



REPEATERS VK3RGV 2m
& VK3RGV 70cm
CLUB CALL SIGN VK3SOL

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July 2008

SADARC

SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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Membership Secretary:

Pat O'Shannessy VK3OV

Technical Committee:

Ray Wales VK3RW

Neil Webster VK3KAL

Newsletter

Editor - Lisa Laffan



NEW APPOINTMENT

Roger VK2RO has just been appointed the official representative for the Radio Of Great Britain "RSGB" Islands Of The Air "IOTA" for AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND/PHILIPPINES/INDONESIA/AND ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC, Effective 1st August 2008, Roger will also be the Official Check Point for any IOTA Awards in this region, Roger has accepted this position with much HonourGo to <http://www.rsgbiota.org/index.php> for more information on the awards program.

The Newsletter is now available at

<http://www.sadarc.org/news.html>

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Presidents Report for July 2008

Hi To All The Readers,

It was great to see all the members that traveled to the last meeting, I was a bit concerned prior to the meeting that Apologies would exceed the attendance of members at the meeting, what a sigh of relief when this did not eventuate.

We all had a great meeting, which was followed by a video of the Ameritron Amplifier Factory in the USA, this was very much appreciated by the members in attendance, and I could see, all those members, drooling over those beautiful Linear Amplifiers, you wish. Our new Power Point Projector worked just fine, the reproduction quality was unreal, thanks to our IT Tech Kane all went well. Our next video presentation will be on the Dayton Ham Fest 2008, a must see. Would any of the members like to go to the 2009 Dayton, Les VK3 TEX would like to hear from you, put my name down, Les I would think that four or more would be a target number , and, if four is achievable, this would definitely be a green light, you may ask yourself what are the costs, at

this stage we are only looking for those members that feel they would like to attend, once Les has the numbers, we can work on the costs, I would think the best way to do this is the fly into LA Airport and pick up a big 8 berth mobile home and drive to Dayton, a one stop shop, and Les, make sure the mobile home has 12volts, so as we can work HF/VHF Mobile.

The September Ham Fest is not far away, our specialist caterers are well placed to give all in attendance a gourmet treat, its great to have such a specialist crew on hand, yum, yum I can't wait. Now is the time to start promoting this annual event, the funds that we profit from our Ham Fest place us well in the financial well being of the club, so lets all get behind this activity and promote, promote, promote, for further information please forward you request to Daryl VK3KL, our Ham Fest Coordinator.

At our next meeting, its our intention to invite Terry Fahey, one of our tour guides at the Radio Australia, to a pre-meeting Barbeque, after the Barbeque we would

like to make a presentation to Terry on behalf of our club, we will present a framed certificate of appreciation, plus some other goodies, it would be greatly appreciated if all our members could make a special effort to attend this meeting and show our appreciation to Terry for giving us a well informed tour of Radio Australia, and, yes we have not forgot Rodney, VK3UG who also played a big part in the organization and 2nd tour guide of our tour, many thanks Rodney.

At the next meeting, Rodney and myself, will give an in-depth presentation on mobile radio/antenna installations, the does and don't do, and hopefully I can bring my caravan along and give you some pointers on portable operations, Rodney is also putting some notes together for a Power Point Presentation to support our hands on presentation/demonstration.

I am not a negative person by any means, but, last Wednesday Night on 3.620mhz, our club net, I was very surprised to hear the amount of club members that just checked in, no talky, I don't have a problem with members just checking in on the 2mtr nets, but folks, not 80mts, this is the Roles Royce band, the low band, not like the VHF/UHF bands, I am from the old school, 80mts is the rag chewing band. I know that we have a lot of new comers to the hobby, and may be a little bit nervous about talking on HF, please check in, and when it is your turn, just say a few words, it just makes the net controllers job more appreciated, and quiet honestly, we would love to hear what's going on in your world. We have many stations checking in from vk2, vk3, vk4, vk5, you may not have realized, but our club station on 80mts, VK3SOL, has quiet a following around Australia, we also need to promote our Club Award, the Wombat Award,

Neil VK3KAL has informed me that he will have the Club FM 6mtr repeater on test from his QTH in approx 6 weeks time, Neil will keep us all posted on the progress, once Neil is satisfied that the repeater is up to specs, it will be re- located permantley on top of Mt Wombat, for those members



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Presidents Report Cont...

that have current license privileges to work 6mts watch this space, I know that Jan VK3ALF, can't wait for this to happen, it has been one of his lifetime ambitions to work a 6mtr repeater from Mt Wombat.

The relocation of the 70cm IRLP Repeater from the Club Rooms to the new location at Jacek VK3TJS works QTH is not far away from happening, this task of relocating the IRLP Node has been placed on the shoulders of Danny VK3FDTH,

Danny has been very busy over the last 6 weeks with his upgrade and work commitments, and also his ongoing study in Melbourne, and, by the way, well done Danny with your new accreditation in the work place.

A big hello goes to Hilton VK3AHY, welcome home Hilton, Hilton is recovering from unexpected surgery that took place in June, we look forward to hearing from on one of our club nets, and well done.

Look out Swan Hill; some of the members of SADARC are traveling to Swan Hill on the weekend of 18-20 July, who has the honeymoon suite??? We will let you know when we return, definitely not me, I have already done my part for Australia

[Quote For The Month "You can't change the past, you can only change the future"](#)

73s For now Roger VK2RO

Minutes of July Meeting

Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Inc. A6677S. Minutes of monthly meeting held on Saturday 5 July 2008 at the Mooroopna Community Hall, Echuca Road Mooroopna.

The president Roger VK2RO opened the meeting at 1310 hours and welcomed all present. Roger then expressed his disappointment, firstly on the lack of activity on the repeater VK3RGV and secondly at the number of stations "checking in only" on the 80M net on Wednesday evenings. Roger suggested that those stations could at least say something.

Present: Roger VK2RO, Duncan VK3DCX, Daryl VK3KL, Ron VK3COP, Rodney VK3UG, John VK3PXJ, Alan VK3AJD, John VK3FJHM, Peter VK3FBEN, Les VK3VLG, Terry VK3MAR, Max VK3DSF, Wayne VK3XQA, Les VK3TEX, Nandor Barabas SWL, Jan VK3ALF, Darren VK3HEN, Toby VK3PNF, Steven VK3FSTE, Kane VK3HKH, Rob VK3MAC, Tibor VK3FTIB.

Apologies: Ed VK3BG, Alan VK3FALN, Mark VK3HMB,

Bill VK3DWG, Ian VK3JNC, Clint VK3CAF, Geoff VK3AHT, Wes VK3FDDT, Neil VK3KAL, Angela VK3FELT, Pat VK3OV, Danny VK3FDTH, Brian VK3HBW, Geoff VK3PLW, Terry VK3FTHS.

Moved: Rodney VK3UG, seconded: Les VK3VLG and carried.

Inward Correspondence:

BARG Newsletters
Midland Newsletter
Club membership subscriptions

QSL Cards from Bureau

Outward Correspondence:

Nil
Moved: John VK3FJHM, seconded: Peter VK3FBEN and carried.

Minutes of last meeting: As there was no meeting held in June due to the Radio Australia visit, the secretary Duncan VK3DCX read the minutes of the May meeting and moved that they be accepted. Seconded by Peter VK3FBEN and carried.

Business arising from the minutes of the May meeting:

Relocation of the IRLP has not yet occurred as Danny VK3FDTH has been training

in Melbourne but this work should be carried soon.

Treasurers Report: The treasurer Daryl VK3KL presented the report on the club finances and made a copy available for viewing by the members present.

General Business:

AR Newslines: As requested by Neil VK3KAL, Roger VK2RO indicated that AR Newslines is asking for donations, as they don't receive any direct funding. Since our club re-broadcasts their news on VK3RGV on Monday nights, Roger asked the meeting whether our club should make a donation. The matter was discussed but no decision was made.

Swan Hill Trip 18 – 20 July: Roger VK2RO indicated that although the numbers are down, the weekend will go ahead and members should arrive on Friday afternoon for two nights.

Radio Australia Visits: Roger VK2RO talked about how successful the visits to Radio Australia were and indicated that the club should make a presentation to Rodney VK3UG for organising the visit

and Terry Fahey from Radio Australia for conducting the very interesting and informative tours of the facility on both the Thursday and Saturday. Rodney indicated that he did not wish to be included but the secretary is to send a letter to Terry inviting him to a BBQ to be held at 12.30 pm on Saturday 2 August prior to the normal club meeting.

Rodney VK3UG talked about the visits and what activities were taking place during the visits.

Comm's Day: Daryl VK3KL indicated that 15 tables have so far been booked and emails will be sent out to the dealers shortly.

The flyer for the August edition of AR is also to be arranged.

6M Repeater: Roger VK2RO informed the meeting that the 6M repeater should be on test in about six weeks.

Members at the meeting then viewed a video taking you on a tour of the Ameritron factory in the USA.

The president Roger VK2RO then talked about Linear Amplifiers and the meeting was closed at 1505 hours.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

2008/09 CLUB MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE NOW DUE, NOTHING HAS CHANGED, IT IS STILL \$20, WE SPENT OVER APPROX \$6000 IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS, WITH UPGRADES, AND ASSET PURCHASES, WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE THIS WITHOUT STRONG MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT, DARYL VK3KL OUR TREASURER, WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOUR RENEWAL IN THE MAIL OR AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Thank You

I wish to express my thanks and gratitude to those club members and other amateurs that either contacted me or were instrumental in the placement of the get well notice that appeared in the June edition of the SADARC newsletter. There are many weeks of recuperation remaining ahead for me. Much appreciation from Hilton VK3AHY.

Happy Anniversary

I would like to wish my parents, Janice & Daryl VK3KL a very Happy 46th Wedding Anniversary for the 20th of July. Love and Best Wishes Lisa, Mark, Cat, Tim & Baby, Damien & Jay, Nathan, Cameron, Amanda & Jeremey.

80M Net Control Roster

16-7-08	Les	VK3TEX
23-7-08	John	VK3PXJ
30-7-08		VK3DCX
6-8-08	Terry	VK3FTHS
13-8-08	Danny	VK3FDTH
20-8-08	Jacek	VK3TJS
27-8-08	Ian	VK3JNC
3-9-08	Mark	VK3HMB
10-9-08	Pat	VK3OV
17-9-08	Roger	VK2RO
24-9-08	Les	VK3TEX
1-10-08	John	VK3PXJ
8-10-08		VK3DCX
15-10-08	Terry	VK3FTHS
22-10-08	Danny	VK3FDTH
29-10-08	Jacek	VK3TJS
5-11-08	Ian	VK3JNC
12-11-08	Mark	VK3HMB
19-11-08	Pat	VK3OV
26-11-08	Roger	VK2RO
3-12-08	Les	VK3TEX
10-12-08	John	VK3PXJ
17-12-08		VK3DCX
24-12-08	Terry	VK3FTHS
31-12-08	Danny	VK3FDTH

S.A.D.A.R.C. now has a group within the ever expanding networking website called Facebook, this group was set up for the purpose of networking other amateur radio users all over the world and getting the club "out there". If your a member of www.facebook.com then why not go and join the group, it can be found by going to www.facebook.com/grouphome.php and searching for S.A.D.A.R.C.



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WHEN IT COMES TO RADIOS... I'M JUST AN AMATEUR.

By Jim Rinehart W4JFR

I can think of no hobby that is more enthralling, challenging, and broadly compelling as amateur radio. It seems to have something for everyone...from electronic experimentation to making acquaintances around the world. What other hobby can allow you to experiment with electronics and gain a comprehensive lesson in world geography at the same time? There is truly something for everyone. And, that is why we do it. Yes, our interests may change and we may even step away from the hobby for a period of time (something I did for the entire decade of the eighties). Nonetheless, we come back, ready to try new things, or re-invest ourselves in old things that we found exciting before and will so again.

Nonetheless, I have observed an increasing amount of bickering among the more passionate practitioners of the hobby. This can be empirically verified not only here on eHam.net, but also on the airwaves itself. The debates persist: code vs. no-code; a "real" Extra class, who took a CW examination at 20 wpm (yes, I am one of those) vs. the "new" breed of "appliance operators" who, according to the former group did not pay their proper "dues" in order to get their license, and on and on.

If one reflects on who we are and what we are, some simple notions rise to the surface:

Each of us is attracted to the hobby precisely because of

its comprehensive scope and the cognitive challenges it presents. We are experimenters. And, as any good scientist will tell you, experimenters make mistakes; sometimes real bloopers.

Because of its challenging nature (the thing that attracts us, remember), our hobby can be a bit intimidating at first. Just look at any recent issue of QST and imagine yourself as a young teen that has an interest in electronics, geography, gadgets, and "stuff." If the costs of equipment don't scare him or her, then the high-tech articles certainly will.

It takes a while to get the resources together to get going in this hobby and years to get the hang of it. Keep that in mind next time you want to give someone the "dickens" on the air, for making what you consider to be a dumb mistake.

And, that gets to my primary point. No matter how good we get at it, whether we are graduate engineers or still in high schools, when it comes to radios, we are all just amateurs. sounds like a great motto to live by.

I thought about getting a trademark on the slogan, but amateurs don't do it for the money. I think I will have a t-shirt and bumper sticker made though.

"When it comes to radios, I'm just an amateur."

Why doesn't some one take the bull by the horns and create an "F" Troup net, or any other Ham net, and populate the 2 and 70cm Band, our repeaters are extremely quiet, it really concerns me that our repeaters are not being used to their full potential, this lack of use, is, and will be, a real problem in moving forward, we have all this hardware on mountain tops in Victoria/NSW, and for what? I remember when I first became a Licensed Ham, you could not find a spot on any frequency to operate, but today pick your frequency, I know that many Hams will say, the Sun Spot Cycle is all out of wack, no propagation, this is true, but the opportunities still

exist, I have just worked 3 new countries on 20mts, C91XO, VK9XME, 3DA0OK, but, I know this will not apply to 2 & 70cm, but anyway, what was all the excitement about in achieving you privileged Ham Licence when we don't use the facilities that are available, for your use, this is by no means a whinge, it is a real concern for the hobby, and a concern for the club moving forward. Anyhow, have a think about what we can do to populate the frequencies, this is a real must not just a dream, we have plenty of club members, but no active Ham's, this is your Hobby not just a Club, 73s Roger VK2RO

SWAN HILL ATTRACTIONS

Things to do while in Swan Hill: You can enjoy the magnificent wide open spaces and the tranquillity of inland Australia while you visit an award-winning winery or a fine restaurant featuring fresh Murray Cod, yabbies, avocado, citrus, stone fruits or vine fruits.

Take in the beautiful surroundings at a golf course or explore nature's remarkable features in one of many reserves and parks. Enjoy a river cruise or a houseboat holiday, an historic paddleboat trip or any of the other attractions available. For more information on things to do visit www.swanhillonline.com

Source: www.swanhillonline.com

SWAN HILL TRIP

18-20th July, 2008

A Social & Relaxing Weekend.

Cabin accommodation is available
also powered and un-powered
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Please contact Roger VK2RO
direct for any further information.