

BARG News



Official Newsletter of the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc. # 6953T
ABN 44 247 200 143

VOLUME 30 ISSUE 8 AUGUST 2007



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

NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY 31, 2007

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



BARG Inc. Life members

Kevin Hughes	VK3WN
Ian McDonald	VK3AXH
Charlie Stewart	VK3DCS
Bob Terrill	VK3BNC
Jim Wright	VK3CFB
Norm D'Angri	VK3LBA
Phil Seddon	
Stan Widgery	SK

CLUB INFORMATION

REPEATERS and BEACON

VK3RBA	(Voice)	146.750 Mhz	Mt Buninyong
VK3RWA	(Voice)	147.100 Mhz	Mt Ben Nevis
VK3RPC	(Packet)	144.750 Mhz	Mt Warrenheip
VK3RBU	(Voice)	438.475 Mhz	Mt Hollowback
VK3RMB	(Beacon)	435.535 Mhz	Mt Buninyong
VK3RBU-1	(APRS)	145.175 Mhz	Mt Hollowback

IRLP Node 6310 using VK3RRWA

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

Broadcast Times and Dates on VK3RWA Repeater

Every Sunday at 10.30 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

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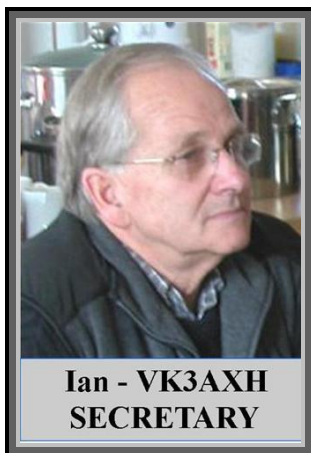
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Ian - VK3AXH
SECRETARY

The Secretary's Page

Minutes of BARG General Meeting July 2007

Meeting opened by VK3NBV 7:34pm

Visitors: Guest Speaker Trevor Remington

Apologies: VK3AIG, VK3CAZ, VK3HHK, VK3KGL, VK3HRZ, VK3DCS
VK3FIVE, VK3FHUT, VK3BNC

Minutes of the previous General Meeting as circulated.

Business Arising – Nil

Moved VK3FGC/VK3BVI Carried

Secretary: .

Correspondance: Nomination Forms and AR Magazine

Moved VK3AXH/VK3CMC Carried

Treasurer: Current balance is \$6902 20

Moved VK3FGC/VK3KQB Carried

Reports

Jeff Vk3PAP reported the tower is ready to lift into place and requires the ginpole.

A motion was put by Vk3CFH/VK3BVI and Carried that plans be drawn up and inspected by Jeff to manufacture a new ginpole given the mechanical problems with the existing unit.

Beacons: Roger VK3ADE reports progress with both beacons is good with the 23cm unit oscillator being built and the 70cm unit ready for packaging.

Ben Nevis: John VK3TJW reports good progress with the new repeater now operating on the correct frequencies and the receiver now aligned. The transmitter will be aligned at the next construction night.

Computer Course

Roger VK3ADE reports all going along ok with next Monday's session being the last until later in the year when some participants return from vacation.

Education: Craig VK3CMC reported the Foundation Course has been cancelled due to lack of participants. Enquiries have been made from 2 new persons re another course. There is one prospective candidate wanting to sit the exam without any training possibly this week. The next Foundation Course is scheduled for November 23/24.

Committee Meeting Outcome

It was decided at the committee meeting that any amateur wishing to upgrade to a higher level purchase their own study material with guidance from the club and that use of mentors be used to assist if and when required.

Ammenities: Doug VK3VBA reported a good rollup for the hamfest at Cranbourne. It was good to see that Ted VK3HHK was able to attend. Doug also indicated a supply of "little savs" would be served after the guest speakers presentation.

Construction group:

Ian VK3AXH reported that Brian VK3KQB has a number of audio kits available for the next meeting and the cost expected to be no greater than \$20. At this stage only 2 members have decided to go ahead with the 2metre preamp.

General Business:



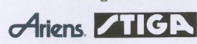



Doug VK3VBA has application forms for those members wishing to be involved JOTA and other activities involving children. This is necessary to comply with government legislation and applies to any member of the club serving as a volunteer.

Brian VK3KQB reported that Joe VK3PUD's rig is now back in operating order however some antenna work is required to get Joe back on 80 metres. Craig VK3CMC indicated he would test the antenna when its been delivered.

The hamvention will enter the planning stage in August with a range of improvements to be implemented. The hamvention working group will get together to discuss the new arrangements.

Guest Speaker Trevor Remington to give a presentation on PLC after the general meeting.

The meeting closed at 8:28pm

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QST Report with Craig, VK3CMC

Content review of current QST in library



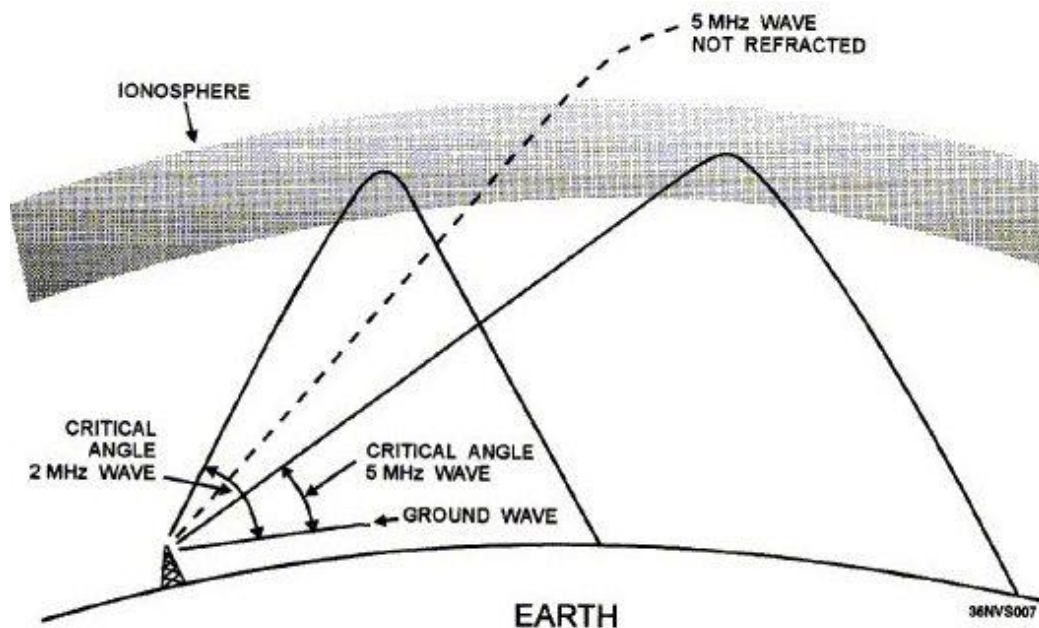
QST Review December 2004

- P28 A Water cooled PA for 23cm. Uses the Russian GS-15B tube.
- P33 Build a 2M medium gain wide band yagi.
- P38 Programming for the pocket PC. Looks at Visual Basic.
- P47 Putting antennas up in the roof space.
- P50 The Doctor is In. See his replies to various queries.
- P52 Portable HF ant for 6 to 20M, in a carry all.
- P55 Short Takes. 160-10M AS-2 Antenna with ladder line feed. Total length is 70 foot long. [US]
- P56 The Ubiquitous PL-259. {They are not intended for UHF!!}
- P57 Experiment #23: Open house Lab of N0AX. See some handy gimmick tools and aids for bench use.
- P59 Hints & Kinks. Handy simple auto tuner for Screwdriver type antennas, works on an 706Mk2G.
- P61 Review the Emtron DX-1d HF Linear
- P63 Survey of 2M/70cm Diplexers.
- P74 World above 50Mhz
- P79 Old Radio looks at the "Japan Wireless Telegraph Company C 1921/29. Interesting photos .

QST Review Feb. 2004

- P28 Has Homebrewing- Surface mount style [make your own "ugly board"]
- P31 Better way to adjust your SSB transceiver.
- P33 Historical valve receiver from 1928.
- P36 Power & Antenna gain for 60M [[They have 5Mhz allocation]
- P43 Mobile Ant base with internal Capacitive matching
- P47 Digital Slow Scan TV [DSSTV]
- P52 Amateur Public service in VU land.
- P58 Amateur radio Field Volunteers in Alaska, Puerto Rica and Nth Marianna Islands.
- P64 The Doctor is In looks at Switch Mode power supply interference, RFI in vehicles and also tuning an HF antenna for a vehicle installation. Worth reading how to do it.
- P66 Short Takes. A PSKMeter to stop over modulating PSK31 or 63.
- P67 Do you do ZULU? Confused about time zones then read this article.
- P69 Hands on Radio. Experiment #13 Attenuators. "T, Pi, L, H,O types"
- P71 Build an Automatic Volume leveler. For poor AGC controlled radios.
- P74 Hints & Kinks. RF Ammeter for ladder line, Poor mans QRP idea and simple Crystal set.
- P76 Review Elecraft KPA-100. 100watt upgrade.
- P96 Old Radio: Looks at an early Amateur in the USA. 1NP/W1NP/K2NP

WANTED.	FOR SALE.
2 ends to suit Helix to N type (male) Neil, vk3gnd	Emtron 12V, 30Amp power supply for \$275. ICOM IC 706Mk2G [mint condition] for sale at \$800. This includes the long separation cable. If interested contact Len Hearnese VK3BMY on 9740 7761



Propagation Report for August 2007

HF Bands

Apart from the RD contest there is not much to report about HF activity this month. Brian VK3KQB was quite active on the local front on 160m, 80m and 40m notching up plenty of QSO's. Ian VK3AXH also had a number of phone and CW contacts on 80m and 40m

VHF Bands

Its good to see the midweek net on Wednesday evenings on 144.150 is gaining a bit of momentum. There have been up to 6 local area members taking part together with other operators throughout the State. Local participants include, VK3KQB, VK3GND, VK3CMC, VK3AIG, VK3IDL and VK3AXH. If you have the time please call in at 8:30pm and test out your rig and antenna.

This month has also seen a good opening on 2 metres to Tasmania again with many stations contacting VK7HDX and VK7JG both in Launceston. Stations participating were VK3WN, VK3KQB, VK3GND, VK3CMC and VK3AXH.

Construction Group

Under the guidance of Brian VK3KQB around 10 members were busy constructing the audio amplifier kit. This will be a great addition to useful items in and around the shack. If you have a project you wish to undertake or can suggest something that might be useful please let the group know.

Another event that occurred last weekend was the "Erection" of Davo's new mast at Dereel. Neil VK3GND tells us it's looking majestic in all its vertical glory and is now waiting to transfer antennas etc. We hope to hear some big signals in the near future and hopefully some photo's taken by Gwen. Well done to the members who gave their support.

Till next time 73 VK3AXH



Bob, VK3NBV

A few words from the President.....

Hello All,

Warm greetings to you all this winter, or maybe I should be saying cool greetings to those on holiday up north, seems to be quite a few who have been pursuing the warmer weather. Good Luck.

To the others that stayed, keep the heaters cranked up..

To all of you, the next meeting is Friday August 31 at 7.30pm. This is the Annual Meeting, which requires the election of all office bearers and Committee. Please get your nominations in for these positions, we always need new persons coming in on committee with all the new ideas. If the committee remains the same, things can get a bit stale on it.

The night will conclude with usual good food put on by Doug 3VBA.....

Coming up soon is the second year of a new function, the Multi Club BBQ to be held again at the Laanecoorie Hall on Sunday October 14. This was a great event last year, put it in your diaries, More details later.

Coming up before you know what's happened is our Hamvention on Sunday November 4. Doors open 10am.. Organizing is under way. Help will be required from all members on the day, this is our main money maker of the year and it has to be good.

Coming up next month, Construction night Monday 10th,

Wednesday 19th Committee Meetings,

Friday 21st Dining Night. Location not decided yet.

Friday 28th. General Meeting.

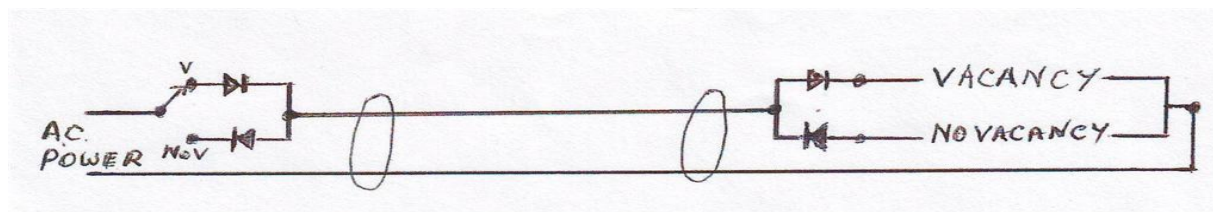
That's it for this month, see you at the AGM.

73's Bob Pitcher. VK3NBV

The KQB Puzzle Corner

The Answer to last month puzzle.

The Motel signs "VACANCY" and "NO VACANCY" were selected using a single pole double throw switch and four (4) diodes as per diagram below.



Erection of Neil's Tower



Well today Neil had a very succesfull public erection. The tower went up nicely to with the assistance of a few club members and his son Darren and other family members.

Assisting were Brian VK3KQB, Ian VK3IDL, Craig VK3CMC, Ian VK3AXH.

Here are some photos that may be usable for the newsletter.

Antennas will appear there soon.

73 Craig