

VK7 REGIONAL NEWS BROADCAST

FOR SUNDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2010

VK7 EVENTS

Meet the Voice BBQ Ross Sunday 21st. March

Come and meet your with fellow amateur radio enthusiast whom you have spoken to but never met in person, you will be surprised to find that he or she is nothing like you had in your minds eye. May be you will be impressed, may be not, but you will never know if you don't meet them hand to hand.

Sponsored by the daily SEWING CIRCLE RADIO NET All amateurs are welcome, it is not a fund raising exercise as such, but we do ask you to register on arrival the charge being \$5.00 per amateur or amateur family, the money raised will be only used to pay for any costs incurred, with any balance going to the repeater fund to assist in paying for repeater licences. To this time no expenses that have been incurred have been debited to the money raised from your registration fee, so all has gone to the Repeater fund, thanks to those generous donors.

This year if all goes well you will have the opportunity to win a 2 meter Hand Held Transceiver and other goodies, extra tickets will be available for \$1.00. Some one will be taking it home. More on this in later bulletins.

As in other years there will be a BBQ for you to cook your own, and of course those not wishing to cook, Ross has a number of quality venues from which to choose, all within easy walking distance of the venue.

Already a number have booked over night accommodation, intending not to miss out by arriving from Friday on, also caravan sites have been booked, and the caravan, motel owner assures me that the local water is back to normal and healthy.

If you have any suggestions on how you consider we may improve the day please contact me.

Looking forward to greeting you on March 21st.

(Don, VK7AY, "Sewing Circle Net" coordinator)

PS. If you have a spare seat bring an amateur or friend with you, particularly one of our more elderly amateurs.

PPS. Don't forget to bring along you pre-loved equipment for more information have a chat with Ray VK7VKV on the Sewing Circle Net!

VK7 EVENTS CALENDAR

A summary of the events across VK7 over the coming months:

REAST – March 3 – Receiving Antennas Presentation by Richard
VK7RO – Queen’s Domain Clubrooms from 8pm.

<http://reast.asn.au/events.php#RxAntennas>

CCARC – March 7 - ‘Penguins On The Air’ - Winston VK7EM on 7090,
14190 and 28490 kHz from 10.00am until 4.00 pm local time.

NTARC - March 10 - Social BBQ gathering at Lilydale

REAST – March 10 - ATV Experimenter’s Nights – Queen’s Domain
Clubrooms from 7:30pm

<http://reast.asn.au/events.php#ATVnights>

CCARC – March 13 – Comms Support for Kentish Endurance Riders in
North West for endurance ride from 7:30am

<http://www.my-x15.net/ccarc>

REAST – March 17, 24, 31 – ATV Experimenter’s Nights – Queen’s
Domain Clubrooms from 7:30pm

<http://reast.asn.au/events.php#ATVnights>

SEWING CIRCLE NET – March 21 - Meet The Voice BBQ at Ross.

<http://reast.asn.au/events.php#MeettheVoice>

NON-COMMERCIAL FOR SALES & WANTEDS

For Sale

Would you like a light-weight aluminium mast for portable or home use?

Brian VK7BW has been building portable aluminium masts for WICEN
members and would like to extend the offer to all other amateurs. Brian is
doing this for the cost of the aluminium (which is pretty cheap at the
moment) as a help to others.

Sizes are usually in multiples of 3 metres, up to 12 metres, though shorter
sections can be made to fit inside vehicles.

For members in the North of the State, I could just make the joining
sleeves and antenna mounting socket to suit whatever tube you already
have, or could purchase readily.

Contact Brian Welch VK7BW via email at brianwelch@netspace.net.au
or phone 0429 120 176 to discuss.

For Sale

Ursula Roos VK7FROO has the following 3 items for sale:

A GME 4000 UHF CB Transceiver in top condition with Selcall and Manual for \$175.00. An ICOM IC-R75 HF/VHF receiver covers 0.03-60 MHz in as new condition, complete with manual for \$575.00 and a UNIDEN PRO 810E - 40 Chan. AM/SSB CB Transceiver complete with Manual. What Offer?

Usula (VK7FROO) can be contacted by telephone: 03 64333664 or email at ruros1@bigpond.com. Photos of this equipment can be found on the NWT-ATV Group's Web Pages, the link can be found on the text and internet editions of this broadcast.

<http://www2.vk7ax.id.au/atvgroup/>

NORTHERN NEWS

Northern Tasmanian Amateur Radio Club

A question for you - "is there anyone who doesn't like a barbeque?"

At NTARC, we think that there's hardly a person who doesn't enjoy the smell of sausages or rissoles sizzling on a hotplate. That's why we've decided that next month's meeting will be a BBQ and social gathering at Lilydale Falls Reserve.

Bring along your meats, drinks and cooking utensils. We'll see you there on Wednesday, 10th of March.

NTARC needs to know how many of its members are also currently members of the WIA. Please let Jason VK7ZJA or Ann VK7FYBG know... we need to know as soon as possible for our WIA insurance renewal.

Thanks from

(Jason VK7ZJA, NTARC Secretary)

NORTH WEST NEWS

Cradle Coast Amateur Radio Club (CCARC)

CCARC News

<http://www.my-x15.net/ccarc>

The Kentish Endurance Riders inc. have asked the CCARC to provide comms support for their endurance ride on Saturday the 13th March 2010.

This is an 80km event and starts at 7.30am and will be held in the Sheffield area.

If any members or other amateurs would like to assist with this event then please contact David, VK7DC directly or through any of the other committee members and register you interest and get more information.

If you are a non amateur or a short wave listener living in the North West, or West coast of Tasmania, and would like to become a licenced amateur radio operator, then come along to a meeting and find out about this interesting hobby. If you cannot make the meeting but would like to find out more about the hobby then contact the learning facilitator, Keith Winkler VK7KW, or any of the committee members.

Full contact details are available on our website which can be easily found by a "Yahoo" or "Google" search of CCARC TASMANIA

Cheers from

(David, VK7DC, Secretary, CCARC)

North West Tasmania Amateur Television Group

<http://www2.vk7ax.id.au/atvgroup/>

WIA 2010 Call Books

Members who have placed orders for The WIA 2010 Centenary Call Book with the Club, are advised that they have now arrived and should arrange collection and or pick up from Tony VK7AX.

Changes to SOUTHCARS Net Schedule

There have been some changes to the SOUTHCARS Schedules including the "Australian Connection". This net has been moved from Thursday to Saturday 2100 hrs. Zulu which will be 0800 Hrs. Local on Sunday Morning, Eastern Australian time. The change will be effective Saturday 27th. Feb. and IRLP Node 6616 has been altered to automatically connect to Reflector 9614 on Sunday Mornings at 0800 Local. Amateurs within range of the Club's 2M Repeater VK7RTV are welcome and invited to join the Net.

Amateur Radio Licence Assessments and Training

Persons in the N/West Area of VK7 interested in Training and Assessments for all classes of Amateur Radio are advised that the Club can provide all these requirements and in addition provision of Facilitators via the Radio and Electronics School if candidates so desire. For more information regarding these facilities, please contact the Club's Learning Organizer Tony VK7AX , or the Club . Contact details can be found on the Club Web Site or the WIA site under VK7 Clubs.

73's until next time

(Tony VK7AX, News Officer NWT-ATV Group)

SOUTHERN NEWS

Repeaters Update

On Thursday last, the 25th, VK7RR was able to replace the antenna on the Hobart UHF repeater, VK7RTC. The old antenna had been in place since late 1983 so was long past its use by date.

In fact, on dismantling it, the old antenna was found to contain large pieces of surplus brass and copper, lying in pieces, having long since lost their solder or weld, so it is little wonder that performance of the antenna had been well down for many years.

The original repeater antenna was purchased with funds provided by the late Dave Thorne, VK7MR and John Grace, VK7ZJG. The new antenna was purchased commercially for over \$1,000. The original one cost \$150 which gives a fair idea of how inflation has operated in that 27 years.

The antenna is situated on the highest part of Mt. Nelson and I can verify, the site provides excellent views of the city, the east, and the North. Since I erected the original, the undergrowth of trees has grown to such an extent that I could no longer see the Casino, so we need some good vegetation clearance to help our coverage of lower Sandy Bay, Taroon.

As an aside, the opportunity was taken to take some photographs from the top of the crane, at 45 metres. We had a perfect day and hopefully the photos will do justice to the occasion.

Last year the repeater was upgraded to a Unilab, the same type as used on Mt. Faulkner and in several other sites around Tasmania. The audio quality of these repeaters is excellent. They run a conservative 50 watts out. Given the gain of the antenna at over 6db, this makes for a very potent repeater.

I encourage everyone to use this repeater as that is what it is for.

I would appreciate signal reports from those who notice an improvement. If you notice performance, has deteriorated, I don't want to hear about it!

(73 Brian VK7RR)

Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania

Annual General Meeting Wrap-Up

Last week the AGM of REAST was held after the broadcast and we had a great roll-up.

The following committee was nominated and endorsed by members:

President - Gavin O'Shea, (VK7HGO)

Vice-President - Justin Giles-Clark, (VK7TW)

Secretary & Public Officer - Tony Lathouras, (VK7FTCL)

Treasurer - Richard Rogers (VK7RO)

Committee Members - Barry McCann (VK7TBM) & Warren (VK7FEET)

The ex-officio office holders remain unchanged with the exception of a new office of Presentations/Events officer which Justin VK7TW has filled.

There was a big thank you to all those outgoing committee members and office holders.

<http://reast.asn.au/events.php#AGM>

(REAST Committee)

Education and Training

If you would like to participate in a future training and/or assessment and it could be for any assessment (foundation, standard, advanced or practical) then let Reg VK7KK know on mobile: 0417 391 607 or email: regemm@ozemail.com.au

<http://reast.asn.au/events.php#FoundationLicenceCourse>

(Reg, VK7KK, REAST Education Officer and Assessor)

March Presentation

Some years ago, Richard, VK7RO, experimented with a few receiving antennas for 7MHz. These trials were mostly conducted at the Domain clubrooms and provided some entertaining exercise for the Wednesday afternoon group as they hauled wire through the bush.

On Wednesday the 3rd March at 8pm, at the Domain clubrooms, Richard will talk about the theory and practice of his attempts to improve reception on 7MHz.

See you there.

<http://reast.asn.au/events.php#RxAntennas>

(73, Ric, VK7RO)

REAST Presentations Heads-Up

We have some great presentations lined up over the next few months. As heard above Ric VK7RO's presentation on antennas. A tour of the ABC TV and Radio studios. A look at Amateur Radio and Telemedicine in the Antarctic. A constructor's night where we will put together some great little light transmitters and receivers. Later in the year there will be a tour of the Grote Reber museum and 3D theatre and a club station entry in the RD Contest with VK7OTC going to air and we haven't even filled up all the slots yet!

Stay tuned for more in future broadcasts.

Thanks to the many who have contributed ideas and started discussions with possible providers. It is much appreciated.

<http://reast.asn.au/events.php#events>

(Justin, VK7TW, REAST Presentations Officer)

ATV Experimenters Night

Firstly a big get well soon to Ian VK7ZIF who I understand has new knee and is now running around the place doing the Can Can and singing "knees up Mother Brown.... knees up Mother Brown"...HIHI

We had another great roll-up last Wednesday night and had some great video presentations.

We had a whole bunch of visitors starting with amateurs Bob and Judy who are touring around VK7, recent foundation licensees Dave VK7FDJB and Geoff VK7FGGA and Rex VK7MO brought along Ian VK3AXH (not VK3HH as reported last week). Ian is a keen EME and has made over 1000 contacts using this mode on 1296MHz.

A great big thank you to Paul VK7PAH who has constructed our purpose built presenters desk which we featured for our ATV audience. This desk enables us to sit three people on bar stools behind the desk in a comfortable interview format.

If you have three barstools hidden away that you are no longer using and would like to donate them to a great cause then please contact me and I can arrange pickup!

We tested the new video mixer and had much fun working through the various functions that this is capable of.

Due to popular demand we repeated the great presentation that Phil VK7JJ gave REAST on Portable Antennas back in November 2009 and we got some great comments.

ATV Experimenter's Night go into recess for a fortnight so see you again on 10th of March around 7:30pm.

On the 10th we will have a great interview with Harvey VK7TED about his adventures in Geocaching, this should be fascinating.

We are also thinking of having a Focus on Foundation Licensees ATV night once a month. This ATV night will focus on helping and upskilling Foundation licensees and encouraging them to upgrade. Hope to see you along.

<http://reast.asn.au/events.php#ATVnights>

(73, Justin, VK7TW)

VK-VHF NEWS

VK-VHF Mailing List is now a teenager - OMG!

Guy VK2KU on the VK-VHF mailing list reminded list members during last week that the VK-VHF reflector turned 13.

Andrew Davis VK1DA wrote back in 1997 that the VK-VHF Reflector fired up for the first time on 20 February 1997 from a server at Macquarie University.

Also, as a matter of interest to historical buffs, the first set of just 3 Gridsquare tables was published on 22 December 1998, just over 11 years ago.

The 144MHz table had 8 entries,

The 432MHz table had 7 entries,

And the 1296 table had 5 entries.

How the years slip by when you're having fun!

<https://lists.ozlabs.org/listinfo/vk-vhf>

(Guy, VK2KU via the VK-VHF Teenager....whoops reflector)

CONTEST NEWS

Ross Hull Contest Results

The 2010 Ross Hull Contest was won by Ted Thrift VK2ARA.

Ted was also highest scorer on the 6 metre band.

The top scorer on 144 and 1296 MHz was Stephen Hayman ZL1TPH, and the highest score on 432 was made by Gavin Brain VK3HY.

The winner of the Digital Modes section was Rex Moncur VK7MO, closely followed by Wayne Pearson VK5APN.

Congratulations to all.

For further details take a look at the website on the email and internet editions of this broadcast.

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

(John VK3KM Contest Manager via the VK-VHF Mailing List)

CONTEST NEWS

2010 RSGB Commonwealth Contest (BERU)

When :- 13 & 14 March 2010 Times :- 1000 UTC (Sat.) until 1000 UTC (Sun.) Bands :- All Bands Mode :- CW Only

This contest is considered to be one of the more gentlemanly contests that has been in existence since the mid-1930's. Apart from the individual performances there is a Team's event, based on individual nation's participation.

Contest Rules and other operating information are now available from the Contest website.

www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2010/rberu.shtml.

Statistics and photographs related to the Commonwealth Contest may also be found at the website of Bob, G3PJT's which is available on the email and internet editions of this broadcast

www.beru.org.uk

(sourced from the FISTS downunder newsletter and the NZART)

WEB & EMAIL EDITION EXTRA BITS!!

Saving the Concord (thanks to Brian VK7RR)

http://www.eaa.org/news/2010/2010-02-25_concorde.asp

Circuit Circuits Everywhere

<http://www.satsleuth.com/schematics.htm>

NASA Builds Space Antenna (Thanks to Warren VK7FEET)

http://www.electronicnews.com.au/article/NASA-to-build-space-antenna/512336.aspx?utm_source=20100225&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletters

Geocaching – High Tech Treasure Hunting

<http://www.geocaching.com>

<http://www.geocaching.com.au>

Geocaching Acronyms

<http://geolex.locusprime.net/>

Geocacher's Creed

<http://www.geocreed.info/>

PB Warning – SmartGrids – Labour commitment of \$1 million to deploy a small-scale SmartGrid trial to investigate the synergy between the NBN and the pursuit of more sustainable energy management and utilisation practices. This may mean BPL gets another lease of life??? (BTW - PB = Pork Barrelling)

<http://www.teambartlett.com.au/news/2010/02/the-digital-future-under-labor>

DVDs from the ARRL and TAPR 2009 Digital Communications Conference are now available from ARVN. This is a six-DVD set with all 17 presentations at the conference - our second year at the DCC and our second six-DVD set. Details and a free preview are on the web site:

www.ARVideos.com.

MacWorld2010

<http://www.tgdaily.com/gallery/macworld-2010>

No TV = \$ for FCC!!

http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/news/2010/02/tv-stations-asked-to-yield-500mhz-of-spectrum-for-broadband.ars?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=rss

Just a little Scary

http://yro.slashdot.org/story/10/02/25/2012234/Microsoft-Says-It-Never-Meant-To-Knock-Cryptome-Offline?from=rss&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+slashdot/eqWf+%28Slashdot:+Slashdot%29&utm_content=Google+Reader

70Watt LED Spotlight

<http://www.ledsmagazine.com/products/21263?cmpid=EnLEDsFebruary242010>

Test your chemistry knowledge

<http://www.abc.net.au/science/games/quizzes/2010/chemistry/>

Panasonic 3D Camera Released

http://www.broadcastingcable.com/article/448982-Panasonic_Begins_Booking_3D_Business.php

Why Haiti's Cell phone infrastructure Failed

<http://spectrum.ieee.org/telecom/wireless/why-haitis-cellphone-networks-failed>

Lightning Reveals Its Power in Slow Motion (THIS IS COOL!)

<http://www.wired.com/thisdayintech/2010/02/gallery-lightning>

Do you have some interesting internet sites you have some across in the last week – send them in to justingc@ozemail.com.au

VK7 Regional News Group Email Addresses

Post message: vk7regionalnews@yahoogleroups.com

Subscribe: vk7regionalnews-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com

Unsubscribe: vk7regionalnews-unsubscribe@yahoogleroups.com

List owner: vk7regionalnews-owner@yahoogleroups.com

VK7 Virtual BPL Tours

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fdcY0Eetvsw> - Mt Nelson

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gsxpya3CnQ> - North Hobart

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G7DfdxjRkpU> - RU ready for BPL?

If you are interested in becoming an amateur radio operator or upgrading your licence then we suggest you contact your local club for details and/or take a look at what the Radio and Electronics School has to offer. They have a range of courses that can be delivered through a variety of methods.

They can be found at: www.radioelectronicschool.com

Finally today, a reminder to those people rostered for next week's broadcasts:

Newsreader: VK7RS

160m: VK7DM

80m: VK7ZK

40m: VK7TW

20m: VK7AR

10m: VK7ZGK

UHF CB: VK7HGO

HF CB: VK7TED

Thanks to all people and organisations who assisted with this broadcast.

THAT CONCLUDES OUR VK7 REGIONAL NEWS BROADCAST FOR THIS WEEK.

YOU HAVE BEEN LISTENING TO OR JUST MISSED VK7WI. NEXT WEEK THE NATIONAL WIA NEWS CAN BE HEARD AT 0900 FOLLOWED BY THE VK7 REGIONAL NEWS AT 0930 HOURS.

DETAILS TO SEND NEWS FOR THIS BROADCAST CAN BE FOUND AT REAST.ASN.AU AND THE DEADLINE FOR ITEMS IS 21:00 ON FRIDAY PRIOR TO THE SUNDAY OF THE BROADCAST.