# 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

Volume No: 45 Issue 12 December 2014

Next Meeting

## Friday 5th December

# End of Year Club BBQ

## Doors Open from 6.30 pm

## Ern Rose Memorial Pavilion, Seaver Grove, Reservoir

Come along to the last meeting for the year... no formal meeting, no paperwork, no boredom...
Just fun, socializing, food and a relaxing lazy view of the lake as the sun sets.
Either partake of some snags and smoked chicken wings, or BYO food to be cooked as you like
A BBQ will be on the balcony for you to use, or have one of our chefs cook for you...
Note the earlier start time of 6.30pm, car park gates will be open at 6.00pm
Talk in on 146.450 FM

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# WANSARC Family Fun Day

Rotunda 6, Bundoora Park
Sunday 11th January 2015

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It's on again at the same venue as last year
Gear will be setup from sunrise and
Cooking of food well in progress by 11.00 am

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All Soft drinks, Food, Nibbles & Salads are all club supplied (to financial club members) so just turn up!

**VK3AWS** active the whole day, call and / or be talked in, on **146.450 MHz FM**

*The whole day events will be put 'live' on VK3RTV*

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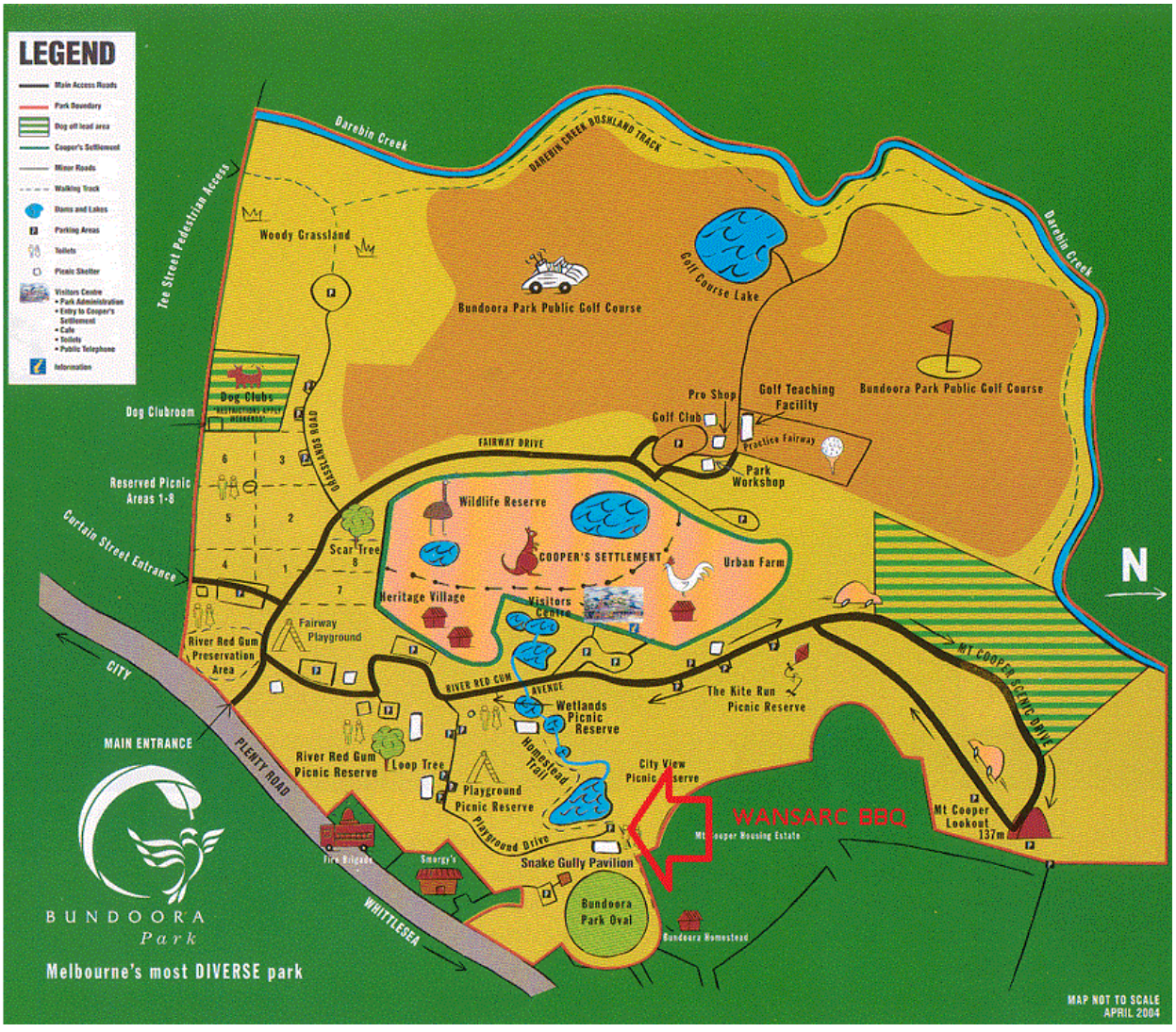
*Bring along your chair, shade if you want extra, a hat, sunscreen and anything else you want on hand*

You can find Bundoora Park in the Melway ® Ref**: Map 19, F4, Bundoora Park, 1069 Plenty Road, Bundoora 3083**

*As you enter the park from Plenty Road, turn right into River Red Gum Avenue and follow it until you come to the first right turn into Playground Drive. Continue down Playground Drive and it's the only and last rotunda, (No.6) just look for the wire antennas and other club members, if you have 146.450 MHz going we can even "call out" to you as we see you approaching, for the rest that remember – it's the same place as last year, which puts it at Melway ® Map square 19 F 4.*

*Look at the red arrow near the bottom of this map to find WANSARC BBQ*



## THE 4M HAM RADIO BAND GETS NOD

The Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) has decided that in Europe all administrations may allocate all, or parts, of that the 69.9MHz to 70.5MHz band to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis.
The decision is expected to be published when the frequency table is next revised in the middle of 2015.
While the 4m band has been viable since the 1990s in many European countries, it has not so far been welcomed in Australia and the USA.
The Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA) continues to seek such an allocation, but the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) resists because that spectrum is already allocated for land mobile use.
Likewise the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) has found that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) cites occupancy by television as its reason for refusal.
However the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 1 has now put the idea to the CEPT. The Irish Radio Transmitters Society raised the issue at September's IARU Region 1 Conference and gained support for an approach to the CEPT.
The CEPT European Communications Committee Frequency Management Working Group, met on October 6-10 in France, and decided to add Footnote EU9 to the table that will allow CEPT administrations to make a secondary allocation.
While this does not mean that all frequencies 69.9MHz to 70.5MHz will be immediately available, all IARU member societies have a firm basis now on which to seek 4m band access.

## ACMA DECIDES 3.5 GHZ BAND STATUS QUO

Those engaged in microwave work can breathe a sigh of relief as the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) has decided to retain the existing mix of apparatus and spectrum licensing arrangements in the 3.5 GHz band.
Earlier this year the Australian Minister for Communications, Malcolm Turnbull issued a draft direction to the ACMA to enable licensing of 3.5 GHz to the National Broadband Network (NBN) in major mainland cities.
The NBN is rolling out mainly terrestrial cabling so the nation can progressively gain access to broadband technology including Internet services. Part of its work does include the use of wireless technology in some areas.
The draft direction document did specify that the ACMA look at a 25 MHz block at 3400-3425 MHz and a 50 MHz block at 3492.5-3542.5 MHz
The 3.5 GHz spectrum band was identified so the NBN had a 'spectrum gap' filled in the outskirts of metropolitan areas affecting 80,000 homes and businesses.
The proposed directive would require ACMA to take "all steps necessary" by April 30 next year, to issue the NBN the allocation, after paying a "market rate" for the spectrum.
However the ACMA said: "After taking into account the submissions received to the paper, and developments that have occurred since then, the ACMA has decided to maintain existing licensing arrangements in the band."
That means the retention of Amateur Radio as a secondary user of the band, which is good news for everyone. The issue attracted 24 submissions.
Some submissions came from incumbents on the band that referred to international harmonisation and the essential need to protect existing and future satellite services.
The Wireless Institute of Australia submitted that the loss of the band would severely hamper weak signal working, the exploration of modes, moon bounce and the future use by satellites.
A number of countries also have given secondary status to Amateur Radio on that band.

## COLOUR IS GOOD

Yesterday I went to the doctor for my yearly physical.
My blood pressure was high. My cholesterol was high.
I'd gained some weight and I didn't feel so hot.
My doctor said eating right doesn't have to be complicated and it would solve my physical problems.
He said: Just think in colours. Fill your plate with bright colours.
Try some greens, oranges, reds, maybe something yellow, etc.
and eat an entire bowl of Bright colours.

And Sure Enough, I Felt Better Immediately!!
I never knew eating right could be so easy!!

## PROGRAMMABLE OSCILLATORS

G'day, from John, VK3JAK.
Here is what I saw from a guy in the USA.

Several people now have asked me about these programmable oscillators. In some applications, they have enough juju
"Out of the box" to drive an oscillator stage. In others, they'll need some help. But they're cheap, so fiddling with them is easy.
Just don't hook them up backwards, pop a high DC voltage at the input or run VCC much over 6V. If you do, they will *poof*
and wing their way to Silicon Heaven.

I like to use the EPSON 8002 series through-hole, CMOS oscillators. I get them from Digikey. I don't care about "jitter" or "noise" or any of that other stuff. They just work. AU$5.19 each and they will do single quantities. You tell them the frequency you want *in MHz*
(They don't know KCs) in the "notes" section of the order form and they will program them for you.
Here's a link to the kind I like, though many others would probably work OK:
http://www.digikey.com.au/product-search/en?x=20&y=20&lang=en&site=au&KeyWords=SGR-8002DB

I've found you can run Vcc on these up to 6 volts to get a little more "juju" out without harming them. I use a little "buck" converter to bring the 12 volt buss down to VCC. Dropping resistor creates too much heat and I don't like waste anyway.
You can get them on EBay cheap as dirt. There are lots of them.
Here's one: http://www.ebay.com/itm/311161462956
DC-DC Boost Buck adjustable step down Up Converter XL6009
The little oscillators don't put out much but you can bet the signal is spot-on. Someone wrote me about a military SSB transceiver that was going to need hundreds of bucks in crystals.
He ordered these, piped them in and his rig is cooking.
Seem to drive receiver-type circuits OK directly with only a DC blocking cap on the output- I use like .004uf just because I have them.
I'd bet in sandy-state OSC circuits, they'd have plenty of drive.
We don't know what Digikey would charge for shipping. It might pay to get a bulk order to spread the shipping cost.

~John VK3JAK

# Capitalism Explained

**Traditional Capitalism**

You have two cows. You sell one, and buy a bull. Your herd multiplies, and the economy grows. You sell them and retire on the income.

**Enron Capitalism**

You have two cows. You sell three of them to your publicly listed company, using letters of credit opened by your brother-in-law at the bank, then execute a debt/equity swap with an associated general offer so that you get all four cows back, with a tax exemption for five cows. The milk rights of the six cows are transferred via an intermediary to a Cayman Island company secretly owned by the majority shareholder who sells the rights to all seven cows back to your listed company. The annual report says the company owns eight cows, with an option on one more. Sell one cow to buy a new president of the United States, leaving you with nine cows. No balance sheet provided with the release. The public buys your bull.

**American Capitalism**

You have two cows. You sell one, and force the other to produce the milk of four cows. Later you hire a consultant to analyse why the cow dropped dead.

**British Capitalism**

You have two cows. Both are mad.

**Indian Capitalism**

You have two cows. You worship them.

**Chinese Capitalism**

You have two cows. You have 300 people milking them. You claim full employment, high bovine productivity, and arrest the journalist who reported the numbers.

**French Capitalism**

You have two cows. You go on strike because you want three cows.

**German Capitalism**

You have two cows. You reengineer them so they live for 100 years, eat once a month, and milk themselves.

**Sweden Capitalism**

You have 5,000 cows, none of which belong to you.  You charge tax free fees for storing them in your country.

**Japanese Capitalism**

You have two cows. You redesign them so they are one tenth the size of an ordinary cow and produce twenty times the milk. You then create clever cow cartoon images called Cowkimon and market them worldwide, making millions.

**Russian Capitalism**

You have two cows. You count them and learn you have five cows. You count them again and learn you have 42 cows. You count them again and learn you have 12 cows. You stop counting cows and open another bottle of vodka.

**Spanish Capitalism**

You have two cows, but you don't know where they are. You break for siesta.

**Italian Capitalism**

You have two cows and you can't say where you got them.

**Irish Capitalism**

You have two cows. You claim Government subsidies for eight cows.

**Canadian Capitalism**

You have two cows. Everyone thinks they are both mad but they aren't, they are just whiny.

**New Zealand Capitalism**

You have two cows and the one on the right is looking pretty sexy...

**Australian Capitalism**

You have two cows, business is good so you decide to close up and have a few beers.

# WANSARC Christmas Dinner Report

The club had its annual dinner at St Georges Restaurant again this year and it did not disappoint.
Excellent food and service and we got our usual secluded location among the garden area window and the plants.

Instead of the normal 50 / 50 allocations, after pre-negotiations by Mick VK3CH, the staff came out and asked whom would like what, a hand count taken for specific orders, so everyone got exactly the dish they wanted. Three members were unable to come at short notice, while the restaurant was under no obligation, it did not charge the club for the non attendees, can't complain about that.

Johnno was as usual flogging raffle tickets to a quite oversubscribed raffle... several items had to be resubmitted as the original donors kept winning them back, I guess when it's a one in seventeen chance that's going to risk happening...
Various prizes of wine, test meters, cables and other bits were won by lucky diners. Total of $85 profit to the club, thanks one and all.
The two top prizes of Strictly Ham gift vouchers were the last to be drawn before desserts and coffee finished off the evening.

I don't have a lot to write this year, as I was simply caught up with enjoying the food and discussions, the general consensus from many was to return to NMIT again next year, I agree...

*~Mick VK3CH*

# Keith Roget National Parks Activation Weekend ~ Johnno VK3FMPB

Here we go again, Long drive, no sleep, rain, hail, cold, miserable food, all in the name of radio.
It was the Keith Roget National Parks activation weekend. They sure picked a great weekend to run it on too.
As I said it was cold and wet, they were even talking on the local news about the biggest downpour in the last 40 years.
That should fill out dams up a fair bit.

Here is a list of the parks I managed to activate on the weekend.

1. Churchill (south east suburbs)
2. Brisbane ranges (1 Hour west of Melb.)
3. Coobobonee (North of Portland)
4. Wilson's prom as far south as you get in Victoria.
5. Warby Ovens 240k NE. near Shepparton
6. Alpine All the way to the Eastern border
7. Murray Sunset NW near Murray River
8. Coopracambra Way down NE of state
9. Chiltern Mt Pilot Just South of Wodonga
10. Mt Richmond Past Portland
11. Grampians NP 1 hour West of Ballarat

I stayed in Halls Gap a place called the Gariwerd motel for $80 a night it was ok. Next time I'll take my own pillow however. The local pub was ok and the local girls were talkative and friendly even to an old bloke like me and the dinner was ok. The motel was no more than 500m from the turnoff to the park and a 5 minute drive to where I was going. Directions were easy, Turn left here, turn Right at police station follow your nose till you get to the Boroka turn off.
Go Right and straight for about 5k there you are. Pretty simple to find.

I stayed in the same park, the beautiful Grampians, N.P.which is a magnificent place to visit. The views are magnificent. The driving was a bit hair raising at times, especially when I saw an L plater in a Beige or brown Chrysler people mover parked on the side of the road blocking off one uphill lane and checking his bloody mobile phone. Would it be nasty to say I hope someone hit him to teach him and his dad a lesson? That would have been not too far away from signs that said no parking on side of road too. Ahh, the things you see when there are no coppers around.

One of the funnier things I did see was two wallabies standing in the middle of the road having a conference. As I came round the bend I saw them and blew my horn. That made them take flight and bound up the road in the same direction I was travelling. So I had to follow them for about 50 or so metres going fairly slowly. Skippy just doesn't care about your time your car or petrol does he?

On my first visit to the mountain I got rained on putting my antenna up and then again pulling it down.
This is the fun of potable ops however.

At Boroka the views were fantastic.

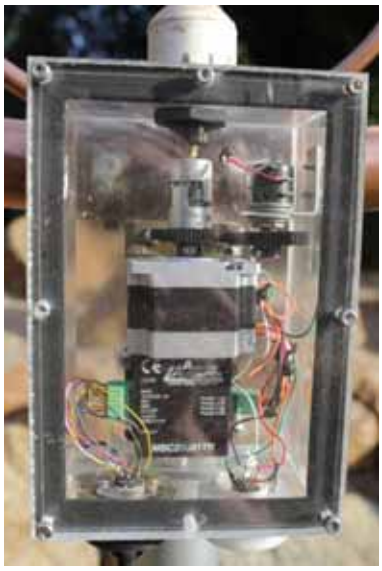
I scored myself the 11 parks which would have taken me probably the best part of a year so I had a good weekend.
KRNMPA. If you've got a bit of time on your hands it can be a lot of fun. Have a look at it https://www.amateurradio.com.au/awards

*~ Johnno VK3FMPB*

# Rosebud Hamfest 2014

Another very popular Hamfest was held again with even more attendees than last year.
What makes Rosebud set apart from another Hamfest are the information forums. This year featured Technical forums were ACMA, Apache Labs, FAMPARC and Mobile Antennae. The emergency services had stands for the kids and those that are still kids! A food caravan was on site as well instead of your usual burnt BBQ stuff.

I'll let the pictures tell the story...



HF Magnetic loop ↓

BAOFENG UV 5R
$80.00

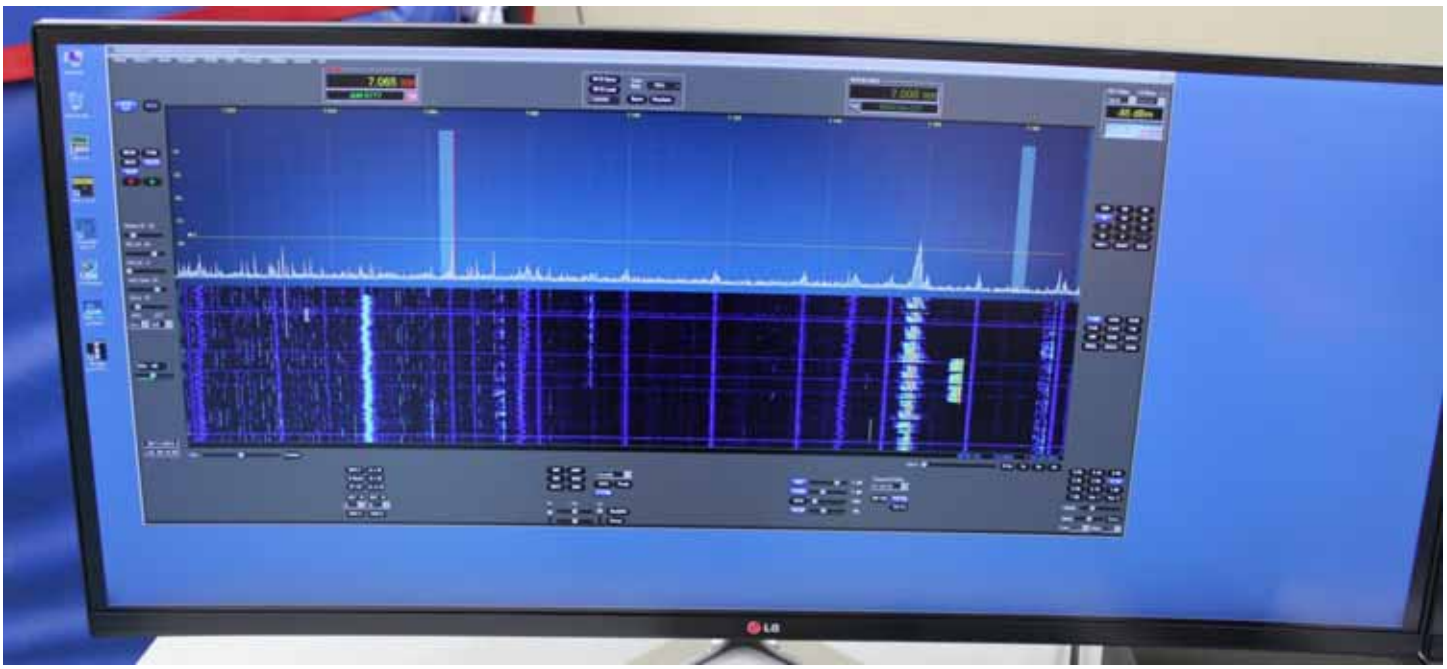
CREATIVITY

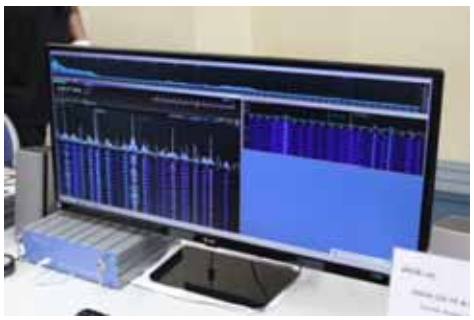
CFA
FIRE

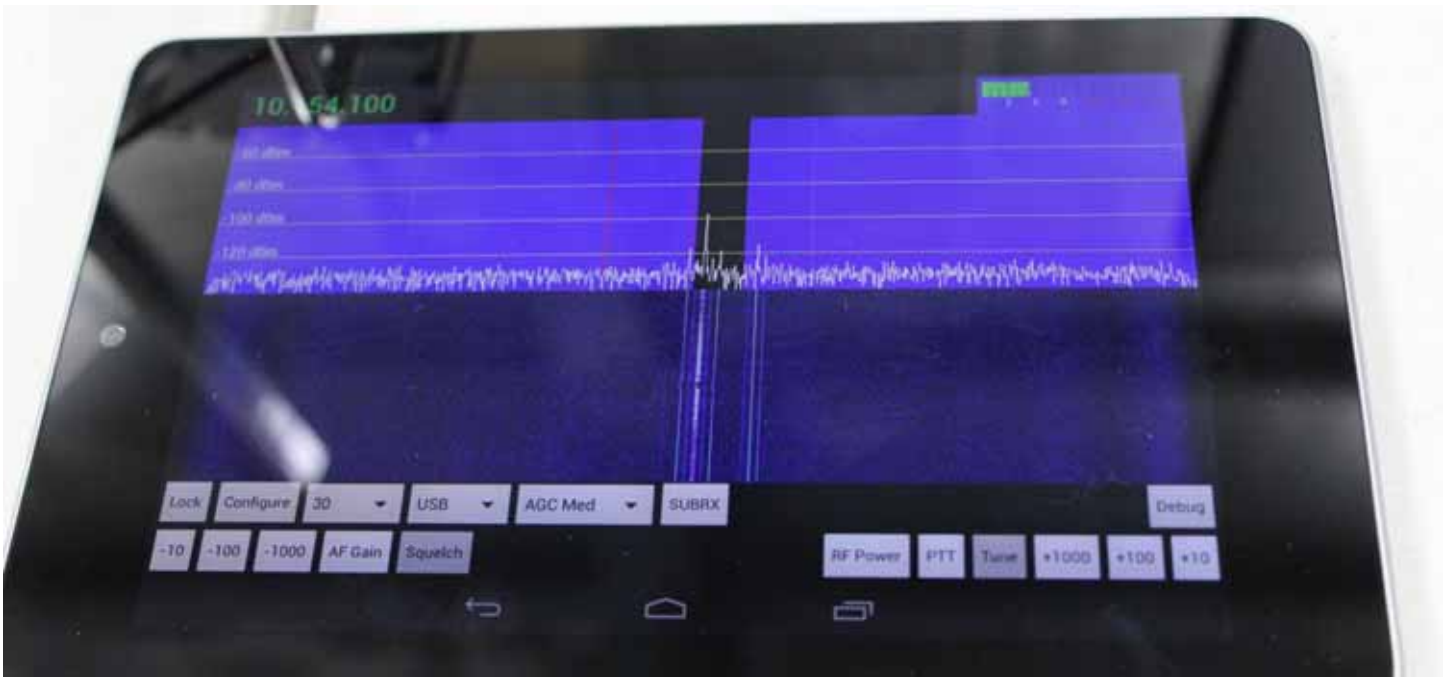
IT'S COOL TO BE AT SCHOOL

3 Channel RC
Helicopter

The Apache Labs stand debut at Rosebud, Software Defined Radio, demonstrated up close and personal...








SDR on an Android Tablet, the table is the PC; all connected wirelessly, SDR transceiver in the palm of your hand...

Don explains the features

Apache Labs Managing Director, Abhi, explaining the ANAN range at the Hamfest forum

Most in WANSARC would be aware of what the ANAN SDR range of products can do.
On the widescreen monitors the detail is amazing, many hams that had only read about SDR could play and interact with the software and ask all their questions. Special deals for the day of the Hamfest were snapped up by many.

← The cube quad i7 processor hanging off the back of a computer monitor was another incredible addition, making the ANAN SDR a true portable option for SOTA, parks, anywhere you would like to go mobile / portable, with all the power that SDR gives you.
With a Software Hard Drive, this unit boots up in just 7.5 seconds.

Don brought his SDR shack to the Hamfest; Mick VK3CH assisted answering questions, having an ANAN 100D for a few months.
Apache Labs will be opening an office in Melbourne very soon.

At the end of the day the Hamfest had the several prizes drawn and the crowds slowly disbursed, around 200 persons passed through the doors this year.

The next Rosebud Hamfest is on Sunday 29th November 2015.

*~Mick VK3CH*

# WANSARC NET

## Tuesday Night
## 8pm Check In

# VK3AWS

## 146.450MHz FM Simplex

## WANSARC VK3AWS


**PRESIDENT:** **Frank Petrowitz** **VK3OP** **vk3op@hotmail.com**
**SECRETARY:** **John Karr** **VK3FMPB** **johnkarr@bigpond.net.au**

All correspondence to be addressed to the SECRETARY: PO Box 336, RESERVOIR 3073


### 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.
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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.