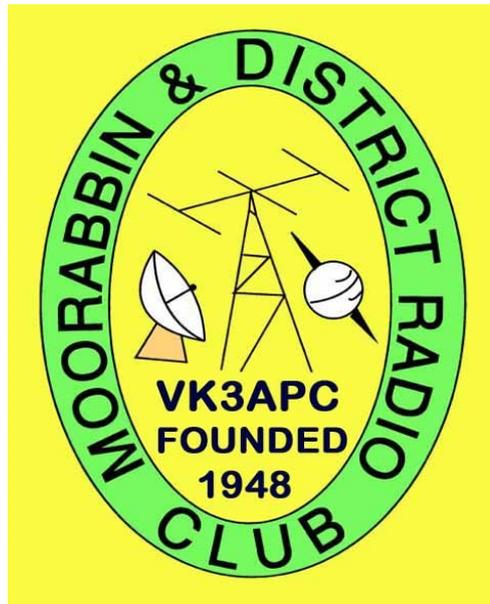


APC NEWS



**70th Anniversary
Year**

**HAMFEST on
12th MAY**

**JOTT on 20th
MAY**



**The M&DRC 2018 Hamfest is at a NEW VENUE. Parking available.
Take the road off Ferntree Gully Road to the Brandon park reserve. Venue on left.**

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QTC

In late February I underwent major surgery to remove a cancer. The operation was successful and I am recovering well. However my energy levels have been low hence the late issue of the APC news for March April 2018.

We have a second AR7 gifted by Neville VK3NZ. Thanks Neville. It has the original power supply and all coil boxes. Just to show we are progressive we have purchased an IC7300, a lovely beast. We will be selling off some of our older but still very useable equipment over the next few weeks.

The Club Hamfest is coming up as is the Jamboree on the Trail. Get involved, they are great events.

73

Ron

VK3AFW,

APC News Editor.

COMING UP

11th May, Friday PM No Meeting	12th May, Saturday, Hamfest
	20 May, Saturday, Jamboree on the Trail
8th June, Friday PM Cellular base station Antenna Characteristics and Testing, Ian VK3XI	
	16th June, Saturday, International Museum Day Open Day at Club
13th July, Friday PM TBA	
10th August, Friday PM TBA	
	18th, 19th August , Saturday, Sunday, ILLWE, McCrae Light.

ANNUAL HAMFEST

Due to building renovations we have relocated to a **NEW VENUE.**

See page 2

Make sure other members know not to go to the same old place.

Helpers required to give a break to the usual people on the BBQ, Entry and Club table.

JAMBOREE ON THE TRAIL 2018



What is JOTT?

Jamboree On The Trail is an annual day for the World Scout Movement to hike together. All Scouts, whatever their age and wherever they may be in the world, are invited to participate in whatever way they can. Cubs and younger Scouting sections could visit a local nature trail as part of a weekend camp. A Scout Troop might check out a hiking trail while working on badge requirements. A Rover Crew might make a Service Project out of restoring or maintaining a hiking trail.

JAMBOREE ON THE TRAIL 2018 cont'd

Melbourne Region JOTT - MAY 20th

This year the hike is following the Solar System Sculpture Trail along the St Kilda foreshore all the way to Beacon Cove. It's about a 6 km walk and should take around 2 and-a-bit hours to complete.

- Hike Co-ordinator:
 - Murray Taylor, Cub Scout Commissioner, Melbourne Region
cubs.comm.melbourne@vicscouts.asn.au
 - VK3MJT
 - 0417 319 256
 - Check In commences at **10.00 am**.
 - Check In closes at **11:15 am**

Overall distance is approximately 6 km, and will take about 2.5 hours.

JAMBOREE ON THE TRAIL 2018 cont'd

Calling MDRC members

As in previous years, **I am asking for some MDRC members to become part of the communications team** to support our young Scouting members as they travel along the route of the JOTT Hike.

You will need to be able to operate portable on 147.475 Mhz Simplex for several hours. Also BYO munchies, water bottle / coffee, sun screen, rain coat etc. Also a pad and pen/pencil will be needed. You may wish to bring your own chair, though all checkpoints have some benches etc.

At least one Scout Leader will be with you to manage the checkin-checkout at each point – your duties will be to pass on the details of the team arrival/departures, and any other management messages as required.

A simple message log sheet will be available.

If you wish to join us please let me know ASAP. A briefing meeting will be held on May 9th.

Yours in Scouting

Murray Taylor – VK3MJT

JAMBOREE ON THE TRAIL 2018 cont'd

Checkpoints

- CHECKPOINT 1 – Sun
 - o Hike Base – St Kilda Marina Park – opposite Blessington St
 - o Melways 58 A12 (2N K11)
 - o Radio operator 1
 - o NB Murray T (VK3MJT) will be there also as Hike Co-ordinator, but will rely on MDRC operator for most comms.
- o CHECKPOINT 2 – Saturn
 - o Far end of Catani Gardens.
 - o Melways 57 K9 (2N J5)
 - o Radio operator 2
 - o This is also the location of the First Aid Team
- o CHECKPOINT 3 - (not a planet)
 - o Plum Garland Playground – near Victoria St
 - o Melways 57 D5 (2J H10)
 - o Radio Operator 3
- o CHECKPOINT 4 – Pluto
 - o Westport Reserve – The Boulevard and Barak Rd
 - o Melways 56 H3
 - o Radio operator 4

JAMBOREE ON THE TRAIL 2018 cont'd

Emergency Markers

There are numerous emergency markers along the trail – To report an incident to the Hike Co-ordinator, please provide the number of the nearest marker – they look like this. The majority will be COP and 3 digits, some are BAY and 3 digits.

ALWAYS Notify the Hike Co-ordinator **FIRST**, so that appropriate action(s) can be commenced. Contact the Hike Co-ordinator via mobile phone or through the Radio operators at the check-points.



This is typical of the Marker number that we need to

February Meeting

“Build your own SDR” by Julie VK3FOWL and Joe VK3YSP

Julie and Joe stepped up to the plate at short notice due to a blunder by the old bloke who is supposed to organise these talks. If he does this again he should be sacked.

As usual the presentation was professionally delivered to an interested group of members.

Comprehensive details of the project can be found at:

<http://www.sarcnet.org/>. Look under “Projects”.

The receiver uses a RTL-SDR DVB-T dongle and a Raspberry Pi 3. to receive the usual amateur modes and features a 3.5 inch LCD display..

Thanks Joe and Julie.

March Meeting



The Icom crew demonstrating.



Lee VK3GK tries a button press (left) and some hard data (right)

March Meeting cont'd

Icom (Australia) presented at the March monthly meeting at the Moorabbin & District Radio Club (MDRC) . They spoke about the history of Icom, their new products and demonstrated the IC-7610 to members and guests.

One of the Icom engineers gave the group a presentation on the history of Icom and the differences between the IC-7600 and IC-7610. A lot of questions were asked and feedback was given on a range of Icom products from D-Star to the IC-7300 and other areas of interest.

The IC-7610 was connected to the clubs antenna and some of the members had a turn with the unit. Everybody was very impressed with its performance.

Thanks to Jason Shaw and Chris from Icom for their efforts.

April Meeting

Lee VK3GK gave a talk on his recent VK9 Dxpeditions, illustrated by some interesting photographs.

Being part of Australia's territories Cocos Keeling and Christmas Islands might seem pretty easy dx locations to activate. The logistics were no less demanding with weight restrictions and equipment coming from the USA. Team membership changed as the departure date neared, adding to the need for well honed management skills.

Changes to the surrounds of their accommodation caused a rethink of how to deploy the antennas. Propagation was not wonderful leaving slabs of the day when no contacts could be made.

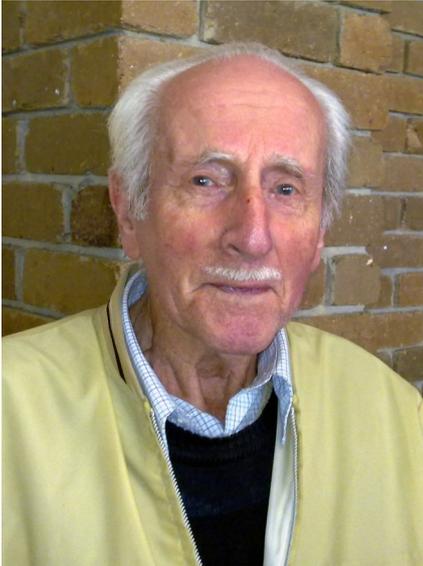
Nevertheless a very respectable number of stations were contacted world wide and the expeditions were successful and without injury or major incidents.

Thanks Lee.

References:

<http://christascocos2017.vkdxg.com/index.php/2017/10/11/news-update-from-lee-vk3gk-at-vk9ci/>

OBIT: Ian Simpson VK3XIS



Ian was born on 22/9/24 and passed away on 15/3/18.

He worked as an electrician at the Aeronautical Laboratories and was called upon to provide support to many research projects as well as the usual maintenance and refitting that occurs at large establishments.

Sailing was a lifetime passion, particularly in the Gippsland Lakes. He came to amateur radio later in life and was a regular attendee at the M&DRC. For many years he could be heard on 80 m in contact with sailing friends who were also licenced. He was a regular on the “drive time” net and being possessed of an elevated QTH and large antenna array he put out a cracking signal. When he was unable to attend the Tuesday meetings any more the net provided a link with his friends at the Club.

Ian was what is called a “handyman”. He built some of his equipment and did it in a thorough and professional manner. No shoddy workmanship for Ian.

Farewell Ian.

TRADE DISCOUNTS

FOR CLUB MEMBERS at ALTRONICS and JAYCAR.

Moorabbin and District Radio Club Inc. members can now buy over the counter at **Trade prices** from both **Altronics and Jaycar**. When making a purchase ask for **Trade Discount** and for **Altronics** quote the Club's Trade account number **32323** and your **call sign** or for **Jaycar** quote Customer Number **45400209**. **This is NOT a charge account so you use your money.**
Note: Minimum purchase of \$20 may apply.

Check out these companies at their websites.



<http://www.altronics.com.au>



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