

Founded 1979 Incorporation No A6677 P.O. Box 692, Shepparton 3632



Shepparton & District Amateur Radio Club and Electronics Club

December 2024/January 2025 Newsletter

Next Meeting, Saturday February 1, at club room

SADARC COMMITTEE

President:- Peter Rentsch – VK3AXI

Vice-President:- Barrie

Halliday - VK3KBY

Secretary:- Rob Hose - VK3BLD

Treasurer:- Ian Saunders – VK3YYY

Membership Sec:- Ian

Saunders - VK3YYY

Assistant Secretary:- Peter Rentsch - VK3AXI

Webmaster Graeme Martin - VK3VSM and Ray Gardiner – VK3YNV

Hamfest Co-ordinator:- Peter Rentsch - VK3AXI

Newsletter editor: - Peter Simpson – VK3ASK

Technical Committee: Geoff VK3ZNA, Ray VK3YNV, Denys VK3ZYZ, Josh Gardiner, also power to co-opt.

To contact any member of the committee above, email committee@sadarc.org and specify who you wish to communicate with and the subject.

If you have items for the newsletter, forward to: newsletter@sadarc.org

Communications Manager (External Events): Darren Glasson (VK3HEN) – subject to confirmation.

Meetings the first Saturday of the month from **10 am** for Arduino training, plus informal chats and technical talks. A BBQ follows (a gold coin donation). Main meeting 1 pm (except January when no meeting occurs) at 360 Health Centre, 18 Channel Road (250 metres from Archer Street), Shepparton.

Variations in these times, days and location are normally notified in the preceding newsletter.

DISCLAIMER: - No guarantee is given as to the accuracy of information in this newsletter. E.
& O.E.

WARNING: - There is a danger of electrocution or injury when working on electrical/radio gear or working **at** heights doing antenna work. You do so at your own risk.

25/08/2022

VK3RGV repeaters and transmitter operating frequencies from Mt Wombat

53.725MHz (-1 MHz), In Service 146.65MHz (-600 kHz), In Service
438.2MHz (-7 MHz -D-Star), In Service 438.650MHz (-7 MHz 91.5 Hz
tone), In Service
438.9MHz (-7 MHz - DMR), In Service 439.775MHz (-5 MHz), Now back
in service, IRLP (node #6990)
476.475 MHz (+750 kHz) CB Repeater WBT03 Channels 3- 33, In Service
VK3RDS, 438.7625 MHz (-7 MHz DMR) Shepparton on test @ VK3YNV
QTH

The three following repeaters are not the clubs but are allied to the club in one way or another.

Mt Major VK3RDU, 146.850 MHz,
439.875MHz. Mt Bruno VK3RWC 147.325 MHz (-1.6 MHz 123Hz)

Access to most analogue repeaters is by sub-audible 123 Hz tone or noise/carrier mute (less sensitive). Your TX offset is shown in brackets

Club informal on air get togethers, all welcome. Club call sign

VK3SOL:

Wednesday- 2mx repeater 146.65 MHz 8.00pm.

3.63 MHz SSB ± interference 8.30pm,

Sunday – 2 mx repeater 146.65 MHz 2 pm & 8 pm

The Vintage Radio Club – 2 mx repeater 11 am

A number of semi-private HF skeds take place either daily or weekly, locally or further afield.

Website – www.sadarc.org or www.sadarc.org.au Face book Page – Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Direct Link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/481867453084459>

In this Issue

- **Next Club Meeting.**
- **Presidents Report**
- **Editors' comments.**
- **Bunnings Sausage sizzle fundraiser**
- **Xmas Function Pictures**
- **Soldering surface mount components, by Denys VK3ZYZ**

Next Meeting

The next SADARC meeting is held on Saturday February 1st, at our regular club rooms, 18 Channel Road Shepparton.

This is the club AGM, plus other discussions including the introduction of an Associate Membership.

The format for the day is as follows;

10am Arduino class with Denys, Ray and Josh.

12pm Our regular BBQ.

1pm Regular club meeting and AGM.

Note that all committee positions become vacant at this meeting and new offices are to be appointed.

A reminder that club membership renewal will be due at this meeting. A renewal form is attached to this newsletter.

Diary Dates

February 1st, 2025 Regular Meeting plus AGM.

March 1st, Regular club meeting at club rooms.

April 5th, Regular club meeting.

Presidents Report – January 2025

Karen and I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year. Speaking personally, we did and it was great to catch up with Karen's son and family from Singapore and my daughter and family from Perth. This was the first year for a long time that we have been able to meet with all Karen's Family and then all mine, including my parents who are 95 and 96 years young. I hope many others of you had the same opportunities that we did.

The weekend between Xmas and New Year saw some of our members work hard in the heat cooking sausages for our first Bunnings BBQ. From all the reports I received it was a successful day and raised some funds for the Clubs coffers. Thanks to all those who helped and especially to Ray who coordinated the day. Well done to the gents and the ladies who helped.

I hope everybody enjoyed our Christmas gathering at Noble Monks. Apart from the noise of the cooling fans which were required as the Air Con broke down the day before, I felt it was a good day. We had an excellent role up and lots of talking and sharing. Again, a great atmosphere in the Club the continues to go from strength to strength.

Enough of the past, we now need to get things happening for the New Year. We start off with our February meeting on the 1st followed immediately by our AGM. As this is our AGM it is an opportunity for those who may be interested in taking a position on the Committee. The Committee is always looking for new ideas and to continue to take our Club along the way we have been going plus grow further with creating more awareness in the Community about Amateur Radio and Electronics.

Also, as this is our AGM Subs are again now due. \$30.00 will give you a Membership so please have your money ready, on the day, or, you can pay online using the membership form which is downloadable from the SADARC Website and attached with this newsletter. On this form you will find the Clubs Bank

details for Direct Deposit. If you do pay by Direct Deposit, please help our Treasurer by referencing your call sign on the payment, as this is very important for our bookkeeping.

Also, can you all please when you pay give to the Treasurer a completed Membership Form. This helps us on the Committee especially when it comes to paying our insurance.

That's it for this month and I look forward to another great day on the 1st of February.

Cheers,

Peter Rentsch

VK3AXI

President

Editors Comments

Happy New Year to all our members, families and friends, hope you all had a great break and a relaxing time.

Our Xmas breakup was a great success and the Noble Monks restaurant turned out to be a great venue for our get together. The only down side was the noisy fans, to replace the aircon.

As usual our president did a great job with the presentations, congratulations to all. Some photos of the day are attached.

Over the break, many of our members, lead by Ray VK3YNV, spent a busy day organizing and running a sausage sizzle at Bunnings, from all reports a very successful day and congratulations to Ray and all the crew. Some photo's are also in this newsletter.

February is shaping up to be a busy meeting for the club, with the AGM, discussions about associate membership, plus plans to gain financial support for our antenna repairs at Mount Wombat.

Also, a reminder that membership fees are now due and a membership renewal form is attached with this newsletter.

That's it from me this Month, see you all on February 1st.

Peter Simpson

VK3ASK

Below some Photo's of our Xmas breakup at Noble Monks.





Bunnings Sausage Day

December 29, saw the club manning a sausage sizzle day at Bunnings Shepparton.

I understand this was a very successful day with a great day's takings, which will certainly help the clubs bank balance.

Thanks to Ray and all the crew for this great effort.

Below some pictures of the day.



Soldering Surface Mount Components

Once again Denys VK3YNV, has come up with an interesting item for our newsletter. This time he presents the various methods of soldering surface mount components.

Denys is certainly the expert in this area, ove to you Denys.

Surface Mount Soldering Hot Plate.

There are a number of ways to solder surface mount components to a circuit board. Mostly, I have used just a soldering iron, magnifier and tweezers. That works quite well, putting solder onto the pad at one end of the part, then placing it in position and melting that solder to allow sliding the part in place, than soldering the other end. I have made 100s of SMP PCBs that way.

Another method is to use a solder past screen, like a silk screen for T shirts but usually made from a stainless steel sheet, to apply solder paste on the pads, then place the parts onto the the solder past. Next, the whole PCB can be heated with hot air, being careful not to blow the parts off, or a putting the board into a reflow solder oven, or just laying the board onto a heated bed.

My latest test was the heated bed method. As I did not have a solder paste screen, and it was only a test anyway, I just smeared the solder paste roughly over the pads, relying on the surface tension when it melts to have solder in just the correct places. The resistors were placed in position and the board was then laid onto my hot bed.

That is the interesting part. The hot bed is just an old steam iron. I was intending to modify it to have the iron reach the required temperature, but found it did anyway. That strikes me a pretty hot for an iron, but now I have a surface mount hot soldering plate :)



It is pretty neat to see the surface tension of the melting solder drag the parts into alignment, mostly.

Denys.
VK3ZYZ