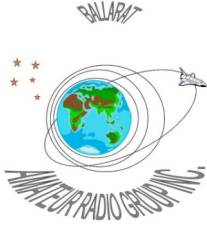


BARG News



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

VOLUME 33 ISSUE 3 MARCH 2010



President: Doug Raper VK3VBA
Secretary: Doug Ellery VK3FDRE
Treasurer: Peter Pollard VK3FPOL

NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY March 26, 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

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

CALLSIGN:	MODE:	FREQUENCY:	TX OFFSET:	USER SETTINGS
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 RPT!: 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.

CLUB NET VK3BML 3.610+/- 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

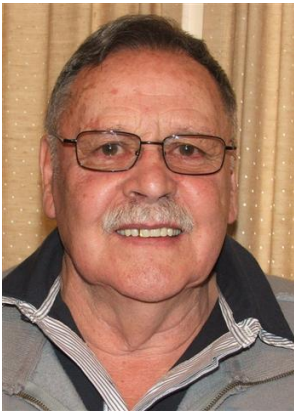
Or mail to Box 1261 Mail Centre BALLARAT 3354 or e-mail vk3kgl@barg.org.au

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



Doug, VK3VBA

Presidents Report

Well what a busy time we have had, lots of things started and completed, our storage shed finished and it now houses our trestle tables, bbq, motor mower and the bonus is that we have a back workshop that is now usable.

Bob BNC has done a great job on the workshop (inside) it is now in set up for candidates to sit for the practical exams plus for members to complete little jobs for themselves.

Peter FPOL has now completed the security on all 10 windows with the assistance of Warren FWJW, this job has used up many hours of Peters and Warrens time with excellent results.

On the suggestion of Bob BNC it was decided to have a morning tea at the club rooms and invite old members that we don't see at meetings, it proved to be a great success with a total of 14 people having a most enjoyable morning, many thanks to the ladies on the great selection of cakes.

So good was the morning tea that it would appear that it is now a monthly event, it was lovely to see Norm LBA and his wife Val (great cake Val) and of course Reg CAZ and Shirley, and not forgetting Bud who by the time you receive this newsletter Bud will have celebrated his 93 birthday (and looking good) great stuff Bud.

Our next meeting we will be privileged to have one of the participating amateurs who traveled to Norfolk Island on a DX expedition, I am sure this will be an interesting topic so a good attendance is expected.

Hopefully at our next meeting a report on the John Moyle field will be reported on, the event being held at our club rooms.

It has also been suggested by Steve SE that we revive the 2m scramble, we are looking for comment at our March meeting.

Also the AGM is creeping up on us all positions become vacant so give it some thought who might be interested in taking office in the various positions.

Its time to start looking through your shack and collecting all the goodies that require a new home and BARG will dispose of them at our annual George Fowler auction to be held on the 30th of May at the club rooms (it's a great fun day)

All the best for now

Doug vk3vba



QST Report with Craig, VK3CMC

Content review of current QST in library

QST Review 2010-2 FEB.



P4/5 The index.

P9 Where are the Sunspots.

P20 Interesting 2M "stealth loop antenna" in a bird house. W0es@hotmail.com

Also LINUX and Amateur radio. www.linuxjournal.com/issue/189now

P30 An SWR Null meter. Interesting project to construct and very simple.

P33 Using mechanical CW Keys.

P36 Curtain Zepp antenna on 160-80-40 Metres.

P40 Pickle with USB I/O.

P43 Why not give AM a Try?

P44 A Fan controller for MFJ4125 Power supply or even others.

P46 A Parasitic Lindenblad antenna for 70cm.

P49 REVIEW: SDR-IQ Software defined Receiver

P54 The Spider Pole 12M Mast.

P56 The Doctor is In. Covers a range of antenna phasing questions.

P58 Short Takes. GlenTek Radio to Ethernet Controllers.

P59 Hands On Radio. Exp #85 Circute Simulation, Complex parts.

P61 Hints & Kinks. QSL & Global Wizard software to send your QSL's

Help for the Low Vision Ham.

Determine bearing from Latitude & Longitude.

No holes mounting for new cars. Tweezer tools for testing SMD components. Rig static protection.

P64 Tuned up on Tuvalu. For the Dxr's or for a holiday location.

P67 5Z4EME Moonbounce from Deep Africa.

P69 Into flying Radio Controlled planes? Read this then !

P71 New products – Shortwave receivers. www.midnightscience.com

Well worth the search on their site. Look at the formulae calculators.

P72 Twitter & Ham radio. N7UN uses it as a spotting network. Learn some of the vocabulary used in the new language!

P73 Whats in the Jan/Feb edition of QEX magazine.

P74 The chinese 222-1 Receiver. A restoration story.

P77 The United Nations on air 4U1UN for a marathon.

P88 Eclectic Technology. Software Defined Radio on the cheap.

P91 DX from around the Globe.

P93 World above 50Mhz. Barriers to entry. What is stopping you getting up there into the Higher bands?

P97 Vintage radio. Displaying "Ernie Hite's Collection" See photos of some early radios of the day. Beautiful is big !

P100 STRAYS: Gaining her Extra class licence at 91years.

P101 QST index for Feb 1935, Feb 1960 and Feb 1985

P103 Hamspeak. Glossary of terms used in this months edition.

A good learning page for newcomers.

P157 List of Advertisers this month.

Solutions for connecting you...

- Ballarat's fastest broadband¹
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Some shots from our holiday in Western Australia



Theresa climbing 65 m 'firetower' tree



Longest straight road 146.6 km



Some ancient burned out trees in Pemberton



Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse



Picture around Esperance





Harry's Notice Board



FOR SALE, a must have!

**A ten foot fibre glass parabolic dish ex Tab.
Suitable for satellite tracking, eme or radio astronomy.
Comes with mounting frame, lna hardware and six inch mounting pole.
It is transportable.**

Bob, VK3BNC



Guest Speakers for this months meeting

Alan VK3XPD and Michael VK3KH

DXpedition from Norfolk Island



Doug, VK3FDRE

The Secretary's Page

Minutes of the BARG General Meeting – 26th February 2010

Doug VK3VBA opened the meeting at 1935.

Attendance

Doug VBA, Doug FDRE, Peter FPOL and approximately 20 other members.

Apologies

VK3CAZ, VK3HHK, VK3HRZ, VK3ASH, VK3KQB, VK3CJH, VK3FHUT, VK3UR, VK3AXH, VK3KGL.

Minutes of the Previous

(January) general meeting had been distributed previously, they were passed as being correct.
Moved Gordon VK3FGC, Bill VK3PAL - carried.

Business Arising

Nil

Secretary's Report

Correspondence In:

Neighborhood Cable notification of payment.
Invoice from Council for room rent.
QST magazine
Invoice for power sockets from Wiltronics.

Correspondence Out:

Letter to Midland Radio Club re non-participation in intra-club BBQ at Laanacoorie.

Moved Bob VK3BNC, Warren VK3FWJW that all correspondence be accepted – Carried.

Other Reports / General Business

President - Doug VK3VBA Reported that Brian VK3KQB was recovering from his operation, and was able to walk with assistance.

Doug also presented membership badges to Charles VK3FCSC, Jim VK3FJSA and Darren VK3FDPM.

Kyneton Hamfest had been enjoyed by those who attended, although it was generally thought that ours was better (fair to say that I for one would have been disappointed if this was not the case).

The new shed had been completed, and surplus items had been relocated from the workshop to the storage shed.

The caretaker of the airport buildings is arranging to have our building repainted shortly, probably cream and grey.

Radio Modernisation – David VK3UR. David had been going to give a report to the meeting regarding the current state of play, and what still remains to be completed. Unfortunately David was unable to attend on the night.

Bob VK3BNC – New power outlets had been installed in the radio rooms and the workshop had been re-organised, cleaned and tidied. The daytime get-together of members had been organised for the 9th of March, invitations had been sent out, and it was expected that quite a lot would attend.

Peter VK3FPOL and Warren VK3FWJW Had been busy extending the window frames in preparation for installing security mesh, many hours have been spent on this project, and there is still a lot required.

Doug VK3VBA - Presented Bob and Peter with framed certificates on behalf of the members as a token of appreciation for their efforts, we all need to remember that we rely on this extra work that some members put in, and help out whenever we are able.

Clem VK3BVI - HF net on Thursday night has been well supported, operated on a rotational basis by Clem, Reg VK3CAZ, and Craig VK3CMC. While conditions on 80 metres are not always good there are typically around 12 participants, John VK1CJ is a regular. Ian VK3CIS commented on the 2 metre net on Monday nights.

Wicen etc – Gordon FGC - There now appears to be no objection from the police to having repeater equipment on site at Mount Buninyong, it is hoped that the equipment will be returned to service soon, Steve VK3SE asked if relocating the equipment to another site had been considered, answer was in the negative, and that this would be a very difficult option. Craig CMC said that the CFA had also their antennas removed at some locations.

Bob VK3NBV – Next dining night Little Hard Hills Hotel, this had been a really good night the last time the group was there.

Peter VK3FPOL – Roger VK3ADE had shown Peter how to update the membership list, and addresses on the mail server, Peter will document the process so that selected members can perform these tasks should the need arise.

John VK3AIG – Asked if there could be an information session on how to set up and use the remote access facility on the club radio station at some time, this would be a good idea, and of assistance to those who are unable to put up antennas, or cannot operate their own station for some reason. It would also mean that the club radio would be used much more than it currently is, largely a wasted resource at present.

Hamvention Committee – “Volunteers” were sought for this, committee for 2010 will be VK3CMC, VK3FWJW, VK3FDRE, VK3NBV, VK3VBA and VK3CFH.

Doug VK3FDRE – Rotary Club Raffle, had been a disappointing result for us this year, out of the 250 tickets obtained, only 103 had been sold, return to the club \$164.80 rather than the \$400.00 we had expected.

Uniting Care Bus – Due to Uniting Care now stating that the driver of the bus would be held responsible for the insurance excess to repair any damage sustained while it was on loan, it was thought that the club should accept this liability rather than the driver, the following motion was proposed by Gordon VK3FGC, seconded by Craig VK3CMC, and carried unanimously by those members present.

“In the event of any claim being made against the driver for damage sustained when the bus is being used by BARG, the club will accept the liability to pay the excess up to the limit of \$500.”

John Moyle Memorial Field Day – Regrettably there was limited interest in participating this year (20th and 21st March), perhaps next year we should make a big deal out of this, start planning and preparing early and make it a real club activity.

Steve VK3SE asked if it might be possible to revive the 2 metre scramble which was apparently well supported at one time, there was some enthusiasm for this, and it's revival will be considered if there is sufficient interest.

Possible new member – David Martin VK3KQT will be shifting to Ballarat shortly, and has expressed interest in joining BARG.

Next Meeting 1930, Friday 26th March 2010.

Usual Disclaimer: While I have endeavoured to make these minutes an accurate record of the meeting, I may not necessarily have succeeded. If I have upset anyone by error or omission I apologise.

*Doug Ellery
VK3FDRE
Secretary BARG*