

BARG News



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

VOLUME 30 ISSUE 9 SEPTEMBER 2007



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

NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY 28, 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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The Secretary's Page

Minutes of BARG General Meeting August 2007

Welcome: Meeting opened by President Bob VK3NBV at 8:45pm

Apologies: VK3CAZ, VK3CIS, VK3HRZ, VK3AIG, VK3BNC, VK3KGL,
VK3DCS, VK3FHUT, VK3PAL

Minutes of the July General Meeting as per the Newsletter

Correspondence: Incoming – Community Grant from City of Ballarat, Rotary
Accounts from City of Ballarat, Elgas, Ncable

Outgoing – Flyers for the Hamvention to AR Magazine

Moved VK3AXH/VK3BVI Carried

Treasurers Report: Finance Statement tabled – Balance \$6405.87

Moved VK3FGC/VK3FGLD Carried

Reports:

Mast – The club mast has been re installed thanks to Jeff VK3PAP and Merv VK3ADX using the new gin pole made by Jeff. The installation now requires new rotator and coaxial cables in addition to the rotator and aerials.

Beacons – Due to commitments little progress with the 70cm and 1296MHz beacons

Repeaters – John Vk3TJW reports the Ben Nevis repeater is progressing well with the TX still to be aligned and the CTCSS to be configured. John also reports the clubs computer has a new firewall to stop unwanted SPAM etc.

Education – Craig VK3CMC reports that last week 2 candidates were successful in completing the Foundation exams. Craig also went to Geelong to assist with exams and is expecting to travel to Shepparton to assist with a visually impaired candidate. It is scheduled that a Foundation Course will be run by BARG in November.

Amenities – Doug successfully arranged for a notice in the Ballarat News of the clubs AGM. Doug also thought some assistance should be given to new licence members in relation to QSL cards.

BARG Annual Calender – President Bob VK3NBV will update the club's Calender to reflect the activities that occur throughout the year. It is proposed to have the next dining night at the Cattle Yards Hotel (subject to a check)

Construction Group – Ian VK3AXH and Brian VK3KQB have been involved with setting up projects. Brian's audio amp is progressing well and in a couple of weeks some members will be building a RF mill watt meter.

Hamvention – The venue has been confirmed and it appears we will have use of the entire hall as no activity has been planned for the Saturday which will allow us to set up. Hamvention Flyers have been sent to AR and letters will be sent out next week to invite traders to attend.

General Business:

A motion was put that the club not continue with repairs to the Packet Repeater VK3RPC located at Mt Warrenheip as there is a new Wicen Packet Repeater installed and operational on 145.2MHz on Mt Buninyong and available for local use. Call sign is VK3RBA-5

Moved VK3IDL/VK3ADE Carried

David VK3UR has made available some electrical leads to members (table)

A letter of thanks to Phil Morton at Ballarat Electronic Supplies for supplying surplus parts for the BARG table at the Hamvention. – suggested by VK3ADX – Secretary to arrange

Merv VK3ADX is organizing a guest speaker to attend the November BARG meeting

John VK3CFH suggests a club working bee be undertaken on the 2nd Saturday morning of each month to attend any jobs such as grass cutting and maintenance etc. This time could also be used as a social event i.e. cuppa etc . Suggested time 9:30am – 12noon.

Meeting Closed 9:30pm

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QST Report with Craig, VK3CMC

Content review of current QST in library



QST Review 2007 September

QST Review 2007 Aug

A quick skim through the pages of the latest magazine in the library

Again the August edition is the Annual Antenna Issue.

- P30 Rugged 2 element Yagi.
- P34 Six band loaded dipole 160/80/40/30/17/12 meters uses traps.
- P37 The EZ-Lindenblad antenna for 2M.
- P41 Short boom, 3element Wideband Yagi for 6M.
- P46 HF through to UHF Uni-Whip antenna.
- P48 APRS & High altitude Research Balloons.
- P50 The Doctor is In.
- P52 Short Takes. Look at *Tiny CAD*. Free drafting package. <http://TinyCAD.sourceforge.net>

- P 53 Simple broadband 80M dipole.
- P56 Hands On Radio. Exp #55 Current/Voltage Convertors.
- P58 Review latest ARRL Antenna Handbook.
- P60 Getting to Know your Radio.
- P65 Hints & Kinks Digging tower bases, Stand off arm for coax at top of tower.
- P67 Review. Three Antenna system measuring devices.
 - Array Solutions AIM 4170 Impedance meter.
 - Telepost Model LP-100 Digital Vector Wattmeter
 - WaveNode WN-2 Monitor system.
- P76 BPL Issues still in the Amateur arena.
- P84 World above 50 Mhz. EME on 23/13cm
- P87 Old Radio. Antique Wireless Associations museum.
- P89 Eclectic Technology. Decoding CW in Software.
- P105 Hamspeak. Terminology used in this magazine edition. Worth checking

That's the main items in August QST 2007.

QST Review Apr 2004

This is an Antenna Edition:

- P28 Some Basics on antennas, What we should all know.
- P32 A Half Square for 80 and 160Metres.
- P34 Open Wire feed line - A Second Look.
- P37 The "C" Pole independent vertical antenna.
- P40 Dollars and Decibels. Spend the money for a good signal.
- P43 Three Band "No trap" for 40, 15 and 6 Metres.
- P45 Junk Box Sideband from the junkbox.
- P48 The History behind the WAS, WAC and DXCC from 1920's.
- P53 New Frontier—Earth-Sun-Earth communications. Looks at Plasma and using sunlight as a carrier wave for communication.

- P59 ARRL now 90 years old.
- P60 The Doctor is in, Considers 1/4 wave verticals against shallow lakes, Inverter charger noise and deep cycle batteries.
- P62 Help desk looks at antenna and tower safety.
- P63 Using a CB corner reflector on 70cm.
- P65 A 6M Moxon antenna.
- P70 Q&A about Lightning.
- P71 Hands on Radio Exp #15 Switchmode Regulators Pt 1.
- P73 Hints & Kinks.
- P75 Review KX1 Ultra portable CW transceiver
- P79 Review FT-7800R Dual band transceiver
- P83 Tech Correspondence Power Factor, PSK switch box and Extended range measurements.
- P94 Old Radio's. Hallicrafters HT-4 [BC610]
- P96 World above 50Mhz. VHF antennas.

Craig, vk3cmc

<p>HEWITT & WHITTY Pty. Ltd. Outdoor Power Equipment</p> <p>Cnr Carngam Road & Wiltshire Lane Ballarat VIC 3350</p> <p>Phone: (03) 5336 1344 Fax: (03) 5336 1027</p>	<p>Damien Hennessy Sales / Spares Mobile: 0417 313 811 Email: damo_611@hotmail.com</p>	<p>SupaSwift</p> <p>Ariens TIGA</p> <p>ECHO</p> <p>CHIPPER CHOPPER</p> <p>ef Engineered Products Group</p> <p>KOHLER engines</p>
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Membership Fees are now Due.

Member \$30.00 Family \$40.00.

Note. New Saturday Morning Function.

First One Saturday 6th October From 9am.

From a Far North Queensland Correspondent!

Politicians are like nappies – “They should be changed frequently and for the same reason”. Anon!

BARG Calendar for 2007 / 2008					
Month:	Constructio n Group:	Committee Meeting:	Dining Night:	General Meeting:	Notes:
October	Mon 8th 7:30pm	Wed 17th 7:30pm	Fri 19th 6:30pm	Fri 26th 7:30pm	Multi Club BBQ.Sun 14th Saturday Moring function.6th. 9am
November	Mon 12th 7:30pm	Wed 21st 7:30pm	Fri 16th 6:30pm	Fri 30th 7:30pm	BARG Hamvention. Sunday 4th Saturday3rd. Organize hamvention
December	Mon 10 th 7.30pm	No Committee Meeting	Fri 14th 6:30pm XMAS BBQ	No General Meeting	Saturday Morning Function 1 st 9am
January	No Construction Night	Wed 16th 7:30pm	Friday 18th 630 pm	Fri 25 th 7.30pm	NO Saturday Morning Function
February	Mon 11th 7:30pm	Wed 20th 7:30pm	Fri 15th 6:30pm	Fri 29th 7:30pm	Saturday Morning Function 2 nd 9am
March	Mon 10th 7:30pm (12th Labour Day)	Wed 19th 7:30pm	Fri 14th 6:30pm	Fri 28th 7:30pm	John Moyle Memorial Field Day Contest Saturday Morning function 8th 9am
April	Mon 14th 7:30pm	Wed 16th 7:30pm	Fri 18th 6:30pm	Fri 25th 7:30pm Anzac Day	Saturday Morning Function. 5 th 9am
May	Mon 12th 7:30pm	Wed 21st 7:30pm	Fri 16th 6:30pm	Fri 30th 7:30pm	Sun 25th May George Fowler Memorial Auction Saturday Morning function 3rd 9am
June	Month 9th (Queens Birthday)	Wed 18th 7:30pm	Fri 20th 6:30pm	Fri 27th 7:30pm	Saturday Morning Function 7 th 9am
July	Mon 14th 7:30pm	Wed 16th 7:30pm	Fri 18th 6:30pm	Fri 25th 7:30pm	Saturday Morning Function 5 th 9am
August	Mon 11th 7:30pm	Wed 20th 7:30pm	Fri 15th 6:30pm	Fri 29th 7:30pm AGM	(Near 15th Aug) Remembrance Day Contest Saturday Morning Function 2nd 9am
September	Mon 8th 7:30pm	Wed 17th 7:30pm	Fri 19th 6:30pm	Fri 26th 7:30pm	Saturday Morning Function 6 th 9am



Bob, VK3NBV

A few words from the President.....

Hello All,

I seem to be short of things to say, I'm a bit envious of those holidaying up north and vert thankful of Harry for putting together the newsletter whilst on holiday.

Coming up next month we have the construction night on Monday the 8th.

Multiclub BBQ Sunday 14th. (details elsewhere in this edition)

Committee Meeting Wednesday 17th.

Dining Night Friday 19th

General Meeting Friday 26th Oct.

But before that this months general meeting is on Friday 28th at 7.30pm, followed by a Trivia Night and food...

At the committee meeting last night it was decided to start a Saturday Morning get together at the clubrooms for general housekeeping, mowing, social, radio activities.

This will be on the second Saturday after the General Meeting. 9am to 12 noon.

Don't forget, we need everyone on Sunday Nov 4. Hamvention Time.

That's it for now, see you at various functions.

Bob Pitcher Vk3NBV.....

Multiclub BBQ.

Coming up on Sunday October 14th is the Multiclub BBQ to be held at Laanecoorie Hall. This is a combined fixture with the Maryborough and Bendigo Groups. Was a great day last year.

You need to bring for yourself meats and drinks.

Our group is supplying coleslaw and onions, which I will organize. The other clubs are suppling BBQ,s, Hall Hire, Bread sauce etc

This is a great location with outdoor and indoor eating available.

I suggest we leave from Maxifoods carpark at 10am.

Those going please contact me on 53360998 or pitch@ncable.net.au

Bob Pitcher VK3NBV.....

New Repeater Technology for Melbourne.

Icom (Australia) Pty Ltd has given to the WIA a D-Star repeater to be located at Olinda in the Dandenong ranges, to serve the greater Melbourne area.

D-Star is a digital protocol developed by the Japanese Amateur Relay League (the JARL) and stands for Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio.

The repeater will be licensed as VK3RWN and will operate on the 2 metre, and 70 and 23 cm bands and will take full advantage of the facilities offered by D-STAR including taking the opportunity to interlink with the extensive D-Star network, using the Internet as the carrier.

"The WIA has gratefully accepted this generous gift and thanks Icom Australia for its support" said WIA President Michael Owen VK3KI.

"Icom has been a great supporter of the WIA, including, for example, its support of the first edition of the WIA's Foundation Licence Manual. This is another example of that support. Because D-Star is an open protocol developed by the Japanese Amateur Radio League (JARL) it may be used by any manufacturer, and also provides the opportunity for amateurs to find both hardware and software solutions.

Icom should be given full credit for being the first to introducing it first.

The potential for D-Star to be used in emergency communication situations is an important aspect of the development of this technology. The donation by Icom of a second D-Star repeater to be located on Mt Macedon, in particular for emergency use, is another important contribution to amateur radio by Icom."

Read the full story and view the pictures on the WIA website

Wireless Institute of Australia - <http://www.wia.org.au>