



Next Meeting, Friday 2nd May

Doors Open 7.30pm

Ern Rose Memorial Pavilion, Seaver Grove, Reservoir



Johnno VK3FMPB at Eureka Stadium Ballarat for the
ANZAC Day Amateur Radio Activation.

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ANZAC DAY 2014 ~ Eureka Stadium Ballarat ~ Johnno VK3FMPB

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LAST MONTHS MEETING

Last meeting had items for sale kindly donated (yet again) by Cheryl, VK3FCF. It was a mix of software, magazines and electrical odds and ends, saves her booking a Hamfest table...

NEW EMAIL TO SUBMIT NEWS ARTICLES

You now have a new email, that's easy to remember to send news, ads, articles to Mick for WANSARC News.

Send your files to magazine@wansarc.org.au

Your editor is always on the lookout for news from members, so get writing and let others know what you have been up to in your shack, interesting things you have seen, or even sell, with an advert that is FREE, in WANSARC News.

AUSTRALIAN 'BLACK BOX' FLIGHT RECORDER INVENTOR HONOURED



With the recent Malaysian Airlines MH370 flight disappearing there has been much on the air about trying to find and retrieve the Black Box, well the Assistant Minister for Defence, Stuart Robert, has announced that the Canberra headquarters of the Defence Science and Technology Organisation is being named after the late Dr David Warren who developed the 'black box' to help in the investigation of aircraft accidents.

Dr Warren invented the black box flight recorder in the mid-1950s when employed at one of DSTO's predecessor organisations, the Aeronautical Research Laboratory at Fishermans Bend in Melbourne.

The black box is the most famous invention developed in that laboratory, which celebrates its 75th anniversary this year. The laboratory also has a worldwide reputation for pioneering aircraft fatigue testing, for which it has won two international aeronautical science awards.

One wonders why the 'black box' is so named when it is 'international orange.'

~WIA NEWS

VK3RTV NEWS

I have had quite a few good reports of receiving VK3RTV after the new antenna array and also the power amplifier upgrade.

I do not have a mechanism for measuring channel power for DVB-T, but the PA is drawing 6A @ 50V = 300 watts input.

It is certainly 10dB better than the previous power amplifier. Reports have been received from as far a field as Rosebud and also Melton, the latter being a good 70 Kilometres from Mount Dandenong. The station in Melton is receiving via the domestic TV system which includes a long run of cable and splitters.

The spot receive beam to the SE is working well with Clint, VK3CSJ finally on after all these years.

Clint is transmitting on VK3RTV2 and also 80 meters with the Friday night Astronomical Society broadcast about 10 PM.

This is a very interesting presentation and is worth a look direct, via the BATC stream or on 80 meters or all of the above.

~Peter Cossins VK3BFG

Moorabbin & District Amateur Radio club Hamfest Saturday 10th Doors Open 10am



Moorabbin and District Radio Club is holding their annual Hamfest at (the new location) Southern Community Centre - Rupert Drive, Mulgrave. Melway Ref 80

F4 (Enter via Huxley Ave off Police Rd.)

GREAT VENUE - PLENTY OF SPACE
MAJOR AND MINOR DOOR PRIZES

Snacks and hot food available –
FREE TEA & COFFEE!

Talk in via 439.900Mhz 70cm VK3RSE

ENTRY \$7.00 (Doors Open 10am)

NEW SALES: Importers and suppliers of amateur equipment & accessories.

USED SALES: Preloved ham gear & accessories, PC's & bits & pieces.

All inside and undercover.

Demonstrations of Radio equipment and accessories.

THE RADIOACTIVE'S AT RUFFEY PARK

The RadioActives operated a demonstration station comprising HF / VHF / UHF voice and digital modes. They were assisted by the YLs of ALARA who had an information table and displays. Bookings were taken for two foundation courses one of which will be a special YL only event sponsored by ALARA. Tea and coffee was provided throughout the event.

They were one of a few stations that set up for the WIA PR4AmateurRadio Expo. There are seven display stations in Victoria, with the others in VK2, VK4 and VK5.

Mick VK3CH dropped in for a visit on Sunday, they had perfect weather for the day.



The RadioActives & ALARA Crew ↑



MFJ - MIGHTY FINE JUNK

Having owned several MFJ products over the years, I'm beginning to think that this 'tag' is justified. As an example, a 4 way coax switch I bought failed within a week of owning it. After opening it up, I managed to fix it. Then about a month later the knob just turned around, with the grub screw loosening its grip on the shaft. That could not be tightened, so a very fine drill was drilled into it and snapped off to act as a pin to stop the knob from slipping on the shaft. Now about a year later, after noticing a really bad VSWR, I found the entire bottom of the switch has just dropped out, just fell loose off the base. After reading some of the internet forums and reviews, I'm not alone...



The broken part at the bottom as found ↑

This time a fix was done using a new glue recommended by Don VK3HDX called "JB Weld", that is only sold by Masters. Actually I found it at Jaycar as well, but its \$2 more there.



JB weld isn't cheap, but the old "what you pay, what you get..." certainly applies here. It was fixed and resoldered in 10 minutes. VSWR on all bands back to normal... ~Mick VK3CH

UK TO LOSE PARTS OF TWO MICROWAVE BANDS

Sections of the 13cm and 9cm amateur microwave bands are to be allocated to "new civil uses" across Britain, the spectrum regulator, Ofcom, announced on 7 April 2014.

The current UK 13cm band of 2310-2450 MHz will have 2350 to 2390 MHz carved out for new primary users, while the 9cm band of 3400-3475 MHz will be reduced to 3400-3410 MHz.

The new uses for the spectrum blocks are slated to provide digital mobile access for portable consumer devices, such as tablets and smart phones. Ofcom said UK amateurs will retain access to the adjacent bands but has implemented procedures to remove even those frequencies from Amateur Radio access, if necessary in the future. However, Ofcom did say that 2300-2302 MHz will be made available for amateur use through a "Notice of Variation" to licences. In Australia, the 2300-2302 MHz band is currently under threat from a spectrum licence allocation proposed by the ACMA. The WIA advocates retention of a 150 kHz segment, from 2300-2300.15 MHz. ~WIA

FAMILY AND CHILDREN DAY 2014

Sunday 18 May, 11am – 3pm
Bundoora Children's Farm & Coopers Settlement
(Bundoora Park) Gold Coin Donation

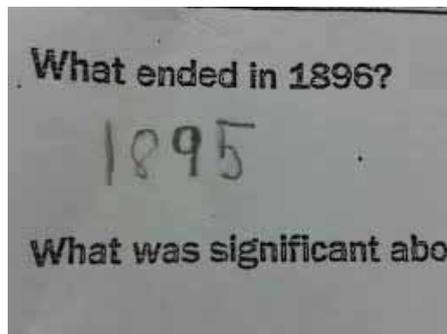
The 2014 Darebin Family & Children Day will take place at the family-friendly Bundoora Children's Farm and Coopers Settlement, and will make a great day out for children and parents alike.

Celebrating the National Families Week, the event will give families the opportunity to discover a wide range of local services available for families and children in the community while enjoying a variety of free activities that celebrate childhood. Entry fee to the Farm will be waived on the day, making it accessible to all families.

Families will have the opportunity to judge the Garden Art Competition, with entries from local schools, kindergartens, childcare centres and playgroups. Other activities include face painting, interactive workshops, musical performances, animal farm and market stalls.

WANSARC will also have an Amateur Radio Display setup. This will consist of a working HF station and a VHF/UHF station. So if your in the area, drop in and say hello to the crew.

Classic Kids Exam Answers



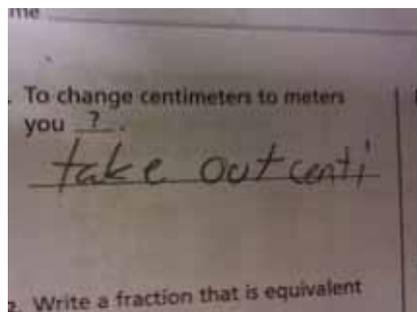
Give a brief explanation of the meaning of the term 'hard water'.

Ice



What is a nitrate?

It is much cheaper than a day rate.



A VISIT TO STRICTLY HAM

As you may know, Ross has moved shops to next door. He had an opening day, but I did not make it and I missed out on a great day and food so I got told later. I finally visited to get some coax and other bits and its a real change from the old shop. Firstly you can actually find things now! And everything is so well set out. All his aerials are still on the roof and he has a very nice transceiver sitting on the corner, but all its doing is monitoring 774kHz talk radio!!! What a waste...



Just looking in the Icom cabinet is a drool... Actually I have either used, or still own, about a quarter of what I saw on display. Ross does not get to stand still for any length of time. Either phone calls, customers with orders and questions, not much time to chat without interruptions...

And even more stuff is out the back... Ross gets ready to fill another online order. Next time you need some gear, come and take a look.

The ANZAC day activation, the brain child of Mike Patterson better known as VK4MIK.

This is the 3rd activation I have taken part in and easily the best by far.

My QTH this year was the Eureka Stadium Ballarat.

The oval is located within the grounds of the Ballarat showgrounds on the corners of Creswick Rd/ Midland Hwy and Howitt St.

QF22kf will help you find it.

The prep work was pretty hectic.

Writing to the council, the showgrounds, the police, the footy club.

I made posters for the day, QSL cards, brought new poles for masts, new power leads ect etc.

There is a fair bit of mucking around to organise your station as we would all no doubt know

I took out public liability insurance of \$10,000,000 at a cost of \$15 in case anyone needs to know for any future radio expeditions they may be participating in or organising.

See the local council for the insurance.

Thankfully we did not need to make a claim on the policy.

I rang the local paper, the Ballarat courier, who put an article in the paper of the activation and a picture of me talking into my 706 mounted on my car roof.

This resulted in a phone call from Wayne VK3VCL lambasting me for not turning the radio on so it would at least look lifelike. Fair cop I suppose.

I made an appointment with WIN TV but didn't actually solidify a time to meet them so I missed out on that opportunity.

I put an ad on the WIA board and received 4 or 5 calls from people promising to turn up.

On the day, one bloke drove from Somerville to Ballarat on his KTM 990 motor bike that was VK3NCR Craig, who was a nice chap.

So we had 3 people for the day and Susan who was at a Scottish exhibition at the art gallery.

Her parents being Scottish it seemed like a good idea

There was Wilfred with no licence, Craig VK3NCR, Susan and myself VK3FMPB.

I went up in the morning on the Wednesday to test and couldn't hear a thing.

I hoped it wasn't a portent of things to come but sadly it was.

The early arvo was dead.

For a smallish town of about 100,000 people the ANZAC day march is a fairly well patronised event in Ballarat. The streets were crowded with people watching and participating and it felt good to march. It actually felt like a big march with the amount of people watching.

They closed down the whole city centre for the Anzac day march as well.

The scouts were there, the local high school band who, played very well may I add.

The salvos, giving out Tea and coffee and biscuits the Fire Brigade, the Ambos, they even had a choir.

There was a Battalion of electric wheel chairs that took the less mobile vets along the march.

That was a nice touch.

It actually felt like a big deal to be an ex serviceman on the day.

After the march, Wilfred and I set up and again couldn't hear a thing.

Craig suggested changing the dipole wire which we did and bingo we had ears at last.

We spoke to a few stations, Wayne VK3VCL came up and said hi but no one from WANSARC was heard sadly.

Then it all went quiet again. We have a log of probably only about 5 or 6 stations for 2014 but at least we know the dipole and the radio work ok. By about 1500 hrs we were all a bit tired so we packed up and went into town picked up Susan, had a bite to eat and went home.

~ Johnno VK3FMPB

WANSARC NET

Tuesday Night, 8pm Check In

VK3AWS

146.450MHz FM Simplex

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 magazine@wansarc.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.

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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.