

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



**Shepparton & District Amateur Radio Club
and Electronics Club**

February 2025 Newsletter

Next Meeting, Saturday March 1, at club room

SADARC COMMITTEE

President – Graeme Martin, - VK3VSM

Vice-President: - Peter Rentsch – VK3AXI

Secretary: - Rob Hose - VK3BLD plus Adam Cleary - VK3UU as scribe

Treasurer and Membership – Ian Saunders – VK3YYY

Webmasters - Graeme Martin - VK3VSM and Ray Gardiner – VK3YNV

Hamfest Co-ordinator: - Peter Rentsch - VK3AXI

Newsletter editor and Publicity - 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, Sunday.

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>

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- **WIA Convention in Bendigo**
- **2025 Bunnings fund raising sausage sizzle.**

Next Meeting

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

The format for the day is as follows;

10am Arduino class with Denys, Ray and Josh.

12pm Our regular BBQ, with gold coin donation.

1pm Regular club meeting, plus displays of current projects.

A reminder that club membership renewal was due as of February 1st.

Diary Dates

March 1st, Regular club meeting at club rooms.

April 5th, Regular club meeting.

May 3rd, Regular club meeting.

September 14, 2025 Hamfest

November 23rd, Bunnings fund raising day.

Editors Comments

I am sure all readers will find plenty of reading in this months newsletter.

We have 2 Presidents reports, the minutes of the general meeting, the minutes of the AGM, some initial details on a 2025 Bunnings sausage sizzle fundraiser, plus a few more articles I am sure you will find interesting.

In starting my report, I would like to congratulate Graeme Martin, VK3VSM, for taking on the role as our new president. He has tough shoes to fill after 12 years of dedicated service by Peter Rentsch, VK3AXI, but I am sure Graeme is up to the task and will do a wonderful job.

Thanks, Peter, for everything you have done for the club and it is pleasing that you are going to stay on as our Vice President.

After some initial concerns about a venue for our last meeting, Denys VK3ZYZ, quickly arranged for us to meet at the Mooroopna Hall.

We had a lively and informative meeting with plenty of discussion about possible changes to our meeting format and also the plans being put into place to accept associate members into the club, who could access the club forum and download technical articles. The details regarding both of these topics can be found in the minutes below.

On the technical side, Denys VK3ZYZ had his usual display of Arduino projects related to amateur radio.

Our regular contributor Bill Crocker, has spent many hours constructing a replica of a crane, complete with pulleys and he did show how to actually hoist up objects.

What an amazing work of art and it once again demonstrates the skills and dedication put in by Bill.

A photo of Bill's latest can be found in this newsletter.

So that is all from me this Month, see you all at our club rooms on March 1st.

Peter Simpson

VK3ASK

Presidents Report – February 2025

I am truly honoured to accept the role of President of the Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club. This club has a rich 46-year history of bringing together passionate individuals who share a love for radio communications and electronics. It was this passion that brought together this club and our repeater up on Mount Wombat that helps connect many people across this part of Vic.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to Peter Rentsch for his incredible dedication in shaping the club into what it is today. A big thanks to our returning committee members, our club thrives because of the dedication of volunteer committee members, whose hard work behind the scenes keeps everything running smoothly and ensures we continue to grow. I also want to acknowledge past committees for their hard work, as well as every member whose knowledge, enthusiasm, and commitment make this such a fantastic group to be part of.

As we move forward, I hope to build on the strong foundation laid by previous committees, welcome new members into our ranks, and continue promoting amateur radio as both a valuable technical skill and a means of connecting people near and far.

Despite the debacle with the insect spraying throwing a spanner in the works, we managed to pull together our first meeting of the year along with the AGM. A big thank you to Denys VK3ZYZ and Mike VK3FMAA for securing the use of the Mooroopna Hall for the day. It was great to see the work that has gone into restoring the hall after the devastating floods.

I manned the clubrooms for 40 minutes, and I believe only one person had to be redirected to the new location. While waiting, I had an interesting conversation with Anthony from BestPestie about the chemicals used, their effects on insects, and an informative discussion about termites.

I'd like to extend a warm welcome to our new members, Scott Chaple and Peter Glasson, and congratulate Peter Roberts on passing his foundation exam after a training session at Geoff Russel's shack.

Thank you all for your trust and support—I look forward to working with you to make this another great year for the club. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or comments.

Regards

Graeme Martin

VK3VSM

Outgoing Presidents Report February 2025

Another month has gone by and it is nearly time for our next meeting. Let us hope that we do not have the same situation that we had last meeting where at the last minute we changed venue. Thanks to Denys and his quick thinking we were able to secure the Hall in Mooroopna that worked out well. Thanks to all those who attended both the regular meeting and the AGM.

There is not much for me to report this time as Graeme has now taken over and I congratulate him on his election as President. Graeme will do a very good job as President, and he has my full support. It was time for a change, some new ideas, a President from the Shepparton community which will be very beneficial to the Club. Living an hour away removes you from what is happening in Shepparton and the other issue is you do not get to meet and socialise with locals. Graeme is involved in the Community in other ways apart from Amateur Radio and this will be a great help in accomplishing our goals.

I know Graeme has already got the ball rolling on a couple of things, but I will leave that up to him to explain when he is ready. I ask that you give Graeme your full support as you did me and we as a Club will continue to grow and introduce more people to Amateur Radio.

Don't forget subs are now due and the membership form can be found on the Club's Forum site.

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

Cheers,

Peter Rentsch
VK3AXI
Vice President

SADARC February 2025 General Meeting

1. Meeting opened 13:00
2. Peter 3AXI welcomed all attendees
3. Guests: Peter Glasson (new Foundation) and Scott (new member)
4. Apologies. 3KFM, 3AFD, 3EB, 3NQS, Jacek, 3KBY, Josh and Colin.

Reports

5. Treasurers report. The Financial report for year end was presented. Noted was the great success of the Bunnings BBQ held between Christmas and New Year with a profit of \$1606.

Proposed Peter 3ASK seconded Ian 3YYY. Carried

6. Technical report:

Ray 3YNV reported that IRL is down and was removed to change the PCU. The earthing upgrades made are also working well.

AllStar is being setup on a 70cm node. The repeater operations will be enhanced with Echolink and will also be accessible by those with AllStar nodes. Colin has offered to assist with the AllStar node.

Tech report proposed by Ray 3YNV and seconded by Geoff 3ZNA. All carried.

7. Correspondence. There was no inbound or outbound correspondence for the period.

8. Newsletter. The newsletter was received by all. Stevo made comment about his work in SWL'ing. The inclusion of SWL section on the forum was discussed.
9. General Business
10. Lyn Champness has sent some of Rodney's excellent books for sale. Price is a\$10 each. Peter 3ASK will put an ad for these in the Newsletter.
11. Hamfest. It was noted to add out Hamfest date to the 'Rosebud' list managed by FAMPARC. The date confirmed for the 2025 event was the second Sunday in September. A vote for this date was proposed by Peter 3ASK and seconded by Denys 3ZYZ. Carried unanimously.
12. It was noted that BARAC is hosting the WIA conference in May. The discussion around offering help to BARAC for the event was made. Kevin proposed a vote that the Committee offers BARAC our assistance for the event. Seconded by Ray 3YNV. Carried.
13. New member. Peter 3AXI introduced Scott to the club. The discussion around errant CB'ers causing problems and the lack of real action by ACMA was also discussed. The location of the offender is known by formal action is beyond our control.
14. Grants. Grants do come up now and then. Peter 3ASK and Adam 3UU have offered to write and submit grants when they become available. It was noted by Peter that the Bendigo and Adelaide Community Bank grants scheme has been terminated so one less option available.
15. Bunnings Bar Be Que. Ray indicated that we have received an Email from Sarah from Bunnings to invite us to an Information Session to be held by Bunnings for future BBQ events. Ray and Graeme volunteered to attend and report at the March meeting.
16. Meeting closed 13:55pm

SADARC 2025 AGM Minutes, held on February 1st.

1. Meeting opened 2:20pm

2. Apologies 3KFM, 3AFD, 3EB, 3NQS, Jacek, 3KBY, Josh, Colin
3. Minutes of the last AGM. No issues were arising from the minutes.

Ian 3YYY proposed to accept the minutes.

Seconded Adam 3UU

All carried

4. Reports:

- i. President's report read and asked for vote

Proposed Peter 3AXI

Seconded Stevo 3JSD

All carried

- ii. Treasurers Report

We have 49 members

Finances: Carry forward from 2023:	\$11,449.35
Income:	\$ 7,879.26
Outgoing:	\$ 7,248.96
Balance at close of 2024	\$12,079.69

Proposed: Ian 3YYY

Seconded: Alan 3FALN

All carried

5. Technical report. The Technical report at the general meeting was accepted for this meeting (same day).
6. Newsletter. The Newsletter report at the general meeting was accepted for this meeting (same day).
7. Website. The website is working well with 24 members now registered for access to the site.
8. Membership. A great discussion was had around growing our membership. Ray indicated that 100+ people per week (outside the club) have been applying for access to the website. We noted this as a great reference that the website is really working and is providing potential members. This led to a discussion around a possible Associate membership

status that could accommodate the website access and as an entry to full membership. It was noted by several of our members of their membership of associated amateur activity around the world and the success of such engagements. This could provide valuable revenue to the club but would require work to the website to accommodate a payment service (PayPal?) to support new member categories such as 'forum only'. To assist in 'filtering' access a suggestion was to verify and limit to licenced amateurs. A suggested fee structure was \$10. The next step is for the committee to discuss this further to provide a way ahead.

Proposed: Ray 3YNV

Seconded: Adam 3UU

Other businessa

9. The subject of meetings and what occurs at each meeting. Currently we have our 10am start and a full meeting with all members after the lunch. This meeting is predominantly activities that are managed by the Committee and as a courtesy all members are invited to attend. As this has always been extended so that all can have a say and get involved when voting happens all are asked to vote. It was noted that many members felt the direction inclusive of the meeting was too long and the discussions around shortening or separating into 'club' and 'committee' sections of the day to allow members to decide if they stay on or not. It was noted that a person does not have to stay and there is no compulsion to stay if they want. However, the structure of this still requires some further discussion as to providing other meeting elements that suit the various activities inside the club (i.e. Technical team, relevant discussions etc). A vote was had at this point as to changing to suit changing the timing and structure.

The proposal was to leave at the status quo. The vote was passed with a majority but noting 3 against.

10. Emergency Communications system.

A discussion around weather we should build and provide an Emergency communications system of our own (i.e. outside of WICEN) for the area covered by our club. As a result, Geoff 3ZNA is to put together a document for presentation at the March meeting.

Proposed Peter 3ASK seconded Peter 3AXI

11. Clubrooms.

The search for our own club rooms is still ongoing. Geoff 3ZNA and Peter 3AXI will seek out a contact at the council for additional opportunities.

Our current relationship with the existing location will carry forward.

12. Elections.

The President declared all positions vacant at 15:15pm.

Peter 3AXI indicated that after many years of service that he would stand down as President of SADARC this year. Barrie Halliday will also step down as Vice President due to ill health. We all wish both the best for all their help and guidance.

- i. President: Graeme 3VSM was nominated for the position of President.

Graeme was unanimously accepted as the new President. Congratulations Graeme and we look forward to your tenure as President.

- ii. Secretary:

Rob Hose offered his continuing services as Secretary however assistance would be required. Adam 3UU offered to assist during the year as Secretary Scribe.

Rob and Adam were nominated by Adam 3UU and seconded by Geoff 3ZNA.

They were unanimously accepted for these positions.

- iii. Treasurer:

Ian 3YYY was asked to continue to work as Treasurer and Membership manager for the club.

Ian was nominated by Rob 3BLD and seconded by Geoff 3ZNA. Ian was elected unanimously.

iv. Vice President: As Barrie has retired Peter 3AXI to act as the Vice President and provide valuable guidance to Graeme.

v. Technical Committee:

vi. The Technical committee was proposed to contain Ray 3YNV, Josh, Geoff 3ZNA, and Denys 3ZYZ. The Technical committee also has power to co-opt for assistance where required.

All were unanimously accepted.

vii. Newsletter:

Peter 3ASK has kindly agreed to continue as Newsletter editor.

viii. Publicity officer

Peter 3ASK has kindly agreed to be the Publicity officer.

ix. Webmaster(s)

Currently Graeme and Ray operate as our webmasters and have agreed to continue on in that role.

Meeting closed 15:35

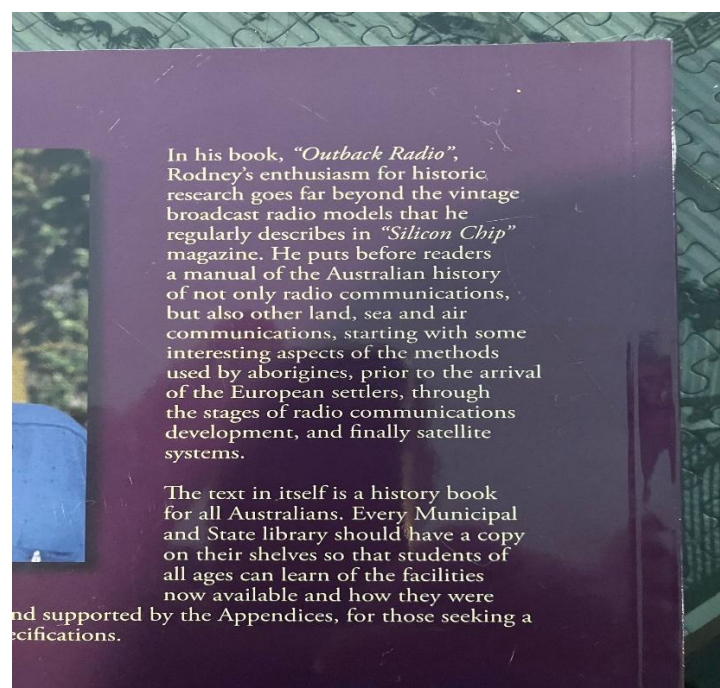
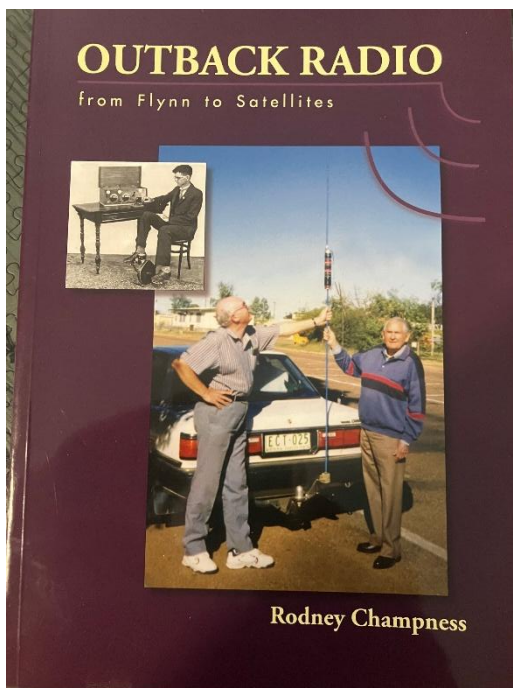
Outback Radio Book by Rodney Champness. For sale \$10.00

The club is selling copies of the book *Outback Radio*, written by the late Rodney Champness.

This is a great read and is being sold for \$10.00 per copy.

For further details, see Ray Gardiner VK3YNV

Outback Radio is a 186 page A4 size book complete with a total of 92 diagrams, pictures and circuits. Up until now there has been no book published which has traced the history of the development of communications (particularly radio communications) in outback Australia. The book shows the social, educational, medical and business uses to which radio communications have been put to in the outback. The story describes how the equipment came to be developed by Traeger and others to meet the impossible technical requirements of the 1920s. Radio was in its infancy at that time. The progressive improvements in radio equipment design and capabilities are explored through the book and end up with the use of satellite phone communications.





Bendigo Technology Festival



Bendigo
Amateur Radio
& Electronics Club

"Committed to
Technological Literacy
and Community Service"



Sunday
4th May
2025

A celebration
of Technology

- Making
- Building
- Learning

BAREC hosts the WIA Annual Meeting & Technology Festival.

Below a message from: Neil Patton VK3ZVX, President of the Bendigo Amateur Radio & Electronics Club (BAREC).

Note that some of our members are planning to attend this festival.

Over to Neil.

Hello Everyone

BAREC is proud to announce that the WIA has selected Bendigo for its Annual General Meeting, 3rd-5th May 2025.

At the request of the WIA board, and to coincide with the AGM, BAREC will be hosting an Amateur Radio and Technology Festival at the Bendigo Exhibition Centre.

This vast space will be available for all manner of displays, demonstrations, car-boot sales and activities.

BAREC is also inviting the participation of technology-focussed groups who use radio and/or electronics as part of their key activities.

A cordial invitation is extended to all operators, clubs, and groups to join us in celebrating Amateur Radio and complementary technologies within our own community and presenting technological literacy and STEM learning to the wider public.

Further details will be posted on the Hamfests Australasia Facebook page, published in WIA media, and made available on our website (www.barec.net.au) as they become confirmed.

Please note that we are also seeking presenters wishing to share their expert or specialized knowledge in the various field of Amateur Radio.

If this is you, please express your interest to secretary@barec.net.au

73's from BAREC

Neil A Patton

VK3ZVX

President BAREC

2025 Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser Day.

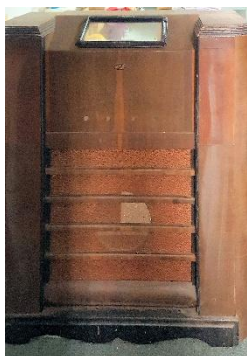
Ray VK3YNV, and our President Graems VK3VSM, have attended a meeting with the organisers of the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle fundraisers in Shepparton.

As an outcome from this meeting, they have negotiated the date of Sunday November 23rd, for our next Bunnings fundraiser.

There is plenty of time to plan this function and it will not doubt get lots of discussion at meetings, but certainly a date to put in your diary for later in the year.

Restoration of the Howard Vintage Radio by Marc Chick “Vintage Radio Club”

Marc Chick carried out the repair of this Howard Radio for Jacket VK3JTS, which I did plan to publish in this newsletter, but I will hold this over for next Month.



The Bill Crocker work of art as he displayed at our last meeting

