

Disclaimer

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This is VK6 ARN News West. We are a community organisation and we've been serving out the best amateur radio news in Australia since 1931.



Hi there, This is Clinton VK6CRC and this is news west for the 19th of November 2023. Now on with the show.

Did you know



Steve Kennedy VK6SJ
Encouraging new hams



Hi, I'm Steve Baker, six SJ with this week's episode of Did You Know? How many of us have the last two or three or more radios that replaced still sitting in the shed gathering dust? The amount of photos I've seen of shacks the world over. They have four or five radios neatly set up on shelves, either in a shack, full use, or just sitting in a shed or storeroom with mind boggling. Oh, for the reason for keeping it all right here is that the value is so low that the nostalgia of that radio exceeds the amount you could get for. In today's environment of \$500 software defined radios outperforming a conventionally designed radio purchased for \$5000 fifteen years ago, this is now often the case. So thinking about the nostalgia of an old radio that isn't worth selling, what if you gave all long term loan that radio to a new ham? You might be encouraging young person in your neighbourhood who's asked you what that big masters for offering, along with some assistance to your local high schools at STEM program or just giving. It's someone who's interested. Enough to do a foundation licence, but doesn't yet have the required funds to purchase the first HF rig. Either way, seeing someone get the same joy you once did with an old radio otherwise not being used as a good way to relive the fun you had with that same rig. Long time ago, I was a beneficiary of an ACT like that. I'd sold my old CB to pay for a bus fare to Perth to sit my number's license test. On arriving back the president of the club I was in line. Bees converted CB, which I had a lot of fun with in the first year and also that I was on air. Other hands in the club also assisted me with stuff they weren't using. The result of that has resulted in a life long enjoyment of the hobby. Along those lines, why not get your local club interested in approaching your local schools and organisations like the Scouts and Girl Guides etc.? To not only run the session about ham radio, but denote some radios for the use once licensed. You might find an influx of new young members that might be the new lease of life to a club that might be getting a bit stale. The cost of this is a bunch of slightly older radios who would otherwise only be gathering dust in the shack. Sounds like a bargain to me. Another idea I wouldn't mind fighting is that all the clubs in Perth get together and form a Bank of older radios for this purpose. I'm not talking about body anchors that only the most experienced hands will be able to get going. I'm thinking of radios that are 10 to 15 years old, but while not having HDMI ports and software defined brick wall filters and the like. Can still be connected to a PC and used on FT8 and are still in good working order. Oh no, ham college. We often get either bequeathed radios or asked by a Silent Keys family to insist assist in getting rid of old radios. I have to say I personally often run a mile from those opportunities, mainly because we have a rumour boat hangers and no room for anymore. At home college we are getting well over 100 new hands on air each year, many of which could benefit from a

donation of a radio. Maybe it's part of joining their local club. I'm sure how college could and has done in the past provide a plug for local clubs as part of the foundation course, and knowing a new member may be able to gain or below into their first radio would be a huge straw cut. So why not have this kind of conversation at your next club meeting? I think you'll be surprised at what a bunch of club members could put together as a Bank of gear and the ongoing benefits of the club of a bunch of new members. Stop leaving all those great rigs gathering dust and put them to use. That will benefit yourself, your community and the whole hobby in general. Thanks for listening again. This is Steve. OK, six SJ with an up another episode of Did you know if you'd like a text copy of this or other articles that we've posted to my.blogpage@dxradiosystems.com dot AU two weeks after it's gone to where?

VK6LD
[vk6ld@outlook.co](mailto:vk6ld@outlook.com.au)
[m.au](mailto:vk6ld@outlook.com.au) via
googlegroups.co
m
to WAHAMs

Thu, Oct 26,
10:44 AM

Good Morning,

Southern Electronics Group (SEG) is pleased to announce the long awaited, next Manjimup Hamfeast is scheduled for Monday 27 November 2023.

For those who haven't been before, the Manjimup Hamfeast is a pub lunch for radio enthusiasts held at the Quinninup Tavern, 1222 Wheatley Coast Road, Quinninup.

The food is great, drinks are cold and the company is excellent! YL's, XYL's & partners are also very welcome.

Start time is 11.30am.

The legendary Hamfeast Raffle will also be held on the day, with some great prizes to be won.

For those coming from Albany, Mt Barker, Katanning, Bunbury, Perth or most other places, Quinninup can be reached in 2-3 hours travel time.

It is preferred if you can pre-order your meals to help the chef to have sufficient supplies on hand and to prepare & deliver the meals in a timely manner on the day. I have attached the Quinninup Tavern's menu to this email and I'll also put it on the SEG website. Meals can be selected on the day, but there are no guarantees if not pre-ordered!

The Quinninup Tavern also informs me – ***“If there are other choices anyone would like please let me know. Looking forward to seeing all the crew again 😊”***

First important point: If those attending can e-mail me with their meal choices and to confirm their attendance, so I can prepare a spreadsheet for the chef. Please have your orders back to me by 8.00am, Tuesday 21 November 2023 at the latest.

Second important point: When you arrive on the Hamfeast day, if you can attend at the bar, let the staff know your callsign & name and they will take payment for your meal/s.

The chef is aiming to serve meals between 12.00pm and 1.00pm, but with upwards of 40 people expected, this equates to one meal cooked & served every 90 seconds, so please be patient. ?

Please RSVP and provide meal preferences to me directly by email or SMS text.

Save the date in your calendar - Monday 27 November 2023, start time around 11.30AM and look forward to seeing you there!

73

Rob...

VK6LD



If you happen to listen to the right part of the 80 metre band on a Tuesday evening, you might hear something that sounds like this. The CQRS net has been running every single Tuesday for the last two years and has been unbelievably popular. There are usually half a dozen. A dozen and a couple of times up to 18 stations, popping in and out when they can over the four or five hours. The aim is to encourage new CW operators to have a go at slow CW in a safe and really friendly environment where slow speed and lots of mistakes are par for the course. It's all about having a go, starting with the basic call sign and RST exchange, then over time getting better and better. The net also attracts its fair share of old timers who enjoy helping others to have a go or just to enjoy the banter. So this might be just the opportunity you've been waiting for to have a go at transmitting on CW, or perhaps just to stop the contacts rusting up on your key. Doesn't matter whether you're brand new to the code or if you're an old timer who would like to have a bit of fun and help encourage new operators by having simple, safe QSO's at their speed. We'd love to have you join in. Annette starts at 0900 Zulu every Tuesday on 80 metres between 3540 and 3570 kHz and their stations in the West East and in between listening out for your CQRS call. For more information and to receive our weekly CQRS Redtube newsletter, contact me mark VK 6 Qi via my e-mail address on qrz.com. Or you can e-mail me direct mark.bosma@icloud.com that is MARK.k.bosma@icloud.com Too much switch mode power supply hash on 80 metres. This might be the incentive to do something about it, but the cheap noise canceller costing less than \$100. 80 meters could be easier than you think. Sorry once again. Tuesdays from 0900 Zulu until late between 3540 kHz and 3570 kHz. Cheers from Mark BK2 Ki and VK 6 Qi.

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WA AMATEUR RADIO NEWS

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[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/@NEWSWESTWEEKLYPODCAST-KZ7YC](https://www.youtube.com/@NEWSWESTWEEKLYPODCAST-KZ7YC)

This is VK6ARN

Covering WA and beyond, This is News Waste brought to you by WA Amateur Radio News on air, online and on demand. This is VK 6 ARN and I'm Mark VK 4 MHQ.

Foundations of Amateur Radio

Onno VK6FLAB
440 Failure to simulate

Foundations of Amateur Radio. During the week I started a new project. If you know me at all, this is not unusual. Having worked in the IT industry for nearly 40 years, it's also not unusual that projects have a way of surprising you. And this project was no different. Recently I've been talking about antennas, a topic close to the heart of many amateurs, and one that garners a lot of opinion. And in my experience, much less in the way of facts. So being a firm believer of facts, I set out to add some of those to the discussion. After having described that the environment is not often discussed in the context of antenna behaviour, coupled with the personal experience that it has by far the biggest influence, I set out to discover if I could use my computing skills to simulate this problem to build a picture that would speak 1000 words. Prompted by a friend who shared with me a link to an opinion that stated that dipole antennas didn't have 2.15 DB I gain, but in fact apparently had eight and a half dbi gain. I was energized to find out where this number came from. I figured I'd spin up some antenna modelling software, use a

standard model of a dipole, then simulated at various heights above the ground, and see what I could learn. Any good journey starts with a single step, so I started with looking for a generic model of a dipole antenna. I've played in this space before, so I was familiar with the fact that most, but not all, antenna modelling tools use a piece of software called NEC Two to do the actual calculations. Its models are described using text files ending in the NEC extension. This software goes back to punch card days, so the format for the NEC two files is essentially a stack of punch cards. So much so that every line in the text file is called a card, and any software that uses the underlying NEC2 tool describes it in that way. I won't bore you with the syntax, it's all, let's put it this way. If you've been around computers for as long as I have, you're familiar with the tool called Send Mail, which is known to be user friendly, just very particular with whom it makes friends. The NC 2 card format is much the same. It's not that surprising. And for added nostalgia, NEC Two was written in Fortran, originally in 1981 at the Lawrence Livermore Labs by Jerry Burke and Andrew Poggio. It was later released to the public. There's translations to see and C++, but they used the same notion of cards, so no magic progress there. I started learning the syntax and eventually came across a textbook with an example of cards that describe a dipole. Mind you, there were plenty of disclaimers around how poorly the ground was simulated and wouldn't you know it, the file format uses meters as the dimension rather than wavelengths, so as far as I can tell you can't simulate 1/4 wave antenna. You have to simulate one of a specific length. So much for using a standard model of a dipole. I found a tool that uses Python to issue Anec 2 commands and as a surprise to nobody, it's too uses cards. I used it to discover that for a particular type of ground at some unknown height, the optimum length for a 10 metre whisper dipole antenna is 5225.87 millimetres long. Apparently. You know it's true. It says so right there on the screen. I'm skipping over having to compile the software that was supposed to be a ready made Python library, but I digress. There was a tool written in TCL that visualised any EC2 output. Last updated 18 or so years ago and I unsuccessfully tried to make it work. Then there were those who suggested to fire up some random Windows tool on my Linux box, but as far as I can tell, I'd have to do the height adjustments manually. Not ideal if you want to visualize from, say, ground to queue stationary orbit 1 millimeter at a time and output an image at every step. I searched the net for others who would surely have trodden this path long before I came along, only to discover that my search view is clearly broken or any website with promising information has long ago been booted off the Internet, leaving for sale signs on the domain name. I came across one file which simulated a dipole in free space. It had to use the NEC, two terms 11 cards. When I run that through NEC 2C, it generates A12 MB file with over 104,000 lines of output. Only takes 650 milliseconds to generate if only I could visualize it. I also came across a whole range of physics programs, which is not that surprising since essentially antenna design is physics. But those tools require that I Start learning a whole new way of building antennas, apparently from electrons preferably whilst getting a degree in physics with a specialization in computational electromagnetics. Then there was the Wolfram Alpha notebook model for a simple dipole. Only 3200 lines of code, so you know, trivial to use. So here's the thing. Has nobody in living memory simulated A dipole at more than three heights and documented the process? Am I really the first human on the planet to think of this? Oh yes, I did find the project that simulated different lengths of dipoles, but I'll leave those for another day. And finally I also found X neck view which does generate images, but it too is very particular whom it makes friends with and I've yet to discover if it can generate what I'm looking for. Hence for the 8 1/2 DBI, I'm still looking. My current best guess is that at some specific height, a dipole has an ugly spike that has eight and a half bi gain, and that someone used that number without looking at the detail. But who knows, There's plenty of opinion to go around. I'm on it. Victor K6FLAB.



Helpline - Roy VK6XV

AMATEUR RADIO HELPLINE 19th NOVEMBER 2023

PLEASE Have your HELPLINE requests into me by 07:00 hrs WST Friday to be in the next broadcast

to email ; <roy.watkins@bigpond.com> or (vk6xv@bigpond.com)

Contact me and keep our equipment in Amateur hands, 73 Roy. vk6xv@bigpond.com

Please enter "DISPOSALS or HELPLINE" in the subject

NEW ITEMS THIS WEEK.

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Here is this weeks helpline.

Nothing new this week but if you are looking pre-loved gear, NCRG BOOT SALE (Sunday

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NEW ITEMS THIS WEEK.

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Here is this weeks helpline.

Nothing new this week but if you are looking pre-loved gear, NCRG BOOT SALE (Sunday 19th) today will be a good place to start.

For Sale: SOLD

Satellite Antenna set up consisting of Kenpro KR600X azimuth rotator;

Kenpro KR-500 Elevation rotator;

KR 5400 dual antenna controller;

Fox Delta ST2 digital interface (KR5400 to RS232 / USB for computer control);

5 x 4 crossed element 2m antenna (home brew);

70cm multiturn helix antenna (home brew). Note that the controllers are old but still functioning.

\$400 ono

Frank 0413 592 488 (after 12 noon) or frank_vk6kfd@iinet.net.au < frank_vk6kfd@iinet.net.au>

Don VK6UT Deceased Estate

Email: stephent@westnet.com.au

Mbl: 0401 804 166

Dear Roy. Thanks very much for all your help. However, I still have a heap of (many old and unknown) accessories my father (Don VK6UT) collected. Here is an update which is for sale or possibly (free for bits

and pieces) and any reasonable offer will be seriously considered for remainder. Sorry, but I am unsure of the accuracy of some the items listed, Pickup please

Gumtree / Market Place

1) Power Supply 13.8 volt 20 amp DC Soft Start (Working) and 20v DC Battery \$100 ono.

2) Bush Radio EU35 (EZUROPE) with spare magic eye. London 1955?'s works \$200 ono

3) Pioneer Dynamotor Gen-E-Motor SP 175 Input 18v output 450v No 13068

4) Pioneer Dynamotor Gen-E-Motor E2 12V to 250V DC

5) 15 small approx. 1/2 to 1HP electrical motors \$30 each ono

6) Typewriter Brother AX-325 Electronic with Keyboard Cover and Manual and some accessories - in working condition

7) Compressor (home made) to 100lbs

8) VSWR Power Meter

9) Metal capping - Hard Fence (58mm x 76mm x 58mm) 3.8mtr length
crimped one end. 8 pieces. \$25.00 ono

Radio Electronic

b) Power Supply Codan Type 7113

c) Power Supply Model LBR-800

d) Voltage Regulator 250v?

e) Several 10+ Small and whip type and a large TV (Type of) antennas'
including The ARRL Antenna Book.15th Edn. 1988 USA and Co-Axial
Relay Construction pamphlet

f) YARGI ? type antenna (Stainless)

g) 3 hand held ICOM's Details Below

i) ICOM IC-2E 2M FM Transceiver Hand Held with ;annual and

Schematic BATTERY DAMAGE Seems to work? \$40.00 ono

ii) ICOM IC-2E 2N 144MHZ FM TRANSCEIVER hand held with
battery Seems to work? \$40.00 ono

iii) Standard C528 .144 /430 Mhz FM Handy Transceiver and Manual
(No Battery case) Seems to work \$40.00 ono

h) Wind Meter and Instruction, Plans / Schematic Project 556

Dismantled

i) Many Battery power supply Chargers free

j) Rectifiers old approx. 20 + very cheap

k) Many of the following. 50+ meters / gauges (frequency, amperes,
volts, etc), many connectors many diodes, old and new resistors,
transistors, capacitors. Heaps of Cable (co-ax?) and fittings etc

l), Heaps of vintage electrical, radio, wireless bits and pieces including
10+ transistor radios, T-Shaped glass tube valve unknown Chinese

writing etc

m) RF Amp Meter

n) Transformer Step Down 250 to 110v

o) Transformer – unknown Specs to be advised

p) DC Meter 12v

q) DC Meter 18v

r) Variable Transistor AC 0-300?

s) Meter (Heathbrit)

Publications

Special Collectors Auction Old Valve Radios Garside & Webb Sale

January 1997

Upgrade 40MHz digital frequency meter, including Cat. K-3437Artical

FT-101 Instruction Manual

HF-SSB Transceiver Kenwood TS-120S and TS-120V (Photo copy)

FT-301(D) YAESU x 2 (1 x Photo copy) Manual

IC-706 ICOM Manual

IC-706 MKII ICOM Manual

IC-706MKIIG ICOM x 3 Manual

AT-120 TRIO Antenna Tuner Manual

Precision SWR-Power Metre Instructions

SWR 200 & Meter instruction in Chinese with Charts in English

FT-901 Schematic

Miscellaneous

SONY TapeCorder Mdl TC-105 plus 2 reels with a tape Untested

Microphone Super Cardioid Dynamic 33-992A with instructions

Drawing Board

Lamp light

Portable lights

Aluminium Extension Ladder

Stereo TEAC Radio Cassette (small)

Refrigerator Centrex

VALVES LIST.

6SJ7GT 8 PIN AWA

Vibrator Nissin 6Z – 2A D 6v 7amp 60cycle

Vibrator Ferrocart M337 6v 4 Pin 150cycle

Vibrator Ferrocart M437 6v 4 Pin 150cycle

Vibrator V5123 OAK 4 Pin

COIL 34975 5590KC Antenna 3 pin.

Coil 4510kc Antenna 3 pin

Several unknown valve type items with pins

BOOKS

a) TORANA Series HB Sedan, S and SL Sedan- Scientific Pub Manual

#72 (1977) \$20 ono plus postage

Military Books

ABOVE THE WAR FRONTS A Record of the British Two-Seater Bomber Pilot and Observer Aces, the British Two-Seater Fighter Observer Aces and the Belgian, Italian, Austro-Hungarian and Russian Fighter Aces 1914-1918 by Russell Guest, Norman Franks and Gregory Alegi (1st.edn 1997 Hardcover) Very good condition.

Used \$25.00 ono

BATTLE OF THE ARDENNES 1944 (1) ST VITH AND THE NORTHERN

SHOULDER. [Osprey Campaign Series 115] 2003. 96 pages by Steven J. Zaloga,

Very good condition. \$15 ono plus postage.

KURSK 1943 The Tide Turns in the East, [Osprey Campaign Series 16] 1992. 96

pages by Mark Healy Very good condition. \$14 ono plus postage.

ARNHEM 1944 - Operation Market Garden [Osprey Campaign Series 24] Stephen
Badsey \$15.00 ono Plus postage

The Greatest Battle : The Fight for Moscow 1941-42 by Andrew Nagorski. 25
Photo's. Paper Back 2008. \$15 ono plus postage.

LEGS ELEVEN. Story of the 11th (WA) Battalion (AIF) in the Great War of 1914-
1918(pub.1940 1st Edn) Capt Walter C Belford. Previous owner's name on front end
paper otherwise a very good condition copy of an exceptionally scarce title. \$1800
120 plus books on World War I

Kind Regards

Stephen Truscott

1xxB Stock Rd Attadale WA

Netwest's Radio and Electronics Repair Centre

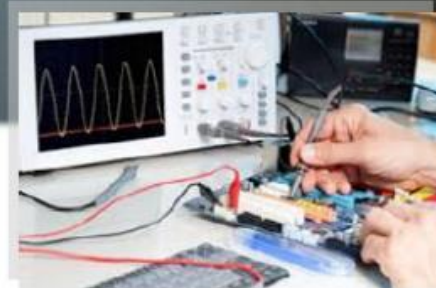
- Transceivers, Auto tuner repairs, Power supplies
Codan antenna repairs
- Commercial electronic devices can be quoted

Services

Contact Bruce Ingham

08 92255522 or 0418 376 541

41 Kensington St
East Perth WA 6004



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**Please have your items in to me by 07:00 AM Friday
for inclusion the following Sunday broadcast.
The email address is vk6xv@bigpond.com
Don't forget YOUR phone number and email address.
Please include HELPLINE as the "SUBJECT"
Thank you.**

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Hi there, it's Clinton VK6FCRC back with you and did you know that News West is now on YouTube? Type in [youtube.com/](https://www.youtube.com/@Newswestweeklypodcast-kz7yc) at newest weekly podcast. That's KZ7YC. Oh, and before I go, I'd like to thank those watching on YouTube or ATV, the readers and you for listening. I'd also like to thank our team, the broadcasters and those submitting content each week. Please stand by NIA for callbacks. After the broadcast, we'll head over to the vk6.net website and fill out the form so we know how many people are listening each week.