

Shepparton & District Amateur Radio Club and Electronics Club

<u>April 2025 Newsletter</u>

Next Meeting, Saturday May 3rd, at club rooms

SADARC COMMITTEE

President – Graeme Martin, - VK3VSM Vice-President: - Peter Rentsch – VK3AXI Secretary: - Rob Hose - VK3BLD plus Adam Cleary - VK3UU as scribe Treasurer and Membership – Ian Saunders – VK3YYY Webmasters - Graeme Martin - VK3VSM and Ray Gardiner – VK3YNV Hamfest Co-ordinator: - Peter Rentsch - VK3AXI Newsletter editor and Publicity - Peter Simpson – VK3ASK Technical Committee: Geoff VK3ZNA, Ray VK3YNV, Denys VK3ZYZ, Josh Gardiner, also power to co-opt.

To contact any member of the committee above, email <u>committee@sadarc.org</u> and specify who you wish to communicate with and the subject. If you have items for the newsletter, forward to: <u>newsletter@sadarc.org</u> Communications Manager (External Events): Darren Glasson (VK3HEN) – subject to confirmation. Meetings the first Saturday of the month from <mark>10 am</mark> for Arduino training, plus informal chats and technical talks. A BBQ follows (a gold coin donation). Main meeting 1 pm (except January when no meeting occurs) at 360 Health Centre, 18 Channel Road (250 metres from Archer Street), Shepparton.

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

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 from <u>Mt Wombat</u>

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 clubin 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, Sunday.

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

Website - www.sadarc.orgor www.sadarc.org.auFace book Page - Sheppar-ton and District Amateur Radio ClubDirect Link: https://www.face-book.com/groups/481867453084459

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Next Meeting

The next SADARC meeting will be held on Saturday May 3rd, at our regular club rooms, 18 Channel Road Shepparton.

The format for the day is as follows;

10am Arduino class with Denys, Ray and Josh.

12pm Our regular BBQ, with gold coin donation.

1pm Regular club meeting, plus displays of current projects.

Diary Dates

May 3rd, Regular club meeting. June 7th, Regular club meeting, details in next Newsletter. September 14, 2025 Hamfest November 23rd, Bunnings fund raising day.

Editors Comments

As well as our regular reports, this Month we have some interesting photo's of a WW2 AWA radio brought in by Bill Crocker, plus a kitset ham rig, constructed by Steve, VK3DP Our April meeting was once again well attended with some new faces arriving as well as most of the regulars.

Some of the important discussions at the meeting were;

- The possible set up of an SDR at the old Radio Australia site.
- Ways to set up an investment for the club to earn some higher interest.
- The ongoing discussions regarding a possible permanent club house and how we can go about achieving this goal.
- A presentation by Stevo VK3... on short wave listening and where to find the best stations for listening.

In last Month's newsletter, I presented a copy of an article from the July 2010 issue of the HRS Radio Waves newsletter.

This article shows a picture of our dear friend Rodney Champness, VK3UG, in his shed back in 2010.

At that time Rodney was very active with our club, the local HRS. and also wrote regular articles for Silicon Chip magazine.

Sadly, Rodney passed away in October 2022 and his cherished equipment has now all been sold, or donated to worthy recipients.

R.I.P Rod Champness VK3UG.

Well, that's it from me this Month, I look forward to hearing more about the SDR at our next meeting. see you all on May 3rd.

73's Peter VK3ASK

Presidents Report April 2025

Hello fellow club members,

I hope everyone is doing well as we move into autumn. The weather has been beautiful lately, but the colder weather is just around the corner, that means time to finish off those out door projects and start planning those indoor projects, or perhaps it's time to dust off some of those unfinished ones from last year. I know that I have a few in the shack that need to be finished. It's been great to see so many members coming out to club meetings, bringing along their latest acquisitions or projects. With 50 members — and growing — I think it's important we show the wider community what the club is all about. I'd love to see more of your projects featured on our social media pages, as I believe this will help support and promote the club's goals.

April is always a special month for amateur radio. World Amateur Radio Day is celebrated on April 18, marking the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) in Paris in 1925. Radio amateurs around the world celebrate this important milestone each year.

We also honour some important birthdays in April. Guglielmo Marconi, born on April 25, 1874 — which just so happens to be my birthday too (though I arrived 106 years later in 1980!) — is celebrated with International Marconi Day on Saturday, April 26. And if that's not enough, on April 27 we also celebrate the birthday of Samuel Morse, born in 1791.

Attached to this newsletter, you'll find a questionnaire. This is a chance for all SADARC members to have their say and help shape the club's future direction. Your input will help guide the planning of upcoming courses — perhaps a Foundation/Standard training course, a CW class, or building projects for EME or satellites. The possibilities are endless! Remember, a club is just a reflection of its members, and if we are to entice more members into the member base we need a reason for them to come.

SADARC is now at a crossroads. Peter AXI has done an outstanding job of steadily building the club to where it is today. However, to continue growing and diversifying, we need to focus more on increasing our available funds. Big projects are on the horizon, such as replacing the antenna on Mount Wombat — an expensive undertaking — and, looking further ahead, acquiring club

rooms of our own. While the club's bank balance is healthy, the need for ongoing fundraising remains. Our Bunnings BBQ and hamfest are strong earners, but just like with household finances, a good "side hustle" can really help boost our resources.

Lastly, don't forget that SADARC has an online forum where members can post suggestions, share photos from club events, and foster discussion. I encourage everyone to sign up and get involved. If you have trouble signing up please reach out for assistance— let's keep the conversation going!

73's

Graeme Martin President VK3VSM

SADARC April 2025 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Meeting opened 13:00
- 2. Graeme 3VSM welcomed all attendees
- 3. Apologies. Arthur 3AXE, Barry, Geoff 3GSR, 3NQS

Reports

- 4. Correspondence. Incoming: Letter from Lyn Champness. Information from Shepparton Council that no rooms suitable for a clubroom are available at this time. Some potential options maybe in the future. Outgoing: Newsletter. Move Ian 3YYY second Adam 3UU.
- 5. Finance report. In \$310.10 out \$445.95. Outgoing post box, books, ++. Balance is looking very healthy at this stage.
- Investment discussion. Peter 3ASK to investigate the opportunities to invest our money for a better return. Moved Ray 3YNV seconded Peter 3ASK
- 7. Technical report: There was a network outage at Wombat which required a trip to analyse the problem. Ray kindly travelled to Wombat to reset the modem. Due to the simplicity of the fault a discussion was made re

remote reset capability further discussions to be had options include Packet, LoRaWAN or APRS. Moved Peter 3AXI seconded Geoff 3ZNA.

- 8. Newsletter. Graeme noted a big thanks to Colin for his talk on All Star at the last meeting. Much value was got from the session.
- 9. General business

Short Wave. Stevo has provided a flyer on current active HF frequencies specifically targeted at NZ. Thanks Stevo.

Ray presented an idea and with further discussions to potentially locate an SDR at the Radio Australia site attached to an array. This to be solar powered and weatherproof.

Insurance. We are awaiting feedback from WIA.

Peter mentioned the donation of equipment that had belonged to John 3DAB.

Stevo brought up a posthumous reward for Rodney. Another suggestion from Ray was to produce a plaque to give to Lyn re the Rodney Champness Memorial Library. Committee to decide. Moved Ray 3YNV seconded Peter 3ASK.

10.Graeme closed the meeting at 14:15pm.



BAREC hosts the WIA Annual Meeting & Technology Festival.

Below some more details from: Neil Patton VK3ZVX, President of the Bendigo Amateur Radio & Electronics Club (BAREC).

Note that some of our members are planning to attend this festival. Over to Neil.

Attentions to All Victorian Amateur Radio Clubs:

The bookings page for the Bendigo Technology Festival is now up and running ...!!!

Radio Clubs, Radio Societies, individual Amateurs, specialist and novelty AR vendors, commercial operators, and any organisation wishing to display, demonstrate, or sell equipment or merchandise are invited to make Victoria's first public Hamfest a great success.

Do your part to promote Amateur Radio.

All tables provided: \$25- per table including 2 free entries Individual entry: \$7-

Note that visitors to Bendigo may also benefit from the WIA Visitors page. Date Sunday May 4th, 2025 Set-up from 6:00AM. Gates open 10:00 AM.

We'll see you there - 73 !!

Neil A Patton VK3ZVX President BAREC

Club Survey, created by our President Graeme VK3VSM

Attached to this newsletter is a PDF file, for members to fill in, to give the president and committee an idea as to what you want from the club, your interests in radio and how we can improve.

Below is a detailed document explaining how to fill in and save the editable PDF, which then needs to be forwarded to President Graeme.

Provide a Fill Out and Save a Fillable PDF in a Browser (Updated)

Step 1: Open the PDF in your Browser

- Find the PDF file on your computer.
- **Right-click** the PDF → **Open With** → **Choose your browser** (Chrome, Edge, Firefox, Safari).

Step 2: Fill Out the PDF Form

- Click into the fields (boxes) inside the PDF.
- Type your information into the form.

Step 3: Save the Filled-In PDF

Chrome or Edge:

- Move your mouse to the top-right corner.
- Click the **Download** icon (a little downward arrow 🛓).
 - (Or right-click the PDF \rightarrow Save As...)

Step 4: Choose Where to Save

- Pick the folder where you want to save it (Desktop, Documents, etc.).
- Make sure the file type is **.pdf**.

• Click Save.

Step 5: Done!

If you have troubles , you can also print the questionnaire out fill it out manually and return at the next club meeting

AWA War time Receiver

At our last meeting, Bill Crocker brought along an AWA receiver built for use in the 2nd World War.

This receiver is a model C6-770.

The receiver covers long wave, medium wave and a large portion of the HF band.

It uses octal valves and was built around 1943.

Below 2 pictures.



At our last meeting Steve, VK3DP brought along a transceiver he had built up from kitset modules sold by a South Australian Company called Minikits. This is certainly not the cheapest way to get on the air, but the experience and the knowledge gained would surely make the project worthwhile.



