



BARG News

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group

Inc. #6953T

May

Monthly Newsletter

Next Meeting

Friday 24th of May 2019 @ 7:30pm

At the B.A.R.G. Club House, Ballarat Airport

All Welcome



Contacting us

You can write to the club at the address below, or e-mail the secretary

The Secretary : B.A.R.G. Inc.
Box 1218
Mail Centre
Bakery Hill Vic. 3354

Or E-Mail : vk3bml@barg.org.au

We're on the web
www.barg.org.au

Presidents Report

Welcome to the May Newsletter. May is always George Fowler month, and the tables at the club house are starting to fill up with all sorts of interesting items. Even Lachy was getting excited when he saw what was there at the committee meeting last Monday. If you have some stuff that really needs a new home, you can drop it off ahead of the day, or bring it along on the morning. The day kicks off at 12 o'clock with soup and browsing, with the first first item up for bidding at 1pm. Most items go for less than \$5 and it's all a bit of fun too.



Next meeting Alan, VK3ARH will be presenting to us on some his SOTA adventures. Allen is an accomplished SOTA activator, with 378 summits activated. He's also the author and administrator of the [ParksnPeaks](#) website. It'll be a good evening, so make a point of getting along.

Note: **the next meeting is Friday 24th**. That's the second last Friday, changed to fit in with George Fowler, which is the last Sunday.

See you there!



Till next time,

Malcolm, VK3OAK

DIYODE ISSUE 021 April 2019.

This is a locally produced magazine which seems to concentrate on computing ideas and the combining of Arduino construction and manufacturing. For those who expect a full nuts and bolts description it may not be for you, however its an excellent quality and printed on glossy A4 paper available by subscription from AU\$8.75 and also a software sub available.

There are a number of interesting themes for construction projects.

FEATURES.

- 8 Jaycars 2019 catalogue reviewed.
- 80 Hackerspace: What they are and where to find them.

EDUCATION.

- 49 Fundamentals Pt 3. Webb App building blocks.
- 84 Secret code. Computer languages.
- 74 The classroom. Integrated circuits explained.
- 92 Kids coding. With Makey Makey and Scratch 3.0

PROJECTS.

- 12 Build Grippy. The NANO driven Robotic arm.
- 36 Hey Google. Pt 1. Control Raspberry Pi with Google Home.
- 54 LoRa Weather Station. Build your own weather station.



EDITORS LETTER.

- 4 Winter dreaming.

MOONSHOTS.

- 30 Is Artificial Intelligence Fallible?

DATE	OPERATOR	NAME
16-May-19	VK3KQT	DAVID
23-May-19	VK3EXE	CHRIS
30-May-19	VK3KQT	DAVID
6-Jun-19	VK3DRE	DOUG
13-Jun-19	VK3AXH	IAN
20-Jun-19	VK3TXR	PAUL
27-Jun-19	VK3GGG	MICK
4-Jul-19	VK3EXE	CHRIS
11-Jul-19	VK3KQT	DAVID
18-Jul-19	VK3DRE	DOUG
25-Jul-19	VK3AXH	IAN

VK3BML club station of Ballarat Amateur Radio Group.

HF NET: Every Thursday Night at 8 pm on
3.608 MHz - VK3BML

3.4GHz Band

Photo of VK3KG's portable field day station taken from just off the Linton-Lismore road when a couple of us were trying out contacts on the 3.4GHz band. I have another pic taken from the front of the offset fed dish showing the home brewed "coffee can" antenna feed which illuminates the dish adequately.



This view shows the VK3XDK transverter with a 20Watt linear being mounted on the side of the main box.

The radio used is an FT817 [visible clamped to the wooden tripod leg and a heavy duty SLA battery sits on the ground powering up all the gear. I am about to build another feed for the dish and hope that this will improve my output power as well as improve received signals.

73

Craig
VK3KG



5 QST Review May 2019

P30 K1FM's HF Magnetic Loop antenna.

- 34 The Moxy antenna
 - 37 Identify & Track down RFI.
 - 40 Use your tower as a dual Band antennas.
 - 46 The P antenna down at 160 Metres.
 - 48 Product Reviews.
 - 69 Introduction to VHF + Roving.
 - 72 The Winsor mystery hum.
 - 75 5G Hope or Hype.
 - 60 The Doctor is in.
 - 64 Eclectic Technology
 - 65 Hints & Kinks
 - 62 Technical Correspondence
 - 92 The World above 50 MHz
 - 98 75/50/25 Years ago index.
- A number of other Departments that you have to read for yourselves.



73 Till next months.

DIYODE MAGAZINE #22 FOR MAY 2019.

An interesting magazine that I am just getting used to the way they present their projects and construction ideas. It's not like SILION CHIP or RADIO & HOBBIES were.

EDUCATION

- 59 The Classroom looks at The Logic Gates. Part 4.
- 92 What the Heck! Little black boxes. IC's explained..

PROJECTS

- 8 Build an Air Hockey by DIY.
- 33 A Dummy load for constant current load testing
- 51 Construct your own UV light Monitor
- 68 Pt2. Control the Nano riven Robotic Arm by a Smartphone
- 82 Basic siren effects for Flashing lights

A hard copy may be purchased or get it direct on line also. Contact help@diyodemag.com

Next months edition will include.

- Pt 2 LoRa Weather station.
- Pt 4 Fundamentals Web App.
- Pt 2 Google Home Endpoints.

Happy reading.



VHF and above for May 2019

Whilst the weather is now getting cooler as we get into that time of the year it's great to see the enthusiasm has not waned with the VHF and above enthusiasts. Propagation has been a little up and down but overall conditions have been quite good with many contacts being made on 2m, 70cm and 23cm between the Ballarat area into the Western District and Mount Gambier.

A list of stations include VK3KG, VK3AIG, VK3TXR, VK3BNC, VK3LTL and VK3 from the Ballarat area. VK3LTA, VK3DAI, from Cobden/Camperdown, VK3VBI, VK3ZAZ, VK3HJB further into the Western District, VK3VG in the Shepparton area and of course our Mt Gambier crew VK5DK, VK5JR, VK5TN and VK5XA.

Given the conditions it's great that contacts can still be had on 23cm to VK3VBI, VK3ZAZ and the Mt Gambier stations from the Ballarat area.

VK3AXH has had a burst on 2m and 23cm EME taking part in a contest weekend with quite good results one of which included a single 13el yagi station from the USA.

VK3BNC and VK3AXH are still continuing with tests on their receiving setup on 23cm by listening to the Belgium beacon transmitting on 1296.000 MHz.

The local microwave group did conduct tests with other stations in Melbourne between Mt Buninyong and Mt Dandenong and also Kinglake on Easter Monday where there was quite a gathering of the microwave group. Contacts from the Ballarat end were made on 1296, 2.4G, 3.4G, 5.7G and only one way on 10G where VK3AIG only running around 10mw was not heard in Kinglake however we were receiving VK3KQ at S9 on Mt Buninyong which was great.

As usual we always need to take notes from these events so improvements can be made for the next test or field day activity.

Damascus School

As most would be aware BARG attends this school as part of their activity to inform year 10 students about amateur radio. Over the years this has been most rewarding and the event just completed was no exception. Generally we provide an introduction to AR with a short U-Tube presentation followed by the history of AR and some of the things that can be done. This year we were in a high part of the school and able to access quite a few repeaters and had contacts to a mobile station in Melbourne and with the DRM portable able to communicate with VK2 and the USA which was great.

We are looking at the possibility of getting the school involved in building some satellite set up to monitor the low orbiting earth satellites as part of the school STEM program. This project could also be undertaken by club members particularly those involved in building the 2m and 70cm yagi's

Why not put you hand up to become involved in these worthwhile project !

73 de Ian VK3AXH