

# BARG News



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

**VOLUME 35 ISSUE 10 OCTOBER 2012**



President: John Kennedy VK3AIG  
Secretary: Doug Ellery VK3FDRE  
Treasurer: Roger De Valle VK3ADE

**NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY October 26, 2012**  
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](mailto:vk3bml@barg.org.au)

## BARG INC. LIFE MEMBERS

Maurie Batt *	
Gordon Cornell	VK3FGC
Norm D'Angri	VK3LBA
Harry Hekkema	VK3KGL
Kevin Hughes	VK3WN
Ian McDonald	VK3AXH
Phil Seddon	VK3AQM
Charlie Stewart	VK3DCS
Bob Terrill	VK3BNC
Stan Widgery *	
Jim Wright *	

## CLUB INFORMATION

### REPEATERS and BEACON

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
VK3RBT	(2 m Voice Repeater) ( Uses CTCSS of 91.5 Hz to access)	146.650 MHz	Green Hill

\* **IRLP** Node 6310 using VK3RWA

**CLUB e-mail** [vk3bml@barg.org.au](mailto:vk3bml@barg.org.au).

**CLUB NET** VK3BML 3.608+/- 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 or e-mail [member.vk3kgl@barg.org.au](mailto:member.vk3kgl@barg.org.au)

#### **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**



## QST Report with Craig, VK3KG

Content review of current QST in library

### QST Review October 2012



QST Review 2012    October.


- P4/5 Index this month.
- P9 QST Editor now SK. Joe N1BKE
- P13 Submitting paper QSL's for DXCC.
- P24 Letters page
- P32 Solid State 1kW Linear Amp for 2Meters.
- P37 Radio Astronomy. Those Mysterious Signals.
- P40 Satellite CAT Interface for working the Analog Birds.
- P44 The Shared Apex Loop Array
- P49 6+2=1. Two bands in One antenna using 450 Open line.
- P50 Review: Alinco Dual band FM HTT. DJ-V57T.
- P53 Review: Kenwood TH-K20A 2M HTT.
- P56 Whats in QEX for Sept/Oct.
- P57 The Doctor answers different questions sent in.
  - Switch Mode power supplies.
  - NBFM and WFM.
  - Autopatch.
  - Gridsquares or Maidenhead locators.
  - Using UTC time
  - VHF 4:1 Balun query.
  - Coax & Bulkhead adaptors.
- P59 Short Takes: Build a Scout Regenerative radio kit.
- P60 Hands on Radio. Exp. 117 Laying Down the Laws.
- P62 Eclectec Technology: Look at WINDOWS 8.
- P63 Microwavelengths: Antenna Measurements- The Antenna range.
- P65 Hints & Kinks. Arcing Caps, Whipping coax, Low voltage RFI, etal.
- P68 Five Nine Nine I Presume? Dxing Adventures.
- P71 DX Spotting, then and now.
- P73 Malpelo Island expedition 2012. HK0NA.
- P91 Zombie bands. Solar cycle 24.
- P83 Heathkit Declares Bankruptcy, closes for Good (Again). 19 July 2012.
- P89 Hows DX? Sovereign Military Order of Malta. SMOM. 1A0C
- P93 World above 50 Mhz. Two notable 50+ operators move to higher bands.
- P96 RSGB opens Showcase of Amateur radio at Bletchley Park.
- P97 Vintage Radio: From 1920's McMurdo Silver three valve Super gainer.
- P99 Op-Ed: How many friends did you make? What constitutes a contact?
- P104 75, 50 and 25 years ago index.
- P164 Index of QST Advertisers.




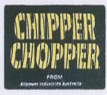


73 Craig  
VK3KG

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     Engineered Products Group 
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## **BARG Equipment Loan Book.**

**Please fill out book as you borrow items.**

**Maximum duration for loan is four weeks (meeting to meeting) and must be signed in and out again if you wish to re-borrow item for a further period.**

**Please report any malfunction or damage to the Secretary, preferably in writing or e-mail thank you.**

**This book is not for recording Library borrowings!**

## **B.A.R.G Items for Loan.**

**Antenna Analyser MFJ269 HF-VHF-UHF**

**Antenna Analyser MFJ249 HF/VHF**

**Antenna Analyser VHF. Autek**

**Receiver Drake SSR-1**

**Oscilloscope BWD 509**

**Transceiver TS-530**

**Grid Dip Oscillator**

**Antenna Gin Pole**

**Receiver FRG-7**

**Safety Belt**

## **Survival of Amateur Radio Clubs in a Country Environment**

As we are all aware the age profile of amateur radio enthusiasts is on the rise which poses a range of questions some of which will be mentioned in this article for the long term survival of some rural clubs in the future.

In the Ballarat area there are in excess of 100 amateurs. Of this number there are some that are not active for various reasons however the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group (BARG) can only muster 48 members.

BARG has its club rooms in one of the many huts located at the Ballarat Air Port and provides for members a meeting place, IRLP, Remote Base, Workshop, and maintains repeaters and beacons in the area.

We rely heavily on the Hamvention to raise funds to keep the club in a financial position to maintain these facilities. In addition we have an annual auction at the club rooms, have a monthly raffle at general meetings, sell raffle tickets, engage in sausage sizzles and receive financial donations all of which allow us to continue operation as a club.

However as explained above there are issues that need to be addressed to enable the club to continue into the future. Some of these are listed below.

- Given the current membership and the number of amateurs in the area how can we increase club membership
- How can the club generate sufficient revenue to maintain the current club set up
- In the event the club's viability is not possible what happens to it's assets.

In the past a suggestion was made to amalgamate hamfests and share in the profits to assist the financial status of rural clubs. BARG felt this was not the way to survival for us.

Although the statistics are not available for the Hamvention just concluded we believe the financial benefits gained far exceed those that would be gained from a group effort.

BARG also believes that our Hamvention is one of the best in Victoria and for that matter anywhere in VK however it's now time to revue our overall financial arrangements to ensure we survive will into the future.

73, Ian VK3AXH



# HAMVENTION HOMEBREW COMPETITION WINNER

Darren, VK3FAOE won this years BARG Homebrew Competition.

The prize money was received by Jai



## BARG HAMVENTION 2012 Pictures

