



BARG News

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group

Inc. #6953T

May

Monthly Newsletter

Next Meeting

Friday 28th April 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

Another month gone by, next month is the George Fowler auction so once again its the perfect time to do a stocktake in the shack bring your goodies along and turn them into money for yourself or donate them to BARG its a well known event for it to continue we need items to sell.

This report is being done on my daughters computer thanks to NBN gggrrr

They certainly don't hurry to fix a problem no phone no computer no safety alert its very frustrating.

Bob NBV has been on a long bike ride hoping to see him at our April meeting. We had to replace a modem on the computer system job well done Roger also we have now got a cost saving computer i am sure Roger will explain the details on the 28th.

At long last our street light has been made operable it has been fitted with LED lighting a big improvement over the older conventional lights.

We are changing our power supply for electricity at a lower cost and we will announce another cost saving heater and cooling system at our next meeting.

Hoping everyone is well and all on deck.

Batteries 33ah 12 volt Gel batteries are available at the mens shed in Eureka st for \$ 10-00 (good value)

We will have a guest speaker at our next meeting his topic will be on astronomy so come along and enjoy.

Thats all for now so keep safe Doug 3vba

A Word From The Editor

Welcome to the May newsletter. Easter is behind us and by the time you read this ANZAC day will be over too, which also means the weather is heading into Winter. Perfect time to start work on those projects that have sat idle over summer.

Roger has done some great work on the mail system, which does mean some of the mailing list addresses have changed. It also means that your able to maintain your own email addresses when there's changes. You've probably seen some emails come through already. Hopfully it all makes sense. I'm still getting my head around it. :-)

As always I'm keen to see input from members for the news letter. Makes it more interesting for everyone.

Malcolm - VK3OAK

VHF and Above for May 2017

This month has not produced any lift in long distance propagation on these bands. On 2m in the mornings there is quite a lot of activity on SSB where a number of club members can be heard. Calls heard are VK3BNC, VK3AIG, VK3KG, VK3GGG, VK3FHCT, VK3ARM, and VK3AXH.

Often after initial contacts have been made operation is shifted to 70cm and above if the conditions look favourable. Other stations in VK3 are from Cobram, Shepparton, Gippsland, Camperdown, Cobden, Geelong and Melbourne with a couple of stations from Mt Gambier in VK5 as well.

During this month VK3AIG and VK3AXH setup 10G equipment for a test to Mt Dandenong from Mt Buninyong a distance of approx 130km with Rob VK3MQ.

Rob was heard at S9 signal strength and also heard our signals equally as well. Due to a deluge of rain we had to abandon some of the tests we wanted to carry out which will be done at a later time.

Both John and Ian about a week later did some 10G tests across town to iron out some problems which at present are not completely resolved however signal strengths were very good even though the distance was relatively short.

Till next time 73 de *Ian VK3AXH*

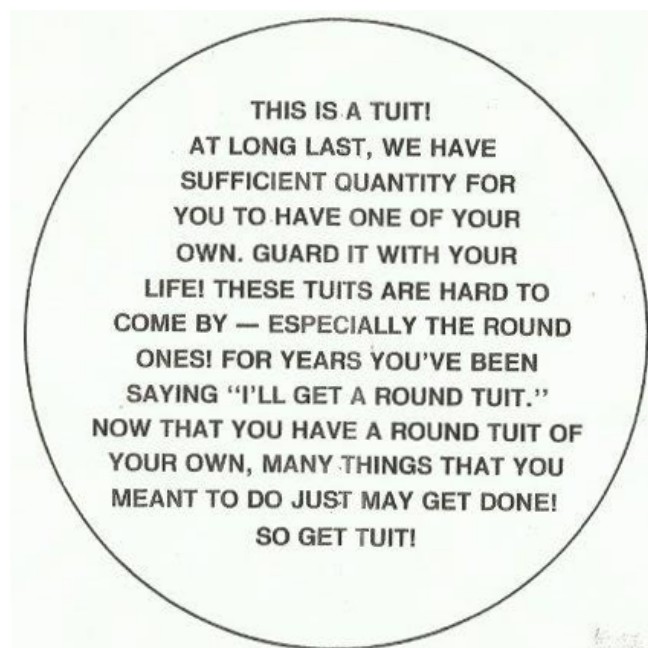
Have you got a round to it yet?

Here's something we probably all need. The original is on A\$ sheet. I originally received this as an RTTY transmission back in the 1970's when we had a show in Melb called Night Owl theatre and we had a 2M FM RTTY channel that ran hot with people sending {punched tape} pictures using only keyboard symbols.

Some of the Pxs were very smart and complex to design then sending may take up to 30mins some times. I know one amateur burnt out a final stage because the duty cycle was 100%.

Anyhow make up some text to tell people they MUST have one of these special TUIT's.

73 Craig



Q3 March 2017. QST review.

- P4/5 In this issue. The Index.
- P9 Get on the Air with History.
- P13 Member Spotlight Dr Martin Ewing, AA6E. A Physicist and Astronomer. See his blog at www.blog.aa6e.net.
- P20 Santa went to Walmart and wowed the kids.
- P24 Members letters.
- P30 Does your Antenna need a Choke or Balun?
- P33 Five element for 222 MHz beam. Made on a wooden boom.
- P35 Triband Ant with radials for 2M, 1.25M and 70Centimetres. Are you interested ?
- P41 Pair of Inverted V fan dipoles for 75/80M band.
- P43 The Lazy M antenna for the Low Bands.
- P45 Safety First. Preparing to climb a tower. Part 3.
- P48 Review: BridgeCom D-500 70Cm hand held.
- P52 Review: MFJ-269C HF/VHF/UHF SWR Analyzer.
- P55 Review: Low Band HF Triplexer & Band Pass Filters.
- P58 Review: RA-S1 Rotator Controller for Array Solutions.
- P61 Review: Pro Kit's Master Tool Set.
- P62 The Doc: Make your sigs Stronger at that DX Location.
- P64 Yes you can still Hack your Router.
- P65 Hints & Kinks.
- P67 Exp 170. Noise Figure.
- P69 Phase & Zero beat Indicator and Mobile UHF Interference.
- P72 Helical Antennas
- P75 Beach Ball Antenna projects.
- P97 World above 50MHz. Sporadic E NZ and Aus to the Solomans.



Craig
VK3KG.



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4 April. 2017 QST review.

- P4/5 In this issue. The Index.
- P9 Make it Happen. Next generation will be makers and constructors.!
- P13 Member Spotlight John Ackermann, N8UR. A time and Digital measurement
- P24 Letters. Tower safety, DIY, WSPR for 30M,
- P30 DIY Remote Radio operation at home.
- P34 Build an RF current sensor for your transmitter output line.
- P38 Simple Omnidirectional 6 Meter Horizontal Antenna.
- P42 Testing your SDR Learn how to read frequencies.
- P45 Bluetooth Interface for *Fldigi*. Build wireless interface for this popular free software.
- P48 A WSPR transmitter for 30 Meters. Companion for receiver featured in the Feb 2017 edition of QST.
- P51 Review. Kenwood DH74A Analog and D-Star VHF/UHF Transceiver.
- P56 Review. Encore USB Digital Microscope.
- P59 Review. Peak Atlas LCR45 LCR Impedance Bridge.
- P61 Review. TRC-1 Tactical Radio Carrier for emergencies/Field days.
- P63 Review Pacific Antenna's 10W single band amplifier. www.qrpkits.com
- P65 The Doctor. More on using a 40M Dipole on 15 Meters. See Dec 2016.
- P67 HandsOn Exp #171 AC Power Distribution.
- P69 Microwavelengths Small dishes and Digital EME. Rex VK7MO features.
- P71 Eclectic Tecnology looks at WSJT-X in the palm of your hand.
- P73 Hints&Kinks. RIGblaster Interface, Mystery Balun & Neutral no longer.
- P76 4U1UN rare DX entity was on air Oct 2016. bit.ly/1Y24e7a
- P79 Sky's the Limit. Man with serious disability erected his own 54ft tower
- P81 Expedition to the Antipodes Island. ZL9. Jan 2016.
- P90 Mini Trailer for Field uses.
- P99 How's DX. Look at the Sunspot cycle now Solar Cycle 25.
- P101 World above 50MHz. Remember a pioneer, Pat WA5IYX [SK]
- P106 Classic Radio looks at the Moseley TA-33 Tribander from the 1950's.
- P110 Index from 100, 50, and 25 years ago.
- P156 List of QST Advertisers.

73 Craig
VK3KG.



5. May 2017. Practical Wireless Review.

- P5 Contents page.
- P10 Getting Started on 5MHz Part 1. UK is a head of VK.
www.itu.int/pub/R-REG-RR/en
Also see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/60-meter_band A good reading.
- P14 Improving our SSB Audio Quality.
- P18 Emerging Technologies.
- P23 Valve & Vintage The KW Sets of bygone years.
- P26 Adding CTCSS to an old FM Transceiver.
<http://rason.org/Projects/impdecod/impdecod.htm>
- P30 Raspberry Pi and JTDX.
- P34 Updated firmware for DV4Mini Digital radio Dongle.
- P40 Making Waves Sporadic E propagation.
- P42 Turning a Short-Wire into a Long Wire.
- P46 Multiband, Multimode receiver. Testing it.
- P50 HF Highlights. ZC4A Cyprus.
- P54 Build a 40M CW Transceiver kit for less than 3 Pound.
[www.gqrp.com/The Sprat Pixie File.pdf](http://www.gqrp.com/The_Sprat_Pixie_File.pdf)
- P60 The KW 2000A Transceiver.
- P62 Letters.
- 73 Craig VK3KG



George Fowler Auction

Sunday the 28th of May Lunch at 12-00 noon auction stars at 1-00 pm.



The 5 Riddles.....

1. A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms.

The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in 3 years.

Which room is safest for him?

2. A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally, she hangs him. But 5 minutes later they both go out together and enjoy a wonderful dinner together. How can this be?

3. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and gray when you throw it away?

4. Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday, or Sunday?

5. This is an unusual paragraph. I'm curious as to just how quickly you can find out what is so unusual about it. It looks so ordinary and plain that you would think nothing was wrong with it. In fact, nothing is wrong with it! It is highly unusual though. Study it and think about it, but you still may not find anything odd. But if you work at it a bit, you might find out.

Try to do so without any coaching!

THE ANSWERS TO ALL FIVE THE RIDDLES ARE BELOW (No Peeping!):

Answers:

1. The third room. Lions that haven't eaten in three years are dead.

That one was easy, right?

2. The woman was a photographer. She shot a picture of her husband, developed it, and hung it up to dry (shot; held under water; and hung).

3. Charcoal, as it is used in barbecuing.

4. Sure you can name three consecutive days, yesterday, today, and tomorrow!

5. The letter "e" which is the most common letter used in the English language does not appear even once in the paragraph.

How did you do?

SALGUOD

Round the Web

Lots of amateurs write blogs about they're activities. Some document trips they've been on, some describe projects they've created. They're not hard to create and it enables others to get ideas and learn from the experience of others. Bob, VK3NBV, sent through a Blog entry from SotaBeams that had a listing of some popular blogs. Some of which I've listed here.

If you want to follow more than a couple of Blogs you really need some sort of reader. One popular one, and the one I use is Feedly. It's pretty easy, if you'd like some hints on setting up just drop me a line. <https://feedly.com>

SotaBeams <http://www.sotabeams.co.uk/blog/>

This is a commercial site, so many of the entries will relate back to their products. Since it's the one Bob sent me, and inspired this report, it's only fair that it's included.

Lots of good technical stuff. I'd guess the articles would be able to be relied upon for accuracy too.



KB6NU Ham Radio Blog <http://www.kb6nu.com/>

This is a well written blog with the occasional thoughtful piece about the hobby. Dan's professional writer with a lot of ham radio study guides to his name. He also has a Youtube channel with lots of material, including a full Tech course.

Dave Richards AA7EE
<https://aa7ee.wordpress.com/>

Dave has the highest quality home brew projects. Mostly they're built from scratch. His layout and build quality is impeccable. Definitely worth a look.



VK3ARH Adventures with Amateur Radio

<https://vk3hra.wordpress.com/> The list wouldn't be complete without at last one local blog. There's quite a few good VK3 Blogs, including our very own VK3ARH. Allen documents his Sota journeys, which is very useful if your planning to activate a harder to get to summit that Allen's already done.

THE NATIONAL TRUST ANDERSON'S MILL WEEKEND

13TH - 14TH MAY 2017



FREE ENTRY

Victorian Quilters Inc. will display heritage quilts with materials and books for sale

The Ballan District Vintage Machinery and Vehicle Club will display heritage steam and combustion engines which will focus on grain and bread making

Clunes Neighbourhood House will have heritage children's games

The Central Goldfields Radio Group will be communicating to mills in other parts of the world and Australia

The Ballarat Society of Artists will display artwork

A Mother's Day event will focus on exploring PROV (Publics Records of Victoria) archives and writing your own family history.

The Collaborative Research Centre in Australian History (CRAH) Federation University Australia along with PROV will host talks and panels on local and family history

MILL TOURS, WORKING WATER WHEEL, FOOD VENDORS AND MORE

Supported by Hepburn Shire Council, Clunes Neighbourhood House, Federation University and Parks Victoria