

# WANSARC NEWS

Incorporated in Victoria, 1985 Registration Number: A0007611S

The monthly magazine of the

Western & Northern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club Melbourne, Australia



[www.wansarc.org.au](http://www.wansarc.org.au)

146.450 MHz FM

**VK3AWS**

28.470 MHz USB

Volume No: 38

Issue 3

March

2007



**Next Club Meeting, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the TAFE, N.M.I.T. Preston @ 7.30pm**

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Come on and offer your services for the club, or dob someone else in – AGM nomination form on page 7**

**Minutes of last years AGM provided at the start of the meeting by the Club Secretary, Mark, VK3PI**

**Club Fees are also due – you can ‘square your ledger’ with Club Treasurer, Gordon, VK3YOD**

**Latest information, update and documentation on Syntrx Radio Project will be available and don’t forget; Preparation and planning for the WIA John Moyle Field Day Contest, March 17 and 18**

Nearly 2 years ago, your scribe, Mick VK3CH, constructed for the first time an ATV transmitter, but later had PLL hassles. Last month the unit was finally fixed, minus the PLL; tested on air with perfect results. I then gave it to my Dad. A 2<sup>nd</sup> unit was then made up from “thinking about doing it” to ‘on the bench transmitting OK’ in 10 days. Even the covers were put on!! Your scribe has already started a 3<sup>rd</sup> 1250MHz ATV TX unit for field / portable / experimental use. A DVD ‘documentary’ of construction might be done, if I can solder SMD parts and operate a camera at the same time!

*Picture of VK3CH 2<sup>nd</sup> built ATV 1250MHz (free-running) kit from ‘Minikits’ recently completed.*

*Read more on page 2.*

*It’s about time WANSARC members that bought ATV kits back in **June 2004** consider joining a ‘class’ of club members that intend to start (and more importantly) finish this challenging, but worthwhile project.*

*Don’t just watch the action on **VK3RTV** – be apart of it!!!*

*Details of the first ATV units, bulk ordered by WANSARC from Minikits, of Mick, as well as Bill VK3KBL, appeared in detail in **WANSARC News May 2005**, which can be downloaded from [www.wansarc.org.au](http://www.wansarc.org.au)*

*Mick can print a copy if you don’t have internet, just ask.*



**Around the Shack**

**A New Member’s Observation of the WANSARC Family Fun Day**

**Bits & “PI”eces – Mark VK3PI**

**WANSARC’s NEWSLET LICNCEES – WILFRED & NANA**

**Nomination Form – Annual General Election 2007**

**WANSARC Club Profile**

2

4

6

7

7

8

## Around the Shack

### DENSE COMPUTER MEMORY

THE most dense computer memory circuit ever fabricated - capable of storing around 2000 words in a unit the size of a white blood cell - was unveiled by scientists in California.

The team of experts at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) who developed the 160-kilobit memory cell say it has a bit density of 100 gigabits per square centimeter, a new record.

But the chances of the unit being used in a laptop any time soon is remote, said Caltech chemistry professor James Heath, who led the research. "It's the sort of device that Intel would contemplate making in the year 2020," Prof Heath said. "But at the moment, it furthers our goal of learning how to manufacture functional electronic circuitry at molecular dimensions."

Whether the 2020 date is viable depends on the validity of Moore's law, which states that the complexity of an integrated circuit typically will double every year, he said.

However, manufacturers currently can see no clear way of extending the miniaturization beyond the year 2013, the Caltech-UCLA team writes in an article that will appear in the journal Nature. "Whether it's possible to get this new memory circuit into a laptop, I don't know," said Prof Heath. "But we have time."

-Herald Sun Media

### EMDRC WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

Yes it's on again, Melbourne's most popular and possibly biggest HamFest the Eastern & Mountain District Radio Club White Elephant Sale; it's on Sunday March the 25th 2007. If you'd like to book a table give Colin VK3FQL a call on 0414879682, or [wes2007@emdr.com.au](mailto:wes2007@emdr.com.au) closing date for bookings 16th March.



### CENTRE VICTORIA RADIOFEST

This will be a not to miss event for anyone interested in radio, on Sunday the 22nd April at the Kyneton Racecourse, only 50 minutes north by road from Metropolitan Melbourne.

Three groups - Amateur Radio Victoria, and the Central Goldfields and the Midland radio clubs, have combined their resources to establish this new venture.

Major commercial traders are instantly enthusiastic about it and some have been waiting for something like this to happen in Victoria. It's planned to include activities, displays and a few 'short-talk' lectures on interesting topics. There will be a 'Club Corner', a Second-hand Market Place and an Avenue of Carboot Sales. For table bookings that will cost only \$10 or inquiries please contact Nick Angelo VK3UCK 0488 653 201.

Check out the website [www.radiofest.amateurradio.com.au](http://www.radiofest.amateurradio.com.au) for details about the Centre Victoria RadioFest at Kyneton.

Sunday the 22nd of April - put that date in your calendar and be part of something new and exciting in Victoria. - WIA News

### MAX VK3ZCW NET

Happened to be listening on the regular sked run by Max in the afternoon on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February, which was Max VK3ZCW's 86<sup>th</sup> birthday, well done Max, still sounding as zesty as ever...

### VK3CH BACK ON VK3RTV AMATEUR TELEVISION

After nearly 2 years absence, your scribe finally made corrections to the 1250MHz ATV transmitter and is back up on VK3RTV. The PLL decided to malfunction, so it's back to 'free running'.

The frequency adjustment trim pot was removed and a potentiometer was put on the front panel and the covers put on the unit for the first time in 2 years! Wonder how long it will stay on!

The 70cm ATV transmitter also operates well for simplex work.

VK3RTV repeater is found on UHF TV band on 444.250MHz.

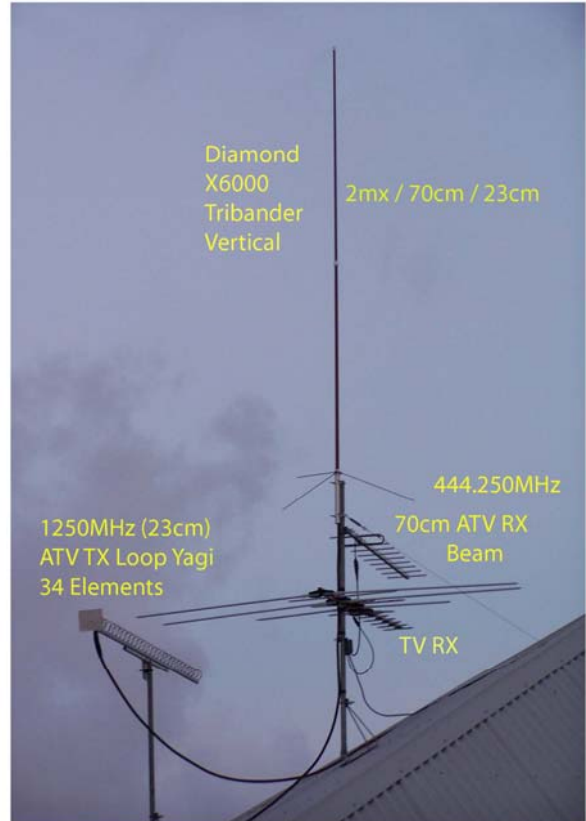
The ATV Liaison frequency in Melbourne is 147.400MHz FM.

Construction and testing is finished on a 2<sup>nd</sup> 1250MHz unit.

The 1<sup>st</sup> unit has found its way to my fathers place. Construction of a 3<sup>rd</sup> ATV TX is well underway; hopefully I can get a group to watch what I do as a bit of assistance and help. -Mick, VK3CH

### VK3IV DEBUTS ON VK3RTV AMATEUR TELEVISION

After VK3CH fixed the first ATV transmitter after nearly 2 years, it was promptly dispatched to Ian, VK3IV at Cragieburn.



An antenna for 23cm TX & 70cm RX were roof mounted and Ian, VK3IV had his first ATV test transmission. Some adjustments to the camera were needed due to strong light, but all is progressing well. Being a HF operator in the main, the cross to the microwave bands has been quite different, but is something that he can get away with, even with antenna height restrictions on the property. But watch out - his roof might slowly end up like mine - hi!



Be patient as Ian grapples with the new mode and sorts his way through a new maze of coaxial and video cables... -Mick, VK3CH

## FAMILY DAY – MORE PHOTOS

“Their ready, come and get ‘em”



“Stop playing with those radios and bring your plates here!”



“mmm, just done to a turn, yummy...”



“So who is this Jamie Oliver bloke anyway...?”



## HOW TO LISTEN TO VICTORIA POLICE RADIO'S

There are a number of sure fire ways to listen to the Vic Police on the MMR; however I can assure you NONE of them involve a scanner. Here is a list of some of the ways below;

- Become a Police Officer and get posted in an MMR area
- Spend a lot of time sitting in the foyer of a Police station
- Get locked up
- Follow the cops around (which will probably get you locked up - see above)
- Steal a radio (usually leads to being locked up - see above), but your fun will only last for as long as they discover the radio is missing
- Work as a Police radio technician

I'm sure your getting the idea by now that there is no way to listen to the Police from the comfort of your lounge room, office, shed anymore.

FYI - The encryption is passed end to end. In other words the only place encryption is decoded is in the portable and mobile radios, and in the consoles (or just before it).

Any traffic passing through the base stations remains encrypted and can't even be monitored by breaking into a repeater shed and turning up the volume on the base monitor.

If you do happen to crack the encryption though give the CIA in America a bell. They want to speak to people with your ability, will pay excellent money, and protect your identity. -Ian, VK3XIJ

## AO51 MOST ACCESSIBLE A.R. SATELLITE AVAILABLE

AO51 is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite with a FM transponder that has a 145.920 MHz FM uplink and a 435.300 MHz FM downlink and until recently required a 67-Hz sub-audible tone to activate the satellite. Recently and I believe permanently the sub-audible tone feature has been disabled making AO51 the best most accessible satellite available to amateur radio operators.

I have had two contacts with VK8MS over the last week with few other operators being heard.

AO51's 435.300 MHz transmitter is cable of several watts, but appears to currently set at around 1 watt, possibly as part of the energy management with the removal of the sub-audible tone requirement, so while no where near as easy to access as the typical FM repeater the bird is well with in the range of most modern amateur stations including mobile and hand held radios. This satellite is very easy to access and not quite so easy to receive which means that it is likely that you are causing interference with satellite users by keying up on the input.

A simple rule is to work on your receive capabilities, do a bit of listening and research operating practices and procedures before coming up on air.

This satellites orbit is around 800km above ground giving it a foot print of a bit larger than the Australian continent for periods of around 15minutes per pass representing a great asset to amateur radio operations particularly remote operations.

The internet is full of all sorts of information on this and the many other satellites available to radio amateurs.

See AMSAT News Service for operating details and schedules.

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/> Cheers, Peter VK3YSF

## NEXT FOUNDATION CLASSES & ASSESMENTS – ARV

Foundation licence training & assessment held at Box Hill North; 17<sup>th</sup>&18<sup>th</sup> March, 17<sup>th</sup>&18<sup>th</sup> April and 14<sup>th</sup>&15<sup>th</sup> May.

Contact Barry Robinson VK3JBR 0428 516 001 or [arv@amateurradio.com.au](mailto:arv@amateurradio.com.au)

Amateur Radio Victoria wishes to advise members that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 23 May, at St Michael's Hall, corner Victory Boulevard and High Street, Ashburton, commencing at 8pm. Notices of Motion for the meeting close 2.30pm on Tuesday 20 February. A further notice of the AGM and details of the business items to be discussed will be included in an annual report to members. – WIA News

## TRANSISTOR BREAKTHROUGH REVEALED

In dueling announcements, Intel Corp. and International Business Machines Corp. separately say they have solved a puzzle perplexing the semiconductor industry about how to reduce energy loss in microchip transistors as the technology shrinks to the atomic scale. Each company said it has devised a way to replace problematic but vital materials in the transistors of computer chips that have begun leaking too much electric current as the circuitry on those chips gets smaller.

Technology experts said it is the most dramatic overhaul of transistor technology for computer chips since the 1960s and is crucial in allowing semiconductor companies to continue making ever-smaller devices that are also energy-efficient.

Companies are feverishly trying to discover new ways to adhere to Moore's Law, the 1965 prediction by Intel co-founder Gordon Moore that the number of transistors on a chip should double about every two years. So far, chip development has generally advanced according to that schedule, leading to the creation of faster and more powerful processors that also give off less heat and are cheaper to run. But scientists in recent years have reported serious problems in stopping electric current from leaking out of the tiniest chip parts, threatening to halt the march of Moore's Law.

The problem is that the silicon dioxide used for more than 40 years as an insulator inside transistors has been shaved so thin that an increasing amount of current is seeping through, wasting electricity and generating unnecessary heat.

Intel and IBM said they have discovered a way to replace that material with various metals in parts called the gate, which turns the transistor on and off, and the gate dielectric, an insulating layer, which helps improve transistor performance and retain more energy. Intel said new materials help provide a 20-percent boost in transistor performance. IBM did not release specifics of its project. "This gives the entire chip industry a new life in terms of Moore's Law, in all three of the big metrics - performance, power consumption and transistor density," said David Lammers, director of WeSRCH.com, a social networking website for semiconductor enthusiasts and part of VLSI Research Inc. "It opens the door to some pretty rapid improvements."

Intel appears the farthest along in bringing a product based on the technology to market.

Intel also said the chips will be built using its new manufacturing process that involves shrinking parts of the chips down to 45 nanometers, or billionths of a meter, from the 65-nanometre

process the company uses now. The advanced manufacturing process allows Intel to shrink the size of the circuitry on its chips and pack more transistors onto a single sliver of silicon at a lower cost.

While IBM will not sell the chips by themselves, the Armonk, New York-based company said it would begin selling servers with chips using the technology in 2008. "This is a very big deal for the industry," said Richard Doherty, research director at the Envisioneering Group, a market research firm. "Intel will be the first to have this in production, but IBM could potentially have a density advantage compared with Intel's scheme. But both should get gold medals." Sunnyvale-based AMD said it was not disclosing when it expects to use the technology in its own chips, but said it plans to introduce its own 45-nanometre products in mid-2008. -Associated Press

## THE FLOPPY'S DAYS ARE NUMBERED

PC World, Britain's largest chain of computer superstores, will say goodbye to floppy disks once the current stash is gone.

The retailer said on Wednesday it opted not to reorder any more disks because they do not hold enough data and better alternatives exist. PC World has about 10,000 disks in stock. With 155 stores across Britain and nearly 50 more elsewhere in Europe, spokesman Hamish Thompson said the final stock of floppies will be gone "in weeks, if not days." "It's had a good, long and productive life, but really, it's just too small to hold any real data," Thompson said of the disks. "It just doesn't make sense any more."

A 3.5-inch floppy disk can store 1.44 megabytes of data; a typical MP3 song file can be twice that. And increasingly, customers are choosing to store their data on USB memory sticks or on external hard drives, so the demand for the floppy simply is not there, Thompson said. Floppy disks were the preferred storage device during the early home computing days of the 1980s and 1990s, but by the end of the century, software moved from floppies to CDs. Many computers, including Apple Inc.'s Macintosh line, no longer have floppy disk drives.

Thompson said he believed some aficionados would continue to treasure the disks in the same way music fans love vinyl records. Bryan McGrath, the company's commercial director, said floppies have secured their place in history. "The sound of a computer's floppy disk drive will be as closely associated with 20th-century computing as the sound of a computer dialing in to the internet," McGrath said in a statement. - AP

## A NEW MEMBER'S OBSERVATION OF THE WANSARC FAMILY FUN DAY

As a new member of WANSARC I had not been involved in any major event with the club except for the excellent Christmas dinner night at the NMIT Preston, so I was looking forward to the family fun day as my first outdoor event, and I was definitely not disappointed.

Unfortunately my wife could not accompany me on the day as she was feeling quite unwell but insisted I attend as she knew I had been looking forward to this day. I had arisen at 6:30am and was preparing breakfast and thought I would put the IC-7000 on the club frequency and have a listen, not expecting to hear anyone at that time of the morning, to my great surprise heard Mick **VK3CH** putting out a call at 6:55am, I immediately returned his call and informed him I would be there shortly to give a hand, he was at this time on his own but soon Bob **VK3EL** turned up to erect his antennas and give a hand.

By the time I arrived Mick had an impressive station setup and Bob had his HF antennas up except for a long wire which we decided needed to be erected into some nearby trees, so me and newly arrived John **VK3FMPB** gave Bob a hand putting this into operation watched closely by some nearby goats.

Soon other members and guests started to arrive and the fun had begun, plenty of good chat, and more than enough great food thanks to members and their XYL's with a special thanks to Mark **VK3PI** and Bob **VK3EL** for their excellent cooking skills.

Not many radio contacts made on the day, even though we had all bands available, a little disappointing but the lack of contacts was made up for by the grateful Amateur information, advice, and tricks of the trade given to me on the day by some of the more experienced members.

I did mention to one member the fact that I had just put the 10 meter Melbourne repeater into memory on my IC-7000, not knowing that this repeater is also linked to a 6 meter repeater which of course is not available to F calls, this has now been deleted from memory, thanks Bob for saving my bacon.

For me personally the day was very enjoyable thanks to the great company that attended on the day, I hope the Family Fun Day will continue for many years to come, I am sure it will, I will certainly be there next year. - 73, Graeme Koch, **VK3FTTG**.

## EXPERIMENTAL ACCESS TO 500KHZ

The WIA has applied to the ACMA for experimental access to a small band of frequencies near 500 kHz. Amateur radio operators in the United States, Sweden and Germany have recently been granted experimental access to frequencies just above 500 kHz. Applications for access to this band have also been lodged by the NZART and the RSGB. "We conducted a poll last year of Australian radio amateurs to ascertain if there was an interest in a similar allocation in Australia". WIA Director, Glenn Dunstan VK4DU said. "We received numerous enthusiastic responses".

The WIA submission requests a temporary/experimental MF amateur allocation be made for the frequency range 505-515 kHz. "This proposed allocation places us above the guard band around the distress and safety channel at 500 kHz, and lines up with the current amateur MF allocations in Europe and the US", Glenn said. The WIA recognises that the former marine distress and calling frequency of 500 kHz remains so designated in the International Radio Regulations (guard band 495-505 kHz), and that this status will not be changed until WRC-11 at the earliest.

"The WIA requested a temporary amateur allocation, rather than an experimental (non-amateur) licence, as it is our view that this represents the most suitable access mechanism", Glenn said.

"Many administrations forbid communications between amateur and non-amateur stations, and an Australian non-amateur experimental licence would thus preclude many weak signal propagation opportunities with overseas stations."

The limited spectrum available precludes the use of wide band telephony type modes. The WIA submission proposes a maximum necessary bandwidth of 200 Hz, to limit operation to CW and slow speed robust data modes, such as PSK31. This is the practice adopted in the current experimental MF amateur band in Europe and the US. The WIA also proposed that because of the technical challenges involved, the MF band be only made available to Advanced class amateur stations. It is also proposed that normal amateur output power limits be used. - WIA News

## JAYCAR 'TRADE CARD' DISCOUNT FOR WANSARC

After discussions with **Jaycar Coburg**, your scribe has won **WANSARC** members a deal to get "Trade Discount" cards for all members that want them. It's free. Just take a current club newsletter along with



you, use **WANSARC** as the company name, sign up in 2 minutes and use the card straight away on the spot. I spent \$177 but paid \$155 for stuff not on special. The card must be used at least once every 3 months; if you share with a friend then you should be OK. It needs to be renewed each year. Minimum order \$25, Discounts range from 1% to 40%, Cash Sales, No Account. - Mick VK3CH

## CONGRATULATIONS TO DUAL CONTEST WINNER

Congratulations to Peter Freeman VK3KAI who has been declared winner of both the 2006/07 Ross Hull Memorial VHF-UHF Contest and the Summer VHF-UHF Field Day. In the Ross Hull his top score of 839 points in Section A - 6m to 23cm - put him ahead of Robert Demkiw VK2TG (731) and Ted Thrift VK2ARA (608). In the Summer VHF-UHF Field Day Contest (13-14 January) Single Operator 24 hour Section Peter VK3KAI operated all bands including from four grid squares scoring 4,077 points. The Ross Hull (26 December to 15 January) saw Peter make only one contact on 6m preferring to concentrate on 2m, 70cms and 23cms and reaping the scoring benefits of band multipliers. While the contesting of 2nd place getter Robert VK2TG and Ted VK2ARA in third spot both had no 23cms contacts but plenty on 6m. Also taking out Section B of the Ross

Hull for the microwave bands, Peter VK3KAI operated on all bands from 23cm to 10GHZ to score of 172 points. Strangely he was the only one to submit a log for that section.

In the Ross Hull's Section C for digital modes all bands, Rex Moncur VK7MO with the bulk of his 23,774 points amassed on 23cm and supplemented with 2m contacts.

The contest is in memory of Ross A. Hull who died in 1938 and his pioneering achievements in VHF and UHF operation. Peter Freeman VK3KAI has had his name engraved on a perpetual trophy that dates back to 1950. The Summer VHF-UHF Field Day had a record number of logs submitted, twice as many the previously record last year and included four Foundation Licensees plus others new to VHF-UHF contesting. - ARV

## PROPOSED LICENCE FEES INCREASE

The cost of an apparatus license for amateur stations is likely to increase by at least \$3 pushing this annual charge to \$60, unless the ACMA can be convinced otherwise. The ACMA in its first review in three years of its recovery arrangements for the services it provides, including licensing and regulation, has proposed the new fees to apply from 1 July, 2007. In mid-2006 when the Goods and Services Tax (GST) was removed from apparatus license, amateur licenses were reduced by \$2 and are currently \$57. Increased charges are also expected from the next financial year for amateur repeaters and beacons frequency assignments and licensing. Interestingly the ACMA has reviewed the costs of administering amateur examinations and if it were conduct these, rather than the WIA Exam Service and volunteer accredited assessors, the cost of each individual theory, regulations and practical assessment for an amateur license would be \$68 that is more than double what it now costs candidates. The WIA Exam Service intends maintaining its current amateur license assessment fees. - Amateur Radio Victoria

## IARU TO MEET IN VIENNA FEB 24 - 25

The next International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 Interim Conference will be held in Vienna, Austria February 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>. Among items being discussed are a new 70cm and 23 cm band plan for radio gateways and the need for minimum requirements for a valid digital QSO. WSJT developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, has compiled a document regarding this somewhat controversial proposal. More is on-line at [www.iaru.org](http://www.iaru.org)

## VK3RMM (2 Meter) REPEATER FIXED

After timeout and drop out problems with hosting the WIA weekly broadcast, technical adjustments have now corrected the hassles, so if you have given **VK3RMM** a miss lately, its time to return and check in to the Sunday broadcast; 11.00am or 8.00pm

## FOR SALE - MINIKITS UNIVERSAL PLL KIT2 EME124



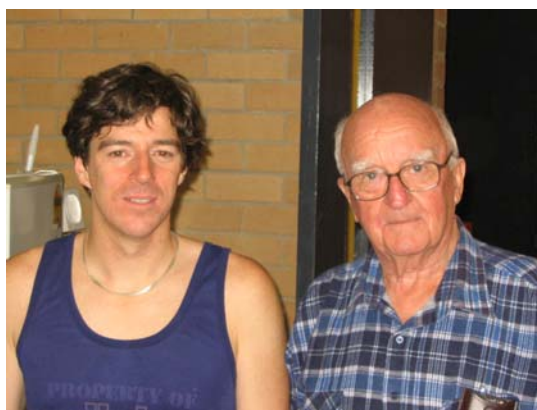
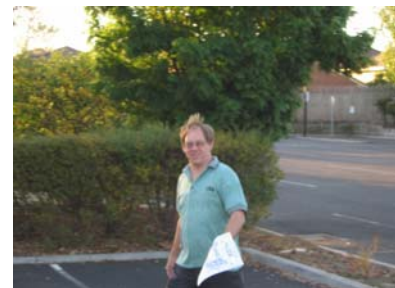
Complete kit **BUILT** never used with instructions and LCD1 DISPLAY with spare crystal. Currently costs \$62.50, I will take offers close to \$40 or a swap of some sort. 2<sup>nd</sup> PLL unit (PCB only no display) removed from 1<sup>st</sup> ATV unit is also up for grabs See Mick **VK3CH** next meeting or [vk3ch@wia.org.au](mailto:vk3ch@wia.org.au)

# Bits and Pi-eces

by Mark VK3PI

Nearly standing room only at the first meeting for 2007 and great to see many of our club members refreshed after the Christmas-New Year break. Thanks to Tony VK3JED for his inspiring presentation on "Street Orienteering". After a flurry of outside activity, a grumbling security guard and a little bit of sweat, congratulations went to Nik VK3FNIK for finishing first around the tight NMIT course.

**Chris VK3FY follows son Nik VK3FNIK while Victor tries to get his bearings. Dan VK3DWH speeds past our camera point.**



**Tony VK3JED and Max VK3ZCW Not a bad pic, Max, given you have a 50 odd year lead on Tony.**

Good to see Max VK3ZCW at our February meeting and club thanks to Max for his continued support of the club in the form of surplus equipment donations. Members snapped up a number of microphones last month, including one old OTC microphone. Thanks Max – your donations are welcomed and your support is certainly appreciated.

Recently I was fortunate to visit the Australasian Public Safety Communications Organization forum where lo and behold, in the main entrance, stood a vehicle with nearly as many antennae as Mick VK3CH's roof.

The vehicle boasted mobile data, mobile digital radio, Global Positioning, various communication network access platforms including satellite, next G and wireless access points, mobile laptop computing and camera technology. Certainly no room for a sun-roof!!



A reminder that the Reservoir Rotary club raffle is on again this year and it is expected that tickets will be available at our March 2007 meeting. This is a wonderful fundraiser for our club and at the same time supports Reservoir Rotary and our local community.

The club extends its condolences to Frank VK3ZO and his family on the loss of Frank's mother after a short illness—our thoughts are with you Frank.

On a happy note to finish, congratulations to Gordon VK3YOD on celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. Just think Gordon – only 5 years to retirement eh?? Long time since we wandered the streets of Reservoir, Preston and Northcote, Gordon, with a Ken KP202 and the only reliable repeater access Channel 2 Mt. Dandenong. Congratulations OM!!

**73 de Mark VK3PI**

**REMEMBER THE CLUB VHF NET ON 146450MHZ.  
1930 hours Local time.  
Net Control club station VK3AWS. Call in for a natter.**

## WANSARC's NEWSET LICNCEES – WILFRED & NANA

One thing for sure, these two don't muck about. First attending their first WANSARC meeting as interested but unlicensed persons in November last year, they decided to sit their radio license exams.

One week prior Wilfred & Nana emailed me asking about when the next exams were on. In the middle of the week, both came to visit me and I explained the syllabus and showed them the information on the WIA & ARV websites.

A spare copy of the Foundation License Manual I had was snapped up and they were on their way.

After emailing Amateur Radio Victoria to book them in for next month (March), Jim Linton said there was vacancies for next weekend, only 4 days away, to which they both said OK.

After talking to Wilfred and learning that he has *"A bachelor's in Communications Engineering Have also done post-grad research in HF Data Communications. My electronics experience is mostly around the circuits that deal with communications."* I figured he would be ready for the Standard or Advanced License exam.

The next day he bought Fred Swainston's new updated "Radio Theory Handbook", commencing study (or is that cramming!!) Nana also studied the Foundation License Manual.

Three days later both were at Box Hill attending Foundation course and practical study.

Wilfred decided to just go in cold and sit the Advanced License with Nana sitting the Foundation and both doing the prac. And how did they go? Just check the smiles...

Passes for both – now Wilfred just needs to do the Regulations test, probably next month...

- Mick VK3CH



Note – Pictures taken after the assessments, not during as that's not allowed! Thanks to Amateur Radio Victoria, © for permission.

---

## WANSARC VK3AWS NOMINATION FORM – ANNUAL GENERAL ELECTION 2007

POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Call sign)

PROPOSER \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Call sign)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

SECONDER \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Call sign)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

I accept the nomination, \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

# WANSARC VK3AWS

**PRESIDENT:** Graeme McDiarmid VK3NE [vk3ne@wia.org.au](mailto:vk3ne@wia.org.au)

**SECRETARY:** Mark Stephenson VK3PI Telephone: 0400 443 218 [vk3pi@optusnet.com.au](mailto:vk3pi@optusnet.com.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 plus an informative monthly newsletter for members to post articles, news, classifieds for all radio, test equipment, etc, featuring Amateur Radio news from WANSARC, WIA, ACMA, Melbourne Clubs, VK and Worldwide.

### Club Nets

146.450MHz FM each Tuesday evening commencing 7.30pm local time.

Sometimes the NET is linked to Echolink on 146.450 MHz during the WANSARC Net on Tuesday nights and *only when VK3FY is present at his QTH.*

### More Information

**Website:** [www.wansarc.org.au](http://www.wansarc.org.au)

**Committee:** Chris VK3FY,  
Dan VK3DWH,

Bob VK3EL,  
Tony VK3BZT

**Postal:** WANSARC PO Box 336 RESERVOIR 3073

## *A proud tradition of supporting hobby radio and electronics enthusiasts since 1969*

All editors' comments and other opinions in submitted articles may not always represent the opinions of other club members of **WANSARC**, but are published in the spirit in which they were submitted; in any case anything stated is to promote interest and active discussion on club activities and the promotion of Amateur Radio in general. Contributions to **WANSARC** are always welcome from any part of the world.

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@wia.org.au](mailto:vk3ch@wia.org.au)

Email attachments not to exceed 1 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, times and locations given for upcoming events should always be checked with a reliable source closer to the event – coming up on the **WANSARC Tuesday evening NET on 146.450 MHz starting at 07:30 pm AEST** is recommended to discuss and confirm information and any dates.

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**