



BARG News

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group
Inc. #6953T
August
Monthly Newsletter

Next Meeting
Friday 28th August @ 7:30pm

Virtual Meeting via Webex

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 1218
Mail Centre
Bakery Hill Vic. 3354

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

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

Presidents Report

Welcome to the August newsletter. Since the last newsletter there has been the Remembrance Day contest, which is possibly the largest contest of the year. I participated as QRP again this year and managed 100+ contacts. I spoke to Ian, VK3AXH. He was running 400 watts and managed as many contacts in a couple of hours as I made over the whole weekend.

There was a number of electrical storms during the contest period, which resulted in many people complaining about static crashes knocking out key bits of QSO's.

A big contest is always good to liven up the bands too. I managed contacts on 180, 80, 40 and 20m. My QRP 80m OCF worked well and made it easy to bounce around the bands with minimum of fuss. I do need to work out a better arrangement for 160m though.

The September meeting will be time for election of office holders. As already communicated, Doug, VK3DRE has said that he'll be standing down from the role of secretary. Doug commenced in the role in July 2008 and has done an excellent job for the last 12 years. The role of secretary is one of a small number of roles that must be filled or the club isn't able to continue as an incorporated organisation.

If your able to assist with the running of the club by being a member of the committee, then fill in and send back to the secretary at ellerys@westnet.com.au

BARG NOMINATION FORM.

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc. #6953T

Date: _____

I wish to nominate _____ Call _____

For the position of _____ within BARG Inc.

Nominated by: _____ and _____

Nomination accepted by (Nominee) _____

The next meeting will again be on Webex. At this stage I'm expecting that the remaining meetings this year will be on Webex, but I guess time will tell.

This Friday the general meeting and the next construction night is Monday ten days later. There'll be discussion about the antenna project and other projects that we might do at some future point. Members and guests are welcome to join.

The newsletter is for all the club to contribute too. Articles are welcome from everyone.

I've seen a few interesting products pop up recently. There's a small group in Indonesia selling a couple of different HF radios, including this 4 band 25w model for less than \$350 AU.



<https://hambuilder.com/product/hbr4hf-v3-0/>

Looking at the website, it might be a one man operation, so be prepared to tinker a bit.

If that's not your style then at the other end of the spectrum then maybe the R&S®MR300xH/ U Advanced Multiband Tactical Radios from Rohde & Schwarz. 1.5 MHz to 512 MHz, inbuilt GPS. 7500Hrs MTBF.



I couldn't find a price for this one. Which is okay, as I doubt I could afford it anyway.

Catch you all Friday

Malcolm, VK3OAK

Perhaps this little beauty might help my QRP efforts in the next RD contest.

Though it doesn't go down to 1.5MHz.

It's rated for 5.8 MHz to 18.8 MHz at 100kW.



VHF and Above for August 2020

Due to the time of year and general weather conditions there is little to report this month. The highlight in terms of propagation has been 2 consecutive days when the Adelaide 2m beacon was heard at S1 and S9 respectively. On the second day VK3AXH had a contact with VK5PJ when both were able to give 5x9 reports in both directions. VK5PJ is located in the Barossa Valley region of S.A.

General propagation on 2m has been poor particularly on 2mx. Signals that are normally S9 have been much less and often disappear at times. All this aside there are still plenty of stations to be heard each morning from around 8am onwards.

Even though it's winter we should try and keep this activity running which is well supported by amateurs in the Ballarat area.

Ian VK3AXH has finally rebuilt his 10G equipment and has conducted a couple of tests from Green Hill to Clarks Hill over a distance of approx 14km with very good results ie signals over S9 in both directions. The other station is Ian VK3IDL. It's hoped that when the weather improves and lock down is lifted more tests will be done with stations in the Melbourne and Mt Gambier areas. The equipment is a mix of VK3XDK's synthesiser and ex commercial equipment by MITEC. This arrangement is quite common amongst those that have an interest in the 10G band.

Craig VK3KG is also busy putting together his minikits 2.4GHz transverter having recently got some aluminium to mount all the bits and pieces to finish it off. Craig's location at Cape Clear will be a good spot enabling tests to be done back into Ballarat and also a good take off both East and West from his qth.

Have any other members had a look at the minikits website? There are plenty of kits available for those that would like to have a go at building them. I'm aware there are many club members that have built transverters for 1296 and 2.4G as well as preamplifiers for 2m, 70cm, 23cm and 13cm as well. These kits are among some of the best in the world so if you are interested why not have a go. If you need support there are many club members that can assist.

Till next time 73 de VK3AXH

80m Net Roster. Thursday @ 8 pm on 3.608 MHz

Date	Name	Call	Alt Name	Alt Call
27-Aug-20	David	VK3KQT	Scott	VK3MCL
3-Sep-20	Scott	VK3MCL	Craig	VK3KG
10-Sep-20	Craig	VK3KG	Doug	VK3DRE
17-Sep-20	Doug	VK3DRE	Ian	VK3AXH
24-Sep-20	Ian	VK3AXH	Scott	VK3MCL
1-Oct-20	Scott	VK3MCL	Paul	VK3TXR
8-Oct-20	Paul	VK3TXR	Chris	VK3QY
15-Oct	Chris	VK3QY	David	VK3KQT
22-Oct	David	VK3KQT	Scott	VK3MCL
29-Oct	Scott	VK3MCL	Craig	VK3KG
5-Nov	Craig	VK3KG	Doug	VK3DRE
12-Nov	Doug	VK3DRE	Ian	VK3AXH
19-Nov	Ian	VK3AXH	Scott	VK3MCL
26-Nov	Scott	VK3MCL	Paul	VK3TXR
3-Dec	Paul	VK3TXR	Chris	VK3QY
10-Dec	Chris	VK3QY	David	VK3KQT
17-Dec	David	VK3KQT	Scott	VK3MCL
24-Dec	Scott	VK3MCL	Paul	VK3TXR
31-Dec	No official net tonight. NEW YEARS EVE.			
7-Jan-21	Paul	VK3TXR	Chris	VK3QY
14-Jan-21	Chris	VK3QY	David	VK3KQT
21-Jan-21	David	VK3KQT	Scott	VK3MCL
28-Jan-21	Scott	VK3MCL	Craig	VK3KG