



Sarc Radio Net numbers/check ins:

HF Dawn Patrol – 58 for the week ending 29th March 2019

Sarc Digi Net – full “*Digital Modes Report*” below

Wicen Net – 7 - Wicen (NR) closure update

Wed Tech Net – 6 - Basic Repeater technical aspects

Thursday Night Net – 6 - Weather

Friday Night Net – 8

UPCOMING EVENTS

WICEN NR AGM

April 14 @ 10:00 am - 11:00 am

COMMITTEE MEETING

April 14 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

News Items:

Lismore 2M repeater update

There's been a flurry of activity at the Lismore repeater site. Friday saw *Dave VK2ZDR* and *Duncan* mowing and brush cutting the site. It was a late decision to reduce the grass and weeds on the site before the Saturday assault on the 2m repeater's technical problems.

Sunday: *Rob ELH* along with *Dave ZDR* and *Duncan DLR* programmed a Yaesu repeater to use at Parrots Nest. Rob then installed it on his way home and carried out some testing with *John JWA*, *Chris ACD* and *Graeme QJ* as remote stations. Tests confirmed that the 2m receive antenna / coax have a problem. That leads to:

Next Saturday: *Rob ELH* will lead the replacement of the receive antenna next Saturday 6th April at 1330 onwards. *DLR* will be there. Anyone else?



Sunday Side Shed Scouring

A host of willing workers thought through *DLR's* "senior's moment" and turned up on Sunday the 31st of March (not the 31st of April) and gave the side shed a serious clean out. *VK2's LRB, FMAN, ARL, KWW, PMG, ELH, ZDR, ARD and DLR* removed a huge pile of dubious accumulations. The rolls of coax and guy wires have been hung on the rear wall off the floor and out of the way. The storage racks have been moved along the wall towards the back of the shed. Some antenna and mast hardware have been put back on top of the racks.

But most importantly, there's now plenty of room for all the gear needed for repeater site maintenance and club grounds maintenance. What's happened to all the stuff we moved out? Anything considered to be worth saving has been stored with similar items and the mountain of junk that needs to go is under the front awning of the club. The intention is for it to slowly vanish over the next couple of weeks via garbage bins and fossicking by any who want to have a rummage.



Other SARC activities today:

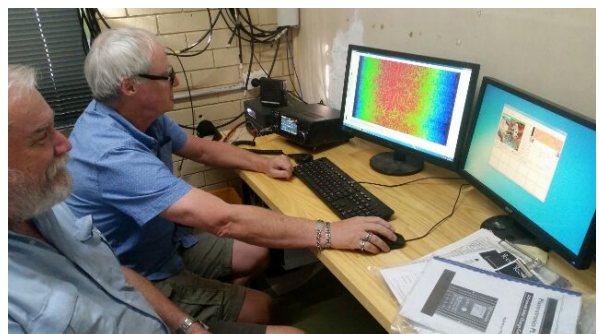
Brian FMAN has done some more landscaping on top of the Log wall in front of the clubrooms. It's already looking good and holds promise of better things to come.



SDR: *Rob ARL* and *Dave ZDR* did more work on the club SDR issues. Progress!!! {see more below}

Rob ARL, Paul PMG and Duncan DLR did some pre Monday night diginet net work to have a go at DV as in Digital Voice.

The picture shows Rob showing Paul the DV software on one screen while SSTV is running on another screen.



Paul PMG took the opportunity to log a few more FT8 contacts for *VK2SRC*.

Lismore 2 metre repeater back in action

The VK2RSC 2m repeater is back on the air, with a new folded dipole transmit antenna fitted this Saturday 30th, under a mercifully overcast sky. The old dipole had been up there for decades and was badly corroded, eventually going open circuit. The SWR is now 1:1.2 at 146.8 MHz.

Distant stations are reporting an excellent signal. We suspect the receive performance is not quite as good as it could be, and some further investigations will be made soon.

Thanks to VK2's ELH, ACD, KWW and DLR. Great co-ordination of passing tools back and forth. For information, the TX antenna is at about the 12 metre level, on the east side of the tower.

de VK2ACD

Additional news item in " Sunday stuff"

Dave ZDR installed the new batteries in the VK2SRC shack.

They're working nicely now that the solar system has a place to store energy instead of dumping heat.



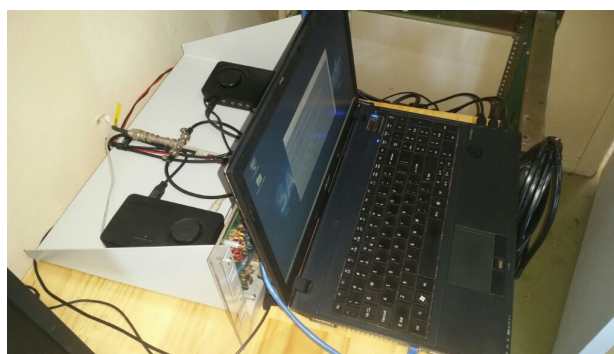
WEBSDR @ SARC (updated)

“IT’S WORKING”

As of “time of printing”, the SDR is now fully WORKING...!!!

<http://www.websdr.org/>

Scroll to map at bottom of page, look for Sarc ‘pin’ on the Aussie Map...Presto...hihi



DIGITAL MODES:

Monday 25 MARCH 2019

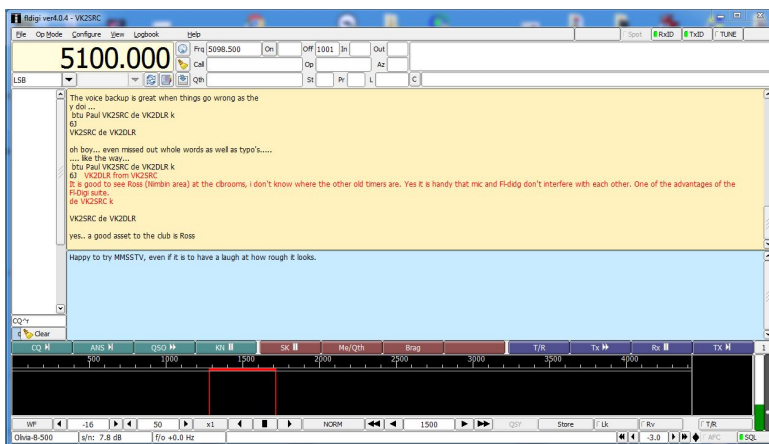
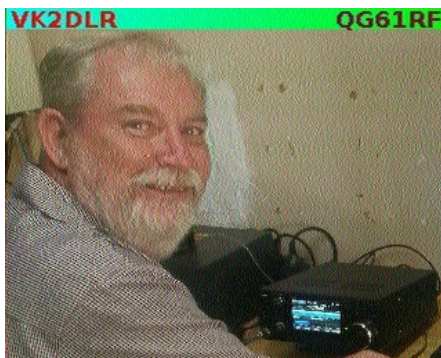
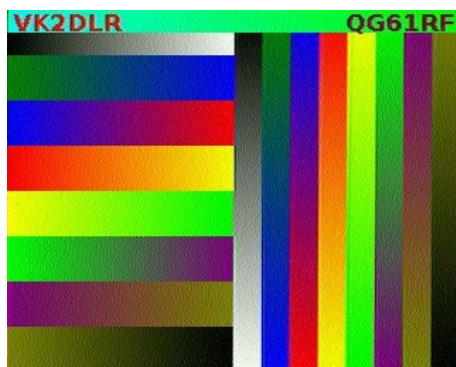
This week we had *Leith VK2EA*, *John VK2JWA*, *Steve VK2SLM*, *Ross VK2ARD* and *Duncan VK2DLR* logging in. After a couple of rounds of chat, Duncan and I, (yes, another 2 man net), QSY'd to the frequency of 144.230 USB. SSB is really much better than FM for DX away from repeaters, even for local contacts like this. We started with F1-Digi using Olivia 8-500 and all messages were decoded 100%.

We changed to MMSSTV and used MR140 mode. The images displayed some snow and “rice bubble” effects but were pretty good. Power was dropped to 5 watts and naturally some snow was evident but quite acceptable.

We decided to change back to F1-Digi and use the mode IFKP 2.0. This mode allows the transmission of images in digital form rather than the analogue MMSSTV. Low power didn't work very well, similar to the digital image software EasyPAL.

A clean signal is necessary for the image to be received and decoded successfully and power was raised to 30-35 watts. This resulted in perfect reception of the images. Another interesting experiment. The net ended at 10.30pm. Thanks to all who logged in.

Cheers from Paul VK2PMG



******* Membership subs were due January 1, 2019 ******

The rate is \$40 for membership in **2019** and if you join part way through the year, the payment is pro-rata. If you live more than 100Km from Lismore, you qualify as a DX member at a discounted rate. Download a form for renewal/new membership here – [Membership + Information 2019](#)

WHAT'S ON AT SARC?

Download the 2019 Calendar (thanks to VK2DLR) – here: [SARC Calendar 2019](#)

6Mtr REPEATER UPDATE

Work at the Lismore hut has recommenced, with a new door fitted. Completion of the external cladding renewal is expected to be done soon. The 6m repeater on 53.550 MHz is still turned off, awaiting antenna work. There has been no further progress at the Byron Bay site.

Our Disclaimer:

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