



Sarc Radio Net numbers/check ins:

Weekly HF Dawn Patrol – 48 for the week ending 27th of March

Monday_INFO Net – 9 - News

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

Wed_70cm Net – 8 - Diginet & JM logs

Thursday_(ex 6mtr) Net – 8 - Virus & Weafax

Friday Night Net – 8 - Virtual meeting software



>>>>>News Items<<<<<

Coronavirus and SARC - 29 March 2020 update

Who would have guessed that the social isolation of amateur radio operators alone with their gear is now an advantage! Radio communications as a healthy alternative to face to face contact. Perhaps it's a good time to tidy up your gear and review message handling procedures.

SARC clubrooms closed Monday 23rd March and will remain closed until further notice.

Essential clubroom based activity will be carried out on a case by case basis. Most ongoing clubroom activity like ground maintenance, mail collecting etc. is normally done solo. Comfortably within the “two people per meeting” guidelines now current.

What does the future hold? Essentially any events in the club calendar that incorporated face to face contact are off for the foreseeable future. We can only speculate but think in terms of months rather than weeks. We won't change the club calendar at this volatile stage but plan on the events NOT occurring rather than them occurring. Even September events such as the SARCfest and Lighthouse weekend are unlikely to proceed.

Follow the current guidelines, stay healthy and help others stay the same way. **If you're even a bit unwell then stay home.** Even relatively minor things like the common cold are an unwelcome addition to health burdens already carried by some of our members. It's for the good of others as well as for yourself.

This crisis will test all of us to the core. For the sake of those around us, family, friends, strangers the wider community including our Amateur Radio community; let's work together to get through this crisis. We will need our reserves of strength, courage and humanity.

Let this page of history tell of appropriate actions and equally appropriate restraint.
Take care and good luck to us all.

Duncan VK2DLR
SARC President
Sunday 29th March 2020.

DIGITAL Report:

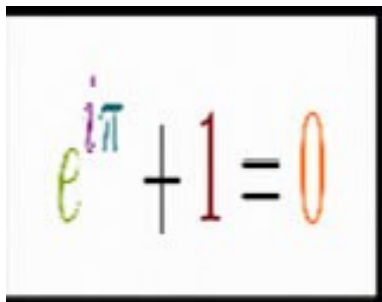
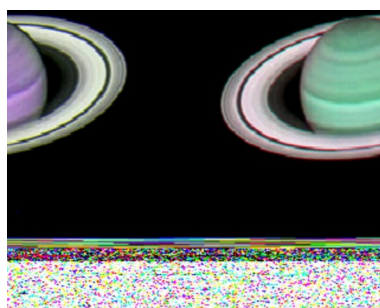
TUESDAY 24 MARCH 2020

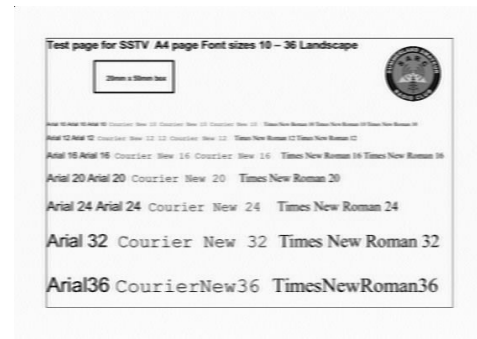
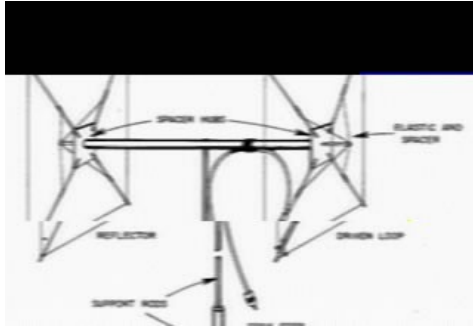
For tonight *Leith VK2EA*, *John VK2JWA*, *Pat VK2FAAD*, *Duncan VK2DLR* and *Kris VK2KWW* logged in. Good to hear Pat on the net after his John Moyle weekend. There was quite a bit of news and chat before Duncan and I, once again, QSY'd to "our" frequency of 144.230 USB.

We were exploring the various modes in Fl Digi which support image transmission. These include MFSK 16, 32 and 64, Thor 11, 16, 22 and IFKP. We started with Thor 22 which offers a range of image proportions plus colour or greyscale image choices. My first couple of images resulted in no decode or image from Duncan, however his worked images well. Duncan mentioned ALC and modulation, this had me scurrying off into the 897's menus, here I found digi gain was 100, far too high, turned that down to 30 and digital vox down from 73 to 30. Suddenly things started to work. Levels are very important in digital, overdriving is a no-no. The weird double image of Saturn with colour shifts shows what can happen. Some nice images were received by Duncan after the menu changes. Another mode was tried, MFSK16 and the image of one of my QSL cards was received perfectly. That card was re-transmitted by Duncan and it still looked good, showing the advantage of digital transmission when it works. Duncan's test image of text in various fonts and sizes also worked well with good readability. There were some successes and some failures on the night, the last couple of images didn't work for either of us, still not sure why.

The net didn't finish until 10.40, both just kept trying. We felt that the MFSK image mode showed such promise, in spite of some misfires, that it was well worth revisiting. More experimentation. Thanks to all who logged in and participated.

Cheers from Paul VK2PMG





Virtual meeting software

With all this Corona Virus issues hanging around us all lately, the Club (Sarc) has decided to look into the possibility of running out Committee Meetings via some kind of Virtual Meeting based system.

Last week, after the Friday Night Net, Duncan DLR, Rob ARL, HAZ Shane & Myself ZDR decided to go 'test' something new to us all, "ZOOM", I guess it's close to being like Skype but with way more Business type helpful 'bits' thrown in for good luck...

We ran this Zoom program for about 2 hours, with not one hiccup (apart from ARL had microphone problems at one stage), odd that it ran for that long, as running in Free mode, it is spose to have a limit of only 40 minutes/meeting chat of over 2 or more persons...?

We are also looking at other Virtual "online meeting Apps" apart from **Zoom**, ie: **freeconferencecall** & possibly **Skype** too if that goes that way...(probably not through)

We noticed that both of these Apps/Programs have great support for all *platforms/OS/mobiles*

YES, this including good old **LINUX**... :)








<https://zoom.us/>

<https://www.freeconferencecall.com/global>

Ed :)

Lismore 7-day forecast

"a mixed bag this week, my friends"... ed

Sun Mar 29	Mon Mar 30	Tue Mar 31	Wed Apr 1	Thu Apr 2	Fri Apr 3	Sat Apr 4
						
Possible shower	Fog then sunny	Possible thunderstorm	Late shower	Possible shower	Mostly sunny	Possible shower
26°C	29°C	30°C	28°C	27°C	30°C	29°C
16°C	15°C	17°C	17°C	16°C	16°C	18°C

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