

VK3AWS



WANSARC NEWS December 2008

Western and Northern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club
(WANSARC)
Incorporated in Victoria
A7611S

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A WIA Affiliated club

News and views from the Western and Northern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club
VK3AWS—December 2008



So anyone received a card from this station aeronautical mobile? To all of our members, families, associates and friends, a very Merry Christmas to you all and a safe and Happy New Year de WANSARC VK3AWS.

**NEXT MEETING
FRIDAY
December 5
2008**

It's the last meeting for the year and the **ANNUAL CLUB DINNER** at St. Georges restaurant at NMIT in Preston beckons to all.

Don't forget—no meeting on the first Friday of January but keep your eye on your emails and the club website for information on our 2009 program.

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WANSARC CHRISTMAS DINNER Guest Speaker

WANSARC members, partners, friends and supporters will again have the opportunity of celebrating the club year and Christmas with a dinner at the NMIT Restaurant, St. Georges Road, Preston. The club has held its past two December meetings at this venue with high quality food and company!

A three course meal this year will cost those attending \$27.50, with drinks at bar prices.

The Dinner will be held on Friday DECEMBER 5, 2008. Bookings are ESSENTIAL in order for NMIT to cater for the club.

In the past WANSARC has had exclusive use of the restaurant through strong bookings and it is expected that this year will be no different.

Graeme VK3NE has organised a wonderful guest speaker—a well known amateur with a long history of supporting Amateur Radio at National to grass roots level.

Our guest speaker for the 2008 Christmas dinner is Mr Peter Wolfenden, VK3RV.

Peter has been an active amateur for many years. He was an early experimenter in ATV. One of the highlights was the setting of the ATV distance record for UHF. Peter, then VK3ZPA/T, and Winston, VK7EM/T set the national record of 413 KM in 1972 (the record is still current).

Peter is a past president of the WIA and still has an interest in institute affairs. He is currently researching the early days of amateur radio in Australia, the WIA, and some of the colourful identities both amateur and non amateur who were involved.

*The title of the evenings talk is, **Characters I Have "Met"**.*

A number of excellent prizes will also be available in the WANSARC club raffle.

Members of other radio clubs, local or otherwise, are invited to attend this dinner, together will all other amateurs, friends and partners.

Please contact **Gordon VK3YOD** (vk3yod@optusnet.com.au) to make a booking and arrange a deposit

AND SPEAKING OF ATV.....

Congratulations to Peter VK3BFG, ably assisted by Phil VK3GMZ, on their ATV presentation to WANSARC members and visitors last month. Here is an update from Peter on digital ATV.....

We are now funded for the Digital ATV project and will proceed with acquisition of materials in January 2009. We should be on air some time in February so keep a look out for Set Top Boxes that will do the job as a receiver in the shack.

Bill, VK3KBL has identified two different brands at this time and there are others. Not all tune continuously and include our part of the UHF spectrum.

As well as the above, we have located two spare large co-axial cables which terminate near our existing antennas. These are being made available to us by the current leaseholders of the premises who have also offered to assist us with changes required.

This is good news as at least one of the feeders will bring the sound back on in the next few weeks and a second can be used for 1250 receive. The new cable should provide a lower loss path and hence improved reception. 73 de Peter VK3BFG

A SUPER J-POLE FOR 435 MHz from Peter VK6YSF

The Super J Pole antenna is a co-linear vertical consisting of a number of half wave length vertical elements separated with half-wave length stubs (Tuning stub) feed with a folded matching stub. The sub doesn't receive or radiate any energy; it is simply a way of picking off the desired feed impedance.

Additional half wave length section can be added with addition of a half wave length tuning section (Tuning stub). The addition of half vertical elements could be added indefinitely, subject to reality of diminishing returns. This arrangement can be applied practically and usefully on bands within the VHF and UHF spectrum. The use of the J pole feed arrangement creates an antenna that is relatively ground independent compared to many other designs.

DIAGRAM OF THE SUPER J-POLE (See next page)

Frequency:	435Mhz
Polarisation:	Vertical
(A) Main element:	502mm (<i>0.75 Wavelength x 300/f x k</i>)
(B) Matching stub:	167mm (<i>0.25 Wavelength x 300/f x k</i>)
(C) Additional section	349mm (<i>0.50 Wavelength x 300/f x k</i>)
(D) Tuning stub:	349mm(<i>0.50 Wavelength x 300/f x k</i>)
(E) Feed point:	Approximately 10 - 30mm from the bottom. Subject to adjustment for lowest VSWR

The dimensions of the Super J-Pole have been determined as follows:

$$\text{Length (Mtr)} = 300/f \times k \times el$$

f = Operating frequency e.g. 435.5MHz

k = The effect of the diameter of the material in relation to the wave length (0.97)

el = Chosen element e.g. Wavelength main element, wave tuning stubs or wave matching stubs,
0.75, 0.50 or 0.25 respectively.

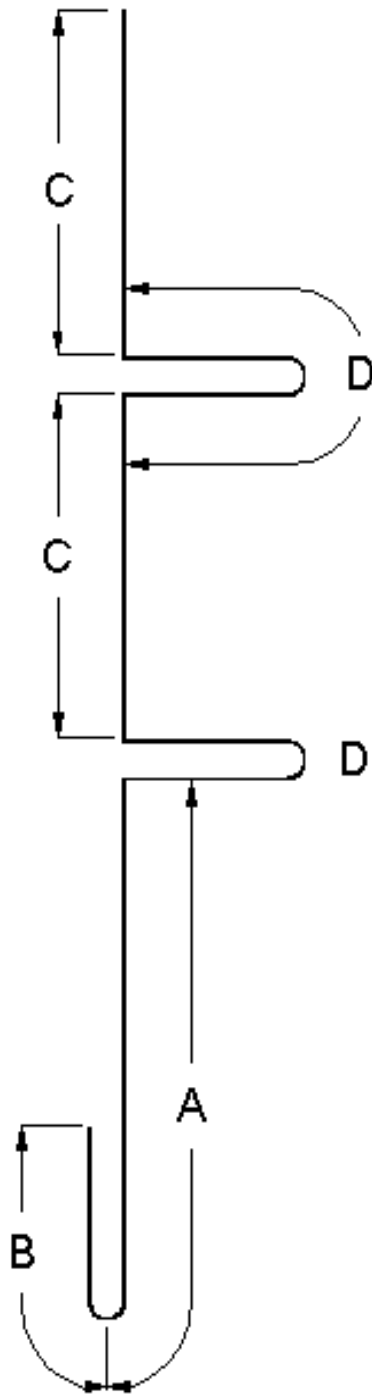
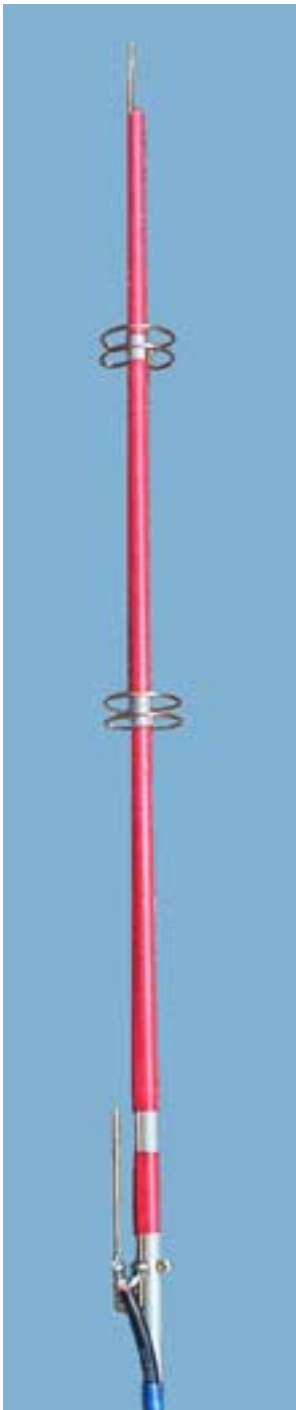
The associated photos are of my successful in service (2001 – 2006) version that covers the entire 70cm (430 - 450 MHz) band.

Practical construction

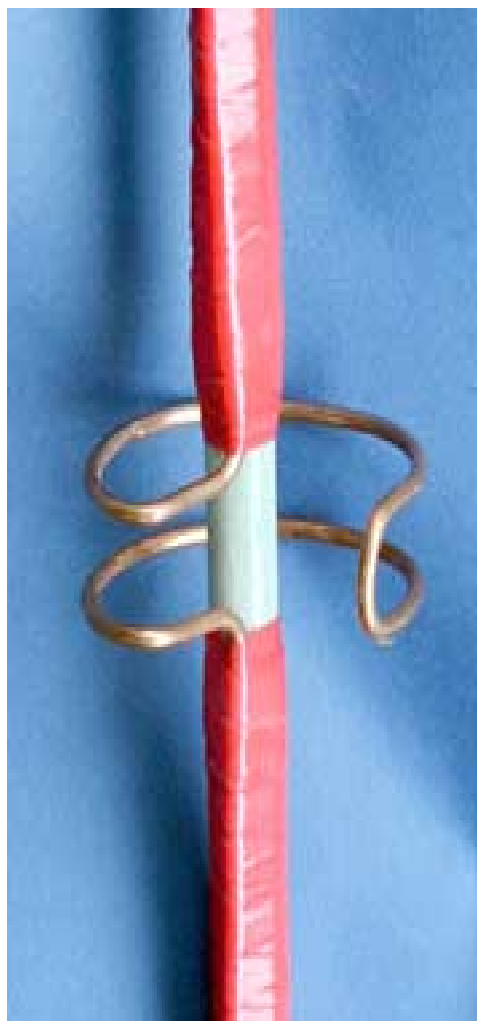
Construction is very simple. After determining the various element lengths, mark them out accordingly on a continuous length of copper wire and bend to achieve the antenna shape. The tuning section that separates the additional half wave length elements can be bent around to form a semicircle (see photos). Tape the wire formed antenna to a suitable length of dowel or fibreglass rod for stability.

After successfully impedance matching the coax feed point with a VSWR meter the antenna can be mounted inside a suitable length of conduit to protect the antenna from the effects of weathering.

For more information on the J-Pole see: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J-pole>



Adjustable feed point.



**Tuning stub (at left) and antenna
Complete assembly on mast (above).**

73 from the Wild West de Peter VK6YSF



The PI has turned 50!

I can just hear you saying to yourself, who is this blonde tanned (skinny) bloke on the air? That would be the PI, circa 1978 on one of the WANSARC field days to Mt. Disappointment.

Ah to fit into that T-Shirt again, and when did I go short hair??? Now, 30 years of air time later I have turned the big 50. Thanks to all club members for their well wishes and you are all invited to

my 100th.....that's if I remember my birthday then!!

COMMITTEE CHATTER.....SI UNITS

Finally proof that the WANSARC committee is always striving to do best for club members. A recent series of emails promulgated around the committee debated (argued) the toss of SI units when talking of frequencies. Yes, I know, this was probably the most important decision you, as members, were looking for this year. Well, here is the information you have been seeking!

Value	Symbol	Name	Value	Symbol	Name
10 ⁻¹ Hz	dHz	decihertz	10 ¹ Hz	daHz	decahertz
10 ⁻² Hz	cHz	centihertz	10 ² Hz	hHz	hectohertz
10 ⁻³ Hz	mHz	millihertz	10 ³ Hz	kHz	kilohertz
10 ⁻⁶ Hz	µHz	microhertz	10 ⁶ Hz	MHz	megahertz
10 ⁻⁹ Hz	nHz	nanohertz	10 ⁹ Hz	GHz	gigahertz
10 ⁻¹² Hz	Hz	pHz picohertz	10 ¹² Hz	THz	terahertz
10 ⁻¹⁵ Hz	fHz	femtohertz	10 ¹⁵ Hz	PHz	petahertz
10 ⁻¹⁸ Hz	aHz	attohertz	10 ¹⁸ Hz	EHz	exahertz
10 ⁻²¹ Hz	zHz	zeptohertz	10 ²¹ Hz	ZHz	zettahertz
10 ⁻²⁴ Hz	yHz	yoctohertz	10 ²⁴ Hz	YHz	yottahertz

Common prefixed units are in bold face.

This **SI** unit is named after **Heinrich Hertz**. As with every SI unit whose name is derived from the proper name of a person, the first letter of its **symbol** is **uppercase** (Hz). When an SI unit is spelled out in English, it should always begin with a **lowercase** letter (hertz), except where *any* word would be capitalized, such as at the beginning of a sentence or in capitalized material such as a title. Note that "degree **Celsius**" conforms to this rule because the "d" is lowercase.

— Based on *The International System of Units*, section 5.2.

SQUID POLES NOW AVAILABLE

WANSARC has purchased a limited number of 6 metre squid poles, brand new, from a supplier in Sydney. Squid poles are for **members only** and cost **\$18** each, a bargain for those who have seen these items on sale elsewhere.

If you would like one or two, please visit the club at the next meeting, pay cash or cheque to the club and you can walk away with a very handy piece of equipment for portable operations. The club has purchased these items outright so if you have already indicated your intent to purchase the poles, **please organise for payment and collection ASAP**

BITS AND PIECES

Welcome to the club to Jess VK3FJPM. Jess has been heard mobile on 146.450MHz quite frequently. And just to confuse things, greetings to Martin VK3FMJP. Martin resides out in the eastern suburbs and although aligned with the "Hillbillies" club, Martin is a regular on our club net and frequency. So make both gents welcome when you hear them on air.

A few on the sick list this month. Bob VK3EL is recovering after some plumbing tests. Trust the results are positive for you, Bob. Frank VK3ZO has been having some shoulder surgery and has been heard portable from hospital on a hand-held. Best wishes Frank. And Wayne VK3VCL is still trying to shake off a throat issue—you may have to take up CW Wayne to preserve the voice!





GET TO IT !!!!

DO YOU HAVE INFORMATION OR AN ARTICLE YOU WANT TO SHARE WITH MEMBERS?

Why not write it up for the magazine in word format, with pictures, and send to the club:

WANSARC, PO Box 336, Reservoir 3073.
or via email to vk3pi@optusnet.com.au

It's your magazine!!

THANKS

As this is the final issue for 2008 my thanks on behalf of WANSARC to ALL of our contributors to the magazine. Your contributions have made the WANSARC newsletter one of the BEST volunteer AMATEUR mags in the country!

C U in 2009. de Mark VK3PI

WHAT ABOUT THIS ? Contributions from members

STOCK MARKET TERMINOLOGY—a basic guide

From Mark VK3PI

CEO --Chief Embezzlement Officer.

CFO-- Corporate Fraud Officer.

BULL MARKET -- A random market movement causing an investor to mistake himself for a financial genius.

BEAR MARKET -- A 6 to 18 month period when the kids get no allowance, the wife gets no jewellery, and the husband gets no sex.

VALUE INVESTING -- The art of buying low and selling lower.

P/E RATIO -- The percentage of investors wetting their pants as the market keeps crashing.

BROKER -- What my broker has made me.

STANDARD & POOR -- Your life in a nutshell.

STOCK ANALYST -- Idiot who just downgraded your stock.

STOCK SPLIT -- When your ex-wife and her lawyer split your assets equally between themselves.

FINANCIAL PLANNER -- A guy whose phone has been disconnected.

MARKET CORRECTION -- The day after you buy stocks.

CASH FLOW-- The movement your money makes as it disappears down the toilet.

YAHOO -- What you yell after selling it to some poor sucker for \$240 per share.

WINDOWS -- What you jump out of when you're the sucker who bought Yahoo @ \$240 per share.

INSTITUTIONAL INVESTOR -- Past year investor who's now locked up in a nuthouse.

PROFIT -- An archaic word no longer in use.

SPEEDING

From Graeme VK3PGK

I got stopped for speeding yesterday.

I thought I could talk my way out of it until the police officer looked at my dog in the back seat.



Man's best friend! Huh!

Don't forget the club liaison frequency of 146.450MHz FM simplex. A high percentage of club members regularly natter on the frequency so at least have a listen—some very interesting discussions can be heard at all times of the day!



WANSARC VK3AWS

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

SECRETARY: Mark Stephenson VK3PI Telephone:0425 611 640
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

FIRST Friday of each month except January at the Ern Rose Memorial Pavilion, SEAVER GROVE, RESERVOIR. See map).

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. Also monitor 28.470MHz on 10 metres USB.

More Information: **Website:** www.wansarc.org.au **Email:** wansarc@wia.org.au

Postal: WANSARC PO Box 336 RESERVOIR 3073

Next meeting Xmas Dinner Friday December 5 , 2008

If not delivered within 7 days, please return to WANSARC, PO Box 336, Reservoir, 3073

**Australia Post
stamp here**

**WANSARC is at
www.wansarc.org.au
Or www.wansarc.org**

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

WANSARC continues to grow its membership and has settled in well at the Reservoir lakeside club-rooms.

The club has recently gained quite a few members and this is very pleasing.

Do you know someone who is keen to gain a licence, has recently passed their exams or has been on the air for many years?

Why not bring them down to the club to experience the sharing of knowledge, equipment and a good time?

Club fees are the least expensive of any club in Victoria, if not Australia. For a modest annual fee you can experience club events such as guest lecturers, club outings and a plethora of new, used and pre-loved electronics, radio and computer equipment.

Come on down to WANSARC!!

TO:

