



*** QDG DIGIPEAT August 2013 ***

Digipeat is the Official Newsletter of the Queensland Digital Group
Incorporating 'Amateur Eye', the Official Newsletter of the
South East Queensland Amateur Television Group

August General Meeting

The August QDG general meeting will be held on Friday August 16 at the Chermside Library, meeting Room 1.

The doors will open at 7:00pm for a meeting start of 7:30pm; if you arrive late, please push the buzzer for entry.

The library is near the shops on the corner of Hamilton Rd and Kittyhawk Dr (enter from Kittyhawk Dr).

Location map:

<http://my247.com.au/brisbane/Chermside-Library.6803>

NEWS FROM THE SEQATV GROUP

The group is determined to provide ATV repeater access to as many people as possible in South East Queensland.

Work being undertaken in SEQ includes the building of a linked digital ATV repeater system with sites at Ocean View, Maleny, Springbrook and Mt. Kynoch.

VK4RKC is presently on air at Ocean View.

SEQATV group will become incorporated as soon as the paperwork goes through.

The group will soon have its own Web site and domain. The clubs email address will also be changing.

The 3rd World ATV QSO Party

The World Digital Amateur Television QSO Party later this month involve at least Australia, USA and the British Amateur TV Club streaming website. All participation ends up on the Melbourne-Geelong repeater VK3RTV.

Hosted by Peter Cossins VK3BFG, the event kicks off at 8pm (AEST) on Friday August 30.

It starts with an Australian hook-up, either directly through VK3RTV or remote stations can use a pre-arranged Skype feed.

He will transmit all participating stations through VK3RTV, seen in Melbourne on 446.5 MHz DVB-T, and also to the world via the BATC website.

Among them is Mick Ampt VK3CH who intends to run his portable ATV set-up, while members of Melbourne's EMDRC are ready to exercise their new DATV facility.

Commitments are in from most Australian states. This year transmissions appearing firstly through an anchor on the VK4RKC Brisbane DATV Repeater, will then be relayed to VK3RTV and the world.

On Saturday August 31 (AEST) morning and afternoon will link up with the W6ATN Southern California network via the local anchor Don Hill KE6BXT.

All US stations should work through the Californian ATV network or Skype into Don KE6BXT, who will then send the video for distribution through VK3RTV.

Ken Konechy W6HHC in Orange County California will give an update on the DATV Express project. Developed by radio amateurs in Britain and USA it aims to produce a cheap digital transmit system.

The event truly brings together those who are actively involved or have an interest in the ATV visual medium.

Jim Linton VK3PC

Regards Peter VK3BFG

<http://www.vk3rtv.com/latest.html>

Viva DATV

Tutioune is a new software utility that has been specially developed to provide radio amateurs and DVB technicians with a tool that allows Digital ATV (DVB-S) to be measured precisely.

With Tutioune there is no more frustration at seeing only "level and "quality" information from standard satellite receivers; basic quality guidance that fails to satisfy technical users.

<http://www.vivadatv.org/page.php?p=tutioune-en>

Hamtv Amateur Television Project

The ARISS HAMTV project will make possible to view the astronauts and their ISS living habitat to ground stations operated by radio-amateurs. Visit www.amsat.it/

Description

HamTV is an Amsat-Italia project developed within the ARISS/ArCOL WG, its purpose is to transmit digital video from the International Space Station as a complement of the half-duplex voice link carried out within the ARISS school contacts activities.

The payload is intended to be embarked on the Columbus module of the ISS where an amateur station will be installed and operated. It will use S-Band antennas already installed outside the European module.

The sequence of voice and video transmitted towards the Earth will be captivating, procuring a very intense experience of the pass of the ISS over the ground stations.

<http://www.amsat.it/iframes.html>

Viva DATV

Ground Station Equipment to receive Ham Video from the Space Station.

<http://www.vivadatv.org/viewtopic.php?f=70&t=223>

Ham Radio software is made Open Source

Makoto Mori JE3HHT has made his popular amateur radio software MMTTY, MMSSTV and MMVARI open source enabling anyone to experiment with the code

MMTTY, MMSSTV and MMVARI were originally developed by Mako JE3HHT.

MMTTY supports RTTY, MMSSTV supports Slow Scan Television (SSTV), and MMVARI supports RTTY, PSK, and MFSK.

As of August 1, 2013, all three applications are released to open source development under the LGPL license.

There are three discussion groups for the software:

- MMTTY Yahoo Group
- MMVARI Yahoo Group
- MMSSTV Yahoo Group

Further information at

<http://mm-open.org/>

Space Weather Updates

by SolarHam

www.spaceweatherupdates.com

How to secure your passwords in Chrome and Firefox

Chrome and Firefox both store your saved passwords in plain text. So how do you keep them safe? A "feature" of Chrome and Firefox has been getting a little attention this week — namely, that your saved passwords are not as secure as you might think. Whenever you enter a password into a website and click "Yes" when asked if you'd like the browser to remember it, the browser does not encrypt the password. Rather, it stores a plain-text version that you can access with just a few clicks.

<http://www.cnet.com.au/how-to-secure-your-passwords-in-chrome-and-firefox-339345096.htm>

Major Geeks

Computer files, Geek-Wear, shopping, support forum and downloads.

<http://www.majorgeeks.com/>

TechPowerUp

Computers/Internet Website

techPowerUp! is a friendly community of hardware enthusiasts and the home of ATI Tool & GPU-ZAt

Reviews, forums, downloads and more

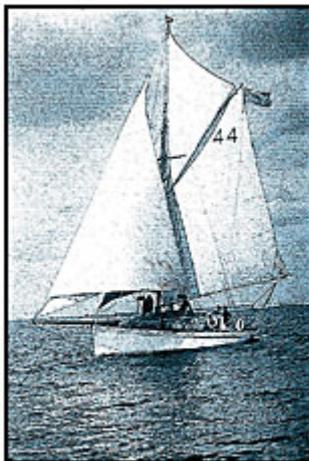
<http://www.techpowerup.com/>

NextPowerUp

NextPowerUp, our passion is to explore what comes next in consumer technology.

Coming to you from the house of TechPowerUp, our belief system is constant: to bring you up to speed on the very latest in consumer technology, fastest.

<http://www.nextpowerup.com/>



The **YASME**
FOUNDATION

PO Box 20578 ■ Castro Valley, California 94546

A not-for-profit corporation organized to conduct scientific and educational projects related to Amateur Radio

www.yasme.org

The YASME Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation organized to conduct scientific and educational projects related to Amateur Radio, including DXing (long distance communication) and the introduction and promotion of Amateur Radio in developing countries.

<http://www.yasme.org/>

RemoteQTH.com

This Open source project offers a solution to remote control of your Amateur radio station.

Base for connecting other components and their remote control. The main advantage is low cost and adaptability (open source code).

<http://remoteqth.com/index.php>

Make:

How to Choose the Right Platform: Raspberry Pi or BeagleBone Black

<http://makezine.com/magazine/how-to-choose-the-right-platform-raspberry-pi-or-beaglebone-black/>

High Power Trial Ends in August

As all participants in the High Power Trial know, it ends on Sunday the 31st of August.

At a meeting between the WIA and the ACMA on Monday 5th August, the ACMA told the Institute that the arrangements put in place to authorise the use of higher power will not be made permanent.

Following lengthy discussion, the ACMA agreed to the WIA's request to re-visit the matter, which could happen as early as next year.

Naturally this will be a disappointment to many Advanced licensees, not the least for those who participated in the trial over the past year. The WIA is also disappointed.

The ACMA revealed that its decision was reached after reviewing data it obtained during an assessment process that began back in March this year.

According to the ACMA, the trial demonstrated a lack of awareness by some Advanced Licensees of their licence conditions.

Of particular concern to the ACMA were issues related to compliance with electromagnetic energy requirements and that this lack of awareness is not confined to the use of higher power than the 400 watts already permitted.

The ACMA said that the results of the trial demonstrate there is a need to raise awareness among licensees of their licence conditions, and that this should not be confined to Advanced Licensees, adding that the ACMA looks forward to working with the WIA to achieve that objective.

It is important to realize that radio amateurs are not being singled out here. Compliance with electromagnetic energy requirements applies to all apparatus licensees, including broadcasting, maritime services and others. The ACMA also remarked on the lack of awareness of electromagnetic energy compliance generally among other licensees.

To address this issue, and to prepare for another approach to the ACMA next year, the Institute has begun implementing plans to promote widespread awareness of the necessary compliance with electromagnetic energy requirements for amateur stations.

Electromagnetic radiation is not just a technical issue, it also a political issue among sectors of the community, as you may be aware, and we as licensed amateurs need to be mindful of that.

I would like to thank the members of the Spectrum Strategy Committee for their diligent work over the course of the High Power Trial: Peter Young VK3MV, Doug McArthur VK3UM, Noel Higgins VK3NH and Roger Harrison VK2ZRH.

Phil Wait - VK2ASD (WIA Web site)

High Power Trial - Compliance Level Re-assessment

Doug VK3UM has now tweaked the EMR Calculator to fully comply with the ACMA requirements, and all

licensees taking part in the High Power Trial should now re-evaluate their station using the VK3UM calculator which is available for download via the "Amateur Radio And EMR Issues" web pag

<http://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2013/20130721-1/index.php>

ACMA Radcom Database

Register of Radiocommunications Licences

http://web.acma.gov.au/pls/radcom/register_search.main_page

2m SSB

Sunshine Coast 2m SSB net

19:30 Sundays on 144.4 MHz

Don't just use your equipment on field days, come up on air every Sunday.

New 13CM repeater

The Sunshine Coast 23CM FM voice repeater is now on air.

Tx 1293.3 MHz Rx 1273.3 MHz

91.5 Hz tone

This can be accessed from Brisbane

SEQATV Club Net

Wednesday nights

7:30 PM EST on VK4RAX 147.075 MHz repeater

2013 dates

Remembrance Day Contest August 17th and 18th

The 24 hour contest starts at 0300z or 1pm Australian Eastern Time.

This contest commemorates the Amateurs who died during World War II and is designed to encourage friendly participation and help improve the operating skills of participants.

It is held on the weekend closest to the 15th August, the date on which hostilities ceased in the southwest Pacific area.

<http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/rdcontest/>

International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend

August 17-18 Duration 48 hours from 0001 UTC 17.8.2013

Annual Amateur Radio weekend event. conducted under the sponsorship of the Ayr Amateur Radio Group, (AARG), Scotland.

Held on the third full weekend in August.

<http://illw.net/>

Sunfest Woombye Qld

September 14th

<http://www.vk4wis.org/>

North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention Charters Towers

October 3- 7

<http://www.tarc.org.au/>

Redcliffe Hamfest

October 5th

Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club Inc.

Date has been set as the 5th October 2013 for inaugural event.

<http://www.redclifferadioclub.org.au/>

Gold Coast ARS HamFest at Albert Waterways Hall

November 2nd

<http://www.gcars.com.au/hamfest-2013>

Contests 2013

Spring VHF-UHF Field Day 2013 - 23/24 November

Summer VHF-UHF Field Day 2014 - 11/12 January (date to be confirmed)

<http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/>

QDG information

QDG meeting dates 2013

August 16

September 20

October 18

November 15

December 6 (Combined SEQATV Group QDG meeting, meeting Room 1)

Unless otherwise noted, QDG group general meetings are held on the third Friday on the month at the Chermside Library, Meeting Room 1.

The doors will open at 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start; if you arrive late, please push the buzzer for entry.

The library is near the shops on the corner of Hamilton Rd and Kittyhawk Dr (enter from Kittyhawk Dr).

Location map:

<http://my247.com.au/brisbane/Chermside-Library.6803>

QDG Membership

QDG Membership is presently free.

As of June 2012 the QDG has 59 members.

Information and a list of members are up on the web site <http://www.qdg.org.au/qdgmemb.htm>

Membership forms are on the web site.

QDG Membership services

Members receive additional 'Digipeat Extra' emails and invitations to other club activities not included in the Digipeat newsletter.

Sound Card to Radio Interface

This computer to radio interface can be used for any audio mode including voice.

The SCI provides isolation to remove earth loops as well as providing switching and level adjustment.

Contact Richard VK4ZA on 07 3376 5231, email vk4za@qdg.org.au or via the QDG web site.

Please contact Richard if you are interested in a dual interface PC board or a mark 2 version with modified connections.

QDG club contacts

Club contact: Alan Wills VK4NA

Digipeat Editor: Alan Wills VK4NA

Web site: Alan Wills VK4NA

Web site hosting: Tim O'Donohoe

Supper: Alan Wills VK4NA

JOTA: Richard VK4ZA

Phone: Alan Wills VK4NA after hours on 61 07 3351 1673

Twitter @VK4NA

Email: qdg@qdg.org.au

Web site: <http://www.qdg.org.au>

Digipeat <http://www.qdg.org.au/qdgdigi.htm>

South East Queensland ATV group Information

SEQATV meeting dates 2013

August 6
September 3
October 1
November 5
December 3 (Combined SEQATV Group QDG meeting)

Unless otherwise noted, SEQATV group general meetings are held on the first Tuesday on the month at the Chermside Library, Meeting Room 1.

The doors will open at 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start; if you arrive late, please push the buzzer for entry. The library is near the shops on the corner of Hamilton Rd and Kittyhawk Dr (enter from Kittyhawk Dr).

Location map:

<http://my247.com.au/brisbane/Chermside-Library.6803>

SEQATV group Membership

SEQATV group Membership is set at the AGM, please contact the secretary for the current fee. The membership fee remains at \$20.00 for 2013

SEQATV group Membership services

Members receive additional 'Amateur Eye Extra' emails and invitations to other club activities not included in the Digipeat or Amateur Eye newsletters.

SEQATV Club Net

Wednesday nights
7:30 PM EST on VK4RAX 147.075 MHz repeater

The SEQATV group Officers

Elected officers:-

President: Arnold Youngberg VK4SU
Secretary: Peter Schrader VK4EA
Treasurer: Richard Cardon VK4XRL

Coopted Officers:-

Technical Officer: Danny Granger VK4KI
Callback Officer: Peter Jones VK4YAC
Vice President: Alan Wills VK4NA

Additional coopted officers will be added as required.

SEQATV group Contact Information

South East Queensland Amateur Television Group
PO Box 3, Chermside Qld 4032, Australia

Amateur Eye (club mag) Phone: Alan Wills VK4NA after hours on 61 07 3351 1673

Email: seqatv@qdg.org.au

Web site: <http://www.qdg.org.au/seqatv.htm>

Enjoy your hobby!

73 Alan VK4YAR / VK4NA

*** Queensland Digital Group ***

*** SEQATV group ***

** Supporting Radio Communications in VK4 **