

**Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc.
News in Brief.
April/May 2014**

From the Editor.

Now we are into the second half of the year, a while back I asked a learned friend to please switch off the big round a bout for a sec, so I could step off for a while. Nothing happened, but I spoke to this friend and made a statement.

"Instead of the on/off switch, you must have hit the accelerator"

Oh well. it looks like more training needed!!!

Club meetings.

Well , we are just over two weeks away from the club's meetings both annual and general. These meetings will happen on Saturday the 2nd August at the MYCNC complex in Dalby. we will meet at around 0900hrs for morning tea and a chat. Then at 1000hrs sharp we will hold the general meeting followed by the Annual meeting at around 1100hrs. All members, if possible are encouraged to attend, and, of course any visitors will be most welcome. So, members, please bring along a friend.

As per usual, we will follow the meetings with a Tasty BBQ lunch with more time to catch up with members and friends. If you can come and join us, that will be great, and to help us with the catering please send a YES email to myself Neil VK4NF,

@ holmzie@bigpond.com Many thanks, and it will be great to catch up with you.

A wife asks her husband, "Could you please go shopping for me and buy one carton of milk and if they have avocados, get 6. A short time later the husband comes back with 6 cartons of milk.

The wife asks him, "Why did you buy 6 cartons of milk?" He replied, "They had avocados."

If you're a woman, I'm sure you're going back to read it again!

Men will get it the first time.

My work is done here.

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Foundation Licence Course & exams.

The only dates for 2014 left for the foundation licence course/exams are. The 4th 5th October 2014. These will be held at the MYCNC complex in Dalby unless otherwise advised, so if you are keen to try for your Foundation licence, or you know of someone who may like to try, please let us know and we will organize same, as I write, we have no takers.

Foundation licence manuals, (Your entry into Amateur Radio) are available if required. give me (Neil VK4NF) a call or Email and I will organize that. Just \$20 to buy or \$20 to hire with \$15 refundable on return of the book in good order. If we have to post one of these to you we have to allow \$12 for postage.

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Since the snow came all the wife has done is look through the window. If it gets any worse, I'll have to let her in.

International Lighthouse activation weekend

Yes another interesting activity happening with the club this year. on the weekend of the 15th 16th 17th August this year we will activate the Caloundra lighthouse for the international lighthouse & lightship weekend. At this stage this activity will operate under the callsign of VK4TH, but this may change depending on how many interested participants join in. So if you are interested please contact Andy VK4TH on Email hawat1@yahoo.com, or contact the club and we can direct your interest.

INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND 2014

The Bunya Mountains and District AmCom Inc. will activate the Old Caloundra Lighthouse AU0025 this year during the International Lighthouse and Lightship weekend, August 15th - 17th 2014. Currently we plan to use call sign VK4TH, but this might change. If you are interested in joining us for this exciting activity, please contact Andy

Your Job won't take care of you when you are sick.
But your friends and parents will. Stay in touch.

SOME NEWS RE CLUB REPEATERS.

In order to keep our repeater installation separate from the other services on Mt Kiangarow, we are in the process of establishing our own independent power supply. On Saturday we installed two X 160 watt solar panels and a solar regulator. This gear was connected to the two x 6volt 200amphour batteries that we will be using.

very shortly, our equipment will be connected to this power supply and the UHF repeater on 438.7mhz will be reinstalled. Please stay tuned for further upgrades.



The two lower solar panels installed at the Mt Kiangarow repeater site. allowing room for 4 more.

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. More Exam Questions.

1. *the sensitivity of a radio receiver would be measured in*
A. milivolts. B. volts. C. Kilovolts D. Microvolts.
2. *what voltage would you set a solar charge regulator cut off, to maintain a 12 volt battery at relatively full charge, while ensuring the battery is not over charged.*
A. 12 volts. B. 16volts. C. 14volts. D. 11volts

Answers at the end of the rag. DON'T CHEAT!!!



Young Noely

Noel's Nutty Campers
VK4NL
Ph. 0413 958 216
Email. vk4nl@iprimus.com.au



Noel's Van

Noel's new Email address. vk4nlnoel@gmail.com
Noelie, might have to get you to send me an updated header. ED.

CALENDAR FOR NOEL'S NUTTY CAMPERS AND INTER CLUB CAMPING EVENTS - 2014

OCTOBER 2014 - 24th, 25th, 26th Lake Monduran near Gin Gin Dog friendly - YES
<https://www.lakem.com>.

Can you please mark off this date in your dairies; further information will be sent as each event gets closer. Regards NN (Nutty Noel)

March/April 2015 annual camp at Kirkleigh Somerset dam

Due to some problems that were incurred at the 2014 camp, this annual event is under review, hopefully more info will be available after the general meeting in two weeks time. please watch this space for further developments. any questions, contact the club.

John Moyle Field Day

Some of our members are keen to see this event happen again in 2015 when we plan to team up again with the Darling Downs Club for the weekend. please stay tuned for more info on where this will take place as well as other details, I am sure that those who took part have many ideas on how to streamline operations thus making things happen smoothly and making this an enjoyable weekend,

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If a relationship has to be a secret, You shouldn't be in it.

Club Netts

Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc.

Each Sunday evening at 1930hrs we run an 80mt nett on 3.650 MHz.

If you have some time to spare on a Sunday evening, please call in and say hi, and join in the different topics of discussion that arise from time to time. It is great to have our regulars on this nett, but there are quite a few missing, So, the question. Where are you all.???

An update on the IRLP & ECHOLINK Nodes. Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc

irlp node 6983 Echo link node now operating on VK4RET 2mt repeater and the reflectors are now able to be used. The WIA news is now being broadcast on this repeater, and the auto call-backs are also up and running, please be encouraged to drop your call sign in. Thanks to all. Rick Lammas VK4NRL.

Don't forget the running of these facilities has a cost, so if you would like to assist with a donation, that will be most helpful and appreciated.

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The Efficiencies, or rather the inefficiencies
of Lead acid batteries and solar panels.

Hi again folks, well it looks like we are to look at battery chargers this round, so we will see how we go.

chargers come in many and varied devices, but first we will deal with the basic unregulated non automatic device. These basically consist of a transformer, a full wave rectifier, an on off switch, a high tension fuse, maybe an amp meter, probably a power led indicator. the transformer is energized from the 240volt mains through the primary winding of the transformer, then the secondary winding produces low voltage AC volts, that is fed to the rectifier to convert the AC to DC volts. this unfiltered, un regulated voltage can range from 16 to 24 volts depending on the turns ratio of the transformer. The charge current is basically dependent on the size and wattage of the transformer, and the condition of the battery being charged. these chargers not regulated at all can and will over charge the battery if left on charge too long. you can of course check and monitor the battery voltage so that you know when to switch off the charger. These, as with any other mains charger are very inefficient due to the fact that you have to apply energy to the transformer primary winding in order to (by simple Induction) produce energy in the secondary winding. generally the efficiency comes in at around 65 to70% imagine your bank account operating like this..

Now a days most battery chargers are automatic. IE. they have a voltage sensing or monitoring circuit that will either slow down gradually or simply switch off the charge current, and usually continues to pulse the battery to maintain the charge, remember we said earlier that due to battery inefficiencies, they will not maintain full charge just sitting. Also these days we have smart chargers, multi stage chargers, etc, some with Battery reconditioning modes and some specifically to charge and care for the different types of batteries. also many chargers are what we call switch mode chargers, these don't use a transformer, but use other circuitry to convert the mains power to DC to charge the battery. I need to do some homework on the efficiency of these types of chargers, but they are much lighter in weight and should be more efficient than the Linear, or transformer type.

That will do for this round, Catch you next round. Neil VK4NF.

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Darling Downs Radio Club netts.

The club conducts two nets on a committed and regular basis.

1. A 2m net is conducted each Sunday morning at 10am after the news broadcast . At 9:00am the WIA News re-broadcast following which a call-back which the node automatically records and sends to the WIA. Then, at 10:00am, Please note: The IRLP and Echolink facilities will be shut down from 9:00am to the end of the WIA news and call-back, after which the IRLP and Echolink will be enabled. However, if you wish to join the 10:00am net, you can call in on IRLP or EchoLink approximately 8 minutes before 10:00am, and join us on the net.

2. Each Saturday evening there is an 80m net on 3.587 MHz (+ or – QRM) commencing at 7:30pm and is hosted by Theo Moller (VK4ESK). This net is also well attended by both local and interstate amateurs. The Club has two repeaters, VHF and UHF, co-sited, and both employing the call sign vk4rdd. The 2m repeater transmits on 146.750 MHz with standard 600 kHz offset. IRLP is available on the 2m repeater. Node number is 6958. Connect: Use DTMF for the node number you require. Disconnect: Use DTMF “73” EchoLink is also available on the 2m repeater. Node number is 69580 Connect: Use DTMF “star” and then the node number required. Disconnect: Use DTMF “73” only. [NB: No “star” required

The Committee for the 2013 - 2014 period is:

President - David Curry - VK4SP Vice-President - Bill Main - VK4ZD
Treasurer - Kevin Crandell - VK4VKX Secretary - Terry Walters - VK4KTP
Steering Committee: Dougal Johnston - VK4EKA George Ferguson - VK4GSF
Rod Webb - VK4ZJ Wayne Richter - VK4ARW
Repeater Committee: John Mondientz Terry Walters Rod Webb Wayne Richter

PO Box 3257 Village Fair Toowoomba 4350

Secretary: Terry Walters VK4KTP.

Web page: <http://www.ddrci.webs.com>

The club meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month

The Club meets at the Drayton Bowling Club, 44 Gipps street, Drayton.

All meetings start at 7:00pm sharp.

The second Monday is always a Management committee meeting, and is held each month.

The fourth Monday is usually a social and technical evening, with 2 exceptions:

1. In July this Monday is the Annual General Meeting of the club
2. In December there is no meeting on the fourth Monday.

A good way to support any of your radio clubs and its assets activities and projects is to become a financial member. To find out how to do this, and obtain an application form. Please make contact with your club via any of the avenues below.

Some folks do not wish to be members of a club, and that is quite understandable. Given this, the best way to support you club is to make a financial donation. many thanks..

Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc.

Meets on the first Saturday in February, May, August & November.

@ the MYCNC complex in Dalby, or at other venues decided @ previous meetings.

Postal address 15 Bunya Street Dalby Old 4405.

Postal Address	President:-----Rick Lloyd Jones	VK4FRLJ	Ph 0457 349 920
15 Bunya Street	Vice President:-----Richard Lammas	VK4NRL	Ph 0429 726 833
Dalby 4405	Secretary: -----Neil Holmes	VK4NF	Ph 07 4662 4950)
Email.	Treasurer: -----Neil Holmes	VK4NF	Ph 07 4662 4950) Mob 0488 687 649.
vk4bad@wia.org.au	Repeaters; - VHF 146.675. UHF 438.7	Co sited on the Bunya Mts.	
bunyaamcom.org.au	VHF 147/250mhz. + offset.	Karingal hill. UHF CH 7 CB Repeater. currently off air.	

The club's 2mt repeater on 146.675mhz on Mt Kiangarow, now requires a 91.5hz access tone, this was required to stop some interference. don't forget the APRS repeater operating on the Bunyas VK4RET-3 on 145.175mhz. please make use of this and let us have feedback on how it goes.

The UHF repeater will be back on air very soon, currently we are sorting out the power supplies on the mountain, soon the club will have its own independent power supply, stay tuned for more.

Sunshine Coast Amateur Radio Club.

Contact: Secretary Warwick Marshallsea VK4NW SCARC, PO Box 7551, Sippy Downs, Qld. 4556. Email warwickmar@hotmail.com

You may also contact Noel, VK4NL, who is the voice of SCARC to us on the Darling Downs, on vk4nlnoel@gmail.com

80m net: Each Thursday evening, 7:30pm 3.660 MHz call-sign VK4WIS.

2m net: Each Sunday evening, 7:30pm via VK4WIS on 144.300 MHz, USB.

6m net: Each Friday evening, 7:30pm at VK4RSN on 53.700 MHz.

10m net: Each Wednesday evening, 7:30pm 28.70 MHz.

EchoLink Internet station is VK4WIS-R, and Node number is 306184. Available on 146.850 MHz and 146.825 MHz (linked

) IRLP Available on 438.075 MHz, with Node number 6564.

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For sale, give away or wanted

FOR SALE: Uniden BC 350 A Frequency Scanner - AU \$ 99.-

For sale is a used Uniden BC 350 A Frequency / Police Scanner. The scanner is in very good condition and works well to receive local emergency / law informant services as well as 70 cm / 2 mt ham bands, UHF CB, airband etc. etc. Comes with power supply, users manual and telescopic BNC antenna. Please contact Andy (VK4TH): hawat1@yahoo.com or mobile: 0438 444 218 if interested.

WANTED, DETAILS OF PRELOVED GEAR THAT NEEDS A NEW HOME
no I am not going to put the contact details here, U know where to find them. ED.

Answers to the exam questions. Q1. (D) Q2 (D) how did U go ??? Feedback please.

*If you would like to add some copy for publication in the next issue of News In Brief,
please Email same to – holmzie@bigpond.com
Many thanks to all those who have contributed*

Thought for the month.

**. Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles,
It takes away today's peace.**

Until next time, enjoy your hobby. Neil Holmes VK4NF.---- Editor.