

B.A.R.G. NEWS

Official Newsletter of the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group. Inc. #6953T

ABN 44 247 200 143

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 7 AUGUST 2005

PRESIDENT: David Tilson VK3UR SECRETARY: John Kennedy VK3AIG TREASURER: Bob Terrill VK3BNC
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NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY 26 AUGUST 2005

At 7.30 pm

EDITOR'S COMMENT

It is at this time of year (Annual General Meeting) that it is easy to fill the news letter. By the time we put in the minutes, annual report and financial statements the, number of pages are taken up, and there is not the normal requests for articles.

My thanks go to those members who supply articles and reports and to those members who supply data to the various co-ordinators. This makes the task much easier. I tried to establish a "Letters to the Editor" but this did not bring much response. That is a potential forum for members to have their say about directions for the club to take and to promote the club in the same or new directions. Let's all members think about this in the new year and let next year be better than the last.

The committee is trying; so should you!

SILENT KEY

It is with regret that we announce the passing of Club Member Frank Meynderts VK3CFF. Frank has been a club member for many years and his passing is only a short time since his wife passed away

Frank will be remembered for his activity at the George Fowler Auction days and his many purchases and spirited bidding

Frank will be missed by our members.

Quotable Quote

You only live once. But if you work it right, once is enough

DATES

Club meetings the last Friday each month starting at 7.30 pm

COMMITTEE please note that meetings (3rd Wednesday in the month) will also start at 7.30.

Construction Nights. Construction nights are held on the second Monday each month at 7.30 .

WICEN Net : Tuesday nights at 9.00 pm on 3.60 MHz + QRM etc. (Some times below 3.60) and after the net closes, a short check in on 40M at an agreed freq.

MOWING ROSTER – AGAIN

It is that time again when we publish the mowing roster for the Club rooms. The mower and fuel are at the rooms, but when the fuel is getting low please contact the committee to get a refill. Any new “mowers” will be fitted in.

Aug VK3NBV & VK3VBA	Sept. VK3CMC & VK3 IDL
Oct. VK3DMK & VK3FGC	Nov VK3AXH & VK3TJW
Dec. VK3NBV & VK3VBA	Jan VK3CMC & VK3IDL
Feb. VK3DMK & VK3FGC	Mar. VK3AXH & VK3TJW

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc

Minutes of General Meeting 29 July 2005

Meeting opened by President David @ 1935 hrs.

Apologies VK3DET, VK3ASH, VK3HRZ, VK3BNC, VK3CFH, VK3KQQ, VK3PAL, VK3TCV, VK3DCS, VK3BVI.

Visitors. VK4WAC, VK3HLC, VK3HHJ.

Minutes of June meeting as circulated. Moved vk3nbv/vba. Carried.

Business arising from minutes.

- IRLP News Broadcasts.
- Barg Email addresses.
- Gifts for guest speakers.
- BPL update.

Correspondence. In Stephen Walsh, VK3HEG, Central Goldfields Radio Group.

Condolence Card Frank VK3CFF.

Moved VK3CMC/CIS that correspondence be accepted. Carried.

Financial Report. Statement and a/cs for payment. Moved VK3FGC/KGL. Carried.

Committee Report. Doug Vk3vba purchased drinking mugs with BARG emblem for guest speakers. Well received. Web pages. Harry Vk3kgl well advanced with updating. Certificate of appreciation Ballarat City Council. Norm Vk3lba, Doug Vk2vba, Gordon Vk3fgc, Completed very appropriate certificate. Library Loan Books, Craig Vk3cmc reported missing editions. Please fill in loan book. Guest Speakers every 2 months.

Reports General. IRLP. John Vk3tjw reported success with ironing out problems. Fine tuning. Vk3rwa upgrade Ian Vk3axh reported slowly but surely. Problems with DTMF. Barg Email addresses John Vk3tjw. system now functional. Packet BBS/DX Cluster. Discussion on letter Stephen Walsh and the viability of the Club proposal. Further discussion, BPL Fortress Networks. David Vk3ur reported on a meeting with the proposers and outlined the proposals. Will be some months before trials begin in the Ballarat area. Amenities. Doug Vk3vba reported on cleaning throughout the building. Construction Group Ian Vk3axh reported on 160m ant project and the plan to start data cabling in the Club rooms next meeting. Eight members indicated they would like to construct the ant analyser kit. Nets Both Nets running well. Varied numbers. Monitors. Bob Vk3nbv reported on receiving two monitors from United Care. Equipment and books donated from George Vk3ds. Club very grateful. Propagation report. Ian Vk3axh urged members to submit reports of their propagation achievements.

General Business Next Dining Night will be at Beaufort Golden Age Hotel. 19 August.

Annual General Meeting. David Vk3ur urged all members to seriously consider nominating for a position on the Club Committee. Nominations close 12 August. 2005. Trivia night will follow Meeting. To be conducted by Doug Vk3vba.

RD Contest. Craig reported Club will take part in this event for a 12 hour stint at the Club rooms on August 13.

John Moyle Field Day, Ian Vk3axh congratulated members who took part in the field day and their effort gained fourth place Encouraged all members to think about taking part next year.

Hamvention. Homebrew Comp this year. \$100.00 donation from anonymous will add interest.

Central Goldfields Radio Club. David Vk3ur explained the reason for Central Goldfields Club being a member of Barg. The members of CG appreciate the use of the Clubs equipment especially the Vk3rwa repeater.

Meeting closed 2045 hrs.

Test your IQ

Time and Tide; A ship is at anchor. Over the side hangs a rope ladder with rungs 30 centimetres apart. The tide rises at a rate of 20 centimetres per hour. At the end of 6 hours how much of the ladder will remain above the water, assuming that 2 metres were above water when the tide began to rise?

Answer Later in News:

ANNUAL REPORT – BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP (Inc.)

President's Report:

As another term of the elected Committee draws to an end I think it is timely to reflect on the activities that the club has undertaken and the efforts made by a number of members over the last 12 months.

The Club ran a very successful special event station, VI3BML, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Eureka uprising in Ballarat. 22 of our members operated the special event callsign and made 533 contacts. Ian, VK3IDL, coordinated the activities, and was assisted by Norm, VK3LBA, and Gordon, VK3FGC, in the design and printing of QSL cards. The Club is also grateful to the Ballarat City Council for funding and supporting the activity. This resulted in radio interviews and newspaper articles promoting the Club.

The Construction Group has had a busy time making a variety of projects including 2 tone oscillators, 160m vertical antennas, computer / sound card interfaces, and last month ran CAT5 computer cabling throughout the Club Rooms. A special thanks to Ian, VK3AXH, for leading the group through these monthly get togethers.

Steve, VK3SE, organised a very interesting tour of the Ballarat Goldfields. They kindly provided an information pack to all that attended, although mine didn't have any gold samples... We also visited the Geelong Radio and Electronic Society (GRES) and had a very entertaining evening.

After providing a few years of providing reliable service to the Club, Stephen VK3HEG, moved house and could no longer house the IRLP system. Doug, VK3VBA, persuaded Neighborhood Cable to a broadband internet connection to the Club Rooms. Aply assisted by Bob - VK3NBV, John - VK3TJW and Ian – VK3IDL the IRLP system was successfully relocated to the Club Rooms.

Bob - VK3BNC and Ian - VK3AXH have been busy scrounging parts for, and constructing a new 2m voice repeater to replace VK3RWA. This will provide enhanced capability in the years to come.

Under the leadership of our master builder, Neil VK3KQQ, the workshop has been rebuilt and will enable a number of construction activities to be undertaken. In the sweltering heat Charlie – VK3TCV installed an air conditioner for the Club Rooms, which also heats the building on those cold and frosty nights.

Fourteen of our members participated in the John Moyle Memorial Field Day, atop of Flagstaff Hill. The group were successful in obtaining 4th place in the multi-operator category, despite the quantity of fluids consumed on the Saturday evening.

The George Fowler Memorial Auction was the most successful ever thanks to some very generous donations by a few of our members and the efforts of our Auctioneer Extraordinaire Bob – VK3BNC.

The 2004 Hamvention was well attended and continues to attract people from around the State and as far as Adelaide.

The Club prepared a submission to the Australian Communications Authority on interference from Broadband over Power Line applications.

Harry – VK3KGL recently took on the maintenance and upgrade of the Club's Web Site which provides many of our members and other's interested in amateur radio with information about the club and its activities.

John – VK3AIG and Gordon – VK3FGC went to school for the day and gave a presentation and demonstration on amateur radio to students at Damascus College that was well received. They have been invited back later in the year to do a repeat performance.

We have had a number of interesting guest speakers including Gwen – VK3DYL on DxPeditions, Michael - VK3KI and Robert – VK3KRB from the Wireless Institute of Australia, Tom – VK3DMK on programming PICs, Drew VK3XU on construction techniques, Neil Blanchard on the Emergency Alerting System, Mark – VK3PI on the Metropolitan Mobile Radio System.

It has also been satisfying to note that there has been a steady increase in the number of memberships during the last 12 months. Welcome to all concerned and I hope that you will enjoy the benefits that the Club offers.

In summarising, there have been a number of members that have contributed to the successful running of the club over the last 12 months. The Committee has worked well as a team in promoting the best interests of the Club and I would like to thank them and all others who have assisted in various ways. Some of our Committee members are stepping down this year, and I expect that there will be some unfilled positions, so please give some consideration to becoming actively involved with the development of the Club at the AGM.

Yours in amateur radio,

David Tilson, VK3UR

Annual Report 2004 – 2005

General Account

Income

Membership			1241.00
Transfer from Convention Account		3000.00	
Examinations			50.00
Donations			1085.00
Club projects			622.00
Miscellaneous			
Raffle		171.00	
DTMF Tone Generators	96.00		
WIA Antenna Refund		330.00	
Call Books		44.00	641.00
Auctions			942.20
Cash			110.00
Bank Interest			10.67

Total Income **\$7701.87**

Annual Report 2004 – 5

General Account

Expenses

Power			308.35
Rent			600.00
Repairs			
Workshop		496.07	
RWA		444.95	
Hall		78.74	1019.76
Administration			
Petty Cash		200.00	
Licences	149.60		
Books		60.00	
Insurance		419.66	
Ladies Night		100.00	
Eureka 150		711.40	
John Moyle		118.25	
QST		101.25	
Food Handlers Course		61.00	
Australia Post Box		56.00	
Hamvention Advertising	50.82		
Locks & Keys		138.60	
Consumer Affairs		35.80	
Exams		66.00	
Extras		119.00	2387.38

Newsletter	97.68	
IRLP	577.40	
Miscellaneous		
Projects	777.09	
DTMF Tone Encoders	118.80	
Convention Transfer	1000.00	
Central Heating Unit	402.84	
Bus Hire	55.64	
Extras	83.00	2437.37
Government GDT Tax	33.10	

Total Expenses **\$7461.04**

Annual Report 2004 – 2005

General Account
Bank Reconciliation

Balance Brought Forward	01/07/04	4336.54
Income for Year		7701.87

Total Income		12038.41
Less Expenses		7451.04

Total		4577.37

Balance at Bank 30/6/05 **\$4877.37**

Annual Report 2004 – 2005

BARG Assets

Cash and Bank Accounts

Petty Cash
Convention Account
General Account

Total Cash **\$4923.51**

Other Assets

Book Library 332.00
Equipment 5000.00

Total **\$5332.00**

Total Assets \$10255.51

Total Liabilities Nil

Overall Total \$10255.51

Annual Report 2004 – 2005

Convention Account

Income for Year 2004/05

Convention Door	1672.00
Transfer from General Account	1000.00
Tables	775.00
Drinks	54.95
Food	409.00
Other	56.00
Float	600.00
Bank Interest	6.23

Total Income **\$4573.18**

Expenses

Hall Hire	350.00
Cash Float	600.00
Hire of Tables	350.00
Food	125.70
Convention Cash	200.00
Convention Sundries	77.21
State Govt. Tax	7.50
Transfer to General Account	3000.00

Total Expenses **\$4710.41**

Bank Reconciliation
Convention Account

Balance Brought Forward	483.37	
Income for Year	4573.18	

Total Income	5056.55	
Less Expenses	4710.41	
Total	346.14	
Balance at Bank 30/06/05		346.14

SICK LIST

Our thoughts go out John VK3CJB who has recently been in hospital for an operation. We hope John in well recovered.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome new members to the Club, Rick Joe Parsons VK3BEB, Dean Emmins VK3HHJ, and Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club.

Central Goldfields ARC as well as joining the club made a donation to the running of our repeaters as their members use them.

NEWS ITEMS

John Moyle Weekend

After some corrections in submitting logs for the weekend we have been placed fourth in the competition. This is a great result which spurs on for next years weekend. So now is the time to let the XYL know that you will be away that weekend.

Wheatstone Bridge.

George VK3DS has made a donation of a home brew Wheatstone bridge which was on display at the last Club meeting. It is quite some time since I have seen one (back to my school days physics class) and I am sure others members are in the same boat. Thanks George.

Annual Fees

Annual fees are now payable and the treasurer will have the receipt book at the AGM and please bring your annual personal data sheet with your money.

HAMVENTION

It seems early to be talking about this year's BARG Hamvention but we will be again running a "home brew" competition. This is because we support the idea and also due to again a donation of \$100.00 towards the prizes.

The donation was received at the July meeting from "I Am Anonymous (No call sign added)" as a money order. This is keeping the anonymity well guarded but the club thanks you very much.

Propagation Report for August 2005

With winter now on us I thought members would be spending more time in the shack with expectations of getting more info from you regarding your on air activities. Well how wrong I have been. My observations this month have been.

10 metres Limited openings to South East Asia

15 metres Again a few JA's can be heard on this band

40 metres Mornings have proven difficult for local contact up to 150 K and occasionally up to 600 K but afternoons and evenings have been quite good with plenty of overseas contacts to be made.

80 metres Some good contacts were made during the RD contest from the BARG Club Rooms into most VK call areas including VK9 and ZL. It was great to see the enthusiasm from those who attended this worthwhile activity. Attending were: VK3CMC, VK3UR, VK3VBA, VK3NBV, VK3ADX, VK3IDL and VK3AXH. Special thanks to Craig for coordinating the event and Bob/Doug for setting the barbecue up. We look forward to a greater attendance next year.

Kevin VK3WN reports some short openings on 6 metres within VK.

Both VK3WN and VK3AXH were among the stations that had good contacts into Adelaide and surrounding district on both 2 metres and 70 cm with signals well over S9 on 2mx and S6 on 70cm. This activity occurred on 21st July.

Ian VK3AXH had a good 2m SSB contact with Neil VK2EI at Port Macquarie on Monday morning 15th August. It was due to a long meteor burn which gave signals of S5 in both directions.

Ben Nevis Repeater Progress Report

The VK3RWA updated repeater is nearing completion. Once additional testing and minor operational setup procedures have been finalised it will be ready for installation (subject to weather conditions)

Till next month 73 de VK3AXH

Construction Night

With the 160 M aerals now almost completes, the next construction night will be the cabling of the Club rooms for computer use. So remember to wear old clothes as you may be climbing through the ceiling etc. ie it may be a dirty night as the dust in the ceiling has been there since the WW2.

The next construction project is to be the building of a HF Analyser (to 30MHz) at an estimated cost of \$117.00 for the parts. Ian VK3AXH has collected names of those interested but there is time left for other people to get their names to Ian

RD CONTEST

This year BARG activated the club rooms for only the first six hours of the twenty four hour competition. We would have gone on longer if more members had shown an interest in maintaining the club call on the bands. With seven members available we set up and operated the 80M rig from the club room area and the 20M/15/10M from the shack. Not expecting to work too much we also set up an FM box on 2M in the workshop area where we occasionally made CQ calls only.

Due to some serious overload problems on 20M we couldn't operate on 40M when trying to work on 20/15M. At end of our activity VK3BML entered the HF Multiple Operator using 20 and 80M. Our log claims 119 points. On 2M we scored 7 points. For tea members brought the makings for a BBQ and we fired up the BBQ. With fruit cake and boston bun for sweets we made short work of the meal.

Members who operated the station were, VK's 3UR David, 3NBV Bob, 3BVA Doug, 3IDL Ian, 3 AXH Ian, 3ADS Merv and 3CMC Craig.

Closing down at midnight everyone admitted having a great time and decided we should operate the club again in the 2006 Remembrance Day contest. What about some more support next year from other club members? By entering our log we hope that it may also assist the VK3 division to win this years trophy. Will be interested in seeing the results soon.

Craig VK3CMC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc A.G.M. 2004 Aug 27

Minutes of Annual General Meeting August 27. 2004.

Apologies. *Craig vk3cmc, Ian vk3axh, Harry vk3kgl, Bob vk3bnc, Kathy vk3hrz, Bill vk3pal, Jeff vk3pap, Robert vk3nbv, Doug vk3vba, Ted Morley.*

Minutes of A.G.M. August 2003 read and confirmed Moved vk3bvi/ vk3dcs. Carried,

Annual Reports read and confirmed Moved vk3fgc / vk3ur Carried.

President Gordon thanked all members for their support, then declared all positions vacant and withdrew from the chair.

John vk3cfh then presided and conducted the election of new Office Bearers as the the number of nominations did not exceed vacancies no ballot was required.

The following nominations were received.

President David vk3ur
 Vice President Ian vk3idl,
 Secretary John vk3aig
 Treasurer, Bob vk3bnc,
 Committee, Bob vk3nbv, Doug vk3vba, Craig vk3cmc, Gordon vk3fgc, John vk3cfh,
 Harry vk3kgl,

All new nominations declared valid and new President David vk3ur took the chair and filled the following positions.

Net Coordinator, Clem vk3bvi with John vk3cfh as rostered backup,
 Amenities Coordinator To be filled, Examinations Officer Charlie vk3dcs.
 Education Officer Craig vk3cmc. Technical Officer Ian v3axh.
 Hamvention Officer Ian vk3axh, Property Officer Jeff vk3pap,
 Q.S.L. Manager Michael Lomas, Publicity Officer To Be Filled.
 News Letter Officer Gordon vk3fgc. Awards Officer To Be Filled,

Moved Gordon vk3fgc/ Ian vk3idl that Jeff vk3pap be elected Hon Auditor for coming year. Carried,

Moved Gordon vk3fgc / Clem vk3bvi that Robert Dobson be elected as Hon Solicitor to B.A.R.G. Club. Carried.

Being no further business the A.G.M. closed at 2010 hrs and President David thanked all members for their interest and support.

<u>Month</u>	Construction Night	Committee Meeting	Dining Night	General Meeting	Notes:
<u>August</u>	Mon 8th 7:30 pm	Wed 17th 7:30 pm	Fri 19th 6:30 pm (Golden Ages)	Fri 26th 7:30 pm (Annual General Meeting)	Nominations for the 2005/06 Committee close on 13th Aug.
<u>September</u>	Mon 12th 7:30 pm	Wed 21st 7:30 pm	Fri 16th 6:30 pm (Venue TBA)	Fri 30th 7:30 pm (Mark Schmidt – Neighborhood Cable)	

Answer to Puzzle

Since the ship is afloat, the water level in relation to the ship stays the same. Therefore, two meters are above the water, just as at the beginning

Optimists and pessimists have one fault in common: they are afraid of the truth

CLUB INFORMATION

REPEATERS

VK3RBA	(Voice)	146.750	Mt Buninyong
VK3RWA	(Voice)	147.100	Mt Ben Nevis
VK3RPC	(Packet)	144.750	Mt Warrenheip
VK3RBU	(Voice)	438.475	

BEACON

VK3RMB		438.475	Mt Buninyong
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IRLP Node 6310 using VK3RWAS

CLUB e-mail vk3bml@barg.org.au.

CLUB NET VK3BML 3.610+/- QRM Thursday Nights at 8 pm E.S.T (Summer & Winter)

WIA Broadcast and Club Call Back. Sunday's 11.30 via VK3RWA (IRLP Node 6310)

NEWS ITEMS Send to Gordon VK3FGC
mail to Box 1261 Mail Centre BALLARAT 3354 or e-mail wcornell@bigpond.net.au

**The Annual General Meeting of B.A.R.G. Inc will be held on
Friday 27 th August 2005 commencing at 1930 hrs
At the
Club Rooms Ballarat Aerodrome**

Agenda

- 1 Minutes of 2004 AGM**
- 2 To Receive and adopt Annual Report and Financial Statement**
- 3 To elect Office Bearers for 2005/2006**
- 4 To elect Honorary Auditor**
- 5 To elect Honorary Solicitor**

NOTES

- 1 All financial members are entitled to cast a vote on the above matters.**
- 2 Nomination forms are available from Secretary (phone 53324454) or your last newsletter**
- 3 Nominations for Office Bearers close with Secretary at 1300 hrs on Friday 13th August**
- 4 Postal address for all correspondence is as below.**

B.A.R.G. Inc.

(Ballarat Amateur Radio Group. Inc #6953T)
ABN 44 247 200 143

Annual Subscription & Club Register Check

Date: _____

Receipt No _____

Name: _____ Y/N

Call Sign _____ Y/N

Address: _____ Y/N

Phone Home _____ Y/N

Town: _____ Y/N

Phone Work _____ Y/N

Post Code _____ Y/N

e-mail _____ Y/N

Subscription Paid \$ _____

MOB _____ Y/N

If the Club decides to publish a Club Directory, are you willing to have the above information included? Yes/No. If there is any information you want excluded; please circle Yes/No (Y/N) on each entry above.

Signature _____

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B.A.R.G. Inc.

(Ballarat Amateur Radio Group. Inc #6953T)
ABN 44 247 200 143

Annual Subscription & Club Register Check

Date: _____

Receipt No _____

Name: _____ Y/N

Call: Sign _____ Y/N

Address: _____ Y/N

Phone Home _____ Y/N

Town: _____ Y/N

Phone Work _____ Y/N

Post Code _____ Y/N

e-mail _____ Y/N

Subscription Paid \$ _____

Mobile _____

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Signature _____