

**Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc.  
News in Brief.  
Summer 2016**

**From the Editor.**

**Hi folks, well I guess we can stretch a point and try a summer edition of the rag. GEEE the year is flying, I hope it is all you expected it to be and continues to do so.**

**Club meetings.**

**The next General meeting will be held on Saturday the 6th of February 2016. At the MYCNC complex, Cnr of Drayton and Nicholson streets in Dalby. 0900hrs for smoko, 1000hrs for the meeting, lunch to follow. All visitors will be most welcome, as is all our members. We do have some interesting things to discuss, so come along if you can, the famous BBQ will be happening for lunch.**

**Club Web Site.**

**Our Web Address is [bunyaamcom.org.au](http://bunyaamcom.org.au) this address is the same, and now that the site has been upgraded, we no longer have the annoying pop ups. please check it out when U have some time.**

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**Foundation licence course and Exams**

**Well the good news is that we have an event planned for the first weekend in March, {5th & 6th March} to be held at the MYCNC facility in Dalby. at this stage we have 5 for the foundation course and exams as well as 1 or 2 to sit the standard exam. if anyone would like to come along and help out, and give the candidates some encouragement, please let us know so we can cater for the morning teas and lunches.**

**. More Exam Questions.**

- 1. If 100watts of TX power was attenuated by 20DB, the power level would then be  
A. 50watts. B. 10watts. C. 5 watts. D. 1 watt.**
- 2. A half wave Dipole antenna fed in the centre would have a feed point impedance of.  
A. 25ohms. B. 50ohms. C. 75ohms. D. 300ohms.**

**Answers at the end of the rag. DON'T CHEAT!!!  
Or I will jump out of your computer and rip your jolly arms off!!!**

This might be worth having a look at.  
Australian latest 2 metre band plan

Please note the changes which have been adopted for frequencies between 144.700 and 145.800 MHz. These changes include rearrangement of simplex channels and the provision of extra repeater allocations for use in cases where none of the regular channels is available.

<http://www.wia.org.au/members/bandplans/data/documents/Australian%20Band%20Plan%20m%20150729.pdf>



Young Noely

Noel's Nutty Campers  
VK4NL  
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Noel's Van

## CALENDAR FOR NOEL'S NUTTY CAMPERS EVENTS - 2016

### April 2016 - 21,22,23,24

Bjelke Petersen Dam – Dog friendly -YES

Please note, this camp is replacing the usual annual camp held at Somerset dam.

### July 2016 - 21,22,23,24

Yarraman Caravan Park– Dog friendly - YES

### OCTOBER -13,14,15,16

Toowoomba Show Grounds – Dog friendly - YES

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

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### *Repeater update.*

*OK as most of you will know, we have been having problems mainly with our 2mt repeater on Mt Kiangarow for some time now, we have spent considerable time and money trying to sort the problem to no avail. we have worked out that one of the solar charge regulators operated by one of the other services on site, is generating noise, that is mixing with our transmitter, causing our receiver to be desensed by around 20db, making the repeater nearly unusable. this problem is happening during the daylight hours, when the regulator is switching, (batteries at full charge) during the night time hours, the repeater is working normally and very well. please bear with us on this, at present we are seeking assistance suggestions and advice from the owners of the other service, as to what we can do to sort the problem.*

*Also the local Dalby repeater is on air, but we are looking at what options we may have re improving the antenna system, this repeater is now operating on 147 250megs with a plus offset. normal operation for a repeater above 147megs.*

Some good advice.

Don't hold postmortems.

Don't spend your time brooding over mistakes or sorrows.

Don't be one who never gets over things

## Fundraising.

Well the club's fundraising efforts have been happening and will continue to happen as we aim to cover the costs to equipment upgrades particularly to the gear on our repeater site on the Bunyas. We run a sausage sizzle on Saturday mornings outside Dalby Home Hardware in Dalby, when members are available to attend, We have been doing this for about two and a half years now, and have raised between 5 & 6 grand so far. Though this may seem like a hard slog, perseverance is the key, and it would not have been possible without the dedication of those who have been involved, and not to forget those who have willingly made some very generous donations that has helped the cause along. many thanks, and a good job done by all. Weather permitting, the next sizzle will be on this coming Saturday the 31st January from 7.30 till 12.30. If you are around, call in and say hi.

## 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.???*

*Also we have restarted a 2mt nett on Wednesday evenings at 1930 hrs on the Bunya Mts 2mt repeater. 146.675 megs please call in if you can, and join the conversation.*

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

Ok, hi folks, it is time we started to look at the most over rated device of all, The solar panel. We will firstly look at how these devices are rated for sale. as you will all know, solar panels are specked at a certain wattage, 20w 50w 100w etc, so, how do they arrive at this rating.

Now those of you, or maybe some of you who hold an amateur licence will know the formulary for wattage, I know of three, but we will use the basic one here,  $W = EI$ . Watts = Volts X Current.

So we will use a typical 12 volt (one designed to charge a 12 volt battery) 100watt panel. Now, as you should know, the output voltage for a 12 volt charger is much more than 12 volts, the ones I have struck have, (what we refer to as open circuit voltage,) an OCV of from 19 to 24 volts. The other reading we need is the SCC short circuit current. So, to work out the wattage of a solar panel, do we simply multiply the OCV by the SCC. I am sure that some makers of panels do this, but it is far from Accurate.

Lets take a look at it. say we have a panel with an OCV of 20volts, and an SCC of 5amps. what is the result,  $W = EI = 100$ watts. Ok, now the first thing you are going to do is hook it up to a battery, now we all know that a Battery is a resistive load, so it is going to restrict the current flow. my tests have shown that the drop in current is around the 10%, so straight away we have a drop of about 500miliamps. total current is now 4.5 amps. so  $W = EI =$  all of a sudden we are down to 90watts. Now some more accurately rated panels use an OCV of 18volts, now we have 81watts.

now the maximum voltage you can or should charge a battery up to obtain full charge is 14.2volts, some say 14.5volts, depending how much total current you are putting into the battery verses the size of the battery s but we will use 14.5volts. now what is our wattage. 65.25 watts.

so I would rate our sample 100watt panel at 65.25 watts. at best, it is no more than 81 watts.

A Ridgie Didge 100watt solar panel should have a load current of Around the 7 amps.

We must remember that we are discussing inefficiencies in these devises, so the critics will argue that this is where the inefficiencies with solar panels comes to the fore.

we will delve more into solar power in the next issue

Neil Holmes VK4NF.

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### ***Darling Downs Radio Club nets.***

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

To contact the DDRRC.

The secretary,

PO Box 3257 Village Fair Toowoomba 4350

Web page: <http://www.ddrci.webs.com> has all the details.

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	President:-----	Reg Kerlake	VK4AQU	Ph 07 4662 4950
15 Bunya Street	Vice President:-----	Peter Griffiths	VK4POP	Ph 07 4662 1509
Dalby 4405	Secretary: -----	Neil Holmes	VK4NF	Ph 07 4662 4950 )
Email.	Treasurer: -----	Neil Holmes	VK4NF	Ph 07 4662 4950 ) Mob 0488 687 649.
<a href="mailto:vk4bad@wia.org.au">vk4bad@wia.org.au</a>	Repeaters; -	VHF 146.675.	UHF 438.7	Co sited on the Bunya Mts.
Website. <a href="http://bunyaamcom.org.au">bunyaamcom.org.au</a>		VHF repeater located in Dalby	147/250mhz.	positive offset.

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**Business conventions are important . . .  
because they demonstrate how many people a company can  
operate without.**

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## 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

**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.

Our new foundation licensees are looking for suitable equipment to help them be on air, so if you have any surplus gear, that would be suitable, please send details, prices etc. and we will pass this info on.

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

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*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](mailto:holmzie@bigpond.com)***

*Many thanks to all those who have contributed*

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

**some thoughts for this new year.**

**I have seen better days, but I have also seen worse.**

**I don't have everything that I want, but I do have all I need.**

**I woke up with some Aches and Pains this morning, but I woke up.**

**My life may not be perfect, but I am blessed.**

**Goodness is stronger than evil,  
love is stronger than hate,  
light is stronger than darkness,  
truth is stronger than lies.**