



SARCNEWS



NET CHECK-INS:

Wia National News – n/a

Dawn Patrol - 38 for the week ending 1st Sep 2017.

Sarc Digi Net - 5 (see "digital modes" report below)

Wicen Net - 7 (Digital in the field)

Wednesday Tech Net - 6 (Portable poles)

Thursday 6Mtr Net - 3 (Tone access problems) {yes, the 6mtr repeater is back on, requiring a 123 tone}

Friday Night Net - 6 (general discussions)

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

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

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

September 10 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

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

ELH & FMAN attack Goonengerry

Rob VK2ELH and Brian VK2FMAN travelled up to the Goonengerry (VK2RBB) Byron Bay repeater site. Despite a problem with the 4WD on Rob's ute, they made it up and sprayed the lantana encroaching on the site and the track up from the road. Many thanks to Bob and Brian for carrying out this much needed work. The replacement repeater and hut for the site will be discussed at the committee meeting next Sunday.

You can't see CTCSS tones through a Signalink

The new 123 tone on the 6 metre repeater has caused a few of us to have difficulty being heard. Duncan VK2DLR decided to see what he could see using a spectrum analyser program on his laptop looking at the signal received through his Signalink interface. Result? Nothing! The Signalink worked true to specification and blocked all signals below 300Hz and above 3kHz. The 123Hz tone well below the 300Hz cut-off couldn't be seen. Next time he'll try a different interface that doesn't introduce the filter problem.

SARC fridge isn't that thirsty!

After speculation that the fridge in the SARC kitchen was using too much power, Darren VK2AUX decided to check it out. He installed a power meter and here's the results: Days measured: 50, Power consumed: 50.3kWh. It doesn't take much to work out that the answer is a tiny bit over 1kWh per day. That's about what you'd expect from a fridge that size. The measuring period also included our Sarcfest / Open Day which gave the fridge a harder workout than normal.

[DIGITAL MODES:](#)

Monday 14 August, 2017

For tonight's net we had VK2PMG/SRC as net control with John VK2JWA and Leith VK2EA logging in. Also joining us for the digital transmissions were Duncan VK2DLR and David VK2MLC.

Tonight we decided to use Fl Digi on the Woodburn repeater, 147.250. We had a couple of items to try. The first priority was to see if David VK2MLC could encourage his Yaesu SCU-17 sound card interface. These little beasts are not easy to use but apparently let you use rig control via CAT and digital modes to the same time. Quite a few suggestions were tried but in the end getting the unit to transmit didn't happen. It did decode on receive so that was something. The Yaesu unit was unfamiliar to both Duncan and I and the Signalink is much easier to get to work.

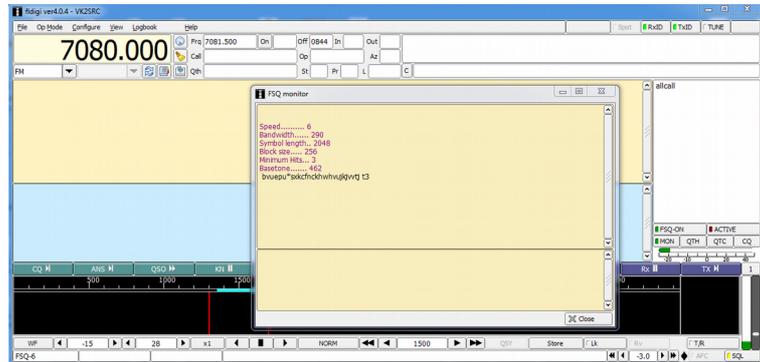
The main modem we wanted to try was called FSQ. There is a link to a site that explains how it works. It was developed by two clever kiwis, Con Wassilieff ZL2AFP with Murray Greenman ZL1BPU in 2015.

Here is the reference in the Fl Digi help guide:

http://www.w1hkj.com/FldigiHelp-3.22/fsq_page.html

It sounded like it should be easy to use but in practice it wasn't that easy. It promised to be like a "chat" mode and the transmit was accomplished by just hitting "enter" on the keyboard and the transmissions should appear after each other in the pink receive window. What did work appeared in a small "monitor" window. A partial success but I am not writing it off and perhaps we can revisit it with a bit more familiarity.

Cheers from VK2PMG



[Mount Isa Amateur Radio Club:](#)

Hi everybody this is VK2TRD portable 4. Just giving you an update of the Mount Isa Amateur Radio Club. We have purchased two new solar panels thanks to Albert VK4POW and Daryl VK4MIC and with a 30 amp regulator. Also installed two new GM 338 Motorolas. The repeater it now puts out a proper ident.with a CTCSS 91.5. Through the day it gives a 15 second ident. And when the sun goes down it switches to a 3 second ident. This is less drain on the batteries.

Thanks to Peter VK4PI. It also has irlp and Echo when connected. Daryl VK4MIC has now installed in Mount Isa, a brand new open spot digital radio for DMR,DSTAR, and C4MF. Within the next two weeks hopefully we will have the new APRS system up and running, thanks to Dennis VK4VTK, and all his mates from the Rockhampton Club. We also have a 70 cm repeater to go up to the site, and a 6 metre repeater. But I think they are for another day time is getting away.

This is Eric VK2TRD portable 4.

For the Mount Isa Amateur Radio Club.

[AGE, WHAT AGE...?](#)

Celebrating the fact that we have two 90 year olds [Leith VK2EA & Ken VK2AFH] in the club and that they are both active and on-air is something that the Summerland Amateur Radio Club prides ourselves on.

I imagine it is a rare event to have two 90 year olds in the same Club. :)

[COMING UP SOON:](#)

[COMMITTEE MEETING](#)

September 10 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

[WICEN NR MEETING & TRAINING](#)

October 8 @ 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

[COMMITTEE MEETING](#)

October 8 @ 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

What do we do ?

The club promotes and supports ham radio activity in the Northern Rivers region. We are affiliated with the Wireless Institute of Australia and a numbers of members are also active in WICEN.

See the HISTORY page on the website for background on the club origins.

Repeaters are maintained on 6m, 2m, and 70cm. Most activity centres on the clubrooms at Richmond Hill, but there are also a number of field operations throughout the year.

Regular nets on HF and VHF/UHF keep members in touch and may focus on particular topics of interest. SARC also promotes ham radio by providing courses for those seeking to obtain or upgrade an ACMA licence. Apart from meetings, there are social events and practical activities such as construction days.

[To unsubscribe:](#)

Please reply to sarcnews@gmail.com

[Disclaimer](#)

The opinions expressed by contributors in SARC NEWS are theirs alone, and do not reflect the opinions of the Summerland Amateur Radio Club or its members. SARC is not responsible for the accuracy of any of the information supplied by the contributors.