

VK7 REGIONAL NEWS BROADCAST

FOR SUNDAY 14 MARCH 2010

VK7 EVENTS

Meet The Voice BBQ - Sunday 21st. March 2010.

Don VK7AY reminds that it happens next week and the Sewing Circle is looking forward to greeting you at ROSS CARAVAN PARK. It's a chance to renew acquaintances or put a face to some one we have been talking to for a long time and have never personally met. May be you are better looking than we had in our minds eye, perhaps not, but it does not matter it will be a pleasure to shake your hand.

Have you made contact with Ray VK7VKV and advised him of your attention to participate in the CAR BOOT SALE?. This may be the opportunity to off load some unused items or purchase some article you have dreamed of owning that has been taking space on someone else's shelf.

Sellers please book in with Ray when you arrive at Ross, and we ask that selling not start until after the presentation of the "SEWING CIRCLE SHIELD" at about 11AM.

When you first arrive please register, registration fee is \$5.00 per amateur or amateur family. You will receive your name tag and ticket in the magnificent raffle of the day.

From this years raffle you will have the opportunity to win either a Brand New Antenna Tuner with a retail value in excess of \$250.00, or a Brand new Hand Held 2 Meter Transceiver, and some one will take one of these home from the BBQ. We are indebted to David VK3JKY & Claireen VK3KMB Wilson from TTS Systems for their most generous sponsorship of our BBQ's for 4 years now.

Thank you David & Claireen and we look forward to seeing you again on the 21st. March.

The order of the day will be Registration from 9.30AM, Presentation and talk fest 11AM after which the BBQ will be lit.

For those wishing to purchase their food locally there are magnificent take-aways in Ross specialising in all types of beautiful food.

For those arriving early, the camping area will be as in previous years, but remember we are entitled to pay the nominal camping fees of the Caravan Park, as it suits us to camp outside the Caravan main area. We of course will be using their amenities, as will those attending for the day.

The "SEWING CIRCLE NET" are sponsors of the day.

Further details on the daily Net from 5 - 6PM on 3.590MHz.

See you next Sunday.

(73 Don, VK7AY)

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

QSL delivery at Ross

Norm VK7AC and Brian VK7RR have collated many 1000s of QSL card for amateurs across the state and Joe VK7JG and Brian VK7RR will be bringing these to Ross at the Meet the Voice BBQ for distribution to the amateurs in question or to a nearby amateur for delivery.

For details of the callsigns on the cards that will be at ROSS take a look at the REAST website for the list.

[http://reast.asn.au/2010/Meet The Voice QSL cards.pdf](http://reast.asn.au/2010/Meet_The_Voice_QSL_cards.pdf)

(73, VK7AC, VK7RR and VK7JG)

VK7 EVENTS CALENDAR

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

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>

REAST – April 7 – Tour of the ABC Radio and TV Studios starts 7:30pm.

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

REAST – April 10 – WICEN Capability Display and BBQ – Queen's Domain Compound from 10am.

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

NON-COMMERCIAL FOR SALE & WANTED

For Sale

Russell VK7FRUS has for sale a Diamond F23 2 metre base antenna, new in the bag for \$120, and a Diamond X300 dual band base antenna in second hand but good working condition.

If interested please phone Russell on 0488 010 878 for more information.

Wanted

Jason VK7ZJA is looking for Comet SBB-5 dual band mobile antenna, if anyone has one that they want to move on, call Jason on 0411 140 005.

NORTHERN NEWS

Northern Tasmanian Amateur Radio Club

www.ntarc.net

With the Meet The Voice event exactly one week away from today, many amateurs will be gathering at Ross to catch up and enjoy the fine Autumn days along with a good BBQ. With so many local hams gathered in the one location, what better opportunity to see Joe VK7JG to see if he has any QSL cards for you. Ordinarily Norm VK7AC would be doing this job, but since Norm won't be available that Sunday, Joe has kindly offered to do this job. Perhaps you'd long since forgotten about that QSL card you were expecting many years ago and gave it up for lost go along and find Joe, you may be pleasantly surprised by a QSL card with your name on it.

http://reast.asn.au/2010/Meet_The_Voice_QSL_cards.pdf

Speaking of the Meet The Voice, NTARC Treasurer Ann VK7FYBG and Tony VK7YBG will also be there, and Ann says that she will have membership receipts and membership cards available for those who need to collect them for this year. I'm sure that Ann will also gladly accept any new membership applications as well. Not to be outdone with all the other raffles & car boot sales at the event, Ann will also have two older televisions available that are suitable for reworking to amateur TV use. These come courtesy of Bill VK7ZK, and are available for a small donation to the NTARC repeater fund.

You've probably seen the adverts on television, or seen them going around town before. Maybe you've even thought about getting one yourself, but personalised number plates for vehicles do come at a price. John VK7XX has made a very generous offer to anyone thinking about getting your own personalised number plate. He has a \$50 discount voucher available to give away, and since it must be used by the 31st of March, you will have to hurry. It's strictly first in, best dressed. Just

imagine how impressive your callsign would look as a numberplate on your camper or car.

Wednesday night's NTARC monthly meeting which took the form of a BBQ at Lilydale Falls attracted a small but enthusiastic gathering of members who all enjoyed the evening. It's perhaps just as well that we didn't have a large turnout to the BBQ as the Lilydale Falls venue had other happy caravaners and motorhome owners enjoying the camping facilities there too, so space – and BBQ facilities – were at a bit of a premium. However NTARC President Bill VK7MX said that the people there were an interesting bunch to mingle with.

<http://www.ntarc.net/>

Thanks from

(Jason VK7ZJA, NTARC Secretary)

NORTH WEST NEWS

Cradle Coast Amateur Radio Club (CCARC)

CCARC News

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

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/>

SSTV Gateway

Work is in progress to re locate the SSTV Gateway from the QTH of VK7AX to the Club's repeater site at Gawler.

The call sign of the gateway has been changed to VK7RTV and subject to final interface and radio checks will hopefully become operational from the new site within the next few days, where it is anticipated the range of the repeater/gateway will be increased significantly.

The frequency of the gateway is 145.625 MHz. Simplex and to gateway your SSTV signal over the internet via other gateways World Wide, users need to operate with the FSKID button on. To use the gateway as a local repeater only, leave the FSKID off.

CGARC VHF Net Popular

The Weekly VHF Net of The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club held each Wednesday from 8.00PM – 9.00PM has become very popular with several amateurs in the North West of VK7 checking in last Wednesday Night.

The net is available in the North West of VK7 via the Club's VK7RTV Repeaters on 53.775 and 146.775. MHz. and their associated IRLP Nodes. All Amateurs and SWL's within range of these repeaters, are welcome and invited to join in.

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

Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania

2010 Centenary Callbooks

2010 W.I.A. Centenary Call Books are available from REAST.

We have four copies left and therefore if you would like a copy then drop out to the Caltex Service Station on Main Rd Moonah and ask for Clayton VK7ZCR.

The station address is 136-138 Main Road on the corner of Amy St.

<http://reast.asn.au/amateurradio.php#flmanual>

(73, Gavin, VK7HGO, REAST President)

April Presentation

Tour of ABC TV & Radio Studios

Our host will be Jim Parish who is Technical Manager at the ABC and he will be taking us through the newly refurbished TV and radio studios.

The move to digital technology has seen many changes in the studios and processes for bringing TV and radio to Tasmanians.

This should be a fascinating tour and we are privileged to have Jim showing us through prior to his retirement from the ABC in the near future. A great big thank you to Jim.

This tour will be held on the 7th April 2010 at 7:30pm please be at the front doors at 7:30pm SHARP.

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

(Justin, VK7TW, REAST Presentations Officer)

ATV Experimenters Night

We had a special night presentations last Wednesday night and some special guests. Canadian Bob and Judy were again up at the domain and it was great to see them.

We started our special presentation with a congratulations to Rex VK7MO who was celebrating having his AOCP for 50 years and Rex brought along cake to celebrate, thanks Rex. There is a picture of an 18 year old Rex from his AOCP certificate currently on the REAST website.

http://reast.asn.au/images/7MO_50_Years_Licenced_Front.jpg

We then moved to five short videos to introduce the wonderful game of Geocaching.

Harvey VK7TED was interviewed by yours truly about his adventures in Geocaching. For those who don't know – geocaching is high tech treasure hunting or as someone on the video said “He uses multi-billion dollar satellite navigation systems to find Tupperware in the bush”.

Using a GPS with coordinates from a website and the links can be found on the email and internet editions of this broadcast

www.geocaching.com

www.geocaching.com.au

you download the coordinates and hints and go looking for the hidden treasure. The hints can have story associated with them and can be cryptic, can be multi-locational, can be mystery caches where you have to solve the clue to find the coordinates that lead you to another clue, etc etc.

One of the favourites of Harvey is one near Austin's Ferry which tells the story of the dogs used during war and was a tribute to them. Justin gave an example of a cryptic one using spirals.

Caches are hidden all over the place and it is great fun to find them. It gives you exercise for the muscles and the brain and gets you into navigation as well by using a GPS.

All the details, rules, etc can be found on the website.

Thanks to Harvey for sharing his experiences and I think we will be getting Harvey back for some other live ATV presentations in future.

Warren VK7FEET showed the great satellite tracker called Spot.

<http://www.findmespot.net.au/>

Warren has some friends who are walking the big loop from the Southern Forests across to Melaleuca and back along the South West Wilderness track to Cackle Creek and they are being tracked on the web using the Spot device which transmits a location from GPS up to the satellite every 10 minutes and back to the website display application. Thanks Warren.

Next week we will be having some great amateur radio videos from K7AGE who produces some great material. We will also be getting the chroma-key screen up and going and putting up our new studio curtains with a great big thanks to Paul VK7PAH and XYL for finding these for us.

We are also thinking of having a Focus on Foundation Licensees ATV night once a month. If you are a Foundation Licensee, we would like to hear from you to see if this is a worth while venture. We envisage the night would focus on helping and upskilling Foundation licensees and encouraging them to upgrade. We would probably focus on a particular aspect of amateur radio each month.

From around 7:30pm – on analogue UHF TV – just below SBS on 444.25MHz.

Hope to see you along.

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

(73, Justin, VK7TW)

SATELLITE NEWS

AO-51 Second Repeater Configured to Support K4T DXpedition

The K4T DXpedition to Dry Tortugas (Grid EL84) in the Gulf of Mexico will include amateur satellite operations in addition to their HF plans between March 11 - 15.

Team Leader for K4T, Mike Forsythe, AC2V says, "One of the primary stations will be dedicated to satellite operations on a 24 hour basis. Mark Hammond, N8MH will be heading up K4T satellite operations.

K4T will be using batteries, solar power, and wind power. It's a completely 'green' operation".

Mark, N8MH said, "We're going to have a top-notch satellite station with two full satellite stations and one portable satellite station. You can expect us to be active on AO-7, AO-27, FO-29, SO-50, AO-51, VO-52, SO-67, and HO-68 (depending on the mode schedules of the satellites, of course)." A list of the K4T planned operating times and target frequencies for all amateur satellite operations has been posted on the AMSAT web page

<http://www.amsat.org>.

This also includes links to the K4T web pages for additional DXpedition information.

To support FM satellite operation from Dry Tortugas the AO-51 Command Team will configure the satellite with both repeaters enabled:

March 11 - March 16

FM Repeater, V/U

Uplink: 145.920 Mhz FM

Downlink: 435.300 Mhz FM

FM Repeater, V/U to support K4T EL84 DXpedition (Primary Frequency)

Uplink: 145.880 Mhz FM

Downlink: 435.150 Mhz FM

The full AO-51 Operating Schedule can be viewed on-line at the address on the email and internet editions of this broadcast.

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/echo/CTNews.php>

[The editor realises that VK amateurs will most likely not be able to communicate via satellite with the DXpedition but will be able to utilise the AO-51 configuration for local contacts]

(Sourced from the AMSAT News Service)

ACMA NEWS

Mobile phone jammers under review

The Australian Communications and Media Authority is well advanced in its review of the regulation of mobile phone jammers in Australia. As part of that review, the ACMA is also seeking views on a proposal to trial mobile phone jammers at the Lithgow Correctional Centre in NSW.

The authority has released a public discussion paper reviewing the scope and application of the mobile phone jammer prohibition and the regulation of mobile phone jammers in general. The paper also provides background on the trial of mobile phone jammers at the Lithgow Correctional Centre that has been proposed by the NSW government.

"There are important issues involved in weighing up the benefits and disadvantages of allowing jamming of mobile telephone networks," said Chris Chapman, chairman of the ACMA. "There are obvious circumstances where there would be clear public benefit in inhibiting the use of mobile phones to prevent criminal and potentially life-threatening activities.

"At the same time, the use of jammers may have implications for the integrity of mobile networks, including the use of triple zero and associated safety-of-life issues."

The review is a 'first principles' examination of the need for regulation of mobile phone jammers to safeguard access to legal radiocommunications and telecommunications, in light of a range of emerging uses of mobile phone jammers in the public interest by responsible bodies.

Copies of the discussion paper are available on the ACMA website

http://www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD/pc=PC_312026

http://www.radiocomms.com.au/news/38969?utm_medium=email&utm_source=Emailmarketingsoftware&utm_content=383943965&utm_campaign=rc_1003+_otddd&utm_term=Mobilephonejammersunderreview

(Sourced from the Radio Comms e-Zine)

GENERAL NEWS

Aricebo Telescope Designer dies aged 92

An engineer who designed the telescope that discovered the first planets beyond our solar system has died aged 92.

William Gordon was a visionary whose atmospheric work laid the foundation for current studies of satellite communication, space weather, and GPS.

He is probably best known for his role in getting the Arecibo Observatory up and running in the late 1950s.

Dr Gordon designed the massive radio telescope, arranged funding, shepherded it through construction and was its first director in 1963.

The 1,000ft telescope is the largest curved focusing dish on Earth and is sunk in a limestone basin surrounded by forested hills in Puerto Rico.

Dr Gordon originally designed the telescope with the goal of probing Earth's atmosphere to see how weather conditions might affect the flight of missiles and satellites.

The telescope was designed to last ten years, but after two upgrades it is still providing useful data today.

Dr Gordon died recently of natural causes according to officials at Cornell University. He is survived by his second wife and two children.

(Sourced from <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1252186/William-Gordon-Arecibo-telescope-designer-dies-aged-92.html>)

ACMA NEWS

Reregister Now to Avoid Telemarketing Calls

ACMA reminds people that it is time to re-register for the Do Not Call Register for people who signed up in 2007. This will ensure you do not get any unwanted telemarketing calls.

Registrations for the Do Not Call Register are valid for three years. Anyone who signed up when the service was launched in May 2007 should re-register now to maintain protection from unwanted marketing calls.

More than 4.3 million home, mobile and VoIP numbers are now listed on the Do Not Call Register.

‘It’s fast, free and easy – simply call 1300 792 958 or go to www.donotcall.gov.au where you can learn more and re-register.

www.acma.gov.au

(Sourced from an ACMA Media Release)

WEB & EMAIL EDITION EXTRA BITS!!

Cable PI Device Patents (Thanks to Richard 7RO and Eric)

<http://www.wipo.int/pctdb/en/wo.jsp?WO=2009076697>

<http://www.wipo.int/pctdb/en/wo.jsp?WO=2008019446>

<http://www.wipo.int/pctdb/ja/wo.jsp?WO=2009076697&IA=AU2008001372&DISPLAY=DESC>

<http://www.wipo.int/pctdb/ja/wo.jsp?WO=2008019446&IA=AU2007001165&DISPLAY=DESC>

Toyota Lawnmower Recall

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6B2e6D484v8>

Science the Next 10 Years (ABC Science Website)

<http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2010/03/11/2841781.htm>

Hexacopter

<http://spectrum.ieee.org/automaton/robotics/robotics-software/quadcopter-hexacopter-octocopter-uavs>

<http://mikrokopter.de/ucwiki/en/MikroKopter>

<http://asctec.de/>

<http://www.robotspodcast.com/podcast/2010/01/robots-quadrotors.html>

Splat Propagation Tool

<http://www.qsl.net/kd2bd/splat.html>

Splat for Windoze

<http://blog.gearz.net/2007/09/rf-propagation-modeling-with-splat-for.html>

<http://www.ve3ncq.ca/reframe.php?page=20090216.html>

Some Interesting Digital AR Tools

<http://www.kc1cs.com/>

Googles Response – Not Impressing Citizens

http://www.theonion.com/content/news/google_responds_to_privacy

Wavelength Calculator

<http://www.sengpielaudio.com/calculator-wavelength.htm>

Musical Notes and Frequencies

<http://www.sengpielaudio.com/calculator-notenames.htm>

Some Great Dish & Feed Resources

<http://www.setileague.org/software/spreadsh.htm>

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@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe: vk7regionalnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Unsubscribe: vk7regionalnews-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

List owner: vk7regionalnews-owner@yahoogroups.com

VK7 Virtual BPL Tours

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pcdY0Eetvsw> - 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: VK7FB

160m: VK7DM

80m: VK7EM

40m: VK7JGD

20m: VK7AR

10m: VK7ZGK

UHF CB: VK7ZCR

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.