

WANSARC NEWS

Incorporated in Victoria, 1985 Registration Number: A0007611S

The monthly magazine of the

Western & Northern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club Melbourne, Australia



www.wansarc.org.au

146.450 MHz FM

VK3AWS

28.470 MHz USB

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2010



Next Club Meeting, Friday 4th June at Ern Rose Memorial Pavilion, Seaver Grove, Reservoir @ 7.30pm



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WANSARC TO HELP CELEBRATE WIA CENTENARY

By Mark VK3PI

The Wireless Institute of Australia is celebrating 100 years of operations this year and as part of the celebrations WANSARC has committed to promote the WIA and Amateur Radio through the use of a special call sign, **VK100WIA**.

WANSARC will operate this special call sign for three days, namely;

Saturday June 19, Sunday June 20 and Monday June 21, 2010

Club members and the WANSARC Committee have spent considerable time discussing possible activities to support our allocated time with the special call sign.

The club is mindful that this opportunity to promote the WIA Centenary should encompass not only the amateur radio community but also our local community.

And although our club resources are limited, it has been agreed that WANSARC will operate from three different locations during the availability of **VK100WIA** for our club.

On Saturday June 19, 2010, WANSARC will operate for around 8 hours from the Myrniong area where the club normally participates in the John Moyle Field Day. The site is excellent for HF, VHF and UHF, testimony being WANSARC's 4th consecutive win in the John Moyle 6 hour multiple operator station category. As the first word of our club name is WESTERN we will certainly be catering for the amateur radio and local communities to the west of Melbourne.

On Sunday June 20, 2010, WANSARC will operate for the day from the Latrobe University Market, in the grounds of Latrobe University. The Chief Executive Officer of the market is delighted to offer WANSARC a complimentary position within the heart of the market, together with approval for a portable generator and table facilities. The market is held every Sunday between 8am and 1pm, attracting thousands of visitors on any one day. This is an excellent opportunity to promote our hobby to an audience which may never have been exposed to amateur radio.

On Monday, June 21, 2010, WANSARC will operate from Mount Cooper, near Bundoora Park, rated as the highest point above sea level in the Metropolitan Melbourne area. WANSARC has operated in this area before, particularly during its January Family Day. The area attracts many locals and overseas visitors and provides a very open space for HF, VHF and UHF communications.

Additionally, Mick VK3CH, one of our more passionate and perhaps one of Australia's most passionate Amateur Television enthusiasts, is anticipated to operate Digital Amateur Television on each of the three WANSARC operation days, on either **VK3RTV 1 or 2**, depending on signal path conditions. This will mean that Amateur Television watchers throughout Melbourne will have the opportunity to view **VK100WIA**, confirm on the **147.400 FM** Amateur Television simplex liaison frequency that they have received a picture and be logged to receive a **VK100WIA** commemorative QSL card.

A small number of WANSARC members are operational on D-Star and this mode will be available during the WANSARC three day access to **VK100WIA**.

Other specific details of frequencies and modes of operation are being determined at this time and further communications will be released to club members and the general amateur radio community in the next couple of weeks.

It is expected that WANSARC will operate using at least **AM, FM, SSB, D-Star** and **ATV** modes.

Other modes under consideration include **SSTV, PSK-31** and of course, **CW**.

On 2 meters the club liaison frequency of **146.450** will certainly be utilized using FM.

A number of members have already put their hand up to participate in the three day **VK100WIA** operation under the WANSARC banner.

Thanks to Dave VK3DTS, Dan VK3DWH, Frank VK3ZO, Mark VK3PI, Trevor VK3FTDX, Rod VK3MRT, John VK3FMPB, Jess VK3FJPM, Victor VK3DKM, Mick VK3CH, Serge VK3XAR Graeme VK3NE, Greg VK3CN and Ian VK3QL for your assistance to date.

If any other members are keen to assist for one or all three of the WANSARC **WIA100** operation days, please contact Mark VK3PI at the next meeting (Friday June 4, 2010) or on **0425 768 320**.



Considerations for Portable Operations

An introduction by Mark VK3PI

The increasing levels of noise in urban areas makes the prospect of “going bush” to operate amateur radio very attractive. Those members who have operated during the John Moyle Field Day at our “covert” location are amazed at the low level of ambient noise on HF.

So too my experiences in operating HF portable in Victoria and New South Wales, where the noise level on HF is next to nothing and it makes one appreciate that many stations cannot be heard or worked in an urban environment due to high levels of noise.

What do you need to work successfully in a portable environment?

Notice I have used a key word here – “successfully”! Why so? Experience – that’s why. In my first foray into portable operations I thought I had packed everything. Up at the crack of dawn, sun peeping over the horizon, wildlife stirring (including this bear), antenna already in the air. Connect a power source and voila! W’s on 40 metres booming in! Now where is the microphone? Damn, not around. OK – Plan B – CW. Yes, let’s crank up the hand key (real men use hand keys) and see who we can work. No key! With great disappointment the gear was packed away in disgust.

The moral of the story is that the first element for successful work in a portable environment is **PLANNING!** Make a check list of all of the equipment you need to take with you to be completely self sufficient in operating your station.

Consider the following as a starting *checklist*:



Rig	Single or multifrequency box with microphone and key
Accessories	External speaker, headphones, SWR/Power meter
Antenna	Single or multifrequency box with Antenna Matching Unit
Power source	Vehicle, solar, external battery, generator
Tools	Multimeter, basic tools
Cables	Coax cables for antennae, patch coax cables

Next month in **Part 2** a discussion on each checklist element, starting with the rig.

Around the Shack

WANSARC WINS 6 HOUR John Moyle Field Day AGAIN

The club has staged four wins in a row now with the news that our team (see last month's cover) took out the prize for the club operator 6 hour section. Congratulations to the team of Rod MRT, Dave DTS, Victor DKM, Mark PI, Johnno FMPB, Trevor F T D X, Y u r i A T A, B o b E L Front row; Frank ZO, Dan DWH, Don HDX and Jesse FJPM

NET ACTIVITY ROLLS ON

The Tuesday 7.30pm weekly club NET on 146.450MHz under the helm of Dave VK3DTS continues strength to strength. Don VK3HDX listens from afar in VK2 via an IP link and Bill VK3KBL is arranging for a radio to talk in on from his bedside at Surrey Hills. So come up and say hello to club members and catch up on the gossip, or we might be talking about you instead!

ROTARY RAFFLE BOOKS DUE

This meeting please return your Rotary books, sold or not with monies to club secretary Mark VK3PI. He must have them by July 4th meeting at the latest; send them along with someone if you are unable to bring them there in person. ~ Mark VK3PI

IT WAS THE WOODPECKER

Last month's photo by Graeme NE was indeed that of the infamous Russian woodpecker over the horizon radar transmitter.

VK3CH ATV PORTABLE UNIT - EXTRA OPTIONS

After the success of tests with the latest High Power ATV transmitter, a power level indicator has been added, which is simply a row of LED's driven by an IC controlled voltage display meter kit from Jaycar, tapping off the monitor volts from the final PA. The indication is fairly basic but gives a good idea of power level running. A jack to plug a landline phone was also added to send DTMF tones to the repeater on the left channel to obtain automated signal reports. Since phones can be bought under \$20, it is cheaper than making up a DTMF circuit inside the box. On screen text display for call sign ID also added, a website in England has some simple units that will do the job, only needing a keyboard to set up the text required with an EPROM remembering it all once setup. A timer using a PIC IC kit from Jaycar will put the call sign text up every ten minutes; it's just cheaper and easier to build the kit than design and make a PCB yourself and only uses a handful of bits! ~ Mick VK3CH

WIA 100 YEAR CELEBRATION PLANNING NIGHT

A consortium of club members met to discuss activities planned for the 3 days of June 19, 20 & 21. Mark PI reported that three separate locations will be operated, with one featuring each day. Once again, dining just about took over the discussions. If you ever decide to join the club committee, you will have to endure a few nights each year like this, looks like hard work...



Some of the WIA100 gang at The Shamrock Rose Hotel, Preston

TWO METER SSB SCRAMBLE

WHEN:

Last Sunday Night of Each month 1030UTC to 1045UTC (8.30pm – 8.45pm AEST) from April to September 930UTC to 945UTC (8.30pm – 8.45pm AEDT) from October to March

15 minutes only, with call back from 8.45 till 9.00pm. on 144.150MHz

GENERAL RULES:

1. Work each station only once. Exchange will be RS report plus 4 digit Maidenhead locator.
2. Each month there will be a bonus station worth 2 points.
3. Operation will be between 144.110 and 144.200 on USB.
4. Power output is maximum 100watts PEP
5. 144.170 is designated the DX frequency. Stations >200km from Melbourne can call on this frequency toward Melbourne. Limit of 10 calls. Stations <200km from Melbourne can listen this frequency and call max. 4 times on this frequency.
6. DX stations (>200Km from Melbourne) are encouraged to announce their participation on the VKlogger in the 30mins prior to its start.
7. Use of the VKlogger to communicate during the Scramble is not allowed.

SCORING:

1. Each gridsquare worked will act as a multiplier.
2. Scoring will be: Total = (number of QSO) x (number of grid squares worked)
3. The bonus station will count as two QSO

BONUS STATION:

The winner each month will be the bonus station, and the callback controller, for the following month's scramble. They are excluded from winning in the month they are bonus station.

COMMENTS:

The objective of the 2 meter scramble is to have fun and to promote activity on the two meter band. It is hoped stations will be encouraged to improve their operating conditions to improve their scores.

QUERIES: Contact Michael VK3KH 0417392378.



MAY 2 METRE SSB SOUTH EAST SCRAMBLE

SUNDAY 30th MAY 2010
1030 TO 1045 UTC
CALLBACK 01045 TO 1100
UTC

ALL ARE WELCOLME TO COME AND JOIN US
FOR SOME FAST AND FURIOUS ACTION. LISTEN
ON 144.150 5 MINS BEFORE START TIME.
EXCITEMENT ON A SUNDAY NIGHT.
SPREAD THE WORD !

INFORMATION AND RULES OF THE SCRAMBLE CAN ALL BE
FOUND AT:
<http://www.amateurradio.com.au/node/483>

STATE D-STAR WORKSHOP

The Macedon Ranges Amateur Radio Club VK3RA is holding a D-Star workshop day on the 19th of June at their Club rooms, 41 Forest St Woodend. A large program of training, information and instruction will be given throughout the day. The day will be for system managers, users and beginners. The day will kick off at 9.00am and finish at 5.00pm. If there is anything you wanted to know about D-Star, this is the place to be. The D-Star workshop will be catered for by the Macedon Ranges ARC, which includes morning and afternoon teas a great lunch, materials and a presentation CD/DVD to take with you. Cost is \$30 and you must RSVP By June 10. To register you can either call or SMS Peter Willmott VK3TQ, President MRARC on 0434 623 423

Decisions and Implementation Options for the 400MHz Band

On Friday 30th April, the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) released its third discussion paper on the re-planning arrangements for the 400 MHz spectrum. The WIA provided detailed submissions to the two papers in respect to the 70cm amateur UHF band allocations in the 400 to 520 MHz spectrum. In addition, the WIA is a member of the Radio communications Consultative Committee (RCC) 400 MHz sub-committee working group, where industry provided advice to the ACMA on a number of important issues. The release of the "Way Ahead" paper coincided with the annual ACMA Radcoms 2010 Conference in Melbourne on the 5th and 6th May where a briefing to participants on the preliminary outcomes was discussed. The WIA was represented at the conference by WIA Director Peter Young, VK3MV, and gained further insights on the likely impact to the amateur service in this band. Of particular interest to the community is that ACMA has confirmed that the segment between 430 to 440 MHz is out of scope for the purposes of the re-planning exercise. Within this band the amateur service is a secondary user to Defense and these arrangements will continue into the future. In the paper, arrangements for services allocated to the amateur service within the bands 403-430 MHz and 440-520 MHz are within the scope of this paper. In the spectrum segment 420 to 430 MHz, the amateur service has already been excluded in NSW, Melbourne Perth and Sydney for use by government users. These exclusions will be extended to the rest of Australia over the coming years. The 440-450 MHz band, which was out of scope in the previous Proposals Paper, is now within the scope of the paper. This band is included as an option to assist in the transition to a 10 MHz duplex frequency split in the 450-470 MHz band. Further information suggests that use of this spectrum may be of a temporary nature and once the re-arrangements are completed this segment will return to the existing arrangements. The WIA will be consulted on the details and will continue of have the amateur services interests highlighted in the transitional arrangements. It should be noted that the transitional arrangements will take a number of years and will be biggest re-arrangement of UHF spectrum ever undertaken at the one time and will affect a wide range of industry sectors, including Police and Emergency Services, Transport, Utilities and the general communications sector. Also of particular note is that ACMA has introduced the concept of increasing the number of UHF CBRS channels from 40 to 80 by the implementation of 12.5 kHz channelization, with a corresponding phase-out of 25 kHz channel equipment. This will most likely take many years to occur where the availability and sale of equipment will be a big factor. At the Radcoms 2010 conference, the ACMA announced that it would be undertaking a series of "Spectrum Tune Up" sessions around Australia on the proposed arrangements for the 400 MHz spectrum. The WIA will be attending these sessions to provide the "amateur perspective" to the radio communications industry. The ACMA has sought comments to The Way Ahead paper by 6th June 2010 and the WIA will be making a submission on the

proposed arrangements. If amateurs have comments to make in respect to the issues detailed in the paper, these can be sent to the WIA National Office at nationaloffice@wia.org.au
~ WIA Website, Michael Owen VK3KI

FOUNDATION LICENSE COURSES

Weekend courses 24-25 July, 18-19 September & 4-5 December. Courses are held at the Amateur Radio Victoria office 40G Victory Blvd, Ashburton
Information Barry Robinson 0428 516 001

VKIWIA SUNDAY BROADCAST

Victorian broadcast frequencies, Sunday's at 1030hrs and 2000hrs
80m - 3615 kHz, 40m - 7158 kHz, 10.133 USB
VK3RML 146.700, VK3RWG 147.225, VK3RMM 147.250 and
VK3RMU 439.800
~WIA Website

D-STAR NIGHT FRIDAY 16TH JULY - EMDRC 8pm

Nik VK3BA, Tony VK3AN and Terry VK3BMX will be presenting info and live demonstrations of the DV-Dongle, DVAP (DV Access Point) and possibly a HotSpot at the EMDRC clubrooms. Bring the easy questions along and leave the hard ones at home. We'd like to hear from you on the night during our demonstration. I know Friday night is often a quiet night on the bands, but we'd be looking for stations interested in participating in our show, from approx 8.15pm local VK3 time. Further details, contact EMDRC.
~ Nik Presser VK3BA, EMDRC

ONE LESS BAD APPLE OPERATOR

In its regulatory enforcement action the Australian Communications and Media Authority has cancelled an amateur station license following an investigation that uncovered continuing breaches by the licensee. The ACMA began acting decisively in mid-2008 in response to numerous complaints about a few yet persistent offenders who not only breached regulatory requirements, but considered by the amateur radio community to be engaging in anti-social behavior. Under the Radiocommunications Act 1992, the ACMA can suspend or cancel an amateur license if the licensee contravenes a condition of the license. In the case of the recent cancellation, crucial information was provided by other radio amateurs that alerted the ACMA to the ongoing non-compliance and assisted the investigation. In the case announced by the ACMA (on Friday 28 May), it said the breaches included causing interference to other stations, failing to use a call sign and transmitting an unmodulated carrier. The ACMA said it made the decision to cancel the amateur license when other compliance and enforcement measures had failed. The ACMA said that every effort had been made to assist, encourage and educate the licensee to understand the importance of compliance with license conditions. Despite repeated warnings to the licensee, the ACMA found that non-compliance continued over an extended period of time. The severe action of license cancellation followed earlier incidents involving other radio amateurs who had been subject to ACMA enforcement action or official warnings or cautions. The WIA has welcomed the action taken by the ACMA. "While it is extremely unusual for radio amateurs to ignore their obligation to comply with the law, the fact is that there have been instances of extreme behavior that requires enforcement action. "This action by the ACMA should remind us all that it will act when necessary" said WIA President, Michael Owen VK3KI.
~ ARV Website

WANSARC TUESDAY NIGHT NET

7.30pm Start

146.450 MHz FM

Dave VK3AWS ~ Net Control

NEW DSTAR REPEATER FOR CANBERRA

Icom Australia has kindly donated a new D-Star repeater to the WIA for installation in the Canberra area. This is a donation to the WIA from Icom to celebrate 100 Years of the WIA. The announcement of this donation was made by Takashi Aoki, Manager of Icom Australia at the official WIA Centenary dinner. The Canberra region amateur radio club will be the WIA D-Star Club responsible for the installation and operations of repeater on behalf of the WIA. The repeater will be operational on 2mtrs (Port C) and have the call sign of VK1RWN. The timeframe for the installation and operations of the VK1RWN repeater is yet to be determined. The WIA thank to Icom Australia for this generous donation. ~ Richard VK3JFK

[DSTAR] 2ND WORLD WIDE D-STAR CONTEST

The second world wide D-Star contest will be held from June 19 to June 27 2010. For details including the prizes and rules please visit www.icom.co.jp/d-contest2010w
~Richard VK3JFK

FLASH BLOCK FOR FIREFOX

One of the features I like about the Firefox browser is tabbed browsing. Often I will have several tabs open, including email, "The Age" and a host of others. This is preferable to having several browsers open. These days many web pages, for example "The Age", have Flash animations. These have a habit of consuming processor time and start to slow down Firefox. I find this very annoying and have found a solution – Flashblock for Firefox. Flashblock is an add-on for Firefox which blocks Flash animations. However, if you want to see it, just click on it and it will run. It works! Google Flashblock for Firefox to check it out and download it.
~ Rod VK3MRT

ABOUT THE WIA CENTENARY

Celebrating the centenary of organised amateur radio in Australia.

The celebration is recognition of the foundation of the WIA and the very start of organised amateur radio in Australia during 1910. It has also helped to focus renewed attention on the early history of amateur radio in this country through careful research in a way not previously known to have occurred. For the full year being January through December 2010 and with the help of it's members, the WIA will celebrate the Centenary of organised Amateur Radio in Australia.

The beginnings

Prior to the Wireless Telegraphy Act of 1905 there was no real regulatory control of the radio spectrum, although early demonstrations and experimentation began in Australia in the late 1890s.

At the time the government wanted to protect its revenue from the wired telegraph system and initially considered wireless telegraphy to be of little use, but it then became useful for ship to shore communications. Private wireless experimenters were considered a hindrance to the emerging maritime use of wireless. Others began to recognise a greater potential use of the technology. Conflict between the commercial and amateur use of the spectrum was evident, licensed operation began in 1905.

Within five years experimenters needed to get organised for their very survival. The experimenters experienced what they felt was harsh treatment by authorities in respect to interference investigations and also the requirement to pay a three Guineas (\$6.30) licence fee.

Organised amateur radio

On 11 March, 1910 a meeting of like-minded people in the Hotel Australia, Martin Place, Sydney, formed the Institute of Wireless Telegraphy of Australia, and soon after dropped the word 'telegraphy' from its name. Chairman of the founding meeting, George Taylor, proposed "the formation of an institution amongst

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experimenters and enthusiasts in wireless for their mutual benefit."

A similar organisation was formed in Melbourne - the Amateur Wireless Society of Victoria, on 30 November 1911 at a meeting attended by 50 enthusiasts. In 1913 it changed its name to the Wireless Institute of Victoria, and then became the Wireless Institute of Australia, Victorian Division. Then followed The Wireless Institute of Queensland (1912), the West Australian Radio Club (1913) became the Wireless Institute of Australia, Western Australia Section.

War-time security measures

Due to World War I all experimental stations were closed from August 1914. The Wireless Institute of Victoria decided to maintain the right to wireless experimentation after the war and offer its services during the conflict. The experimenters were back on air after the war, although not immediately and even then with many restrictions. Those in South Australia formed a WIA branch in November 1919, the Tasmanian Division of the WIA (1923) and in the same year the Launceston Wireless Club was granted affiliation. Suburban clubs also began, for example the Waverley Amateur Radio Club in New South Wales (1919) which continues today. A photograph of some of that club's founders feature in material used for the centenary celebrations.

While the history can only be briefly covered in this article, the post-war era was an exciting time in many ways when wireless became radio through voice transmissions. Experimenters were achieving the wireless contacts with overseas countries.

A nation-wide organisation

In May 1924 the Institute at a federation meeting held in Melbourne resulted in a nation-wide organisation to represent the experimenters, an outcome that had been desired for some time by the Postmaster General who had responsibility for wireless. Exactly 100 years on from that first meeting in Sydney, the experimenters, now known as radio amateurs, can legitimately celebrate the establishment of their representative organisation, the Wireless Institute of Australia - the oldest such group in the world.

Centenary Committee

Thinking about the centenary began for many at the time of the WIA 75 anniversary, as demonstrated by their time-capsule contributions for opening in 2010. The WIA Board of Directors decided in 2008 that a committee be formed with a basic brief to undertake research into the history of the WIA and suggest ways in which to celebrate the centenary. The results of the bulk of its work were first seen by the amateur radio community with the WIA's launch on 3 October 2009 of the Centenary of Organised Amateur Radio in Australia program of events and activities. The WIA Centenary Committee, Chaired by David Wardlaw VK3ADW, consists of Peter Wolfenden VK3RV, Jim Linton VK3PC and Robert Broomhead VK3DN. More information on them can be found at the bottom of this page.

Providing a diverse range of skills to the exercise they have worked very well as a team, meeting regularly and extensively using email. The WIA Board was kept up to date through reports, made its decisions as needed and is very pleased with committee's work.

Celebrating the Centenary

A range of initiatives and activities are to happen in 2010 providing an opportunity for every radio amateur to be involved in what will be a memorable celebration. Special event callsign VK100WIA will be very popular. Make it a personal aim to make contact this station, consider your plan to achieve the WIA Centenary Award and if a club member support its involvement in the celebration. ~From WIA website

**WANSARC will operate under the VK100WIA
call sign during 19th, 20th & 21st June.**

These are actual answers from test papers and essays submitted to science and health teachers by junior high, high school, and college students around the world.

“When you breathe, you inspire. When you do not breathe, you expire.”

“H₂O is hot water, and CO₂ is cold water”

“To collect fumes of sulphur, hold a deacon over a flame in a test tube”

“When you smell an odorless gas, it is probably carbon monoxide”

“Nitrogen is not found in Ireland because it is not found in a free state”

“Water is composed of two gins, Oxygin and Hydrogin. Oxygin is pure gin. Hydrogin is gin and water.”

“Three kinds of blood vessels are arteries, vanes and caterpillars.”

“Blood flows down one leg and up the other.”

“Respiration is composed of two acts, first inspiration, and then expectoration.”

“The moon is a planet just like the earth, only it is even deader.”

“Artificial insemination is when the farmer does it to the cow instead of the bull.”

“The body consists of three parts- the brainium, the borax and the abominable cavity. The brainium contains the brain, the borax contains the heart and lungs, and the abominable cavity contains the bowls, of which there are five – a, e, i, o, and u.”

“The pistol of a flower is its only protections against insects.”

“The alimentary canal is located in the northern part of Indiana.”

“The skeleton is what is left after the insides have been taken out and the outsides have been taken off. The purpose of the skeleton is something to hitch meat to.”

“A permanent set of teeth consists of eight canines, eight cuspids, two molars, and eight cuspidors.”

“The tides are a fight between the Earth and moon. All water tends towards the moon, because there is no water in the moon, and nature abhors a vacuum. I forget where the sun joins in this fight.”

“A fossil is an extinct animal. The older it is, the more extinct it is.”

“Many women believe that an alcoholic binge will have no ill effects on the unborn fetus, but that is a large misconception.”

“Equator: A managerie lion running around the Earth through Africa.”

“Germinate: To become a naturalized German.”

“Liter: A nest of young puppies.”

“Magnet: Something you find crawling all over a dead cat.”

“Momentum: What you give a person when they are going away.”

“Planet: A body of Earth surrounded by sky.”

“Rhubarb: A kind of celery gone bloodshot.”

“Vacuum: A large, empty space where the pope lives.”

“Before giving a blood transfusion, find out if the blood is affirmative or negative.”

“To remove dust from the eye, pull the eye down over the nose.”

“For a nosebleed: Put the nose much lower than the body until the heart stops.”

“For drowning: Climb on top of the person and move up and down to make artificial perspiration.”

“For fainting: Rub the person’s chest or, if a lady, rub her arm above the hand instead. Or put the head between the knees of the nearest medical doctor.”

“For dog bite: put the dog away for several days. If he has not recovered, then kill it.”

“For asphyxiation: Apply artificial respiration until the patient is dead.”

“For head cold: use an agonizer to spray the nose until it drops in your throat.”

Water freezes at 32 degrees and boils at 212 degrees. There are 180 degrees between freezing and boiling because there are 180 degrees between north and south.

A vibration is a motion that cannot make up its mind which way it wants to go.

There are 26 vitamins in all, but some of the letters are yet to be discovered. Finding them all means living forever.

There is a tremendous weight pushing down on the center of the Earth because of so much population stomping around up here these days.

Lime is a green-tasting rock.

Many dead animals in the past changed to fossils while others preferred to be oil.

Genetics explain why you look like your father and if you don’t why you should.

Vacuums are nothings. We only mention them to let them know we know they’re there.

Some oxygen molecules help fires burn while others help make water, so sometimes its brother against brother.

Some people can tell what time it is by looking at the sun.

We say the cause of perfume disappearing is evaporation. Evaporation gets blamed for a lot of things people forget to put the top on.

To most people solutions mean finding the answers. But to chemists solutions are things that are still all mixed up.

In looking at a drop of water under a microscope, we find there are twice as many H’s as O’s.

~from The Internet, where else...

23cm Grid Pack Dish Antenna

This is yet another find and recommendation from Don VK3HDX.

He is using one of these and says they are better than his 23cm beam.

These are from Radio Specialists in Adelaide, their website is at www.radiospecialists.com.au

They say "...18dBi dish on 23cm, Pump 100 watts into this for 4kW out, 23cm band grid-pack dish antenna yielding 18dBi. Centre freq 1270 MHz full band 1240-1300 MHz, 1000mm cast aluminium grid dish (not flimsy wire grid), \$169"
I ordered one with \$18 postage and it arrived 5 days later. Easy to build, just 12 bolts and it's done, took about 30 minutes to build.

You can place the element either vertical or horizontal, as VK3RTV is horizontal that's how I did mine. As the gaps in the mesh are large enough, wind resistance won't be a problem. The coax has a standard "N" connector to join your coax to it. Next time I go ATV portable I will try this out, as I have documented what power levels get VK3RTV I will know if getting in with less power, the gain achieved with the dish. This won't get damaged like a loop yagi can either.



Other specs quoted are; 60MHz bandwidth, 18 degree V beamwidth, 28 degree H beamwidth, >25dB F/B ratio, 1:1.5 VSWR, 50Ω, 100 watts max input power, Dimensions 0.6m x 0.9m, 4.5kg weight, Rated wind velocity m/sec 60, mast mount diameter 40~50mm

Don says its performance is better than his beam on 23cm. Also for suburbs where ham antennas may be frowned upon, this looks just like a pay TV satellite dish, which are more likely to attract as much attention.

Your scribe bought one and at time of going to press has yet to fully test it; results found will appear next issue. Photo shows the dish mounted underneath the beams used for ATV.

With the coming WIA 100 field day events it will be compared to the beams that are normally used for ATV.

It is also a lot more compact and takes up less area than a beam of similar gain.
~ Mick VK3CH



INTRODUCTION

It has long been considered that the contributions of Edsel Murphy, specifically his general and special laws delineating the behavior of inanimate objects, have not been fully appreciated. It is deemed that this is, in large part, due to the inherent simplicity of the law itself.

The intent here is to show that the law of Edsel Murphy has produced numerous corollaries. It is hoped that by noting these examples, the reader may obtain a greater appreciation of Edsel Murphy, his law, and its ramifications in engineering and science.

As is well known to those well versed in state-of-the-art, Murphy's Law states that "If anything can go wrong, it will".

Some authorities have held that Murphy's Law was first expounded by H. Cohen when he stated, "if anything can go wrong, it will – during the demonstration".

To show the all-pervasive nature of Murphy's work, here is a small sample of the application of the law in electronics engineering.

GENERAL ENGINEERING

- 1.) A patent application will be preceded by one week by a similar application made by an independent worker.
- 2.) The more innocuous a design change appears, the further its influence will extend.
- 3.) All warranty and guarantee clauses become void upon payment of invoice.
- 4.) The necessity of making a design change increases as the fabrication of the system approaches completion.
- 5.) Firmness of delivery dates is inversely proportional to the tightness of the schedule.
- 6.) Dimensions will always be expressed in the least usable term. Velocity, for example, will be expressed in furlongs per fortnight squared.
- 7.) An important instruction or operating manual will have been discarded by the receiving department.
- 8.) Suggestions made by the Value Analysis group will increase costs and reduce capabilities.
- 9.) Original drawings will be mangled by the copy machine.

MATHEMATICS

- 1.) In any given miscalculation, the fault will never be placed if more than one person is involved.
- 2.) Any error that can creep in, will. It will be in the direction that will do the most damage to the calculation.
- 3.) All constants are variables.
- 4.) In any given computation, the figure that is most obviously correct will be the source of error.
- 5.) A decimal will always be misplaced.
- 6.) In a complex calculation, one factor from the numerator will always move into the denominator.

PROTOTYPING AND PRODUCTION

- 1.) Any wire cut to length, will be too short.
- 2.) Tolerances will accumulate uni-directionally toward maximum difficulty of assembly.
- 3.) Identical units tested under identical conditions will not be identical in the field.
- 4.) The availability of a component is inversely proportional to the need for that component.
- 5.) If a project requires n components, there will be n-1 components in stock.
- 6.) If a particular resistance is needed, that value will not be available. Further, it cannot be developed with any available series or parallel combination.
- 7.) A dropped tool will land where it can do the most damage. (Also known as selective gravitation).
- 8.) A device selected at random from a group having 99.99% reliability, will be a member of the .001% group.
- 9.) When one connects a 3-phase line, the sequence will be wrong.
- 10.) A motor will rotate in the wrong direction.
- 11.) The probability of a dimension being omitted from a drawing is directly proportional to its importance.
- 12.) Interchangeable parts won't.
- 13.) Probability of failure of a component, assembly, subsystem, or system, is inversely proportional to the ease of repair or replacement.
- 14.) If a prototype functions perfectly, subsequent production units will malfunction.
- 15.) Components that must not and cannot be assembled improperly will be.
- 16.) A dc meter will be used on an overly sensitive range and connected backwards.
- 17.) The most delicate component will be dropped.
- 18.) Graphic recorders will deposit more ink on people than on paper.
- 19.) If a circuit cannot fail, it will.

- 20.) A fail-safe circuit will destroy others
- 21.) An instantaneous power supply crowbar circuit will operate too late.
- 22.) A transistor protected by a fast acting fuse will protect the fuse by blowing first.
- 23.) A self-starting oscillator won't.
- 24.) A crystal oscillator will oscillate at the wrong frequency.....if it oscillates.
- 25.) A pnp transistor will be an npn.
- 26.) A failure will not appear until a unit has passed final inspection.
- 27.) A purchased instrument or component will meet its specs only long enough to pass incoming inspection.
- 28.) After the last of the 16 mounting screws has been removed from an access cover, it will be discovered that the wrong access cover has been removed.
- 29.) After the access cover has been secured by the 16 screws, it will be discovered that the gasket has been omitted.
- 30.) After an instrument has been fully assembled, extra components will be found on the bench.
- 31.) Hermetic seals will leak.

SPECIFYING

- 1.) Specified environmental conditions will always be exceeded.
- 2.) Any safety factor set as a result of practical experience will be exceeded.
- 3.) In an instrument or device characterized by a number of plus – or – minus errors, the total error will be the sum of all errors adding in the same direction.
- 4.) In any given price estimate, cost of the equipment will exceed the estimate by a factor of 3×10 to the 20th power.
- 5.) In specifications, Murphy's Law will supersede Ohm's law.

*In some cases, the reference material given was misplaced during the preparation of this document (another example of Murphy's Law). In accordance with the law, these misplaced documents will turn up on the date of the publication of this document.

The man who developed one of the most profound concepts of the 21st century is practically unknown to most engineers. He is a victim of his own law. Destined for a secure place in the engineering hall of fame, something went wrong.

His real contribution lay not merely in the discovery of the law but more in its universality and its impact. The law itself, though inherently simple, has formed a foundation on which future generations will build. In fact, the law first came to him in all its simplicity, when his bride-to-be informed him of the impending birth of an heir to the family fortunes.

This article copied from the IEEE Journals circa 1960.

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Back when the telegraph was the fastest method of long-distance communication, a young man applied for a job as a Morse Code operator. Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the office address that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, busy office filled with noise and clatter, including the sound of the telegraph in the background. A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed job applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office.

The young man filled out his form and sat down with the seven other applicants in the waiting area. After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in. Naturally the other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet.

They assumed that the young man who went into the office made a mistake and would be disqualified. Within a few minutes, however, the employer escorted the young man out of the office and said to the other applicants, "Gentlemen, thank you very much for coming, but the job has just been filled." The other applicants began grumbling to each other, and one spoke up saying, "Wait a minute, I don't understand. He was the last to come in, and we never even got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair!"

The employer said, "I'm sorry, but the last several minutes while you've been sitting here, the telegraph has been ticking out the following message in Morse Code: 'If you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours.'" None of you heard it or understood it. This young man did. The job is his.

Don't talk to my Parrot

Linda Ann's dishwasher quit working so she called in a repairman. Since she had to go to work the next day she told the repairman "I'll leave the key under the mat. Fix the dishwasher, leave the bill on the counter and I will mail you a cheque. Oh, by the way don't worry about my dog Spike. He won't bother you. But whatever you do; DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES TALK TO MY PARROT!! ~ I MUST STRESS TO YOU; DO NOT TALK TO MY PARROT!!!"



When the repairman arrived at Linda's apartment the next day, he found the biggest meanest looking dog he had ever seen. But just as she had said, the dog just lay there, on the carpet watching him. The parrot, however, drove him nuts the whole time with his incessant yelling, cursing and name calling. Finally the repairman couldn't contain himself any longer and yelled, "SHUT UP YOU STUPID UGLY BIRD!" To which the parrot replied ... "GET HIM SPIKE!!!" See – Men Just Don't Listen!!!

~Bill VK3KBL

WANSARC VK3AWS

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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

Meetings held at the Ern Rose Memorial Pavilion, SEAVER GROVE, RESERVOIR (Melway Map 18 D5) 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 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.

Website: www.wansarc.org.au

Postal: WANSARC PO Box 336 RESERVOIR 3073

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

All editors' comments and other opinions in submitted articles may not always represent the opinions of the committee or the members of WANSARC, but are published in the spirit in which they were submitted; in any case anything stated is to promote interest and active discussion on club activities and the promotion of Amateur Radio in general. Contributions to WANSARC are always welcome from any part of the world.

You can either post material to the Post Office Box address at the top of this page, or email your submission to the editor direct at vk3ch@wia.org.au

Email attachments not to exceed 5 Mb in file size. Attachments of (or thought to be) executable code will not be opened.

Other persons or radio clubs may edit or copy out such as they like from the magazine but a reference to WANSARC is appreciated, except copyrighted (©) material or as otherwise indicated. Other articles that are credited to outside sources should be asked for their permission if they are used.

While we strive to be accurate, no responsibility taken for errors, omissions, or other perceived deficiencies, in respect of information contained in technical or other articles.

Any dates, times and locations given for upcoming events should always be checked with a reliable source closer to the event – coming up on the **WANSARC Tuesday evening NET on 146.450 MHz starting at 07:30 pm Local** is recommended to discuss and confirm information and any dates.

The club website also keeps current information on planned events and scheduled meeting dates.