

WANSARC NEWS



Volume 40 Issue 2— March 2009

Western and Northern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club VK3AWS
Incorporated in Victoria A7611S

The Australia Telescope Compact Array (ATCA)



The **Australia Telescope Compact Array (ATCA)**, at the Narrabri Observatory, is an array of six 22-metre antennas used for radio astronomy. It is located about 25 km west of the town of Narrabri in rural NSW (about 500 km north-west of Sydney). It is operated by the Australia Telescope National Facility, a division of CSIRO. This antennas work together using a technique called ``interferometry' which allows the antennas to mimic a much larger antenna. This gives the telescope the ability to see very fine detail. Effectively ``radio interferometry' works by replacing the lens of a conventional imaging system with sophisticated electronics, supercomputer-like hardware and complex software. Find out more at <http://www.narrabri.atnf.csiro.au/>

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Calendar for March 2009

- **Tuesday March 3,10,17,24,31** —Club VHF Net 1930 hours 146.450MHz FM
- **Friday March 6** —CLUB MEETING
- **Saturday March 14**—John Moyle Field Day VK3AWS Portable



Wansarc is an affiliated club of the Wireless Institute of Australia

Presidents March 2009 Message—CLUB PARTICIPATION



In our 40th year WANSARC can be proud of its humble beginnings and the fact that it is still one of the most active clubs on and off the air.

WANSARC will again be participating in the John Moyle Field Day event, in the 6 hour section. The club callsign VK3AWS will grace the air on Saturday March 14, 2009.

If you are not able to join the “bunch on the hill” why not come up on air and give the club some much needed numbers? Most activity is on 2m and 70cm, however VK3AWS will also be operating on all HF

bands and if possible, 23cm.

Main frequencies on 2m include the club frequency of 146.450, 146.500 and 146.550MHz FM. On 2m SSB look around 144.150 or 200. On 70cm look on 439.000 FM.

The “hill” we use is a great vantage point and hopefully conditions, both weather and radio, will be good again.

On the subject of participation, I would like to thank the outgoing Committee of the club and encourage mem-

bers to consider their availability to nominate for Office Bearer, including Committee positions, at our next meeting.

WANSARC is fortunate to have a “new wave” of enthusiastic members with some very good ideas, so put your best foot forward and throw your hat in the ring (not sure that sounds right, but you get the picture).

See you all on March 6 at the clubrooms.

Graeme McDiarmid, VK3NE
President, WANSARC

The JOHN MOYLE FIELD DAY by John VK3FMPB

John Moyle day. Words that strike fear into the hearts of mere mortals. It's man (or woman) v the elements. Man v the radio waves, Woman v the ionosphere. good joke in there somewhere I am sure. **This is what we do at WANSARC.** in our search for conquest over the spectrum we travel to far flung places and, having flung antennae up trees, over buildings, on hills and masts, we talk, and talk, and talk.

John Moyle day is no different. At WANSARC we love talking. AM, FM, SSB, HF, UHF, VHF, ATV, LOCAL, DX, SKIP, we do it all and we love it all. John Moyle day is another opportunity to do best we do best, talk, and talk and talk - and eat of course.

Our resident chef **Trevor VK3FTDX** always manages to throw together a mean meal at our field days or family days or wherever we are. Never has a BBQ been wielded in anger so successfully than when Trevor is driving it.

In the early morning breeze we arrive at our destination and destroy any semblance of peace and quiet that had hitherto existed. The peace has been shattered by WANSARC in search of the elusive QSO which will bring the points to us again as well as the 1st Prize certificate we desire so much. Not only do we desire it, like a tasty dessert we wait in anticipation of that prize, we can feel it, taste it. It must be ours again. We work unswervingly for that prize as a matter of club pride.

John Moyle Field Day—*are you thinking of coming?*

Wayne, VK3VCL, has very kindly offered to co-ordinate the WANSARC efforts at this year's John Moyle Field Day. So are you thinking of coming with gear, as an observer, or to help out? The more the merrier as this is one of the year's highlights in the WANSARC calendar and it would be special if you were part of the VK3AWS team. The club competes in the 6 hour section of the competition, so we usually assemble at the site (shhhhh.....it is a secret location!) around 9am—10am, have a planning meeting, run around for a few hours setting things up, and voila.....VK3AWS magically appears on a number of bands.

If you would like to be part of the fun, give Wayne VK3VCL a hoi at the club meeting, or contact Wayne on email at: VK3VCL@optusnet.com.au

See you on the mountain, and if you can't make it give the club a shout to bolster the point score.



Making things easier by Martin VK3FMJP



Here is an item made from scrounged /scraps.

The first piece of work was to create a **stand** for my little Yaesu FT60.

I got tired of it being buried under “stuff “and also wanted something a little more stable for the larger antenna that gives me better reception.

An old casting picked up for nothing screwed to a piece of stair off-cut from an extension we did

some years ago – It’s hard to throw anything out and I do enjoy re-using things.

A bit of quick work with a saw and chisel so it won’t come off (I could have screwed a couple of bits of brass or whatever on the side instead.) A bit of brass plate drilled, cut to shape and a right angle makes an effective **microphone holder**. Rub on some pre-made shellac – no messy brushes – and dries in minutes to keep the marks off and..... viola. (You can use shellac for brass to keep the shine or as a pre-sealer for timber if you have an oil spot or contamination on timber etc.)

In all, I now have something that doesn’t slip around when I use the microphone and is tidier and safer for the radio.

Cheers,

Martin VK3FMJP



The Club Calendar for 2009

The club Committee met on 22 February, 2009, to consider club meeting and activity dates for 2009.

Club dates are as follows:

Club meetings

- February 6* (complete)
- March 6* (AGM and General meeting)
- April 3* Guest speaker
- May 1* Guest speaker
- June 5* Club natter night
- July 3* Christmas in July Family night
- August 7* Guest speaker
- September 4* Guest speaker
- October 2* Club natter night
- November 6* Guest speaker
- December 4* Christmas Dinner meeting

Club activity days

- January 18 (Family day - complete)
- February 22 (Committee meeting/club day)
- April 19 **(SYNTRX CONVERSION DAY)**
- May 17 Antenna construction day
- October 18 Club day
- November 22 Club day

The list of guest speakers is coming together, however, if you have an idea for a guest speaker please call **Mark VK3PI**. Note also the **SYNTRX DAY** has been programmed and this is now a happening thing! If you want a board for the SYNTRX these are now available at **\$15 each**.

A DUAL BAND 6 and 2 metre J-POLE *By Peter VK6YSF*

Due to space limitations and the need to keep the visual pollution of too many antennae to a minimum I required antenna that are able to cover multiple bands.

A dual band J pole had been in the back of my mind for a number of years, the simplicity of this design and the fact that it was ground independent, that is requiring no ground plan radials, made the J pole the choice. The proposed antenna would be operational over the entire 6Mtr band (50 – 54MHz) and the entire 2Mtr band (144 – 148MHz), slightly favoring the upper half of both bands.

The J pole is simply a half wave length vertical element with a folded quarter wave match stub. The sub doesn't receive or radiate any energy; it is simply a way of picking off the desired feed impedance. An impedance transformer.

Practical construction

The main element of the antenna is a 5Mtr length of 30mm diameter aluminium tube.

The 6Mtr band stub calculated for a frequency of 52.5MHz is 30 x 1520mm including 150mm for mounting. The stub is mounted 4090mm down from the top of the main element to the top of the stub mounting plate. The 6Mtr band stub mounting plate is 150 x 75mm

The 2Mtr band stub calculated for a frequency of 146.5MHz is 16 x 583mm including 100mm for mounting. The stub is mounted 1448mm down from the top of the main element to the top of the 2Mtr stub mounting plate. The 2Mtr band stub mounting plate is 100 x 30mm

The 6Mtr & 2Mtr band stubs are attached with a fabricated mounting plate using stainless steel hose clamps. This has several advantages. No drilling into the main elements that may weaken the structural integrity of the antenna, Infinite adjustment opportunity and if and when the antenna is no longer require it can be more easily recycled into the next project. Above all, it appears neat and sturdy.

The RG213 coax is installed within the main element and exits above the feed point connection. It is important to protect the coax with rubber grommets where it exits the tube.

The dimensions of the J pole may also be arrived at by using the below formula:

Length (Mtr) = $300/f \times k \times el + \text{mounting section}$

f = Operating frequency e.g. 52.5MHz

k = The effect of the diameter of the material in relation to the wave length (0.955)

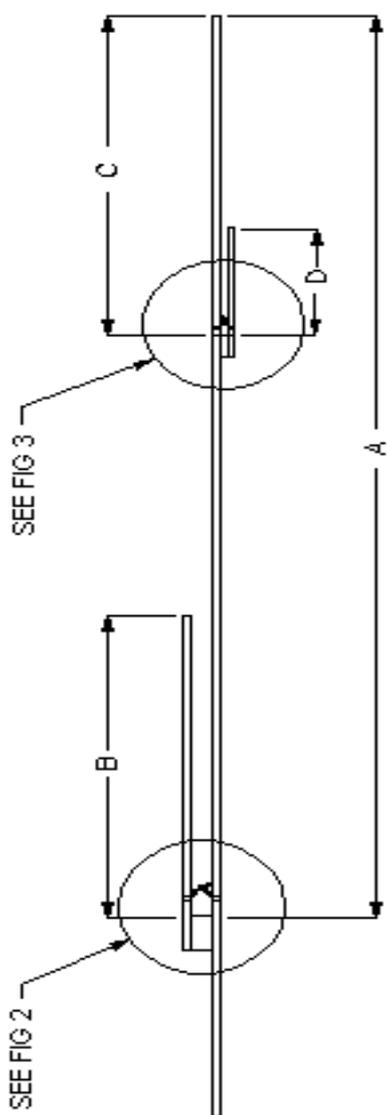
el = Chosen element e.g. $\frac{3}{4}$ wave length main element or $\frac{1}{4}$ wave stubs, 0.75 Or 0.25 respectively.

mounting section = The amount of extra physical material required for mounting.

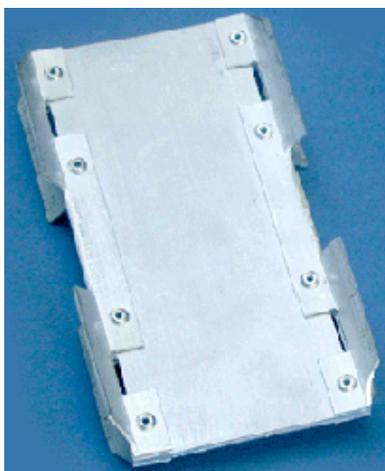
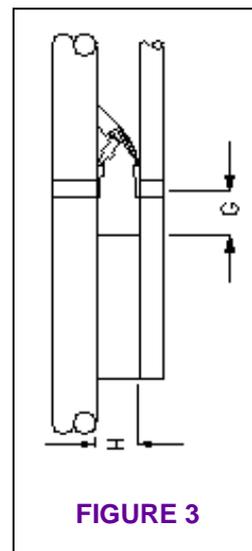
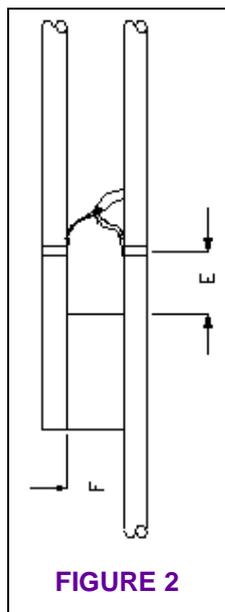


DIAGRAM OF DUAL BAND J-POLE

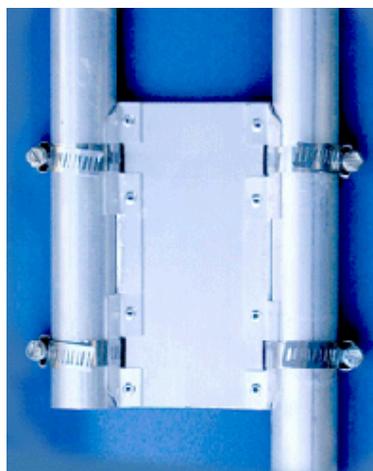
Frequency: 50 - 54Mhz and 144 - 148Mhz



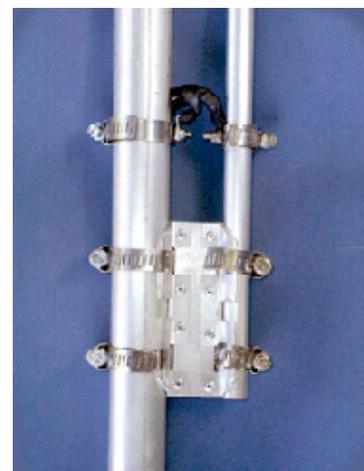
- Polarisation: Vertical
- (A) Main 6M element: 4090mm + mounting material
 - (B) 6M stub: 1370mm + mounting material
 - (C) Main 2M element: 1448mm
 - (D) 2M stub: 483mm + mounting material
 - (E) Feed point for 6M: Approximately 90mm. Subject to adjustment for lowest VSWR
 - (F) 6M stub spacing: 75mm
 - (G) Feed point for 2M: Approximately 40mm. Subject to adjustment for lowest VSWR
 - (H) 2M stub spacing: 30mm



The 6Mtr band stub mounting plate.



The 6Mtr band stub mounting plate assembly. As in FIG 2



The 2Mtr band stub mounting plate assembly and coax feed through and connection. As in FIG 3



BITS and PI-eces

Well done to Wayne, VK3VCL, for putting his hand up to organize the "troops" for the John Moyle Field Day.

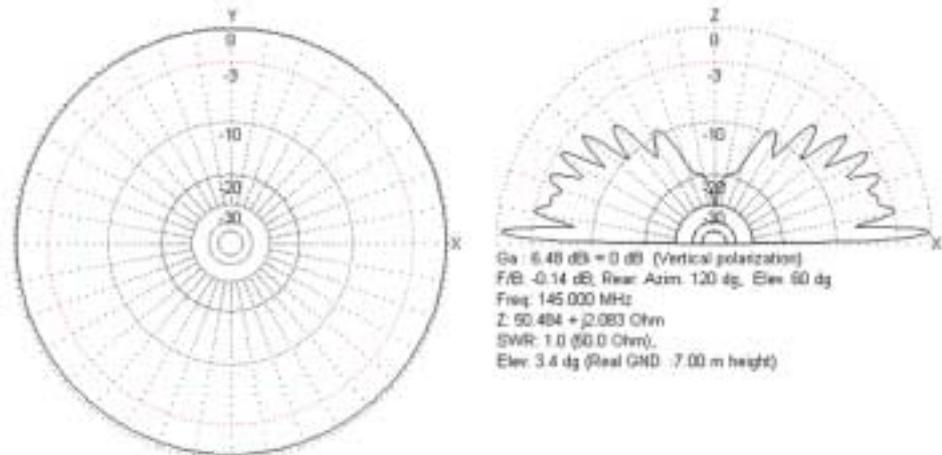
Wayne gave an excellent presentation on the club day (February 22, 2009) and it was very interesting to see the Contest logging program.

Trevor, VK3FTDX, has been busy creating T-Shirt designs for the John Moyle Field Day and also for general club members. Fantastic effort, Trevor.

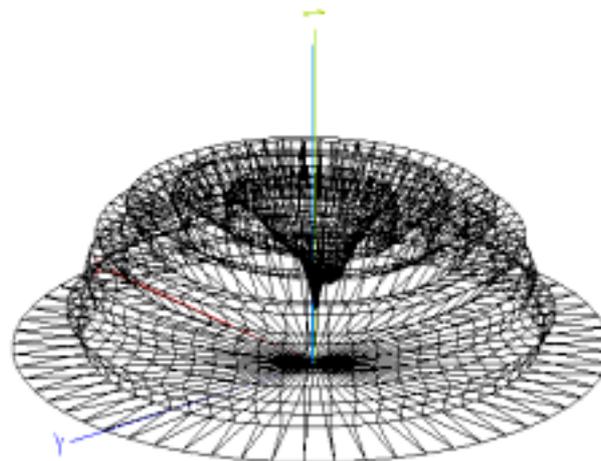
Both of our two new members, Don VK3FSGC and Martin VK3FMJP have been busy experimenting with antennae. Great to hear! Don has also acquired a great little wireless camera—more on that later. Post-script **DON is now VK3HDX!!**

**73 de Mark
VK3PI**

A DUAL BAND J-POLE (continued)



The simple J pole antenna is capable of excellent results as the antenna computer modeling of a 2M band J pole antenna (above) illustrates.



The radiation plots were produced using **MMANA** Antenna Analyser software by JE3HHT, Makoto (Mako) Mori.

For more information on the J-Pole see: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J-pole>

References: ARRL Antenna Book and the ARRL 1990 Handbook

Cheers from the wild west de Peter VK6YSF vk6ysf@arrl.net

Duties of wives from Bob VK3EL

Three men were sitting together bragging about how they had given their new wives duties.

Terry had married a woman from Greece . He bragged that he had told his wife she needed to do all the dishes and housework. He said that it took a couple days but on the third day he came home to a clean house and the dishes were all washed and put away. **Jimmie had married a woman from Italy** .He bragged that he had given his wife orders that she was to do all the cleaning, dishes, and the cooking. He told them that the first day he didn't see any results, but the next day it was better. By the third day, his house was clean, the dishes were done, and he had a huge dinner on the table. **The third man had married an Australian girl**. He boasted that he told her that her duties were to keep the house cleaned, dishes washed, laundry and ironing twice a week, lawns mowed, windows cleaned and hot meals on the table for every meal.

He said the first day he didn't see anything, the second day he didn't see anything, but by the third day most of the swelling had gone down and he could see a little out of his left eye, just enough to fix himself a bite to eat, load the dishwasher, and call a handyman,

God Bless Australian Women!!

Never too old to think on your feet from Mark VK3PI

I took my dad to the shopping centre the other day to buy some new shoes.

He is 92.

We decided to grab a bite to eat at the food court.

I noticed Dad was watching a teenager sitting next to him. The teenager had spiky hair in all different colors - green, red, orange, and blue.

My dad kept staring at him.

The teenager would look up from his meal to find him staring every time.

When the teenager had had enough, he sarcastically asked, "What's the matter old man, never done anything wild in your life?"

Knowing my Dad, I quickly swallowed my food so that I would not choke on his response knowing he would have a good one.

And, in classic style, he did not even bat an eye in his response. "Got drunk once," he said, "and had sex with a peacock."



"I was just wondering if you were my son?"

Prawo Jazdy: mystery motorist who bamboozled Irish traffic police from Ian VK3QL

The identity of one of Europe's most notorious drivers, who racked up dozens of speeding and parking offences in a crime spree across Ireland while continuing to elude the courts, has been uncovered by police - with the help of a dictionary.

Prawo Jazdy, presumed to be one of the hundreds of thousands of Poles lured to Ireland during its economic boom, was the Scarlet Pimpernel of motoring, leaving a trail of multiple identities and vehicles across the data base of the Republic's Garda Siochana.

With not a single conviction by 2007 and more than fifty offences recorded, the police decided to take a closer look at Mr Jazdy, according to the *Irish Times* and *Irish Independent*.

The result was unexpected and embarrassing: in a letter that is now doing the rounds of Garda e-mail inboxes, a traffic division official wrote that it had come to his attention that officers inspecting Polish driving licences were recording Prawo Jazdy as the licence holder's name. "Prawo Jazdy is actually Polish for 'driving licence' and not the first and surname on the licence," he wrote.

"Having noticed this I decided to check on Pulse (the criminal data base) and see how many members have made this mistake. It is quite embarrassing to see that the system has created Prawo Jazdy as a person with over 50 identities.

"He can also be found on the Fixed Charge Processing System as well. This mistake needs to be rectified immediately and a memo sent to the members concerned. I also think that Garda Information Service Centre [in] Castlebar should be notified and some kind of alert put on these two words."

Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh, to be sure!!!!

SQUID POLES, brand new, 6 metres long \$18 for club members, \$22 for non-club members, some still left, see the **Treasurer Gordon VK3YOD** or mail **vk3pi@optusnet.com.au** to order

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.

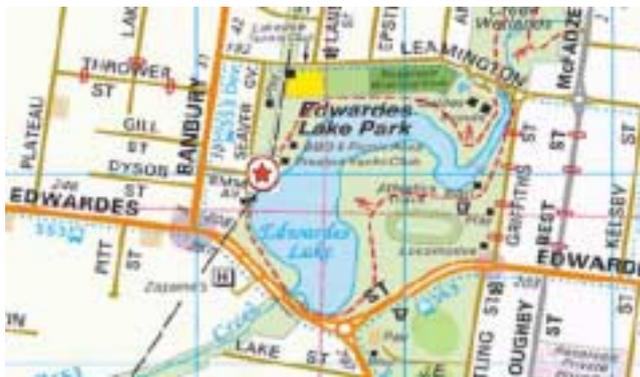
Meetings

FIRST Friday of each month except January at the Ern Rose Memorial Pavilion, SEAVER GROVE, RESERVOIR. See map).

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 plus an informative monthly newsletter for members to post articles, news, classifieds for all radio, test equipment, etc, featuring Amateur Radio news from WANSARC, WIA, ACMA, Melbourne Clubs, VK and Worldwide.

Club Nets

146.450MHz FM each Tuesday evening commencing 7.30pm local time. Also monitor 28.470MHz on 10 metres USB.

More Information: Website: www.wansarc.org.au

Email: wansarc@wia.org.au

Postal: WANSARC PO Box 336 RESERVOIR 3073



Don't forget the "club" meets on air regularly on 146.450MHz FM. Give a call— someone is always listening!!!

Next meeting Friday March 6 , 2008

If not delivered within 7 days, please return to WANSARC, PO Box 336, Reservoir, 3073

Australia Post stamp here