology for the error.

At our next meeting we will need to discuss our possible day at Jaycar and what needs to be done. I know we need to keep our discussions short but sometimes rules need to bent. It is mooted to be in

July and that only gives us a few weeks to organise it. Stevo, Josh, James and Kevin have done some initial work on the project but we now need the whole Club to get behind it.

Please, put your thinking caps on and come to the meeting with ideas that really promote what Amateur Radio and Electronics are. We need to be impressive with our display but not too technical that it scares people off because it looks too difficult.

Our July meeting will need to consist of some pre-planning for the Hamfest. Our Club runs as a fairly well-oiled machine with the Hamfest but some discussion will be needed.

Back to our next meeting. Many of our Club members have specific interests in sections of Amateur Radio and Electronics. Hence, they build, experiment, destroy, re-purpose, repair and play to try things out. Have a look on the forum to see what Denys does with old TV,s. I would therefore like everybody if possible to bring along one or more items that they have delved into for the next meeting. Why, well to let others know what you are doing, to gain ideas and so we can photograph (with the owner's permission) the sort of things we get up to. I am suggesting that these photographs be made into a Slide Show for our Jaycar expo!

That's it for me this time, see you in a couple of weeks.

Peter Rentsch
VK3AXI
President

Email Report from ACMA

23 May 2023

Amateur class licensing update

We would like to inform you the Australian Maritime College (AMC), has decided not to extend its deed for the provision of amateur licensee services beyond February 2024.

In light of the AMC's decision and the planned move to class licensing of amateur services, we have taken the opportunity to review how amateur radio qualifications and call signs can be best supported under a class licence framework.

Background

For some time, the AMC managed several functions on behalf of the ACMA, including conducting amateur radio operator exams, issuing qualifications and recommending call signs for successful candidates to the ACMA.

However, after examining how to provide the best continuity of service for amateurs, we are proposing an alternative way to deliver these services.

New more effective arrangement

We will no longer use a deed arrangement to provide amateur radio qualifications and call sign recommendations. Instead, we have decided to update the amateur radio qualification and call sign framework alongside the class licence implementation, and manage some of these services ourselves.

New accreditation procedures

We propose to use the network of voluntary assessors used by the AMC as accredited assessors under a scheme managed by the ACMA. Assessors will be able to conduct theoretical and practical examinations for amateur radio. Qualified and experienced amateur operators will be able to seek ACMA accreditation to conduct amateur radio examinations. As part of this accreditation work, we are:

- preparing operational guidelines for accredited assessors
- developing examination material
- compiling a list of allocated and available call signs to go on our website.

The ACMA will still be responsible for approving the amateur radio syllabi.

Better alignment of qualification levels

The new framework will keep the Foundation, Standard and Advanced qualification levels for amateur radio examinations. This aligns with the qualification levels in the proposed class-licensing arrangements.

ACMA to issue qualifications and call signs

Under the new arrangement, qualifications will be issued by ACMA staff after an application from a person who has passed an examination. We will continue to be the call sign administrator and issue call signs to amateurs with recognised qualifications.

These arrangements are consistent with our amateur spectrum management obligations under the International Telecommunication Union's Radio Regulations and the *Radiocommunications Act 1992*.

Next steps

We want to introduce the new accreditation scheme at the same time as the class licensing arrangements. At this stage, we expect to consult on the new accreditation scheme in August 2023. We welcome your feedback through the public consultation process, and we'll keep you updated on progress.

To prepare for the move to class licensing, we have changed the renewal periods for non-assigned amateur licences to 12-months only. This will help amateur licensees make a smooth transition to class licensing.

We are grateful for your engagement and assistance in this transition, and look forward to a smoother, more efficient framework.

Email from EMDRC, sent to our secretary Arthur

Dear all,

Eric, VK3EAC passed on this pearl to members that will alleviate some anxiety around antenna launching - but let's ensure we don't abuse this privilege. Read it carefully and ensure you understand it.

<http://www.gazette.vic.gov.au/gazette/Gazettes2023/GG2023S185.pdf>

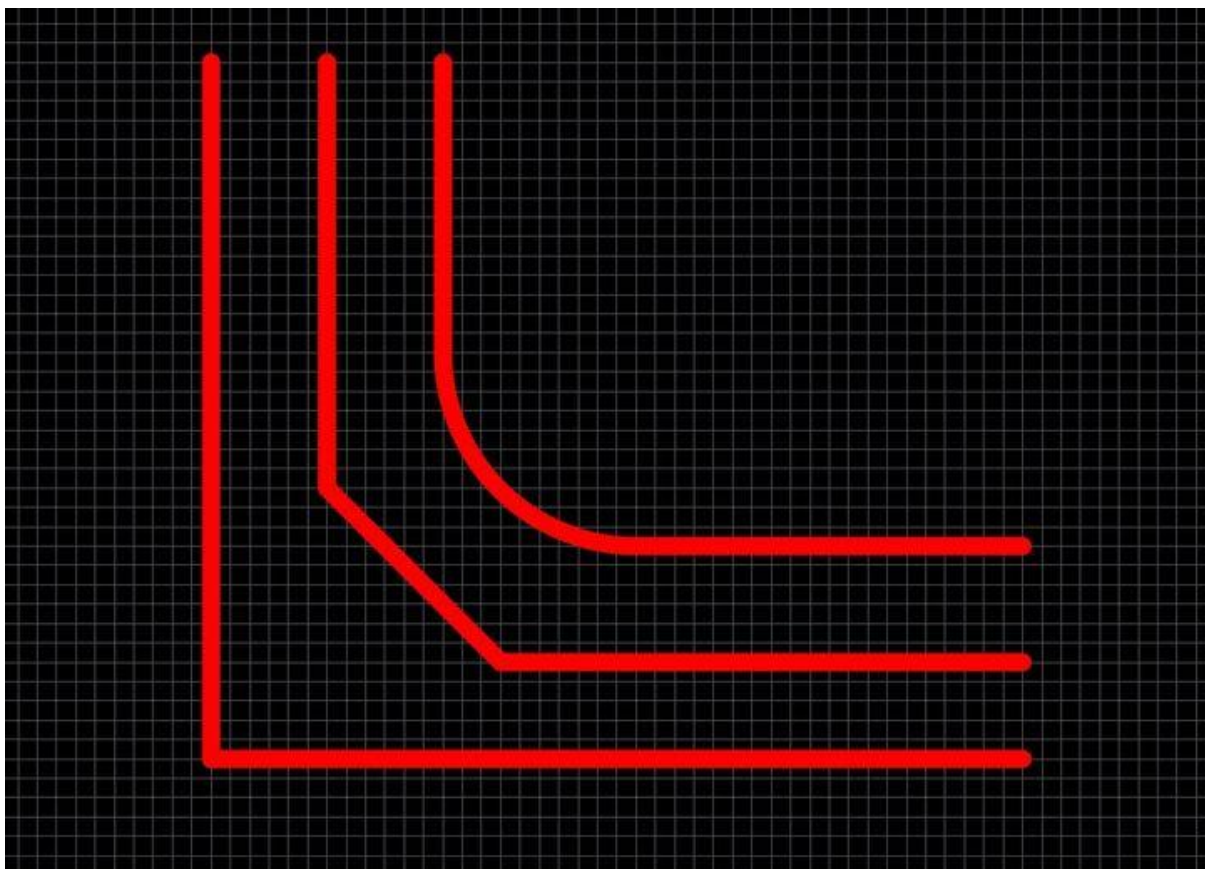
In part - The Governor in Council under section 8B of the Control of Weapons Act 1990 orders that - Commencement This Order comes into operation on the day it is published in the Government Gazette.

Definitions In this Order - amateur radio operator means a person authorised to operate a radiocommunications device under the Radiocommunications Act 1992 of the Commonwealth in relation to an amateur licence made under that Act; antenna launcher means a prohibited weapon prescribed in item 16, 17 or 19 of Schedule 2 to the Control of Weapons Regulations 2021 that is - (a) designed for or adapted to erect radio equipment including a cable, line or antenna; and (b) manufactured and intended for commercial distribution. Exemption A person listed in Column 1 of the Table is exempt from sections 5(1), 5(1AB), 5(1A) and 5AA of the Control of Weapons Act 1990....._

73 Martin

A conundrum from Peter VK3AXI.

When designing Circuit Boards, which style of corner is the best for the track?





Bill searching for some DX



Alan's current Project, the new tower



Enjoying Julie's soup



The Group





If you would like to see more pictures, Dallas James VK3EB is working on a video.