Illawarra Amateur Radio Society

Propagator JULY 2024

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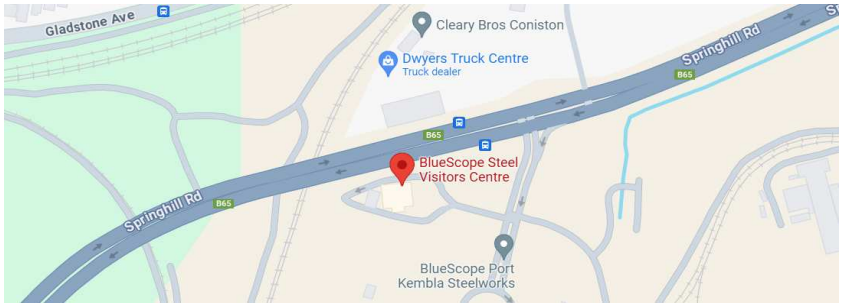
Upcoming Meeting on the 9th July 2024

The next meeting will be at the Blue Scope Steel visitors centre 7.30pm

Blue Scope Northgate entrance off Springhill Road (See website for detailed map)



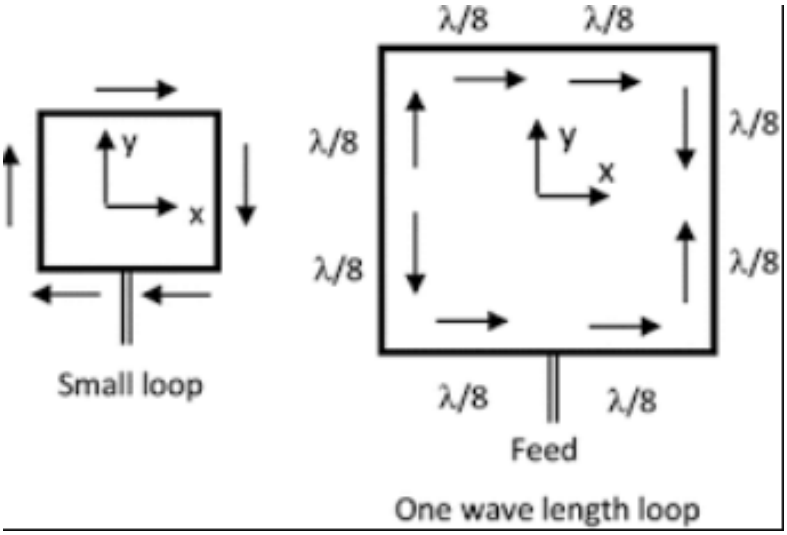
VK2RUW (Knights Hill)
34.6231° S, 150.6942° E
QF55IJ

AMATEUR RADIO IN THE ILLAWARRA SINCE 1948

VK2RMP (Maddens Plains)
34°15'30.6"S 150°56'47.4"E
QF55LR

VK2AMW

Our last meeting 11th June 2024



SQUARE LOOP ANTENNAS with Simon VK2KU

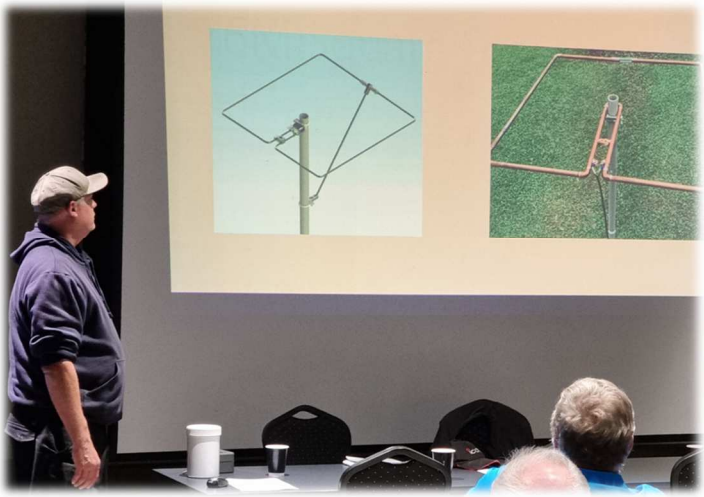
Great presentation by Simon VK2KU demonstrating his 6m square loop that was constructed using readily available parts for the local plumbing and hardware stores.

Simon managed to get the SWR below 1.5:1

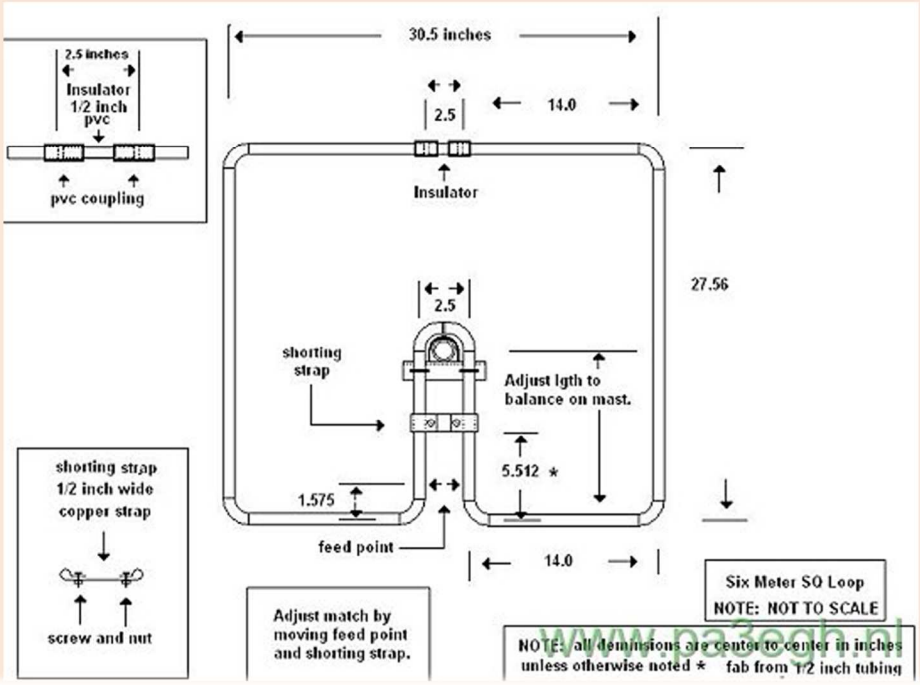
Difficulties tuning

- Bad clamp design… (rushed)
  - Couldn't find any stainless or copper strap material in a hurry.

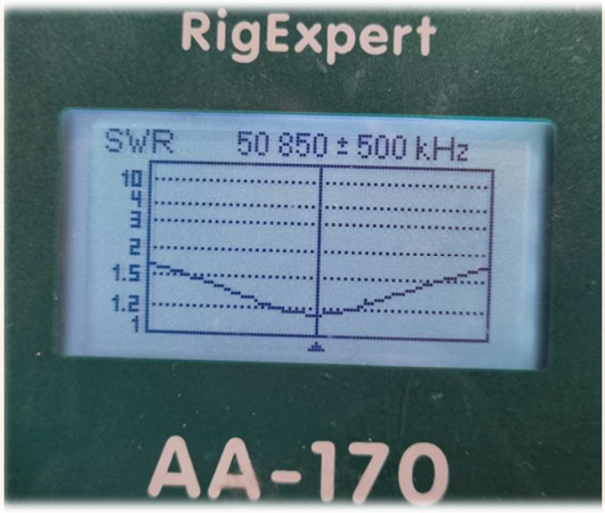
- Made antenna to correct lengths, however the loop elements seem too long. Need to shorten by 30mm each side to get the clamps back behind the elbows.
- Tune by moving the shorting bar to get the correct resonant frequency, then bring the SWR down by adjusting the feed points.

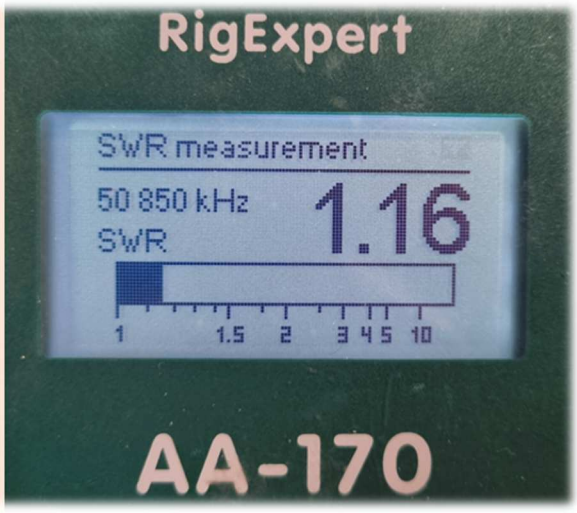


Design from PA3HCM



Inch	mm
30.5	775
2.5	64
14.0	356
25.56	700
5.512	140
1.575	40





- Next moves…
  - Better clamps for the feed points.
  - Screw points for Length adjustment. Should allow for soldered sorting bar.

  - 2m version using a gamma match.

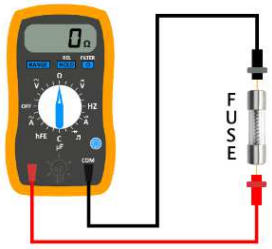
Thanks to Simon for the interesting presentation

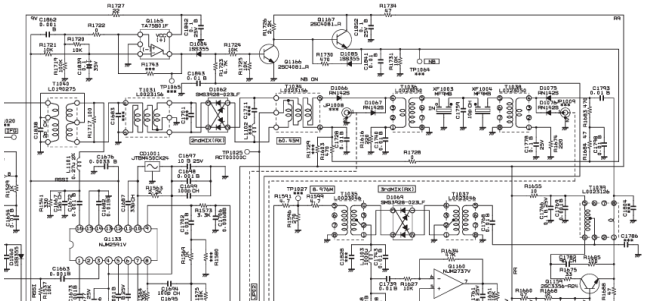
If you require more information about the presentation, please send Simon an email at iars.simonr@gmail.com

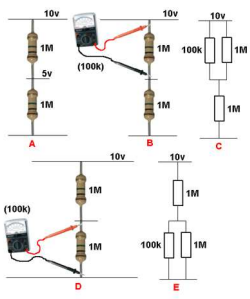
NEXT MEETING

Reading schematics and basic component testing

with Keith VK2KQB







Next presentation, Keith VK2KQB will be going through the basics and sharing some tips on reading schematics, including basic component testing and fault finding. This will be partly hands on using multi-meters and actual component testing.

As always there will be the usual chinwag with a nice warm cuppa of your favourite brew, including some cookies if you're not on diet 😊

Disposables Donation Table

Don't forget to bring along any old and unused items for the shack, from old valves, transistors, capacitors, resistors and anything you think someone may have a use for. So instead of it collecting dust, bring it along to the next meeting, someone will give it a new lease of life.

All it costs is a gold coin donation when you help yourself, all proceeds go to the IARS.

We have been getting plenty support for the table lately, with at least a couple of boxes of goodies every meeting.

The IARS would like to thank all the bringers and takers ☺

For $5 you can earn some good cash and all monies go to your society, win-win.

As usual see Simon VK2KU, the fella with the coloured balls and big smile

The Snowball was drawn and number 11 was assigned to **Ned VK2AGV,** unfortunately for Ned he did not have a valid Snowball entry and therefore the Snowball has SNOWBALLED! Don't forget like Ned, play the Snowball for $5 and maybe the Snowball winnings may be yours next time!

Licensing and upgrades?

The IARS **can help** with obtaining your Foundation, upgrading to Standard or Advanced from *the comfort of your own home,* and its FREE!!! *

We have approved **ACMA** accessors that can offer remote or face to face assessments for the **ACMA**

Please contact Keith VK2KQB at iars.keithb@gmail.com for further information on training and assessments.

Your society supports further learning, please find out more on how we can help you.

Current turnaround times from the ACMA are less than a week!

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TUNE IN to the IARS NETS

Echo-link

1. Our main net on Saturday Morning, the EAST COAST NET hosted by Steve VK2BGL at 9.30am

You are invited to join Steve every **Saturday at 9.30am** on our **146.850MHz** repeater (linked to 146.675MHz) or **VK2BGL-R** on Echo-link for a very enjoyable morning of general discussions from amateurs who log in from all over the world. This NET is linked to multiple repeater systems including VK2RFS south coast.
Join Steve and everyone for a very enjoyable 2 hours on Saturday morning.

The IARS would also like to thank Doug VK2XLJ, who is always willing to assist whilst Steve is away.
(Also, a special thank you to Angelo, VK2NWT who assists when either Steve or Doug is unavailable)
Lots of backup here 😊

2. **IARS Tuesday evening weekly 80m NET on 3.666MHz at 8.30pm hosted by Mal VK2DXM using VK2AMW.**
   Every Tuesday evening, (expect the second Tuesday of the month) for a great get together on 80m. Signal reports, news and general discussions are the agenda. Normally runs for around 60minutes.

3. **IARS Wednesday evening weekly 6m NET at 7.30PM on 53.650Mhz with a – 1Mhz offset Hosted by Geri VK2UTE (123Hz CTCS tone enabled due to interference) Maddens plains 6m Repeater**
   General discussions about building antennas for 6m, transceivers and what else comes to mind, this net is normally between 30 and 60minutes. (Currently off air due to repeater maintenance, check website for updates)

4. **IARS Thursday evening weekly 10m NET at 7.30PM on 28.466Mhz +/- for QRM/QRN Hosted by Tony VK2TS**
   General discussions about building antennas for 10m, transceivers and what else comes to mind, this net is normally between 30 and 60minutes.

IARS REPEATERS

VK2RUW (Knights Hill) **VK2RMP (Maddens Plains)**

146.675 MHZ >>>>> *linked* <<<<< 146.850 MHZ

Current Repeater STATUS

- **438.225 with a - 5MHz offset. OK**
- **146.975 with a -600kHz offset NO CTCSS, C4FM enabled OFF AIR****
- **146.850 with a – 600kHz offset (linked to 146.675) NO CTCSS OK**
- **146.675 with a – 600kHz offset (linked to 146.850) NO CTCSS OK**
- **53.650Mhz with a – 1Mhz offset (123Hz CTCSS tone enabled due to interference) OFF AIR****
- **438.725Mhz with a -5mHZ offset DMR only, OK**
- **1296.850Mhz Experimental Beacon with simplex repeater function, located Maddens Plains – OK**
- **Echo-link VK2MT-R via 146.850MHz also linked to 146.675MHz and VK2BGL-L – OK**

***(These are off due to maintenance, keep an eye out on the IARS Facebook page and the IARS website for updates on "Back on AIR")*

The IARS welcomes any feedback on our repeater systems.

Please send all your feedback to iars.keithb@gmail.com and it will be passed on to our repeater team.

Any donations to help us maintain our great repeater system will be greatly appreciated. Please check our banking details on our website at www.iars.org.au under the Contact details page. As reference of the donation please add your Call sign and the words "Repeater Donation"

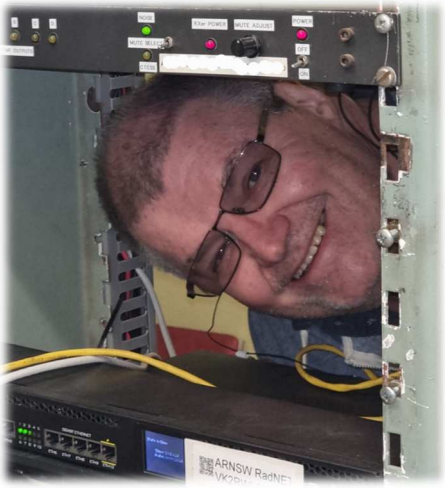
If the repeaters are silent, why not just give out a call, who knows who may be on the other end of the tower.

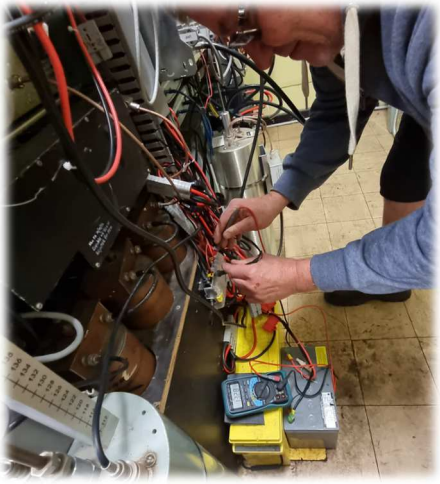
Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

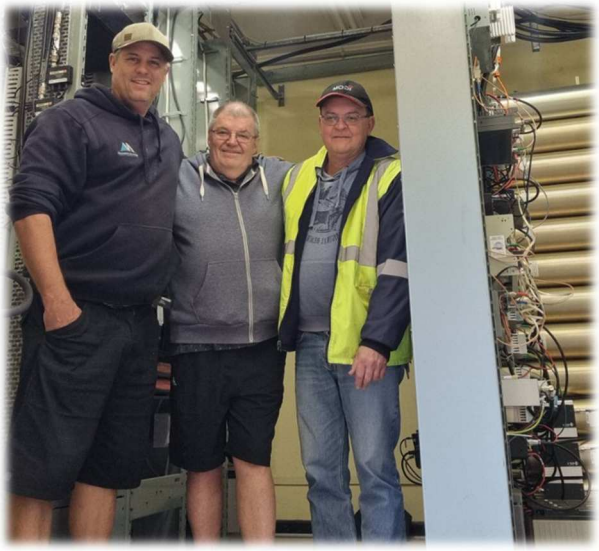
6m Repeater testing and tune up

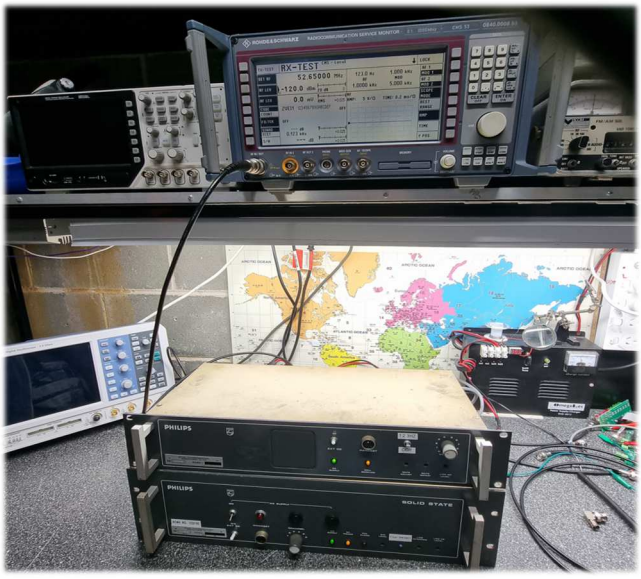
(Hopefully back on site soon)

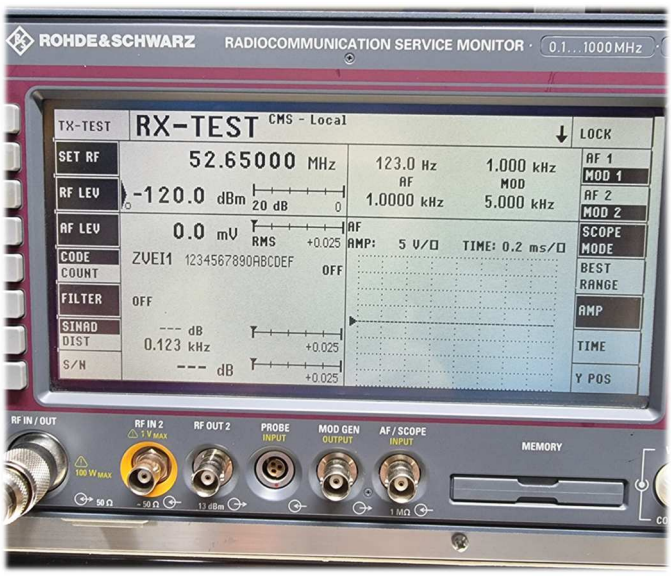
Recently the IARS Repeater team went up to Maddens Plains to remove the 6m Repeater for service











Back at the workshop for tune up!

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING to SWAP, BUY, SELL, an OLD PART

Parts you may need for repairs or some radio gear you no longer need that could go to a new home…….?
Email iars.keithb@gmail.com

Keith VK2KQB is STILL looking for some old components that are no longer available to repair an old Kenwood TS940S. If you have an old broken Kenwood TS940 TS laying around, or have these devices in your hands, please contact Keith at vk2kqb@gmail.com

Parts are (Mitsubishi MN6147C and MC14569)

Are you looking at selling your gear, you could wait until AUCTION month in November OR you can sell it right here.

List your equipment here now for free and put the cash where it belongs, in your pocket not collecting dust and getting older.

Electronic component and service suppliers

Need a quick PCB in a hurry to put that latest project on, JLCPCB

https://jlcpcb.com/?from=VGB&gad=1&gclid=EAIaIQobChMInOCo_9K1gQMVGw17Bx3qLAN0EAAYASAAEgLOV_D_BwE

element14 AN AVNET COMPANY https://au.element14.com

RS https://au.rs-online.com/web/

MOUSER ELECTRONICS https://au.mouser.com

DigiKey https://www.digikey.com.au

Minikits https://www.minikits.com.au

core ELECTRONICS https://core-electronics.com.au

Wagner Electronics Super Store https://www.wagneronline.com.au

Little Bird Electronics https://littlebirdelectronics.com.au

ALTRONICS https://www.altronics.com.au/virtualtour/nsw/auburn/

ATR Amateur Transceiver Radio Supplies https://amateurradiosupplies.com.au

Elite Communications & Electronics https://www.elitecommunications.com.au/mobile-communications-category/communication-equipment/amateur-radio/amateur-radio-accessories/

VK RADIO https://www.vkradio.com.au

DXing https://dxing.com.au

If you know of a good supplier of electronic stuff or services 😊, please share it with us so we can all enjoy.

Send information to iars.keithb@gmail.com and we will publish it in the next propagator.

got an idea

Tech corner

Share it with us, this could be suggestions, technical ideas, circuit diagrams, IARS community projects, pictures of your latest shack project, in fact ANYTHING of interest

Let us know by return email iars.keithb@gmail.com

If you have some IARS related pictures or information that we can put on the IARS website, please let us know and we can get that happening.

28 MHz Antenna Project

10m Flowerpot Antenna *Andrew VK1AD*

Since building a 6m coaxial dipole in January 2016 and later a 2m coaxial dipole in February 2018, I have often thought how a monoband half-wave vertical coaxial dipole would perform on 28 MHz. Summer has arrived in the southern hemisphere, now is an excellent time to construct a 10m half-wave coaxial dipole for the upcoming summer Es. (https://vk1nam.wordpress.com/6m-sota-antenna/)

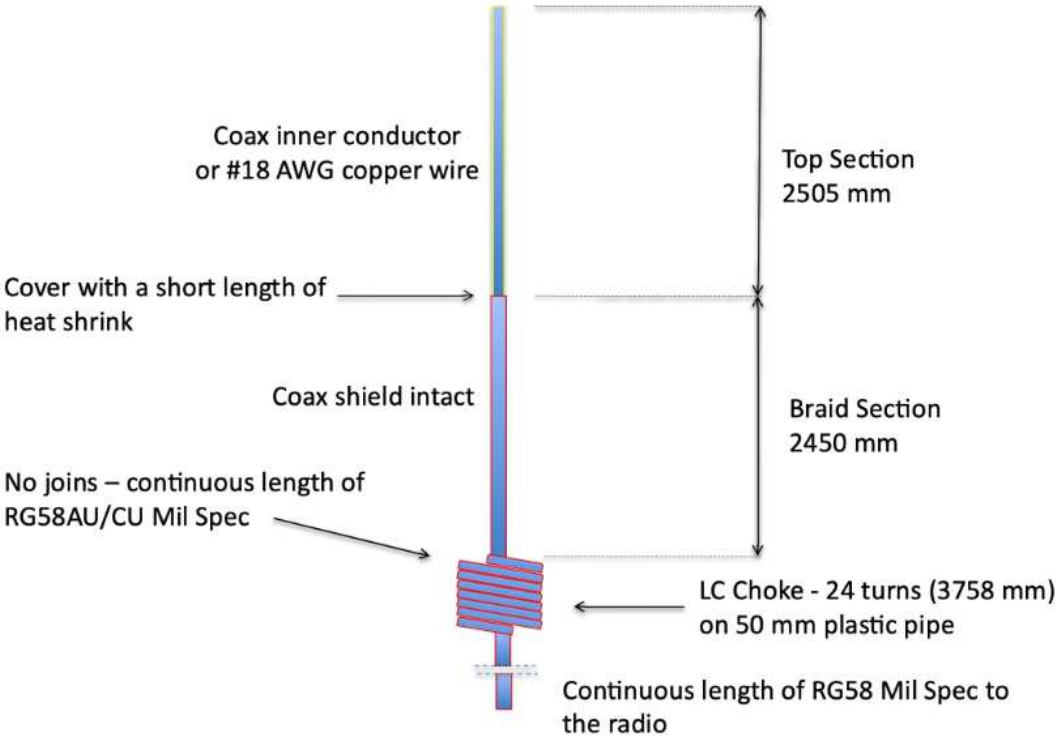
Well, let's make one and see how it performs.
Before you start please read the construction techniques found in the 6m post. (link above) Your telescopic pole should be made from a non-conductive material like fibreglass. Do not use this antenna in combination with a carbon fibre pole. Carbon fibre or a composite graphite fibre pole will detune the resonant frequency.
2nd major point. After construction, when you commence tuning or checking the resonant frequency with an antenna analyser or SWR meter, ensure the antenna is at least one half wave length (5 metres) away from any metal objects parallel to the antenna. If you place the antenna near a metal object that is parallel to the radiator then the antenna's resonant frequency may change.

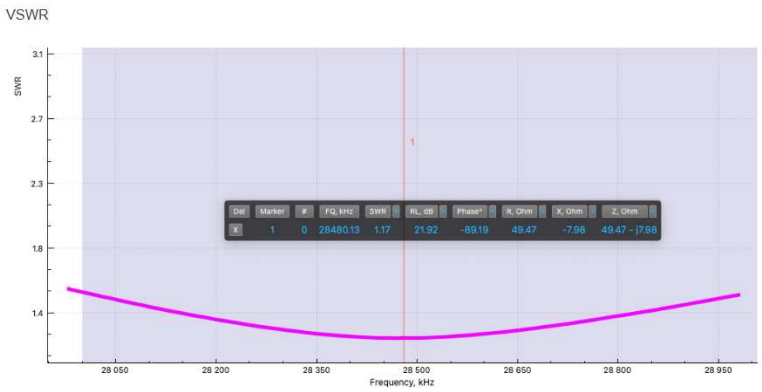
Materials:

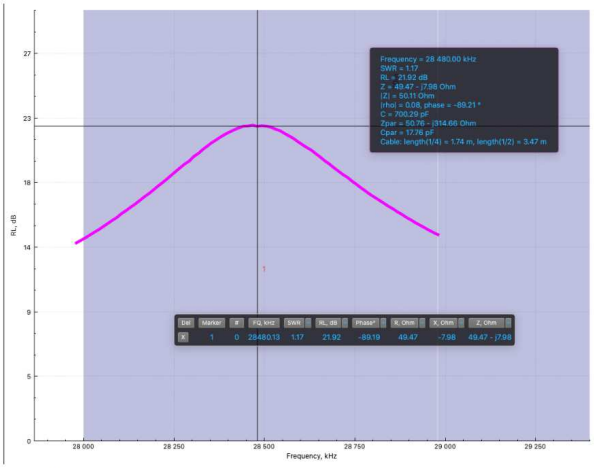
- 13 metres of RG58AU/CU 50 ohm coax. I have included 5m to the radio, you can select a longer or shorter length as required.
- Recycled 2.6 metre length of 18 gauge multi-strand copper wire (alternate to using the coax inner conductor)
- 170 mm length of recycled 50 mm OD plastic pipe. I used orange electrical conduit 50 mm OD.
- 2 small cable ties to clamp the coax to the inside of the 50 mm pipe, top and bottom
- Small section of kitchen cutting board (antenna anchor plate)
- Recycled terminal block
- 50 ohm RF connector of choice

Dimensions:

- Top section 18 gauge wire: 2505 mm
- Braid section of the coax: 2450 mm
- LC choke: 24 turns, 120 mm long
- Remaining 5 metres of coax to the radio or a length of your choice



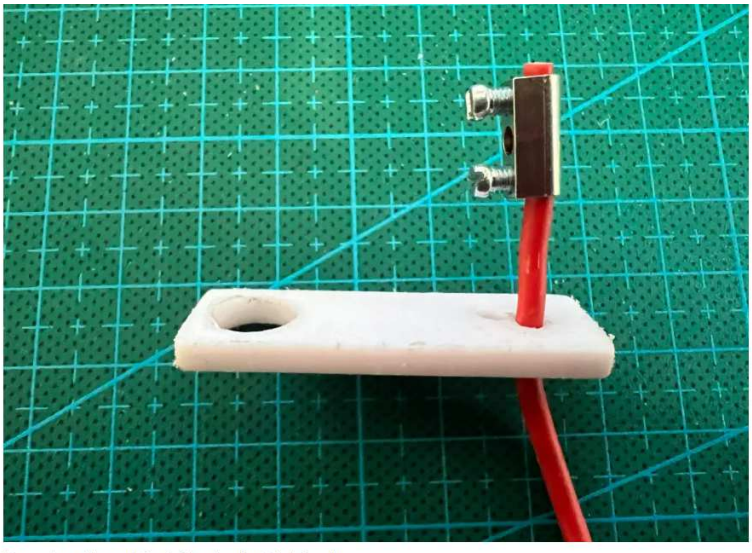




RigExpert AA-600 Return Loss

28 MHz coaxial dipole assembly

Top anchor plate (slides over the top section of the telescopic pole)



Top anchor plate combined with a terminal block insert

For more information go to Andrew's webpage on this antenna at

https://vk1nam.wordpress.com/2022/12/02/28-mhz-antenna-project-10m-flowerpot-antenna/

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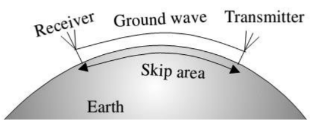
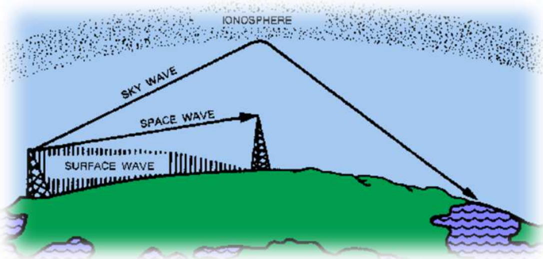
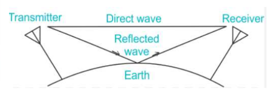
DIRECT LINE OF SIGHT OR GROUND WAVE?







Common misconceptions or is there something more in the mix?

What is Radio Wave Propagation?

To understand the meaning of ground wave propagation, it is important to know the meaning of radio wave propagation. Radio wave propagation is the behaviour of radio waves as they propagate from one point to another or into various parts of the atmosphere. (I am sure someone is saying DUH!! Who doesn't know that? 😊)

Propagation can be classified depending upon the frequencies as

- Ground waves propagation (Propagates close to the ground)
- Skywave propagation (Ionosphere)
- Free space propagation (Direct line of site)

What is Ground Wave Propagation?

Ground wave propagation is a form of signal propagation where the signal travels over the surface of the ground, and as a result it is used to provide regional coverage on the long and medium wave bands.

These waves propagate over the earth's surface in low and medium frequencies. These are mainly used for transmission between the surface of the earth and the ionosphere. *These are made up of several constituent waves.*

It is known as a ground wave because it is the sum of the waves that are reflected by the earth's surface or any hills. The waves follow the earth's curvature, enabling them to cover beyond the horizon. Beyond the horizon, the waves get blocked by the earth's curvature, and the signals are produced by the *diffracted surface wave*.

Ground wave radio signal propagation is ideal for relatively short distance propagation on these frequencies during the daytime. Sky-wave ionospheric propagation is not possible during the day because of the attenuation of the signals on these frequencies caused by the D region in the ionosphere.

In view of this, radio communications stations need to rely on the ground-wave propagation to achieve their coverage.

As previously noted, a ground wave radio signal is made up from a *number of constituents*. If the antennas are in the line of sight then there will be a **direct wave** as well as a **reflected signal**.

As the names suggest the direct signal is one that travels directly between the two antenna and is not affected by the locality. There will also be a reflected signal as the transmission will be reflected by a number of objects including the earth's surface and any hills, or large buildings that may be present.

In addition to this direct line of site wave, there is surface wave. This tends to follow the curvature of the Earth and enables coverage to be achieved beyond the horizon. It is the sum of all these components that is known as the ground wave.

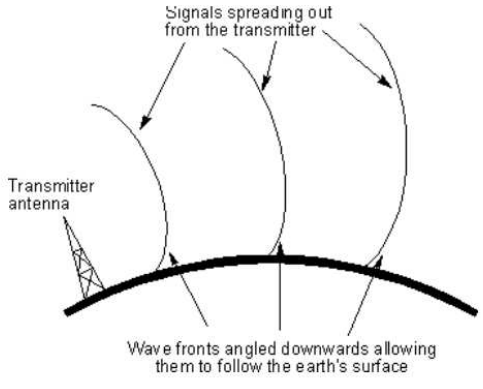
Beyond the horizon the direct and reflected waves are blocked by the curvature of the Earth, and the signal is purely made up from the diffracted surface wave.

It is for this reason that surface wave is commonly called ground wave propagation.

Surface wave

The radio signal spreads out from the transmitter along the surface of the Earth. Instead of just travelling in a straight line the radio signals tend to follow the curvature of the Earth.

This is because currents are induced in the surface of the earth and this action slows down the wave-front in this region, causing the wave-front of the radio communications signal to tilt downwards towards the Earth. With the wave-front tilted in this direction it is able to curve around the Earth and be received well beyond the horizon.



Ground wave radio propagation

Effect of frequency on ground wave propagation

As the wavefront of the ground wave travels along the Earth's surface it is attenuated. The degree of attenuation is dependent upon a variety of factors.

Frequency of the radio signal is one of the major determining factor as losses rise with increasing frequency. *As a result it makes this form of propagation impracticable above the bottom end of the HF portion of the spectrum (3 MHz)*.

Typically a signal at 3.0 MHz will suffer an attenuation that may be in the region of 20 to 60 dB more than one at 0.5 MHz**,** dependent upon a variety of factors in the signal path including the distance.

In view of this it can be seen why even high-power HF radio broadcast stations may only be audible for a few miles from the transmitting site via the ground wave.

Frequencies above 3Mhz that are received some distance away are most likely to be Direct Line of Sight or Space waves.

Effect of the ground

The surface wave is also very dependent upon the nature of the ground over which the signal travels. Ground conductivity, terrain roughness and the dielectric constant all affect the signal attenuation. In addition to this the ground penetration varies, becoming greater at lower frequencies, and this means that it is not just the surface conductivity that is of interest.

At the higher frequencies this is not of great importance, but at lower frequencies penetration means that ground strata down to 100 metres may have an effect.

Despite all these variables, it is found that terrain with good conductivity gives the best result. Thus soil type and the moisture content are of importance.

Salty sea water is the best, and rich agricultural, or marshy land is also good. Dry sandy terrain and city centres are by far the worst. This means sea paths are optimum, although even these are subject to variations due to the roughness of the sea, resulting on path losses being slightly dependent upon the weather! It should also be noted that in view of the fact that signal penetration has an effect, the water table may have an effect dependent upon the frequency in use.

Polarisation & ground wave propagation

The type of antenna and its polarisation has a major effect on ground wave propagation.

Vertical polarisation is subject to considerably less attenuation than horizontally polarised signals. In some cases the difference can amount to several tens of decibels.

It is for this reason that medium wave broadcast stations use vertical antennas, even if they have to be made physically short by adding inductive loading. Ships making use of the MF marine bands often use inverted L antennas as these are able to radiate a significant proportion of the signal that is vertically polarised.

At distances that are typically towards the edge of the ground wave coverage area, some sky-wave signal may also be present, especially at night when the D layer attenuation is reduced. This may serve to reinforce or cancel the overall signal resulting in figures that will differ from those that may be expected.

- ## Advantages of Ground Wave Propagation

  These waves have the tendency to bend around the corners or obstructions during propagation which makes them more efficient and also, these are not affected by the change in atmospheric conditions.

- ## Disadvantages of Ground Wave Propagation

  High-frequency waves cannot be transmitted as the energy losses are more because of the energy absorption in the earth's atmosphere. Anything above 3MHz will most likely be Space wave or direct line of site (Excluding Skywaves)

  These are used to cover short ranges and also involves attenuation of waves as they interact with the eddy currents produced by the surface of the earth.

Applications Ground Wave Propagation

- These can be used for one-way communication from the military to submerged submarines as they penetrate to a significant depth into seawater.
- AM, FM and television broadcasting can be done with the help of ground waves.
- Amateur radio communications in the VLF bands.

The difference between ground wave, sky wave and space wave propagation is given in the table below.

Propagation Type	Ground Wave Propagation	Sky Wave Propagation	Space Wave Propagation
Frequency Range	Low to Medium Frequencies	Medium to High Frequencies	High Frequencies
Distance Range	Short to Medium distances	Medium to Long distances	Short distances
Mode of Propagation	Along the Earth's surface	Reflection off the Ionosphere	Direct Line-of-sight
Interaction with Earth's Surface	Directly interacts with the Earth's surface, follows the curvature of the Earth	Does not interact with the Earth's surface, follows a curved path in the ionosphere	Does not interact with the Earth's surface, follows a straight line
Range of Coverage	Limited range, typically up to a few hundred kilo-meters	Can cover longer distances, up to thousands of kilo-meters	Limited range, typically up to a few tens of kilo-meters
Signal Strength	Relatively strong signal strength, subject to attenuation due to absorption and obstacles	Signal strength can vary due to ionospheric conditions, subject to fading and interference	Relatively strong signal strength, subject to attenuation due to obstacles
Applications	AM radio broadcasting, ground-based communication systems	Shortwave radio, amateur radio, international broadcasting	Cellular communication, line-of-sight microwave links, satellite communication

Handy On Line Calculators

Send us your favourite handy calculator link so we can post it here!

Impedance ….. https://www.omnicalculator.com/physics/rlc-impedance

Wavelength …. https://www.omnicalculator.com/physics/wavelength

PI attenuator values …… https://www.omnicalculator.com/other/pi-attenuator

Xc …… https://www.omnicalculator.com/physics/capacitive-reactance

XL …… https://www.omnicalculator.com/physics/inductive-reactance

Cut Off ….. https://www.omnicalculator.com/physics/cutoff-frequency

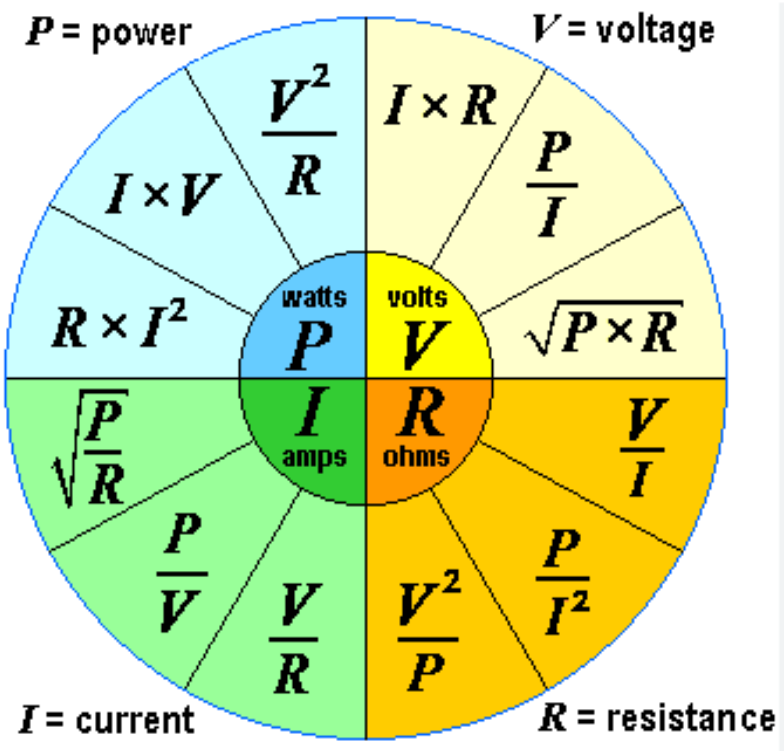
VSWR …… https://www.omnicalculator.com/physics/vswr-voltage-standing-wave-ratio

LM317 Regulator resistor selector ….. https://www.omnicalculator.com/other/lm317

Resistor Colour code calculator….. https://www.digikey.com.au/en/resources/conversion-calculators/conversion-calculator-resistor-color-code

Resistor Heat rise ……. https://calculator.academy/resistor-heat-calculator/

Volt Drop Calculator AC and DC …….. https://www.rapidtables.com/calc/wire/voltage-drop-calculator.html



How many of these can you answer correctly?

Question 1.

The time constant of a 500 microhenry inductor and a 50-ohm resistance is:

(a) 0.2 microsecond
(b) 5 microseconds
(c) 10 microseconds
(d) 125 microseconds

Question 2.

The peak value of an alternating current can be calculated by:

(a) multiplying the rms value by 1.414
(b) multiplying the rms value by the instantaneous value
(c) multiplying the rms value by 0.707
(d) dividing the rms value by the instantaneous value

Question 3.

The frequency of an electromagnetic wave if one complete cycle of emission is completed in 10 microseconds is:

(a) 100 kHz
(b) 200 kHz
(c) 225 kHz
(d) 300 kHz

Question 4.

The transmission from a 100-watt output transmitter contains a harmonic at -60 dB. The power of the harmonic signal component is:

(a) 10 milliwatts
(b) 10 microwatts
(c) 0.1 watt
(d) 0.1 milliwatt

Question 5.

When either L or C is increased, the resonant frequency of an "LC" circuit:

(a) increases
(b) decreases
(c) remains the same
(d) is determined by the shunt resistance

Question 6.

In a series LC circuit at resonance the:

(a) current is minimum
(b) voltage across C is minimum
(c) impedance is maximum
(d) current is maximum

Answers next month ☺

Answers to last month's questions … (Q1 = A ; Q2 = D ; Q3 = D ; Q4 = D ; Q5 = A ; Q6 = A)

How well did you do, will you still pass the test?

OLD PROPAGATOR MEMORIES

THE PROPAGATOR

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 1838 WOLLONGONG N.S.W. 2500

IARS is a Member Club of the Wireless Institute of Australia

PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	EDITOR
Keith Curle, VK2OB 24 Beach Drive Woonona 2517	John Doherty, VK2NHA 7 Risley Road Figtree 2525	Kieran Kennedy, VK2DAN 166 Osborne Parade Warilla 2528

MONTHLY MEETING- Second Monday of each month, 7.30pm at:-

The Congregational Hall, Coombe St. Wollongong.

CLUB STATION- VK2AMW

CLUB REPEATERS- VK2RAW, Channel 5 2 metres.
VK2RUW, Channel 1 70 centimetres.

MONTHLY BROADCAST- 7.15pm EAST on the Sunday preceeding the meeting night. IARS Broadcast frequency:-
Repeater Ch5 or Simplex Ch40
Relay on 28.460 MHz & UHF repeater Ch1

CLUB NETS- 6 Metres 8.30am Sundays - 52.525 MHz FM.
10 Metres 8.00pm Sundays - 28.460 MHz USB.

AUCTION;

THIS MONTH'S MEETING-
There will be an auction, so bring along that piece of gear that you have been thinking of selling.

CONDITIONS OF AUCTION;
1. No useless junk (only good junk please)
2. Reserve prices may be set by seller.
3. A commission of 10% paid to club. (Max. limit $10.00 comm.)

COMING SOCIAL EVENT;
The committee is organizing a bar-b-que outing at Sadleback Mountain on Sunday 16-Dec-79.
Cooking facilitys will be provided. (BYO)

NEXT MEETING- 12-Nov-79.

BLUE MOUNTAINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

VK2AUX/VK2NCM

President: Steve Leatheam VK2BGL
Secretary: Debbie Leatheam

P.O. Box 54,
SPRINGWOOD. 2777.

26th August, 1979

The Secretary,

The Illawarra A.R.S.

Dear Fellow Amateurs,

The Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club is having its Annual Field Day this year on Sunday, November 25th, at the Springwood High School.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to all the members of your club to bring their family for an enjoyable outing on this day. A programme of the events has been enclosed, and we would further draw your attention to the various competitions in which you can take part: Homebrew competition
QSL Card competition
Auction.

Items for these events may be submitted beforehand, or presented upon Registration on the day. Registration will cost $2.00 for OM's and $1.00 for students; family 'extras' are free. A range of food and drinks will be on sale, or there is room for a picnic lunch.

Registrations will open at 0900 Hours. For any further information regarding our Field Day, please contact the Secretary, P.O. Box 54 Springwood.

Looking forward to seeing you in November,

Cheers,

Steve Leatheam.
(for Field Day Committee)

FIELD DAY PROGRAMME.

9.00	Registration Opens
9.00 - 9.30	Scramble VHF/HF (submit logs to Registration table when completed)
10.00 - 10.30	Pedestrian Sniffer Hunt
10.30 - 11.30	Mobile/Pedestrian Fox Hunt (with Sniffers)
11.30 - 12.00	Radio throwing contest -- Ladies only.
12.00 - 12.30	Pedestrian Sniffer Hunt
12.30 - 1.30	Talk-In Fox Hunt (maps provided)
2.00 - 3.00	Mobile Fox Hunt (with Sniffers)
3.15 - 4.00	Auction
4.00	Prize Giving and Close.

Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club Award.

Have you tried out for this Award? The certificate is available to amateurs who have made five separate contacts with members of the Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club.

Look at your Scramble Log...Are you eligible?
Submit all log details to the Registration table and collect your award, for only 50 cents.

Otherwise, applicants should forward 50 cents in stamps, money order or personal cheque to the Secretary, P.O. Box 54, SPRINGWOOD. 2777

Will share more oldies next month.

To read more information about this old propagator and others, use the link below
https://www.iars.org.au/?page_id=52

Mid South Coast Amateur Radio Club Inc.

www.mscarc.org.au

&

IARS Illawarra Amateur Radio Society

Amateur Radio in Wollongong since 1948

Picnic June 15th Seven Mile Beach

Even the rain could not stop the **hardened bunch** of enthusiastic amateur radio members getting out on Saturday for a sausage sizzle and get together. Although we were lucky to have it all under cover 😊

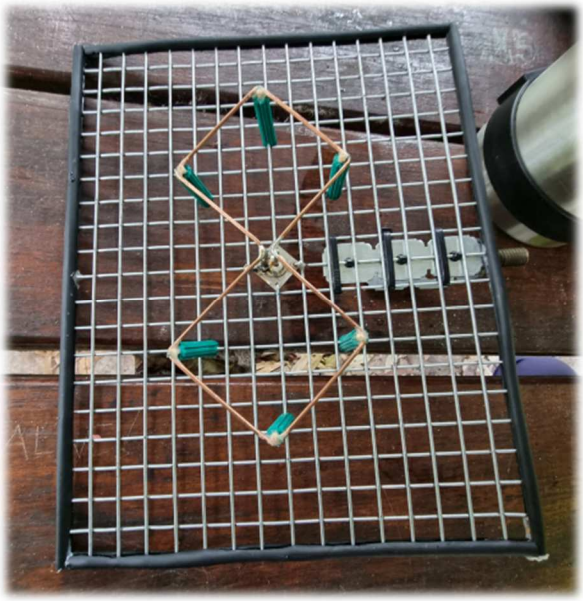
We even had a special guest, Martin VK2VOM, previous President of the MSCARC who recently moved to Coonamble but joined us while visiting family in Nowra. Martin kindly offered (arm twisted 😊) to cook for us seeing that he had experience with his previous kitchen business, thanks Martin.

Martin VK2VOM cooking while the guests look on

Fox hunting equipment

Bob, VK2BYF

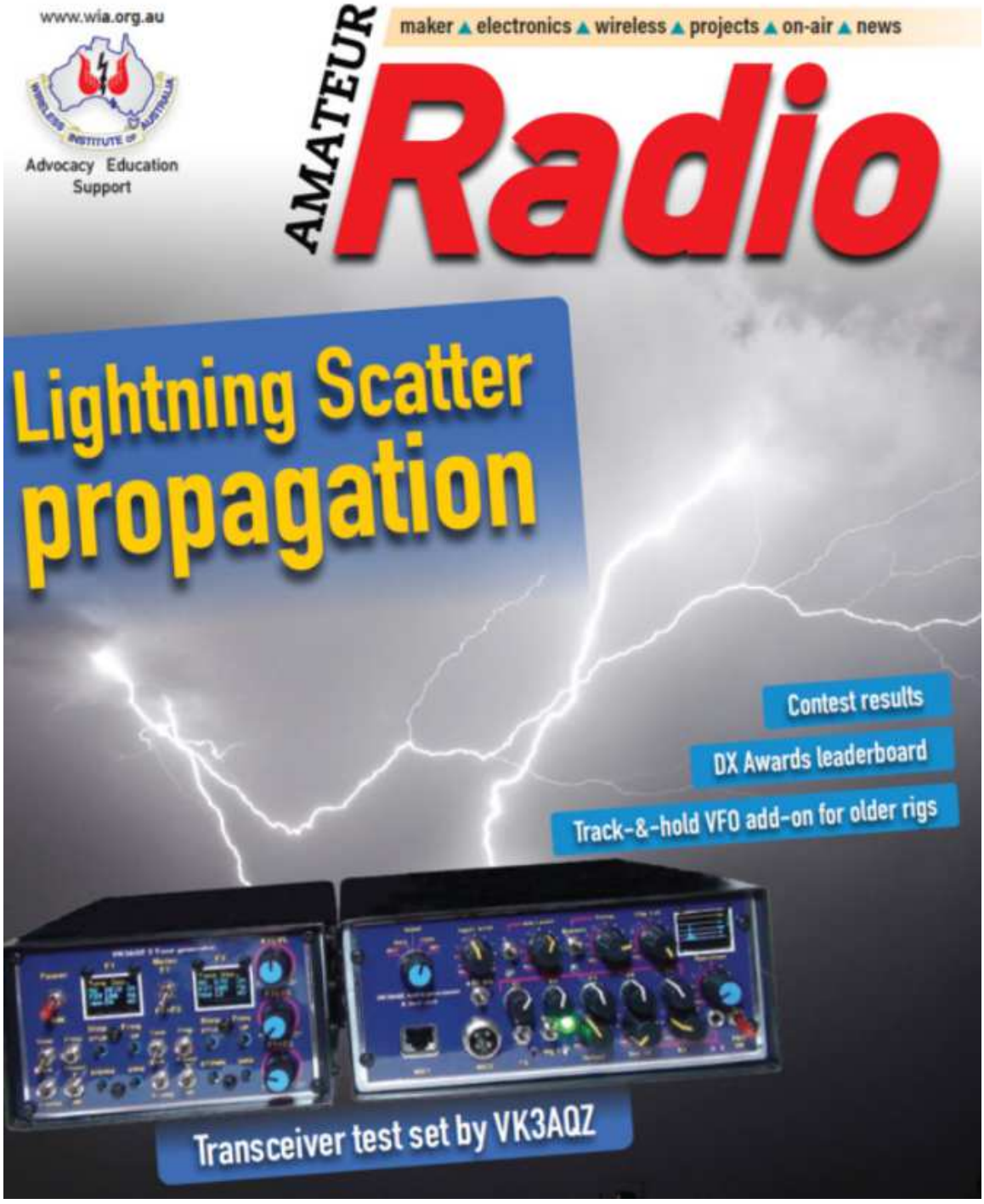
Gerald, VK2HBG getting some QSO's on the log



and no, this is not the BBQ grill 😊

The "tough ones" rain not an issue 😊 , a very enjoyable day. Watch out for the next combined picnic and fox hunt!

LATEST AR MAGAZINE from the WIA.



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More information on this link ….. https://www.wia.org.au/members/armag/2024/may/

Upcoming Contests ……

VHF UHF Field Days

Contest Manager

Roger Harrison VK2ZRH. Dateline: 29 November 2023

The VK Contest Logger - VKCL, v4.15, can now be downloaded from the VK Contest Club website. Mike Subocz' website is no longer online. The new URL is immediately below (and under "Logging Software"):

http://www.vkcc.com/2022/11/09/vk-contest-logger-version-4-15/

Work on outstanding results for past Field Days is continuing.

At right: Kevin VK4UH operating on multiple bands in 2023.

Coming up 22nd June 2024, more info at this link https://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/

Trans-Tasman Low-Band Contest

Trans Tasman Low Band Contest

Contest Manager

Alan Shannon VK4SN

Contest Introduction

Next contest - 20 JUL 2024

The Trans-Tasman contest, held on the 3rd weekend in July, aims to encourage Low Band activity between VK and ZL

Only contest bands 160 80 and 40M are allowed with SSB, CW and Digital (RTTY OR PSK)

More information on this link https://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/transtasman/

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2024 IARU HF World Championship Contest

01/ 04/ 2024 The 2024 IARU HF World Championship Contest takes place the second full weekend of July, beginning 1200 UTC Saturday and ending 1200 UTC Sunday (13-14 July 2024). Both Single and Multi operator stations may operate the entire 24-hour period.

More information please use this link https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2024/20240401-3/index.php

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23cm Fun day on the 23rd of EVERY MONTH !!

If you are interested in 23cm or higher communications, the local IARS members are getting together with the MSCARC members on the 23rd of every month to have a fun day around the Illawarra area.

For more information, please contact Rob Heyer VK2XIC at vk2xic@gmail.com

AR NEWS

WIA Directors meet with ARRL at Dayton Hamvention

Date : 01 / 06 / 2024
Author : Chris Dimitrijevic - VK3FY

Dayton Hamvention May 17-19th 2024

WIA Directors Lee Moyle VK3GK and Chris Dimitrijevic VK3FY, attended this year's Dayton Hamvention which was held at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Centre in Xenia, Ohio.

This event opened with pouring rain, but that did not dampen the crowds that had come to see that latest gear that was being displayed for the first time.

Both Lee VK3GK Chris VK3FY met with ARRL President Rick Roderick K5UR. The discussions included various topics concerning amateur radio in todays day and age, membership numbers and Youth.

This year's event has achieved a record number of attendees with the attendance of 35,877 having been announced by Dayton Hamvention Committee recently.

Information link https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2024/20240601-2/index.php

ACMA, VK9/VK0 Callsigns and Class Licence Callsign Documents

Date : 01 / 06 / 2024
Author : Scott Williams - VK3KJ

With the recent introduction of Class Licensing, following is the current situation with the WIA's position on the use of VK9 & VK0 prefixes and Callsign Documentation.

The WIA's position is that we are seeking to have the regulator, ACMA, restore the original call area designations.

For that to happen would take an update to the Class Licence to correct this.

Discussions to achieve this so far have proved very positive and we are hopeful that a resolution and restoration of the status quo prior to the class licence can be achieved in the near future.

More detailed information here …… https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2024/20240601-1/index.php

Trash and Treasure

Return to Home

ARNSW runs a Trash and Treasure sales event every 2 months.

The Trash and Treasure sale offers used amateur radio equipment such as transceivers, antennas and radios accessories. In addition there are many other radio related items such as magazines, books, electronic components and used commercial communications equipment. Food and drinks are available at the event.

The event is also an opportunity for sellers to connect with buyers in the pleasant rural environment of the ARNSW Dural site. A space can be rented for $10 for boot sales with cover under the Centenary Building veranda available should the usual sunny weather not be available. If a seller has a large quantity of equipment for sale or requires undercover space for a display contact ARNSW to make arrangements.

We do not know if and when, we will ever see another Mayem (Wyong) Field day, we need to start supporting the clubs that do have a field day with "grab a bargain" sales day so that we don't end up having nothing!

Support ARNSW Trash and treasure, who knows, it may become the place for the next great event 😉.

More information please use this link https://www.arnsw.org.au/html/page_tt.htm

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Petition EN6254 - Restoration of a validation document to authorised amateur radio operators

Petition Status

The petition is currently **open** for signatures

There is currently a petition to the Australian government to restore the validation of AR certification.

More at this link ……… https://www.aph.gov.au/e-petitions/petition/EN6254?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR172JsKKFoYrNND_udNR2nrZMx763eo44k6wVJeORB0GQmNTK6V5TKigVg_aem_AaY_5rWiQyRXyHueMyIKUcQZOSNe5z0sg8QLd-Ls_Qj4zxCM8Zt9VDhV6nPy5cIa1FXWkFoK-Vq3spxq1_zxu3dM

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Upcoming meeting presentations ……………………………

- **July 2024** : Repair Workshop Keith VK2KQB, Testing, DIY equipment repairs & easy schematic reading .
- **August 2024** : **IARS AGM** also Voting for New proposed IARS Constitution
- **September 2024** : Surprise , a very interesting topic …………… Keep your eyes on this space 😊
- **October 2024** : **Show and Tell**
- **November 2024** : **IARS Annual Auction** (Simon VK2XQX)
- **December 2024** : Pizza Dinner
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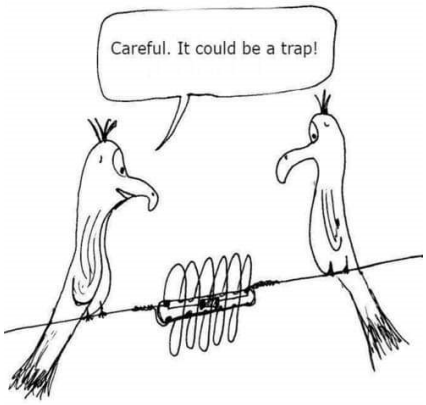
Fun Corner

Please send in your funnies to iars.keithb@gmail.com

Thanks to all that sent in funnies.



The **IARS needs YOUR input and support,** any technical items, amateur radio news, any projects you would like to share, in fact any AR related goings on are welcomed.
Feedback is also very important for us as it helps maintain a good read, if you would like to see more of something, or would like to see a subject added. Please let us know iars.keithb@gmail.com

That's all for now, hopefully catch you all at the
Blue Scope visitors centre on the 9th of July 7.30pm

73
Keith VK2KQB
IARS Secretary

IARS, Amateur Radio in the Illawarra since 1948