



SARC-NEWS



NET CHECK-INS:

Wia National News - 5

Dawn Patrol - 46 souls on the Dawn Patrol. (Wk ending 13th Oct)

Sarc Digi Net – # (see full “Digi Modes” report below)

Wicen Net - 10 (Sunday meeting & Bom Bom)

Wednesday Tech Net - 8 (Radon gas, Earthquakes & the Ionosphere)

Thursday 6Mtr Net – 6 (current 6mtr antenna being used)

Friday Night Net - 5 (steam power)

More things to do:

Coffee morning:

1000 on the 1st Wednesday of the month

Rous Hotel (cnr) Keen/Zadoc St. Lismore

Lunch day:

1200 on the 3rd Wednesday of the month

Ying’s Chinese & Thai Restaurant
142 Keen St. Lismore

For all ‘net’ times & frequencies please check out the sarc website:
www.sarc.org.au/nets-broadcasts/

COMING UP SOON:

JOTA/JOTI

October 20 @ 9:00 am-October 22 @ 5:00 pm

GCARS HAMFEST

November 11 @ 9:00 am-2:00 pm

COMMITTEE MEETING

November 12 @ 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

What's On	
For the full year's calendar visit http://sarc.org.au/	
This Month	Next Month
<p>October 2017</p> <p>Sat/Sun --/01</p> <p>Sat/Sun 07/08</p> <p>Sat/Sun 07/08 Oceania DX Contest (PH)</p> <p>Sun 08 Wicen 1000</p> <p>Sun 08 Committee Meeting 1300</p> <p>Sat/Sun 14/15 Oceania DX Contest (CW)</p> <p>Sat/Sun 21/22 JOTA/JOTI</p> <p>Sat/Sun 28/29</p>	<p>November 2017</p> <p>Sat 05 GCARS Gold Coast Hamfest</p> <p>Sat/Sun 04/05</p> <p>Mon/Fri 06/09 Standard Course</p> <p>Sat/Sun 11/12</p> <p>Sat/Sun 11/12 Foundation Course</p> <p>Sun 12 Committee Meeting 1300</p> <p>Sat/Sun 18/19</p> <p>Sat/Sun 25/26 Spring V/UHF Field Day</p>

FORMS & BROCHURES:

Download a Membership / Information brochure (includes a form to apply for membership) – [SARC membership + Information 2017](#)

Download a 2017 Club Calendar here – [2017 SARC Calendar](#)

ANTENNAS:

Make a robust multi-band HF wire antenna – the ZS6BKW. Illustrated home brew instructions by Chris Meagher VK2ACD, download here: [Construction Details ZS6BKW by VK2ACD](#)

DIGITAL MODES:

Monday 9 October, 2017

For tonight's net we had VK2PMG/SRC as net control with John VK2JWA, Steve VK2SLM and Leith VK2EA logging in. Also joining us for the net were Duncan VK2DLR Rob VK2ARL.

This evening was a bit different to the nets in the past. I had been having some success with the new digital mode FT-8. This is similar to the well established modes JT65 and JT9. The difference is that although it is not quite as sensitive as the others it is much faster. A transmission only takes 15 seconds. The mode is available in auto sequence, where stations exchange short standard messages of 15 seconds each, ending with a 73. The signals are heard most often on 7.074 and 14.074. Duncan and Rob were eager to join me and we all had a most enjoyable time with everyone making contacts. One advantage of these modes is that it allows a station with a compromised antenna (like mine!!!) a chance to make contact with stations that would not be possible via microphone. Poor propagation conditions and high noise levels are where these digital modes shine. A particular prize contact was with RI1ANC, the callsign of the Russian Vostok Base in Antarctica. I had a successful contact using 5 watts only to have Duncan make contact with only 1 watt, a 6,000 km journey. Another good recent contact was with PY2MR in Sao Paulo Brazil, 16,700 k's away on 5 watts. Rob in particular has had very good success and has an excellent logging system.

A very enjoyable evening and everyone was most pleased with the contacts made. Thanks to all who logged in and participated.

Cheers from Paul VK2PMG

The screenshot displays the WSJT-X v1.8.0-rc2 software interface. The main window is divided into several sections:

- Band Activity:** A table showing received signals with columns for UTC, dB, DT, Freq, and Message. Several messages are highlighted in pink, indicating contacts with RI1ANC OB31 (Antarctica) and DL4MFF VK3OT -14.
- Rx Frequency:** A table showing received signals with columns for UTC, dB, DT, Freq, and Message. Several messages are highlighted in yellow, indicating contacts with VK2PMG QG61, RI1ANC VK2PMG QG61, and VK2PMG RI1ANC -02.
- Controls:** A central control panel showing the current frequency (14.074 000), mode (FT8), and various settings like Tx/Rx frequency, power, and auto sequence.
- Generate Std Msgs:** A list of standard messages for the FT8 mode, including RI1ANC VK2PMG QG61, RI1ANC VK2PMG -13, RI1ANC VK2PMG R-13, RI1ANC VK2PMG RRR, RI1ANC VK2PMG 73, and CQ VK2PMG QG61.

[VK2RBB update:](#)

The new equipment enclosure for VK2RBB is nearing completion. Rob VK2ELH has been putting some solid days building it from scratch. The final work will take place after its been placed on site. It's heavy and solid and should do the trick. This enclosure is a bit bigger than the one it will replace. There should be enough room for the 2m repeater VK2RBB, links back to Parrots Nest as well as any 70cm or CB repeaters in the future. Darren VK2AUX did a quick heat test a week ago and was pleased at how well the insulation worked. He's also done the calculations on the size of solar power needed. It's size and weight means we won't be moving it by the "tame gorilla on each corner" approach. We'll have to use proper mechanical handling for this one. We've struck a bit of a snag with our repeater site tenure. President Ross VK2ARD is working on that issue and hopefully that problem is resolved soon.



Cheers,
Duncan

[Northern Rivers Wicen exercise two weeks away:](#)

Wicen (NR) will be conducting a field training exercise in conjunction with the Jackadgerry and Clarence Endurance Horse Riders on the weekend of 28 & 29 October.

We'll be providing radio support for their event in the form of progress and welfare reporting as riders pass through two checkpoints. The event takes place just south of Grafton with most of the ride within the Bom Bom State Forest. The first riders will start at 0600 Sunday and should finish by mid afternoon. The course is relatively flat and compact and shouldn't present any special radio challenges. The plan is to arrive on site Saturday lunchtime, set up base and checkpoint operations. That will allow plenty of time for some digital and image transmission field tests to take place. Event traffic on Sunday will be handled in the traditional voice and message handling way.

For more information please contact Duncan VK2DLR vk2dlr@gmail.com or 04 1922 9370

Cheers,
Duncan

[Coffs Harbour News:](#)

The word from down south is that the Coffs Harbour six metre repeater is on air. Try 53.750 MHz with -1MHz offset. No tone required. Anyone tried it out?



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