

SADARC

SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Repeaters: VK3RGV 2m - 70cm - Packet.
Freq: 146.650 - 439.775 - Packet 147.575

Founded 1979

Incorporation No. A6677
P.O Box 692 Shepparton 3632

REPEATERS VK3RGV 2m & 70cm
VK3RGV B D-Star
2m IRLP Node # 6992
CLUB CALL SIGN VK3SOL

President:- Peter Rentsch
Vice President:- Trevor Close
Secretary:- Darren Glasson
Treasurer:- Greg Keegan
Newsletter – Steven Hamer

VK3FPSR
VK3ATX
VK3HEN
VK3POP
VK3DP

Repeater Frequencies: 6 meters: (53.725Mhz Out, 52.725 In. 123Hz tone)
2 meters (146.650Mhz Out, 146.050Mhz In 123Hz tone)
70cm (439.775Mhz Out, 434.775Mhz In 123Hz tone)

S.A.D.A.R.C. May 2014.

Upcoming Events.

June 7th Regular Meeting with Guest Speaker from the CFA.

Images from 2014 Murray Quad.



Bruce VK3FBNG Murray Quad Report Below.

Presidents Report May 2014.

Congratulations to all those members who participated in the Murray QUAD as radio operators. A job well done. A special congratulations to Darren and Bruce who were the main organisers of the event from the perspective of the communication. Due to the wet weather the Bike leg was cancelled on Police advice.

Bruce commented that the event went smoothly and the organisers were very happy with what our Club had done. Bruce also stated that they learnt a lot from the day and things could be done better or in a different way next time. All in all a great day was had and again I pass on my special thanks and congratulations to Darren and Bruce for a sterling effort.

At our next meeting we will have a guest speaker from the CFA. Kevin VK3BPH has organised this and has requested the speaker highlight the Comms within the CFA in his presentation. The Club rooms will be open from about 10.00am for those people who wish to arrive early and have a bit of social time prior to the meeting. This is a great time to get to know other members and chat about your latest escapades on radio or electronics.

Just to skip ahead to our August meeting and for all members to keep in mind, Dallas VK3EB has offered his home for the meeting to have a BBQ, check out his shack and most importantly to construct some style of kit or build something relevant to our hobby. We are having a construction day where members build something; get help with a project they are building or help others that may need assistance. Les VK3TEX is looking into possible project ideas for the members to build on the day and will let us know when he has found something suitable. If you have something in mind contact Les and he will put it in the mix and see what comes out.

Please also keep in mind our Hamfest on Sunday 14th September. Keep your eyes and ears open for possible exhibitors and also let people know it is on. We have a great Hamfest that we should be proud of so let's make sure we tell others about it.

Below is our calendar of events for the next few months.

June 7th Regular Meeting with Guest Speaker from the CFA

July 5th Regular Meeting with Guest Speaker

August 2nd Construction Meeting at Dallas's residence

September 6th Regular meeting. Planning for Hamfest

September 14th Sunday - Hamfest

Thanks again for your support and I look forward to as many of you as possible on June 7th.

Peter – VK3FPSR
President – SADARC

Minutes of SADARC May 2014

Meeting open 13.00

Present,

VK3COP, VK3PXJ, VK3TEX, VK3HKH, VK3CHV, VK3VCE, VK3HBW, VK3PGK, VK3FBNG, VK3OV, VK3DSF, VK3F
PSR, VK3TJS, VK3POP, VK3HEN.

Apologies,

VK3GEB, VK3FALN, VK3FJHM, VK3UG.

Correspondence inward

QSL cards and club newsletters, Outward Insurance for club

Treasures report, The club is in a good financial position.

Technical report.

Rodney was not present but the repeater has been fixed but still using back up power supply at this stage until main one is fixed. Batteries seem to be in working condition and still to install the 2nd 6 meter antenna.

General business

Pat has booked the hall for this years comms day. If any body can think of any new traders for the comms day please suggest them so a letter can be sent inviting them to come.

The Dstar repeater is ready to install again

The display day at showground's went well and had people asking questions about the display but might look at the 4wd show next year.

Looking into the Cobram show and shine on the 2nd Sunday in August with the Vintage radio club.

Steve is looking for more articles for the newsletter.

Greg is organizing somebody to check the pole condition before the tri bander is put back up.

A motion was raised that a list for the exutive committee with contact details of all members be made. 1st vk3pop, 2nd vk3dsf.

It was also mentioned that we need to have a license assessor in the club

Also a reminder that only a group or more than one can go the hut to do repairs for safety.

A project day has been proposed and could be in july or august. This could be used to make simple projects and Dallas has offered his shed for the day,

Closed 14.20

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT MAY 2014

What is happening and what has happened.

(I may not have some things 100% right in this report as I have had computer problems and not been able to readily check with other members on the situation with various projects)

D-Star

This seems to be a never ending saga. The equipment has been tested, but now we have a problem with the 4G dongle communication with the repeater. It will only communicate one way. When originally installed 4G was not being used. I understand Toby VK3PNF is endeavouring to get this sorted out with Telstra.

Club House

The 3 element HF beam has been repaired. Greg VK3POP expects to have it reinstalled at the club rooms within the next three weeks. The work will take place at short notice when the people with the Cherry Picker have some spare time. So if Greg rings you or emails you and asks for help on site if you possibly can come and help him please do so. It is a club project.

Power Supply/Battery Charger

The Motorola power supply that was zapped by lightning earlier this year has been repaired and is now operational. In the fault condition the voltage rose to around 15.5 volts and this caused the batteries to be damaged (boiled with acid fumes in the hut) and three out of the four repeaters were damaged and put off air. This power supply is now the current standby.

As a result of this it was decided to fit an overvoltage protection circuit on the output. This cuts off power going to the batteries or the repeaters should the output voltage rise above 14 volts in a fault condition. Like any protection installed to minimise the effect of lightning surges in the neighbourhood of any equipment anywhere we can never be 100% sure that the protection will work in all situations, but we would expect that the supply will fail safe in a fault condition.

Tower News

Not much to tell. Peter Mill is not sure when the lattice tower guy wire work will be done by the person contracted to do this work. The person doing this is from Nagambie. At this stage we haven't heard from the tower manufacturer on whether there are any engineering calculations on the ability of the tower to withstand twisting moments due to non-symmetrical mounting of antennas. Any antennas mounted off the side of the tower will produce a twisting moment whether it be the clubs repeater site mast or your home mast.

Other Items

Other items from previous reports are still on the to do list but no projects are being undertaken during the winter season.

Rodney Champness VK3UG for the Technical Committee consisting of Phil Dwyer VK3ELV, Ray Wales VK3RW and Geoff Angus VK3ZNA.

Murray Quad May 2014

The Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club were asked to assist with the running of the Murray quad to be run on Saturday 10th. May this year. Nine amateur radio operators volunteered to take part in this communication event including two who are not members of the club, thank you to these who helped make up the numbers required. The amateurs taking part were Darren VK3HEN, Pat VK3OV, Greg VK3POP, John VK3PXJ, Alan VK3FLAN, Bruce VK3FBNG, Mike VK3FMAA, Ron VK3COP, Dave VK3DMX, Steve VK3DP. XYL. Myrtle was assisting Bruce and XYL Mia assisting Mike.

Some of us arrived at the Yacht Club around noon on the Friday before the event. The yacht Club premises were to be the base for the whole event including the comms. Darren VK3HEN obtained a ladder and climbed onto the roof to attach the antennas, a job on its own as we were to use four frequencies, VHF marine. UHF cb, 70CM. and 2M fm. The Yacht Clubs marine VHF antenna was damaged so we could not use that, lucky Darren had a spare antenna and radio. There were cables running everywhere. We soon had all the antennas and radios up and running with not too much hassle, SWR was good on all bands. The yacht Club members were to use the VHF marine, amateur guys 70cm and 2m along with UHF cb, some of the other volunteers were to use UHF cb as well. Bruce VK3FBNG and Alan VK3FLAN were to man the main control.

As the day went on more arrived to assist with setting up and testing of the radios. The yacht Club premises were ideal and their members were most helpful to us and the event team, we were welcome to use their rooms including the excellent kitchen, BBQ and showers etc for the duration of the event. After all the radios were set up and tested some of us enjoyed a BBQ before travelling to the meeting with the event team and other volunteers at the Yarrawonga Mulwala Golf Club at 7pm. Then off to bed early ready for a early start.

Saturday, the day started at around 5.30am with a bacon and egg breakfast ready for the big day ahead. The event was due to start at 7.15am and about that time the showers of rain arrived, the radio operators at the first 4 check points in the swim section were in position at 6.30am and ready to go. The swim section was completed first. Next the runners started this part of the event. The first runners arrived at the finish line at the Yacht Club to be greeted with more heavy rain before the start of the bicycle section. After some advice from the police the organizers decided to cancel the bicycle section because of the possible risk of an accident on the wet roads.

On to the canoe event. From Cobram they were to travel 5ks. upstream and returned twice. This was the revised course as the river was deemed to be to low from Cobram to Tocumwal which was the original course. Steve VK3DP set up his comms near the finish line at Cobram and Darren VK3HEN assisted by Alan VK3FLAN at the turn around point of this canoe event, there job was to relay information between the turn point and the finish line and on to the comms control at the Yacht Club at Yarrawonga, Steve and Darren used both the 2m. and 70cm. repeaters at these locations, the 70cm. repeater seemed to be the best to use from there, the 2m. repeater gave problems later in the day, Steve and Darren stated they will make some antenna improvements ready for next year's event to use from this location and possibly use the 70cm. repeater more next time.

It was unfortunate the cycle section had to be cancelled as some of the volunteer radio operators travelled a long way to take part only to find out their check point was not required, it was good to see some of these guys show up at the control point for a while, under these trying conditions the organizers did a good a job as possible of running this there first event of this type. The organizers were very happy with the comms and invited us to take part in this event next year. They stated they hope to run it a month earlier next year to insure warmer water and higher river levels.

Many thanks to all who took part, from what was said about the communications it was a good public relations exercise. The organizers are pleased with the overall result; the event raised \$25,000 for save the children. Without the assistance any event of this type would not be a success without the assistance of the many volunteers that took part.

Murray Quad Report.

Bruce - VK3FBNG.

More images from the 2014 Murray Quad.

