

Founded 1979 Incorporation No A0006677S P.O. Box 692, Shepparton 3632



**Shepparton & District Amateur Radio Club  
and Electronics Club**

**May 2026 Newsletter**

**Next Meeting, Saturday June 6th, 2026.**

**Note; This meeting will be held at the Mooroopna  
Scout Hall, our new Club house.**

**SADARC COMMITTEE**

President – Graeme Martin, - VK3VSM

Vice-President: - Peter Rentsch – VK3AXI

Secretary: - Adam Cleary - VK3UU

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, Kevin VK3KFM, Denys VK3ZYZ, Josh Gardiner, also power to co-opt.

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.

If you have items for the newsletter, forward to: [newsletter@sadarc.org](mailto:newsletter@sadarc.org)

Meetings the first Saturday of the month from **10 am** 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 Mooroopna Scout Hall, for May meeting.

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 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 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.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>

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### **Next Meeting**

We are going to try a different format for our Monthly meetings. We will try and make the meetings a bit more interesting for all members, by moving committee type issues to a monthly Zoom meeting for the committee only.

This will mean that our Saturday meeting can be more of a technical discussion, with a technical report from the technical committee, any major issues brought to the members meeting on a Saturday and efforts to re-introduce the “Man Behind the Mic segment” and hopefully some guest speakers.

For our next meeting, our secretary Adam VK3UU, has offered to give a talk on his many years of work in the Television industry, his special knowledge of digital TV transmissions and his knowledge of high bandwidth TV via the internet.

### **Diary Dates**

- June 6<sup>th</sup>, Regular club meeting at Mooroopna, including “Man behind the Mic”
- July 3<sup>rd</sup>. regular meeting at club house.

- Sunday September 13, SADARC Annual Hamfest.
- Every Thursday morning from 10am, Coffee and chat at Scout Hall.

## **Editors Comments**

Things are certainly coming together with our new club rooms and our changes for 2026.

We now have a shack set up and antennas for some of the HF bands, plus plans for 2 metres and 70cm.

The kitchen has been cleaned up, the paths outside have been cleaned and it is starting to look like a great place for our meetings.

Remember, we also have our Thursday morning coffee catch up, as well as the Thursday evening tech discussions.

We have open access to the hall, so let's use it and make our club really great and active.

Plans are also in place for regular guest speakers and our "Man behind the Mic sessions"

Remember, if you would like to tell your story about your ventures in amateur radio and electronics, we would love to hear from you.

So, talk to the committee and you can be the next Man behind the Mic.

73's and see you all on May 2<sup>nd</sup>

Peter Simpson VK3ASK

## **Presidents Report**

This month's meeting was very well attended, with around 25 members coming along. It was genuinely encouraging to see such a strong turnout, particularly as it gave everyone the opportunity to experience firsthand the progress that has been happening within the clubrooms. There was a real buzz in the room, with members moving around, catching up, and taking a close look at the changes. For many, it's the first time in a while that they have seen the clubrooms space has truly felt like an active, functioning set of clubrooms again — not just a meeting place, but a hub of activity.

Our Thursday morning coffee catch-ups continue to go from strength to strength. These sessions have developed into a relaxed but highly valuable

part of the club's weekly rhythm. They provide a space where members can come together informally, talk radio, work on small projects, and support each other. The addition of the Thursday evening sessions has also opened the door for those who can't make it during the day, and it's been great to see this gaining traction as well. Together, these sessions are building consistency, routine, and a stronger sense of community within the club.

The radio shack was another highlight during the meeting. With the club's radios powered up and in use, it brought a real sense of life into the room. Members were able to sit down, operate the equipment, and listen to activity on the bands. Hearing voices coming through the speakers, signals being tuned in, and conversations taking place creates an atmosphere that you simply can't replicate any other way. It reinforces the purpose of the club and demonstrates the value of having shared equipment and a dedicated shack space available to all members.

All of these developments point to something bigger than just physical improvements. They reflect a shift in the culture of the club — towards being more active, more inclusive, and more outward-looking. There's a growing sense that the clubrooms are not just somewhere we meet once a month, but a place that can be used regularly, creatively, and with purpose.

If we continue on this path, building on what we've started and encouraging more members to get involved, the future of the club looks very strong indeed.

Graeme Martin

VK3VSM

President of Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club

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## **SADARC 2026 Meeting May 2nd, 2026**

Location: 1<sup>st</sup> Mooroopna Scout Hall

Time: Meeting start 1:12pm

### Order of business

1. Graeme 3VSM opened the meeting
2. Apologies Kevin 3KFM, Rob 3BLD, Geoff 3GSR, Arthur D, Jason 3NQS, 2DQS, 3ZDK,3HKH, Andrew G.
3. Previous minutes – accepted as tabled Ian 3YYY sec Adam 3UU
4. Correspondance inbound. Kelly, District Commissioner Scouts, asked about the use of the Scout Hall on the weekend 30/31 May for Cub sleepover. Asked also about assisting with STEM education events for the Scouts. A discussion about our activities was had. Kelly was pleased about the new painting of the Hall and the contact with the Mooroopna Steering committee. Discussions with BAREC re Meshcore. Pro Graeme 3VSM sec Ian 3YYY
5. Correspondance outbound. Nil.
6. Finance, Bunnings day made over \$1400. Finances are looking very healthy, but there are a few expenses coming up such as 2 metre antenna installations.
7. Tech report. Our digital equipment (DSTAR and ALLSTAR) are in the workshop at present DMR is running.The Mt Big Ben cross link is up and running, try it out. The modem on the SDR is having intermittent issues an ongoing evaluation is being performed.
8. Hamfest. We will put an advert into WIA for insertion in AR. Josh is designing this . The entry pricing is confirmed still at \$5 with table costs \$35, quantities above 5 tables by negotiation. Kitchen access. Jack noted that we would benefit from access the night prior, to be discussed. Dallas reminded the group we used the Kitchen last year without paying for it (our oversight) and that was noted so this year we shall need to

ensure we notify the church of the use of the hall. Prop Peter 3AXI sec  
Peter 3ASK

9. Working Bee. The working bee was a great success with Kev providing the heavy lifting tools of his Cherry picker and pressure washer. Many thanks to Kev for the support, what will we do without him! The concrete outside the hall was cleaned, the Storage room pressure washed and given a good birthday. The dipole was installed but it is way out of tune but nothing a resourceful amateur group could not overcome to have the return first contact with VK7. A great job was done in cleaning of the kitchen and facilities by Greg, a big thanks he did a fantastic job there. Towel holders will need to be fixed and a few other items but the condition is much better now. A big thanks to Scott and Tayla for lunch, any excuse for a good sausage sizzle is always accepted.

10. General business.

Internet. An approach was made to pollies re assisting with internet access. They might not succeed but time will tell. In the interim Kev has kindly supplied a 4G modem for use. There are also other plans to see if we can jointly use other internet sources perhaps via microwave links. The next committee meeting will be held via zoom and not at the club day. This is a move to see if this makes a better use of club day time and restricting the club meeting component to just the important items such as Tech report +++.

Thursday sessions are moving from strength to strength both coffee break and tech evening. The recent events of Flower Pot Antennae (Kev), Nano VNA use (Ray), Meshcore Tech (Graeme) shows the excellent subjects we have covered. Future suggestions such as Foxhunting kit, and tape measure yagis are potential future events. A discussion was had about using these events for future replay and potentially Youtube presence on our Youtube channel/ Lets see where that goes.

Meeting closed 2.30.

## **SADARC Transitional MAY JUNE 2026 Meeting**

Location: On line

Time: Meeting start 7:30pm

### Order of business

11. Graeme 3VSM opened the Committee meeting
12. Apologies Denys 3ZYZ and Geoff 3ZNA
13. Previous minutes – accepted as tabled
14. Discussion on do we publish committee meeting minutes in the newsletter. It was seen as not necessary to publish the meeting minutes but these would be available for perusal by members if needed. Meeting outcomes to be messaged to members at the general meeting day 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month. The messaging that would remain for the club day to be streamlined so as to make the club meeting more effective use of the club members time.
15. Correspondence inbound. Ryan from Mitchell Shire on what can we offer the community as a club. Suggested that Ryan visits a club meeting to see. Peter 3AXI reminded us about potential to support vision impaired amateurs such as VK3FBEN. He went on to say Mitchell Shire will have funding available for the club to support activities that can be offered to the community.  
We received EMDRC newsletter and also notification of the Macservice retirement auction for Bernie Lebenbaum.
16. Correspondance outbound. Nil.
17. Tech report. The Tech report was discussed as to weather it should be part of the Committee meeting in full or part and what we should provide on the club meeting days. It was noted that the Tech report was a highlight of the club meeting days and that some parts could be handled in the committee meeting and some could be held for the club meeting day. A motion was put by Ray to not include it in the committee meeting but to have the Tech report still at the club meeting day first Saturday of

the month. Prop Ray 3YNV sec Ian 3YYY carried unanimously that the Tech report remains for the Club meeting day.

Meshcore subject. It was suggested that a program to 'sponsor' Meshcore in the region be done by the club as an activity to promote the club. Josh suggested the creation of a Meshcore Room to support this program. Effectively a Meshcore SADARC Club meeting room.

Kevin 3KFM has been very active in this space having made a 19inch rackmount setup of a Raspberry Pi and Meshcore node in anticipation of this type of need.

18. Financial report. It was decided that under the status of Committee meeting mid-month ready reports would not necessarily be useful. It was suggested and decided that the Financials be aligned with the last day of each month and reported formally this way. The use of the Committee meeting was good to approve payments and monetary activities be done with outcomes of the details be made ready for club members. This was to contain the more process based financial activities to the Committee meeting rather than taking general members time during the club meeting. Ian 3YYY to prepare financial in this way ongoing.

19. Hamfest. Nil this month

20. Hall report – Heating has been fixed with the pilot relit and available for use. Air conditioning still not solved but looking to be able to offer to the Shepp council justification through our hall use and activities to be able to have the Air Conditioning put into their next budget. It became apparent that the expectation of the council spending monies on this was based on increased usage of the facility. Between the Scouts and the club we should be able to provide more visibility to strengthen this target. The subject of the next Club working bee was had. Several members have expressed a desire and queried when we can do another event. Subject was then extended to new antennas and the availability. Several offers have been made as well as suggestions to just go and purchase new antennas to fast track this. A new member has offered a

multiband HF variant on the G5RV so these will be explored quickly. Note is to be made to work within Kevin's boundaries due to the pivotal need to have his Cherry Picker available for the event so time and date is dependent on his availability.

Upcoming activities at the hall include the Cubs sleepover on the 30<sup>th</sup> May.





21. Newsletter and promotions. Nil to add since recent last meeting
22. Notification for next Club meeting the return of Man behind the mike. This month to be Adam 3UU.
23. Other clubs interactions, Ongoing discussion with BAREC about emergency communications with BAREC also pursuing the Meshcore opportunities.
24. New member Eric turned up on the Thursday evening sessions. Eric heard about our meetings on Thursdays through BAREC, thank you to BAREC for the assist.
25. Thursday events gaining traction. For the Thursday events of coffee break and importantly Thursday evenings we are looking for more structured future program to notify members of upcoming subjects to be done in these sessions. This can assist by having materials purchased in advance allowing very complete activities to be had. This on the back of the learning curve we have had leading into the success we have already had with the Thursday night sessions. It is proposed to use the forum more effectively to manage this process and make it easy to move ahead. Once managed in forum formal dates can be announced for these activities.
- 26.** SWL report. Preliminary talks around where the best efforts can be optimized for the dissemination of the time critical information from Stevo in the SWL report. This may be polished up further as the new meeting/club meeting structure evolves. It was noted that waiting to the start of the next month make information stale (paraphrased). Watch this space.

## Get Involved – Join the SADARC Forums!

One of the biggest strengths of any club isn't just what happens at meetings — it's what happens *between* them.

That's where the SADARC forums come in.


Whether you're experimenting with antennas, chasing down a bit of interference, working on a project, or just want to share what you've been up to in the shack — the forums give you a place to connect with other members anytime.

-  Ask questions and get help from experienced operators
-  Share builds, ideas, and projects
-  Post your latest contacts and on-air experiences
-  Stay up to date with club news and activities

Not everyone can make every Thursday session or monthly meeting — but the forum keeps you part of the conversation no matter where you are.

A quiet forum is a missed opportunity. An active forum becomes a knowledge base, a workshop, and a meeting place all in one.

 If you haven't signed up yet, now's the time.

 If you have an account, jump on and make a post — even a simple “g'day” goes a long way.

## SDR Services

The club now has 3 fully functional SDR services available and we want our members to use them.

The web addresses are as follows;

[Strathy RX1](#)

[Strathy RX2](#)

[Strathy Rx3](#)

