

# BARG News



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

**VOLUME 35 ISSUE 6 JUNE 2012**



President:	Craig Cook	VK3CMC
Secretary:	Doug Ellery	VK3FDRE
Treasurer:	Bill Wells	VK3PAL

**NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY JUNE 29, 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

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

## 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)  
VK3BML 146.650 MHz on VK3RWA 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**

# **FOR SALE**

## **Dick Smith Q-1804 20MHz Oscilloscope**



### **Dual Timebase Oscilloscope with component tester.**

The 20MHz dual timebase oscilloscope with component tester – ideal for design, fault finding and repair applications. The Q-1804 boasts a great range of features including a beam finder for instantaneously bringing the trace pattern back onto the screen, dual timebase for more accurate timing measurements and an inbuilt component tester.

It also includes, LY Output, Z Modulation, Variable Hold – Off, Trace Rotation, AC - TV-H and TV-V Trigger Coupling, 10ns/DIV Variable Sweep Rate, Fully - Adjustable Sensitivity, Fully- Adjustable Sweep Time and Probes.

Purchase price for the CRO was \$650 from DSE and I will sell for \$325.

I purchased the unit new and it has had limited private use only.

**CONTACT: Len Hearnese, VK3BMY. Tel: (03) 97407761 or mobile 0418 149 370**

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### **BRING BACK ANY MEMORIES?**

Someone asked the other day, 'What was your favourite 'fast food' when you were growing up?'

'We didn't have fast food when I was growing up,' I informed him.

'All the food was slow.' 'C'mon, seriously.. Where did you eat?' 'It was a place called 'home,'" I explained. !

'Mum cooked every day and when Dad got home from work, we sat down together at the dining room table, and if I didn't like what she put on my plate, I was allowed to sit there until I did like it.'

By this time, the lad was laughing so hard I was afraid he was going to suffer serious internal damage, so I didn't tell him the part about how I had to have permission to leave the table.

But here are some other things I would have told him about my childhood if I'd figured his system could have handled it: Some parents NEVER owned their own house, wore jeans, set foot on a golf course, travelled out of the country or had a credit card.

My parents never drove me to school... I had a bicycle that weighed probably 50 pounds, and only had one speed.

We didn't have a television in our house until I was 10.

It was, of course, black and white, and the station went off the air at 10 PM, after playing the national anthem and

epilogue; it came back on the air at about 6 am. And there was usually a locally produced news and farm show on, featuring local people...

Pizzas were not delivered to our home... But milk was.

All newspapers were delivered by boys and all boys delivered newspapers --My brother delivered a newspaper, seven days a week.

He had to get up at 6am every morning.

Film stars kissed with their mouths shut. At least, they did in the films. There were no movie ratings because all movies were responsibly produced for everyone to enjoy viewing, without profanity or violence or almost anything offensive.

*If you grew up in a generation before there was fast food, you may want to share some of these memories with your children or grandchildren. Just don't blame me if they bust a gut laughing.*

**Growing up isn't what it used to be, is it?**

**MEMORIES from a friend:**

**My Dad is cleaning out my grandmother's house (she died in December) and he brought me an old lemonade bottle.**

**In the bottle top was a stopper with a bunch of holes in it. I knew immediately what it was, but my daughter had no idea.**

**She thought they had tried to make it a salt shaker or something. I knew it as the bottle that sat on the end of the ironing board to 'sprinkle' clothes with because we didn't have steam irons. Man, I am old.**

**How many do you remember?**

**Headlight dip-switches on the floor of the car.**

**Ignition switches on the dashboard.**

**Trouser leg clips for bicycles without chain guards.**

**Soldering irons you heated on a gas burner.**

**Using hand signals for cars without turn indicators.**

**Older Than Dirt Quiz:**

**Count all the ones that you remember, not the ones you were told about. Ratings at the bottom:**

1. Sweet cigarettes
2. Coffee shops with juke boxes
3. Home milk delivery in glass bottles
4. Party lines on the telephone
5. Newsreels before the movie
6. TV test patterns that came on at night after the last show and were there until TV shows started again in the morning.  
(There were only 2 channels [if you were fortunate])
7. Peashooters
8. 33 rpm records
9. 45 RPM records
10. Hi-fi's
11. Metal ice trays with levers
12. Blue flashbulb
13. Cork popguns
14. Wash tub wringers


**If you remembered 0 – 3 = You are still young**  
**If you remembered 3 – 6 = You are getting older**  
**If you remembered 7 – 10 = Don't tell your age**  
**If you remembered 11 – 14 = You're positively ancient!**

**I must be 'positively ancient' but those memories are some of the best parts of my live.**

BA'S AUDIO WORKSHOP PTY. LTD. ABN 59 007 427 778  
trading as

**BALLARAT**  
AUTO SOUND SPECIALIST  
and  
Radio Communications Systems Specialists  
Supply and Service

**8 EASTWOOD ST., BALLARAT 3350**  
Tel. 5333 4465 Fax. 5331 5851

<b>HEWITT &amp; WHITTY</b> Pty. Ltd. Outdoor Power Equipment		<b>SupaSwift</b> <b>Ariens</b> <b>TIGA</b> <b>ECHO</b> <b>CHIPPER CHOPPER</b> <b>KOHLER engines</b>
Cnr Carrngham Road & Wiltshire Lane Ballarat VIC 3350 <b>Phone:</b> (03) 5336 1344 <b>Fax:</b> (03) 5336 1027	<b>Damien Hennessy</b> Sales / Spares <b>Mobile:</b> 0417 313 811 <b>Email:</b> damo_611@hotmail.com	
		

## **GUEST SPEAKER JUNE MEETING**

**Mr. Ross Priddle**

**Medical Laboratory Scientist**

**On**

**“What happens with blood samples for pathology tests, past and present”.**

### **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.**

**Receiver FRG-7.**

**Transceiver TS-530.**

**Oscilloscope BWD 509.**

**Grid Dip Oscillator.**

**Safety Belt.**

**Antenna Gin Pole.**



## QST Report with Craig, VK3CMC

Content review of current QST in library

### QST Review June - 2012.



QST Review 2012-6 June.

What to find this month.

- P4/5 Index. In this Issue.
- P9 Secondary spectrum user. What does it mean?
- P13 QST available in Digital format for subscriber members.
- P24 Letters from Members.
- P32 Mount your portable PV Panels on this frame.
- P36 Battery box with a Digital meter. Also unique shunt construction.
- P39 Three element Rear mount 2M yagi for 2M. 7Db gain.
- P41 Build own Logic probe in a bottle.
- P45 Folded Monopole for 160 and 75/80M.
- P48 Simple Whip design for Field day/portable use.
- P49 Review: Gasoline Inverter Generators.  
Champion 73536i  
Generac IX2000  
Honda EU2000i  
Yamaha EF2000iS
- P54 Review: A Look at HF Triplexers & Bandpass Filters.
- P 57 The Doctor is in. Answer to many readers queries.
- P59 Short Takes. Byonics Micro-Trak AIO handheld.
- P60 Hands on Radio. Ex 113 Radiation Patterns.
- P63 Hints & Kinks: Interesting ideas from readers
- P67 Coloured chart of All US Amateur Radio Bands.
- P68 Snag proof your Field day activities,
- P73 Expedition to South Sudan, ST0R
- P74 Read about ARRL members new Benefits. Special event station for The London Olympics.
- P88 How's DX.? 6 Meter Summer E-skip Season.
- P90 Worle above 50Mhz. Has the Internet "Killed the VHF Radio Star?"
- P96 Vintage History The Society of Wireless Pioneers.
- P100 75, 50 and 25 years ago. Index
- P156 QST Index of Advertisers.

73 Craig  
VK3CMC



## **24GHz from Mount Buninyong with Rex Moncur VK7MO and Ian VK3AXH**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June I met Rex at Mount Buninyong around 10am to attempt some 24GHz contacts with Melbourne stations VK3HZ at Balwyn and VK3XPD at Camberwell.

The weather was blowing a gale with occasional rain and a temperature of 9 degrees as we struggled up the tower (2 trips each) with all the equipment necessary for the attempt at approximately 10am..

Fortunately having access to the lower level hut we were at least out of the weather and after some 30 minutes of setting up we were ready for the first attempt on this band and from this grid square QF12XI.

A quick phone call to David VK3HZ who had set his equipment up on the flat roof of his house he started calling us and it wasn't long before we were able to hear his signal. After some dish alignment and a minor change of equipment at David's end we had SSB signals of 5x9+ on 24.235GHz which was quite exciting for me as I had never witnessed any amateur activity on this band.

Next we attempted to contact Alan and after several tries he was able to see our signal on a computer waterfall at -15dB which unfortunately wasn't strong enough for a voice contact. Had we setup the laptop it would have been possible to make contact using the WSJT digital mode.

The contact distance with David was just over 100Km which was a great achievement. For the technically minded Rex's equipment consisted of an Icom IC910 with an IF at 2m GPS frequency locked fed to a microwave transverter also GPS locked and 3 watt linear amp from Khune. A preamp was also used for receive.

The GPS locked equipment is amazing to see in operation as when David said he would call on 24.235GHz he was right on frequency with no need for any dial adjustment.

Packing up and descending from the tower even though it was wet and windy was much easier than going up.

I would like to thank Rex for the opportunity to see this equipment in action and Rex thanks us for access to the site (currently where the BARG 70cm and 23cm beacons are located).

Hopefully this will spur on club members to get into the microwave bands and enjoy the results of all that hard work.

73, Ian – VK3AXH



## Guess What This Is?



Hint: The picture was taken in 1956.

Answer...

It's a hard disk drive back in 1956... With **5 MB** of storage.

In September 1956, IBM launched the 305 RAMAC,

The first 'SUPER' computer with a hard disk drive (HDD).

The HDD weighed **over a ton** and stored a 'whopping' **5 MB** of data.

Do you appreciate your **32 GB** memory stick a little more now?

We frequently end a QSO with 73 and infrequently an 88 but how many of us know how they came about and what other 'shorthand symbols' there are.

Well here are a few of them as they were developed over the years for the TELEGRAPH service, originating in the USA and spreading world-wide as the network of telegraph cables proliferated.

- 46 Greetings on your birthday and best wishes for many more to come
- 52 Really enjoyed being with you. Looking forward to getting together again.
- 53 Received your ..... It's appreciated; many thanks.
- 54 Many thanks for your good wishes.
- 55 Good news is always welcome. Very delighted to hear about yours.
- 56 Congratulations on your..... , a most worthy and deserved achievement.
- 57 Wish we could be together.
- 58 Have a wonderful time. Let us know when you return.
- 59 Congratulations on the new arrival. Hope mother and child are both well.
- 60 Wishing you the best of everything on
- 61 Wishing you a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
- 62 Greetings and best wishes to you for a pleasant..... holiday season.
- 64 Arrived safely at.....
- 65 Sorry to hear you are ill. Best wishes for a speedy recovery.
- 73 Best wishes.
- 88 Love and kisses.

That is all that I have discovered so far.

In actual use the numbers other than 73 and 88 were SPELT OUT rather than sent as numerals so as to ensure desirable redundancy because of the obvious need to avoid the possibility of confusing/misreading, resulting in an incorrect 'telegram' being transcribed at the receiving end.

So 73 from Reg, VK3CAZ



# **BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC. (BARG)**

**REG. NO. A0006953T - ABN 44 247 200 143**

## **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc. (BARG) for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012 will be held at the Clubrooms, Huts 31A and 31B, Ballarat Airport, on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> July 2012, commencing at 19:30.

### **BUSINESS**

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2012.
2. Any matters arising from the Minutes.
3. Presentation of Financial Statements for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012 and Statement of Financial Position as at 24<sup>th</sup> June 2012, together with the Auditor's Report thereon.
4. President's Report for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012.
5. Election of Office Bearers for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012, including President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
6. Election of six Ordinary Club Members to the Committee of Management.
7. Appointment of the Auditor for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012.
8. Confirmation of Non Elected Positions for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012, including Amenities Coordinator, Awards Coordinator, Computer System/IRLP Coordinator, Construction Group Coordinator, Education Officer, Hamvention Coordinator, Librarian, Net Coordinator, Newsletter Editor, Property Officer, Public Officer, Radio Modernisation Coordinator, Technical Officer, Email Maintenance Officer and Web Site Officer.
9. Setting of Membership Fees for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012.
10. Any other business.

### **BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

Doug Ellery VK3FDRE

Honorary Secretary

25<sup>th</sup> May 2012

Nominations of candidates for election as Officers of the Club or as Ordinary Members of the Committee of Management shall be made in writing, signed by two members of the Club and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate and delivered to the Honorary Secretary not less than seven (7) days before the date fixed for the holding of the Annual General Meeting.

Nomination forms are available on the Club's Web Site, and will also be available at the Monthly General Meetings to be held at the Clubrooms on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> May and Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at 19:30.



## B.A.R.G. Inc. NOMINATION FORM

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group—Inc # 6953T

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to Nominate \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_

For the position of \_\_\_\_\_ of BARG Inc.

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination accepted by: (Nominee) \_\_\_\_\_



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I wish to Nominate \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_

For the position of \_\_\_\_\_ of BARG Inc.

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination accepted by: (Nominee) \_\_\_\_\_

**BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC. REG. NO. A 0006953T**

**CLUB REGISTER AND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION CHECK**

NAME:	_____	MOBILE PHONE:	_____
CALL SIGN:	_____	EMAIL ADDRESS:	_____
STREET:	_____	WIA MEMBER?:	YES <input type="checkbox"/> OR NO <input type="checkbox"/>
SUBURB/TOWN:	_____	PARTNER'S NAME:	_____
POSTCODE:	_____	SUBSCRIPTION PAID:	\$ _____
WORK PHONE:	_____	RECEIPT NO:	_____
HOME PHONE:	_____	RECEIPT DATE:	_____
If the Club decides to publish a Club Directory, are you willing to have the above information included?		YES <input type="checkbox"/>	OR NO <input type="checkbox"/>
SIGNATURE:	_____	DATE SIGNED:	_____

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**BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC. REG. NO. A 0006953T**

**CLUB REGISTER AND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION CHECK**

NAME:	_____	MOBILE PHONE:	_____
CALL SIGN:	_____	EMAIL ADDRESS:	_____
STREET:	_____	WIA MEMBER?:	YES <input type="checkbox"/> OR NO <input type="checkbox"/>
SUBURB/TOWN:	_____	PARTNER'S NAME:	_____
POSTCODE:	_____	SUBSCRIPTION PAID:	\$ _____
WORK PHONE:	_____	RECEIPT NO:	_____
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SIGNATURE:	_____	DATE SIGNED:	_____