



BARG News

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group
Inc. #6953T
February
Monthly Newsletter

Next Meeting
Friday @ 7:30pm, 28th February

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 1218
Mail Centre
Bakery Hill Vic. 3354

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

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

Presidents Report

Welcome to the February 2020 Newsletter. I know that this is late coming out again. I'm funding my work to be getting very busy, leaving little time to spend on the news letter each month.

At the meeting last night a calendar of activities was planned for the remainder of 2020. A number of the activities still need to be arranged, so no doubt there'll be changes as we go through the year.

There's lots of activity other than the Friday meetings. Coffee mornings are running every week. The 2m and 40m nets run every Tuesday and Thursday. And the construction nights run first Monday of every month.

John Moyle Field Day

The club is going to run a club station in the 6 hour section of the John Moyle Field day. We'll operate for the first six hours, starting midday on Saturday 21st March. That's the weekend before the March meeting.

We'll set up out at the airport, but won't be using the radio gear at the club.

I think we have enough HF gear. We could use a UHF station, in particular UHF antenna.

Setup will start around 10am. Depending on how keen we are, I'd expect we'll be all gone not too long after 7pm.

Friday, 31 January 2020	Done
Friday, 28 February 2020	2020 Planning
Friday, 27 March 2020	Ian AXH and Bob BNC present on LF and HF bands
Friday, 24 April 2020	Radio Quiz Night – Bob BNC
Saturday, 30 May 2020	BBQ Meeting with other local clubs invited.
Friday, 26 June 2020	Craig KG and Ben NRD present on their experiences setting up community broadcast stations
Friday, 31 July 2020	Tour / overview of BA Airport operations (Gordon), or Presentation on modern model train controllers (Roger ADE)
Friday, 28 August 2020	AGM
Friday, 25 September 2020	Wind-farm visit or presentation (Maybe Saturday)
Friday, 30 October 2020	Hamfest prep
Friday, 27 November 2020	To be determined
Thursday, 12 December 2019	Christmas Break-up

Thanks again to Ian, VK3AXH and Craig, VK3KG, for their submissions to the newsletter every month

Malcolm - VK3OAK



VK3OAK at Big Tottington Nature Conservation Reserve VKFF-2047

HF NET: Every Thursday Night at 8 pm on 3.608 MHz - VK3BML

DATE	NAME	CALL		NAME	CALL
27-Feb-20	Craig	VK3KG	or	Doug	VK3DRE
5-Mar-20	Doug	VK3DRE	or	David	VK3KQT
12-Mar-20	David	VK3KQT		IAN	VK3AXH
19-Mar-20	Ian	VK3AXH		MICK	VK3GGG
26-Mar-20	Mick	VK3GGG		CHRIS	VK3QY
2-Apr-20	Chris	VK3QY		PAUL	VK3TXR
9-Apr-20	Paul	VK3TXR		SCOTT	VK3MCL
16-Apr-20	Scott	VK3MCL		CRAIG	VK3KG
23-Apr-20	Craig	VK3KG		DOUG	VK3DRE
30-Apr-20	Doug	VK3DRE		DAVID	VK3KQT
7-May-20	David	VK3KQT		IAN	VK3AXH
14-May-20	Ian	VK3AXH		MICK	VK3GGG
21-May-20	Mick	VK3GGG		CHRIS	VK3QY
28-May-20	Chris	VK3QY		Paul	VK3TXR
4-Jun-20	Paul	VK3TXR		SCOTT	VK3MCL
11-Jun-20	Scott	VK3MCL		Craig	VK3KG
18-Jun-20	Craig	VK3KG		Doug	VK3DRE
25-Jun-20	Doug	VK3DRE		David	VK3KQT
2-Jul-20	David	VK3KQT		Ian	VK3AXH

Interested in a 50L RHEEM hot water service? This unit recently retired [and working] because of new solar installation at our local hall. Heater is 3.6KW. Would make a great HWS for out in the shack, man cave or in a weekend shanty.

Offers over \$60. Tenders close 30th March
Clear Hall Committee, 170 Old Station Rd,
Cape Clear VIC 3351, Australia.

I can deliver unit to central Ballarat if required or pick up at Cape Clear by arrangement.

Craig - VK3KG



VHF and Above for February 2020

Another month has passed and as usual the bands continue to show a mixed bag of propagation. We seem to get a run of good conditions and then just the opposite which can be quite frustrating at times.

Most mornings there is plenty of activity to be heard on the bottom end of 2mx with migration to 70cm and 23cm if conditions look favourable.

There have been a few of our members that are now operational on this segment of the band being Steve VK3HSJ putting out a fine signal from Burrumbeet, Ric VK3BEB who has now got a little more power and is in the process of putting up a horizontal yagi.

I'm pleased to report that the number of active stations from the club and the Ballarat area is now quite significant and provides many opportunities for some of the distant stations the opportunity of having contacts with a great number of stations. I believe that after our antenna making project is finalised and antenna's installed there will be even further activity on the 2mx and higher bands so well done to all those concerned.

A microwave test day was held on Sunday 23rd Feb where two local club members Craig VK3KG and Ian VK3AXH were joined by Gavin VK3HY from Melbourne on the East side of Mt Buninyong.

Contact were made with stations near Ceres, Port Arlington and Melbourne utilising 2.4G, 3.4G, 5.7G and although 10G was available no contacts were made on that band.

Below are a couple of pictures showing the set-up used By Craig VK3KG and Gavin VK3HY. It's planned to have these types of activities as it gives the opportunity of checking out equipment and comparing notes which is most useful.



Craig VK3KG with his 3.4G set-up



Gavin VK3HY with his setup on 2.4G, 3.4G and 5.7G

BARG Remote Base

For those that don't already know the club wishes to thank Roger VK3ADE for his efforts in producing a new software package for the VK3BML remote base. I had the pleasure of a contact with Roger on 2mx SSB and although it was across town the signal level was great. Roger then went on to work VK5TN in Mt Gambier and others as well. We may need to improve the path towards the West due to some obstructions

Antenna Building Project

Currently we are in the process of ordering the aluminium material and mounting blocks for this project. Whilst there is a delay in some of the items needed once all bits are in hand production will get underway soon.

Till next time 73 de VK3AXH



FT-857 in VK3KG's shack