

## **VK7 REGIONAL NEWS BROADCAST**

**FOR SUNDAY 16 MAY 2010**

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### **VK7 EVENTS CALENDAR**

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

REAST – May 17/18 – Amateur Radio Examinations being held at the Domain Clubrooms, contact Reg VK7KK for further information ASAP.

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

REAST – May 19 & 26 – ATV Experimenter's Group – Queen's Domain Clubrooms starts around 7:30pm.

<http://reast.asn.au/atv/>

WICEN – 21-22 May – Equine Endurance Riders 24 hour event at St Helens.

<http://tas.wicen.org.au/>

WIA – 28-30 May – WIA Centenary AGM – Canberra

<http://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/centenary/about/index.php>

REAST – June 2 – Amateur Radio and Telemedicine in Antarctica with VK7JN starts 8pm in the Queen's Domain Clubrooms.

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

NTARC – June 9 - BBQ meeting at the Mt Barrow interpretation centre.

[www.ntarc.net](http://www.ntarc.net)

REAST – June 9, 16, 23, 30 – ATV Experimenter's Group – Queen's Domain Clubrooms starts around 7:30pm.

<http://reast.asn.au/atv/>

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### **NON-COMMERCIAL FOR SALE & WANTED**

#### ***For Sale***

Professionally produced QSL cards with a Tasmanian feel in a range of colours.

Neil who is a Coast Radio Hobart operator has for sale blocks of 100 different coloured and different imaged new QSL cards which he has no use for and is offering them for \$10 for 100 cards.

If interested contact Neil on mobile 0417 583 881. Neil is also up at the domain on Mondays as a Coast Radio Hobart operator.

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## **NORTHERN NEWS**

### ***Northern Tasmanian Amateur Radio Club***

[www.ntarc.net](http://www.ntarc.net)

It was fantastic to see so many members from all over the north of Tasmania at NTARCs meeting & presentation on Wednesday evening.

Phil, VK7JJ had the audience spellbound with interest demonstrating the world of digital transmission modes available to the modern day ham radio operator. Phil has a real passion for digital modes, and teamed up with our tame remote station Greg VK7YAD to give everyone present an interactive taste of PSK31 and slow scan TV, but other modes were discussed too. Peter VK7KPC also demonstrated PSK31 on a portable computer so small as to defy the laws of physics; a very compact and portable digital station indeed. We should also thank the considerable number of visitors from CCARC who took the time to make the journey from the North West coast to be part of the evening... we hope you enjoyed the night and had a safe journey home too. A big thanks also to Phil, Greg & Peter for making the evening the huge success it was.

For a change of pace, next months meeting will be a social gathering at the Mt Barrow interpretation centre where a winter BBQ will be held. Bring along your favourite hearty winter food, some warm clothing and a hot drink. Wednesday the 9th of June is the date, we hope to see you all there.

A minor update for how the new VK7REC repeater is progressing: the WIA have approved a pair of 70 centimetre frequencies, and crystals for the repeater will be purchased accordingly.

We also want to send our get well wishes to a few members who are not feeling the best at the moment: Ann VK7FYBG, Max VK7KY and VK7AN Allen's XYL, hopefully you'll all be feeling much better very soon.

Thanks from

(Jason VK7ZJA, NTARC Secretary)

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## **NORTH WEST NEWS**

### ***Cradle Coast Amateur Radio Club (CCARC)***

**CCARC News**

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

The Cradle Coast Amateur Radio Club has been invited to join WICEN (South) to provide communications coverage for an equine endurance Riders for a 24 hour event coming up at St Helens, starting midnight Friday the 21st of May, so if you want to be involved contact David VK7DC.

***Want to become an Amateur?***

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

Regards from

(David, VK7DC, Secretary, CCARC)

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***North West Tasmania Amateur Television Group***

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

***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)

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**SOUTHERN NEWS**

***Sorell Men's Shed***

The Hobart Vintage Machinery Society inc. will be conducting a working display at the Sorell Men's Shed on Sunday the 23rd of May. Starting at 9am till 2 pm.

Come along and see these old machines running and also the static displays of memorabilia. Food and drinks will be available at the shed. Mostly all displays will be under cover in case of bad weather.

Restorations and working large and small engines will be on show including, water windmill restoration, working wind generators display and ongoing Men's shed activities.

There will also be old motor bikes, old Bedford tow truck restoration in progress.

Men's Shed Shop will be open with lots of pre loved items for sale.

So come along to a great day at the Sorell Men's Shed. just follow the signs at the Sorell traffic lights.

VK7SMS Radio Station will be on air call on 146.700 if you get lost.

<http://sorellmensshed.org/>

(Ken, VK7DY)

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***Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania***

<http://reast.asn.au/>

***Licence Examinations***

As heard on the WIA National News there will be an assessment session for Standard and Foundation Licence on Tuesday 18 May at 7:30 pm.

Candidates for Foundation Licence may also need to be available on Monday 17 May for the practical examination.

There are currently two candidates, so if you would like to sit an examination then please contact REG ASAP!

Reg VK7KK can be contacted on 0417 391 607, or email on [regemm@ozemail.com.au](mailto:regemm@ozemail.com.au).

(73, Reg VK7KK, REAST Education Officer and Assessor)

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***June Presentation***

***Amateur Radio and Telemedicine in Antarctica***

Dr Graham Denyer VK7JN who is currently working at the Australian Antarctic Division will be presenting his experiences of operating amateur radio and telemedicine in Antarctica.

Being isolated on an Australian base presents many challenges for both the amateur and medical doctor and Graham will be sharing his vast experience.

This should be a fascinating presentation and happens on June 2 starting at 8pm in the Queen's Domain Clubrooms.

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

(REAST Committee)

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### *ATV Experimenters Night*

We had a wonderful roll-up last Wednesday night with the ATV studio and clubrooms packed with excited ATV experimenters!

Our show and tell started with a look at the new DVB-T transmitter which is currently being configured and tested on the test bench.

We learnt that Warren VK7FEET is off to Macquarie Island to assist the Pest Eradication Program for the next few weeks and will be attempting to operate from this remote location – Maritime Mobile.

Our video presentations for the night started with a video showing off some impressive engineering from the German company Liebherr then some videos of landing jet aircraft on the Carrier USS Nimitz in a very rough sea with pitching decks in the dark! We finished off with a repeat of the VK0IR Heard Island DXpedition video for those who missed it last week.

A big thank you to Harvey VK7HK for a copy of the presentations from the earlier 1983 DXpedition to Heard Island – “The Ship that Shouldn't Have”, News Reports, “Voyage to the White Volcano” and “Anaconda II”. We will be showing these on a later ATV night. I have been watching these over the last few days and they are fascinating and a great historical record of this great event.

Next week we have a combination of ATV and a presentation in the clubrooms. Justin VK7TW will be giving a sneak preview of his presentation for the WIA AGM on the 29<sup>th</sup> May entitled “Modern Communications Technologies – A Quick Review and the Future”.

This will be a whirl-wind tour of current and future communications techniques that have and are being used and experimented with in amateur radio circles along with some bold predictions of where it is all

going along with plenty of humour! You are most welcome to come along and see the presentation

In two weeks time we have an exciting event starting with an attempt to make a HF contact with Warren VK7FEET who will be on the Aurora Australis anchored at Macquarie Island. Warren is helping with the support to pest eradication program.

Hope to see you along.

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

(73, Justin, VK7TW)

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## **DX NEWS**

### ***Macquarie Island, VK0.***

Denis, ZL4DB is QRV as VK0/homecall for the next three months while on work assignment. He is active in his spare time using SSB. QSL via ZL4PW.

(ARRL Mailing List)

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## **SATELLITE NEWS**

### ***Three Additional Cubesats Aboard the JAXA Planet-C Launch***

In addition to the UNITEC-1 University satellite bound for Venus orbit on May 17 there will also be three additional cubesat class birds aboard. These cubesats will be dropped off in low-earth orbit prior to the Planet-C and UNITEC-1 satellites departure for Venus.

Three of the CubeSats, Negai\*", WASEDA-SAT2, KSAT, being launched by the H-IIA rocket on May 17 will be dropped off into a low earth orbit but UNITEC-1 will continue following the JAXA's Venus Climate Orbiter PLANET-C / AKATSUKI on its journey to Venus.

Take a look the links on the email and internet edition of this broadcast for some great links about each of these satellites.

<http://kuro.t.soka.ac.jp/main.html>

<http://www.miyashita.mmech.waseda.ac.jp/Waseda-Sat2/index.htm>

<http://www.sci.kagoshima-u.ac.jp/~nishio/download/Ukaren2008Nishio.pdf>

<http://www.ne.jp/asahi/hamradio/je9pel/unitec-1.htm>

(Sourced from the AMSAT News Service and Mineo Wakita, JE9PEL)

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## EMCOMM NEWS

### *EU Commissioner Thanks Hams*

On February 27 2010, at 03:34 local time an earthquake rating a magnitude of 8.8 on the Richter Scale devastated the Chilean region of Maule. In the minutes that followed the quake, the communication system simply collapsed. Only 15 minutes after the disaster, an amateur radio operator (or “ham”) called Alejandro Jara (or as it is known in the amateur radio universe Charlie Echo 3 Juliet Whisky Foxtrot) broadcast the first information from the ground. Very soon, other hams joined Alejandro providing information about locating missing persons, condition of roads and support for the emergency administration.

Kristalina Georgiev who is a European Commissioner visited Chile a few days after the main earthquake and experienced an aftershock of 7.2. The GSM network was completely out of order almost immediately and it was impossible to make telephone calls for several hours after the quake. It is in critical situations like this when the voluntary work of amateur radio operators becomes priceless.

Kristalina had the opportunity of meeting some European “hams” in an exhibition they organised in the hall of the European Parliament. Their passion for the air waves is admirable. “Hams” often build their own equipment and spend endless hours talking to fellow radio operators from every corner of the world.

Radio operators are aware of their potential in case of crisis and have established well coordinated structures for emergency response that provided vital services during the Tsunami in 2004, the hurricanes Rita and Katrina in 2005, or more recently, during the earthquakes of L’Aquila, Haiti and Chile, Kristalina said.

The expressions “Humanitarian Aid” and “Crisis Response” often suggest large organisations delivering aid and heavy loads in helicopters or trailers. But, very often, it is about the job of anonymous people that continue to broadcast information and hope from damaged equipment and fallen antennae, as they like to say, “when everything else fails”.

<http://blogs.ec.europa.eu/georgieva/the-wave-heroes/>

(Sourced from the Website of Kristalina Georgiev who is a European Commissioner)

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## TECHNOLOGY NEWS

## ***Radio breaks a Porsche***

Radio is essentially a friendly and useful tool but occasions can arise where its influence can be alarming.

Such was the case when the latest model Porsche was stopped dead in its tracks by what was thought to be interference from various commercial radio towers on the north shore of Sydney.

The Panamera, which was on a test drive, was parked in a semi-industrial area and that's when the trouble began. The car's sensor key was not recognised, which meant the car would not respond to any outside commands.

Then the doors locked closed with three people inside with no ventilation and a rising interior temperature.

Some 30 minutes later it was decided to smash a window to gain access but it then took another hour and a half to manoeuvre the car onto a tow truck because the electronic brake would not release.

Porsche then traced the problem to radio interference and admitted that similar problems had occurred in four other Panameras worldwide.

The company first tried a software upgrade that failed but has now produced a suppressor to shield the electronics from radio waves. Now the device will be fitted to the range as part of a mandatory service.

<http://www.radiocomms.com.au/news/40369-Radio-breaks-a-Porsche>

(Sourced from the Radio Comms Website)

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## **TECHNOLOGY NEWS**

### ***World Record in Current Intensity Achieved With Distribution Cables***

The ScienceDaily mailing list for the 9<sup>th</sup> of May carried a story about a remarkable record.

Researchers at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, ICMAB-CSIC, and the firms Labein Tecnalia and Nexans, coordinated by the electrical company Endesa, have constructed a 30m cable and the terminals needed to connect it to the network using the high-temperature superconducting material BSCCO. This is the most advanced cable in terms of distribution (24 kV), since its current value is higher than that obtained up to date, 3200 Amperes RMS, and therefore can transport the electrical strength of 110 MVA, i.e. five times more than a conventional copper cable of the same dimensions.

The superconducting electric cable could reduce energy loss by 50% and even by 70% in some parts of the distribution network. Reduction in loss

represents energy saving and a significant decrease in CO2 emissions in the present distribution of generation of the Spanish electricity system.

The fact that superconductor technology transports a larger amount of electricity than conventional systems makes it a viable alternative to the efficiency needs of the world's electrical systems, which presently channel 40% of the world's total consumption of energy. Energy demands are expected to double by the second half of this century. Thus the construction of more efficient motors, generators, transformers and superconducting cables would help to satisfy this demand in energy and at the same time reduce the emission of greenhouse gases.

In fact, transporting electricity with superconducting materials represents important benefits for the environment, since it will contribute to the global reduction of greenhouse gas emissions even if there is an increase in both the global population and the use of energy, especially in developing countries. The use of superconductor electrical systems could easily reduce primary energy consumption by 10-15%, with no decrease in final user consumption. This is due to the fact that 60% of the energy presently produced is wasted, which demonstrates that there is yet much to do to improve on energy efficiency. In the case of Catalonia, with a yearly energy consumption of approximately 40,000 GWh, implementing superconductor technology throughout the country could reduce its yearly emissions of carbon oxide by 500,000 tonnes.

The technology based on superconducting materials also increases the security and reliability of network installations, given that these transformers are non-flammable. Current restrictions would be easier to apply as well, which allows for a greater control of the network.

The project was carried out with the participation of UAB Department of Physics.

For more information about this please take a look at the email and internet editions of this broadcast.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/05/100506092845.htm>

(Sourced from the ScienceDaily Mailing List)

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## **WEB & EMAIL EDITION EXTRA BITS!!**

Rare Conflagration of Sky Phenomenon in Northern Hemisphere

[http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2010/13may\\_planetsandspacehips/](http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2010/13may_planetsandspacehips/)

3D Space Station Movie

<http://spaceweather.com/archive.php?view=1&day=14&month=05&year=2010>

Stressed People don't Stoke!

[http://www.sciencealert.com.au/news/20101305-20946.html?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+sciencealert-latestnews+%28ScienceAlert-Latest+Stories%29](http://www.sciencealert.com.au/news/20101305-20946.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+sciencealert-latestnews+%28ScienceAlert-Latest+Stories%29)

Astronomy Without A Telescope – Bringing the Planetology Home

<http://www.universetoday.com/2010/05/08/astronomy-without-a-telescope-%25e2%2580%2593-bringing-the-planetology-home/>

Launch Go for Friday

[http://www.space-travel.com/reports/NASA\\_Managers\\_Go\\_For\\_Friday\\_Launch\\_999.html](http://www.space-travel.com/reports/NASA_Managers_Go_For_Friday_Launch_999.html)

Houston – We've had a Conference!!

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Houston\\_We\\_Have\\_Had\\_A\\_Conference\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Houston_We_Have_Had_A_Conference_999.html)

Death of a Star in 3D

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Death\\_Of\\_A\\_Star\\_In\\_Three\\_Dimensions\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Death_Of_A_Star_In_Three_Dimensions_999.html)

7 Cool things you may not know about the Space Shuttle

<http://www.space.com/news/7cool-things-space-shuttle-atlantis-100512.html>

Search for Early TVT Tasmanian TV Faces

[http://www.themercury.com.au/article/2010/05/02/143521\\_tasmania-news.html](http://www.themercury.com.au/article/2010/05/02/143521_tasmania-news.html)

Perfectly non-reflecting thanks to a Moth!

[http://www.elektor.com/news/perfectly-non-reflecting-thanks-to-moths.1353461.lynkx?utm\\_source=UK&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=news](http://www.elektor.com/news/perfectly-non-reflecting-thanks-to-moths.1353461.lynkx?utm_source=UK&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=news)

The reason we don't crash like computers

[http://www.elektor.com/news/wonder-why-we-don-t-crash-like-computers-yale.1353484.lynkx?utm\\_source=UK&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=news](http://www.elektor.com/news/wonder-why-we-don-t-crash-like-computers-yale.1353484.lynkx?utm_source=UK&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=news)

Wannabe Spy Stuff

[http://www.thinkgeek.com/gadgets/security/?icpg=Banner\\_SpyStuff](http://www.thinkgeek.com/gadgets/security/?icpg=Banner_SpyStuff)

British ATV Club

<http://www.batc.tv/>

Arecibo Video Tours:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vicxDnn6LEY>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rFeXsVz8hE&NR=1>

Hy-Q – Crystals, Oscillators and More!

<http://www.hy-q.com.au/>

Latest News from the Cebik Site

<http://www.antennex.com/news/index.html>

Echoes of Apollo Station

[http://www.df9cy.de/ar/image\\_radio/2010-04-17\\_eoa/df9cy\\_eoa\\_2010.html](http://www.df9cy.de/ar/image_radio/2010-04-17_eoa/df9cy_eoa_2010.html)

Plasma Physics 101 Part 1

<http://www.eham.net/articles/23521>

<http://www.eham.net/articles/23802>

Take off Angle

<http://www.eham.net/articles/23758>

New Portable Power Pack

<http://www.eham.net/articles/23730>

The Contact

<http://www.eham.net/articles/23629>

Radio Museum

[http://www.radiomuseum.org/?language\\_id=2](http://www.radiomuseum.org/?language_id=2)

Do you have some interesting internet sites you have some across in the last week – send them in to [justingc@ozemail.com.au](mailto:justingc@ozemail.com.au)

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### ***VK7 Regional News Group Email Addresses***

Post message: [vk7regionalnews@yahoogroups.com](mailto:vk7regionalnews@yahoogroups.com)

Subscribe: [vk7regionalnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:vk7regionalnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Unsubscribe: [vk7regionalnews-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:vk7regionalnews-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com)

List owner: [vk7regionalnews-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:vk7regionalnews-owner@yahoogroups.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?

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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](http://www.radioelectronicschool.com)

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

Newsreader: VK7TW

80m: VK7EM

40m: VK7RO

20m: VK7IL

10m: VK7ZGK

UHF CB: VK7ZCR

HF CB: VK7TED

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

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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](http://REAST.ASN.AU) AND THE DEADLINE FOR ITEMS IS 21:00 ON FRIDAY PRIOR TO THE SUNDAY OF THE BROADCAST.