



SARC-NEWS



NET CHECK-INS:

Wia National News - n/a

Dawn Patrol – 39 for the week ending 16th February 2018.

Sarc Digi Net – 4 (see full “**Digital Modes**” report below)

Wicen Net – 8 - Meeting & training report

Wednesday Tech Net – 4 - Marinetraffic website & VHF propagation

Thursday 6Mtr Net – 5 - Antenna band selection & usage

Friday Night Net – 7 - Happy Birthday this week to VK2EA Leith

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

DIGITAL MODES:

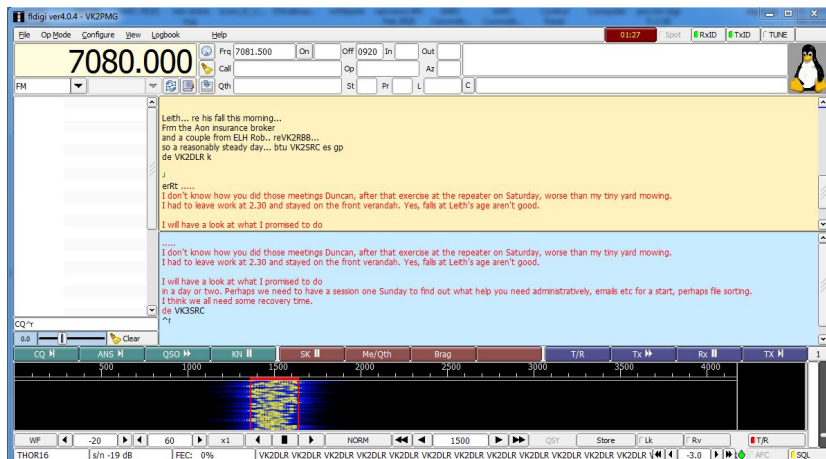
Monday 12 February 2018

For tonight's net, we had VK2PMG/SRC as net control with John VK2JWA, Leith VK2EA and Duncan VK2DLR. Well, after the Sunday meeting epic – 3 meetings to write minutes for – the last thing I felt like on Monday was running a digi net. I was not the only one as only Duncan was ready to transmit.

We decided to use the Woodburn repeater and F1-Digi running Thor 16. There was some interest last week in trying Easypal on 2 metres simplex or USB, but that may have to wait until there are more operators. The net went well with no decoding issues. Duncan tried attaching small images and transmitting them. That worked pretty well but file sizes that will fit on the 3 minute repeater timeout are small – not much bigger than icons. A wider bandwidth such as Thor 100 or Olivia 32-1000 or 64 – 2000 may be better.

Many thanks to Duncan VK2DLR for always being there, he must have been just as tired as I was. The net finished at about 9.30 pm or so. Thanks to John and Leith for logging in.

Paul VK2PMG



[GOONENGERRY update:](#)

You did it Robbie!

After hundreds of hours work and dollars to match, the replacement of the VK2RBB repeater enclosure at Goonengerry is complete.

Robbie VK2ELH lead the project and contributed the vast majority of time and material into building the box. The final stage was completed on Friday with the transportation of the box from Richmond Hill to Goonengerry Trig and installation onto the already installed foundations.

Moving the enclosure presented it's own set of challenges with SARC members rising to the occasion. The enclosure was just a little too big to fit onto a normal 1200 wide box trailer. However Dave VK2ZDR volunteered his wider trailer which would comfortably fit the enclosure. One problem down. The next critical issue was how to safely move the box which was estimated to weigh about 400Kg. This issue was hotly debated and finally, drawing on the knowledge and experience of Barry VK2VBG, the use of either a high lift pallet jack or a gantry crane was recommended. Searches for a high lift pallet jack proved to be frustrating and futile. Then the value of discussing these matters in an open on-air environment worked its magic. Steve VK2SLM offered the use of a gantry crane that he and son Nathan had built. A much better solution than hiring one at commercial rates from a provider 100Km away. Second problem down.

The final 500m or so from the gravel road to Goonengerry Trig is seriously steep. The chosen tow vehicle was one of Robbie's 4WD's that could lock all 4 wheels into fixed drive. How did it go? In the words of Robbie, "It slipped a little but just kept going all the way to the top". Brian VK2FMAN and Duncan VK2DLR followed up in another 4WD towing another trailer with the Gantry and other tools.

An hour or so rolled past as the gantry was re-assembled and the trailer containing the enclosure manoeuvred over the foundations. No easy task considering how little space there was between the foundations and the wheels of the trailer. The gantry did its magic lifting the box out of the trailer and lowering it close to, but not directly onto the foundation bolts. More work with jacks, blocks and crowbars nudged the box into the exact spot and down it slid onto the four bolts. SUCCESS!!

The final hour on top of the hill saw three very tired but very satisfied volunteers putting the finishing touches on the project in the cool of the afternoon.

A lot of other members have or should have been mentioned in earlier reports on digging and pouring foundations, and helping to build the enclosure. All part of the SARC network of volunteers and friends that worked together under Robbie's leadership to produce another great result.

More work to come installing the radio gear, antennas and solar power, but another giant step taken along the path to getting VK2RBB back on air. If someone asks what's the value of a club like SARC then the answer is projects like this. Simply not possible as a solo effort but with contributions from many, including those unable to be physically on site, magic happens.



Goonengerry Cont.



MOUNT ISA CLUB:



This is the new dmr. for all Ham Radio Travel.

Want to know more about Digital Multimode?? Story by Neil, VK4NB So, I have been working on some documents to distribute to our members via various ways including email and printouts to hand out at the monthly meetings. This will contain some basic information into getting “on-air” in the growing digital modes that we know have available to us on various repeaters in our district, Also, keep an eye out on the vk4wim.com website, there is a “Multimode” tab you can click on, and will take you to a page with all the required settings necessary to get “Onair” with your digital radio. Just Remember, most, if not all DIGITAL Radios are BACKWARDS COMPATIBLE to still work on ANALOGUE. If you need some help or info, don’t hesitate to contact Waratah, VK4BQ or myself, Neil, VK4NB. As the website is progressively updated, please re-visit again for newer information. I will also try and keep everyone informed of newer information via email, newsletters, social media etc.

Mount Isa Club

Good afternoon everybody from the Mount Isa Amateur Radio Club. We are going ahead with Leaps and Bounds. We now have DMR and P25 operating on 146.525MHz. The P25 system.

some upgrades to our repeater we now have a coverage of about 150KM on 146.700 MHz.

the new APRS Digi Repeater, Thanks to Dennis VK4VTK, Darryl VK4MIC and Lawrie VK4YN.

Mount Isa Amateur Radio Club would like to thank everybody for their efforts.

A special thanks to local businesses. With this support, it makes our amateur radio community even stronger.

All the best, Eric BakerVK2TRD/4

New Repeater: Terranora VK2RTH

” VK2RTH is on the air at Terranora, running a Yeasu DR-1XE repeater on FM and System Fusion, 438.400MHz –7MHz offset with a 91.5 CTCSS tone.”

It may well be a multimode repeater in the near future with Fusion, DMR, D-Star and P25 if I can interface the MMDVM board....

Cheers, Steve VK2ARS

[SARC 2018 Calendar:](#)

What's On	
For the full year's calendar visit http://sarc.org.au/	
This Month	Next Month
February 2018 Sat/Sun 03/04 Sat/Sun 10/11 Sun 11 Wicem 1000 Sun 11 SARC AGM 1300 Sun 11 Committee Meeting 1400 Sat/Sun 17/18 Sat/Sun 24/25 Sun 25 Wyong Field Day	March 2018 Sat/Sun 03/04 Mon/Fri 05/09 Advanced Course Sat/Sun 10/11 Sat/Sun 10/11 Foundation Course Sun 11 Committee Meeting 1300 Sat/Sun 17/18 Sat/Sun 17/18 John Moyle Field Day Sat/Sun 24/25 Fri 30 Good Friday Sat/Sun 31/--

EDUCATION

ABOUT OUR COURSES

The club runs courses for all 3 levels of Amateur Radio Licence – Foundation, Standard and Advanced. These take place at the clubrooms at Richmond Hill.

Foundation courses are the most in demand, and generally run over a weekend, with assessment taking place on the Sunday. The course is fairly intensive, and candidates are expected to obtain and study some recommended material in advance. Guidelines for this study will be sent to you once you have booked in for a course, or on request.

COURSES FOR 2018

SARC will be running courses according to demand. See below for details.

Most interest is in the Foundation Licence. This is the entry level for Ham Radio and gets you on the air quickly. This licence is proving popular with people touring, especially 4WD outback. The first step is to look at the website of the WIA ([Wireless Institute of Australia](#)). All the basic info is there.

2018 MEMBERSHIP subs:

Please support the club & help keep our Repeaters “on the air”.

SARC Membership goes a long way with helping the club with our Licenses for the Repeater sites.

For all details, please click on the link below: Thank-you

<http://sarc.org.au/membership/>

To unsubscribe:

Please reply to sarcnews@gmail.com

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