



GEEELONG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

CLUB ROOMS:- STORRER ST. EAST GEEELONG

MEETINGS:- EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT AT 8pm

POSTAL:- PO BOX 520, GEEELONG.

CLUB CALLSIGN:- VK3ATL

COMMITTEE 1980 - 81

OFFICERS

<u>PRESIDENT</u> <i>Phil Hapgood</i>	VK3ATI Ph 92529	<u>TECHNICAL</u> <i>Charlie Gnaccarini</i>	VK3BRZ
<u>VICE PRES.</u> <i>Peter James</i>	VK3AWY Ph 822751	<u>PUBLICITY</u> <i>Dick Heighway</i>	VK3ABK Ph 433660
<u>SECRETARY</u> <i>Mike Trickett</i>	VK3ASQ Ph 481915	<u>PROPERTY</u> <i>David Godfrey</i>	VK3AZM Ph 521884
<u>TREASURER</u> <i>Harold Selman</i>	VK3CM Ph 213357	<u>EDUCATION</u> <i>Daryl St John</i>	VK3AQR Ph 787558

Jan 81

SYLLABUS

Jan 23	First 1981 Meeting. Natter Night.
Jan 24 (Sat)	B.B.Q. Social night at 3AQR's QTH
Jan 30	Field weekend discussion.
Feb 5 (Thurs)	Start of Novice to Limited/F.C. Course.
Feb 6	General Meeting (8.00 p.m. Sharp) and preparation for field weekend.
Feb 7&8	John Moyle Memorial Field Weekend Contest.
Feb 13	New equipment and ideas.

SOCIAL NIGHT 24th JANUARY.

Saturday night at about 7.00 p.m., a B.Y.O. Bar-B-Que for members, family, and friends will be held at the QTH of Daryl and Coralie St. John VK3AQR....QTH 11 Pride Ave, North Geelong. Bring bathers and towel if weather permits!

NATIONAL FIELD WEEKEND.

Please note, the field weekend is the 7th & 8th of February. NOT 14th & 15th as in our last newsletter.

As you possibly know, this is the G.A.R.C.'s big effort, and over the past few years, we won! The field weekend QTH will possibly be Mt. Cowley but, the committee is interested in hearing of suitable other locations.

To be successful in the 1981 Field Weekend, assistance from members will be required.

Equipment will be possibly OK, but, setting up the stations, tents, beams, etc will require help as well as operating as a club station.

If you wish to enjoy radio in the field, and want to help, advise a committee member NOW, so arrangements can be organized and attend the January 30th Meeting if possible.

Last year we worked over 2600 stations, will we make 3000 + in 1981 ?

CONGRATULATIONS

To Albert and Janet Gnaccarini (VK3ZZX and XYL) for their marriage on Saturday 10th January. Honeymooning in VK2 and VK4 without a rig !! Best wishes for future happiness.

Congratulations to novice course members who were successful in obtaining their novice licences, Clive Paisley VK3VXP, David Rammage, Darren Craven VK3VYQ, David Van Beelen VK3VVZ. Several passed all except regulations, but have re-applied for the February Exam. The novice course was well attended throughout, and the results were very pleasing. It is understood that the pass rate for the exam is generally about 10%

LIMITED/FULL CALL THEORY ASSISTANCE CLASS.

The club will conduct a Novice to Limited/Full Call theory assistance class, commencing Thursday February 5th. This class will be for 10 weeks and the cost will be about \$14.00. As usual, notes and information will be supplied. Peter VK3AWY will assist the Education Officer with the course.

If you are interested, please phone Daryl VK3AQR (787 558) S.A.P. for details.

TRASH AND TREASURE.

The December (80) Trash and Treasure was well attended, and a good time was had by all. The weather was very poor and this naturally affected attendance. It is understood that the Moorabbin and District Radio Club (VK3APC) will sponsor a similar event later this year.

MEMBERSHIP & GEELONG AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS LISTS

Due to a collating error, some members did not receive all pages. If you did not receive a list of G.A.R.C. Members (Green Card) or the Geelong Amateur Radio Operators Directory (2 Blue Cards), please advise the Treasurer (Harold VK3CM)

The recent high wind which did damage to property in Lara, unfortunately wrecked Peter's (VK3AWY) new tower, large with 6 and 10 Mx beams and a coax dipole (Coax dipole was no good anyway). The wind bent the top lattice section onto the roof of his home, and fortunately only 3 tiles were broken. The aerials were completely wrecked. Also Ken (VK3VNE) suffered a wrecked mast and aerials at Leopold during the same storm.

REPEATER -

The repeater (VK3RGL) is back in operation after a few weeks maintenance. Performance is back to normal, but, it is still experiencing an intermittent "mixing" problem occasionally. This mixing signal is still being investigated, but, due to its very intermittent nature, makes it almost impossible to locate.

6 MX VHF

Several members have been heard on 6MX during the last few weeks. These include Bert 3ZZX, Peter 3AWY, Daryl 3AQR, Jim 3XAQ, Phil 3ATI, Arie 3AMZ.

Phil 3ATI and Mike 3ASQ operated Portable during the recent VHF Field Weekend. The band has been open to VK1 - VK8, JA, H44, P29, ZL, YJ8 and FK8.

On the 31.12.80 Daryl VK3AQR worked VK4ZSH (Steven) in Brisbane on 2 meters SSB. This is the 1st known sporadic E opening in this area for a few years. Signals peaked 5 X 9 for about 20 mins. Several Melbourne stations also worked VK4 and the 1.1.81 DX FM Stations from VK2 & VK4 on 88 - 108 MHz were very strong at the time. This is a very handy band indicator!

USE OF 52.050 MHz

Unfortunately several VK 6MX operators still persist in using 52.050 (The National calling Frequency) for non DX contacts (i.e across town) and effectively masking any international stations which now recognise this as the frequency to call on when looking towards VK. With recent conditions to interstate, it has been noted that several QSO's appear at the same time on 52.050 MHz. Best is to call CQ on 52.050 and advise that you are going to QSY to 52.075 or so, well away from .050 .

MT. COWLEY.

Another good field day location ruined!

Out-of-band signals from a Channel 5A translator at Colac has made this popular location, 40 KM S.W. of Geelong in the Otway ranges, useless for 2 meter operation.

Mike VK3ASQ operated in the National VHF Field Weekend and found that the recently installed ABC 5A T.V. translator North of Colac (about 35KM) away created 59 ++ "crud" across the 2 MX Band. Wonder what specifications, if any, apply to this poorly designed equipment/installation.

NEW STATIONS

Jim VK3XAQ / NRF can be heard on 6 MX with his new 551 and PA to be., and also on 144MHz SSB with a FT 221 and 20 Element Phased Array, Clive VK3VXP and David VK3VVZ are ready for new aerials to be installed, while Darren VK3VYQ our youngest member and novice (13 years old) is working DX on 10 MX using 4 Element and a TS120V.

Pleased to hear that Ken Cairns passed the 10 w.p.m. CW, and Novice theory, brush up on the regs Ken !

Alf VK3AJF is to have a minor operation this month, all the best Alf.

Charlie VK3BRZ has now 10 MX mobile installed with remote facilities.

Jim VK3YKK has been heard working the odd DX station on 6 MX with his IC551D.

Bob VK3NSR has been quiet on 10 MX recently due to successfully completing a course in Melbourne.

George VK3AOP retires from work this month, so we hope to hear his TS520S on the air more, CW and phone.

Dick 3VU has made a new array on 2 MX FM for the National Field Weekend, should work better than the YB Special of last year.

It is understood that Bryan 3XBW has been on 6 MX SSB. Several new mobile FM 2 MX rigs are now in operation these include Col 3ZZS, Jim 3XAQ, Don 3DNL, Daryl 3AQR, and David 3XDH, these can be heard on ch 8 Mobile during the day.