

# 8<sup>th</sup> Digital Amateur Radio Television Worldwide QSO Party Friday 28<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2020

## *'Every Pixel tells a story'*

It has been a while since the 7<sup>th</sup> DATV QSO Party as the VK3RTV repeater was decommissioned from Olinda and made the move firstly testing mode at Surrey Hills and now at its final location at Mount View. The previous 7<sup>th</sup> DATV QSO Party was held on 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Now with VK3RTV at Mount View and all testing and improvements complete, the 8<sup>th</sup> DATV QSO Party can happen three years later – at least COVID-19 won't shut this one down!

The 2020 DATV QSO Party started at on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30 PM, with stations from Melbourne, Sydney, Whyalla, Port Pirie, Tasmania (North Coast and Hobart) and perhaps Brisbane. Saturday morning 29<sup>th</sup> August started 10 AM in Columbus Ohio and then moved across the US to Nevada and then the West Coast. It was live streamed on the BATC as well as well as having multiple access options to VK3RTV for stations external to VK3RTV. Peter Cossins suggested that overs were limited to 4- 5 min max and prepared videos as short, with more short overs better than a few long ones.

### LINKED AMATEUR RADIO TELEVISION REPEATERS

VK3RTV	MELBOURNE	VICTORIA
VK2RTS	SYDNEY	NEW SOUTH WALES
VK3RMD	PORT PIRIE	SOUTH AUSTRALIA
WR8ATV	COLUMBUS	OHIO USA
WO8TV	BOULDER	COLORADO USA
W6ATN NETWORK	CALIFORNIA	USA



Peter Cossins VK3BFG Opening Address of the 2020 DATV QSO Party

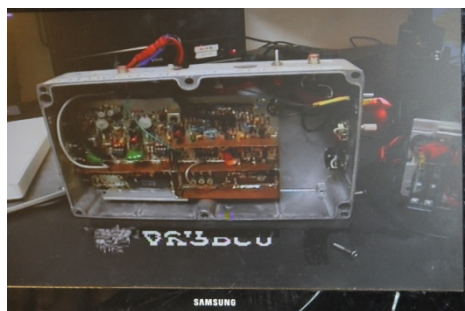
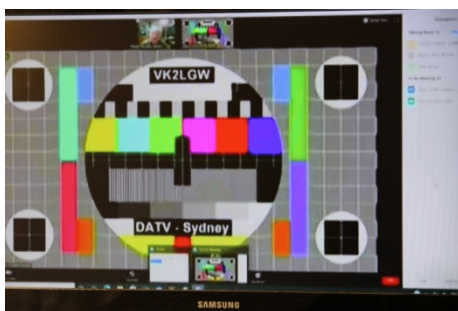
## FRIDAY NIGHT – VK LOCAL LINK UP

Well what a marathon, both days went way longer with so much information prepared by everyone. There were audio hassles, but most of these seem to be on the Skype, YouTube or Zoom side, probably as many folks don't use these as often, but in future years these teething problems will get sorted.

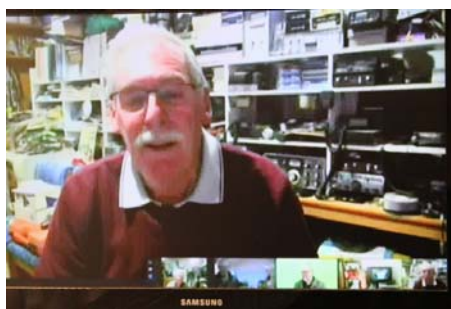
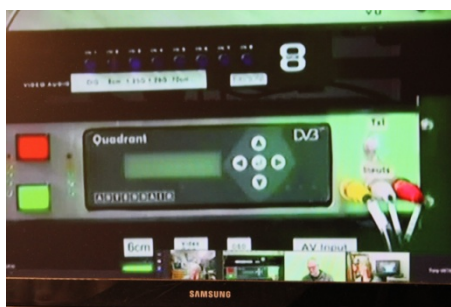
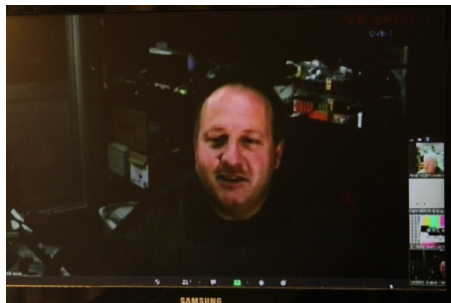
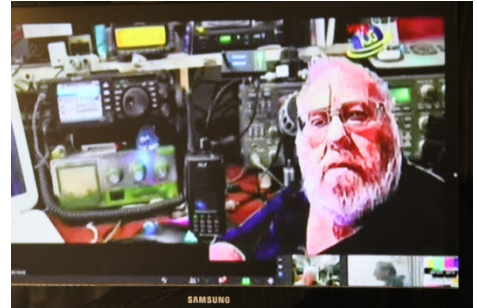
Because of a major storm and strong winds the day before quite a few Melbourne stations were not able to come up as they had no mains power due to storm damage.

Stations from Melbourne, New South Wales and South Australia all joined, linked up via Zoom or Skype. The range of topics and equipment and projects on display was staggering, diverse and well presented. There were a few audio hiccups, but as someone said, if it was all perfect, it would be boring...

One difference from VK compared to the States, is we use more on screen display identification, such as names, call signs and location data, you readily know who is live on air at any given time.









## SATURDAY – INTERNATIONAL LINK UP

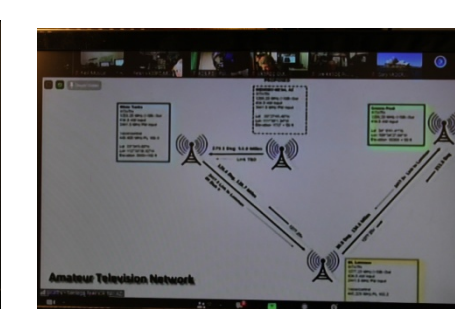
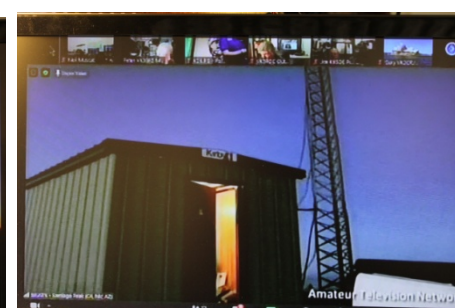
Like the night before the session was way longer due to all the content from all the stations. VK3RTV fired up at 10.00am and the DATV QSO Party session went for over 5 hours. Once again audio problems were the main culprit, but this was all on the internet linking side, not ham radio.

Not all USA stations are easy to know as they only speak the call sign not use text identification. Plus the accent and the speed call signs are said makes it hard to write it down so quickly. Using phonetics would help. Again the display of what projects people were working on was varied from simple things to major goals. I think we all got the celebrity thumbs up from the guys in the States! All the pre-prepared videos the VK crew put up was high quality, glad I filmed mine prior to the event.

The first stations to come on were Australia followed by the USA. The power in parts of Melbourne was still out with lots of DATV stations that should have been on were not this year. It was daytime here and mid to late evening, into the night in America. The weather here was perfect, should be have been DATV portable in a park, with a BBQ, instead of a house lockdown.











Peter Cossins giving the closing address, it's been a long two days

## THE ROLL CALL

While we try to be accurate, this list might have errors, but whom we think came on air was...

### FRIDAY NIGHT

In order of appearance was,

VK2CRJ – Gary, VK2LGW – Luke, VK7OTC – Justin, VK7AX – Tony, VK3BCU – Neil, VK3CH – Mick, VK3ATV – John, VK3WV – Dennis, VK3CSJ – Clint, VK3WWW – Jack, VK5BD – Bevan, VK5KJG – John, VK5YYY – Roger, VK5MSD – Steven, VK5DMC – David, VK5ALX – Alex

### SATURDAY

Roughly in order of appearance was,

VK3CH – Mick, VK3WWW – Jack, VK3ATV – John, VK3WV – Dennis, VK3CSJ – Clint, VK3BCU – Neil, VK3BFG – Peter.

From the States, 5 Call Signs were seen on the BATC Chat window, we had up to 25 viewers on VK3RTV 2 and peaking around 20 on VK3RTV 1, but RTV2 held the most views.

KH6HTV – Jim, K6SOE – Jim, WA6NUT – Rick, KA7HQP – Dennis, K0PYX – Larry, N8ZM – Thomas, W8ACT – Charlie, W8RMC – James, N0JOY – Lee, AB0MY – Bill, K0JOI – Glenn, WB0VES – Peter, WB6HYH – Tom, KC6JPG – Roland, K0BCCU – Lee, W6KVC – Gary, WB9KMO – Rod

From VK5, VK5BD – Bevan, VK5YYY – Roger, VK5ALX – Alex, VK5MSD – Steven, VK5DMC – David  
From VK2, VK2CRJ – Gary, VK2ATU – John.