



SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc

Incorporation No. A6677

P.O BOX 692 SHEPPARTON 3632

<http://www.sadarc.org>

The 80 Meter net on Wednesdays At 7.30 pm is going very well.

The 7.30 pm 80 meter net on Wednesdays is proving to be quite successful with a good number showing an interest.

We have changed the WIA Broadcast from 10 am Sundays to 7.30 pm Sundays for a trial period.

If we get sufficient numbers for 7.30 pm we will leave at that time slot. we need your support for the broadcast to continue so please check-in ,on the 16th we had 18 checkins.

The Antennas have been removed from the Mechanics Institute reallocated at the Scout hall at Mooroopna those who helped were Les VK3TEX , Jacek VK3TEX, Pat VK3OV, John VK3PXJ, Ed VK3BG , & Daryl VK3KLN.

JOTA

On Saturday the 15th Jota was held at Mooroopna Scout hall those operators who attended were VK2RO, VK3BG, VK3UCR, VK3TEX, VK3TJS, VK3KLN, and was a great success . Also VK3OV & VK3DSF, VK3UCR, Were operating at the Shepparton Scout hall.

The new antenna for VK3RGV has been ordered and should be ready in four to six weeks.

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There will also be a For sale/Wanted in the Newsletter so if you have any goods for sale, or want to buy, send details to me see below.

The next Club Meeting will be held on Saturday November 5th at 2 pm

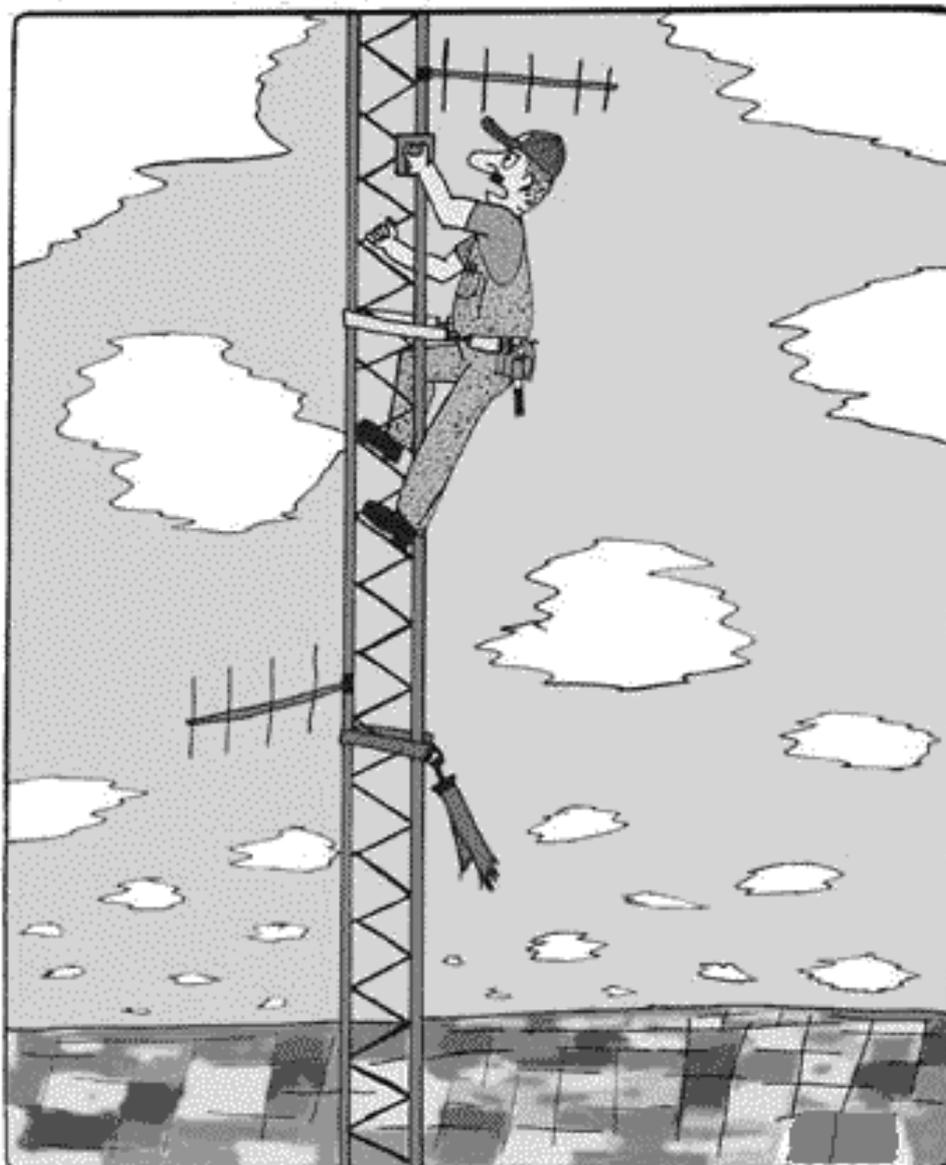
Please forward any news to (wombatnews@netspace.net.au) or post D.Hitchcock P.O Box 362 Cobram 3644 Phone: 03 5871 1444

The newsletter will be emailed / posted in the third week of the month, so make sure you get News & or Wanted / For Sale in by the MONDAY of the third week.

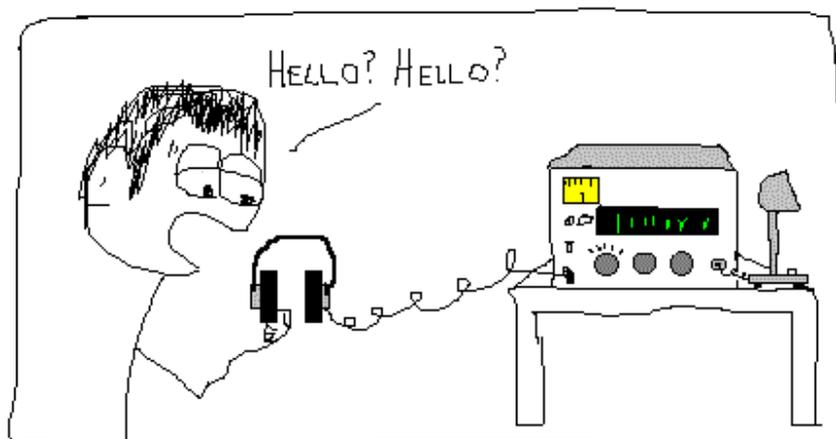
If there are any important news or events that arise during the month you will be notified by email or post.

The presidents report has not been received

Cartoon Corner



"So Neil..why did your ex-wife give you a new climbing belt for Christmas?"



The Transition from short-wave-listener to ham operator was somewhat difficult for Edmond

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD AT 9 LISBURN STREET SHEPPARTON 1/10/05
SHEPPARTON AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. A6677S

MEETING was opened by Vice-president Barrie 3KBY at 1402 hrs.

PRESENT Alan 3AYD, Jan 3ALF, Max 3DSF, John 3PXJ, Pat 3OV, Jacek 3TJS, 3KEG, Ed 3BG, D. Lychford SWL, A.McCallum, Neil 3KAL, Les 3TEX, Danny Hender SWL, Daryl 3KLN, Ross 3UCR.

APOLOGIES Norma and Max Matthey, Marg and Neil Tingay, Roger 2RO

MINUTES of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Moved Jan 3ALF....Sec Jacek 3TJS....Carried.

TREASURERS REPORT Treasurer Alan 3AYD reported receipts of \$2180, payments \$948.90 and total available funds of \$6162.72. Bond cheque for comms day hall hire has been returned by hall management and shredded.

Moved Alan 3AYD....Sec Daryl 3KLN....Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Inwards: AR, QSLs, VK3SOL licence renewal, Bendigo club newsletter.

Outwards: Information to prospective member, Bruce Webb of Bonnie Doon.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Enquiry to be made to Mechanics Institute re site antennae.
- Members asked to advise availability for JOTA, 15th – 16th October.
- Combined Christmas bbq and December meeting for Lake Victoria, Shepparton as a central location. Club to provide meat and bread.

Moved Ed 3BG....Sec Danny Hender SWL....Carried.

- Report from Neil 3KAL on repeater channel clash problems and the efforts made to improve the situation. Ray 3RW is in contact with the company involved and the ACMA.
- Reimburse 3KAL and 3RW for the fuel expenses involved in their repeater work
- Trial of the WIA news rebroadcast at 1930 hrs Sunday to see if this is more convenient for members.
- Ed 3BG reported 9 Wombat Awards issued. Wednesday night 80 metre checkins increasing.
- Ed 3BG reported on the Foundation Licence Assessor accreditation course he attended.
- That the club purchases a stainless urn.

Moved John 3PXJ....SecDaryl 3KLN....Carried.

Meeting was closed at 1518 hrs.

Foundation License now in force

Apparatus Licensing

New amateur licensing and certification arrangements come into force on 19 October 2005.

In the transition to the new licensing structure, existing Unrestricted, Intermediate and Limited licences remain valid until replaced by an Advanced licence. Licence conditions applicable to the Unrestricted, Intermediate and Limited licence are the same as those applicable to the Advanced licence.

Similarly, Novice and Novice Limited licences remain valid until replaced by a Standard licence. Licence conditions applicable to the Novice and Novice Limited licence are the same as those applicable to the Standard licence.

Replacement licences will be automatically mailed to licensees approximately 1-2 weeks following the introduction of the new arrangements.

Check out this URL for more information

http://www.acma.gov.au/ACMAINTER.65690:STANDARD::pc=PC_1255

Those interested in sitting for the Foundation license contact Ed Roache VK3BG vk3bg@bigpond.com

Subject: A true Story from Bruce VK3QC

In 1935 when I was 16 years of age and studying for my Amateur License, which I would not be able to use until I turned 18, I was living in Bendigo, and through a friend, met Campbell Spain who was one of two technicians who worked at the 3BO transmitter at Kangaroo Flat, 5 miles out of the city proper. He invited me to go out to the station when he was on duty, an invitation which of course I could not refuse. I lived at Quarry Hill which was about 4 miles from the transmitter, so I had to ride my bike out there.

In those days 3BO was owned by Amalgamated Wireless of Australia (AWA) and the 2 techs used to spend a week at a time, in rotation at the transmitter working 84 hours each shift (of a week). Campbell, who was by 7 years my senior, very much enjoyed having company to talk to, and he helped me with my theory. As I was still looking for a job (this was in the late stages of the big depression of 1931 to 1937) I was able to take time off from job hunting to go and visit about every second week when he was on duty. One day just after he had started a new weekly shift, he told me that the other tech had received a visit from a man who lived by himself about 250 yards from the antenna system, which consisted of a centre-fed half way dipole operating on 1000kc strung between two 160 ft steel masts each of which was held up by three sets of three guys broken up by insulators. Out put power of the rig was just under 200 watts.

The man lived in a hut built from junk from a nearby tip, and it had a corrugated rusty iron roof, with spouting on each side of the hut, which fed into 3 inch rusty (in patches) down pipe which in turn fed into an old farm water tank, which supplied his needs. There were no other dwellings within a quarter of a mile of the antenna. The man knocked on the door of the transmitter building and complained that at night when he went to bed he could not sleep because the station programming kept him awake. In those days the transmitter shut down at 10.30 pm on week nights, and midnight on Saturdays and Sundays.

Campbell asked me to go over and see if I could work out why the man, who had no radio, could hear the program. I went over during the afternoon, but could not hear any trace of the signal. After questioning the man, it seemed that the signal was only audible after about 9 pm most nights, but on wet or misty days could be heard at lower level, when ever the program was running.

We tried to think just why the signal would be audible, at odd times, and not others, as the only source of audio at the station was an AWA 2 stage TRF plus detector/audio receiver with a baffle-mounted 12 inch speaker on the wall of the studio/control room at one end of the building and another speaker at the other end of the 4 room building, where the receiver which normally operated without an antenna connected, was housed. The studio speaker was switched off by the microphone switch when announcements were being made. (the town studios closed at 6pm at night and were not used from 1 pm on Saturdays, until 1 pm on Sundays.)

A week after my visit to the hut, Campbell phoned and asked if I could go out at night and see if I could locate the problem. This I did, and could hear the program inside the man's hut. It was distorted and completely lacking in low frequency response. The noise was loudest by a small amount inside the small bedroom. I walked all round the outside of the building (which had no power connection at all) . As it was pitch dark, and the station flashlight needed new batteries, I had to give up, but promised to come back on another occasion.

A few days later I went at night with Campbell, who had put on a half hour transcription, to check again and as we neared the man's hut we could faintly hear the 3BO signal. We went inside and as we entered his bedroom the signal was quite audible with what Campbell called a "tinny" quality of the speech (from the transcription) There did not seem to be any particular source of the audio, it was as though it was coming from several directions. The man moved his bed, a wardrobe, and various other loose items, and we decided the audio was coming from some source outside the hut. By this time the transcription was about to finish, so Campbell ran back to put on the second disc while I prowled around the outside of the hut. Remember this was a pitch dark night, and all we had was an Eveready flashlight. As I passed the water tank which was just outside of the bedroom the audio level dropped off, and as I went around the tank, which was a very old squat corrugated iron type mounted on a very crude wooden stand, high enough to allow gravity feed into the house, I ran my hand around the top of the tank and hit the down pipe, The audio disappeared immediately. I waited until Campbell came back, and we found that by moving the downpipe with a broom, we could turn on and off. Moving it by hand there was no way we could reproduce the signal.

Next day I went back and as it was a damp misty day we were able to get a weak signal by moving the pipe. As the hut had been built with junk from the local tip, the down pipe consisted of two short lengths of rusty pipe with one end pushed over the spigot on the spouting, and the lower end which was almost horizontal was resting on a piece of old packing case timber which was sitting across the top of the tank. We did not realize it at the time, but we had discovered the very first semi conductor detector/audio device!! I used a piece of strap iron to bond the pipe to the tank, and Campbell arranged with 3BO's manager for a new downpipe and a properly fitted cover for the tank. They then discovered that the hut was actually built inside the property boundary, so they allowed the man 12 months to move.

There is a footnote to the story. Some months after the above events, Bendigo Police arrived at the hut late one night accompanied by an interstate officer, and the man was arrested and taken back to, I think, Queensland. Turned out he had been wanted for a number of years.



Roger VK2RO



Greg VK3ZKV & Tony VK3ZOT



Mount Wombat



Mount Wombat summit



Repeater Tower