

WANSARC NEWS

Incorporated in Victoria, 1985 Registration Number: A0007611S

The monthly magazine of the club celebrating its 35th year,

Western & Northern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club



Melbourne, Australia

146.450 MHz FM

VK3AWS

28.470 MHz USB

Volume No: 36

Issue 9

September

2005

NEXT MEETING: Friday Night 7.30 pm,
2nd September
At the usual venue, at N.M.I.T.
Building 'K'

Note that the planned club visit to the Air Wing will be carried over to next month, more advice to follow, so it's the usual meeting this month. But keep the date of Thursday September 29th free...

WANSARC NOW AFFILIATED WITH THE NEW NATIONAL W.I.A.

Well we always were to WIAVIC, but with the changes from the old WIA structure to the new established "National W.I.A.", it seems some paperwork was required to be sent off, which has now been done. This also brings benefits to the club as well as cost savings. With all the ongoing changes in our hobby and the threats and interests to our spectrum by others, this affiliation is vital, as the W.I.A. is your Amateur Radio "Trade Union" representation to the Government and the Public. *From WANSARC Committee*

Issues of "Amateur Radio" Magazine going back to 1991 in mint condition to give away FREE – contact Mick VK3CH, Also heaps of computer magazines, last few years available – growing children require more room for study and play! Offer available only to WANSARC members, I can bring to next meeting or even deliver to your door, discuss with me.

W.I.A. TO CONDUCT 40M BAND PLAN REVIEW

The WIA board has decided to conduct a review of the current Australian 40m band plan. The plan is well out of date, it was conceived many years ago. A number of issues have triggered the review; the general popularity of the 40m band for medium range and mobile communications; the forthcoming increased loading of the band following the introduction of the new Foundation license and granting of access to Standard (formerly Novice/Novice Limited) licensees; and the increasing popularity of digital modes, such as PSK31 and Win Link. A new 40m band plan will: provide for more efficient utilization of the entire 7000-7300 kHz segment; minimize interference between voice, CW and data modes; reduce loading on the current voice segment around 7060-7100 kHz through the encouragement of voice nets above 7100 kHz; ease the introduction of new users to the band, by the creation of newcomer-specific nets above 7200 kHz; and provide a specific segment for automated data modes, such as Win Link.

The new band plan will be formulated with reference to the corresponding band plans of the IARU and other Region 3 countries. It will also take account of international developments, such as defining segments in terms of emission bandwidth, rather than by emission modes. Any band plan obviously must have the support of the majority of users. To this end, the WIA seeks input from all amateurs on a new 40m plan. Please send your comments and suggestions to vk4du@wia.org.au. The target date for completion of the new draft plan is September 30th.

Bob, VK3EL is on the lookout for some crystals the frequencies of 4.0680555 , 10.317857 , 10.335714 MHz. Any one able to help, contact Bob or come up on the weekly NET and let him know if you have any of these.

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Around the Shack, News & Stuff

Editors Ravings – Mick VK3CH

WANSARC WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

A well attended meeting again, with some new faces as well, some joining up on the night.

As it was a general chat night with no formal topic, all manner of items were discussed, amateur radio even got a mention!

Welcome to new members in the past few months ;

VK3IV	Ian	Horsham
VK3FCR	Andrew	North Fitzroy
VK3BU	Bob	Keilor East
VK3ZO	Frank	Thornbury
VK3TXZ	Derek	Kealba

ANOTHER SLICE OF 'PI'...

It's that time of year again for our kid's School Concert, so it was off to the office to purchase tickets. Our school has a new member in the office and I asked her for some tickets with cash in hand. She said "Do you remember me?" My brain (still coming to terms with being awake) scanned its memory bank, still not sure, then she said, "I'm Gail, Marks wife, you know WANSARC Mark, VK3PI. I recognize you by the jacket." I had my WIA jacket on at the time, as it was a cold 6° in the morning. Small world or what!

WANSARC BANNER

Mention was made at last meeting that the club has a banner, about 1 x 2.5 meters or so, made up years ago for display at public events but has not been seen for quite a while. Anyone seen or remember its last whereabouts please let any committee members know or email us, or tell us on the weekly NET.

THANKS, MAX VK3ZCW

Max had a cleanup at his QTH a few months ago and one of the items was a Signal Generator with a price of \$25, but not for Max to spend but as a donation from the purchaser to the club! Russell VK3BMR is now the new owner of the unit. Thanks to Max and Russell, for your support to the WANSARC pool of funds.

WANSARC WEBSITE

It was decided that the past copies of "WANSARC NEWS" will be made available for download after a period of **2 months**.

If anyone has past 'PDF' copies before January 2004, I would like any of these emailed to me so we can put them up on the site as well. Let me know what you want added to the club website also.

GOOGLE EARTH

Speaking of the internet, Gordon VK3YOD's laptop had on display "Google Earth", a program that allows you to view satellite images mapped out over most of the earth's surface. The clarity is quite good, this version is free to download; but imagine what the military have access to! Images are photographs taken by satellites and aircraft sometime in the last three years.

It's at <http://earth.google.com/>

N.E.R.G. OPEN DAY – SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER

The North East Radio Group (the NERG) invites all people interested in Amateur Radio to come and visit the new NERG home at 126 Mountain View Road Briar Hill between 1.00pm and 4.30pm **Sunday Oct. 16** and see what the hobby has to interest them, along with a sausage sizzle.

An official opening by Banyule Mayor Greg Ryan and Deputy Mayor Jenny Mulholland will be made at 2.00pm.

The aim behind this event is to publicize the hobby of Amateur Radio and the presence of the NERG within the local community, focusing on ages from school to those well into retirement.

Basically we are intending to have a "SHOW AND TELL" with displays from our group as well as other including WICEN to show the many facets of the hobby. We are hoping to get some good local media coverage prior to and at the event.

For more information please visit www.nerg.asn.au or phone NERG Secretary, John Weir, on 9431 0667

FREE BBQ - Stainless Steel Grill, for FREE

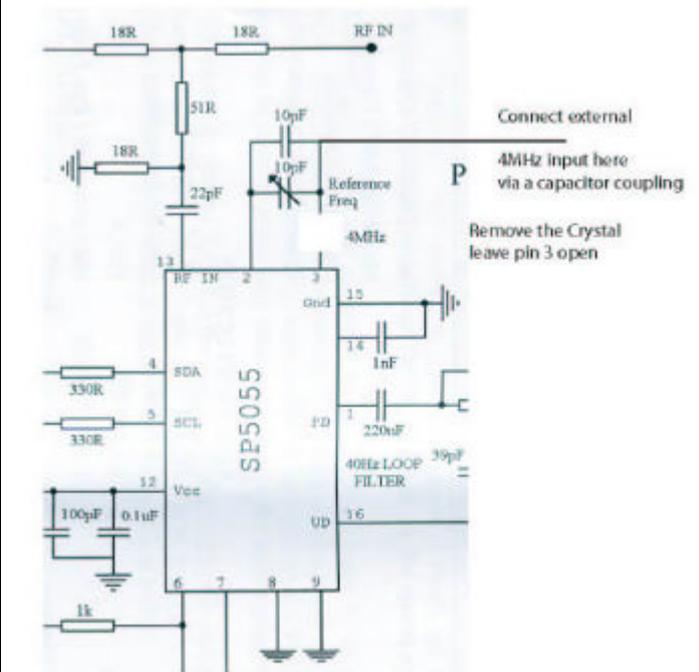
I know it's too late for the RD Contest, but the 2005-2006 Summer & Spring VHF-UHF Field Day is right around the corner, Cup Day as well! If you need a new Grill here is a real bargain for you.

Stainless Steel Grill, for FREE, you read right, FREE! GST included! Available in all stores: Coles, Woolworth's, K-Mart, BiLo, IGA, NQR... I ran out and got mine already. Hurry before they run out of stock!!!



ATV EXTERNAL 4MHz OSCILLATOR FIX

For those club members building the PLL option with the Mini Kits ATV boards, a modification using an external oscillator has been mentioned in previous issues. Here is how it is connected to the PLL board. (Circuit diagram © Mini Kits, South Australia.)



If the text is too hard to read, you do this, unsolder the 4MHz crystal and remove from the board. You will now have 2 vacant holes that it occupied. Leave open the track leading to pin 3 to the SP5055. For the hole leading to pin 2 to the SP5055, feed your external 4MHz frequency input. With the units Bill VK3KBL and myself made we use the 5 volts from the regulator so the voltage will be constant in case you use 12volts at one time and 13.8 volts another time. We found it was not necessary to use trimmers across the crystal to "pull" its frequency, well on our units anyway. On Bill's counter my frequency for around 20 minutes from cold remained at 4,000,067Hz.

It's still to be seen how well this will work, results here once known. Try grounding pin 3 with a 0.1 uF capacitor if still no good. If you are only "free running", that is NO PLL used, then you don't need to worry about any of this written here. **ATV operation into VK3RTV will work fine "free running" without using the PLL.**

How to Avoid the Flu

Eat right! Make sure you get your daily dose of fruits and veggies. Take your vitamins and pump up your vitamin C. Get plenty of exercise because exercise helps build your immune system. Walk for at least an hour a day, go for a swim, take the stairs instead of the elevator, etc. Wash your hands often. If you can't wash them, keep a bottle of antibacterial stuff around. Get lots of fresh air. Open windows whenever possible. Get plenty of rest.

Try to eliminate as much stress from your life as you can.

OR Take the doctor's office approach. Think about it...

When you go for a shot, what do they do first?

Clean your arm with alcohol. Why? Because alcohol kills germs.

So;

- I walk to the liquor store (**exercise**).
- I put lime, lemon and orange juice in my Tequila (**fruit**).
- I put Tomato in my Bloody Mary (**veggie**).
- Drink with a dog for company in the backyard (**fresh air**).
- Get drunk, tell jokes, laugh (**relieve stress**).
- Then pass out (**rest**).

The way I see it...

If you keep your alcohol levels up, flu germs can't get you, Cheers!

BPL SUBMISSIONS PUBLISHED

The ACMA have now published the 275 submissions to their BPL Discussion Paper with the majority showing a high level of concern regarding BPL interference and its management. There are some very big names amongst the list, in addition to the 222 submission from radio amateurs. Air Services, The Australian Broadcasting Corporation, and Defence, are concerned about the interference potential to their radio communications services.

Optus recommends a 'cautious approach', and are concerned over potential interference to their cable services and regulatory/competition certainty.

In a long and well thought through submission, Telstra expresses serious concerns about interference to their Broadband cable, ADSL, ADSL2, VDSL and HF radio services.

"The calculations above indicate that ubiquitous BPL could have serious consequences for cable modem networks" and "It is clear from the comparison above that if BPL is permitted at the ETSI levels, there will be significant degradation of VDSL in cases where power and telecommunications lines are in close proximity". In a strongly worded statement medical alarm providers through their industry association the Personal Emergency response Services Association (PERSA) conclude:

"Electromagnetic interference from BPL to PERS is potentially severe, and is continuous and widespread. BPL interference could prevent a call for assistance in a life threatening situation, resulting in death or injury."

The ABC expresses fear that BPL interference is "highly likely in some circumstances to annihilate broadcasting services."

The BPL industry's submissions are unsurprisingly more favourable towards BPL and recommend less onerous management techniques; however it's pleasing to note the acknowledgement of interference as a real issue in the submission from Woomera consortium member Bytecan.

The full list of submissions also including those from CB radio, model aircraft enthusiasts, outback radio uses, and equipment suppliers is at:

http://www.acma.gov.au/ACMAINTER.2163012:STANDARD::pc=PC_9240

Taken from WIA website

WIA FREE EVENTS CALENDAR

The Events Calendar is on the WIA website under "Member Services, Coming Events" it even looks like a calendar with every known event shown on the day it is scheduled. But if the WIA has not been directly advised of your event, it is not there. This is a very simple way for ANY club or organizing body to advertise their event well in advance. Send an email with details such as, Date, Time, Event Description, Website, Contact Name and email address, and Location of the event. If there is not enough info we will ask. Come On clubs get your event into the calendar. An email to VK2ARA@WIA.org.au will do the trick.

Taken from WIA website

INTERNATIONAL BROADBAND TAKES TO THE SKY

(Source: PC world)

Boeing this week joined the ranks of companies offering planes equipped with Wi-Fi service with the introduction of its new high-speed Internet service. Wi-Fi service is already available on about 70 aircraft operated by ANA, China Airlines, Japan Airlines, Lufthansa, SAS, and Singapore Airlines, though not on domestic U.S. flights.

How it works

Boeing uses a two-way satellite link to communicate with a network of ground-based stations. The aircraft is fitted with a standard 802.11 wireless routers i.e. you must provide your own laptop with a wireless card. Connection costs US\$30 on most international routes, US\$20 for flights of less than 6 hours, or US\$10 for 60 minutes of access, with each minute thereafter costing 25 cents. Maximum throughput to the aircraft is 20 megabits per second, which translates to a passenger average of 150 to 200 kilobits per second about three times the speed of a standard dial up connection. So is this what consumers want?

Not everyone is excited about the prospect of aeronautical broadband, though. As one business traveler put it, "If you give me Wi-Fi, I will have to work. The airplane is the last place I can actually read a book during the day without guilt."

And if you don't want WiFi and you haven't a good book, pretty soon you may be able to at least phone someone who has!

Plans to lift restrictions on mobile phone use in planes could cause major disruption to radio astronomy, scientists have warned. Two US agencies the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) are considering scrapping a ban on using cell phones on planes following pressure from travelers. But astronomers including representatives from the US's National Academy of Sciences are worried that transmissions from mobile phones could drown out radio signals from outer space, jeopardizing vital research into the universe. The problem is that cell phones generate radiation not only at their main operating frequency but also at multiples of this frequency. The frequency of one of these harmonics falls into the small band of the electromagnetic spectrum reserved for use by radio astronomers. Because the radio signals detected by radio telescopes are incredibly weak, having traveled many light years across the universe, they could easily be swamped by radio interference from mobile phones. Even a single phone conversation on a plane could disrupt radio telescope observations. According to one astronomer, lifting restrictions on cell phone use in planes would be tantamount to building a 40,000ft high mobile phone tower.

LICENCE RESTRUCTURE FOR VK

The re-writing of the regulations that govern amateur radio in Australia is continuing so that a brand new entry level Foundation License and a reshaped middle grade license can be introduced.

The new three-tier license system that is expected next month follows a major review of amateur radio licensing Australian Communications Authority (ACA) that began two years ago.

The latest changes from that review are to be the Foundation License providing a new beginner's stepping stone into the hobby and an increase of operating privileges for Novice Licensees.

The Novice and Novice-Limited licenses will transform into the new Standard License which has a new international standard qualification syllabus. The new structure is hoped to benefit amateur radio by making the hobby more attractive to a wider range of people. The Current Unrestricted, Intermediate and Limited Licenses will also merge into the new Advance License, to create the highest qualification in the new three-tier structure.

Earlier the ACA introduced other review outcome decisions, and one of these was an interim approach to ending the Morse code requirement. By granting two no-code licenses HF privileges, this effectively meant VK went code-free on 1 January 2004. The code requirement will be totally removed with the new three-tier structure. Another major development will be the introduction of accredited assessors to establish the qualifications of candidates for amateur licenses. A Registered Training Organization engaged by the Wireless Institute of Australia will train selected Advanced License radio amateurs to be nationally qualified accredited assessors of candidates for amateur licenses.

Four training courses are being held in Melbourne, Sydney, The Gold Coast and Adelaide to qualify at least 50 assessors across Australia. In addition, a number of individuals already have a suitable Assessor qualification gained through their employment and are likely to be fast tracked as WIA Assessors.

The WIA will maintain its current examination service which provides an exam paper, marking and results service to WIA appointed exam invigilators.

Australia is also introducing a fee-free Class License that will enable foreign radio amateurs with appropriate qualifications to operate in VK during short-term holidays or business trips.

- *Amateur Radio Victoria.*

FOUNDATION LICENCE A WINNER FOR UK

After nearly three years since its introduction the Foundation License accounts for more than ten per cent of currently issued amateur radio licenses in the United Kingdom.

When introduced in 2002, the UK had experienced 10 years of steady declining the number of amateur radio licenses on issue and an increasing average age of radio amateurs.

That decline was halted in its tracks with the first year results of the Foundation License. About a quarter of the new entrants to amateur radio are aged 21 or younger.

Growth in the hobby is noticeable through upgrading to the Intermediate License that increased by around 20 per cent in the past 12 months. The Foundation License M-prefix call signs can be seen active right across the different aspects of amateur radio as they engage fully in the hobby.

- *Amateur Radio Victoria.*

WHIRLPOOL ANNOUNCES NEW LEGAL THREAT POLICY

[Whirlpool is a Broadband ISP discussion forum] <http://whirlpool.net.au/>

Whirlpool is increasingly becoming the target of legal threats by ISPs attempting to control discussion of their services. Last week, Whirlpool was threatened with being taken to court over a post by a user that linked to a document on public record at the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) website.

Whirlpool has traditionally followed a guiding principle of conservative response to legal threats, believing that with reasoned argument, time and perspective; virtually all issues can be sorted out amicably.

Unfortunately, while this approach has allowed all legal threats to be resolved, it hasn't stemmed the flow of new threats from ISPs who would rather try to steamroll their point of view onto users than participate in reasoned discussion.

Whirlpool advises ISPs that upon receipt of legal threats, we will immediately take some or all of the following actions:

- Cancellation of special account privileges such as moderation rights or "ISP representative" status
- Suspension or cancellation of accounts for representatives from that ISP
- Publication of a news story summarizing the legal threats, including who has made them, and their contact details
- A permanent highlighted warning at the top of an ISP's Broadband Choice page detailing the legal threat
- Removal of the ISP from Broadband Choice altogether
- Freezing discussion forums dedicated to the ISP concerned
- Removing an ISP's dedicated discussion forum and combining posts back into a generic forum
- As a last resort, all discussion about the ISP may be banned on Whirlpool

Taking these steps is painful for us, as a non-profit site that has always worked closely with industry to provide a friendly and amicable central point for discussion about all things internet in Australia. However, these changes will not affect the vast majority of ISPs that conduct themselves in a professional and polite manner, answering questions and responding to criticism from customers with aplomb and dignity.

Such ISPs realize that engaging with customers and building long term relationships can have enormously positive long-term effects on their customer numbers. A number of ISPs have grown from being relatively small players to being major forces in the

Australian industry, largely thanks to their willingness to work directly and openly with customers on Whirlpool. It's a tragedy to see small, aggressive ISPs trying to manipulate the system to reap the benefits of free exposure to customers, industry and media provided by Whirlpool and Broadband Choice, without being prepared to accept and participate in open discussion.

Whirlpool will continue to respond to reasonable, polite requests from ISP representatives querying user posts that are inappropriate or potentially defamatory. However, today marks the day where we make clear that Whirlpool will no longer respond conservatively to legal threats by those that seek to bully their point of view or extract money from a non-profit organization.

Submitted by Graeme VK3NE, from Whirlpool website

TECH RAGE 'BECOMING OFFICE PROBLEM'

Tech rage has become a trigger for everyday workplace "tannies" for one in three office workers, research shows. A survey of 400 office workers in Sydney and Adelaide, who were asked to consider the effects of modern technology on their life, found modern technology was an increasing cause of serious stress.

While indicating that modern technology generally had made many office and life tasks simpler, there was increasing evidence that technology was adding to workplace pressure, the survey found. The South Australian-based marketing research company Square Holes, which conducted the survey, found the broad appeal of new technology and its accessibility meant people felt compelled to be more efficient. "They want to be technologically savvy and always available to clients, family and friends," Square Holes general manager Jason Dunstone said. "This has its downsides and tech rage is now a common occurrence, particularly in the office." The survey found computer crashes; spam emails, mobile phones and other communication devices were among the main sources of tech rage. More than 35 per cent of the workers interviewed reported receiving spam emails in the week before the survey, at an average of 36 a person. The workers reported an average of nine computer crashes a week, with Sydney workplaces receiving almost double the number of crashes a week of Adelaide workplaces. "It was not just the office where technology was adding to stress levels," Mr. Dunstone said. "Many people reported feeling trapped and their privacy invaded outside work hours by the heavy reliance on mobile phones and other communication devices." However, despite the advent of tech rage, the survey showed most people were receptive to the benefits of modern technology. Of the survey's participants, almost all of the respondents said technology had made their life better in some way. Forty-one per cent said this was a result of more efficient and regular communication, and 23 per cent said they enjoyed the opportunity for quicker and easier access to information. The survey found there was also widespread usage and appreciation of technology facilitating easier bill payment and banking. Internet shopping had also made the life of some people better, but privacy and security concerns still remained significant. Use of technology in the week before the survey showed 78 per cent of respondents had used a mobile phone, 66 per cent had used a DVD player, email was accessed by 60 per cent, and 58 per cent had accessed the internet. People were increasingly using MP3 players, the internet, digital cameras, email and pocket PCs, the survey found. Use of the new technology had improved the efficiency of home and office life, Mr. Dunstone said, "but it has come at a cost by raising stress levels and invading our privacy".

Herald and Weekly Times Media

WANSARC NEWS – YOUR MAGAZINE

Remember that this is a magazine for ALL members to use as they require. You can have an article published, I can help with copy, photos and layout, but other uses for YOUR magazine are;

- BUY, SELL, SWAP, WANTED, etc
- REQUEST FOR CIRCUITS, ELUSIVE SPARE PARTS,
- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, CLUB, OR THE WORLD...
- ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR EVENTS OF INTEREST,
- INTERESTING WEBSITES YOU HAVE FOUND
- CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, MODS, TIPS, etc

OLDER WORKERS TO GET I.T. SKILLS - B.I.T.E.S. – Basic IT Enabling Skills, for older workers

The employment prospects of up to 46,000 older Australians will be enhanced through a four year, \$23 million Budget initiative to improve their information technology (IT) skills. As part of the Federal Government's commitment to life long learning, the IT Skills for Older Workers programme will provide participants with nationally recognized training to narrow the digital divide between older and younger Australians. While many young people have grown up in the information age and are comfortable with IT, research shows that older people, including many wanting to return to the workforce, are far less likely to have even basic IT skills or to be able to use the Internet. In fact, ABS data on Internet use shows that in 2000 fewer than half of those aged 45-54 were accessing the Internet, compared to 75% of 18-24 year olds. This training initiative fulfils an important election commitment. It will offer participants IT training valued at up to \$500 to assist them develop skills to a level that will allow them to participate effectively in today's workforce.

The training will be aimed at people aged 45 years and over who are in the labor force and are welfare dependent but have no previous post-school qualifications in IT. Attaining basic IT skills such as these is particularly important for women who are seeking to re-enter the workforce, often after many years of family responsibilities. It is clear that without this Federal Government intervention unemployed job seekers and those on low incomes are in danger of missing out on crucial IT training. The programme's main aim is to provide those taking part with a basic level of competence in using a computer. Training will focus on computer basics such as the use of the internet, e-mail and word processing. These three elements make up part of Certificate 1 in IT under the Australian Qualifications Framework and are nationally accredited. The programme will be administered by a small number of brokers who will be contracted by my Department and who will manage the delivery of the training through a network of Registered Training Organizations (RTO's). A tender to select the brokers will be advertised before the end of the financial year. People will be able to apply for the training through registered providers who will promote their services when the initiative is implemented toward the end of 2002. In addition to implementing this important initiative I also hope to shortly hold roundtable discussions with a small group of key stakeholders to plan the best ways of meeting the IT skill needs of older Australians. Following this meeting I plan to talk to representatives from the Information and Communication Technology business community about ways of developing a collaborative approach on the issue.

This course is being hosted by Centre for Adult Education – Melbourne.

Press Release - http://www.dest.gov.au/ministers/nelson/may02/n64_140502.htm

What Is BITES?

BITES is an Australian Government programme which provides foundation skills in information technology to mature age job seekers on low incomes. The skills it provides enable participants to operate personal computers at a basic level in the workforce. A knowledge of computers is required in many jobs throughout today's workforce. The Australian Government has recognized that many mature aged people seeking work are disadvantaged in the labor market because they lack these skills. Participants who complete the prescribed units are assessed by their BITES training provider and, if successful, are issued with a nationally recognized Statement of Attainment to reflect their achievement. Further training and support in IT skills is also provided under BITES courses. BITES training courses are tailored to the learning needs of adults. Providers of BITES training have been specially selected for their success in IT skills training for adults.

Who can take advantage of the BITES programme?

The programme is available to people who are:

- 45 years and over;
- a low income earner; and
- in the labor force (i.e. currently in work or looking for work); and
- have no post-school IT qualification. Where individuals meet the intent of the programme but not all of these criteria, eligibility may be considered on a case by case basis.

What is the cost of the programme?

The course is fully funded by the Australian Government and there is no charge to participants.

What training is provided under the programme?

The training is based on three units from the nationally recognized Certificate Level I qualification under the Information Technology Training Package. The units are:

- Operate a personal computer;
- Operate a word processing application; and
- Send and retrieve information over the Internet using browsers and email.

Further training and support in IT skills is also provided under BITES courses.

BITES training courses are tailored to the learning needs of adults. Providers of BITES training have been specially selected for their success in IT skills training for adults.

Do I gain a qualification after completing the programme?

Participants who complete the prescribed units are assessed by their BITES training provider and, if successful, are issued with a nationally recognized Statement of Attainment to reflect their achievement.

For details of your local BITES provider, and contact information for the Department of Education, Science and Training, You can also call the toll free number 1800 800 618 to find your nearest BITES provider.

What the BITES Provider is expected to do

- Consider the suitability of the BITES programme to your needs and, if appropriate, give you advice on other options.
- Explain the programme's eligibility criteria to you, and assess whether you are eligible based on documentary evidence that you will be asked to provide.
- Enroll eligible applicants on a 'first come first served' basis.
- Provide, at no cost to you, the BITES training, prescribed course materials, and assessment and award of a Statement of Attainment, where you are entitled.
- Provide individualized assistance to help you achieve the prescribed competencies.
- Offer you quality extra training activities and support.
- Issue you with a Statement of Attainment for the units which you successfully complete.

What the Participant is expected to do

- Attend all classes and undertake all prescribed learning activities to maximize your prospects of achieving the Certificate I competencies.
- Advise your provider in advance of any unavoidable absence from classes and make arrangements to catch up.

Laughter is a Medicine

These are actual answering machine answers recorded and verified by the World Famous International Institute of Answering Machine Answers:

My wife and I can't come to the phone right now, but if you'll leave your name and number we'll get back to you as soon as we are finished.

A is for academics, B is for beer. One of those reasons is why we're not here so leave a message.

Hi. This is John: if you are the phone company, I already sent the money. If you are my parents, please send money. If you are my financial aid institution, you don't lend me enough money. If you are my friends, you owe me money. If you are female, don't worry I have plenty of money.

Hi. Now you say something.

Hi, I'm not home now right but my answering machine is, so you can talk to it instead. Wait for the beep.

Hello. I'm David's answering machine. What are you?

(From Japanese friend): He-!o! This is Sa-to, if you leave message, I call you soon. If you leave 'sexy' message, I call sooner.

Hi. John's answering machine is broken. This is the refrigerator. Please speak very slowly, and I'll stick your message to myself with one of these magnets.

Hello, you are talking to a machine. I am capable of receiving messages. My owners do not need siding, windows, or a hot tub, and their carpets are clean. They give to charity through their office and do not need their picture taking. If you are still with me, leave your name and number and they will get back to you.

This is not an answering machine; this is a telepathic thought recording device. After the tone, think about your name, your reason for calling and a number I can reach you, and I'll think about returning your call.

Hi. I am probably at home. I'm just avoiding someone I don't like. Leave me a message and if I don't call back, it's you. *(Editors pick!)*

Hi. This is George. I am sorry I can't answer the phone right now. Leave a message, and then wait by your phone until I call you back. If you are a burglar, then we're probably home cleaning our weapons right now and can't come to the phone. Otherwise, we probably aren't home and it's safe to leave a message.

Please leave a message. However, you have the right to remain silent. Everything you say will be recorded and will be used by us.

Men Are Just Happier People-- Your last name stays put. The garage is all yours. Wedding plans take care of themselves. Chocolate is just another snack. You can be President. You can never be pregnant. You can wear a white T-shirt to a water park. You can wear NO shirt to a water park. Car mechanics tell you the truth. The world is your urinal. You never have to drive to another gas station restroom because this one is just too icky. You don't have to stop and think of which way to turn a nut on a bolt. Same work, more pay. Wrinkles add character. Wedding dress \$5000. Tux rental-\$100. People never stare at your chest when you're talking to them.

The occasional well-rendered belch is practically expected. New shoes don't cut, blister, or mangle your feet. One mood all the time. Phone conversations are over in 30 seconds flat. You know stuff about tanks. A five-day vacation requires only one suitcase. You can open all your own jars. You get extra credit for the slightest act of thoughtfulness. If someone forgets to invite you, he or she can still be your friend. Your underwear is \$8.95 for a three-pack. Three pairs of shoes are more than enough. You almost never have strap problems in public. You are unable to see wrinkles in your clothes. Everything on your face stays its original color. The same hairstyle lasts for years, maybe decades. You only have to shave your face and neck.

You can play with toys all your life. Your belly usually hides your big hips. One wallet and one pair of shoes one color for all seasons. You can wear shorts no matter how your legs look. You can "do" your nails with a pocket knife. You have freedom of choice concerning growing a mustache. You can do Christmas shopping for 25 relatives on December 24 in 25 minutes.

No wonder men are happier.

We've all heard of the BPL interference problems experienced everywhere they've tried putting entertainment material along power lines. And no wonder. With five watt HF transmitters every couple of poles along power lines, HF signals will be decimated not only right beside the power lines, but potentially hundreds even thousands of kilometres from the wires. Basically, nobody will be immune, no matter where on the earth's surface you might be except, it seems, for a part of China, where it's become quite the thing to steal lengths of power distribution cables. It all went awry, however, for one group the other day, when enterprising thieves managed to hack their way through the 220kV cable, which was no mean feat in itself. The cable was so heavy, however, that the hapless thieves dropped it, directly over a road. The cable somehow snagged a large passing truck, which drove on for a time, the driver totally unaware of his unintended passenger. When the dust had finally settled, and hopefully, the sparks had stopped, there was a small damage bill. It seems the truck didn't stop until it had brought down seven of those large steel power pylons as well.

Amateur Radio Victoria website

Classic Quotes - "Don't assume malice for what stupidity can explain..." - Chris Edmondson, VK4AA / VK3CE

Laptops spark sale stampede

VIRGINIA -- A rush to buy \$US50 used laptops turned into a violent stampede, with people being thrown to the pavement and beaten with a folding chair.

One woman wet herself rather than surrender her place in line.

An estimated 5500 people turned out at the Richmond International Raceway in Henrico County in hopes of getting their hands on four-year-old Apple iBooks, which sell for \$1300 to \$1690 new. Henrico public schools were selling 1000 of the computers to residents.

When the gates opened at 7am, people threw themselves forward, screaming and pushing.

Seventeen people suffered minor injuries, with four requiring hospital treatment, police said.

About the Radio Amateur's Old Timer's Club of Australia

Many members of our club qualify for membership of the RAOTC (Radio Amateur's Old Timer's Club of Australia) but maybe through little information, or lack of awareness about it maybe did not know. So to explain about RAOTC, I have "lifted" the information from their magazine, much like our "WANSARC Profile" in our newsletter.

Your editor is now an Associate Life Member, having joined up last month.



With the objective to maintain interest and good fellowship among those who qualify for membership, full membership of the **RAOTC** is available to any person who has held, or has been qualified to hold, an Amateur License for a minimum of 25 years. Associate membership is available to any person who has held, or has been qualified to hold, an Amateur License for a minimum of 10 years. Associate members are entitled to all the privileges of Full Membership except the right to vote or to hold office.

Membership subscriptions, which fall due on 30th April each year, are a joining fee of \$5.00 (to cover the cost of a membership certificate, recording membership, and initial postage), and \$8.00 as the yearly subscription, or \$15.00 for a two year membership, or \$100.00 for a life membership.

Enquiries will be welcomed by Secretary IAN GODSIL VK3JS on 0408 123 557, Treasurer ARTHUR EVANS VK3VQ on 03 9598 4262, Membership Secretary BILL ROPER VK3BR on 03 9584 9512, or by email to raotc@raotc.org.au

VK3OTN, the official call sign of the RAOTC, transmits news and information sessions for the benefit of members on the first Monday of each month (except January) at the following times and frequencies:

10.00 am Victorian time (all year) 145.700 FM plus 1.843 MHz AM, 3.650 MHz and 7.060 MHz LSB
01.00 UTC (all year) 14.150 MHz USB beaming north from Melbourne
02.00 UTC (all year) 14.150 MHz USB beaming west from Melbourne
08.30 pm Victorian time (all year) 3.650 MHz LSB

Call back sessions follow each transmission.

Many members would have seen a copy of the publication "Old Timers News" (OTN), that I brought to the last club meeting in August, which is put out twice a year by RAOTC. They also host Luncheons during the year. You can find back issues of audio files of their monthly Nets from their website, I have copied these to CD Rom and any WANSARC member is able to borrow it from me if they do not have internet access. I can also print out application forms for those without internet access as well.

RAOTC was established in 1975 and incorporated in 2002.

RAOTC Advertisement as seen in "AR"

I am attending their next Luncheon on September 8th at the Bentleigh Club and will tell more about it in a later issue – 'Mick'

"Hey, Old Timer..."

If you have been licensed for more than 25 years you are invited to join the

Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club Australia

or if you have been licensed for **less than 25 but more than ten years**, you are invited to become an **Associate Member** of the RAOTC.

In either case a **\$5.00** joining fee plus **\$8.00** for one year or **\$15.00** for two years gets you two interesting OTN Journals a year plus good fellowship.

Write to
RAOTC,
PO Box 107
Mentone VIC 3194
or call Arthur VK3VQ on **03 9598 4262** or
Bill VK3BR on **03 9584 9512,**
or email to raotc@raotc.org.au
for an application form.



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WANSARC VK3AWS



PRESIDENT: Graeme McDiarmid VK3NE vk3ne@wia.org.au

SECRETARY: Mark Stephenson VK3PI Telephone: 0400 443 218 vk3pi@optusnet.com.au

Email: wansarc@wia.org.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.

Meetings

Building K, Northern Metropolitan Institute of Technology (NMIT), St. Georges Road, Preston (Western side between Bell Street and Cramer Street) Melway 18 E12 **PARKING at NMIT- Members please note that parking adjacent to the club room building K is illegal and NMIT staff WILL book any cars which are parked in that area. ALL members must park cars in the main car park to the WEST of building K. Just look for vehicles with lots of aerials!** Meetings held 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 like minded radio and electronics enthusiasts, excellent club facilities and environment.

Club Nets

146.450MHz FM each Tuesday evening commencing 7.30pm local time. Sometimes transmitted on ATV via VK3RTV
Linked to Echolink for intrastate, interstate and international stations participation, Echolink VK3FY Node # 20928, Repeater VK3RFY Echo IRLP Repeater Nodes Echolink Node # 3037, IRLP Node # 6079, 438.400MHz (-) offset, PL=123Hz (coming soon) 147.425MHz Simplex (cross-band linked) currently being updated, not currently always functioning, check on the actual night. This link is only brought up on the frequency of 146.450 MHz during the running of the WANSARC Net on Tuesday nights and *only when VK3FY is present at his QTH.* <http://members.tripod.com/~VK3FY/>

More Information

Website: www.wansarc.org.au

Email: wansarc@wia.org.au

Secretary: Mark Stephenson VK3PI

Postal: WANSARC PO Box 336 RESERVOIR 3073

Committee: Chris VK3FY,
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A proud tradition of supporting hobby radio and electronics enthusiasts since 1969

All editors comments are the comments of Mick, VK3CH and may not always represent the opinions of other club members of WANSARC. 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. Send text as ASCII, PDF, or Word, RTF, plain or HTML email, pictures in JPG format. 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 vk3ch@alphalink.com.au

Email attachments not to exceed 4 Mb in file size. Attachments of (or thought to be) executable code will not be opened.

Other persons or radio clubs may edit or copy out such as they like from the magazine but a reference to WANSARC is appreciated.

Other articles that are credited to outside sources should be asked for their permission if they are used.

While we strive to be accurate, no responsibility will be taken for errors, omissions, or other perceived deficiencies, in respect of information contained in technical or other articles.

Any dates given for upcoming events should always be checked with a reliable source – coming up on the weekly WANSARC Tuesday evening NET on 146.450 MHz starting at 07:30 pm AEST is recommended to discuss and confirm information.

If not delivered within 7 days, please return to:
WANSARC P.O. Box 336 Reservoir 3073

“WANSARC NEWS”

Monthly journal of the

Western & Northern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club