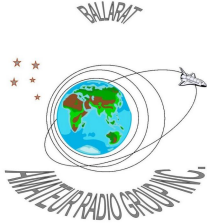


BARG News



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

ABN 44 247 200 143

VOLUME 32 ISSUE 8 AUGUST 2009



President: Doug Raper VK3VBA
Secretary: Doug Ellery VK3FDRE
Treasurer: Peter Pollard VK3FPOL

NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY August 28, 2009
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

Gordon Cornell	VK3FGC
Norm D'Angri	VK3LBA
Harry Hekkema	VK3KGL
Kevin Hughes	VK3WN
Ian McDonald	VK3AXH
Phil Seddon	
Charlie Stewart	VK3DCS
Bob Terrill	VK3BNC

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))	439.275 MHz	Mt Buninyong
VK3RBA (VHF)	(2 m Voice Repeater)	146.750 MHz	Mt Buninyong
VK3RWA*	(2 m Voice Repeater) (Uses CTCSS of 91.5 Hz to access)	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 Sunday 11.00 am via VK3RWA (IRLP Node 6310)

NEWS ITEMS Send to Harry VK3KGL

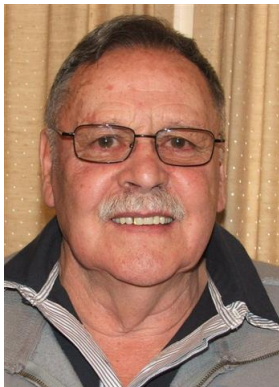
Or mail to Box 1261 Mail Centre BALLARAT 3354

Broadcast Times and Dates on VK3RWA Repeater

Every Sunday at 11.00 am, WIA National News.

Every Monday night at 9.30 pm, ARRL News

Every Tuesday night at 9.30 pm, WIA National News Repeat



Doug, VK3VBA

Presidents Report

Well the AGM is now behind us again unfortunately not many changes, i don't apologize for keep requesting to see new members to be appointed to executive positions and other positions new ideas are in most cases good ideas.

We welcome Bob, bnc to our committee, good to see you back again.

Bob, nbv has stepped down from committee Bob has completed two years as president plus another year as committee member, I know that he will not fade into the background and do nothing in fact he is on the H/vention committee, so Bob please on behalf of all members many thanks for putting in the effort in the past it is certainly been a dedicated journey well done.

Our construction nights have been a raging success and a very timely one with the construction of CTSS boards and the tone installed on RWA.

A total of 30 boards were constructed and at this stage most have been installed into radios, I must thank Ian AXH and Brian KQB for their perseverance with members who needed assistance to complete the project.

Kevin WN has had that long over due surgery on his hip completed I wish him a quick recovery.

Ted HHK is also hopefully on the mend.

Our grey nomads have headed north with AIG being the latest to leave town don't forget to remember the hardy ones left at home.

After watching a lot of members squinting whilst completing their projects a purchase of three (3) magnifying lights will help members in the future.

At this stage of writing this report I have not yet got a guest speaker it could be a Policeman or a Undertaker.

That's all from me for now see you at the next meeting on the 28th.

Doug vk3vba

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Beachside Caravan Park Yeppoon

As it's name suggest, Beachside Caravan Park overlooks the 20 km Farnborough Beach just north of Yeppoon. A picturesque park in a tropical setting surrounded by magnificent sea views and a bay of islands. You are assured of plenty of fishing, pineapples and tropical fruit and vegetables in season. Powered caravan sites are available from where the lights of Great Keppel Island can be viewed.

Yeppoon - You'll be Back

Yeppoon has long been a bit of a grey nomad hotspot ... and it's very easy to see why.

Situated about 40 kilometers east of Rockhampton it's a great place to take a bit of a breather as you head up or down the coast. It's got some great caravan parks, is right next door to a stunning national park, state forests and conservation area, and its 1.5 kilometers of safe beaches are just a great place to relax. Oh, and to put the icing on the cake, the town with a population of 7,000 or so is friendly and well serviced.

As you do head south from Yeppoon, you are afforded magnificent views out to sea. From Wreck Point Lookout you can see all of the major islands, including Great Keppel and North Keppel islands. And if you are keen to visit the palm-filled paradise isles you can take a boat from Roslyn Bay Boat Harbour. It takes about half an hour to get across.

Byfield National Park covers some 15,000 hectares and boasts massive sand dunes, as well as rugged granite pinnacles like The Peaks and Mt Atherton. In the eucalypt woods and rainforest areas, birdlife is abundant, so twitchers don't forget your binoculars.

The state forest is actually far more accessible than the national park and it offers excellent camping as well. The area has about 7,000 hectares of exotic pine plantation and 17,000 hectares of native forest, as well as pockets of rainforest along Waterpark Creek.

The Yeppoon area then, by any measure, is genuinely magnificent. The town itself has retained its friendly village atmosphere and the surrounding countryside and islands has more than enough to keep you interested.



FOR SALE

PERSONAL MAGNIFYING HEADSET - DSE BRAND EXCELLENT LENSES (2)

TWO LEDS FOR ILLUMINATION - \$ 10-00

CONTACT DOUG VK3VBA



Ian, vk3axh

The DISH



Trip to VK5MS to meet Sam Jewell G4DDK and look at a big dish

On Thursday 20th August Roger VK3ADE and Ian VK3AXH set off from Ballarat at 10am to travel to a small dot on the South Australian map called Hatherleigh which is located some 16km west of Millicent in South Australia.. It took 4hrs 20mins for the journey which included a lunch break at Casterton. The weather was magnificent with the sun shining down and the beautiful green pasture around the area. Apart from the odd car and an Emu the trip was pleasant with Roger's Tom Tom navigator keeping us on track.

The purpose of our trip was mainly to meet Sam Jewell G4DDK who is a well known amateur in the microwave world of amateur radio and features in many of the well known RSGB and other ham radio publications around the world.

Both Roger and Ian had made Sam's 1296MHz preamps from kits and were keen to find out the methods of tuning etc. After some discussion we found the most suitable methods and will put them into practice to gain the best performance which is around 0.25uv of noise for approximately 36dB of gain.

The other purpose of the trip was to look at the dish that Chris VK5MC has finished after approx a 6 year time frame. As can be seen in the pictures below it's big. The dish diameter is 32ft and is controlled by hydraulic rams for elevation and has a pump driving one of the 4 wheels that carries the entire structure on a circular track of concrete.

Chris kindly showed its performance by demonstrating measurement of sun noise which was very impressive together with auto tracking which was designed by John Drew VK5DJ.

Around 6pm we traveled to Tantanoola Pub on the Mt Gambier side of Millicent for a get together with other local amateurs for a counter meal and presentation by Sam about the UK and his preamp design and future projects.

We left the pub at 10pm and traveled via Mt Gambier to arrive back in Ballarat around 1:30am. A great day was had by both of us.

73, Ian VK3AXH





A HAM of the RADIO KIND.

Reminisces of Norm D'Angri VK3LBA.

In the BARG library is this A4 sized bindings of 19 pages in which Norm tells about how he became involved with Amateur radio. He mentions the early beginnings as he constructed his first crystal set then onto a four valve TRF radio. It makes an interesting read as he mentions names of the Ballarat amateurs who were around from the 1940's and his involvement with them. He describes how he had to put amateur radio aside while building the family home and eventually coming back to sit for his license in 1992. The in between years was spent building audio amplifiers and listening to recorded music and developing an interest that he had in black and white photography.

The journal is extensively adjourned with copies of his logbook and samples of the many QSL's he has received over the years. With time this interest in photography has moved onto computer graphics and Norm has been responsible for producing many items such as club special event QSL's and certificates, presentation coasters, club logos and many other items that members of BARG and others will be familiar with.

Norm was made a Life member of the BARG in 2005 for his services to the club.

I have really enjoyed reading this journal which is more graphical then textual and see how one person has made the hobby of amateur radio a rewarding and beneficial activity in his life. Well done Norm.

Club members are invited to borrow the journal from our library in the normal way and to enjoy reading it.

Maybe we should all make up a small resume and collection of our own activities for future amateurs to read and show how "we did it in the old days" and also for the social history value when others want to write about the hobby. Its now a few years ago but there was a small publication produced by the WIA that promised others would follow that documented our history and evolvment in the hobby of radio communications.

73 Craig
VK3CMC



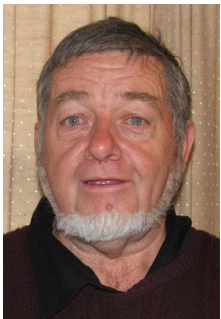
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QST Report with Craig, VK3CMC

Content review of current QST in library

QST Review 2009 - 7 July



- P9 Editorial. Similar concerns with the rights of amateurs to operate and erect antennas for their own stations. It discusses restrictive covenants and the possibility of Federal laws needed to override local and community groups.
What can we learn from it here. ?

- P33 Homebrew Coaxial Dipole for VHF or UHF.

- P35 Parallel Port Interface for your Shack.

- P38 A High Gain Single Wire Beam.

- P40 An RFI story with a happy ending.
- P41 Review: Yaesu VX-8R Handheld Tcwr.
- P44 Review: QSK-MASTER External QSK TR switch for HF Amps.
- P46 K1EK Winkeyer USB CW Keyer & Interface Kit.

- P48 The Doctor is in. Dual band antenna's, Neutralising PA's, RFI in an Autotuner, 40M in Region 3. More about PL239 or those UHF connectors.

- P50 Short Takes. The Ultra RX-1 Ultrasonic Receiver.

- P51 Getting on the Air. All about Maritime Mobile. M/M.
- P54 Hands on Radio. Exp #78 Bridge Circuits.
- P56 Hints & Kinks. Repair to ICOM IC-27/37/47,
Traffic Cone ant baseCommon fault in Yaesu VX5.
- P61 Whats new at DAYTON 2009.?
- P62 Learn to set your beam to Swaziland [and other places].
- P63 The Teardrop QTH. Mobile in a caravan.
- P68 In Brief. Solar cycle 24 to peak in 2013:
- P70 Public Service. Emergency Communications Spring training.
- P84 2009 ARRL RTTY Roundup. Its still alive and well.
- P86 How's DX. Looks at the International Reply Coupons. IRC's
- P88 World above 50Mhz's Long dist Es Propagation on 6M at Solar cycle minimum Pt 1.
- P92 Exam Imfo. Looka at the US experience over 25yrs with Volunteer Examiners.
- P93 Eclectic Technology. Your own D-Star "Hot Spot"
- P94 Vintage Radio. Rodney Pratt K2AFK, Satellite Pioneer.
- P97 Microwavelengths. Assembling a Transverter System.
- P102 Reviews QST Contents for July 1934, July 1959 and July 1984.
- P103 Hamspeak. Relative terms found in this months edition of QST.

Plus adds galore.



Doug, VK3FRDE

The Secretary's Page

Minutes of the BARG General Meeting – 31st July 2009

Following the AGM, Doug VK3VBA occupied the chair, and opened the meeting at 2017.

Apologies

VK3KP, VK3CAZ, VK3HHK, VK3FHUT, VK3KGL, VKNJP, VK3ADE, VK3AXH, VK3HRZ, VK3BNC, VK3GND.

Attendance

Approximately 22 Members.

Visitors

Charles Sheldon–Collins, Gordon Atkins.

Minutes of the Previous

(June) general meeting had been distributed previously, they were passed with a minor amendment (tables from St Alipius, not St Lukes) as being correct.

Moved Cedric VK3KCA / Brian VK3KQB– carried.

Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Secretary's Report

Correspondence In: Thank you card from Roger VK3ADE and Barb.

Invoice from Council for July and August rent.

Reminder from Consumer Affairs that the financial report by our Public Officer would be due following the AGM.

Email from Ian VK3AXE regarding the closure of the Mount Warrenheip repeater.

Correspondence Out: Peter VK3FPOL had written to St Alipius Parish thanking them for the donation of the trestles.

Moved Craig VK3CMC / Charlie VK3DCS – Carried.

Other Reports

Social – Bob NBV, RSL club meal was very nice and also good value, next meal to be at the Minerdome. Nine had attended for coffee and cakes at the Beechworth Bakery. The bus trip to GGREC convention at Cranbourne had been an enjoyable outing.

Construction – Brian KQB – Construction of tone access boards had gone well, with several completed, and most of those behaving as expected.

Amenities – Peter FPOL has donated a new vacuum cleaner to the group, contact phone numbers on the board out the front have been changed to Doug VBA and Bob NBV. The large trestles that had been obtained from St Alipius had been cut in half, and extra legs had been made to make them more manageable, this work had been done by John CFH and Gordon FGC, John and Gordon had also made wooden tops to protect the laminate on the new tables during construction activities.

Education – Craig CMC, there had been one examination for advanced, and one for foundation in July, one proposed applicant was a late withdrawal, and one failed to turn up, Gordon FGC had assisted Craig. John AIG moved and Charlie DCS seconded that guidelines for those proposing to sit examinations be revisited by Craig and the committee, with a view to avoiding the disappointment of non-appearance, this motion was carried. There is another course proposed for November.

Publicity - Doug VBA had done an interview with the Courier, had received 5 calls from interested people as a result. Norm D'Angri has produced sympathy cards to be used for members and families, and also certificates of appreciation to be given to guest speakers.

General Business

Clem BVI noted that there was a shortage of good quality tools for construction activities, and made a suggestion that the group should purchase some, a wish list was produced and Doug VBA offered to investigate costs.

The Hamvention venue at the Greyhound racing track is being enlarged by about 9 metres, a few of the Hamvention committee members were to inspect the venue again shortly.

There being no further business, meeting closed at about 2100. Next meeting 27th August at 1930

Usual Disclaimer: While I have endeavoured to make these minutes an accurate record of the meeting, I may not necessarily have succeeded. If I have upset anyone by error or omission I apologise.

*Doug Ellery
VK3FDRE
Secretary BARG*

B.A.R.G. Inc.

(Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc. #6953T)

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