



## SARC RADIO NET NUMBERS/CHECK INS

**Weekly HF Dawn Patrol – 36** - For week ending Thur 15DEC2022.

**Monday – ?**

**Tuesday – ?**

**Wednesday – 4**

**Thursday- (The Tribander)**

- ? – 2 metres Woodburn.

- ? – 6m Parrots Nest.

- ? – 70cm Parrots Nest.

**Friday 80m (The After Dark Net) – 7**

**SARC nets and times:** <https://sarc.org.au/nets-broadcasts/>

## CALENDAR NOTES & LINKS

Events of interest to SARC are in **BLUE**

Other events of interest to our subscribers are in **GREEN**

**ROSS HULL MEMORIAL VHF/UHF CONTEST:**

<https://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/rosshull/>

**ARRL RTTY ROUND-UP:** <http://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>

**DARC 10M SSB/CW:**

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestdetails.php?ref=223>

**YB DX CONTEST:** <https://ybdxcontest.com/>

**VK SUMMER VHF/UHF FIELD DAY:**

<https://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/>

**SARC OPEN DAY:** <https://sarc.org.au/event/sarc-open-day/>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

See links below

**ROSS HULL MEMORIAL  
VHF/UHF CONTEST**

JAN 01<sup>st</sup> - JAN 31<sup>st</sup>

**ARRL RTTY ROUND-UP**

JAN 7<sup>th</sup> 1800 UTC – 8<sup>th</sup> 2359 UTC

**COMMITTEE MEETING**

JAN 8<sup>th</sup> @ 13:00-16:00 hrs

**DARC 10M SSB/CW**

JAN 8<sup>th</sup> 0900 UTC - 1059 UTC

**YB DX CONTEST**

JAN 14<sup>th</sup> 0000 UTC – 2359 UTC

**KV SUMMER VHF/UHF  
FIELD DAY**

JAN 14<sup>th</sup> 0100 UTC - 15<sup>th</sup> 0059 UTC

**SARC OPEN DAY**

JAN 15<sup>th</sup> @ 09:00 – 14:00

**Tuesday-Net Report**

**DIGI NET**

**- Paul VK2AMT**

**TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER, 2022**

This evening, Paul VK2AMT as VK2SRC logged in: Duncan VK2DLR, Jeff VK2WSR, and Chris VK2ACD for the Digi Net. We had our normal couple of rounds on Woodburn 2 metres before Duncan and Jeff joined me on 40 metres, 7.045 USB. These 2 metre rounds had to be brief, as the repeater dropped out after about 15 seconds.



We used MMSSTV. The mode was Scottie2. It has been a while since we last used MMSSTV. Being HF, the images were quite recognisable but all featured snow and some roughness to varying degrees. That's the disadvantage of SSTV on HF. VHF is much better and more noise free for SSTV





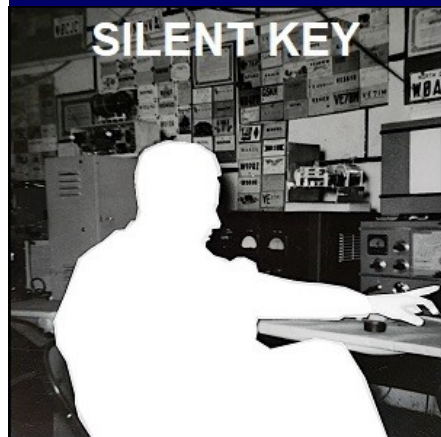
but it is pretty much restricted to locals. We only had a handful of images so the net didn't run much more than 45-50 minutes.

Thanks to Duncan and Jeff for taking part.

– Cheers from Paul VK2AMT (as VK2SRC)

### News Item: Farewell Wal Munn VK2JHN – SK

-Duncan VK2DLR



Last week marked the passing of another long time member of SARC. Wal Munn was known for many years as VK2YHN and later as VK2JHN. He wasn't all that active in later years. Wal was a keen six metre operator, logging up many contacts with Japan and New Zealand.

On the local level Wal was always there supporting club activities. Even in the turbulent times when debate raged over the legal pitfalls of membership of any club; Wal made annual donations that were the equivalent of membership. For him membership was a side issue. Supporting the amateur radio community was the key impetus. He was a keen supporter of JOTA. Decades ago he said "We don't have to worry about the good kids. We know they'll make it. It's the ones

on the fringe; often the ones that you wish weren't there that need our help. That's where we can make a difference." Just this year variations of the phrase "How we treat the most vulnerable is a reflection of our worth." has become a regular quote used by leaders around the world. That phrase was a fundamental belief for Wal. Perhaps he was ahead of his time.

Wal's funeral service was held last Friday. SARC was represented by members who knew Wal and his wife Judy. They attended for themselves and others who were unable to attend. Our thoughts are with his family and friends. They have lost more than a wise elder. Thank you Wal, your wisdom lives on in all who knew you.

-de Duncan VK2DLR

### Is Morse code still used in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?

- Duncan VK2DLR

Every so often I get asked a question along the lines of whether Morse code; CW to most radio operators; is still used. Sometimes it takes the form of a statement like "...Surely Morse code can't be used anymore!.." My usual answer is "Yes" followed by an avalanche of words that usually fail to justify my answer. So I thought about it for a while; read stuff, looked up stuff and talked to CW operators past and present. Here's my thoughts on CW in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**When all else fails there's CW.** If you have two people that know CW and can sense anything that can be converted to 'Short' and 'Long' signals with varying gaps then they can communicate. This can be sound, light, sparks from an ignition coil, tugs on a rope or fingers pressed into an otherwise unresponsive hand. You can carry CW inside your head. The technology is whatever you have on

hand. A Morse key on a radio is simpler than a microphone and the old adage that “CW will get through when voice can’t” remains true. But the days of CW being the last resort under weak and noisy radio conditions is long gone. Many of the modern computer generated digital signals will work long after CW fails. As one CW operator put it “CW works if you can still hear the signal down in the noise. But some digital modes continue to work long after you can’t hear them”.

**CW predates texting and is used in the same way for the same reasons.** Texting has revived the world of abbreviations and trans-language terms. Morse code, like texting takes a lot of time and keystrokes to send a short message. It didn’t take the users very long to work out ways to reduce the number of keystrokes in a message. Several Amateur Radio CW operators recall long CW conversations with distant operators who probably don’t have a common spoken or written language. Reviewing the text written down after these conversations reveal not a single word of a spoken language. Just pages and pages of texting like phrases that carried real information in a real conversation. Perhaps CW and texting are the closest we’ll get to a universal language.

**Informative but not intrusive.** Remember the old ‘pre-smart’ phones that sent out a series of beeps when you got a text message? Any CW operator will tell you that the beeps were usually the CW for SMS (Short Message Service) – the technical name for a phone text. Likewise pilots listened to aviation beacons that were identified in Morse code. Some sophisticated machines report their status in a series of coded beeps. Nobody wants a computer generated voice to talk over the top of a Pilot or Surgeon receiving critical information. But we still want them to hear, unobtrusively in the background that the navigation beacon or heart monitor is still functioning and providing information.

**A human sent this, not a machine.** Many people prefer to receive a handwritten letter rather than something typed. It’s a very personal connection and beautiful calligraphy makes it even more so. The same is true of CW. A “Sent by hand and received by ear” exchange evokes many emotions. A sense of achievement from using a skill that took time and effort to develop. The courage to use your skills in the open for all to see. The pleasure of recognising an operator’s sending style which is as individual as their voice. The wonder of universal humanity as you converse with a stranger unaware of their Race, Gender, Colour, Sexuality, Religion or Philosophy. The feeling of self satisfaction and pride as your skill and mastery of simple tools transform you from an end user of technology into part of the communications link.

Is CW dead? No; not for me.



**6-DAY LISMORE (FORECAST).** Click image to open METEYE (2480 for East Lismore).



Forecast for East Lismore

	Tue. 20 Dec	Wed. 21 Dec	Thu. 22 Dec	Fri. 23 Dec	Sat. 24 Dec	Sun. 25 Dec
Max (°C)	24	25	28	31	27	31
Min (°C)	13	13	13	15	18	17
Chance of rain (%)	10	20	5	10	50	30
Rainfall range (mm)	0	0	0	0	0 to 3	0 to 1



OTHER INTERESTING BITS Click on the 2 images below to open.





# SARC'S CHRISTMAS 'FIND-THÉ-WORDS' PUZZLE

Find the SEARCH WORDS and CLUE WORDS in the grid. Words can go horizontally, vertically or diagonally in all eight directions. Words within words, and strike-through words are not included. Hyphens and gaps in words are not used in the grid. When you are done, the unused letters will spell out a hidden message.

N	I	S	T	Y	I	V	I	S	T	A	P	O	I	N	T	S	S	T
E	H	M	E	E	E	H	O	M	E	T	I	D	I	N	G	S	U	S
W	S	O	D	E	T	N	Y	U	L	E	T	I	D	E	N	R	M	A
S	O	O	T	R	L	R	M	H	G	I	E	L	S	O	S	U	M	M
L	C	R	I	R	R	V	E	I	U	Y	A	R	W	R	E	E	E	T
E	I	B	S	E	C	P	E	L	H	I	B	O	E	E	R	T	R	S
T	E	U	M	R	A	G	R	S	O	C	I	E	R	T	O	A	L	I
T	T	L	F	U	L	N	C	C	H	P	D	R	L	U	I	M	A	R
E	Y	C	S	D	L	I	T	O	S	N	H	T	M	L	D	A	N	H
R	A	A	L	O	S	D	O	P	I	L	E	T	S	H	S	N	D	C
U	I	I	E	L	I	D	R	E	N	L	T	Y	R	T	O	H	E	J
B	E	W	G	P	G	U	R	H	E	I	C	L	A	O	K	L	E	R
B	U	T	N	H	N	P	A	T	N	S	A	L	R	C	N	S	L	H
E	A	L	A	T	S	M	P	S	P	M	R	O	A	A	U	U	T	Y
R	S	C	C	A	H	U	E	T	C	O	O	J	R	S	S	I	N	E
I	A	E	R	I	A	L	S	A	T	R	L	O	O	I	D	A	R	M
R	E	C	N	A	R	P	A	R	S	E	S	E	I	I	D	R	A	N
D	A	W	N	P	A	T	R	O	L	N	T	Y	H	M	Y	R	R	H
E	A	I	S	A	N	T	A	C	L	A	U	S	R	A	I	D	E	M

## SEARCH WORDS

ACMA  
AERIAL  
AMATEUR  
ANGELS  
BELLS  
BIRTH  
CALLSIGNS  
CAROLS  
CHIMNEY  
CHRISTMAS  
CLUB  
CLUBROOMS  
~~MORSE~~ CODE  
DAWN PATROL  
ELVES  
HOLLY  
HOME ~~BREW~~  
JACK ~~FROST~~  
JESUS  
JOLLY  
MERRY  
MYRRH  
NEWSLETTER  
NORTH POLE  
PILE ~~UP~~  
PLUM PUDDING  
RADIO  
RASA  
REINDEERS  
SANTA CLAUS  
SARC  
SINE ~~WAVE~~  
SLEIGH  
SNOW  
~~CHRISTMAS~~ STAR  
TIDINGS  
TINSEL  
~~PINE~~ TREE  
YULETIDE

## WORD CLUES

- The 'S' in SARC \_\_\_\_\_ (10)
- SARC is affiliated with which institution? \_\_\_\_\_ (3)
- Wednesday night net repeater is at Mt. \_\_\_\_\_ (5)
- Endurance Riders Club event \_\_\_\_\_ (6)
- Location of SARC 6m repeater L \_\_\_\_\_ (7)
- The 'S' in RASA \_\_\_\_\_ (7)
- The 'M' in ACMA \_\_\_\_\_ (5)
- VK2SRC favourite field day location \_\_\_\_\_ (5,5)
- Name of the red-noise reindeer \_\_\_\_\_ (7)
- Reindeer's name starting with 'P' P \_\_\_\_\_ (7)
- The 'R' in CRO \_\_\_\_\_ (3)
- Baby Kangaroos \_\_\_\_\_ (5)
- Short whip-antenna \_\_\_\_\_ (6) ducky.
- Type of repeater, or bird \_\_\_\_\_ (6)
- Short for oscilloscope \_\_\_\_\_ (5)

## HIDDEN MESSAGE:

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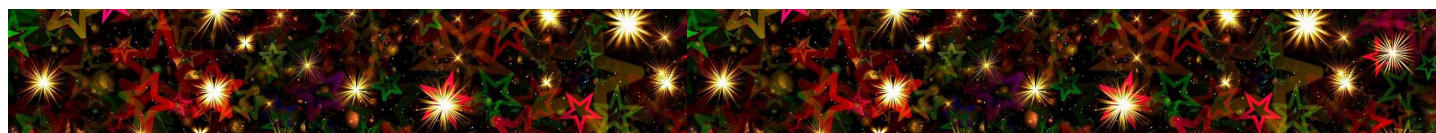
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Peter VK2PAH

ANS: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/12fX9o1ggFd\\_ec0lxtaebcnH36e69lWo/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/12fX9o1ggFd_ec0lxtaebcnH36e69lWo/view?usp=share_link)





## SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

The bottom image has 10 alterations. Can you spot them?



ANS: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MCqUyHzTsVRdG-3TL\\_9O-9qJrocViXDx/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MCqUyHzTsVRdG-3TL_9O-9qJrocViXDx/view?usp=share_link)

**SARC Newsletter Archives:** <https://sarc.org.au/weekly-newsletters/>

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