



This is BK6 ARN News West. We are a community organisation and we've been serving up the best amateur radio news in Australia since 1931.

Hi there, I hope you're enjoying your Easter. I'm Clinton BK Success CC and welcome to newest Well on the 31st of March 2024. Now on the show

Hi Hams Bunbury Radio Club would like to invite you to our next Fox Hunt event to be held in the Greater Bunbury area on Saturday the 13th of April. We will meet up at Hay Park North End for a 10 AM kick off. There will be two sessions, the 1st at 10:00 AM and the 2nd at 1:00 PM. Each session will have two foxes deployed, one close to the start point for some pedestrian mobile and a second further out. There is no cost to participate. BYORDF gear, there are shops and take away food options nearby. For further information check the event notice on our website [https://colon. And slash slash bunbury radio club.com/twenty 24/02/24 slash the dash great dash bunbury dash fox dash hunt dash 2024 slash closing parenthesis](https://colon.and.slash.slash.bunbury.radio.club.com/twenty24/02/24/slash.the.dash.great.dash.bunbury.dash.fox.dash.hunt.dash.2024/slash.closing.parenthesis) or e-mail vk6brc@gmail.com. We hope to see you all there. David K60 EV Phil President, Bunbury Radio Club Inc

Good morning campers. The month of May is not far away and that means it's time to mark on the calendar. The 3rd Annual Southern Electronics Group may end up Hand Camp from weekend of the May 17th to 19th. If you haven't been before, hand camping is a casual weekend getaway for hands and other registered HF users like US Travel Net and VK 737 and their significant others to drag the swag. The van or the tent down to main Up Sports ground for a weekend of radio and social activity. There's plenty of room to camp, there's some big trees to throw a line over, hot showers, a camp kitchen, terrific fire pit to sit around after dark and of course time to sit and chat over the weekend with like minded radio enthusiasts. Food and drinking water is BYOB. The kitchen and amenities are powered, but there's no power available for campsites. It's been known to rain, fog and then bright sunshine off and on the same day, so you need to come prepared. Camping is usual. The price of \$10 per person per night. There'll be a Square card reader on the weekend available and said can take online payments. Boy at Brooke has a great car museum and other attractions if you want to visit town 15 minutes away while you're here. We maintain a Hand Camps in Facebook page for up-to-date information and you can contact me at VK 6 Ek. That's Victor KSIXEK at gmail.com. We hope to see you there. This is Darren VK 6K for the Southern Electronics Group.

Hello everyone, this is Clive VK 6 CSW wishing you all a very happy Easter and. Finding you that the Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club of Australia's April Bulletin goes to air tomorrow this month, as well as Andrew VK Three CAH bringing us all the latest club news I'll be posing, the question was Marlon Loomis. The first wireless telegrapher. This will be followed by two short articles, the first one about some new medical techniques and uses of radio waves. Read by Belviq 3BR and then I'll finish off with a discussion of QRM way

back in 1903. Everyone, ROTC members and non members alike, is most welcome to listen to the program and join in the callbacks afterwards. Full details of all transmission times, frequencies and modes are published on the ROTC website www.raotc.org.au or just Google ROTC broadcasts. If none of these time suits you, you can download the audio file at anytime from today. But if you do download the file, some brief feedback comments would be appreciated. Now some local broadcast details to Morrow Chris VA seeks Ji will transmit the bulletin on 80 metres on 3620 kHz starting at 8:00 AM. Please note that this start time of 8:00 AM is an hour earlier than usual. Also, at 8:00 AM local time tomorrow, there's a transmission via digital mobile radio on the VK DMR network torque group 5 at 10:00 AM local. The program will be transmitted via the News W linked repeater system simultaneously with a 40 metre transmission on 7088 kHz. Again by Chris PK6 Ji. On Wednesday, April the 3rd, we have ad star broadcast at 5:30 PM WA local time. This will be transmitted via D star Reflector 91 C and will follow the AR news line on Sunday April The 7th repeats of the ROTC bulletin followed the 160 metre and 40 metre broadcast of the WIA news. The next lunchtime meeting for members and Friends of the ROTC in Perth is on Tuesday, April the 9th at the Woodbridge Hotel, 50 E St. Guildford. We meet at 11:30 for midday lunch. An attractive well priced at seniors menu is available which can be viewed online. Everyone is welcome to join in and have an eyeball QSO. There's adequate car parking, but if you're coming my train, be sure to alight at Guildford E repeat Guilford East Station. Full details are on the club website under the heading Luncheons. Once again, TuneIn tomorrow for the April ROTC broadcast and we look forward to hearing your call sign in the callbacks 7 three from Clive VK 6 CSW.

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 under. Believably 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. We're 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. The net 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 Rag Chew newsletter. Contact me Mark V K6QI via my e-mail address on qrz.com or you can e-mail me direct Mark dot., At icloud.com, that is MAR k.b.osma@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. So once again, Tuesdays from 0900 Zulu until late between 3540 kHz and 3570 kHz. Cheers from mark VK two Ki and VK 6 Qi.

Hi, just a little note about VK 6 RG and the WAG technical and general net. Having it run every Sunday morning on VK 6 RLM, that's 146 decimal 750 or channel 3 in the old money and it starts at 10:30 AM this morning, of course if you're listening in the evening. It's next week.

You may notice that News West has been. Done for content lately and I've been playing a lot of repeat stories, but you can help us to change that by sending your stories or contributions through to news.w@vk6.net.

This is News W your amateur radio news on VK 6 ARN originating on the News W linked repeater network and HF relays.

Foundations of Amateur Radio During the weekend I participated in a contest. Before you get all excited, it was only for a couple of hours over a few different settings and while I had plenty of fun, of the 11 QRP or low power contacts I made, nine were on VHF and UHF, Two were on 10 meters HF. Mind you, 3200 and 3500 kilometre contacts are nothing to sneeze at. It has been a while since I've actually been on HF. So long that it felt like turning on a new radio and getting used to it all over again. If you're not sure what I'm describing, let me elaborate. A new radio takes a few goes to calibrate your ear and brain to learn what you can expect to hear and work on some radios, if you can hear the other station, you can work them on others. Unless they're ***** the yes meter, you've got no chance. Queue up adds an extra layer of challenge. A few hours earlier I've been discussing HF band conditions, and one comment that stuck in my mind was that the bands appeared to be more quiet than normal. At the time, nobody could put a finger on why or how, but there appeared to be a general consensus that this was the case. So when I tuned to 10 meters after having switched off my beacon, which I promptly forgot to turn back on for 36 hours or

so, I went hunting for stations to contact. I heard a few, but their signals were very weak. Noise levels were amazing, very quiet, but stations were very low down. I thought nothing of it given the discussion we just had and persisted. And as I said, I made two contacts. Since contacts were hard to come by, I started playing with another experiment I'm working on. Specifically, I'm using something called USB IP to connect to some USB devices across my network. The way it works is that you plug the devices like a CAT cable and a USB sound card into a Raspberry Pi. Then, using another computer, you can access those devices wirelessly as if they're physically connected to the other computer. This is useful if you don't want to subject an expensive computer to any stray RF that might be coming in via USB port. I've written some hot plug support for this so you can just connect and disconnect USB devices without needing to fiddle. You'll find the code on my GitHub page. Given that stations were few and far between and not staying in one place, I moved to a local AM broadcast station so I could test the USB IP sound card link and all I heard was absolute garbage audio coming from that station. I turned on the other radio in it too, had the same rubbish audio. After a couple of hours fiddling with RF gain and still not getting anywhere, I started searching online for an answer. One thread, 27 posts long seemed to describe what I was hearing. Bill N8 Victor UL supplied the answer. Make sure AGC is on. Oh no, it wasn't on either radio. Why it was off on both radios I will never know. It did make me start exploring again just what other settings I have access to on my radio and what they sound like. Turns out that there's not a lot to be found that has any basis in fact. There are a lot of videos showing amateurs pushing lots of buttons, uttering phrases like Can you hear the difference? With nothing much materially changing. The closest to something useful was a YouTube video by Doug N4HNNH called 80 T IPO and RF Gain in which he shows some of the effects of each of those options on a Yaesu FT DX 5001. Thing I noticed is that the radio has a neat display that shows the signal path as it pas I started hunting around to see if such a block diagram exists for my FT-857-D. Unfortunately, I didn't manage to find any such diagram, not even for another radio. The closest I got was the image on page 30 of the FT DX 5000 Series Operating manual. I did learn that the attenuator on my radio is 10 DB and it doesn't function on 2 meters and 70 centimetres. As for the a GC, the user manual doesn't help much. It states that it's used to disable the automatic gain control and normally it should be left on. There is some discussion around the interaction between the RFK knob and the AGC, but I must confess that finding useful examples of this managed to elude me. At this point I have no idea what the difference is between the block diagram on the FTX 5000 and my FT-857-D, other than the obvious single antenna port and plenty of missing features. I find it surprising that for a radio that was introduced over 20 years ago, this kind of information appears to be lacking, especially since it would help any new amateur operate their radio better and understand the impact of each particular setting on the signal that they were hearing. If you know of any such

resources, reach out. My address is cq@vk6flab.com. Meanwhile, I'm going to spend some quality time with my radio and the manual and see what other hidden gems I can find. And if you know me at all, you'll know that this isn't the first, second, or even third time that I'm going through the manual of a radio that I've now owned for nearly as long as I've been an amateur. I'm on our Victor K6FLAB.

They say history never repeats, but I tell you it's deja vu from WAG News this month. Last month I told you that WAG doesn't meet on a public holiday and I told you not to show up tomorrow. That was a month ago and right now. Hi, this is Mark VK 6F IV E4BK6 RG And I'm telling you again. Don't show up tomorrow. There's no meeting because Easter Monday is a public holiday two months in a row. We've gotta go to the backup plan. Second Monday of the month, which will be the 8th of April and doors will open at 7:00 PM for a 7:30 PM start. Where? Well, the Pelican Point Sea Scout Hall at #12 Australia 2 Drive in Crawley. Yep, all the way down the end to a sharp left. There's a lot of time both before and after the meeting to catch up and have a chitchat with your mates. I understand that there's going to be a talk and it's probably Robin VK 6X RE, but the details I'll tell you about next week. Just a quick. Reminder, do not show up tomorrow night. Like I said last month, it's gonna be lonely. Unless there's a number of you who all wanna show up on a public holiday and chat amongst yourselves. But Nope, the WAG meeting will be the following week. Monday night, same bat channel, same bat time. Well, from WAG. That's enough for me. We'll see you next week.

Hi there, it's Clinton VK 6 FCC Back with you and did you know that News W is now on YouTube? Type in.youtube.com/ at newest weekly podcast. Dash, KZ7YC, Ohh, and Before I go, I'd like to thank those watching on YouTube or a TV, the readers and you for listening. I'd also like to thank our team, the broadcasters, and those submitting content each week. Play Stand By Now for callbacks. After the broadcast, we'll head over to the VCA six.net website and fill out the forms so we know how many people are listing each week. MU