SARCNEWS 2021:01:10

.SARC RADIO NET NUMBERS/CHECK INS:

Weekly HF Dawn Patrol – 70 for the week ending 1st January

\- 77 for the week ending 8th January

Monday_INFO Net – 8 – News.

Tues_Sarc Digi Net – full "***Digital Modes Report***" below...

Wed_70cm Net – 4 – Semaphore

Thur_VHF Net - 5 - WSPR

Friday Night Net – 7 – Rain

UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer VHF/UHF Field Day
January 16 & 17, 2021

Australia Day
January 26, 2021 _ **AX** prefix

AGM & Committee Meeting
February 14, 2021 @ 1300

Wyong Hamfest
February 28, 2021

.VK2DLR has been WSPR-ing.

Rob VK2ARL has loaned Duncan VK2DLR his Raspberry Pi based WSPR node. Rob's cute little device transmits a whopping 100 milliwatts on 20M. **"The Raspberry PI basically puts out a 14.097 MHz squarewave that's filtered into a respectable sinusoidal signal," says Rob.** The little white box was heard all over the globe from Rob's place and the same is now happening at VK2DLR's. Check out the WSPRnet web site map page http://wsprnet.org/drupal/wsprnet/map Filter it for VK2DLR and 20M. The magic of the Raspberry Pi node only extends to transmit, there's no receive capability. Duncan will leave the node running until next Friday.

Spurred on by his 20M success, DLR is also having a go on 2M. The setup here is simple to operate but consumes a bit more gear. DLR has wound his FT-991A back to 5 Watts and is using WSJT-X running in WSPR mode on a laptop to both transmit and receive WSPR signals. Go to the same URL and filter for VK2DLR and 2M this time. There's been a couple of abnormal long path results but the shorter 100 odd kilometre paths are the ones of interest. "My curiosity in 100Km long 2M propagation was aroused when I was using a Marine Traffic Website https://www.marinetraffic.com to follow friends on a cruise ship" said Duncan. "I regularly saw signals received by land stations when the ship was well over 100 Km out to sea."
The Marine Traffic telemetry signal is about 2 Watts on about 160 MHZ. That makes our 2M band a good comparison. Duncan will leave the node running until next Friday.

de Duncan
VK2DLR

.SARC Spring Field DAY Success.

SARC has had another successful Spring VHF/UHF field day result. Thanks to Graeme VK2QJ, Pat VK2FAAD and David VK2CDG SARC portable has taken out first place in iit's class.
This success was of course relies on the support of the many home stations that contributed as many points as possible to the score. Other notable local score include:
VK2ACD Chris 1st place in the single band home station category with a score that bettered many multiband entrants.
VK2VL Tony of CVARG came in 8th in the single operator home 24 hour section with VK2ZDR Dave 11th, VK2PMG Paul 12th and VK2DLR Duncan 13th.
Apologies to any members or neighbours missed in this result summary.

.Summer VHF UHF Field Day 2021 _ VK2SRC portable.

Graeme, Pat and David will be operating as VK2SRC portable for Vista Point next weekend for the Spring VHF UHF Field Day.
Start: 0100 UTC on Saturday 16 January 2021 Finish: 0059 UTC on Sunday 17 January 2021
See https://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/ for the latest rules and information.
Pat will be operating 2m
144.150 - 144.200 USB
146.500 - 146.550 FM

Dave will be operating 70cm
432.150 - 432.200 USB
439.000 - 439.050FM

Graeme will be operating 6m & 23cm
50.150 - 50.200 USB, also 52.150 when requested.
1296.150-1296.200 FM

See also http://www.mnds.com.au/vkcl/ for the latest edition of VKCL contest logger. Software that simplifies your log entry whether you use it live or transcribe paper log entries post contest.

.SARC website has a QR code.

This Quick Response (QR) code will be displayed on the front door of the SARC clubhouse. The purpose is for any visitors to the clubhouse, when nobody is in attendance, to scan the QR code to gain instant access to the SARC website. From there, they can peruse the website for clubhouse opening times, contact details, and anything else that the website has to offer.

If anything, the visitor will not be leaving the SARC location empty handed. Hopefully this will inspire the visitor to return when the clubhouse is open.

Please feel free to scan this QR code to see how it works.
Also feel free to copy the QR code for promoting SARC. Perhaps on the reverse side of your QSL card. Note: if you make the QR code too small, it will no longer be a 'quick response' code, but may take 30 seconds or so for it to be decoded.

6-DAY LISMORE WEATHER (FOREACST)

	Mon Jan 11	Tue Jan 12	Wed Jan 13	Thu Jan 14	Fri Jan 15	Sat Jan 16
Summary	Possible shower	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Sunny	Possible shower
Maximum	27°C	27°C	28°C	30°C	33°C	32°C
Minimum	17°C	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	19°C
Chance of Rain	70%	50%	50%	20%	60%	80%
Rain Amount	< 1mm	< 1mm	< 1mm	< 1mm	< 1mm	5-10mm
UV Index	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme			
Frost Risk	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

.DIGITAL Report:

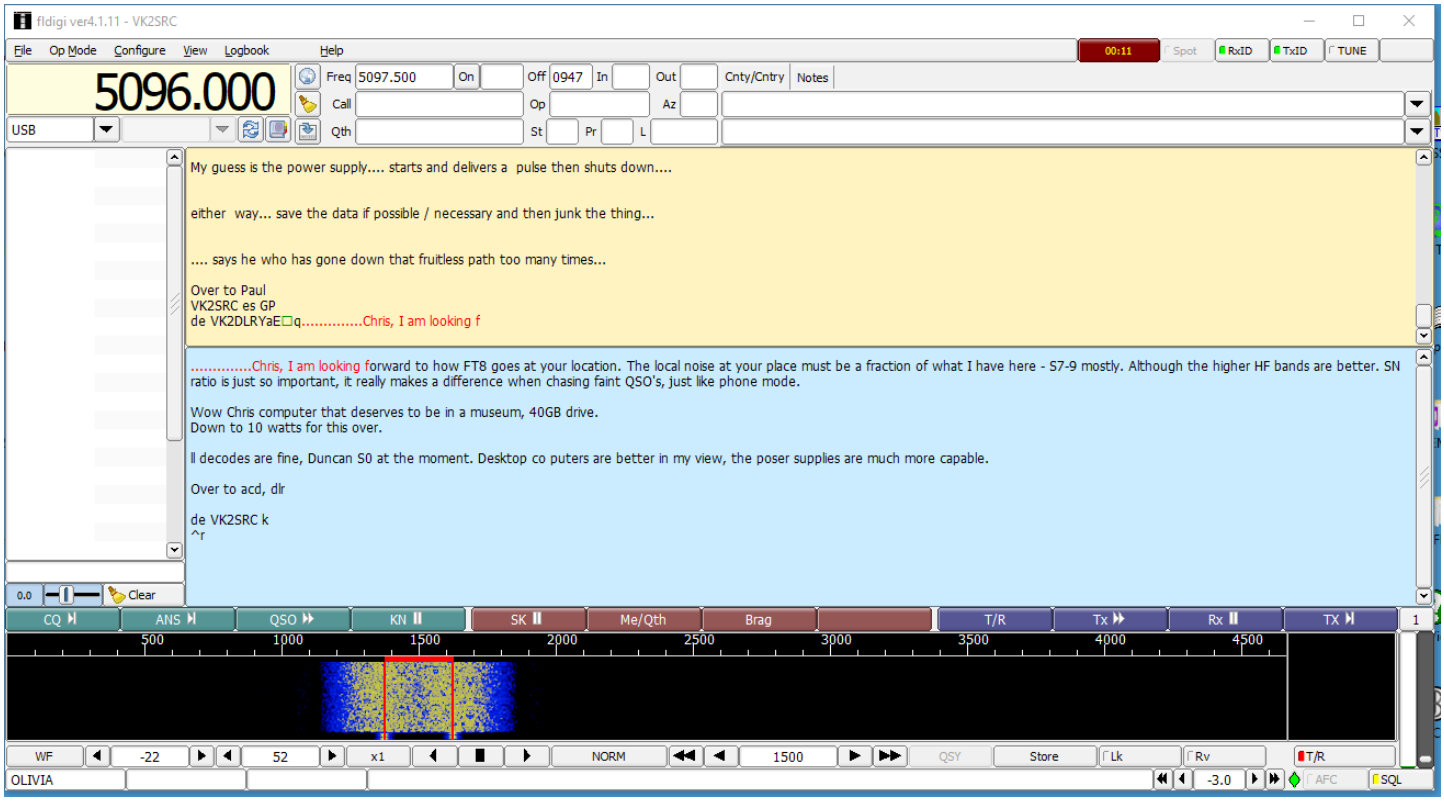
DIGITAL MODES
TUESDAY JANUARY 5, 2021VK2SRC

Well, another year began and the first Digi Net was under way. Joining Paul VK2AMT were Chris VK2ACD, Leith VK2EA, Duncan VK2DLR, Dave VK2ZDR, John VK2JWA and Pat VK2FAAD. A good rollup. After two rounds of personal news and chat Chris and Duncan joined me on 144.230 USB.

We continued our experimentation with our custom Olivia mode choice of two tones and a 500Hz bandwidth. All of us were impressed again with Olivia's overall performance, the two tones doing a good job. Signal strengths to me were were Chris S7, Duncan S1. Power outputs dropped down to 4 to 10 watts with no affect on decoding performance. A really strange event occurred mid way through one of Chris's transmissions: it just faded away in a couple of seconds. The Olivia tones just vanished. Chris turned the amp on and even 80 - 100 watts wasn't making much difference. I could hear his voice weakly but clearly enough but no signal strength. Duncan heard nothing at all.

Chris then turned off at about 9pm while Duncan and I continued. A couple of days after the net we heard that a firmware update seemed to fix things. Al three of us were relieved that the Elecraft K3 was OK. No doubt we will give Chris's system a test on a future net. Thanks to Chris and Duncan for their support and to all who logged in, it is appreciated.

Cheers from Paul VK2AMT



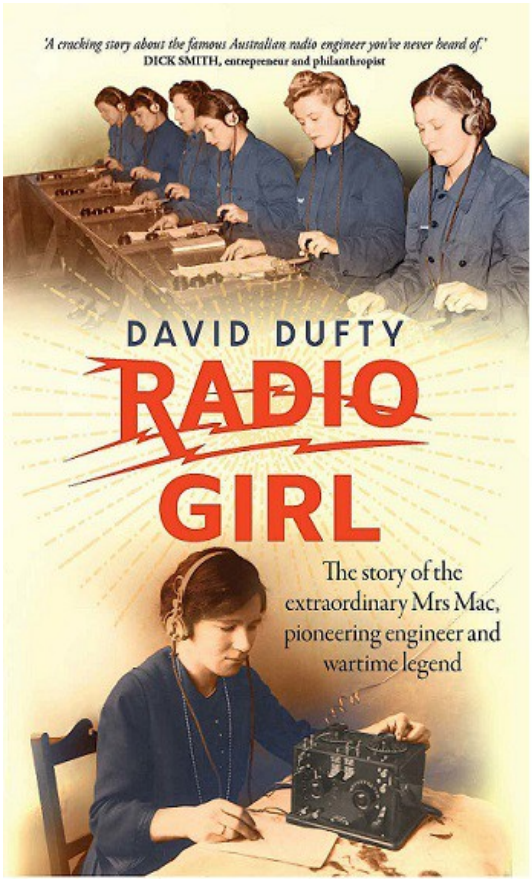
.OTHER INTERESTING BITS. **Click on the images to open.**

.THIS WEEK'S FUN PAGE.

Last week's puzzle solution: IF YOU CAN DECIPHER THIS, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. IF I DO NOT GET A RESPONSE, I WILL NO LONGER PRODUCE SUCH PUZZLES.

Jeff's wife saved the production of 'code breaking puzzles' for our newsletter. Jeff called in to say *"My wife has just deciphered the puzzle in the newsletter, she thinks. She has asked for more such puzzles to be produced"*
- Cheers Jeff

I did come across a fascinating book about Mrs Mac, Morse code, etc., I am sure you will find this book most fascinating. To find out more, open the link provided.



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https://www.allenandunwin.com/browse/books/other-books/Radio-Girl-David-Dufty-9781760876654

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