



BARG News

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group

Inc. #6953T

November

Monthly Newsletter

Next Meeting

Friday 27th October 2017 @ 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 1261
Mail Centre
Ballarat. Vic. 3354

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

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

Presidents Report

It's been a productive time at the club with the Log Periodic now up, the remote base project is drawing to a close, and working really nicely too.

It's nearly Hamvention time. Booking are about the same as last year, which is a real positive, With the move to the long weekend we may well see quite a few people taking the time to travel to Ballarat, and numbers could be up.

We do need everyone's help to set up on the Saturday and pack up on the Sunday. Even if you can't stay all day on Sunday a couple of hours each day will make a big difference.

There's lots to be done all through the Hamvention apart from set up. We always need some help selling tickets, manning the club table. Directing traffic and generally supervising. Most of the work is not physical. And of course you get to look around and chat to others as well.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

Lastly, the Christmas break up will again be catered at the club house on THURSDAY the 14th of December. \$25 per head, all welcome, but bookings needed.

Was a great event last year, and should be again this year.

That's all for now. I can't be at the meeting this week, traveling for work. (Banging this out from a hotel room this month.)

See you at the Hamvention.

Malcolm

VK3OAK

BARG THURSDAY NIGHT NET CONTROLLERS LIST.						
For VK3BML club station of Ballarat Amateur Radio Group.						
DATE	OPERATOR	NAME	ALT	OPERATOR	NAME	COMMENTS.
THIS ROSTER DEvised		Jul-17				
28-Sep-17	VK3AXH	Ian	alt	VK3KQT	David	
5-Oct-17	VK3KG	Craig	alt	VK3AXH	Ian	
12-Oct-17	VK3GGG	Mick	alt	VK3KG	Craig	
19-Oct-17	VK3DRE	Doug	alt	VK3GGG	Mick	
26-Oct-17	VK3KQT	David	alt	VK3DRE	Doug	3KG not available.
2-Nov-17	VK3KG	Craig	alt	VK3KQT	David	
9-Nov-17	VK3AXH	Ian	alt	VK3KG	Craig	
16-Nov-17	VK3GGG	Mick	alt	VK3AXH	Ian	
23-Nov-17	VK3DRE	Doug	alt	VK3GGG	Mick	3KG not available.
30-Nov-17	VK3KQT	David	alt	VK3DRE	Doug	
7-Dec-17	VK3KG	Craig	alt	VK3KQT	David	
14-Dec-17	VK3GGG	Mick	alt	VK3AXH	Ian	
21-Dec-17	VK3DRE	Doug	alt	VK3KG	Craig	3KG not available
28-Dec-17	VK3KQT	David	alt	VK3GGG	Mick	

10. October 2017 Review QST magazine

- P4/5 Index to issue.
- P13 Member spotlight . Mathew NJ4Y An electrical engineering student.
- P24 Letters
- P30 The World with WSJT-X Part 1. Operating Capabilities.
- P37 The ABCs of a Digital multimeter.
- P42 Hamclock. Will track the time with WIFI enabled devices.
- P45 Understanding Propagation with JT65, JT9 and FT8.
- P48 Troubleshooting 101. Where's the buzz?
- P50 Review: Yaesu FT-65R Dual Band HTT receiver. 6/2 bands.
- P54 Review; SharkRF open hotspot.
- P58 SDR Spectrum Radio Processor 2 Pro.
- P61 W4OP Magnetic loop Antenna.
- P63 Review of Pro Audio engineering Kx33 Power Supply.
- P65 EZ Hang Square Shot kit, Ideal for field day usage.
- P66 Eclectic Tech. Is any one still using dial up Internet?
- P67 The Doctor: Antennas & Radios are Usually compatible.
- P69 Microwaves without a bucket full of money
- P71 Hands on Radio Ex 177. Feed Line Comparison.
- P73 Hints& Kinks. Headphones/APRS Images repairs etc
- P76 Future challenges for Entry level reviewed by ARRL board.
- P79 Radio from Sri Lanka and Mauritius
- P82 T48K celebrates 15 yrs operating together.
- P84 First CW from space: SPUTNIC turns 60 years.
- P86 The ELMER project A new kind of Mentorship
- P91 Friedrichshafen Ham Radio Attendance Holds steady.
- P97 How's DX has an update on Baker island. KH1
- P99 World above 50MHz also looks at Evolution of JT65 to FT8.
- P104 Classic Radio. Hallicrafters HA-1 T.O. Keyer.
- P108 100, 50 and 25 years ago index. Remember we may have some of these in our library.

I hear the crew dabbling around the bottom end band on 474KHz has had a number of successes lately Listening on their VHF liaison channel VK3s BNC, AIG and IDL have been regularly sequencing signals using WSPR and watch one another using JT8 or similar waterfall programs. Ian VK3AXH has also put signals up and Craig v3KG has been listening and is soon to have a laptop displaying the decoded signals.

It has also been revealed that 3KG has nearly completed his transceiver and will be heard on air also.

Bob VK3BNC has been purloining the domestic plastic bucket onto which he has wound a large Goniometer coil to attach to bottom of his 80 M wire system. If you do not know a Goniometer suggest you look it up

On air reports indicate that the group has been watching signals from interstate each night and decoding at quite successful levels.

More to report soon.

88s & 73s

BIG EARS.

VHF and Above for November 2017

With the warmer weather starting to appear so is the improved propagation on the 2mx band. The Adelaide 2mx beacon has been heard by several operators that take part in the morning 2mx SSB net on 144.1 around 8am. To take part in this activity you have to be prepared to drag yourself out of bed. Local club members are quite well represented in this group and it's hoped that as the weather improves you can take part.

DXCC on 2mx EME for VK3AXH

After my first EME qso using a single 13 element yagi and 400 watts with Dave W5UN's 32 yagis and 1kW on 2 metres in August 2004 I have just completed my 102 Country on EME with 3DAOMB in Swaziland on 15th November 2017 some 13 years and 2 months later. This represents 102 different countries around the world some of which would not have been possible without the support of many amateurs setting up DXpeditions.

This has been a long journey (approximately 2700 qso's) but well worth it having built 4 yagis each being 10m in length with approx 22dB overall gain and with my old AM17 amplifier it's done the job.

In addition to digital qso's there have also been SSB and CW contacts made on 2mx, 70cm and 23cms.

As a matter of interest some recent qso's have been made with European stations using 1x8 el yagi and 400 watts and another using 1x12 el yagi and 350 watts.

I have just purchased a SSPA to replace the AM17 so will be offering it for sale in the near future.

Spring VHF Field Day 25-26 November 2017

Those who are interested in this activity you should keep this weekend free. Provided the weather is kind to us this is the time to blow the cobwebs out of your equipment that's been on ice over the colder months.

3.4GHz Test Day

John Nunnan VK3IC who attends our Hamvention each year recently contacted me to test out a 3.4G panel he purchased at last years event. Together with Bob VK3BNC they setup at the Chisolm Street reserve on Saturday 21st October with Ian VK3AXH near the VK3RBT repeater site on Green Hill.

Although the distance was not that great we all had good reports. John was using an FT817 as the tunable I.F. the same as Bob who has provided some modifications to John to make setup and operation easier.

Well done to all.

Till next time 73's VK3AXH

Image of AM17 amplifier

It's quite a weighty beast but is mounted on a mobile base with castors and includes coaxial by-pass relays for normal power from the driving transmitter which is around the 10 – 15 watt level. Although the amplifier can be operated without a sequencer it is desirable particularly if you are planning to use a pre-amplifier. Most of the add-on bits used are available from Mini-Kits in South Australia.

Cheers, Ian – VK3AXH



9 /17 PRACTICAL WIRELESS SEPT 2017

- P6 Keylines. New FT8 digital format.
- P7 News
- P10 The Gurney Slade Pt2. The Transmitter side. Uses a loop antenna.
- P13 Reviews LAMCO DU1500 ATU' and matchers. 160 to 10M.
- P18 Review: 144/432 MHz mobile QYT KT8900D
- P23 Review: Super Antenna MP 1DXMAX vertical
- P26 The HF Challenge. DXing about the place.
- P29 More on Spy Server for Raspberry Pi. See last months *Data Modes* for more.
- P32 Temporary VHF Antenna Installations. Simple Omni for quick temp positions.
- P34 World of VHF looks at New weak signal mode in WSJT-X. Now known as FT8.
- P40 Making Waves. Critical Frequency and NVIS. What does it mean?
- P42 &) MHz Prac Wireless contest
- P44 Valve & Vintage. Heathkit the range of kits since WW2 Interesting meander in time.
- P46 An RF Field strength Indicator Worthwhile construction project for you.
- P49 Noise Tuning Bridge. Suitable building challenge.
- P52 What you can do with a VHF/UHF FM Handheld.
- P56 Emerging Technology.
- P58 ICQ Amateur Radio Podcast. What is it? How does it work?
- P62 Letters. Yes we have letters.
- P66 Bargain Basement. Ideas of whats being sold and availability.
- P67 Traders Table sale items in second hand gear. In Pounds of course.



And that's all from the Sept edition.
73 Craig VK3KG

10 SILICON CHIP for October 2017.

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 - 36 El Cheapo modules Part 10. GPS receivers. Use for Locations, and time reference.
 - 80 Save \$\$\$ by reducing your Hot Water thermostats now electricity is so costly.
 - 26 Touch Screen Freq meter 0.01Hz to 6GHz, Part 1.
 - 42 Build Kelvin the cricket within an hour, hes so smart.
 - 66 3 way crossover for active speakers Part 2.
 - 76 Delux touch screen eFuse, Part 3: Using it.
 - 58 Serviceman's log. Always an interesting read of how to fix.
 - 82 Circuit Notebook:
 - Mods to a supply for Battery valve radio sets.
 - Recalibrating the oscillator in a PIC12F675/F629
 - Bipolar Transistor Tester: Mk2.
 - Use a 5"touch screen with a Micromite Plus Explore 64.
 - 88 Vintage radio. The HMV 1955 Portable Model 12-11 receiver.
- EVERY THING ELSE.
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- Plenty of adverts especially for Arduino

4 DIYODE October 2017 The fourth edition.

Well this month has 98 pages and the magazines first discrete Project.

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And so to next months edition.