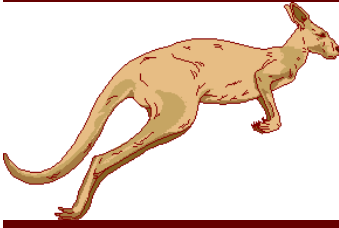


Volume 35 Issue 6

July 2004



IO CLUB

SUBURBS AMATEUR RAD

WESTERN AND NORTHERN

WANSARC NEWS July 2004

Incorporated Number A7611

A shack with a difference.....



Just a typical amateur radio shack you might say? Perhaps a little larger than the average corner of the room? Well, this one is a little special compared to others and **Tony VK3BZT** went to a lot of trouble to visit it... **Turn to Page 7 for the full story**

DELIVER TO:

If not delivered within 7 days, please return to:
WANSARC PO Box 336 RESERVOIR Victoria 3073

NEXT MEETING Friday July 2 2004—it's a SELL, SWAP or DUMP MINI MART night, where you choose the best course of action for that pre-loved equipment. Commences 1930 hours. Come!!

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CLUB FREQUENCIES

146.450Mhz FM and
28.470MHz USB

Around the Shack

- The “longest CQ for the month award” goes to John VK3ATF at Geelong. John can be heard with a very rounded AM signal on 40 metres, around 7.050MHz, most weekends. John was noted as continuously calling CQ for just over 11 minutes.....one expects that potential callers may have drifted off to sleep before they actually had the opportunity to respond to the CQ!
- And speaking of 40 metres one of our club readers advises not to be surprised during the middle of your QSO when an anonymous amateur breaks in and makes unorthodox comments. The audio of the breaking station is generally fairly rough—perhaps the transceiver being used is mal-adjusted.
- Ken VK3YXC is spreading his wings and has been heard



throwing up a very handsome signal on 20 metres, working into some of the DX nets. Well done Ken!

- And speaking of things DX recently heard QSO went something like this:

“Your 5 x 9 old man, name is Bob and location is blah, blah blah.”

“Roger, you are also 5 x 9, but missed your callsign, name and location.....please repeat”

Ah yes, good to hear such honest trading of signals on the bands!

- Bill VK3KBL has a tip for all when constructing ATV kits—use an elastic band on the board to hold SMT components in place and a fine tip soldering iron. Mick VK3CH has been reported as going cross eyed whilst soldering components—fixing the SMT in place has been accomplished by using a plank of wood and his chin! Pass me the elastic band packet, please.....
- A get well call to Bob VK3EL, who has been suffering from a cold which he has had trouble shaking off. Trust you are better, Bob.
- And for all don't forget 28.470MHz as an alternate to 2 metres for club contacts. VK3EL, 3HFS, 3PI and 3DWH can be heard at times.

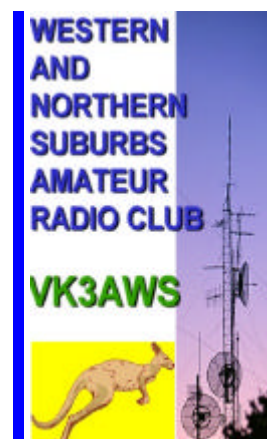
GGREC HAMFEST

GGREC will conduct a Hamfest on Saturday 17 July 2004 at the Cranbourne Public Hall, corner of Clarendon and High Streets, Cranbourne. High Street forms part of the South Gippsland Highway in Cranbourne and can be found at Melway 133 K4. Doors open to the buying public at 1000 hours, with \$5 securing your entry. Everything is under cover, free tea and coffee will be available all day, a selection of food will be available and a 12 channel hand held GPS will be drawn as a door prize. If you are interested in selling items at the Hamfest, call Dianne Jackson VK3JDI before the event on (03) 5625 2545 to obtain a stallholder information sheet. Sellers will pay \$20.00 per table, which includes entry for two.

MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

1972—David Hunt VK3YBX
1973—Allen Greening VK3WU
1974—Norma Boyle VK3AYL
1975—Les Johnson VK3ZPB
1976—Neville Darragh VK3YDR
1979—Werner Wulf VK3BWW
1980—Tom Page VK3AGH
1983—Mark Stephenson VK3PI
1984—Neil May VK3KNM
1985—Mark Stephenson VK3PI
1986—Mark Stephenson VK3PI
1987—Ted Howell VK3ZKP

A little bit more history of the club is listed at left—the WANSARC Member of the Year Award was originally called the “Wooden Spoon” for the person who most upheld the club's ideals each year. The “Spoon” was replaced by a microphone on a wall plaque with recipients names. Is it time to bring back this trophy???



Looking to join a vibrant and active club?

Contact the Secretary, WANSARC, PO Box 336, Reservoir, 3073.

WANSARC CLUB MEETING FRIDAY July 2004

Many club members will know that WANSARC was the first Victorian radio club to coin the term HAMFEST—a modern day White Elephant sale. Sadly many HAMFEST's have become “commercialfests”, and political correctness now bequeaths that “whites” and “elephants” should not be discriminated against.

So what sort of night are WANSARC having in July?

An SSD night—Sell, swap or dump MINI-MART!!

Friday JULY 2, 2004—commences at 1930 hours at NMIT, St. Georges Road, Preston Building K. Talk in 146450MHz 2 metres.

Let's have everyone bring at least one item along!!

RESERVOIR ROTARY RAFFLE RESULTS

Our club Secretary, Mark VK3PI, has received the following correspondence from Reservoir Rotary:

“The Rotary Club of Reservoir thanks you for your participation in our Annual Community Raffle. We hope it was a worthwhile fundraising project for your organization. The raffle raised nearly \$50,000 for participating community groups, bringing the total to over \$950,000 raised in the sixteen years we have been conducting the raffle. Please find enclosed a list of winners and the group selling the ticket, and a cheque for your ticket sales—Andrew Treadwell. Community Raffle Secretary.”

The clubs rebate from ticket sales amounted to \$207.35, a very creditable effort.

Prize winners and the group selling the ticket are as follows:

1. S.Ingram, 70701, Vic. Basketball Assoc.
2. G.Ioniddis, 01854, Lalor West Primary School
3. G.Lowe, 33838, Focolare Movement
4. St.Gabriels School, 50680, The Collingwood College
5. S. Jones, 46366, Regent Aged Care Facility
6. M.Davies, 40033, Heartbeat Epworth
7. J.Stojcevski, 13339, Reservoir and District Secondary College
8. J.Pattison, 25644, Darebin Brass Band.

Although no members from our club were successful in winning prizes, congratulation to all members of the club who purchased tickets or sold tickets on behalf of the club.

The WANSARC club net via VK3RTL-R, VK3HFS-L, VK3NE-L and on occasions ZL1VK-R Auckland . With many listeners and links, the WANSARC net is unique.

Call in 1930 hours local time via 146.450MHz FM simplex, or via echolink.....

WANSARC—ham radio word for FUN!!!



YE OLD BELL ON ISS

Astronauts Brent W. Jett, Jr. (left) and William M. Shepherd participate in an old Navy tradition of ringing a bell to announce the arrival or departure of someone to a ship. The bell is mounted on the wall in the Unity node of the International Space Station (ISS). This tradition is carried out each time crews change on the ISS, continuing an age old tradition.



AND SPEAKING OF S.H.I.*S

Max, VK3ZCW told a version of this story on air recently, then this was found on the Web.

In the 16th and 17th centuries, everything had to be transported by ship. It was also before commercial fertilizer's invention, so large shipments of manure were common. It was shipped dry, because in dry form it weighed a lot less than when wet, but once water (at sea) hit it, it not only became heavier, but the process of fermentation began again, of which a by-product is methane gas. As the stuff was stored below decks in bundles you can see what could (and did) happen. Methane began to build up below decks and the first time someone came below at night with a lantern, BOOOOM! Several ships were destroyed in this manner before it was determined just what was happening. After that, the bundles of manure were always stamped with the term "Ship High In Transit" on them which meant for the sailors to stow it high enough off the lower decks so that any water that came into the hold would not touch this volatile cargo and start the production of methane. Thus evolved the term "S.H.I.T," which came down through the centuries and is in use to this very day. You probably did not know the true history of this word.

COMMON AUSTRALIAN SAYINGS

This is an item for our overseas readers, just so you don't get confused when talking to Oz people.

Oz: Australia

Dinky di: an Australian or the genuine thing.

Divvy: to divide.

Fair go: an even or equitable opportunity .

Cotton on: to understand. For example, "S/he hasn't cottoned on yet". Meaning s/he does not understand.

Out of whack: not as it should be, not in alignment.

Whatever: a word commonly used by adolescents to show disinterest.

Out of luck: means something negative has happened to a person, they are out of luck when things don't go their way or when every day events do not turn out as planned.

Having a lend: to tease or to mislead another person so as to make the other person look silly.

Pull the other one: a person will say pull the other one when they don't believe what you are telling them.

Have your cake and eat it too: being greedy, used to describe a person who has something but wants more.

Keep your hair on: is an acknowledgment that a person is angry. One person may say to another keep your hair on which is an acknowledgment of their anger but also a request for them to calm down. It is as if when a person gets angry that the pressure of anger builds so as to blow the person's hair off the top of their head.

Bob's your uncle: everything will be all right, or everything will go as planned.

All righty: means a person is agreeing.

Good on ya mate: spoken to give another person support and encouragement.

Right oh!: indicates agreement as in a person saying "OK" or is used as a space filler to fill in pauses. For example, a nurse might ask a client to refrain from smoking pre-operatively. The client's response could be "right oh"!

Your shout: your turn to pay for the next round of drinks. A 'round of drinks' means to buy the drinks for all of the people in the group you are drinking with.

Fair dinkum: can be used to indicate the authenticity of a story or an item.

Get the drift: this phrase asks do you comprehend or understand?

Thumbs up: indicates that everything is all right or indicates to go ahead, carry on.

She'll be right mate: used to say "I'm all right" or used to indicate that events will work out satisfactorily and one should not worry.

Goes through you like a dose of salts: fast acting. (quite often relates to bad food!!!)

Laughter is a medicine



"No, THEY LEFT THE MONEY, BUT, THEY SIPHONED ALL OUR GAS..."

Modest Sunbathers



So how true is this as our petrol prices sky-rocket??

TRUE FLIGHT STORIES

The pilot of a Cherokee 180 was told by the tower to hold short of the runway while a DC-8 landed. The DC-8 landed, rolled out, turned around, and taxied back past the Cherokee. A quick witted comedian on the DC-8 crew got on the radio and said "What a cute little plane—did you make it yourself?"

Our hero, the Cherokee pilot, was not about to let the insult go by, and retorted on the radio "I made it out of DC-8 parts. Another landing like that and I'll have enough parts for another one!"

Tower "Tango Bravo Alpha you have traffic at 2 o'clock, 3 miles!"

TBA—"Give us another hint. We have digital watches!"

A US military pilot flying a single engine jet fighter called the tower for a priority landing as his engine was running "a little rough". Air Traffic Control told the fighter jock that he was number two behind a B-52 (eight engine) bomber that had one engine shut down.

"Ah," the pilot remarked, "the dreaded seven engine approach."

From "Bombardier Aerospace Globe No.4 comes the following maintenance gems:

Problem: Dead bugs on the windshield
Solution: Live bugs on order

Problem: Number three engine missing
Solution: Number three engine found on right wing after brief search

Problem: DME radio unbelievably loud.
Solution: Volume set to more believable level.

Problem: Something loose in cockpit
Solution: Something tightened in cockpit

Problem: Left inside main tyre almost needs replacement
Solution: Left inside main tyre almost replaced.

Problem: Evidence of hydraulic leak on landing gear
Solution: Evidence removed.



You did say turn right, didn't you??



A holiday with a difference by Tony VK3BZT

Recently club member Tony VK3BZT and XYL Carleen swapped their Melbourne house and car with another couple's house and car— the other couple's house being in Claygate Surrey, 15 miles south west of London. Tony takes up the story.....

During our six-week stay we visited many interesting places in and around London. We hired a small motor boat and cruised along the Thames river between Hampton Court and Sunbury, drove to Kent to see Winston Churchill's property, Chartwell, and met some radio hams in the radio room of the British cruiser HMS Belfast (permanently anchored near Tower Bridge, London. I made a formal QSO with GB3RN (Royal Navy) by holding a borrowed 2 metre hand held rig standing outside the door.



Tony (above) outside RSGB Headquarters

The highlight for me was a visit to Bletchley Park (www.bletchleypark.co.uk). Betchley Park is located 40 miles north of London off the M1 motorway near Milton Keynes. You may know it as Churchill's WW2 intelligence HQ where over 10,000 people worked in total secrecy to crack Enigma, Lorenz and other codes. They also developed the world's first semi-programmable computer to help break Hitler's Lorenz code. The Lorenz machine had 12 rotors whilst the Enigma had at first three rotors and later four. Many amateurs were conscripted into the "Y" service to monitor enemy Morse code transmissions.

On another wet day the M25, the 8-lane orbital motorway that circles around Greater London, had an eight-mile traffic gridlock—the locals call the M25 the world's biggest parking lot. Carleen and I decided not to drive instead taking the train to Potters Park, 10 miles north of London, to the Headquarters of the Radio Society of Great Britian (RSGB). The RSGB, which has its origins back to 1913, is today housed in a modern, impressive building called Lambda House. When we arrived only two non-technical people were on duty, the receptionist and Jan the QSL manager. Jan obligingly showed us over the premises and can be seen with Carleen in the RSGB library.



We visited the QSL rooms where seven part-timers look after the QSL bureau. I was particularly impressed with the radio museum and transmitting rooms. The RSGB has a fine Amateur Radio Bookshop that is being added to monthly and I took many digital photographs. I have now added them to my treasured Amateur Radio images on my computer hard drive.

Our final look and departure point was in the lobby to see some of the many gifts, certificates and paraphernalia displayed in glass cabinets donated by clubs and people from all over the world. Then a dash to the station to catch the train back to London's Kings Cross. A very pleasant day to add to all the others we had in this great city.



Part of the excellent museum at RSGB Headquarters—remember valves.....

Well done Tony on an excellent article and series of photographs.....more of Tony's photographs next edition of WANSARC.

WANSARC VK3AWS

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PO Box 336

RESERVOIR 3073



WANSARC CLUB PROFILE

History

The Western and Northern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club (WANSARC) was first formed in 1969 and since then has served the needs and interests of amateur radio operators, short wave listeners and those interested in hobby radio and electronics. The club is not gender specific, having both female and male members. Members come from all walks of life with a mix of experience, young and mature, novice and technical. The most important aspect of the club is the willingness of all members to share their knowledge for the benefit of others. Members mainly reside in the west and north of Melbourne, however membership is encouraged from all interested.

Meetings

From September 2003 Building K, Northern Metropolitan Institute of Technology (NMIT), St. Georges Road, Preston (western side between Bell Street and Cramer Street) Melway 18 E12

Meetings held on the 1st Friday of each month (excluding January) commencing at 7.30pm local time. Talk in on 146.450MHz FM—call club station VK3AWS.

Benefits

Free technology and related presentations, sponsored construction activities, discounted (and sometimes free) equipment, network of like minded radio and electronics enthusiasts, excellent club facilities and environment.

Club Nets

146.450MHz FM each Tuesday evening commencing 7.30pm local time. Linked to Echolink for intrastate, interstate and international stations participation.

More Information

Website: www.wansarc.org.au

Committee: Bob VK3EL, Tony VK3JED, Gordon VK3YOD, Grant VK3HFS, Mark VK3PI
Dan VK3DWH

Email: wansarc@wia.org.au

Secretary: Mark Stephenson VK3PI vk3pi@optusnet.com.au

Postal: WANSARC PO Box 336 RESERVOIR 3073

VK3AWS

A proud tradition of supporting hobby radio and electronics enthusiasts since 1969