

SADARC

SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Mt Terrible

VK3DAG



winter UHF-VHF field days.
Pictures Page 6



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

Volume 9,
Issue 5,
June 2009

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Toby Corbett VK3PNF

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Les Tatar VK3TEX

Treasurer:

Ron Burns VK3COP

Public Officer:

Les Tatar VK3TEX

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Newsletter

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Presidents Report for June 2009



Hello to all,

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to thank Susan VK3ANZ, Ross VK3HBS and David VK3DLR from the Eastern and Mountain Districts Radio Club for taking the time (and the drive) to Mooroopna to conduct a very informative presentation and demonstration on D-Star at our last club meeting. I think that all members who attended learned a lot about the new system.

Some of the clubs projects appear to be moving along nicely, The LED project led by Wayne VK3XQA is well on the way to being revived. The

D-star project for Mt Wombat is well under way with frequencies being applied for and the modules being ordered from Icom. I will keep you all informed about the progress.

Rodney VK3UG has also had some interest from 6 members to go ahead with making a squid pole antenna. As it stands the cost to each person would be \$49 plus around \$2 freight however if 3 more participants can be sourced, the supplier will give Rodney a further 20% discount.

For those who attended the last meeting a large amount of radio and electronics equipment was supplied for club members FREE to a good home. This equipment was kindly donated to the members by the Tremellen's, Graeme VK3GPT and Carroll VK3FCLT. Thank you and I'm sure that members who picked up this equipment we put it to great use.

we have had a very good response already with tables booking up fast. Unfortunately the Adelaide Hill event is being held on the same Sunday as ours due to a forced move of hall bookings but they will move their event back to November in 2010.

Advertisements for our hamfest have been placed in AR August Edition and On VKHAM with further advertising to follow.

Don't forget the Club's practical day on Saturday 20th June kicking off at 10am

The next club meeting to be held on Saturday 4th July. After the meeting we will be viewing an old DVD of a hamfest held by club in the early 80s and the construction of our radio hut @ Mt Wombat. Hope to see you all there.

Well that's enough from me; hope to catch you all on the air soon.

Our Hamfest is fast approaching;

Cheers & 73s
Toby VK3PNF

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Fair dinkum volunteers wanted

For the Wednesday night 80 Meter HF net. Starting at 6:30 PM local. We only require people who wish to do the Net.

*If you are already a volunteer and want to be taken off the current roster please contact Steven Hamer, and the roster will be rearrange.

*If anyone on a current roster can't make it for any reason, could they also contact Steve Hamer and arrangements for someone else to fill in for them will be made. If no one else is able to fill in Steven Hamer will cover it.

To volunteer or for any more information please contact

Steven Hamer.
VK3DAG,

0417129910 0358254461
vk3dag@wia.org.au

Minutes of June Meeting

SADARC Minutes of the meeting held on June 7th 2009

Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Inc A6677S. Minutes of the monthly meeting held on June 7th 2009 at the Mooroopna Scout Hall, Echuca Rd Mooroopna.

Meeting was opened by club president Toby, VK3PNF at 14:35 Hours

Present:

Terry VK3MAR, Alan VK3FALN, Mark Perkins VK3MDP, Rob, VK3MAC, Steve VK3DAG, Barrie VK3KBY, Trevor VK3VG, Pat VK3OV, Jan VK3ALF, Brian VK3HBW, Wayne VK3XQA, Jacek VK3TJS, Ian Ward new member, Rob VK3ECH, Karen Glasson, Darren Glasson VK3HEN, John VK3PXJ, Helen Ryan, Peter VK3FBEN, Rodney VK3UG, John VK3FJHM, Max VK3DSF, Les VK3TEX, Ron VK3COP, Toby VK3PNF. John VK3FAAX.

Apologies:

Ian VK3JNC, Neil VK3KAL, Tibor VK3FTIB, Wes VK3DDT, Les VK3VGL.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated and read by the members.

Motion raised to pass minutes of the previous meeting by Les VK3TEX and seconded by Steve VK3DAG. Carried.

Business arising from the previous meeting:

Les VK3TEX stated that he had sent away emails to the commercial traders and also

some private traders also. There were some responses received for bookings to our Hamfest.

Les VK3TEX will write a letter to the CFA in Shepparton on the 8th of June to find out the availability of tables for our Hamfest in September.

Toby VK3PNF asked Pat VK3OV about where we were with the issue of trestle repair and Pat said he would look into it closer to the Hamfest.

John VK3PXJ asked about the floor plan for the Hall and Toby told him it was printed and ready to fill out.

Ron VK3COP was going to pass the flyer along to the members for their perusal before he makes the batch that we will send to the WIA to be sent with the AR magazine.

Inward Correspondence:

Some subscriber renewals were received and a newsletter from the Midland and EMDRC clubs was also received.

Outward Correspondence:

Emails that were sent to the Traders in regards to our hamfest.

Treasurers Report:

The treasurer's report was handed out by Ron VK3COP to the members to read.

Ron moved that the report be accepted by the club, seconded by John VK3FJHM.

General Business:

Rodney VK3UG made some comments on the inspection he undertook up the hill on Mt Wombat. He said the battery system on the repeaters needed to be upgraded as it was

not functioning very well.

Toby asked Rodney to confer with Neil VK3KAL with his findings and to come up with an action plan at a later date to see what needs to be done.

John VK3FJHM was wondering where his Wombat award was as he has been waiting for about 18 months for it. Les VK3TEX and Toby VK3PNF could only speculate as to what happened to the award. It may have been lost in the system and Toby assured John that it will get to him at the next meeting.

Wayne VK3XQA gave a brief talk on where we were up to with the LED project.

Rodney VK3UG gave a brief comment on the 6m repeater. Dstar:

Toby thanked the members from the EMDRC who gave their presentation on the Dstar system that was being trialed by the club up on Mt Wombat.

Rob VK3ECH gave a brief report on the Dstar coverage and operation and summarized that it was excellent in all regards.

Toby also commented that he was very impressed with the system as well.

Toby gave a brief rundown on what would be required and costs again to the members present.

After much discussion back and forth on the new technologies associated with Dstar, Rob VK3ECH raised the motion to go ahead and purchase the equipment and go ahead with the Dstar installation on

Mt Wombat. Seconded by Jacek VK3TJS and the vote by the members were 11 to 5 in favor of the motion. Carried.

David from the EMDRC commented that there was some hesitation at their club on Dstar, but it is now extremely popular with their members.

Toby also commented that the club should discuss further what should be done with the analog 70 cm repeater at a later date.

Hamfest:

Toby circulated a flyer around the room about the upcoming Hamfest which would be printed in the AR magazine for members comment.

Les VK3TEX went on record that he would donate a 12 volt 40 amp power supply as a prize for the Hamfest..

Hamfest advertising was also discussed and Trevor VK3VG would contact a radio station in Shepparton to provide some advertising for the Hamfest.

Rodney VK3UG also commented that the 10 meter Squidpoles were available now.

The meeting was closed by Toby VK3PNF at 15:40 hours

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Max VK3MJB and Steve, VK3LMR went to Darren, VK3MJD's property on MT Wom-

bat to help him complete installation of his new 9 Element Log Periodic. Darren's QTH

is 600 M above Sea Level, very close the Mt Wombat repeaters and that combines with his new

antenna gave 20 over signal from the USA just minutes after it was up.



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The day was Sat 16th May and the purpose was to install the Portable trial D-STAR repeater on 70cm VK3RWW B

We braved the elements (it was bloody freezing up there) and got it installed. Even had time for Myself to cook the lads a few snags.

Attendees were Myself Toby vk3pnf, Neil vk3kal, Richard vk3jfk, Wayne vk3xqa and Rob vk3mac.

The trial repeater in working extremely well.

Cheers
Toby VK3PNF



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Hi Everyone,

My Father Rex, Spud Dog and myself set off to Mt Terrible for the winter UHF-VHF field days. We had an uneventful trip where everything went to plan. We left home with a 4WD and A-Van Caravan in tow. We had little trouble climbing up on to Mt Terrible. The last 16Km is which of dirt 4WD track. There was one spot where the 4WD had a bit of a spin. Once the centre diff locking was engaged it climbed ok. Mt Terrible is a mountain of about 1310 Meters. And is about 10Km south of town of Jamison. There is a fire spotter's tower some communication gear and a High Country Hut on this mountain. We set up about 1 Km south of the tower.

I set up four bands for the contest. 6 Meters, 2 Meters, 70 centre meters, and 23 centre meters. All of them were with Yagi beam anten-

nas. I had the Yagi's stacked in a Christmas tree arrangement on a 6.5 Meter length of black pipe. And used the 4WD as ballast turning the black pipe by hand in an Armstrong rotator fashion.

The Shack was located in the end of the Caravan Annex. I used a Kenwood TS2000x that was interfaced with a personal computer. This allowed the VKCL software to synchronise with the transceiver. No need to physically enter the frequency and band data into the VKCL software. All that had to be entered was Call Sign, Number Received and Maidenhead Locator. This made the logging job a lot easier. For a microphone I had a hand held microphone. It would have been easier with Vox Headset or a Desk Microphone. So to keep your hands free for data entry.

The annex and caravan was heated with a Cow Cooker Stove that

burned on wood. This kept the camp inside dry and warm. Considering that we had quite a bit of rain outside. I powered the portable station with a 240 Volt Generator. This gave ample power for the lights, transceiver and personal computer. The greatest distance for a contact was made to Mackay Queensland on 6 Meters. Overall I made about 118 contacts with around 1500 points. Pending the contest Manager decision. I believe it was a successful weekend considering the weather was no greater than 5 degrees Celsius in the clouds.

I look forward to the next field days and hope to here you call CQ Contest.

Regards
Steven Hamer,
VK3DAG.



Remember all membership renewals are due by the 1st of July 2009. Included in this newsletter is a renewal / application form. This form will be included in following issues of the newsletter. Please complete the form and return it with your money to Shepparton & District Amateur Radio Club, P.O Box 692, Shepparton, Victoria 3632 before July the 1st to continue your membership.



MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL FORM

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