



Sarc Radio Net numbers/check ins:new nets this week

Weekly (mon-fri) HF Dawn Patrol – 56 week ending 26th April 2019

Monday_INFO Net – 8 - News

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

Wed_70cm Net – 7 - Mt. Nardi coverage

Thursday_(ex 6mtr) Net – 8 - Anzac Day and AX prefix

Friday Night Net – 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

COMMITTEE MEETING

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

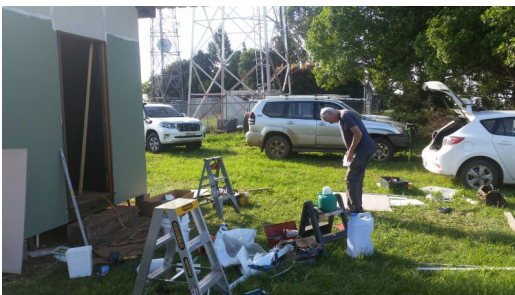
News Items:

On Sunday, April 28 a team of 4 SARC members spent a long day at the Lismore repeater site. We stripped out the old Masonite from the East and South walls plus the ceiling. Most of this is now replaced with Villaboard. Also the East wall exterior cladding was completed - all the outside walls are done now, with the old fibro gone.

It was a messy business inside, removing dust accumulated since the hut was built circa. 1950's. Most of the structure is in good condition, made from strong hardwood. Only parts of the bottom plate and bearer ends have suffered over the years from exposure to damp.

There is about one more day's work to finish the inside sheeting, but part of the ceiling has to wait until cables are moved to the new wall entry plate (instead of coming in through the ceiling). Then the painting has to be finished. After that, all the cable relocation into the tower support tray will take quite an effort.

Thanks to Chris VK2ACD, Paul VK2PMG, Rob VK2ELH and Duncan VK2DLR, who brought along a very useful chopper/hammer/nail puller/plier multi-tool.



Club Grounds improving all the time

Club grounds looking better all the time. Regular mowing by Brian VK2FMAN is turning grass into lawn at the clubrooms. Brian, with the help of his good XYL Kay (another life member of the Long Suffering Wives club) have acquired and planted a dozen shrubs along our uphill boundary. A bit of TLC and we'll be enjoying their presence come spring time. :)

Bill's Top Tool

This tool turned out to be very handy on Saturday to remove the internal wall lining and ceiling at Parrots Nest.

Where did you get it? "It came from the estate of my late brother in law Bill Carter" was Duncan VK2DLR 's reply. "I put it in my 'carry everywhere' toolbox as a small hammer and now it's part of my top 10 tools" he said. If you ever find another one, let SARC News know.

There's at least three others that covert one.



Monday Magic

Last week Malcolm VK2OTA asked for a hand putting up a couple of antennas. Word spread and 5 CVARG - SARC members turned up for a grand day out.

VK2's CEC Brad, FDAV Dave, FTAY Taya, KWW Kris and DLR Duncan descended on Malcolm's place for a very successful day. Greeted on arrival by Malcolm's good XYL Viki and his father Ken (ex-VK2ZKL) we started with a good morning tea. What better way to start the day! After checking out Malcolm's magnificent tower and Ken's sun tracking solar array, we set to work. Nothing too ambitious; just a 2m antenna for the local repeaters and a 40m HF antenna. Dave, the young and agile member of the team did the higher up work while others ran cables below, tested antennas and sorted out connectors. Glad there was an antenna analyser about. The first 2m antenna tested turned out to be a bit off and was promptly replaced by a better one. Work slowed at lunchtime while we were distracted by canteen manager Viki's sandwiches. However not long after the day's work was over. Work? More like a day's fun. The result? Malcolm can now work the four 2m repeaters at Coffs Harbour, Grafton, Woodburn and Lismore. The 40m vertical tuned up ok and received well but no contacts were made.

Thanks to everyone for a fun and successful day out.

A handful of friends giving another friend a hand.

Nice people those CVARG'ers.

But then again friendly people helping friends has always been one of those Amateur radio things.



De Dunan DLR

John Moyle 2019 - Early Results

Full results of the 2019 John Moyle aren't available yet but there are a couple of winners from this area.

Home Station – 24 Hour **VK2ZDR** – Home Station, All Modes, VHF Bands with 32 contacts and a score of 244 points.

Six Hour Portable Operation – Multiple Operator **VK2CLR** – Multi Operator Phone Only, All Bands, with 108 contacts and a score of 258 points.

Well done to Dave VK2ZDR and our neighbours the Clarence Valley Amateur Radio Group VK2CLR.

DIGITAL MODES

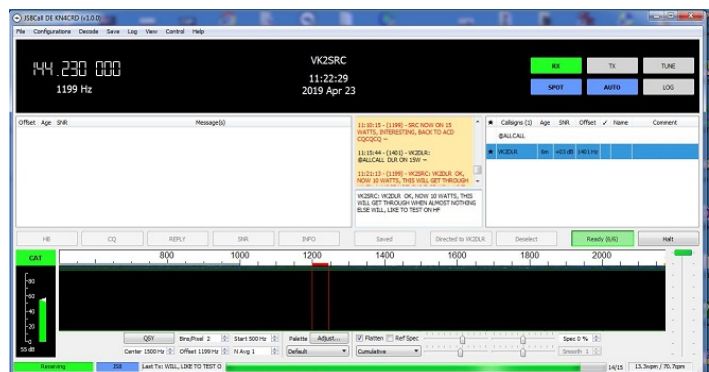
Monday 23 APRIL 2019

This week we had Phil VK2YGF, Chris VK2ACD, Rob VK2ARL, Steve VK2SLM, Duncan VK2DLR, Dave VK2ZDR, John VK2JWA, Leith VK2EA and Rob VK2ELH mobile. Well, I don't think I have ever had so many logging in. We had a couple of rounds of chat and after that, Phil, Chris and Duncan were ready to go. We QSY'd to our VHF USB digi frequency of 144.230 and used JS8Call.

We were still all a bit new to this mode, based on FT8 but with free conversation possible. It has similar performance to FT8, getting signals through despite the noise. Phil had some trouble transmitting but said that he was decoding all of us with no problems. Power levels were fairly low, 15 watts or less.

At one stage both Chris and Duncan transmitted at the same time but both signals decoded simultaneously with 100% decode. This is similar to FT8 when decodes all signals it receives that are strong enough for decode to take place. A mode that has a lot going for it. A bit slow but it can get a message through despite poor propagation and high noise. Thanks to all who logged in.

Cheers from Paul VK2PMG



Licence fee increases

News from the WIA that the ACMA has released their latest Apparatus Licence Fee Schedule. From the 5th April 2019 your amateur licence renewal will cost \$55 per year (up from \$52). A new licence will cost \$80 per year (up from \$76).

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