NET CHECK-INS:

Wia National News - 4

Dawn Patrol - 50 check-ins to the Dawn Patrol for the week ending 9th June 2017.

Sarc Digi Net - 7 (see "digital modes" report below)

Wicen Net (2mtrs) – 6 (Bom Bom Exercise)   Wicen HF - 4

Wednesday Tech Net – 6 (Battery powered tools)

Thursday 6Mtr Net - 4 (the good old days, including stationary engines & washing by hand) {don't ask} hihi

Friday Night Net – 4

Coffee Morning - 9 (SARC New Constitution)

For all 'net' times & frequencies please check out the sarc website:

www.sarc.org.au/nets-broadcasts/

More things to do:

Coffee morning: 1000 on the 1st Wednesday   *Lunch day:* 1200 on the 3rd Wednesday of the month
of the month   Ying's Chinese & Thai Restaurant
Rous Hotel (cnr) Keen/Zadoc St. Lismore   142 Keen St. Lismore

SARC adopts new constitution

Today's special general meeting voted overwhelmingly to adopt the new constitution. Our new constitution brings us in line with the model constitution suggested by the NSW Department of for Fair Trading. SARC is now well placed to operate successfully in the 21st Century. Many thanks to those members who braved a cold, wet and miserable day to attend the meeting in person or via proxy.

SARCfest - *with a difference*

Today's committee meeting discussed the question "Are we having a SARCfest this year?"
In the age of the Internet and on-line shopping a hamfest is a lot of work for not much fund-raising. The really important part of a hamfest is that it's a great social occasion. With that in mind we decided that SARC would run a SHOW, TELL & SELL day.

Sunday August 27 SARC will open the clubrooms for a SHOW, TELL & SELL day. We'll provide the usual Tea, Coffee, Cake catering along with an all day BBQ. Bring along things you've built or assembled and show how you do stuff. Members of the Monday night Diginet will have digital, image and file transfer stations operating. Stuff to sell? Bring it along - car boot style. More details later.

Tigertronics Order

A couple of SARC members are after some more Signalinks, cables and other stuff from Tigertronics. Want to join in and share the freight?

Check out what you want at http://www.tigertronics.com/ and then place your order with SARC. We can't afford to get stuck with expensive stock so can you put a deposit into the SARC account (see our web site for details). Use your <callsign+TO> as the reference and then e-mail vk2dlr@gmail.com with your order details. We suggest a $AU 170 deposit for signalinks and a $AU 30 for additional cables. We won't know the exact price until the freight and exchange rates get processed with our order. The order will be sent late on the night of Sunday 24th June.

Cheers,
Duncan

DIGITAL MODES:

Monday 5 June, 2017

For tonight's net we had VK2PMG/SRC as net control, VK2EA and VK2JWA logged in to say hello. Stations transmitting digital modes were VK2PMG/SRC, DLR, AGC, ARL and ZDR. It was very pleasing to see Rob and Dave on the net. We started off on the Woodburn repeater, 147.250. We had a couple of brief overs using FLDigi and the wide bandwidth MT632KL. This was an experiment as none of us had used something that wide before. The normal text typed into the transmit window was sent with a roaring noise in a couple of seconds. The question had to be asked: "Did That Work?" The answer was that it did, 100% decode.

The main part of the net concentrated on using the messaging part of FLDigi – FLmsg, something that we had little experience with. A variety of modems were tried including Thor100 and 8PSK1000F. FLmsg is mainly useful in sending text, particularly unformatted text. It was amazing to see how much difference there was between unformatted text (as in Wordpad) compared to a Microsoft Word File. Word's formatting dramatically increased transmit time for a file that I would normally regard as tiny (45kb) compared with a Wordpad file of 3-4kb. The Word file of 45kb was going to time out the repeater. Tiny spreadsheet and text files were successfully transmitted by DLR using 8PSK1000 and 8PSK500.

Another modem not tried before was MFSK128, we used that to transmit small images quite successfully. It has to be said however that if image transmission is the aim, then MMSSTV and Easypal are clear winners. The last experiment was to try FLWrap which encapsulated files. I had to spend some time finding where the program puts the received files – hint – read the b…… manual!! One lesson we all learned that it is important to use the latest version of the digital mode software.

So, another successful and interesting net full of experimentation. I firmly believe that these modes are a great way to widen the amateur radio experience in a way that emphasises experimentation. Surely that it is at the heart of the hobby. I was glad to have Rob and Dave on the net with the regulars and I urge them to continue. If any help is needed by anyone – net control included – that will always be given.

Cheers from VK2PMG

What's On	
For the full year's calendar visit http://sarc.org.au/	
This Month	**Next Month**
June 2017	**July 2017**
Sat/Sun 03/04	Sat/Sun 01/02
Sat/Sun 10/11	Sat/Sun 08/09
Sun 11 Wicen 1000	Sun 09 Committee Meeting 1300
Sun 11 Special General Meeting 1300	Sat/Sun 15/16
Mon 12 Queens Birthday	Sat/Sun 22/23
Sat/Sun 17/18 Bom Bom Horse Enduro	Sat/Sun 29/30
Sat/Sun 24/25 Winter V/UHF field day	Sat/Sun 29/30 Jackadgery Horse Enduro?

International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend – ILLW (19-20 August 2017)

As discussed today during the meeting, sarc will be involved in this years ILLW, most

probably the Ballina Lighthouse. We will try to expand on the previous set ups, possibly hanging the

dipoles up higher & setting up more radios, each on different bands. (if available on the day)

Solar panels with better charging capabilities for the radio gear will be seriously looked into for this year.

This site does not have any on-site power, so we have to be 'off grid' if we wanted to or not..'hihi'

We will also set up better (more) seating & bench space, all within either tents or covered in gazebos, mainly

for sun/wind protection. (more details closer to the dates)

This will also be a great time to get out any "Go Boxes" (portable units) or other cool devices to test out

during this weekend.

Hopefully many photos will be taken to share around with you all….

Cheers

Dave ZDR

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