



SARCNEWS



NET CHECK-INS:

Wia National News - 5

Dawn Patrol - 40 check-ins to the Dawn Patrol for the week ending 2 June 2017.

Sarc Digi Net - 3 (see "digital modes" report below)

Wicen Net – 8 (Spring Mountain)

Wednesday Tech Net – 8 (Finding Torches, Phones, glasses etc in the dark)

Thursday 6Mtr Net - 5 (cold winter ahead)

Friday Night Net - 4

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
of the month
Rous Hotel 44 Keen St. Lismore

Lunch day: 1200 on the 3rd Wednesday of the month
Ying's Chinese & Thai Restaurant
142 Keen St. Lismore

DIGITAL MODES:

Last Monday's Diginet was very short. Only three of us turned up. The general consensus was that we were too tired to do much after a strenuous weekend. The formal part of the net concluded in under half an hour. However VK2DLR then went off to the Parrot repeater and played for a while.

Praise the parrot on 146.575 MHz FM. It allows anyone to check voice / modulation levels and experiment with digital modes without involving others. DLR fired up Fldigi and Flmsg. After a mix of experimentation and reading the manual he discovered in the Flmsg menu system:

FLMSG > FORMS > TRANSFER

That pops up a file transfer screen. Fldigi can be minimised as all control can be done from the Flmsg window. Just press the Transmit file <Select> button and a normal windows file navigation dialogue allows any file to be loaded. At the bottom of the window you can select the mode you want to use. It even displays the transmission time for the selected mode. DLR was able to send and receive a few small text and document files using THOR16 and 8 PSK 1000. No success however with larger (image) files.

No comparison tests were made but DLR's impression was that comparing his current Flmsg skills with EasyPal; EasyPal was faster, more reliable and workable error correction. Presumably this view will change as DLR's Flmsg driving skills improve.

So there we have it. A successful diginet with only one participant. No picture because there was no successful picture transfer.

de Duncan VK2DLR.

[HORSE ENDURO:](#)

Spring Mountain Challenge, Greenbank, South west of Brisbane.

The Spring Mountain Challenge was held by Big Country Endurance Riders (BCER) in beautiful weather over the weekend of 26-28 May at Spring Mountain east of Brisbane CBD. Riders, officials and volunteers started arriving on the Friday afternoon with the challenge commencing on Sunday morning at 5:30 am. 66 riders commenced the challenge in three groups of 80km, 40 km and 20km rides.

WICEN Northern Rivers members from Summerland Amateur Radio Club (SARC) were VK2ARD (Ross) on checkpoint 1, VK2DLR (Duncan) event controller manning checkpoints 2 and 5 which was the crossover point of a loop, VK2OTA (Malcolm and his furry little mate Caspar) and VK2ACD (Chris) on checkpoints 3 and 4, also a crossover point, VK2ARL (Rob) and VK2FMWL (Maeva) on base and of course VK2 AGC (Geoff) our technical guru.

Checkpoint 1 was located on the street in a built up area with the others sited in bushland along rugged 4wd tracks. The WICEN repeater, VK2RAV/4, was sited at CP's 2 and 5.

Base operated on the 70cm repeater and 2m simplex bands from a van parked alongside the organisers making for easy interaction between the two. Due to the rough terrain away from base, there was certainly some challenge in ensuring good communications between base and the organisers. A 40m link was also established and tested between base and CP's 3 and 4.

SARC members of WICEN NR have now attended a number of horse endurance events and have developed a robust system of recording times as they come in from the bases. We are able to quickly provide information to the organisers and other interested parties on the location of specific riders and assist in getting help to riders and horses who may be in difficulty. At the end of the event, a comprehensive list of riders and times through checkpoints is provided to the organisers for their information.

This event was an unexpected event for the group with only two weeks notice to organise everything. VK2DLR put in a mighty effort, with a little help from his friends, to get things up and running. All participants agreed it was a big success in keeping track of all riders, keeping the organisers informed, and the riders happy.

Horse endurance events are a lot of fun and engage the hobbies of radio communication, camping, and 4 wheel driving. Extra help is always welcome so why not think about joining in. Our next scheduled event is near Grafton on the weekend of 17/18 June.

VK2FMWL



More photos & information on the sarc website...

[PARROTS NEST Rptr Site: \(& rear BBQ area at club rooms\)](#)

Two photos of our Repeater Site, one facing North/East towards Lismore & from up the tower. de VK2ARD



IMPORTANT: NOTICE OF MEETING AND SPECIAL RESOLUTION

A general meeting of members will be held on this coming **Sunday June 11, at 1 pm**, at the clubrooms, 412 Richmond Hill Road, Richmond Hill, NSW 2480.

The business of the meeting will be to vote on the following special resolution:

All members are requested to attend if possible, to ensure that there is a quorum for the meeting.

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