

# BARG News



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

ABN 44 247 200 143

**VOLUME 31 ISSUE 6 JUNE 2008**



President: Bob Pitcher VK3NBV  
Secretary: Ian McDonald VK3AXH  
Treasurer: Gordon Cornell VK3FGC

**NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY June 27, 2008**

At 7.30 pm

## 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 1261  
Mail Centre  
Ballarat. Vic. 3354.



Or E-Mail: [vk3bml@barg.org.au](mailto:vk3bml@barg.org.au)

## BARG Inc. Life members

Kevin Hughes	VK3WN
Ian McDonald	VK3AXH
Charlie Stewart	VK3DCS
Bob Terrill	VK3BNC
Jim Wright	SK (VK3CFB)
Norm D'Angri	VK3LBA
Phil Seddon	Formerly VK3AQM
Stan Widgery	SK (VK3SE)
Maurice Batt	SK (VK3XEX)
George Small	SK (VK3DKJ)

## CLUB INFORMATION

### REPEATERS and BEACON

#### D—STAR

<b>CALLSIGN:</b>	<b>MODE:</b>	<b>FREQUENCY:</b>	<b>TX OFFSET:</b>	<b>USER SETTINGS</b>
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](mailto: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](mailto:vk3kgl@barg.org.au)

#### 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



## QST Report with Craig, VK3CMC

Content review of current QST in library



Review QST 2008-6 June 2008

By Craig VK3CMC

- P32 No compromise OCFDipole for four bands.
- P35 Beauty of Spectrum Analysis Pt1.
- P39 Audio Interface unit for Fd Day and Contesting.
- P42 Dualband 20/40 Antenna for Fd day.
- P41 Review: QEX for May/June 2008.
- P45 Review: Portable Power Generators.
- P48 Chart of US Amateur bands.
- P49 Review: TOKYO 1.2Kw Linear. M cubed Digital LCRZ meter kit.  
LDG RCA14T Tcvr Acc Breakout box.
- P59 WinLink portable system, & GPS/TNC.
- P71 Dr is IN. Radials for base mounted Vertical, and the ZEPP Antenna again.
- P73 Short Takes. CommCat3 for Windows [Review]
- P74 Going Mobile in some one else's vehicle needs adaptor plates & brackets.
- P76 Baluns: What's the story.?
- P77 Hands on Radio. Exp#65 Spectrum Modification.
- P79 Easy to make Desk Microphone.
- P81 Hints and kinks. -Home made Oscilloscope Probes  
-Water Vapour Condensation in Air Dielectric. -Inexpensive Project enclosures.
- P91 World above 50Mhz. Contesting tools for Logging.
- P94 How's DX. Palestine 2007.
- P98 Eclectic Technology. CW skimmer for contesting. Wx spotting.
- P102 Review QST for Jun 1933, Jun 1958, Jun 1983.
- P105 Hamspeak, glossary of words and terms used this month

And of course those adverts.

### Education

We hope to run a weekend course and exam for the Foundation licence on the 12/13 July. So far I have had no definite applications so unless we get someone applying the weekend may not be available at all. I have also pencilled in the following fortnight the 26/27 July as a possible date if the first doesn't suit anyone.

**Craig, vk3cmc**



# The Secretary's Page

## Minutes of BARG General Meeting May 2008

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

**Apologies:** VK3CAZ, VK3AIG, VK3HHK, VK3BVI, VK3FSTU, VK3CFH, VK3FGLD, VK3FPOL

**Visitors:** Ed VK3YOR from Talbot

Minutes of the April 2008 General Meeting as per the Newsletter.

Moved VK3KQB/VK3GND Carried

### **Secretary Report:**

Correspondence: Incoming – Letter from VK4KVK re amateur radio books, Application for membership from VK3APJ.

Moved VK3AXH/VK3BNC Carried

Outgoing: Sympathy card to xyl of VK3MKZ Keith Penhall

### ***Reports***

Ben Nevis 2 metre repeater has been reinstalled by Roger VK3ADE with helpers and working well. Roger to be compensated \$20 per trip for fuel. Thanks to Roger and his team for their efforts in getting the new repeater operational.

Beacons - Ian VK3AXH has checked the location for reinstallation of the 70cm and new 23cm beacons. Shelves need to be made and installed which is planned over the next couple of weeks.

Dstar – David VK3UR reports some mods were made to the installation of equipment at Mt Buninyong. The existing preamp will be updated which will improve overall performance.

Construction Group – Brian VK3KQB reports the HF SWR bridge project is progressing well with one unit (VK3GND) working well and others expected to be finalized shortly.

Education – Craig VK3CMC reports one candidate wishing to sit for the Foundation Licence. Possible date will be 12/13<sup>th</sup> July. This will also serve as an opportunity for prospective examiners to get together.

Ammenities – Doug VK3VBA handed out five lucky envelopes – winners were VK3GND, VK3NBV, VK3CMC, VK3FNLY and VK3PAP. Doug also reported on club Polo Shirts. Doug advises that setup costs have been donated by the provider and that members wanting to order shirts should contact Doug direct with sizes etc at a cost of \$14.75 each or if you provide your own shirt \$2.75 per shirt.

The morning coffee group met again at the Beechworth Bakery on Thursday morning 29th with numbers growing for this worthwhile activity. The gathering of the group allows those members unable to attend meetings to keep in touch with club activities. The next meeting date is 26<sup>th</sup> June at 10:30am

Hamvention – A special email address has been setup for this years event and is [hamvention@barg.org.au](mailto:hamvention@barg.org.au). Members in the group now include VK3ADE, VK3NBV, VK3CMC, VK3 FPOL and VK3AXH. This years event will require a special effort as the Saturday is booked for a wedding scheduled to finish at 1:00am Sunday so an early start will be required to setup.

#### General Business:

Bob VK3NBV raised the availability of Squid Poles that can be used for portable antenna setup. Persons interested to contact Bob directly so orders can be placed. Bulk purchase was suggested as the most appropriate method.

Moved VK3CMC/Vk3GND Carried

Education about amateur radio to local schools was raised by Gordon VK3FGC as a good way to promote the hobby and possibly gain some new amateurs. It was suggested a sub-committee be setup to determine the best approach for this activity. The club already provides 2 – 2 day sessions at Damascus College each year.

Grants – Ian VK3AXH has prepared a submission to the City of Ballarat Grants Committee seeking financial support for the purchase of the pcb to control the HF antenna rotator as part of the radio modernisation project and also a projector to be used by the club for education purposes and presentors. The acquittal for last years grant is to be submitted by 30<sup>th</sup> June. David VK3UR is to look at other grant offers to continue the Dstar project. One opportunity was suggested by Kevin Vk3WN which appeared a newspaper. Kevin to advise details.

Kevin VK3WN suggested the club send a letter to all Ballarat and surrounding area amateurs who are not club members to attend a get together with a view of getting them to possibly get active (if not already doing so) and invite them to join in the clubs activities. Emphasis on the Remote Radio installation as an alternative attraction.

Meeting closed 8:55pm

