



Next Club Meeting Friday 5th April 7.30pm

Ern Rose Memorial Pavilion, Seaver Grove, Reservoir



"CQ Contest, CQ John Moyle, this is VK3AWS, Portable, Bundoora Park calling..."

Don VK3HDX at helm of WANSARC's presence on HF during the John Moyle Field Day

Annual General Meeting Report	2
Notice to Members - Auction	4
Around the Shack	5
Frequently Asked Questions About Dihydrogen Monoxide (DHMO)	6
John Moyle Field Day & BBQ ~ Bundoora Park- QF22MH	9
Top this for a speeding ticket...	12
WANSARC Club Profile	12

Annual General Meeting Report

LAST MONTHS MEETING

Last meeting was the Annual General Meeting, which was held in interesting artistic surrounds, at the Ern Rose clubrooms.



The AGM election results from offers made and acceptance by those present was as listed.

Position	Person
President	Frank VK3OP
Vice President	John VK3FEZZ
Secretary / Public Officer / QSL Manager	Mark VK3PI
Treasurer	Rod VK3FAB
Radio Officer	Vacant, candidate sought at the April meeting
Webmaster	Rod VK3FAB
Magazine Editor	Mick VK3CH
Committee #1	Gordon VK3YOD
Committee #2	Don VK3HDX
Committee #3	John VK3FMPB
Committee #4	Graeme VK3NE
Committee #5	Frank VK3ZO
WIA Assessor	Mick VK3CH

NEW MEMBERSHIP FEES

For the first time, not since since the late 1980's, club membership fees were increased and this was approved at the AGM. Previous yearly fees were

New yearly fees are now	Retired / Student	\$15	Employed	\$25
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A new fee category of "Family Membership" was introduced at \$40

Fees have increased as costs have risen over time and other factors such as no generous donations to the club this year, no Rotary Raffle any more as they have disbanded and the requirement to pay back adjusted rental on Ern Rose club room hire to the council.

RADIO OFFICER VACANCY

Radio Officer position is currently vacant. The position governs the use of VK3AWS callsign and the coordination of the weekly club Net operators and log keeping (if not undertaken by candidate)
Position is to be offered at next general meeting. So if your interested please put your name forward at the April meeting.

EQUIPMENT DONATION AUCTION

April meeting will have an auction of the equipment donation to WANSARC from Eric. All sale proceeds go to the club. The equipment was brought for viewing at the last meeting.

A complete list will be sent out to all members, so remember to bring your cash along to the April meeting.

The list of items up for auction will be emailed with a rough valuation where it is able to be evaluated.

In any case the prices will be typical WANSARC value for money, as anyone that has seen a WANSARC auction would know!

Some of the gear to auctioned next meeting ↓



Coffee break time... except for Treasurer Rod, who didn't leave his post all night, writing furiously away collecting membership dues.



Remember membership forms and payment need to be submitted by next meeting in April.

Don't forget you can pay online now.

Members have the option to pay their membership fees via internet banking and direct deposit, details:

Bank Name: Bendigo Bank
BSB Number: 633-000
Account Number: 139996052
Account Name:
Western and Northern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club

Please quote your callsign and "renewal" as the reference.
Rod collecting the cash →

If paying by internet banking or direct deposit, please send Rod an email rod.tacey@gmail.com and Rod will confirm receipt.

Alternatively, you can send us a money order or cheque made out to

"Western and Northern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club" Posted to WANSARC, PO Box 336, Reservoir VIC 3073.



NOTICE TO MEMBERS

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP? ARE YOU A FINANCIAL MEMBER OF WANSARC?

We'll make sure you are by **Friday April 5, 2013.**

WHY, I hear you ask?

Because that is when the first auction night for the year occurs and only **FINANCIAL** members of **WANSARC** will have the opportunity to bid for equipment.

On offer are an assortment of pre-loved goodies including the following:



IC3200A
IC900A
IC720A
IC738
FT480R
FT730R

Mirage B108 RF Power Amplifier AND
MUCH MUCH MORE!!!

So get cracking, membership is only \$25 for working types and \$15 for those that are not working, retired or students. A bargain price at any rate!

No warranty, no guarantee's, what you see is what you get.

But hey, that is all part of the fun!

SEE YOU ON

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2013 AT THE CLUBROOMS

GEAR ABLE TO BE VIEWED FROM 7.10pm

Auction commences 8.00PM SHARP!!

Best wishes

~ tU~] f aN{xÇaÉÇ

Mark VK3PI
Secretary

Around the Shack

FOUNDATION LICENCE 2013 WEEKEND COURSES

April 20-21, June 22-23, August 24-25, November 16-17.

Courses are held at the Amateur Radio Victoria office 40G Victory Blvd, Ashburton.

The study and operational practice guide book for the Foundation Licence. Mail orders \$26.00 - delivery Australia wide.

To enrol or obtain the Foundation licence manual contact

- Barry Robinson VK3PV 0428 516 001

PA EQUIPMENT THREATENED BY BROADBAND SALE

GYM instructors and clerics could struggle to get their message across when the federal government sells the rights to broadcast frequencies used by analogue television, and wireless microphones. In April the government will auction a spectrum in the 700 megahertz bandwidth freed by the switch to digital television. Telecommunications companies Optus, Telstra and Vodafone have registered their interest in bidding for frequencies which will allow them to expand their wireless broadband services for fourth-generation mobile phones.

But shadow communications minister Malcolm Turnbull says the Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Dividend) Bill needs to be amended so popular wireless microphone technology does not become obsolete.

He says there are 120,000 to 150,000 wireless microphone units in Australia that could be affected. The takeover of the bandwidth is not scheduled until 2015, but there have been calls for buyers to be able to use it beforehand. "You can imagine the consequences are going to be shocking. This has the potential of interfering with tens of thousands of businesses."

He called on the government to introduce an education campaign for users and sellers of the technology so they could plan for 2015. The Australian Communications and Media Authority website says planning is at an early stage and updates will be provided as they become available.

Speaking on the bill in parliament, Mr Turnbull was also critical of the government's auction reserve price of \$1.36 per megahertz per head of the population, double what was achieved in a recent similar sale in the United Kingdom.

Mr Turnbull said the government should lower the reserve and stop subsidising the NBN.

"They are subsidising the form of broadband that has the smaller contribution to productivity and gouging the medium of broadband that has the maximum benefit," he said. ~Internet

Beer Traditions - The Honeymoon

4,000 years ago in Babylon, it was an accepted practice that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead or beer he could drink. In ancient Babylon, the calendar was lunar-based - based on the cycle of the moon. The month following any wedding was called the "honeymoon" which evolved into "honeymoon". Mead is a honey beer and what better way to celebrate a honeymoon. ~Internet

THE POWER OF GROG

Beer built the Great Pyramid of Giza

Experts of ancient history will tell you that beer was an incredibly valuable commodity in Ancient Egypt. It is believed that beer predates bread by as much as 3000 years and that it was the desire to harvest barley for beer-making that compelled our ancestors to cultivate crops and settle in one place.

In humankind's efforts to produce beer we discovered the plough, irrigation, the wheel, pottery and bread making. By the time that the Egyptians started constructing pyramids, beer was used as a currency to pay, feed and placate the workforce. In this time beer was very thick and nutritious, and much safer to drink than the contaminated water of the Nile. Many wonders of the ancient world would never have been constructed without beer as a means to sustain the workforce.

Alcohol gave birth to modern medicine

Whilst alcohol is used in antiseptic wipes and hand sanitisers in medical practice today (pure ethanol is very effective at killing bacteria, viruses and fungi) papyri from Ancient Egypt dating to 2200 BC include recipes for medicine based on wine.

This oldest documented man-made medicine set a precedent for the use of alcohol in medicine for the next 4000 years, to this day. Hippocrates, the father of medicine and from where we get the Hippocratic Oath, included wine in every one of his recorded remedies.

The Schola Medica Salernitana, founded in the 9th century in the southern Italian town of Salerno, used the new-fangled technique of distillation to concentrate wine into a spirit which was used for creating infusions of herbs and spices believed to have health-giving properties. These types of medicines would eventually be used to combat (unsuccessfully) the bubonic plague that decimated Europe's population.

The classic G&T also started its life as a medicine. Troops of the British East India Company were plagued by malaria but by taking a good dose of quinine dissolved in water they could be cured. For many of the troops, however, the bitter-tasting cure seemed worse than the disease. It wasn't until the quinine tonic water was mixed with a little sugar and a good slug of gin that the cure really caught on.

Before proper anaesthesia, a stiff drink was the best you could expect to be offered before surgery. These days alcohol has been largely relegated to cold sore and toothache gels and cough syrups.

Alcohol helped us discover the New World

Long sea voyages pose the problems of stagnant drinking water and boredom. These were two problems that alcohol was immediately employed to solve. Stores of sherry and wine helped Christopher Columbus make it to the Bahamas.

In 1519, as Magellan prepared to circumnavigate the globe, he spent more on sherry than he did on weapons. Later seafarers favoured brandy, rum and gin as it took up less space on-board than beer or wine.

With the sugar plantations of the Caribbean selling cheap molasses to the colonies in New England, rum very quickly became an important part of the economy. As Britain saw that they might profit from the tax on rum, and that they might use the American colonies as a solution to their growing convict issues, they consequently ignited the independence movement and the Revolutionary War.

With the uppity Americans not wanting convicts as neighbours, Australia was next on the cards. The First Fleet consisting of 11 vessels was not only laden with troops, convicts and the tools for starting a new colony, but also five puncheons of rum (1600 litres) and 300 gallons of brandy (1350 litres).

After crossing the Atlantic the fleet also stopped to top up on provisions at Rio De Janeiro where they would have taken on the local sugarcane spirit cachaça. It's likely that the fleet's arrival in Botany Bay would have been toasted not with English gin, brandy or sherry, but with Brazilian spirit. ~Internet

RAOTC LUNCHEON 2013

Mick VK3CH, Mark VK3PI, Ian VK3QL and John VK3ACA attended, most of NERG 'gainfully unemployed' were in attendance as well. An interesting talk on clandestine radio and other subjects was given which only finished at 3pm. Ten full tables in the larger upstairs room had many in conversation enjoying the meal and general table rag chewing.

EMDRC HAMFEST 2013

About a dozen WANSARC members were seen wandering around the Hamfest, that had good weather. Crowd numbers seemed down, normally you cop an elbow in the ribs as you walk around but not this time. Mick was the only one from WANSARC selling, making \$125 for the day, enough to fill the tank and enjoy a few good meals.

Frequently Asked Questions About Dihydrogen Monoxide (DHMO)



What is Dihydrogen Monoxide?

Dihydrogen Monoxide (DHMO) is a colourless and odourless chemical compound, also referred to by some as Dihydrogen Oxide, Hydrogen Hydroxide, Hydronium Hydroxide, or simply Hydric acid. Its basis is the highly reactive hydroxyl radical, a species shown to mutate DNA, denature proteins, disrupt cell membranes, and chemically alter critical neurotransmitters. The atomic components of DHMO are found in a number of caustic, explosive and poisonous compounds such as Sulphuric Acid, Nitro-glycerine and Ethyl Alcohol.

For more detailed information, including precautions, disposal procedures and storage requirements, refer to one of the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) available for DHMO:

Kemp Compliance & Safety MSDS for DHMO
Chem-Safe, Inc. MSDS for Dihydrogen Monoxide
Applied Petrochemical Research MSDS for Hydric Acid
Original DHMO.org Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for Dihydrogen Monoxide ([html](#))

Should I be concerned about Dihydrogen Monoxide?

Yes, you should be concerned about DHMO! Although the U.S. Government and the Centres for Disease Control (CDC) do not classify Dihydrogen Monoxide as a toxic or carcinogenic substance (as it does with better known chemicals such as hydrochloric acid and benzene), DHMO is a constituent of many known toxic substances, diseases and disease-causing agents, environmental hazards and can even be lethal to humans in quantities as small as a thimbleful.

Research conducted by award-winning U.S. scientist Nathan Zohner concluded that roughly 86 percent of the population supports a ban on dihydrogen monoxide. Although his results are preliminary, Zohner believes people need to pay closer attention to the information presented to them regarding Dihydrogen Monoxide. He adds that if more people knew the truth about DHMO then studies like the one he conducted would not be necessary.

A similar study conducted by U.S. researchers Patrick K. McCluskey and Matthew Kulick also found that nearly 90 percent of the citizens participating in their study were willing to sign a petition to support an outright ban on the use of Dihydrogen Monoxide in the United States.

Why haven't I heard about Dihydrogen Monoxide before?

Good question. Historically, the dangers of DHMO, for the most part, have been considered minor and manageable. While the more significant dangers of Dihydrogen Monoxide are currently addressed by a number of agencies including FDA, FEMA and CDC, public awareness of the real and daily dangers of Dihydrogen Monoxide is lower than some think it should be.

Critics of government often cite the fact that many politicians and others in public office do not consider Dihydrogen Monoxide to be a "politically beneficial" cause to get behind, and so the public suffers from a lack of reliable information on just what DHMO is and why they should be concerned.

Part of the blame lies with the public and society at large. Many do not take the time to understand Dihydrogen Monoxide, and what it means to their lives and the lives of their families.

Unfortunately, the dangers of DHMO have increased as world population has increased, a fact that the raw numbers and careful research both bear out. Now more than ever, it is important to be aware of just what the dangers of Dihydrogen Monoxide are and how we can all reduce the risks faced by ourselves and our families.

What are some of the dangers associated with DHMO?

Each year, Dihydrogen Monoxide is a known causative component in many thousands of deaths and is a major contributor to millions upon millions of dollars in damage to property and the environment. Some of the known perils of Dihydrogen Monoxide are:

Death due to accidental inhalation of DHMO, even in small quantities.

Prolonged exposure to solid DHMO causes severe tissue damage. Excessive ingestion produces a number of unpleasant though not typically life-threatening side-effects.

DHMO is a major component of acid rain.

Gaseous DHMO can cause severe burns.

Contributes to soil erosion.

Leads to corrosion and oxidation of many metals.

Contamination of electrical systems often causes short-circuits.

Exposure decreases effectiveness of automobile brakes.

Found in biopsies of pre-cancerous tumours and lesions.

Given to vicious dogs involved in recent deadly attacks.

Often associated with killer cyclones in the U.S. Midwest and elsewhere, and in hurricanes including deadly storms in Florida, New Orleans and other areas of the south-eastern U.S.

Thermal variations in DHMO are a suspected contributor to the El Nino weather effect.

What are some uses of Dihydrogen Monoxide?

Despite the known dangers of DHMO, it continues to be used daily by industry, government, and even in private homes across the U.S. and worldwide. Some of the well-known uses of Dihydrogen Monoxide are:

as an industrial solvent and coolant,

in nuclear power plants,

by the U.S. Navy in the propulsion systems of some older vessels,

by elite athletes to improve performance,

in the production of Styrofoam,

in biological and chemical weapons manufacture,

in the development of genetically engineering crops and animals,

as a spray-on fire suppressant and retardant,

in so-called "family planning" or "reproductive health" clinics,

as a major ingredient in many home-brewed bombs,

as a by-product of hydrocarbon combustion in furnaces and air conditioning compressor operation,

in cult rituals,
by the Church of Scientology on their members and their members' families (although surprisingly, many members recently have contacted DHMO.org to vehemently deny such use),
by both the KKK and the NAACP during rallies and marches,
by members of Congress who are under investigation for financial corruption and inappropriate IM behaviour,
by the clientele at a number of bath houses in New York City and San Francisco,
historically, in Hitler's death camps in Nazi Germany, and in prisons in Turkey, Serbia, Croatia, Libya, Iraq and Iran,
in World War II prison camps in Japan, and in prisons in China, for various forms of torture,
during many recent religious and ethnic wars in the Middle East,
by many terrorist organizations including al Qaeda,
in community swimming pools to maintain chemical balance,
in day care centres, purportedly for sanitary purposes,
by software engineers, including those producing DICOM software and other DICOM software tools,
by popular computer science professors,
by the semi-divine King Bhumibol of Thailand and his many devoted young working girls in Bangkok,
by the British Chiropractic Association and the purveyors of the bogus treatments that the BCA promotes,
by commodities giant Trafigura in their well-publicized and widely-known toxic-waste dumping activities in Ivory Coast,
in animal research laboratories, and
in pesticide production and distribution.

What you may find surprising are some of the products and places where DHMO is used, but which for one reason or another, are not normally made part of public presentations on the dangers to the lives of our family members and friends.

Among these startling uses are:

as an additive to food products, including jarred baby food and baby formula, and even in many soups, carbonated beverages and supposedly "all-natural" fruit juices
in cough medicines and other liquid pharmaceuticals,
in spray-on oven cleaners,
in shampoos, shaving creams, deodorants and numerous other bathroom products,
in bathtub bubble products marketed to children,
as a preservative in grocery store fresh produce sections,
in the production of beer by all the major beer distributors,
in the coffee available at major coffee houses in the US and abroad,
in Formula One race cars, although its use is regulated by the Formula One Racing Commission, and
as a target of ongoing NASA planetary and stellar research.

One of the most surprising facts recently revealed about Dihydrogen Monoxide contamination is in its use as a food and produce "decontaminant." Studies have shown that even after careful washing, food and produce that has been contaminated by DHMO remains tainted by DHMO.

What is the link between Dihydrogen Monoxide and school violence?

A recent stunning revelation is that in every single instance of violence in our country's schools, including infamous shootings in high schools in Denver and Arkansas, Dihydrogen Monoxide was involved. In fact, DHMO is often very available to students of all ages within the assumed safe confines of school buildings. None of the school administrators with which we spoke could say for

certain how much of the substance is in use within their very hallways.

How does Dihydrogen Monoxide toxicity affect kidney dialysis patients?

Unfortunately, DHMO overdose is not unheard of in patients undergoing dialysis treatments for kidney failure. Dihydrogen Monoxide overdose in these patients can result in congestive heart failure, pulmonary edema and hypertension. In spite of the danger of accidental overdose and the inherent toxicity of DHMO in large quantities for this group, there is a portion of the dialysis treated population that continues to use DHMO on a regular basis.

Are there groups that oppose a ban on Dihydrogen Monoxide?

In spite of overwhelming evidence, there is one group in California that opposes a ban on Dihydrogen Monoxide. The Friends of Hydrogen Hydroxide is a group that believes that the dangers of DHMO have been exaggerated. Members claim that Dihydrogen Monoxide, or the less emotionally charged and more chemically accurate term they advocate for it, "Hydrogen Hydroxide," is beneficial, environmentally safe, benign and naturally occurring. They argue that efforts to ban DHMO are misguided.

Friends of Hydrogen Hydroxide is supported by the Scorched Earth Party, a radical and loosely-organized California-based group. Sources close to the Scorched Earth Party deny any outside funding from government, industry or pro-industry PACs.

Is it true that using DHMO improves athletic performance?

Absolutely!

With the numerous allegations of amateur and professional athletes using anabolic steroids and/or blood doping to enhance performance, virtually no attention has been paid to the performance enhancing properties of Dihydrogen Monoxide. It is perhaps the sporting world's dirtiest of dirty little secrets that athletes regularly ingest large quantities of DHMO in an effort to gain a competitive edge over an opponent.

One technique commonly used by endurance athletes in sports such as distance running and cycling is to take a large amount of DHMO immediately prior to a race. This is known within racing circles to dramatically improve performance.

Sports-medicine physicians warn that ingesting too much Dihydrogen Monoxide can lead to complications and unwanted side-effects, but do acknowledge the link to improved performance. DHMO is not currently considered a banned substance, so post-race urine tests do not detect elevated or abnormal levels of DHMO.

What are the symptoms of accidental Dihydrogen Monoxide overdose?

You may not always recognize that you have been a victim of accidental DHMO overdose, so here are some signs and symptoms to look for.

If you suspect Dihydrogen Monoxide overdose, or if you exhibit any of these symptoms, you should consult with your physician or medical practitioner.

The data presented here is provided for informational purposes only, and should in no way be construed as medical advice of any sort.

Watch for these symptoms:

Excessive sweating
Excessive urination
Bloated feeling
Nausea
Vomiting
Electrolyte imbalance
Hyponatremia (serum hypotonicity)
Dangerously imbalanced levels of ECF and ICF in the blood
Degeneration of sodium homeostasis

A recently noted medical phenomenon involves small amounts of DHMO leaking or oozing from the corners of the eyes as a direct result of causes such as foreign particulate irritation, allergic reactions including anaphylactic shock, and sometimes severe chemical depression.

What is a chemical analysis of Dihydrogen Monoxide

Recently, German analytical chemist Christoph von Bueltzingsloewen at the Universitaet Regensburg identified what may be key reasons why the dangers of DHMO are ever present. According to von Bueltzingsloewen, the chemical separation of dihydrogenoxide from the hazardous oxygendihydride is extremely difficult. The two similar compounds curiously occur in nearly equi molar distribution wherever they are found. It is not clear how the two contribute directly to the dangers inherent in Dihydrogen Monoxide, although von Bueltzingsloewen believes that a synergetic mechanism, catalysed by traces of hydrogen hydroxide, plays a major role.

What can I do to minimize the risks?

Fortunately, there is much you can do to minimize your dangers due to Dihydrogen Monoxide exposure. First, use common sense. Whenever you are dealing with any product or food that you feel may be contaminated with DHMO, evaluate the relative danger to you and your family, and act accordingly. Keep in mind that in many instances, low-levels of Dihydrogen Monoxide contamination are not dangerous, and in fact, are virtually unavoidable. Remember, the responsibility for your safety and the safety of your family lies with you. Second, exercise caution when there is the potential for accidental inhalation or ingestion of DHMO. If you feel uncomfortable, remove yourself from a dangerous situation. Better safe than sorry.

Third, don't panic. Although the dangers of Dihydrogen Monoxide are very real, by exercising caution and common sense, you can rest assured knowing that you are doing everything possible to keep you and your family safe.



D H M O

MSDS: Dihydrogen Monoxide

Dihydrogen monoxide (also known as hydric acid) is responsible for injury, death, and property damage all over the world.

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET FOR DIHYDROGEN MONOXIDE

PRODUCT NAME: DIHYDROGEN MONOXIDE
FORMULA WT: 18.00
CAS NO.: 07732-18-5
NIOSH/RTECS NO.: ZC0110000
COMMON SYNONYMS:
DIHYDROGEN OXIDE, HYDRIC ACID
PRODUCT CODES: 4218,4219
EFFECTIVE: 05/30/86
REVISION #01

LABORATORY PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

SAFETY GLASSES; LAB COAT

PRECAUTIONARY LABEL STATEMENTS

STORAGE: KEEP IN TIGHTLY CLOSED CONTAINER.

BOILING POINT: 100 C (212 F)
VAPOUR PRESSURE(MM HG): 17.5

MELTING POINT: 0 C (32 F)
VAPOUR DENSITY(AIR=1): N/A

SPECIFIC GRAVITY: 1.00
EVAPORATION RATE: N/A

SOLUBILITY(H2O):
COMPLETE (IN ALL PROPORTIONS) %
VOLATILES BY VOLUME: 100

APPEARANCE & ODOUR:
ODOURLESS, CLEAR COLOURLESS LIQUID.

TOXICITY:
LD50 (IPR-MOUSE)(G/KG) - 190
LD50 (IV-MOUSE) (MG/KG) - 25

DISPOSAL PROCEDURE
DISPOSE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE
FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL
REGULATIONS.

SAFE-T-DATA(TM) STORAGE COLOUR CODE:
ORANGE (GENERAL STORAGE)

SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS
KEEP CONTAINER TIGHTLY CLOSED. SUITABLE FOR
ANY GENERAL CHEMICAL STORAGE AREA.
DIHYDROGEN MONOXIDE IS CONSIDERED A NON-
REGULATED PRODUCT, BUT REACTS VIGOROUSLY
WITH SOME MATERIALS. THESE INCLUDE SODIUM,
POTASSIUM AND OTHER ALKALI METALS; ELEMENTAL
FLUORINE; AND STRONG DEHYDRATING AGENTS
SUCH AS SULPHURIC ACID.
IT FORMS EXPLOSIVE GASES WITH CALCIUM CARBIDE.
AVOID CONTACT WITH ALL MATERIALS UNTIL
INVESTIGATION SHOWS SUBSTANCE IS
COMPATIBLE. EXPANDS SIGNIFICANTLY UPON
FREEZING. DO NOT STORE IN RIGID
CONTAINER AND PROTECT FROM FREEZING.

~ Report released on Monday April 1st - Mick VK3CH

John Moyle Field Day & BBQ ~ Bundoora Park - QF22MH

In a break from years gone by the John Moyle Field Day was held at Bundoora Park on Sunday 17th April. For the last six years WANSARC have headed west and have won the six hour event for six years in a row. But with the ever diminishing pool of experienced operators needed to run the show, it was just simply not possible to set up with such a small crew of only three or four, but the last time WANSARC won, it was done with an radio operating crew of four. It looked like WANSARC was headed for the unthinkable, winning six years straight then not entering the competition at all! Doing a session on Sunday only gave the last six hour remaining block of (local time) 6.00am to 11.59am.

Club members were invited to come along and see a portable contesting station in action and have a go at operating to get the feel of it all, such as calling procedure and logging details on the fly. To allow for those that need their rest, formal operating was planned to kick off at 9.00am with a B.Y.O. "everything" with the radios and antennae requirements already setup to use. The plan was that "WANSARC will casually participate in the John Moyle Field Day contest, so if you have never participated in a contest before, would like to have some "air time" with other club members, or can show other members a thing or two about "contesting and operating", then come on down." No end time was set – that was determined by the members that turn up.

After nine straight heatwave days in Melbourne, it was a pleasant change to have mild moist conditions at the park. Arriving early as the gatekeepers opened the park, Mick VK3CH and Don VK3HDX drove down to Rotunda 6 and staked a WANSARC claim to the site. Normally gates open about 5.30am but this time, probably due to late sunlight, only opened at 6.10am Setting up a IC-9100 into a Diamond X7000 Vertical, Mick was ready to call "CQ Contest". All via battery power in the early hours, so as not to disturb the nearby houses, lucky enough to afford to live in such great surrounds. Power was supplied by a generator only swapped over from battery power after the sun was well up to keep the early morning quiet.

The John Moyle Field Day operating times have always been somewhat confusing as its all in UTC.

A conversion gives this;

Starting at	0100 UTC on the Saturday	12.00 pm Saturday	(Melbourne AEST)
Ending at	0059 UTC on the Sunday	11.59 am Sunday	(Melbourne AEST)

Common calling frequencies are as suggested in the WIA call book, which for VHF/UHF are;

6m FM	52.525 MHz, 53.500 MHz	
6m SSB	50.150 MHz, 50.200 MHz	(no contest operation allowed below 50.150 MHz)
2m SSB	144.100 MHz (prim), 144.200 MHz (sec.), 144.300 MHz (chat)	
2m FM	146.500 MHz, 146.450 MHz, 146.550 MHz (+/- 25kHz channels)	
70cm SSB	432.100 MHz (prim), 432.200 MHz (sec), 432.300 MHz (chat)	
70cm FM	439.000 MHz (prim) and +/-25kHz channels	
23cm SSB	1296.100 MHz (prim), 1296.200 MHz (sec)	
23cm FM	1294.000 MHz (prim)	

No WANSARC portable radio activity is complete without food and this year was no exception.

Don VK3HDX brought along some home made hamburgers and homemade sausages with onions lettuce & tomatoes.

The sausages were a choice of lamb with herbs, chorizo with a lovely smoky paprika flavour and herbed pork sausages. Hamburgers were minced up by Don himself using Wagyu steak minced with exotic subtle spices, the taste defies description... Mick cooked these up in the frypan, tongs in one hand and microphone in the other (hi). A Weber "Q" was ready for duty as well.

Mick first attempt at adding an extra three meters to the mast was too much top weight, so that was abandoned and the regular seven meter mast used, not a good idea to try new, but untested things, on the fly, at 7am, in a contest.



WANSARC Vol 44 Issue 04 2013



Don erects the 6 meter vertical with inverted 'V' on forty meters →

Don VK3HDX radio setup for the day comprised of the IC-7700
 This was fed power from Mick's generator, via a UPS to filter any noise.
 Don worked 6 meters via a 6 meter vertical purchased just for the day.
 Below the vertical was strung an inverted "V" for 40 meters. →
 Don had a multi band antenna up prior but was swamped with noise.
 A single band antenna for forty meters reduced the noise a lot.

Mick VK3CH covered 2 meters, 70 cm and 23cm with the IC-9100.
 The radio via a triplexer fed an X7000 vertical.

Wilfred & Johnno helped string up the long wire "V" antenna ↓



Johnno running 200 watts HF with VK3AWS
 on forty meters, calling CQ John Moyle...
 The raindrops concealed his drooling.. (hi) ↓



The IC-9100 in action ↓



Contacts on all bands were hard to get with few stations about, but they were there if you called enough, with plenty heard on HF.
 Most stations were worked that were about in around 20 minutes, then worked again in the next three hour block.



Local park wildlife eating breakfast at the crack of dawn, just meters away from the radios, a relaxing environment... ↓



Don brought along kindling wood and lit the main BBQ at 11am ↓



After work, Frank, VK3OP visited, after working VK3AWS on the way to the park, arriving just as the contest finished up. The weather looked intimidating and it was a bit chilly but we did not get soaked at all. The BBQ food certainly kept us warm. So much food was left over Don kindly donated it all to Mick to take home, Mick wont have to shop for days, his favourite pure meat..

This is how WANSARC run a contest... Food one hand, logs in the other, Wilfred writes as John QSO



It was not as busy, but the crew ensured VK3AWS was heard during the contest. We all had fun with ample space in the rotunda. Don's use of studio quality headphones to hear stations clearly without any other distractions is a wise investment and really helps. But the fear of stormy weather must have spooked everyone, but apparently it was far worse at our usual spot on Saturday! But with less than an hour to setup or pack up and with the rotunda as shelter, not a drop of rain fell on any of us, it was a great day, you should come along next year... if we are not back at our usual place that is...

Contacts for the morning, inverted "V" on forty meters and vertical only on VHF/UHF, about four hours casual operation;

40 meters	18 stations
2 meters	10 stations
70 cm	7 stations
23 cm	4 stations

~Mick VK3CH

Top this for a speeding ticket...

Two Hunter traffic patrol officers from Newcastle LAC (Local Area Command) were involved in an unusual incident while checking for speeding motorists on the F3 Freeway. One of the officers used a hand-held radar device to check the speed of a vehicle approaching over the crest of a hill, and was surprised when the speed was recorded at over 800Kph. Their radar suddenly stopped working and the officers were not able to reset it.

Just then a deafening roar over the treetops revealed that the radar had in fact latched on to a Williamstown FA-18 fighter jet which was engaged in a low-flying exercise over Wyong, approaching from the ocean.

Back at police headquarters the Local Area Commander fired off a stiff complaint to the RAAF Liaison officer at Williamstown.

Back came the reply in true laconic RAAF style:

'Thank you for your message, which allows us to complete the file on this incident. You may be interested to know that the tactical computer in the Hornet had detected the presence of, and subsequently locked onto, your hostile radar equipment and automatically sent a jamming signal back to it. Furthermore, an air-to-ground missile aboard the fully-armed aircraft had also automatically locked onto your radar equipment.

Fortunately the pilot flying the Hornet recognised the situation for what it was, quickly responded to the missile systems alert status, and was narrowly able to override the automated defence system before the missile was launched and your hostile radar installation totally destroyed.

Thank you for your enquiry and have a nice day.'

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. **WANSARC** is an affiliated club of **The Wireless Institute of Australia**.

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 likeminded 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, ARV, WIA, ACMA, Melbourne Clubs, VK and Worldwide.

Club Nets

146.450MHz FM each Tuesday evening commencing **7.30pm local time**. Net Control Station - **VK3AWS**

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. Email attachments of Word™, Plain Text, Excel™, PDF™ and JPG are all acceptable. 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 or virulently affected emails 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 has current information on planned events and scheduled meeting dates. **WANSARC** News written with Word™ 2007, published with Adobe Acrobat™ 10. You can get the WIA News sent to your inbox each week by simply clicking a link and entering your email address found at www.wia.org.au. The links for either text email or MP3 voice files are there as well as Podcasts and Twitter. This service is FREE.