

2019 Keith Roget Memorial National Parks Award activation period report

Brief Award History:

The aim of the Keith Roget Memorial National Parks Award has always been to encourage portable operation in Victoria's National Parks. The Award started around 1970 as the Victorian National Parks Award. The driving force behind it was Keith Vidmore Roget VK3YQ on the WIA Victorian Division Council after serving in the RAAF during World War II. Wanting to keep the ideals of the Award, his widow Jean agreed in the mid-1980s that it was fitting it be renamed in his memory as the Keith Roget Memorial National Parks Award.

The 9th KRMNPA activation period was held across 4 days. Friday November 8 to Monday November 11 2019.

The aim of the activation period was to stimulate Portable Amateur Radio "activity" in as many of the 45 VK3 National Parks as possible, to assist both Hunters and Activators to gain "credits" in order to progress their points tally towards achieving their Award program goals..... And, of course, to also have fun in the Great Outdoors.

In 2019 a total of 22 VK3 National Parks were activated across the 4 day period by 15 Operators. This data is extrapolated from Pre Registrations, Parks and Peaks "Spots" and contacts with other activators. The number of Parks activated was an increase from last year's 21 Parks. The number of park activators (15) was the same as 2018.

As a brief historical comparison: 2011: 11 Parks / 2012: 15 Parks / 2013: 26 Parks / 2014: 34 Parks / 2015: 28 Parks / 2016: 41 Parks/ 2017: 39 Parks / 2018: 21 Parks / 2019: 22 Parks

Again in 2019, the weekend attracted several much welcomed and appreciated Portable Activators from VK2 & VK5..... Rob, VK2VH (VK4AAC), Marija VK5FMAZ, Paul VK5PAS & David VK5DG. A **BIG** thank you to you all! Your efforts contributed to the activation of many VK3 National Parks which would otherwise not have been available to Hunters.

The Interstate visitor breakdown was as follows:

Well known Activator **Rob, VK2VH (also VK4AAC)** made a trip over the border to activate Warby-Ovens National Park using Callsign **VK4AAC/3**. Thanks Rob!

Paul, VK5PAS/3 and Marija VK5FMAZ/3 again made the journey from the Adelaide Hills, to participate in the weekend. Paul and Marija activated 2 National Parks (Murray-Sunset & Wyperfeld) and several VKFF parks in the same region, combining both programs with a hugely successful outcome. Great effort Guys! Thanks Paul and Marija.

David VK5DG/3, has been regularly visiting VK3 and activating National Parks, as he works towards achieving his goal of the Activation Merit Award (All 45 Parks) with a very unique endorsement..... satellite. Across the 4 Days David activated 4 East Gippsland Parks (Coopracambra, Errinunda, Lind & Croajingalong) and post the activation event continued to

add several more VK3 National Parks to his tally. This will be the “first” Merit Award by Satellite. Thanks David!

The remaining Parks were activated by an equally keen group of VK3 Amateurs:

Brisbane Ranges	Julie	VK3FOWL
Brisbane Ranges	Joe	VK3YSP
Burrowa - Pine Mountain	Peter	VK3PF
Dandenong Ranges	Peter	VK3ZPF
Dandenong Ranges	Nikolas	VK3ZK
Hattah – Kulkyne	Norm	VK3XCI
Port Campbell	David	VK3JDA
Yarra Ranges	Peter	VK3ZPF
Chiltern - Mt Pilot	Peter	VK3PF
Churchill	Peter	VK3ZPF
Heathcote – Graytown	Tony	VK3XV
Morwell	Peter	VK3ZPF
Organ Pipes	Peter	VK3TKK
Point Nepean	Alan	VK3ALN
Kara Kara	Tony	VK3XV
Terrick Terrick	Brett	VK3FLCS
Terrick Terrick	Tony	VK3XV
Barmah	Brett	VK3FLCS
Gunbower	Brett	VK3FLCS

Amateur Radio Victoria (ARV) will again be providing a 2019 Participants Certificate to all Activators. These are now being prepared and will be posted within the next week.

In closing, I again note that many 2019 Activators have already reached **Merit Award** and in some cases, the **Grand Slam Award** level but continue to support the Activation weekend by getting out and about in the VK3 National Parks. This dedication in assisting others to gain points and also get new Ops on the Air is duly noted and **most** appreciated! Thanks Guys!

And special thanks to Peter VK3ZPF for his help “behind the scenes” in 2019! Thanks Mate!

The **2020 KRMNPA** activation period will take place **Friday November 6 - Monday November 9**

See you again in 2020.

73..... Tony VK3XV / VK3VTH