




1

VK1	VK2	VK3	VK4	VK5	VK6	VK7	VK8	TIME	CALL	RITZ	TX	RX	NAME	QTH
0839	VK1DA	7	0950	57	36	Andrew	9811-8805							
0838	VK3MEL	7	100	59	59	Maicela	VK3/V5-050							
0838	VK4AC/3	14	225	59	59	Rob	VKFT-0766							

VK port-a-log – what is it?

- Portable logging program for Android phones and tablets
- Supports WWFF, SOTA, SiOTA, KRMNPA, SANPCPA, VK Shires, and HEMA awards
- Outputs ADIF format compatible with WWFF, SiOTA and mainstream logging programs
- Outputs V 2.0 CSV file format compatible with SOTA database uploads for activate and chase logs
- Uses the inbuilt GPS, where fitted, to determine the Maidenhead locator
- Displays distance and compass bearing from major landmark – VK capital cities or user defined location
- Has hot keys for most VK call sign prefixes, eight user defined prefixes or numbers zero to nine for faster log entry
- Has many user configurable options.

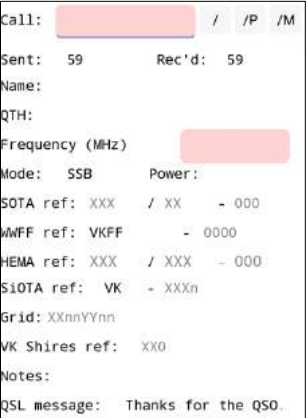
2



VK port-a-log history

- Feb 2013 – **VK3ZPF SOTA logger** was born
 - Basic4Android, B4A, development platform
 - SOTA logging - CSV outputs of SOTA database
 - General logging ADIF output
- Dec 2015 – **VK port-a-log** released
 - WWFF logging and ADIF output
 - Send & receive parkspeaks.org and SOTAwatch spots
- Nov 2016 – Added support for VK shires award
- Feb 2018 – **VK port-a-log - Moondarra** released
 - Location info – VKFF, SOTA, VK Shires
 - Three colours for spots, now, 15min, 30min
 - Line 4 options – QTH, WWFF, SOTA, Grid, VK shire
- Feb 2020 – **VK port-a-log - Gisborne** released
 - New API for ParknPeaks and SOTAwatch
 - Show latest spots only option
 - SMS spots for ParknPeaks and SOTAwatch
- Jun 2021 – **VK port-a-log - Tarrengower** released
 - Android 5 – 13
 - End support for Android 4.4.4 and earlier due to security upgrades
- Nov 2021 – **VK port-a-log - Warburton** released
 - HEMA and SiOTA support added.

3




QSO entry page

- Call sign
- RST sent and received
- Name
- QTH
- Frequency
- Mode
- Power
- SOTA reference
- WWFF reference
- HEMA reference
- SiOTA reference
- Grid reference 4, 6 or 8 characters
- VK Shires reference
- Notes
- QSL message.

4

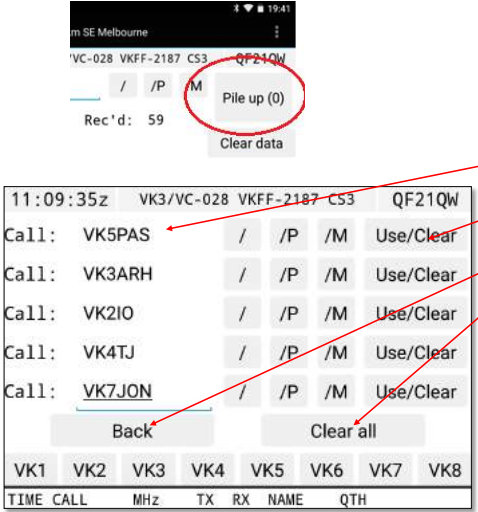
Location function



- When Location Info page is opened, from the menu list, the internal GPS is used to get the current coordinates and the Maidenhead gridsquare is calculated and saved. 6 or 8 characters.
- If Internet is available, the nearest five points; SOTA summits
VKFF or NZFF references points
HEMA summits
SiOTA silos
- If the coordinates are within a VKFF area this is shown separately.
- If the coordinates are within a VK Shire area this is shown separately
- SOTA or HEMA, WWFF, SiOTA and Shire references can be chosen and then copied to the activation details by tapping the Set references button.

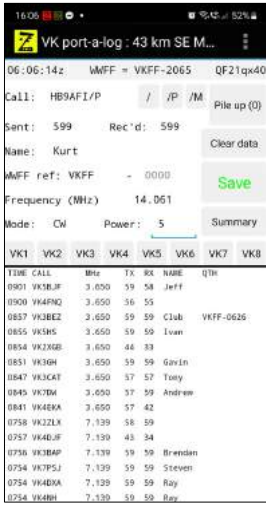
5

Pile up screen



- Enter up to five call signs during pile up
- First call sign is copied from main screen when Pile up button is tapped
- Tap button to copy call sign to logging screen.
- Tap and hold button to clear call sign
- Tap button to return to logging screen.
- Tap button to clear all call signs
- Hot keys available.


6



06:06:14z WFFF = VKFF-2065 QF21qx40
 Call: HB9AFI/P /P /M Pile up (0)
 Sent: 599 Rec'd: 599
 Name: Kurt
 WFFF ref: VKFF - 0000
 Frequency (MHz): 14.051
 Mode: CW Power: 5

TIME	CALL	Mhz	TX	RX	NAME	QTH
0901	VK3BJF	3.650	59	58	Jeff	
0900	VK4FNQ	3.650	36	55		
0857	VK3BEZ	3.650	59	59	Club	VKFF-0626
0855	VK3HS	3.650	59	59	Ivan	
0854	VK2JGB	3.650	44	33		
0851	VK3DH	3.650	59	59	Gavin	
0847	VK3CAF	3.650	57	57	Tony	
0845	VK3TM	3.650	57	59	Andrew	
0841	VK4EKA	3.650	57	42		
0758	VK3ZLX	7.139	58	59		
0757	VK4BJF	7.139	48	34		
0756	VK3BAP	7.139	59	59	Brendan	
0754	VK7PSJ	7.139	59	59	Steven	
0754	VK4DXA	7.139	59	59	Ray	
0754	VK4BH	7.139	59	59	Ray	

- Four operating modes – SOTA, HEMA, portable, and QTHR
- Has scroll list of QSOs, latest at top, for quick review
- Tap QSO in scroll list to edit QSO details
- Choice of colours – white on black or black on white
- Auto completion of contacted station's name from names.csv file
- Displays filtered SPOTS from parkspeaks.org and SOTAwatch for VKFF, ZLFF, WFFF, SOTA, HEMA, SiOTA, QRP and VK Shires
- Six different SPOT alert sounds
 - Goat, Cockatoo, Kookaburra, Kate, Peter and morse.
- Tap SPOT to copy details to log




ParksPeaks spots

WFFF VKFF-0963 - Crawford River Regional Park VK3PMG/P on 14.315 SSB - 10min here then grt Posted by VK3GGG - Sat, 10 Jun 2017 00:11 UTC
 ** Spot sent 12 minutes ago **

WFFF VKFF-0963 - VKFF-0963 VK3PMG on 14.3150 - WFFF VKFF-0963 Posted by VK3GGG - Sat, 10 Jun 2017 00:11 UTC
 ** Spot sent 12 minutes ago **

WFFF VKFF-1099 - Burcks Lake Game Reserve VK3PSS/P on 7.132 SSB - Great signal here on Yodkas Posted by VK5FANA - Sat, 10 Jun 2017 00:01 UTC
 ** Spot sent 22 minutes ago **



SOTAwatch spots

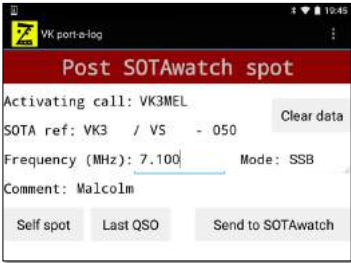
VK5NHG on VK5/SE-008 - 7.100 asb - *Hugh [VK port-a-log] Posted by VK3ZPF - Sat, 17 Jun 2017 00:32:34 UTC
 ** Spot sent 4 minutes ago **

VK5NHG on VK5/SE-008 - 7.100 asb - calling cq now. Posted by VK5NHG - Sat, 17 Jun 2017 00:26:31 UTC
 ** Spot sent 10 minutes ago **

VK7XDM/P on VK7/SIC-001 - 146.5 fm - *Mich [VK port-a-log] Posted by VK7XDM - Sat, 17 Jun 2017 00:16:02 UTC
 ** Spot sent 20 minutes ago **

7


- Sends SPOTS to parkspeaks.org and SOTAwatch websites
- Copy last QSO details to SOTAwatch or parkspeaks.org spot post
- Spots can also be sent via SMS on phones
- Long tap on spots list to respot previous spot.



Post SOTAwatch spot

Activating call: VK3MEL
 SOTA ref: VK3 / V5 - 050
 Frequency (MHz): 7.100 Mode: SSB
 Comment: Malcolm

Buttons: Self spot, Last QSO, Send to SOTAwatch

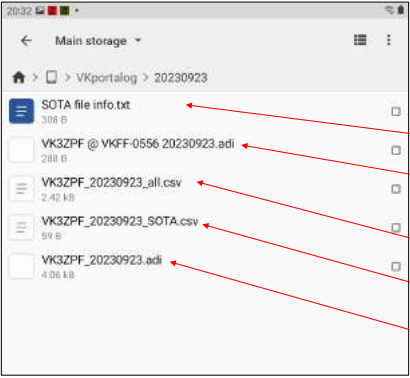


Post ParksPeaks spot


Activating call: VK4AAC/3
 Activation class: Select class...
 Park name:
 WFFF reference: VKFF - 0766
 Frequency (MHz): 14.225 Mode: SSB
 Comment: Rob

Buttons: Self spot, Last QSO, Send to ParksPeaks

8



- Log files can be copied or emailed using third party apps such as Cx File Explorer




- SOTA file info.txt A brief explanation about SOTA activator and chaser files
- ADIF file ready for import to WWFF program. Contains only QSOs made from WWFF area mentioned in file name.
- CSV file containing all data for the local day – Can be opened in Excel
- SOTA V2 CSV combined file ready for upload to sotadata.org.uk
- ADIF file ready for import to third party logging software
Contains all QSOs for the local day
- Cloud storage, Dropbox, worth considering.

9

- Questions
- Demonstration

www.vk3zpf.com

10



VK port-a-log – the future?

- Better data protection when app is uninstalled and reinstalled
- Individual configuration file for copying to new device
- SOTAwatch two factor authentication for log in
- Additional fields in WWFF ADIF file e.g., RST, SOTA ref
- Fourth colour for 'already chased' SOTA summits
- Auto update of VKFF references for new and deleted parks
- Additional awards – BOTA
- Access to cqgma.org for global WWFF spots
- Contest version: JMMFD, OCDX, RD, VHF/UHF field day, VK Shires, Trans-Tasman

- SSL certificate expiry – deny access to parksandpeaks.org or SOTAwatch
- Discontinuation of parksandpeaks.org or SOTAwatch
- Android 14 – due October 2023
 - Won't run apps targeted at Android 6 or lower
 - Increased security constraints
 - May need new device to continue development
- 1000 + users