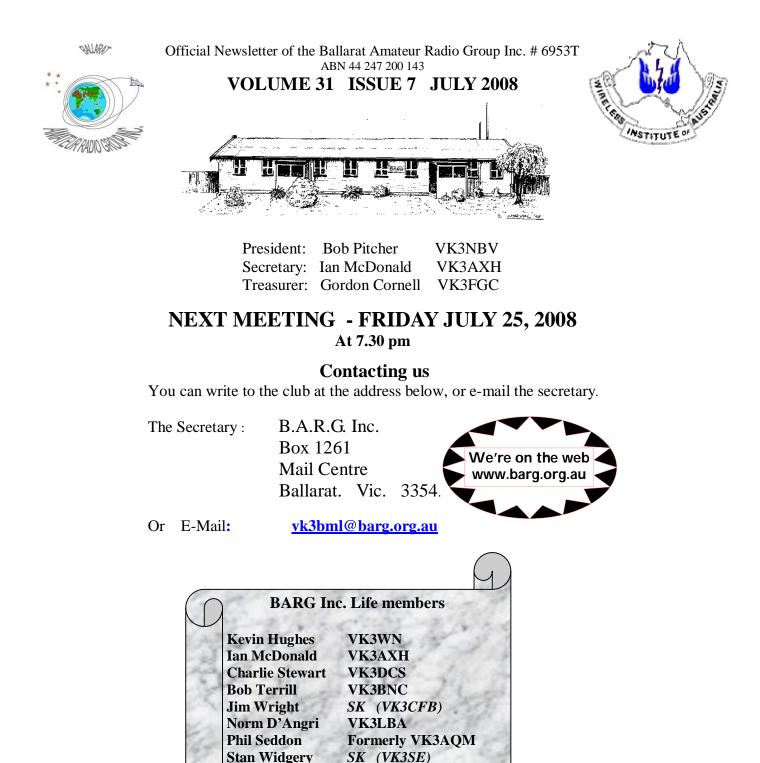
BARG News



SK (VK3XEX) SK (VK3DKJ)

Maurice Batt

George Small

CLUB INFORMATION

REPEATERS and BEACON

D-STAR

CALLSIGN:	MODE:	FREQUENCY:	TX OFFSET:	USER SETTINGS
VK3RBA A	Digital Data	1298.700 MHz	Nil (half duplex)	URCALL: VK3RBA RPT1: VK3RBA A RPT2: not in use
VK3RBA B	Digital Voice	439.9875 MHz	-5.0 MHz	URCALL: CQCQCQ RPT!: VK3RBA B RPT2: not in use

VK3RBA (UHF)	(70 cm Voice Repeater (Uses CTCSS of 91.5 Hz to access)	39.275 Mhz	Mt Buninyong
VK3RBA (VHF)	(2 m Voice Repeater)	146.750 Mhz	Mt Buninyong
VK3RWA*	(2 m Voice Repeater)	147.100 Mhz	Mt Ben Nevis
VK3RPC	(2 m Packet Repeater)	144.750 Mhz	Mt Warrenheip
VK3RBU	(70 cm Voice Repeater)	438.475 Mhz	Mt Hollowback
VK3RMB	(70 cm Beacon)	432.535 Mhz	Mt Buninyong
VK3RBU-1	(2 m APRS Repeater)	145.175 Mhz	Mt Hollowback

* IRLP Node 6310 using VK3RWA

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 11.00 via VK3RWA (IRLP Node 6310

NEWS ITEMS Send to Harry VK3KGL

Or mail to Box 1261 Mail Centre BALLARAT 3354 or e-mail vk3kgl@barg.org.au

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Broadcast Times and Dates on VK3RWA Repeater	
Every Sunday at 11.00 am, WIA National News, followed by VICLINK	
Every Monday night at 9.30 pm, ARRL News	
Every Tuesday night at 9.30 pm, WIA National News Repeat	
Every Wednesday night at 9.30 pm, Spectrum Tasmania News	
***************************************	Å





1948 Call Book

(found by Doug, vk3vba)

VK3SE	S Widgery	703 Macarthur St
VK3VA	W Bridges	14 Lexton St
VK3WA	W Wilson	109 Brougham St
VK3ZL	D Thomas	13a Rowe St
VK3AJR	J Reid	105 Clarendon st
VK3ABT	E Lloyd	122 Drummond St sth
VK3ALM	L Mcpherson	14 Drummond St sth
VK3ARJ	R Birks	901 Urquart St
VK3ASV	R Stevens	220 Doveton St Sth
VK3AL	A Kerr	1627 Sturt St
VK3BE	A Lord	8 Queen St sth
VK3BI	B Scetrine	17a Raglan St nth
VK3DS	G Lance	702b Dana St
VK3EI	J Allan	9 Sweeney St
VK3GH	G Howard	11 Drummond St
VK3GR	G Rowland	19 Inkerman St
VK3HW	J Lewis	810 Ligar st
VK3IV	E Ridgeway	808 South St
VK3MH	E Chaffer	C/ O 3BA
VK3YT	A Costello	16 Grant St
VK3AKR	K O'Rourke	Westmere
VK3PI	P Day Wireless Stati	on Fiskville







QST Report with Craig, VK3CMC

Content review of current QST in library



QST Review 2007 July

A quick skim through the pages of the latest magazine in the library

- P 30 Recycling old radio cabinets and chassis boxes.
- P 33 The Beauty of Spectrum Analysis Pt 2.
- P 36 Portable Two element Yagi for 15 Metres.
- 39 Review FLEX-5000A, HF/50Mhz Transceiver.
- P46 Tech Correspondence. Lightning & Power lines,
- P49 Dayton Ohio report
- P55 Summer E skip and the Magic band.
- P62 Public Service. 2007 simulated Emergency set up.
- P66 The Doctor is In. Discus Bandwidth, Noise & DSP, 4:1 balun for Hallicrafter, Earthing for loft shacks.
- P68 Short takes. "QSL Maker" program. Free!
- P69 Getting on the Air. "Your Second HF Antenna" See Jan & Mar 08 for the first HF antenna design.
- P71 Hands on Radio. Exp #66 Mixer Basics.

P73 Hints & Kinks. Yaesu VX-5R tips and tricks. Data switches. Battery pack voltage control. Aux 9.6V Bty for FT-50.Well grounded HF mount on cars. Ferrit Core resource. Weather proofing shrink tubing.

P88 World above 50Mhz. Working 48 US states on 2m Terrestrial.

P95 Old Radio. 3ZO and Horace A.Beale Jr. part 3. Radio from the 1930's.

- P102 Reviews QST from the July editions for 1933, 1958 and 1983.
- P103 Hamspeak. Lists word bibliography used in this edition.

And as a well known gardening personality was heard to say, "Well that's your bloomin lot"

Rest of magazine is filled with advertisements and ARRL club matters.

That's this months review.

73 Craig.



Young Hams Net

This is now each Wednesday at 8pm on 3.590MHz minus QRM. Look for the net control VK3SAA and join in, everyone welcome.

"F Troup Net"

The F-Troop net can be heard at about 11.40am straight after the Sunday morning broadcast callbacks, and using the wide area coverage Mt Macedon 2-metre repeater VK3RMM 147.250 MHz.

Please don't just listen, join in and make it a useful and worthwhile exercise.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	
The Annual General Meeting of B.A.R.G. Inc will be held on Friday 29 th August 2008 commencing at 1930 hrs At the Club Rooms Ballarat Aerodrome	
Agenda	
1 Minutes of 2007 AGM	
2 To Receive and adopt Annual Report and Financial Statement	
3 To elect Office Bearers for 2008/2009	
4 To elect Honorary Auditor	
5 To elect Honorary Solicitor	
NOTES	
 All financial members are entitled to cast a vote on the above matters. Nomination forms are available from Secretary, or your last newsletter. Nominations for Office Bearers close with Secretary at 1300 hrs on Friday 24th August. Postal address for all correspondence is as below. 	
lan Mc Donald Hon Secretary.	
BOX 1261 MAIL CENTRE BALLARAT 3354	

2007 BARG Annual General Meeting

Welcome: Meeting opened by President Bob VK3NBV at 7:40pm

<u>Apologies</u>: VK3CAZ, VK3CIS, VK3HRZ, VK3AIG, VK3BNC, VK3KGL, VK3DCS, VK3FHUT, VK3PAL and VK3FGC (Arrived later)

Minutes of the 2006 AGM:

As the then Secretary was absent some notes were taken by VK3AXH but were incomplete due again to the absence of VK3AIG. The information provided was mainly the financial statement for the 2005/2006 financial year.

Moved VK3AXH/VK3GND Carried

Financial Statement:

Due to the Treasurer being absent a prepared financial summary was tabled and copies made available for members to peruse. The Honorary Auditor Jeff VK3PAP indicated his audit was incomplete and should be resolved by the next general meeting.

Moved VK3CMC/VK3HHK Carried

Annual Report:

President Bob VK3NBV gave an overview of BARG's activity and included comments relating to the following:

Thanks to the outgoing Committee for the efforts throughout the past year.

The Radio Modernization Project is progressing well and is expected to be operational in the near future. The Club mast has now been reinstalled thanks to Jeff VK3PAP who has made a new Gin pole.

The new Ben Nevis repeater is expected to be completed and ready for installation during the coming warmer weather.

The Beacon project is progressing and it's expected both the 432 and 1296MHz beacons will be operational by the end of the year.

A computer upgrade has been undertaken to provide better operation for IRLP and control of SPAM to members.

The Club was successful in gaining a grant from the City of Ballarat to enable a new radio to be purchased for the IRLP system and complete the Beacon projects

Thanks to Doug VK3VBA for organizing the Bus to take members to several of the Hamfests throughout the year.

This year saw a combined BBQ held at Lake Lanacoorie involving the Bendigo, Maryborough, Ballarat and AR Victoria groups exchanging ideas over hamburgers and sausages

The John Moyle contest received low participation from BARG due to members commitments in other areas. Moved VK3NBV/VK3AXH Carried

Election:

President VK3NBV declared all positions vacant and called on John VK3CFH to chair the election of a new committee and member support for the 2007/2008 year.

As there were the correct number of nominations for positions tabled below except for two Ordinary Members the following were appointed without election to the 2007/2008 Committee.

Position	Nominee
President	Bob Pitcher VK3NBV
Vice President	Roger De Valle VK3ADE
Secretary	Ian McDonald VK3AXH
Treasurer	Gordon Cornell VK3FGC
Ordinary Member 1	John Hazeldine VK3CFH
Ordinary Member 2	Doug Raper VK3VBA
Ordinary Member 3	Harry Hekkema VK3KGL
Ordinary Member 4	James Lutjohn VK3FGLD
Ordinary Member 5	To be filled
Ordinary Member 6	To be filled

Appoint Honorary Auditor – Jeff Pigdon VK3PAP

Non Elected Positions

Position	Current	Nominee
Ammenities Coordinator	Doug VK3VBA	Doug VK3VBA+ assistant
Awards Coordinator	Ernie VK3DET	Ernie VK3DET
Computer System/IRLP	John VK3TJW	John VK3TJW
Construction Group	Ian VK3AXH	Ian VK3AXH & VK3KQB
Coordinator		
Education Officer	Craig VK3CMC	Craig VK3CMC
Hamvention Coordinator	Ian VK3AXH	Ian VK3AXH and group
Librarian	Craig VK3CMC	Craig VK3CMC
Net Coordinator	Clem VK3BVI	Clem VK3BVI
Newsletter Editor	Harry VK3KGL	Harry VK3KGL
Property Officer	Jeff VK3PAP	Jeff VK3PAP
Public Officer	John VK3CFH	John VK3CFH
Radio Modernisation	David VK3UR	David VK3UR
Coordinator		
QSL Manager	Dean VK3HHJ	Dean VK3HHJ
Technical Officer	Bob VK3BNC	Bob VK3BNC
Website Officer	Harry VK3KGL	Harry VK3KGL

A motion that all positions as stated above be accepted -

Moved VK3FGC/VK3UR Carried

Meeting Closed 8:34pm

Volume 31, Issue 7, July 2008



Minutes of BARG General Meeting June 2008

Welcome: Meeting opened by President Bob VK3NBV at 7:35pm

Apologies: VK3GND, VK3CAZ, VK3CIS, VK3HRZ, VK3FHUT, VK3IDL VK3PAP

Visitors: Nick VK3FNJP and VK3ABM – both from Geelong

Minutes of the May 2008 General Meeting as per the Newsletter. Business arising from minutes – VK3CIS and VK3HRZ indicated they sent apologies for the May General Meeting which were not included – minutes to be amended accordingly. Moved VK3BNC/VK3DCS Carried

Secretary Report:

Correspondence: Incoming – QST magazine and Dept of Justice – Annual Statement reminder.

Moved VK3AXH/VK3CMC Carried

Reports

Ben Nevis 2 metre repeater is performing well from reports received. The Beacons are almost ready to install at Mt Buninyong but subject to weather conditions. Mt Hollowback is still receiving random interference.

David VK3UR reports additional shelving has been installed at the Dstar site to accommodate additional equipment (shelving supplied by Geelong Radio Club) An application for a financial grant has been applied for by David on behalf of BARG to allow the Dstar project installation to continue.

David also reports the "window filter" and the 23cm antenna are still be installed.

Radio Modernisation Project – The antenna rotator controller is to be ordered by David VK3UR (to be reimbursed by the club) to allow remote control of the HF directional beam together with suitable dipole switching arrangements are yet to be finalized.

Ammenities – Doug VK3VBA has placed an advert on the WIA Website for the BARG Hamvention. The bus trip to Cranbourne on July 19th for the hamfest has only 1 seat left. Shirts – Doug has been busy organizing the setup and purchase of shirts bearing the club logo. The original number of 11 has grown quite a bit during the meeting. Each shirt will cost members \$12 each and special thanks to James VK3FGLD for donating \$80 to the club for setup costs and additional subsidies from Doug VK3VBA and the club which provided quite a reduction for members.

The members acknowledged the efforts of Doug and financial subsidies from JamesVK3FGLD, Doug VK3VBA and BARG to reduce the costs.

Construction Group – Brian VK3KQB reports due to the long weekend the numbers attending the night were down. However a few problems were resolved. Brian suggested at the next construction group meeting that demonstrations be given to show the correct method of terminating various types of coaxial plugs to different types of coaxial cable which will be invaluable to the less experience members.

Education – Craig VK3CMC reports that on the scheduled weekend of 12/13 July there are no takers for the Foundation Licence Course however there is one candidate wishing to sit. This will also be an opportune time for the members who expressed interest in becoming examiners to get together.

Gordon VD3FGC reports there has been some difficulty in making appointments with appropriate personnel at some of the local schools BARG wishes to target as part of its amateur awareness program. Gordon will continue with his efforts to arrange meetings etc

Gordon also reports the WICEN 70cm repeater (and other equipment) located at Mount William is planned to be upgraded in the near future.

General Business

President Bob VK3NBV has reminded members that Election Forms were included in the newsletter and need to be completed and submitted at the July General Meeting for the AGM in August.

John VK3AIG mentioned he purchased a DTMF microphone at the GFMA but for some reason he didn't get it. If anyone inadvertently picked it up or know of its whereabouts can they please contact John.

The BARG Convention Committee is to meet after supper to resolve some contact issues for traders and visitors for this years event.

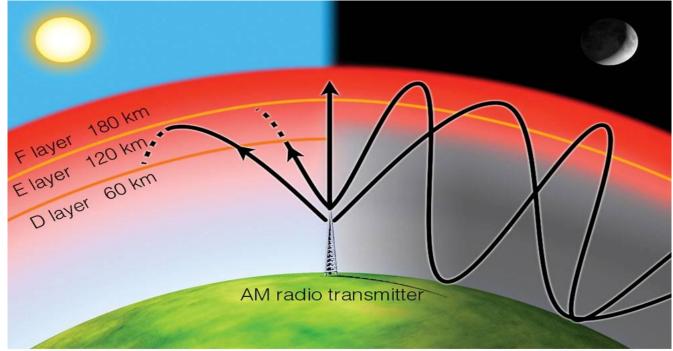
David VK3UR suggested that BARG apply to the WIA for funds from their "Grant Scheme" to cover some of the costs associated with purchase of a VGA projector – Secretary to follow up.

Craig VK3CMC reminded the meeting that agreed purchase of the QEX cd's had not yet occurred – Secretary to follow up

Roger VK3ADE has kindly put together some info to help members with backup arrangements for computers given that some unlucky ones have come to grief in recent times.

Doug VK3VBA has again provided members and visitors with a light supper.

Meeting Closed 8:25pm



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Propagation Report for July 2008

HF Bands

Brian VK3KQB tells me that conditions on 80m of late have been quite poor with high noise levels making it very difficult to copy stations taking part in the club net on a Thursday night. From my own observations on 40m and 20m little activity is heard.

VHF and Above

DX propagation on the higher bands has also been scarce. There Have been a few openings on 2 metres SSB. One contact heard was between VK3VHF near Bairnsdale to VK5ZLX in the Barossa Valley area where good signals strengths were noted.

Kevin VK3WN reports some activity on 6m. Kevin has been monitoring a 28MHz beacon in VK2 and is a good indicator as to band conditions on the 6m band.

Several club members attended the annual Gippstech get together where lots of info is presented and informal talks take place giving an opportunity to exchange technical information between like minded amateurs.

Construction Group

Brian VK3KQB gave and excellent demonstration and lesson to several club members on how to correctly terminate a variety of coaxial connectors. If you have something to contribute to this meeting that occurs on the 2nd Monday of each month them come and join in the fun.

Alternatively if you have a project you are having difficulty with bring it along and get advice how fix it.

Or if you want a social evening revolving around technical discussions you are most welcome to attend. The group is always on the lookout for new ideas.

Till next time....73 Ian VK3AXH



Bob, VK3NBV

A few words from the President.....

Hello All,

This is my second last message to you all. I will not be standing for any positions in the club at the August Annual General meeting.

We need some new blood to nominate for the committee as well as positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer. If you would like to help out in any of these positions see any of us at the next meeting and we will get you signed up. All nominations need to be in by the next meeting. Friday July 25.

Those of us that were at the last meeting learnt a lot about what we should be doing to backup our files on computer. Thanks for the effort Roger ADE, it was great. And good tucker again put on by Doug VBA.

Don't forget our next Coffee Morning, next Thursday Morning July 24, 10.30am at Beechworth Bakery, Grenville St. Plenty of parking.

BARG July meeting is Friday July 25th at 7.30pm.

Well that's it from me, get in front of the heater and keep warm. 73's Bob Pitcher VK3NBV...

A COMPACT VERTICAL GROUND MOUNTED 160 METRES ANTENNA

By Brian, VK3KQB

Drew Diamond described a vertical 160 metre antenna of compact design in the AR Magazine for December 2004 and January/February 2005 issues which were simple to reproduce and required a small amount of space.

The Antenna was designed to be mounted on a shed or garage roof and used a metal mast and 3 guy cables part of which also formed a top hat used in conjunction with a mast top inductive loading coil.

Having no suitable shed roof on which to mount the Antenna I was forced to consider mounting it on the ground. I did not like the idea of using a metal mast because of dogs and small children being at risk so I decided to use an insulated mast for safety. All the features of the VK3XU design are retained in my Antenna but it is a true Plumbers delight.

The Mast is a 6 metre length of white pvc 50 mm pipe which is mounted on a pvc fitting adapting a 50 mm size fitting to 90 mm. This a standard plumbing item and the 50 mm outlet is to one side of the center. This allows a standard panel socket with 4 hole flange to be fitted to the adaptor as shown in the photo.

The adapter was sat on the concrete block (one bag of ready mix) when it was poured and the concrete was allowed to extend about 25mm up the inside of the adapter to prevent side-way movement of it.

A ring cut from a pvc fitting was slid up the mast to the center and secured there with glue and three aluminum rivets. This prevents the guy cables attached to the middle of the mast from slipping down.

The top of the mast is prepared by firstly measuring a top cap fitting and allowing clearance for the nut of a small eye bolt and then drilling three holes 120degrees apart around the circumference. A section of a metal pipe (thin) the diameter of the inside of the mast and cut so that it is not a continuous ring is then marked off to correspond to the 120 degree holes in the mast and drilled. The length of the eyebolts are cut off so that an internal nut and washer can be fitted when the final assembly is made.

The 118 micro Henry loading coil is as described in Drew's article " part 2" using 30mm of 90mm o/d white pvc water pipe. 65 turns of # 13 B&S / 15 SWG enameled copper wire spaced 4mm along the length. A white pvc fitting to reduce the top of the 90mm coil to fit the 50mm mast is read yet to be fitted to the top of the coil and the mast. Drill a 2mm hole in the mast at a distance of about 200mm from the top so that the wire from the top of the coil can be passed through. Three holes of larger diameter and in a triangular pattern are drilled about 280mm down from the first hole. I used a length of Electrical Earth cable, and left the green and yellow pvc insulation intact, as the antenna element. The three holes are used to suspend the cable which is run internally up the mast. Run the cable up the mast to the top, poke a thin wire or string in to the highest of the three holes and capture it to the top of the mast. Attach the antenna cable and pull it through the hole by the wire or string to the outside of the mast and leave enough slack so that it can be passed through a second hole to the top, Repeat the operation as with the first hole with the string or wire and again pull the antenna cable through the third hole. Draw the cable taut in the holes and knot it leaving an end to connect to the bottom end of the loading coil. When this operation is complete slide the coil on to the mast and feed the top lead of the coil through the 2mm hole and out of the top of the mast. Join the bottom lead of the coil to the cable and fit the adapter (90mm to 50mm) to the top of the mast and coil positioning the coil at the correct distance from the top of the mast and secure it with glue or rivets. Rivets are preferred as glue can not be easily removed for service. Fit each eyebolt with a nut and washer and insert them through the 120 degree holes in the

mast and the pipe and fit a second nut and washer to each, the nut should be flush with the end of the eyebolt. Tighten the outer nuts keeping the eye vertical.

Cut three 4.5 metre lengths of electrical cable and feed each one through an eyebolt twice and knot securely leaving enough free end to connect to the centre of the mast, drill a suitable hole beside each eyebolt and pass the ends through to the centre where all three are soldered to the lead from the top of the loading coil. Dress the outside of the leads to be below the entry hole to prevent water entry and fit the 50mm topcap to the mast.

The antenna is now complete to the errection stage and the middle guyes can be attached. I used the plastic clothesline cable available at hardware shops and just tie it with 2 turns around the mast and knot the end a couple or three times pulling tight. Calculate the three 120 degrees points and set the guy anchor posts in place. The guyes should be anchored to these posts with turnbuckles (two to each) to tension them. Temporarily join a length of clothesline cable to each of the radials at about the 3 metre point and wind the excess of the wire back along the radial. The join can be made permanent after tuning and these become the top guyes. To erect the mast set the bottom of the mast close to the base adapter and feed the end of the antenna cable in through the top and out the hole for the coax connector. Stand the mast and drop the end into the adapter and make off the middle guys to the their turnbuckles, do not glue the mast to the adapter as you may need to position the radials or to repair it at a later date. Tighten the guyes and fit the coax socket. Drive a ground stake nearby and earth the coax socket to it. I also ran a lead to the garden shed, the garage and the colour-bond fencing to ensure plenty of earthing. Fit a plug having one or two turns attached and prepare to tune the antenna to 160 metres by adjusting the length of the three radials in unison using a GDO and receiver until close to the desired frequency then cut the radials back leaving some excess for the final tuning. Finalize the tuning using a SWR meter and a low power transmission. When tuning is complete make the top guyes off to their anchor turnbuckles and straighten the mast as required.

The AR Magazine articles should be read for more details. If you do not have the articles the AR Magazines are available to copy from the Club Library. My antenna has been used to contact ZL and interstate VK stations.



Some photo's of the 160 m Antenna Project



	B.A.R.G. Inc. NOMINATION FORM Ballarat Amateur Radio Group—Inc # 6953T 29th August 2008
DATE:	

I wish to Nominate		CALL:
For the position of		of BARG Inc.
Nominated by:	_ and	
Nomination accepted by: (Nominee)		

	B.A.R.G. Inc. NOMINATION FORM Ballarat Amateur Radio Group—Inc # 6953T 29th August 2008
DATE:	
I wish to Nominate	CALL:
For the position of _	of BARG Inc.
Nominated by:	and

Nomination accepted by: (Nominee)

B.A.R.G. Inc.

(Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc. #6953T)

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION & CLUB REGISTER CHECK

DATE:	RECEIPT No:
<u>NAME:</u>	CALL SIGN:
ADDRESS:	PHONE HOME:
<u>SUBURB:</u>	MOBILE PHONE:
POSTCODE:	PHONE WORK:
SUBSCRIPTION PAID:\$	<u>E-MAIL:</u>

If the Club decides to publish a Club Directory, are you willing to have the above information included?

Y or N

SIGNATURE:....

B.A.R.G. Inc.

(Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc. #6953T)

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION & CLUB REGISTER CHECK

DATE:	RECEIPT No:
<u>NAME:</u>	CALL SIGN:
ADDRESS:	PHONE HOME:
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