

# Shepparton & District Amateur Radio Club Inc



PO Box 692 Shepparton 3632

Incorporation No. A6677

<http://www.sadarc.org>

Club Callsign VK3SOL

## OUR FIRST VK1WIA NEWS RE BROADCAST ON VK3RGV WAS A GREAT SUCCESS

Our first WIA Re broadcast on V3RGV AT 10 am Sunday 24th July was a success and we had 14 callbacks thanks to all.

We would like more callbacks after the WIA Broadcast As they are sent to the WIA both in Melbourne and also Brisbane SWL listeners can email or phone in a report Your participation will keep the Broadcast going.

The August Meeting was well attended so lets make the September Meeting bigger as there is plenty going on hope to see you all there.

The Communications Day will be held on Sunday September 11th at Saint Augustine's hall in Orr St Shepparton add this date in your diary.

We also need more club members to call in on the Wednesdays Club Broadcast at 8 pm and we also hope to have a 80 meter hookup in the near future.

There will also be a For sale/Wanted in the Newsletter 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 September 3rd at 2 pm

Please forward any news to [vk3kln@netspace.net.au](mailto:vk3kln@netspace.net.au) or Post D.Hitchcock P.O Box 362 Cobram 3644 Phone: 03 5871 1444

Volume 1, Issue 2

Newsletter Date  
August 05

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# FOR SALE

Icom IC-751A Radio for sale \$650.00

Includes Manuals, Mic, power Lead, UT-30 Tone encoder unit, UX-14 CI-IV/CI-V Converter unit and also IC-EX310 Voice Synthesizer unit. The Radio is a one owner and comes in good condition

Roger VK2RO.



For Sale Matching Power Supply

ICOM PS-55 13.8V 20A

Good condition

\$175.00

Roger VK2RO



## More For Sale on page 5 & 11

# WANTED

**WANTED** a Yaesu VX-150 2m 5 watt hand held or a Yaesu ft-1500 2m mobile unit must be in good working order. Contact Danny Hender on 0407060175 or home 58623444

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 6/8/05 AT SEARCH AND RESCUE ROOMS**  
**BENALLA ROAD SHEPPARTON**  
**INC. A0006677S**

**MEETING** Opened by president Roger 2RO at 2.30 P.M. (Delay due to mixup over entry to the S&R rooms)

**APOLOGIES** were received from John 3PXJ, Trevor 3KEG, Margaret and Niel Tingay , Ross 3 ULC, Ray 3RW.

**VISITORS** Alan McKaskill VK4SKL and Angela McCallum

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Rod. 3UG, Max 3DSF, Norma and Max Matthey, Danny Hender , Les 3TEX, Jacek 3TJS, Jan 3ALF, Daryl 3KLN, Ed 3BG, Rob3KBV, Pat 3OV, Niel 3KAL, David Lydford, Wayne 3XQA, Allan 3AYD , Roger 2RO. Barry 3KBY

**MINUTES** Of the previous meeting 2/7/05 were read and confirmed Moved Roger 2RO Sec. Jan 3ALF ..... Carried.

**BUSINESS ARISING** Nil

**TREASURER** Reported a credit balance of \$3916.26in the C'wealth cheque account and a credit balance of \$1285.55.in the Sandhurst Investment Account . There are 26 financial members moved Allan 3AYD .... Sec. Rod. 3UG ..... Carried.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

Comms Day .. Max 3 DSF reported on progress Fliers prepared and sent for inclusion in A.R. Jan reported that 20 tables are spoken for and requested the loan of power extension cords from members please. Jacek 3TJS reported on preparations for catering , and requested \$200 to pay cash for food . Agreed to by meeting.

R.D. contest Daryl 3KLN tabled log sheets for the coming RD Contest. The meeting then setup a roster to represent the club. Wombat Award . A framed Wombat Award certificate was presented to the meeting, some discussion ensued regarding the rules ,as we have no record of them We shall have to draft new ones Moved Jan 3 ALF that decisions on the rules for the award be held over to give time for further examination and discussion ..... sec.Rod 3 UG ..... Carried.

Packet Radio President Roger asked for a report on Packet Radio and wether it is worthwhile to continue our participation . Jacek 3TJS reported on the activity and that it is still used and would be worthwhile keeping.

Sunday Morning Broadcasts . President Roger appealed to the members to support the sunday morning broadcasts and call back. C.B. Repeater was discussed , however nothing concrete was decided.

Interference to VK3RGV was then discussed and moves to try and track it down were discussed. Also it was pointed out that the roof of the hut leaks and that the timeout has been reduced to 3 minutes.

Exposure Ways of increasing the clubs exposure were discussed, suggestions included, Events calender in the local newspaper , inclusion in the national and vic. news broadcasts

Cloth badges for VK3SOL were discussed . These attractive badges are for sale at \$5 each.

Modulated L.E.D. the possibilty of making an attempt at the distance record for a modulated L.E.D introduced to the meeting by Roger.2RO.

**MEETING CLOSED** at 4.10 pm. and all enjoyed a cuppa and scones .. Thanks Norma!

# Roger VK2RO trip to England



Roger M/VK2RO/MM Grand Union Canal Warwickshire England, Equipment Buddipole Dipole on 20mts, Rig Icom IC-706 MK11G, Long Boat 70ft Steel Hull, 4 cylinder lister diesel engine, 7mph top speed, 25 Tons loaded full 4 star rating.

2mtr contacts via UK local IRLP repeaters back to Australia, equipment Yaesu FT90R and 5/8 wave mobile whip, 73s Roger VK2RO

# FOR SALE

Articles for sale

- 1 High Gain TH6 tribander
  - 2 Tower (buyer to remove will assist)
  - 3 All Coax
  - 4 Ham CDE Rotator
  - 5 All HF gear Icom 720, MFJ tuner, Yaesu tuner
- All above only \$1000 See Picture  
Contact Ross VK3KVC ph 03 58251007  
Mobile 0428123118



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## BBQ AT VK3TEX

The day at my place was a success with several people turning up. We had Danny Hender (CB) Numurkah, Darren VK3HEN, his daughter Natasha, Kyabram, Lou Boschetti (CB) Numurkah, Mark VK3HMB from Wangarratta, Jacek VK3TJS Shepp, Rob George VK3KBV Echuca, Mike, the TWEED RADIO 69 (CB) from Merrigum.

Most people had a go on the mike and had a good time, then once 12 came along the BBQ was fired up, Lot's of fun and socializing was had by all.

My very special thanks to those that came along.

Les, VK3TEX.




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### News continued

**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 Friday of the second week.**

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

**During the month we signed up five new Members Neil VK3KAL , Bruce VK3QC Muriel VK3JBO and David Lydford , Len VK3BMY and Wayne VK3XQA**

**The opening RD Address was aired on RGV on Saturday evening the 13th at 5.45pm which was performed by The Governor General *His Excellency Major General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC***

**More on the RD contest will be in Septembers Newsletter**



## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Firstly may I congratulate Daryl VK3KLN for a wonderful first production, with our new look SADARC Communications Newsletter, well done Daryl.

At our last monthly meeting we had a marvellous turn up, standing room only, the atmosphere was electric with many positive comments and ideas being discussed, its great to see a group of dedicated people all moving in the same direction.

We also welcomed some very old faces back to the club, in particular Neil VK3KAL and Wayne VK3XQA welcome back, membership is on the rise, and this is very encouraging and has come about by the positive input of the membership on air, keep up the good work. Club participation this month was the RD Contest, 10 members took part in the contest on behalf of VK3SOL our club call sign, this represented 20hours operation out of the 24 hour period, the only time during the contest that our club call sign was not being used or heard was between 4.00am and 8.00 am on the Sunday morning, not a bad effort, thankyou to all that took part, its great to see the club call sign being used to promote ourselves in a positive manner.

Ham fest Communication Day is fast approaching, we are looking for full support on the day from all of the members, Jacek VK3TJS, his wife, Bozena, has completed a 2 day certificate course in food handling, which has allowed the Club to provide the distribution of food for resale at the Communications day, on behalf of the club, we thank Bozena for giving up 2 days of her own time, to assist in the club activities going forward, once again thank you. Our sub-committee for the Ham fest Communication day is Jan VK3ALF, Jacek VK3TJS, Max VK3DSF, Ross VK3UCR and Rob VK3KBV, if you need to know anything about the Communications day or wish to assist in any way please feel free to contact the members direct.

Daryl VK3KLN, Presented the meeting with the upgraded Wombat Award, very smart indeed, we had a choice of wooden framing for this award, it looked very professional, the only problem we had was what to charge the award winners for this award, \$5.00 was mooted, much debate, no result, this is to be tabled at our next committee meeting to resolve the cost.

Exciting times ahead, an Australian Record or maybe a World Record, its their for the taking, and that's what our club is going to attempt to achieve, as a club project we are going to attempt to modulate an LED at 475THz over a distance of 105 Miles (169km) or better.

We will have a video demonstration of this technology and modulation method at the next meeting, this viewing will take approx 30+ mins, I have some of the components which will make up part of the transceivers, available at the next meeting, this experiment and record attempt will take place from a hill top, at night, the red LED should be visible to the naked eye over this distance, what do you think?

Our technical officers have been busy, Ray VK3RW, has nearly completed the FM814 Transceiver being the replacement repeater for 2mts, this will be installed at the first opportunity, the Technical crew and their assistants are very keen to complete and possibly fix the interference problem at Mt Wombat, Neil VK3KAL was heard at 10.30pm on Saturday night, after the club meeting hitting the Antenna mast with a

## President's Report cont

hammer at the repeater site and doing some on air interference tests with Daryl and Ray, and guess what! The boys could hear all sorts of noises coming through the Repeater as Neil was hitting the mast, interesting, the boys may me onto something. Also many thanks to Norma and

Thanks to our busy Secretary, Ross VK3UCR, I received my Ham fest Communications Day Flyer inside my August AR, The beauty of this is that I live in the Riverrina area NSW, which has given the Club a larger capture area, also on page 28 of AR we have a 1/3 page advert telling every reader about our Ham fest, Ross has also prepared a large pack of hand out flyers for the Ham fest, thanks Ross.

Later this month we will launch our 80mtr Club Broadcast, in conjunction with the 2mtr broadcast on a Wednesday Evening at 8.00pm, the frequency for 80mts 3.620 +/- QRM,

Our net controller is Max VK3DSF, please support your club broadcast on Wednesday Evenings, there is no greater joy for the net controller to have plenty of check ins, this makes it all worth while. Also the Sunday morning WIA and Vic link rebroadcast on RGV at 10.00am, the same rules apply, between Daryl and myself, we start the ball rolling usually as early as Thursday evenings in preparation to bring you the news on Sundays, so even if you are only a listener please check in with Max VK3DSF Net Controller and let him know that you are listening, our call back numbers are important, they are reported to Canberra and compiled.

Please come along to our next meeting and try Norma's cakes, what a treat! Thanks Norma for providing afternoon tea at the club meetings, its appreciated by all.

What's on the horizon, Ham fest, Jota, Spring Field Day, Australian maybe World Record "modulating an LED", Permanent Club Rooms!!! Working bee Mt Wombat,

Antenna tidy up at Mechanics Hall Shepparton, What about a Christmas party on the Murray River or at Goulburn Weir?

That's all folks, 73s Roger VK2RO



## FROM ROD CHAMPNESS

I have had a couple of phone conversations with Ray Wales regarding the interference problems in VK3RGV. The tests that Ray Wales, Neil Webster and another chap, who's name I forget, have proved in their professional opinion that the majority of the problems with the repeater are caused by corrosion on and near the RGV antenna system. They were able to prove this by shaking the mast and by arranging for the 167.3375 MHz frequency to be actuated. Interference in each case was heard in the repeater. The results of these tests prove to me and another ex radio inspector (Gavin Brain) that corrosion on the antenna system is causing the current problems. I don't think Merv Hooley has been spoken to at this stage but I'm sure he would agree.

To overcome the problem I believe that we should not muck around any longer. We should replace all the antenna hardware and mast (where any corrosion is evident at all) as the installation is perhaps 20 years old. On a communal site meticulous care is needed to make sure there are no semiconductor joints (due to corrosion) that can generate interference when actuated by RF signals. Whilst this will be an expensive exercise the club does have the money to comfortably fix the antenna problems. So lets do it.

I would propose that at the next meeting that a motion be put forward that the refurbishment of the repeater antenna system be authorised. Ray and one or two others I believe could handle this quite competently.

Cheers

Rodney Champness VK3UG

# REPEATER UPDATE

Following last meeting Neil VK3KAL went to Mt Wombat and with a hammer hit the mast on the hut. With a weak signal into VK3RGV the static noise was very obvious to those listening, some loose joints in the metalwork or bad connectors inside antenna.

Saturday 13th August VK3KAL & VK3RW went to the site for an inspection and to install the FM 814. This radio being our spare system, we noticed a lot of rusty bolts, clamps etc. Two unused antennas were removed. The amount of static and crackles when they were being removed was very bad. Lots of rust on bolts and brackets where the 2mtr antenna is mounted is also very rusted. The rusty hardware is a RECIEPE for reactivation i.e. intermod problems as we have with the SMR system.

We used test gear to carry out some more tests. Some other observations found that the mast is very rusty. Inside the lower outer tube in fact is wet water seeps out of it onto the floor of the hut. The roof needs resealing with suitable paint and plastic conduit carrying coaxes to the nally tower should have some protection (gravel etc).

R Wales VK3RW Technical Officer



# FOR SALE Continued

FOR SALE \$140.00

The **Icom SP-20** speaker is designed for use with a wide variety of communication equipment. The SP-20 is equipped with four separate audio network filters for maximum control of the audio characteristics of received signals. It also features two audio input jacks (3.5 mm mini jack). Input A or B may be selected from a switch on the front of the speaker. There is also a Speaker On/Off switch and a 1/4 inch headphone jack on the front panel. **Specifications**

Speaker Size: 5 inches (12 cm)

Rated Input Power: 3 watts

Maximum Rated Power: 5 watts

Rear Panel Input Jacks: Two 3.5mm mini jacks Rear Panel Output Jack: 3.5 mm mini jack Front Panel Jack: 1/4 inch mono headphone jack. Impedance: 8 ohms

Frequency Response: 100 to 9000 Hz

Filter Cut-off Frequencies:

\* HPF1 300 Hz

\* HPF2 600 Hz

\* LPF1 2400 Hz

\* LPF2 800 Hz

Filter Response: -6dB/octave

Enclosure Size: 7.875x5.875x13.375 inches (200x150x344 mm) 6.6 Lbs. (3 kg)

Roger VK2RO

