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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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November

2013

Next Meeting - Friday 1st November 7.30pm

Software Defined Radio Demonstration Night,

Courtesy of Don VK3HDX

Open HPSDR Project

(High Performance Software Defined Radio)

followed by a practical demonstration.

*Wondered if SDR's are up to the performance of the big three?
(Yaesu, Icom & Kenwood), then come along & see for yourself.*



This is the last chance this year to win a door prize, it will be worth coming along, promises to be entertaining!



Hoppers Crossing Girl Guide Leaders, Robyn, Sue and Claire at the VK3AWS portable station table.
Another successful JOTA held at the guides hall in perfect weather, lots of HF activity this year, more page 7.

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LAST MONTHS MEETING

Last months meeting started with a Special Meeting to discuss and vote on the new Model Rules. All the resolutions, emailed prior, drafted by the secretary, were adopted and passed by the members. After that, the raffle draw for the last two months was held with John VK3FEZZ the winner of the DAB+ Radio and John VK3FMPB the winner of the reading lamp. Then it was the auction of donated goods to WANSARC with the club getting 100% of the profits. Mark VK3PI was auctioneer and was according to Johnno's invited guest, Melinda "...one of the most entertaining auctions I have been to..."

In the 'bidding room' were members that turned up which were, John VK3FMPB and friend Melinda, Carlo VK3FGXL, Graeme VK3NE, Frank VK3OP, Karl VK3LN, Greg VK3CN, Don VK3HDX with Jack, Frank VK3ZO, Mick VK3CH, Christian VK3FYAB, Mark VK3UA, John VK3FEZZ, Frank VK3ZFS, Guy VK3GUY, Russel VK3XC, Bob VK3VO, Jack VK3JAK, Mark VK3PI, Chris VK3FY, Nick VK3FNIK, Rod VK3FAB and Dan VK3DWH.

Don draws the tickets, → under the auditor supervision of Jack



Johnno and John with prizes



'Boom Box' Mark ↓



The auction followed by some very spirited bidding, even Mark was surprised by some of the generous bids, everything was sold. The club made a profit of \$496.00 The remaining unsold magazines and books were later free and disappeared very quickly.



Thanks to all that bought gear, don't forget there is a special draw for just those that purchased at the auction so come to next meeting for a chance at winning more great gear, don't forget to join the Net to increase your ticket allocation for the monthly prize draw. The committee thanks all those that bought items which provides financial support to the club - well done. ~Mick VK3CH

AROUND THE SHACK

SHOW ME THE MONEY...

For those that missed last meeting, Mark VK3PI had a story of when he was on a flight, a passenger next to him was one of those that starts talking and does not shut up the whole flight.

This bloke spent most of his time bragging about all his houses he had, expensive cars, boats and all manner of expensive riches and property both here and overseas. Mark endured the ongoing one sided "conversation" until the plane was arriving on the tarmac. Finally the bloke asked Mark, so what do you do?

Mark, after enduring an annoying amount of audio 'crap' told him, "I'm an auditor for the tax office." Mark said he grabbed his hand luggage and beat a hasty exit out the plane door, the first one off!

ACMA INTERFERENCE CASE-LOAD

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) gets about 50 complaints a week of radiofrequency interference and many are eliminated within days.

The ACMA has 75 unresolved complaints on its books currently, but hopes to complete investigations to stop that interference in weeks. On average it has 50 complaints solved a week.

Priority is given to public safety issues or telecommunications service access. The ACMA is always on the lookout for illegal mobile repeaters and jammers.

It also found that interference was caused by a beer-fridge in north-east Victoria while a crane at the refurbished Rockhampton Hospital had blocked the path between microwave towers.

Interference was starting to be reported from the use of petrol pricing displays. This seems to result from the imported wireless devices not meeting Australian frequency standards.

On another subject there will likely be an overhaul of the Radiocommunications Act 1992 to keep pace with spectrum regulations and the rapid increase of technology. ~ARV

EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

Victorian National Parks Activation

The 3rd Keith Roget Memorial National Parks Award Activation Weekend will be across Victoria on November the 15th to the 17th.

It will be a 'fun' event for Chasers and Activators get contacts to gain valuable award points. Listener applications are most welcome.

There's no limit on the number of portable amateur stations involved at a particular spot. With 45 in Victoria there's plenty to choose. Contact the Award Manager Tony VK3VTH so a Master List can be issued. The suggested frequencies are 7.090, 14.195, 3.6 and 144.1 MHz.

Award rules and more information are available on the Amateur Radio Victoria website.

Yarra Valley ARG, Hamfest / White Elephant Sale

Sunday 10th November, Garry Cooper Pavilion, 16 Anzac Ave. Yarra Glen

\$5 entry tables, \$15 each, open to traders at 8.30am.

Call in on VK3RYV 146.725MHz.

For bookings and further details phone Steve 0418 103 487

Microwave Test and Tune day (EMDRC)

Sunday 10th November 10am - 3pm



The day is also perfect for those interested in higher bands, but not sure where or how to start, with lots of gear/ideas and people to talk with and see how its done. Come and say hello.

All the typical microwave bands are expected to be going, a chance to dust off the gear and get it going for the summer portable activity, and spring Field Day.

WIA Spring VHF-UHF Field Day Weekend of November 23/24

The VHF-UHF Field Days provide VHF-UHF operators with the opportunity to "head for the hills" and see how far they can work. The Field Days have separate sections for single and multiple operator stations.

The duration of the Field Day is 24 hours, but there are also 8 hour sections for operators who may not be able to camp overnight. Most club stations prefer to operate for the full 24 hours. The Field Days also generate plenty of activity from home stations, so there is also a separate Home Station section.

The scoring is based on grid locator squares. Each new square worked gives quite a boost to the score, and this encourages the entrants to operate from locations in grid squares that normally don't have a great amount of amateur activity.

There are no mode restrictions, except that all contacts must be simplex - contacts through repeaters or satellites are not allowed. There is plenty of FM activity, but one feature of the Field Days is a high level of SSB activity.

It is possible to do very well with only modest antennas if you pick a good hilltop. Another option, if your station is easily transportable, is to operate from more than one grid square during the contest period.

<http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/>

Southern Peninsula Amateur Radio Club

Rosebud RadioFest

Sunday 24th November 2013

Eastbourne Primary School Auditorium

Allambi Avenue, Rosebud Vic

(Mel. 169 K5, follow signs from Boneo Rd.)

Food Sales, Show & Tell, Pre-Entry Tickets from 8:00 am,

Main Doors open 10:00 am

Entry \$6.00 - Children under 12 admitted free

EVENTS IN DECEMBER


WANSARC CHRISTMAS DINNER

Friday 6th December

St. Georges Restaurant, N.M.I.T.

More details next issue...

also email notification from club Secretary



1966: Long hair
2013: Longing for hair

1966: KEG
2013: ECG

1966: Acid rock
2013: Acid reflux

1966: Trying to look like Marlon Brando or Liz Taylor
2013: Trying NOT to look like Marlon Brando or Liz Taylor

1966: Seeds and stems
2013: Roughage

1966: Going to a new, hip joint
2013: Receiving a new hip joint

1966: Rolling Stones
2013: Kidney Stones

1966: Screw the system
2013: Upgrade the system

1966: Passing the drivers' test
2013: Passing the vision test

1966: Whatever
2013: Depends

1966 : Love to hear loud rock & Roll
2013 : Would love to hear anything

1966 : Love tight fitting clothes to show off my curves
2013 : Went to curves gym to try and fit in my clothes

1966 : Always looking for a good time
2013 : Always looking for my glasses

1966 : Make love not war
2013 : Try to make it up the steps

1966 : Black book filled with girlfriends' names and numbers
2013 : Black book filled with Dr's names and numbers

One of the biggest fiftieth anniversary celebrations in 2013 will be for an event that was barely noticed at the time. The first episode of Doctor Who was broadcast in Britain by the BBC on November 23, 1963—and was upstaged by the Kennedy assassination the day before. The most famous Doctor Who monsters, the Daleks, would make their debut the next month.

END OF THE CENTRE VICTORIA RADIOFEST

Australia's big event known as the Centre Victoria RadioFest at Kyneton, which proved to be very successful, although never designed to be a huge generator of profit, has ended.

Unfortunately an increase in the site rental charge, double that paid last year, meant it could only continue in 2014 with a dramatic lift in charges for the sellers, higher admission costs, or be abandoned. After lots of consideration, including going over its purpose and concept that was to be slightly expanded in 2014, the sad decision was made to reluctantly end it.

Thank you to the many hundreds of radio amateurs, commercial traders, second-hand sellers, the WIA, clubs, mini-lecture program speakers, the competition organisers and visitors who have supported it.
~ARV Website



The Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA) seeks your comment on the broad area of promotion for amateur radio.

The WIA thought it should look at the role publicity and public relations play in promoting our hobby. As you know it has set April 2014 for the PR4AmateurRadio Expo. More information can be found via the "What's On" column of the WIA website.

With six months to go to the Expo, the WIA wants to hear of your experience in promoting amateur radio either actively planned, very rarely, or even not at all.

With the entry level Foundation Licence, reshaping of the Standard and Advanced Licences, the earlier abolition mandatory Morse code tests, the hobby in Australia is now more greatly accessible. Have we changed to meet this new environment or has nothing altered?

Many more people, for both recreational and vocational uses, should find amateur radio attractive, and it also helps to be better understood in the community.

The WIA wants to hear this month on how you think amateur radio is promoted.

Hope to hear from you soon with your thoughts on the subject. Please send your thoughts and comment to pr4amateurradio@wia.org.au ~WIA

NOVEMBER FOUNDATION COURSE

A Foundation Licence class and assessments by Amateur Radio Victoria will be held at Ashburton on November the 16th and 17th. To enrol please contact Barry Robinson VK3PV foundation@amateurradio.com.au or 0428 516 001



YOU MUST BE CRAZY...

It is considered, with expert research, that in Australia, approximately a quarter of the population suffer from some sort of mental health illness or issue. Think of your three best friends. If they all seem OK, then it must be you! (hi)

US SHUTDOWN, PIRATE RADIO AN ALL-TIME HIGH

As frustrated as many over the US government shutdown, it nonetheless offered one unique benefit to the shortwave radio community, and to pirate radio in particular—no FCC enforcement. The FCC's enforcement arm was shut down along with all other FCC activities that weren't directly connected with "the protection of life or property."

The result? Pirates—lots of pirates—on the air! Pirate radio activity since the shutdown has truly been at a record high, with pirates taking to the airwaves throughout the week, and especially on the weekends.

The North American "pirate radio grounds" of 6,920-6,970 kHz were packed with pirate radio stations. There were even crowded band conditions; at one point there were no less than three pirates broadcasting simultaneously in just a small chunk of bandwidth on AM. And with pirate radio's favourite holiday, Halloween (think War of the Worlds), fast approaching, there's likely to be more such unusual activity. <http://swling.com/blog/>

WANSARC NET
Tuesday Night, 8pm Check In
VK3AWS
146.450MHz FM Simplex

What are the benefits of joining a club?

What are the benefits of joining a club, doing some exercise and keeping active in the mature years of 35 plus?

Why should I join a radio club, a walking club, a running club a football club, knitting club, camera, or chess club? Why on earth should I join a butterfly club, a cooking or indeed any sort of social club? Why would I join the local football club/team when I can do all the exercise on my own anyway and I wouldn't have to put up with all the sweaty smelly bodies in the shower? What could I gain from all that sweat anyway?

Some of the benefits of joining clubs and keeping yourself busy include;

The word membership means that you are usually a member of a group of like minded people with the same or similar goals in mind collectively.

A group of persons associated by some common tie or occupation and regarded as an entity; a constituent part, section, portion or piece of a larger whole.

What then are the benefits of joining such a club or organisation?

The benefits are many. To name but a few,

Camaraderie, learning from others, sharing information/ improving and maintaining old and new skills, free training, motivation, Helping motivate others, achievement, improvement, self satisfaction and Pizza are but some of the benefits you can expect from joining a club. Other benefits are the accomplishment and satisfaction from achieving new things or building new projects and the benefits to your health and longevity from stimulating your neurons.

Why should adults exercise?

Why should adults who, after 20-30 or even 40 or 50 years of hard slog in the workplace, do anything they may not wish to do. After raising families, which may consist of numerous kids, then come the grand children and various amounts of pets over the journey. Perhaps a holiday house, cars, they may have served on a local committee or two, maybe bought a caravan and done some travelling. Perhaps joined a radio club and took part in field days meetings, competitions, construction projects.

By the time I get to 60 or 70 I just want to relax my life away in front of the TV. Have a drink of Coffee or Tea and read the paper. These are my declining years, my golden years and I want to enjoy them. Why would I run a marathon, at my age, really?

By doing a modicum of exercise I help myself with mobility and strength thereby reducing the incidence of disease, and leading to better quality of life.

Exercise can delay the onset of Osteoporosis by increasing bone strength.

Exercise helps you to maintain your independence by making you a little stronger meaning you can partake in the activities of daily living more readily.

In Cleveland clinic report reviewed by Reviewed by Robert J. Rosneck, MA, RRT, Exercise Specialist, Preventive Cardiology and Rehabilitative Services.

He reviews 10 reasons why adults should get plenty of safe and appropriate exercise.

1. To increase bone density and prevent osteoporosis
2. To improve self sufficiency and maintain independence.
3. To increase metabolism
4. To maintain balance and improve reflexes to prevent falls.
5. To Create a sense of community and a feeling fo belonging.
6. To improve pulmonary function
7. To boost mood
8. To help prevent and regulate diabetes
9. To improve flexibility, joint range of motion and functional movement
10. to improve cardiovascular strength.

A 1996 report by the US surgeon general concludes that physical exercise has a number of important sequela for the participants.

Exercise has positive outcomes for the musculoskeletal, cardio vascular, respiratory and endocrine systems. Exercise is also linked to numerous health benefits.

Joining a running club for instance may give you an edge over similar non-engaged runners who are running the same race.

The benefits obtained from training runs with vocal team mates bedside you egging you on and helping you to cross over the barrier to the next level may be replicated at a competition level. This may mean the difference between an average run, which may still be a good, by your standards, a good run and an excellent run.

The latter which may not have been obtainable running on your own.

Take a footy team for instance, They slog for 23 weeks these days to reach the Grand final and the advantage the home team gains from being the home team is palpable even if it may only be psychological.

This advantage will often help the home team to lift and may even result in them winning the game. You can't do this on your own. That may be the difference between being premiers and the also rans.

Why should I join a club indeed?

Could joining a club help keep me mentally fit as well as physically fit?

Asperger's syndrome, a developmental disorder which is typically characterised by repetitive patterns of behaviour, social unresponsiveness, a higher frequency of deviant language development and a lack of symbolic play in autistic children, inability to pick up social cues, lacking inborn social skills, dislike of any change in routine. There are many more symptoms of Asperger's syndrome in children.

These include a failure to pick up change in tone of speech which may give a different meaning to speech.

Unusual facial expressions, preoccupation with only a few interests and becoming very knowledgeable about those specific items.

Overly verbose and having one sided conversations.

Delayed motor development. Having a sensory processing disorder, being overly sensitive or being unable to process information from the senses i.e. lights, noise, tastes and textures.

One treatment for Asperger Syndrome includes Social skills training to help with interpersonal communications and interactions. Physicians will often run this in conjunction with some form of Social communication intervention, a speech therapy that helps with the 'to and fro' of normal conversational situations.

One may suggest they could try giving them all F calls and watching how their speech pathologies progress and improve over time. Imagine that, a Ham radio control group helping to find the cure for Asperger's syndrome. Wonderful. If they then joined a radio club that may just provide the right situational and/or occupational training to maintain and monitor any improvements made. Once again the benefits of joining a club and being social are many.

The benefits of being social are also well documented in studies done on the subject. Studies conclude that people with more strong social ties like marriage for instance have lower rates of colds, lower blood pressure and heart rates.

Statistics show that the act of marriage adds years to life expectancy. Rates of suicide, mental illness and alcoholism are much lower when a person has a sense of belonging.

Other studies show that elderly people who eat out, go to the movies, and engage in other social activities will live an average of 2.5 years longer than those who live alone.

Team sports such as Football, Soccer, Swimming, Running, which can also be a team or solo sport. Rowing, Cricket, Cycling, again team or solo sports. Team sports can even go into latter life with things like Bowling, Cricket, Netball and bush walking clubs. Running clubs, nature walks, Yoga for seniors. Archery, Target shooting, Rock climbing, Golf and Mini Golf to name a few.

These and other mobile games have benefits for all the players involved. Health benefits such as lowering weight and losing body fat. An increase in aerobic fitness with better or more uptake of Oxygen.

A short list of aerobic exercises would be Running, Jogging, Power Walking, Karate, Judo, Bike riding, Aerobics classes, Step Classes, Swimming, Gym Work and the like. In fact any activity that causes you to uptake more oxygen than you normally would is classed as Aerobic.

Some benefits of aerobic exercise are evident within the cardiovascular system and the body's improved capacity to use oxygen. This will mean an increase in the amount of Oxygen and blood sent to the heart and muscles. Meaning the size of the Heart's Ventricles will increase and this will lead to the heart not having to beat as fast to pump the same amount of blood around the body. If you liken that to a car engine, one simile can be that to drive at 100kph your engine usually revs at say 3000rpm. With better circulation the engine would be able to achieve the same speed with less revs. Say at 2500 or 2000. You then have less petrol used for the same distance. Less energy for the same result.

People who master this usually stand on the top spot at the Olympics and are the ones who break the world records.

As we can see exercise can be beneficial to people of any age.

John Karr VK3FMPB

A full bibliography list and supporting notes available, if you would like a copy email Johnno at johnkarr@bigpond.net.au

JOTA 2013 ~ Hoppers Crossing

On Saturday 19th of October VK3AWS returned to the Hoppers Crossing Girl Guides Hall. To enable more use of HF this year the operating times were altered to 12pm to 8pm. Mick VK3CH setup the station on behalf of WANSARC, VK3AWS. This year Mick had Mark, VK3UA, come along to see how its all done, operating JOTA. Given that its just two antennas to erect and operate inside with supplied power and furniture, JOTA at Hoppers Crossing Girl Guides is one of the most relaxing skeds WANSARC does. The weather was superb, antennae put up in mild conditions, the HF using a flagpole one end, with the other terminated in the tree, the same dipole that has sat in the crate since last JOTA. Its a known cut length, all ready to run in the same window, we have a set routine now. The VHF/UHF vertical, X7000 on a nine meter mast, is simply attached to the fence post. The entire HF/VHF/UHF VK3AWS station is setup in about an hour.



↓ Participation Card, for Guides, issued to each operator

This year all the contacts were on HF, forty meters for all. There was a random strong spiking noise which was found to be a blinking florescent tube in the room, once turned off the band was alive. Mick was unable to get a 4:1 balun in time this year, so a "Scotchman's Dipole" was used. That is where the coax is fed to each dipole wire direct. It 1:1 VSWR matched up on 160 / 40 / 10 meters. But 40 meters had more than enough stations on air. The biggest hassle was finding a station not already in a QSO with another. The CQ liaison of 7090 used, but not all knew to QSY to another part of the band... once you got someone that is...



Close up of feed to "Scotchman's Dipole", top line is suspension to the tree top ↓



Mark has a chat between 'shifts' ↓



Like each year, some girls are a bit nervous, then start talking and its time to hand over to another. Some careful microphone gain and voice compression made sure their voices were understood, 100 RF watts helps as well... Both Mick and Mark had little to do other than log keeping. One of the Guide Leaders, Claire, spoke at length to a person that used to live in the same town in the UK as she grew up, not far from her suburb, she was amazed. Ham radio really makes it "a small world".

Claire listening to news of stories from "back home..." ↓



While the X7000 was erected and scout repeaters could be keyed up, as so much action was on HF it did not get used for any JOTA contacts. We called on 146.450 but no one was about when we did.



View of dipole and X7000 antennae ↑

Girls ranged in age from seven to eleven years, all operated in a perfect well mannered way, with excellent microphone skills. A lot of more senior hams could learn from these girls. Apart from a few with soft voices, they were skilled at HF. Given the slight QSB and the 'single sideband sound' of HF and the static noises, they took it in their stride. As like last year, all the knobs and dials on the IC-9100 did not bother them at all. While the signals could be "doctored" with digital signal processing (DSP) we didn't bother, provided the station the other end spoke correctly into their microphone, it was simply not worth the trouble. I guess their hearing is better than us older operators...! And like last year, the rear of the radio was quite hot, from such a solid day of contacts, nearly burning my hands as it was carried back to the car. With daylight savings there was light when taking down the antennae, JOTA must be the easiest day WANSARC do.

Talking to a VK2 portable JOTA Scout station in Sydney on 7115kHz, ↓ 40 meters remained open to VK the whole day



Girl Guide sponsorship goodies ↓

As a gesture of thanks, Mick received his own first JOTA badge for last year. It will have to join the "bling" already on Mick's WIA jacket coat. →



At days end there were 35 contacts. Stations worked were under the control of operators running, VK3SBH, VK7NWP, VK2UTA, VK2ADQ and VK2LE.

All contacts over the frequency range of just (after calling CQ on 7090kHz) 7100kHz to 7115kHz.

Proves you don't need much if the conditions are good and operators willing to take the time to talk to JOTA stations are on air.

Both Mick VK3CH and Mark VK3UA as well as the Guide Leaders thanks all those that took the time to talk to the girl guides at Hoppers Crossing.

Its another event that they will remember for years to come. You never know where your next Foundation amateur radio licensee comes from.

~Mick VK3CH





JOTA-JOTI AUSTRALIA

Activity Description



PHONETIC FIND A WORD

J Z K X F N A E S P A P A X F C G I P H I Q
 K U I R I R F S I O M O L B J B Z F N E U J
 S N L M P N A T G P H N G A K R O T C I V K
 I S A I T S R N I N I Q V E Y A L M D H N G
 O M F K E Q A H J L O R W C R V Q D P L M O
 N A B E D T G K A T S U K I L O S A T N U Y
 P H O N E T I C M A B Z C B Y X Z J O B V W
 J I C H Q S A L P H A B E T A D G V C I X F
 L Q A X T P Y G Z N C H I J T L E H F W K M
 K M R F S R F R K O J G F O K M A N D A E R
 E G R A E S A E I N S E R S B N C Z U L U O
 C H E B Q F T C M C D T M E U Q D C E B J F
 H M I C P D R Q S B X A R F R S F G F I U I
 O L S K N U M P I O U M N L T A E H L T V N
 Y O N J O V B A F Q G Z V G P B O S O W Y U
 C E B U Q A S N A S R I O Q R U A D G X Z A
 X P S X H W Y J W K S M D A K E O E M O R C
 Q R T P V Z T S H L R B I N O L C N C B D F
 U W L U N S H R I D N C Y U I B S I E A G C
 B A T W X O G E S O L I J T R C H A R L I E
 Z O S V T U F I K J I Q Z E E G J F T H E D
 N R M E A Y H P E W M U A L K H I O P L B A
 O P L R I O Q S Y V A N M X W V N U F Q E T
 Q S Y A R X R T U X M E Z Y A N K E E R S D

- | | | | |
|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| ALPHA | HOTEL | OSCAR | VICTOR |
| BRAVO | INDIGO | PAPA | WHISKEY |
| CHARLIE | JULIET | QUBEC | XRAY |
| DELTA | KILO | ROMEO | ZULU |
| ECHO | LIMA | SIERRA | PHONETIC |
| FOXTROT | MIKE | TANGO | ALPHABET |
| GOLF | NOVEMBER | UNIFORM | |



JOTA-JOTI AUSTRALIA

Activity Description



JOTA FIND A WORD

A	S	H	O	R	T	W	A	V	E	B	R	C	C
D	E	F	P	G	D	I	A	L	A	H	E	I	A
J	R	K	E	L	R	M	N	T	R	N	S	O	L
T	E	P	R	W	Q	R	T	R	T	S	I	A	L
R	C	T	A	M	P	S	E	A	H	S	S	M	S
A	E	V	T	U	V	W	N	N	X	A	T	P	I
N	I	Y	O	Z	X	Y	N	S	V	T	O	L	G
S	V	W	R	L	V	U	A	I	K	E	R	I	N
F	E	T	J	A	T	S	R	S	I	L	W	F	Q
O	R	D	I	O	D	E	P	T	O	L	A	I	N
R	M	L	K	J	T	I	I	O	H	I	T	E	G
M	O	R	S	E	F	A	O	R	E	T	T	R	D
E	C	B	U	A	F	R	E	Q	U	E	N	C	Y
R	C	O	N	D	E	N	S	E	R	A	Z	T	X

SHORTWAVE
OPERATOR
DIAL
EARTH
CALLSIGN
RESISTOR
RECEIVER

MORSE
DIODE
CONDENSOR
FREQUENCY
SUN
JOTA
RADIO

WATT
VOLT
AIRWAVES
AMPLIFIER
SATELLITE
TRANSFORMER

JOTA 2013 ~ Riddells Creek

JOTA 2013 is here again. Ian VK3JQ and John VK3FMPB once again head up to Riddells Creek just past Sunbury to run a radio station for the kids.

How many kids went through our station is a bit of a guess but after consultation with Wendy Mosely, one of the ladies in charge, I am told that 180 kids went through the radio station in around 4 hours. 4 hours of listening to hash is a lovely way to treat your ears on Sunday morning. The kids went through in groups of around 8 or 9 and took most of the Sunday morning.

Similarly to other years the kids are keen and most want to have a go on the radio. Some of the girls were a bit shy however. This year on HF, 40m, we end up using my Icom 706. VHF just didn't provide many contacts. Except for VK3OP heading up the highway in the early morning.

Other activities apart from JOTA which is the radio part of the day, include; science, first aid, a commando course, archery, rafting, navigation and construction.

Other activities included cooking, bush golf, ropes.

Remembering that many the kids are under 15, so things like archery, ropes, commando and rafting are very well supervised.

During Saturday night while everyone was asleep in their tents a big wind blew some tents around making it a bit hard to sleep for some.

A couple of tents even came adrift from their moorings I believe. So now we have some pretty tired kids at JOTA after having to carry out rescue rebuilding duties at 1 am.

Don't they have an SES unit up here?

The scout resilience shines through however and the kids get down to their tasks with gusto.

Most of the kids approach the radio section with enthusiasm.

Firstly there was a small electronics display and a little theory about transistors ICs etc.

A small display of 70's type handhelds 27Mz etc.

A couple that I remember very well too.

I even donated a 27 MHz handheld to the scouts for their display.

I reckon I know how many pets, what hobbies and how many siblings every scout in the jamboree has.

David, one of the scout leaders even has his F call now.

His call is VK3FDLR.

Now 'that' is getting into the spirit of ham radio.



Neither Ian or I saw anything of the other activities.

Ian was holding court at my 706 and the kids were engrossed in what the radio was doing.

We had lunch and then it was all over.

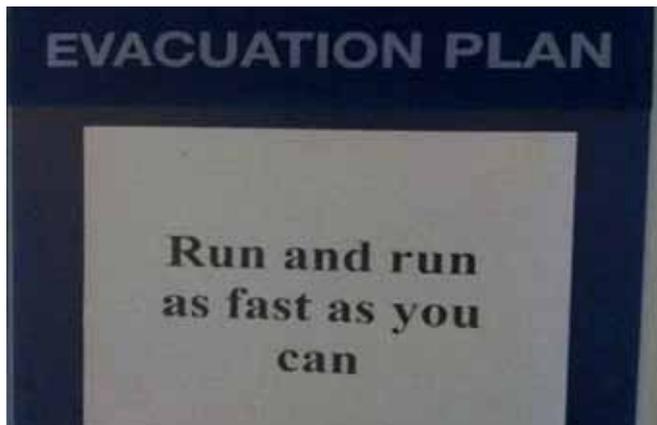
180 kids or so later and then there were none.

Was it really that much?

A great weekend and now I am looking forward to next year.

Johnno VK3FMPB

Signs that might help



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 8.00pm 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 **8:00 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.