



BARG News

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group

Inc. #6953T

September

Monthly Newsletter

Next Meeting

Friday 28th August 2015 @ 7.30pm

At the B.A.R.G. Club House, Ballarat Airport

All Welcome



Contacting us

You can write to the club at the address below, or e-mail the secretary

The Secretary : B.A.R.G. Inc.
Box 1261
Mail Centre
Ballarat. Vic. 3354

Or E-Mail : vk3bml@barg.org.au

We're on the web
www.barg.org.au

A WORD FROM THE COMMITTEE

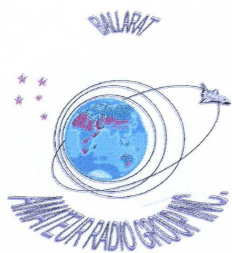
The AGM will be held on Friday, August 28th, the Committee wishes to advertise this important event and would ask members to consider nominating themselves for one of the various positions which need to be filled. The club is run by the members. If none of the members are willing or able to take up the executive roles the club will not be able to run. The roles are not onerous, and there's plenty of support. So please do consider taking on a role, even if it's only for a single term.

There's a nomination form here. If filling that in and sending it back is a challenge, an email nominating yourself for a role to the secretary will work also. (Nominee's and seconders can be sorted out at the AGM)

Also a reminder that subs are again due. They can be paid at a meeting night or paid direct deposit to our bank. Subs have remained at \$40 individuals and \$50 Family. Great value really.

The Bendigo Bank.
Acc title: BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP.
BBS 633-000.
ACC. No 142591247.

Please include name and call sign to be included when deposit made so we can track it down and reply with a receipt.



B.A.R.G. Inc. NOMINATION FORM

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group—Inc # 6953T

DATE: _____

I wish to Nominate _____ CALL: _____

For the position of _____ of BARG Inc.

Nominated by: _____ and _____

Nomination accepted by: (Nominee) _____

Regards, Ian Mc - VK3AXH

A Word From The Editor

Welcome to the September edition of the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group newsletter.

As always, a big thank-you to all those who've contributed again to this edition of the news letter. Again there's contributions from Ian, AXH, Craig, CMC. And there's a number of jokes from the mysterious Salguod, who's the contributor of all the jokes.

The newsletter would be pretty thin with out input from the club, so if you see or hear something of interest, drop me a line. Don't worry about formatting or type of media. I can work with you to sort that out.

It's the AGM at the next meeting. I'm putting myself forward as newsletter editor. You can check to see who's signed this section next issue to find out if I got the gig. There's a number of other roles that help keep the club running and you don't have to be on the committee to help out. (Though we do need a full committee too.)

Malcolm

VK3MEL

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Hamvention

Sunday the 25th of October

Ballarat Greyhound Racing Club

Corner of Rubicon and Sutton Streets, Ballarat. 3350. (next to the Trotting Track)

- * Doors open at 10:00 am.
- * Entry is \$6.00 per person and cost of hiring a table \$10 each (1.8m)
- * There will be Trade displays from the usual traders.
- * The usual and popular pre-loved equipment displays and sales.
(you never know what you may find!!.)
- * Food and drinks will be available on the premises.

FOR INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS CONTACT:

Hamvention Coordinator: Roger VK3ADE Email To: hamvention2014@barg.org.au



VHF and Above for August 2015

Whilst the weather has been somewhat cold it hasn't stopped the enthusiasm of some members in regard to this area of operation.

Each morning activity can be found on the lower part of the 2m band ie 144.1 where activity begins after 8am local time and lasts for around 45 minutes. Some locals John VK3AIG, Craig VK3KG, David VK3KQT and Ian VK3AXH can be heard chatting to stations both east and west of Ballarat and as far as Mt Gambier. These enthusiasts can't wait for the warmer weather propagation to lift the distances well into VK5 and VK6.

In addition there is some progress with some ex commercial 3.4GHz equipment made available due to the NBN expansion program. It's hope that when this equipment is going it will be use to demonstrate the fun that can be had on the microwave bands so watch this space.

Ian VK3AXH has been busy on both 2m and 1296 MHz EME with a contact believed to be the first on 2m between TF3CY in Iceland and VK.

Ian addition some great 1296 MHz EME contacts using digital and CW into Europe especially with OK1KIR Czech Republic where reports of 559 were sent and received by both stations. These feats are not hard to achieve. Graham VK3XDK in Melbourne is using a 1.7m dish and 30 watts and has had several 1296 EME contacts into Europe with some of the larger stations. If you are looking for a challenge why not think about having a go either on 2m or 1296MHz. There are plenty of single yagi stations in VK running around 100 watts having plenty of fun with this activity.

73, Ian – VK3AXH

Construction Group

BARG has a construction group meeting on the first Monday of each month at the club rooms. This provides is an opportunity for members to bring along their projects to show what they have been doing or to get some advice from other members.



At present we have commenced construction of yagi's for 2m and 70cm to be used as part of the remote base at the Club Rooms. If you would like to be involved in this project or have some other project to undertake then join in this activity by attending.

Round the Web

Power Pole Distribution Box

Waverley Amateur Radio Society have released a Power Pole Distribution Box project. From the website:

This project is a DC distribution box using Anderson Powerpoles, the now almost universal method of connecting 12v equipment.

The features of the box are as follows:

1. One input connector, may be replaced by a direct cable input.
2. 6 outputs.
3. Each output is fused with a standard blade fuse.
4. Each fuse has a LED indicator under it to indicate a fuse failed condition.
5. Indicator LED to indicate power present and correct polarity. Green = Power available at correct polarity. Red = Power available but incorrect polarity.
6. Designed to fit inside standard UB5 jiffy box (approx 80x50x30mm).
7. All components mounted on double sided PCB with double thickness tracks (2oz copper) and all plated through holes. PCB is also RoHS compliant.



At only \$35 plus postage it might just be a useful addition to the shack.

<http://vk2bv.org/home/projects/powerpole-distribution-box/>

Nine Important Facts To Remember As We Grow Older

- #9 Death is the number 1 killer in the world.
- #8 Life is sexually transmitted.
- #7 Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
- #6 Men have 2 motivations: hunger and hanky panky, and they can't tell them apart. If you see a gleam in his eyes, make him a sandwich.
- #5 Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.
- #4 Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.
- #3 All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
- #2 In the 60s, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.
- #1 Life is like a jar of jalapeno peppers. What you do today might burn your bum tomorrow.



Salguod

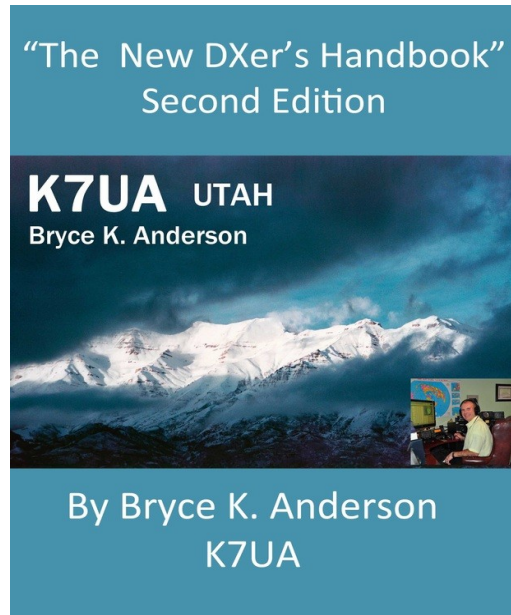
DX Handbook

Bryce Anderson, K7UA, has released a 2nd edition of his popular DX Handbook. The forward probably describes it best:

In 2010 I wrote the first edition of this handbook for new members of the Utah DX Association. It was intended to give them something that would be easy to understand yet would quickly teach them the basic skills of successful Dxing that took me years to discover on my own. Now in hindsight it all seems so simple. DXing can become a lifelong passion and is a lot of fun! It offers opportunities for personal growth in a wide variety of areas: geography, engineering, science, language skills and many more. It also offers a competitive outlet for those who are so inclined. And best of all, through DXing I have made many new friends all over the world!

To my pleasant surprise this primer has gained an international readership and is now available in several languages! The first edition has become somewhat outdated and was never written for a broad audience. I have attempted to remedy both of those issues here in the second edition. I am honored by the recognition that I have been given. Wherever you are, I hope that you will enjoy this handbook and that it will help you gain some new skills. I truly hope that it will give a running start to those new to our ranks. Nothing would please me more than to learn that I have helped a new generation of young DXers get started.

The book is available from a number of places, or you can download the pdf version for free from Bryces website, <http://www.k7ua.com/> . Now that's a price point that's hard to beat.



CFA Select New Digital Scanner

A new digital scanner has been selected to replace existing listening sets at CFA brigades, with an order now placed with the supplier. The Uniden UB436HP-ES digital scanner was selected after an exhaustive 18-month selection process.

The scanner was subjected to a thorough technical testing process before samples of the scanner were provided to VFBV representatives across the state for field trials.

After considerable consultation between the CFA Evaluation Team and the VFBV representatives, the Uniden scanner was evaluated as being the superior product offered during the tender process.

The rigorous selection process has revealed that the selected digital scanner is the best product currently available and has features that will enable it to be used with future developments in CFA's radios including transition to P25 Phase 2.

The new digital scanner will be delivered pre-programmed with the current CFA/DELWP radio channel plan. These scanners are capable of receiving analogue and digital radio traffic and meet all of CFA's technical requirements for a digital scanner.

All the details are here: <http://news.cfa.vic.gov.au/news/new-digital-scanner-selected.html>



Craig, VK3CMC.

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73 Craig. VK3KG

Obituary Notice

It is with regret we advise the amateur fraternity of the recent passing of George Lance VK3DS at almost 96 years of age. George was in the Airforce and was part of a group of amateurs that formed the Airforce net on HF until his station was dismantled a few years ago. George was a keen amateur operating on both HF and VHF from his prime location in Brittain Street behind Sovereign Hill. What a great spot for the higher bands. George had been a member of BARG for many years and will be sadly missed by those that knew him.

Vale George

Clancy @ The Overflow

I had written him a text which I'd sent,
hoping the next time he came in mobile coverage
he'd have time to say hello.
But I'd heard he'd lost his iPhone,
so I emailed him from my phone,
just addressed, on spec, as follows: clancy@theoverflow

And the answer redirected
Wasn't quite what I'd expected
And it wasn't from the shearing mate
Who'd answered once before.
His ISP provider wrote it
And verbatim I will quote it:
'This account has been suspended:
You won't hear from him no more.'

In my wild erratic fancy
Visions come to me of Clancy:
Out of reach of mobile coverage
Where the Western rivers flow.
Instead of tapping on the small screen,
He'd be camping by the tall green
River gums a pleasure
That the town folk never know.

Well, the bush has friends to meet him
But the rest of us can't greet him:
Out there, even Telstra's network
Doesn't give you any bars.
He can't blog the vision splendid
Of the sunlit plains extended
Or tweet the wondrous glory
Of the everlasting stars.

I am sitting at the keyboard
And I'm too stressed out to be bored
As I answer all the emails
By the deadlines they contain
While my screen fills with promotions
For 'Viagra' and strange potions
And announcements of the million-dollar
Prizes I can claim.

But the looming deadlines haunt me
And their harrying senders taunt me
That they need response this evening
For tomorrow is too late!
But their texts, too quickly ended,
Often can't be comprehended
For their writers have no time to think
They have no time to wait.

And I sometimes rather fancy
That I'd like to trade with Clancy:

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GIVER THESE QUESTIONS SOME THOUGHT

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why is it that people say they 'slept like a baby' when babies wake up like every two hours?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They're going to see you naked anyway...

Why is 'bra' singular and 'panties' plural?

Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?

Do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?

Why did you just try singing the two songs above?

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take

Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they know there is not enough money?

Why do they use sterilized needles for death by lethal injection?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Why is it that no matter what color bubble bath you use the bubbles are always white?

Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?

Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?

Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end of your first try?

How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures?

How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?

And my FAVORITE.....

The statistics on sanity is that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends -- if they're okay, then it's you.

salguod