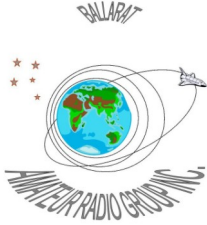


# BARG News



Official Newsletter of the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc. # 6953T  
ABN 44 247 200 143

**VOLUME 33 ISSUE 9 September 2010**



President: Craig Cook      VK3CMC  
Secretary: Doug Ellery      VK3FDRE  
Treasurer: Bill Wells      VK3PAL

**NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY September 24, 2010**  
At 7.30 pm

## 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](mailto:vk3bml@barg.org.au)

## BARG INC. LIFE MEMBERS

Gordon Cornell	VK3FGC
Norm D'Angri	VK3LBA
Harry Hekkema	VK3KGL
Kevin Hughes	VK3WN
Ian McDonald	VK3AXH
Phil Seddon	
Charlie Stewart	VK3DCS
Bob Terrill	VK3BNC

## CLUB INFORMATION

### REPEATERS and BEACON

#### D—STAR

<b>CALLSIGN:</b>	<b>MODE:</b>	<b>FREQUENCY:</b>	<b>TX OFFSET:</b>	<b>USER SETTINGS</b>
VK3RBA A	Digital Data	1298.700 MHz	Nil (half duplex)	URCALL: VK3RBA RPT1: VK3RBA A RPT2: not in use
VK3RBA B	Digital Voice	439.9875 MHz	-5.0 MHz	URCALL: CQCQCQ RPT1: VK3RBA B RPT2: not in use

VK3RBA (UHF)	(70 cm Voice Repeater (Uses CTCSS of 91.5 Hz to access))	439.275 MHz	Mt Buninyong
VK3RBA (VHF)	(2 m Voice Repeater)	146.750 MHz	Mt Buninyong
VK3RWA*	(2 m Voice Repeater) ( Uses CTCSS of 91.5 Hz to access)	147.100 MHz	Mt Ben Nevis
VK3RPC	(2 m Packet Repeater)	144.750 MHz	Mt Warrenheip
VK3RBU	(70 cm Voice Repeater)	438.475 MHz	Mt Hollowback
VK3RMB	(70 cm Beacon)	432.535 MHz	Mt Buninyong
VK3RBU-1	(2 m APRS Repeater)	145.175 MHz	Mt Hollowback

\* IRLP Node 6310 using VK3RWA

**CLUB e-mail** [vk3bml@barg.org.au](mailto:vk3bml@barg.org.au).

**CLUB NET** VK3BML 3.608+/- QRM Thursday Nights at 8 pm E.S.T (Summer & Winter)

**WIA Broadcast** Sunday 11.00 am via VK3RWA (IRLP Node 6310)

**NEWS ITEMS** Send to Harry VK3KGL

Or mail to Box 1261 Mail Centre BALLARAT 3354 or e-mail membermember.[member.vk3kgl@barg.org.au](mailto:member.vk3kgl@barg.org.au)

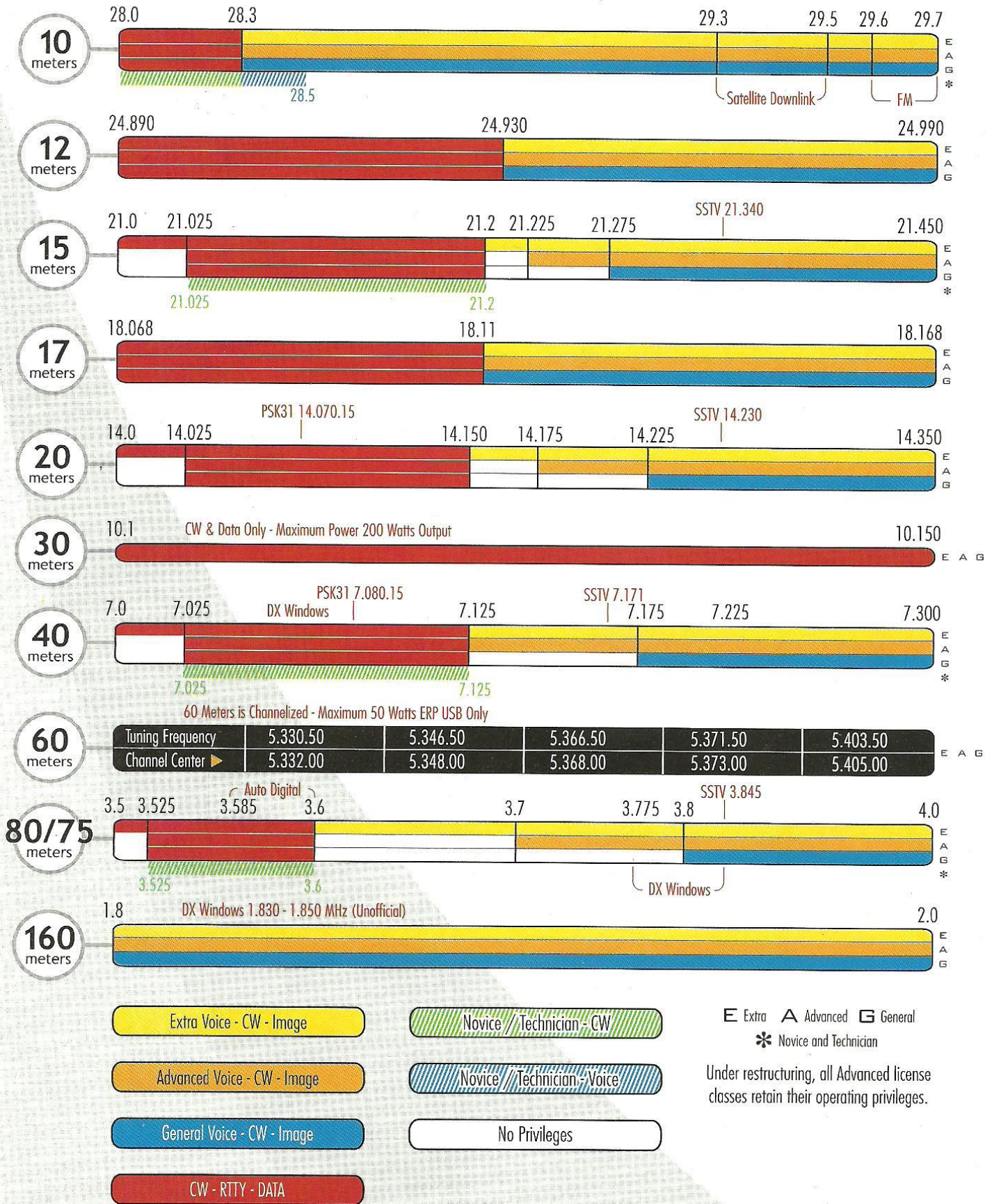
#### Broadcast Times and Dates on VK3RWA Repeater

Every Sunday at 11.00 am, WIA National News.

Every Monday night at 9.30 pm, ARRL News

Every Tuesday night at 9.30 pm, WIA National News Repeat

# U.S.A. Amateur Radio HF Band Plan



HF Band Plan developed with Gordon West, WB6NQA, Radio School, Inc. for exclusive use by Icom America, Inc.  
 ©2010 Icom America, Inc. The Icom logo is a registered trademark of Icom, Inc. All specifications and information is subject to change without notice or obligation. Radio displays simulated. 30453

## Solutions for connecting you...

- Ballarat's fastest broadband<sup>1</sup>
- Affordable Chatphone VoIP phone service
- Great value cable television



For commercial subscriptions call Heather James on 0427 007 893, For residential subscriptions call our Customer Service Centre on 1300 366 248.

### Terms and Conditions

Standard Neighbourhood Cable Terms and Conditions apply.<sup>1</sup> Speeds vary depending on a number of circumstances including network traffic, customer hardware, equipment and operating systems, download site traffic, download site bandwidth and size of file being downloaded.

## HEWITT & WHITTY Pty. Ltd.

Outdoor Power Equipment

Cnr Carrngham Road  
& Wiltshire Lane  
Ballarat VIC 3350

Phone: (03) 5336 1344  
Fax: (03) 5336 1027

**Damien Hennessy**

Sales / Spares

Mobile: 0417 313 811

Email: damo\_611@hotmail.com



# PLEASE NOTE !!!

NOV 26th



## Guest Speaker at our November meeting will be Peter Pollard World Traveler

BA'S AUDIO WORKSHOP PTY. LTD. ABN 59 007 427 778  
trading as

# BALLARAT

UTO SOUND SPECIALIST

and  
Radio Communications Systems Specialists  
Supply and Service

8 EASTWOOD ST., BALLARAT 3350  
Tel. 5333 4465 Fax. 5331 5851

# BJS

Ballarat Joinery Supplies

contemporary craftsmanship | traditional service

**Rob Knott**  
Director  
0417 389 356

P.O. Box 146N Ballarat VIC 3350  
Tel 5333 3008 Fax 5331 1411  
Email [rob@ballaratjoinerysupplies.com.au](mailto:rob@ballaratjoinerysupplies.com.au)  
Web [www.ballaratjoinerysupplies.com.au](http://www.ballaratjoinerysupplies.com.au)

## Anything FOR SALE or WANTED???

Why not send it to the Editor to be included in the next Newsletter.

Send to: Newsletter, BOX 1261, Mail Centre, Ballarat, 3354.

or

[member.vk3kgl@barg.org.au](mailto:member.vk3kgl@barg.org.au)

Next DEADLINE for articles is the 23rd of October!!!



## QST Report with Craig, VK3CMC

Content review of current QST in library

QST Review 2010-9 Sept



What to find in this months edition.

- P4/5 Index this month.
- P9 Editorial: Disaster Drills. The FCC permits amateurs to transmit messages for employers during emergency training.
- P30 Solar powered repeater for Emergency comms.
- P34 Portable antenna mast for the RV.
- P36 DC Power connector preferences.
- P38 Attic Antennas allow village living.
- P39 REVIEW. Yaesu FT2900R 2M FM Transceiver. [Upgrading from the FT2800M]
- P41 REVIEW> Software defined radio QSR1R.
- P47 New product, tilt plate for tiltover towers.
- P48 The Doctor looks at a range of questions.
- P50 Program looks at DX Cluster Client.
- P51 Getting on Air. Close look at the Terminated Folded Dipole antenna.
- P53 Hands on Radio. Ex 92. The 468 factor.
- P55 Hints and Kinks. Help for mobility impaired amateurs.
  - Squirrel and other pest controls.
  - Tarheel Screwdriver protection from elements
  - Button battery tabs
  - Weather proof coaxial cables.
- P57 Amateur Radio equipped ballon flight.
- P59 Visit the MFJ factory.
- P61 JOTA is on October 16-17 this year.
- P63 Surge in new US licences.
- P66 Emergency Comms. Gives an idea of small items should take on Field days or emergency activations. Worth reading.
- P69 History of theARRL ARES emergency communications since 1935.
- P72 Discovering D Star.
- P74 New Products:MFJ Baluns
  - AR2300 Comms Receiver
  - SF1010 portable sig gen. 1Hz-2.6Ghz.
  - Digital Comms conference 2009 on DVD
  - Depiction 1.2 Mapping software.
  - Line LOK rope cleats.
- P83 Hows DX gives some tips for beginners AND experts.
- P85 World above 50Mhz. A June to remember on VHF.
- P91 Eclectic Technology. HF packet is not dead –Network 105.
- P92 Vintage Radio. First Flying amateur radio in 1910
- P104 Hamspeak. Terminology used this month.

73 Craig  
VK3CMC



**Craig, VK3CMC**

# *Presidents Report*

Well the month has rolled around and we are looking at our Annual Hamvention activities which is the clubs main fundraiser for the coming twelve months. Apart from our “quick” raffles” run on a meeting night for a “mystery prize” the hamvention sets us up for a comfortable financial position for the upcoming year. Our meeting night raffle generally covers the suppers and towards our Christmas party. The end of year party will be held on Friday the 10th of December at the clubrooms so keep the date clear and let the secretary know if you and the XYL are coming so we can cater for it. A request has been made for Nicholas Claus to drop in and share a moment with us. More in the next newsletter. It was decided to maintain membership fees to \$40 for the coming year however with many costs rising we may need to look at other ways to maintain our profitability while still enjoying the actual amenity of the club. We will be running another Foundation training course and assessment on the weekend of the 12-13-14 Nov and can accept a max of five candidates. If you know someone who is interested then get them to contact me and make a booking. I have two others currently.

Finally a word re the club repeater: Due to problems on the VK3RBA site on Mt Buninyong earlier this year, we have obtained a new site and another repeater unit and are just awaiting the return of the clubs cavities from AR Vic to complete the installation. The new system will have a controller that allows for tone and DTMF access control which wasn't available before .

In the meantime we have use of the WICEN portable repeater VK3RWP [146.925 Neg offset] and I encourage members to use this as much as possible and to test out its coverage.

Initially this was set up at the club rooms but later moved to Mt Helen area and reports have varied initially while on test. Currently its using a horizontal antenna but it has been heard as far away as Colac. It should be on the hill before the hamvention.

I take this opportunity to publise the Project Construction competition for the hamvention Details are on the BARG web page and is open to all comers to encourage the building of electronic equipment. There are three categories and prize money is available. We will also have lucky door prizes by admission ticket.

Finally we will need some assistance on the day before the hamvention to pick up and layout tables for the hamvention as well as Sunday. . If you can be available then contact any committee member and lets know. On the day it would help if we can all assist traders as they arrive [bring a trolley cart] or direct traffic parking, gate entry control and pre ticket sales.

Until next month, 73 Craig VK3CMC

## FOR SALE

**6 meter vertical antenna, 50 - 54 MHz**

**Very good condition - \$100 or near offer.**

**Contact Charlie, VK3DCS - Ph. 53317425 - or email: [charleys@vic.chariot.net.au](mailto:charleys@vic.chariot.net.au)**

---

**A complete kit of parts to build a computer interface for PSK31.  
This kit can also be used for most digital modes and is priced at \$30**

**Contact Len, VK3BNY on 97407761**

**BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC. REG. NO. A 0006953T**

**CLUB REGISTER AND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION CHECK**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CALL SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_ WIA MEMBER?: YES  OR NO

SUBURB/TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_ PARTNER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE: \_\_\_\_\_ SUBSCRIPTION PAID: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIPT NO: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIPT DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

If the Club decides to publish a Club Directory,  
are you willing to have the above information included? YES  OR NO

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

---

**BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC. REG. NO. A 0006953T**

**CLUB REGISTER AND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION CHECK**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CALL SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_ WIA MEMBER?: YES  OR NO

SUBURB/TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_ PARTNER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE: \_\_\_\_\_ SUBSCRIPTION PAID: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIPT NO: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIPT DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

If the Club decides to publish a Club Directory,  
are you willing to have the above information included? YES  OR NO

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_



**Doug, VK3FDRE**

# The Secretary's Page

## **B.A.R.G. COMMITTEE MEETING – 18<sup>th</sup> August 2010.**

Meeting held at German Shepherd Dog Club, Morshead Park.

Craig VK3CMC opened the meeting at 1700

### **Present**

Craig VK3CMC, Bill VK3PAL, Doug VK3FDRE, Doug VK3VBA, Warren VK3FWJW, Jeff VK3PAP, Gordon VK3FGC.

### **Apologies**

John VK3CFH, Harry VK3KGL, Bob VK3BNC.

### **Minutes**

Of the previous committee meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010 had previously been circulated.

Moved FGC, Seconded VBA that they be accepted as an accurate record of that meeting, carried

### **Business Arising**

Application to council for Community Events Grant had been lodged, we would perhaps try to make a case for a Community Services Grant in the next round.

### **Correspondence**

Out – Grant Application

In – Acknowledgment of Grant Application.

Anonymous donation for Hamfest competition prizes.

### **General Business**

Bill proposed to revert to a paper based system for keeping financial records, he thought this would be adequate for our needs, and be simpler for him to manage.

Doug VBA had found out from his contact on Council, that we were not entitled to have the clubs' rubbish bins emptied unless we are willing to pay \$75.00 a year, our neighbour was happy to combine our recycling with his. It was decided by committee that we would arrange to take our rubbish away, and dispose of it ourselves.

Doug VBA commented that the immediate past presidents' details weren't shown on the club website list of Office-Bearers.

The security light at the club had ceased to operate, authority was given to Doug VBA, and Gordon FGC to investigate, and purchase replacement as required.



Committee voted to continue to serve supper at meetings, encourages people to stay around and socialise rather than going straight home.

Committee also voted to continue with the monthly raffles, helps pay for suppers, and allows membership fees to be set at a relatively low level. Anyone willing to donate raffle prizes should feel free to contact treasurer, or another committee member.

The WICEN repeater at the clubrooms had gone faulty (low output), and been taken to WICEN for repair. Gordon FGC reported that from a WICEN perspective there had been not a lot happening regarding the return of BARG repeaters to Mt Buninyong.

Our next door neighbour has seen people hanging around at night in the vicinity of the clubrooms.

When the weather improves a bit we need a working bee at the club, spout cleaning, general maintenance, stencilling of name on trestles, various other tasks.

Ian AXH is preparing the Beacons for their eventual return to operation when approval is granted to replace them on the tower at Mt Buninyong.

Warren suggested that in order for committee meetings to run more smoothly we could perhaps circulate an agenda beforehand. Agenda items should be in no later than the Monday before the meeting – CMC and FDRE to discuss.

Jeff PAP sought, and was given, approval to buy some hand tools to better equip the workshop, \$100.00 limit was suggested.

Christmas break-up will be the usual format. Santa may, or may not come.

Peter FPOL will be our guest speaker for the November meeting, it was suggested that this might be a good time to have a “Ladies Night”.

There were several suggestions for possible future club events, these included -

Visit to Watsonia Barracks and museum.

Visit to Talbot Museum and Historical radio display

Visit to GREC and / or GARC in Geelong.

Show and Tell at meetings.

Technical lectures, demonstrations on suitable subjects.

Talks on various general subjects – Steam Radio and Restored vehicles were both suggested.

Craig CMC had found quite a supply of award certificates at the clubrooms, he will discuss with Ernie DET, and the General membership how these might best be used.

The time being 1830, it was thought that the meeting had gone on for long enough, and it was closed by President Craig.

**Next Meeting Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 1930 hours.**