



*Ballarat Amateur Radio Club
Inc. #69537*

*February Special Edition
Monthly Newsletter*

Box 1261, Mail Centre, Ballarat, Victoria, 3354, Australia

Next Meeting

27th March 2015 @ 19:30 hours
(7.30pm)



Office Bearers And Contacts

President:

Vice President: Bill Wells VK3PAL

Secretary: Doug Ellery VK3FDRE

Treasurer: Peter McMahon VK3HEX

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Monthly Calender

Construction Night: 2nd March 2015 @ 1930 hours

Committee Meeting: 18th March 2015 @ 1930 hours

General Meeting: 27th March 2015 @ 19:30 hours

VHF Net: Every Tuesday night at 20:00 hours

HF Net: Every Thursday night at 20:00 hours

Training Courses

Foundation Prac Day: 7th March 2015

Foundation Course: 28/29th March 2015

Hamfests

EMDRC Hamfest: Sunday 29th March 2015

General News

Courses

There is a foundation course, including a practical day to be held. The Practical Day is set for the 7th March 2015. And the full Foundation course is set for 28th/29th March 2015. If you are interested in this course please contact Craig VK3KG at the following email: vk3cmc@bigpond.com.

Get Well Wishes

All the best to Darren VK3FAOE who is very unwell at the moment, also Craig VK3KG is on the road to recovery and we wish him all the best.

Congratulations

Congratulations goes out to Mick formerly VK3FAFK on passing his Upgrade and receiving his new call which is VK3PMG. Well done Mick from everyone in the club. Also congratulations to Alan VK3FXUK who also received his new call of VK3LSD.

Disclaimer

Apologies for the mistake in last months edition in regards to Ian Boyd VK3PUI the information that come through to me was a mistaken identity.

Thanks to Clem VK3BVI

A huge thanks goes out to Clem VK3BVI for all the years he has put into the club net. And from what has been said this has been the case for many a year. So from the whole club thanks Clem.

VHF and Above Report

Well another month has come and gone with some positives but many negatives in regard to propagation.

VHF and above enthusiasts can normally get excited this time of year as long distance propagation is possible due to Ducting mainly East/West and Tropo Scatter to the North ie NSW and QLD.

However this past month has produced little to get really excited about. There have been some openings to the West on both 2m and 70cm with distances up to 2650km when Ian VK3AXH contacted VK6JR on 2m SSB from near Busselton and VK6DZ on digital JT65B 2400km on 70cm.

John VK3AIG, Kevin VK3WN and David VK3KQT have also been active with some contacts into Mt Gambier and Tassie on both 2m and 70cm but are light on compared to other years.

It's possible that some opportunities may occur so it's just a matter of watching the Hepburn Propagation Charts and of course listening on the bands.

If the weather is ok on March 21 it's hoped that the club field day activity will produce some contacts on VHF and into the microwave bands.

The Green Hill beacons for 70cm and 23cm have been tested on site for around 1 week but have been removed to fix some spurious output issues on the 23cm beacon. Both beacons will be in separate boxes so that if one fails they don't have to be both off at the same time. It's hoped the 70cm beacon will be back on air this week.

Till next time, 73 Ian VK3AXH

QST December 2014

Reviewed by

Craig VK3KG

- P4/5 Index.
- P9 Progress on 5 Mhz. .
- P13 The ARRL testing Lab Part 3: Industry Relations.
- P24 Letters from members.
- P30 A 1500Watt Amp for the 80-6Metre bands.
- P36 Transceiver Power control Accessory
- P39 Touch to Talk, Touch to Listen.
- P41 Review. Comms Receiver CR-1a. HF/VHF/UHF
- P44 Hobby PCB Hardrock kit. 160M to 6M, 50W Amplifier kit.
- P48 Review. MFJ-4403 Transceiver Voltage Conditioner. .
- P52 The Doctor looks at Antennas and your questions.
- P54 Eclectic Technology. Listen for Lightning at the VLF. www.blitzortung.org then select COVER YOUR TAB along the top bar.
- P55 Hands on Radio Exp #143 Delay Circuits.
- P57 Hints & Kinks. Mobile antenna carry cas, Homebrew mic stand for a hand mic. To clean a rotary switch contacts. Use tilt up feet on equipments.
- P59 Special Veteran The last Navajo code talker from WW2 honoured. Do you know about this secret code language that was NEVER broken?
- P63 ARRL has asked the FCC to elevate Amateur service to Primary status on 2300 to 2305Mhz.
- P66 The ARRL reviews its Centennial year celebrations.
- P89 How's DX? New and returning operators. Some pointers.
- P91 World above 50Mhz. Tropo openings boost contest scoring Sept 2014.
- P96 Creative Tension. By David K1ZZ. You may delete the USA and insert Australia as what David Is saying applies equally to us all, shared values and External threats to the hobby.
- P98 Vintage Radio: The history of the Signal/One CX7 transceiver in 1968 to the and Dick Ehrhorns ETO company and their Alpha 70 HF Linears.
- P100 Radio tips: Do you know what working "split" in a DX pile up is about?
- P102 75, 50 and 25 years ago index.

Add USB connectivity to a Kantronics KPC-3TNC.

- P43 Review: Hiberling PT-8000A MF, HF & VHF Transceiver.
- P53 Review: OM Power OM2500A HF Power Amp.
- P56 Review: ERC-M Rotator controller & PSTRotatorAZ Control software.
- P58 Preview: Smart Tweezers ST5 LCR Meter for smd and other components.
- P60 Preview: MFJ 4603 Through window Antenna panel.
- P61 Review: Telewave 44AP RF Wattmeter.
- P63 Preview: A Carolina Windom 80 Antenna kit.
- P65 The Doctor on Folded Dipoles Wideband or not.? Other antenna questions.
- P68 Hands on Radio. Exp 142 Inductors at RF.
- P70 Eclectic Tech. Free DV goes portable.
- P71 Antenna notes. Coaxial loops and "Great balls of Fire"
- P73 Hints & Kinks. Large current shunts, Karo coating and Powerpoles in a bind.
- P78 The USS Shenandoah air ship C1924.
- P83 Public Service. To operate in winter with snow and ice.
- P92 How's DX. ? Andaman & Nicobar Islands rare IOTA island.
- P94 World above 50 Mhz. End of season look at trends.
- P99 Vintage Radio: The DRAKE TR-7 Transceiver.
- P105 75,50 and 25 years ago. The index.

73 Craig
VK3KG

Practical Wireless February 2015

Reveiwed by

Craig VK3KG

- P5 Contents page.
- P6 Keylines looks at whats going on in Amateur radio now. .
- P7 Newsdesk. Roundup of UK & International news along with new products and events.
- P10 New Kanga products DXDirect Conversion 40M Receiver.
- P12 Continuing the story of EP2SL the last Amateur in Tehran in 1978.
- P15 Review of the InnovAntennas 4LFA-R4 for the 4M band. Design could be scaled up also.
- P21 Buying second hand looks at the Yaesu FRDX400 classic receiver.
- P25 Technical for the Terrified looks at six separate antennas for 80/40M and compares results.
- P30 In praise of morse. Worth the read.
- P32 G3RJV looks at different ways to measure power in projects. Some very simple sampling.
- P34 Correction to last months simple CW transmitter is available.
- P36 Data modes looks at the UK HASnet to cover High Altertudes.
- P42 History. The Trans Atlantic Tests Dec 1921.
- P45 Mains lead radios. A death potential for unweary ops.
- P50 Eqsl AND QRZ.COM
- P53 New radios from Ten-Tec.
- P58 VHF news . Geminids, web basedtracker, satellite tracker and band reports.
- P62 CW ops and Morse. Something must be worth the effort.
- P65 Letters.
- P68 Bargain basement and Classified adds.
- P70 Traders table.
- P72 Radio Book store.
- P76 Buy your Subscription details.
- P77 Preview of next months edition.

Enjoy the new glossy version now. .

73 Craig. VK3KG

Cape Clear.

B.A.R.G Items For Loan

Antenna Analyser MFJ249 HF/VHF

Antenna Analyser MFJ269 HF-VHF-UHF

Antenna Analyser VHF. Autek

Antenna Gin Pole.

Grid Dip Oscillator.

Oscilloscope BWD 509.

Receiver Drake SSR-1

Receiver FRG-7.

Safety Belt.

Transceiver TS-530.

UHF Antenna Analyser

Cut off date for newsletter articles

The cut off date for articles to be submitted for the March newsletter, will be 23rd March 2015 by 12:00 hours. This will allow me time to produce the newsletter, and send hard copies to the members by 18:00 hours mail. Anything that is received after this time will be placed into the next newsletter unless it comes to me marked urgent then i will endeavour to put it into the current newsletter. Thank you all.

Signed the newsletter editor.

Disclaimer:

The information in this newsletter has been sent onto me by members of the club, if anything is incorrect I apologise.