



### \*\*\* QDG DIGIPEAT February 2017 \*\*\*

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

## February QDG Meeting

The Next QDG general meeting will be held on Friday February 17 at the Redcliffe club rooms.  
Doors will open at 7:00pm for a meeting start of 7:30pm.

The club is located at MacFarlane Park in Klingner Rd, Kippa Ring. (UBD Map 91 Ref G 1)

<https://www.google.com.au/maps/place/MacFarlane+Park,+Kippa+Ring+QLD+4021/@-27.2214151,153.0882619,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x6b93e5f47d867511:0xe926a70030364326>

## Editorial

This summer has seen a large number of VHF openings so I expect to hear of your great DX at the meeting.

Alan VK4NA



FossHub is a part of FOSS (you can read more about F/OSS, FOSS, FLOSS terms here) community focused on providing downloads and hosting for the free projects. We also list a limited number of free software titles that can be categorized as "freeware", "proprietary" or "closed-source" software (please read below the "Controversy" or "Manifest" section). We HATE pop-ups, spyware, and excessive ads. We are against deceptive/misleading advertising and we HATE bundles\* (READ THE DISCLAIMER SECTION BELOW). Please note that we do not modify software binaries, and we strive to be recognized as one of the most trustworthy places when it comes down to free software.

<https://www.fosshub.com/>

## LibreOffice 5.3

LibreOffice 5.3 Is The 'Most Feature-Rich Release' Ever

This new version of open-source office suite LibreOffice introduces a number of key new features and continues work on improving the look and feel of the app across all major platforms.

<http://www.omgubuntu.co.uk/2017/02/libreoffice-5-3-released-billed-feature-rich-release-ever>

## 400 WATT OIL-FILLED DUMMY LOAD

A dummy load is just one of those standard tools that you need in the shack. It's a load that has a purely resistive impedance of 50 ohms at all frequencies of interest (HF in my case). You don't need to pollute the airwaves while just tuning or testing your transmitter!

[https://www.nonstopsystems.com/radio/frank\\_radio\\_antenna\\_dummy.htm](https://www.nonstopsystems.com/radio/frank_radio_antenna_dummy.htm)

## The origins of the Australian Plug and other Electrical Trivia

(This link is back due to popular demand)

Most people never give it any thought every time they plug in an appliance, but have you considered where the design of the three pin plug and socket configuration used in Australia, NZ & the South Pacific came from? Did you know it is actually an American plug (albeit obsolete) we are using? Read on if this interests you...

<http://members.iinet.net.au/~cool386/plug/plug.html>

# SPEEDY SPARES

Parts and references

<https://speedyspares.com/index.html>



Australian support for the latest products & technologies

<http://www.x-on.com.au/>



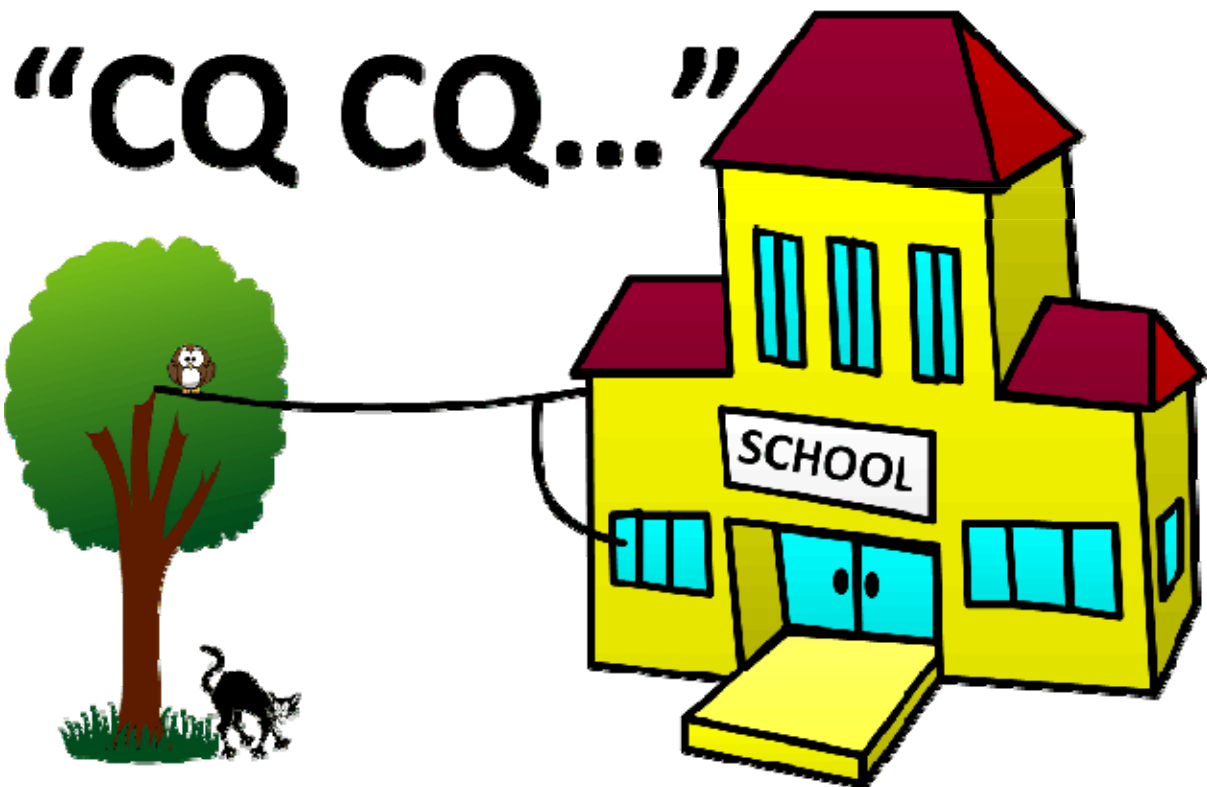
Radio frequency parts

<http://www.surplussales.com/homenew.html#Radio-Frequency>

## AT&T Archives

Similarities of Wave Behavior (Bonus Edition)

<http://techchannel.att.com/play-video.cfm/2011/3/7/AT&T-Archives-Similarities-of-Wave-Behavior>



## School Amateur Radio Club Network

This site is a free on-line resource for anyone associated with or thinking about setting up a School Amateur Radio Club. That is, a fun, school lunch-time activity for a select group of students who would rather be tinkering with electronic gadgets and exploring the air waves than dodging footballs or watching cricket.

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

## Ionospheric Map

Global HF

[http://www.sws.bom.gov.au/HF\\_Systems/6/5](http://www.sws.bom.gov.au/HF_Systems/6/5)

## Tube Radio Australia

The Tube Radio Australia Site Offers -

Information on Projects, Information, and restoration tips in our restoration sections

Manuals and information on some WWII radios in the Ray Robinson Manuals Section !

The Site is owned and Maintained by Ray Poularas this is shared by my Colleague Ray Robinson who is also an expert in WWII Military and Australian AWA radios.

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



## Messi & Paoloni

50 Ohm Cables - Ham Radio

Cables for transceivers, for both professional and amateur 50 Ohm applications.

<http://www.messi.it/en/catalogue/50-ohm-cables-ham-radio.htm>



## Conference 2017 is in Rotorua

Queens Birthday Weekend 3rd to 4th June 2017

<http://www.hamradio.co.nz/>

## HF Mobile Antennas - Ham Nation

Gordon West (WB6NOA) talks about HF mobile antennas, and getting the feed-point impedance at 50 Ohms. Also covered, is a recommendation on the type of antenna vehicle mounts to use, and those to avoid.

<http://qrznow.com/hf-mobile-antennas-ham-nation-2/>



## WIA 2017 AGM and Weekend Of Activities - Hahndorf

19th, 20th and 21st of May 2017

Inspiring Leadership: the Future of Amateur Radio

The WIA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Technical Forum will be held over the weekend of 19th, 20th and 21st May 2017 at the Adelaide Hills Convention Centre in Hahndorf.

Hahndorf is a small town in the Adelaide Hills region of South Australia. An important tourism spot, it has previously been a centre for farming and services. It is accessible from Adelaide, the South Australian capital, via the South Eastern Freeway. Being an easily reached and exceptional location it is expected that this AGM weekend will be very well attended.

<http://www.wia.org.au/joinwia/wia/2017agm/>

## The LCA 2017 Open Radio Mini Conference

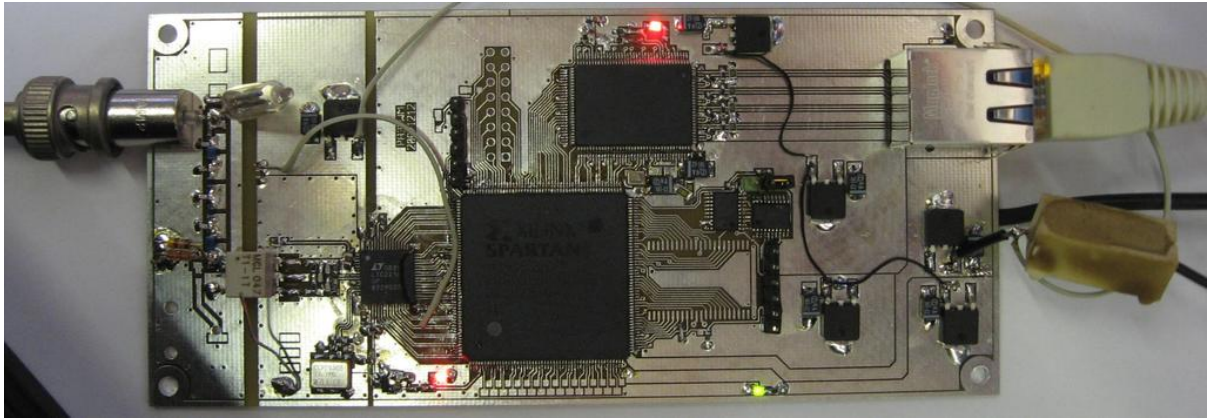
This week I had the pleasure of attending Linux Conference Australia, the largest Free & Open Source Software Community event in Australia. As part of the conference there were a series of mini conferences held in the first two days and I was lucky enough to be asked to be involved with the Open Radio Mini Conference.

<http://www.vk7ben.id.au/2017/01/21/the-lca-2017-open-radio-mini-conference/>

# Minikits.COM.AU

23cm 1296MHz UHF RX/TX Preamplifier

<http://www.minikits.com.au/eme221-23cm>



## Wide-band WebSDR

On this page you can listen to and control a short-wave receiver located at the amateur radio club ETGD at the University of Twente. In contrast to other web-controlled receivers, this receiver can be tuned by multiple users simultaneously, thanks to the use of Software-Defined Radio.

<http://websdr.ewi.utwente.nl:8901/>

## VK5PAS

Amateur Radio site

<https://vk5pas.org/solar-conditions-and-propagation/>

## ELECTRONIC STUDIO | Electronic Component's Source

- RF Parts
- Vintage Electronic Parts
- Vintage Tubes
- RF Amplifiers
- Video Transmitters
- Couplers-Sensors
- Specials

<http://www.electronicstudio.net/rf-amplifier.html>

## OSH Park

RPi Radio Interface v1.1 Rev B

A digital mode soundcard interface for the Raspberry Pi!

- Selectable transmit and receive channels
- Transmit audio level pot
- Adjustable watchdog timeout
- DCD (received packet) LED
- Single-wire or 'Kenwood' handheld PTT
- Standard Kantronics DB-9 radio interface
- Native 3.3v Rpi logic levels
- Standard 60mm x 60mm 'Sick of Beige' PCB size
- Open Hardware

[https://oshpark.com/shared\\_projects/dotsia3r](https://oshpark.com/shared_projects/dotsia3r)



# VK4ICE

online

## VK & ZL HamFests & Events for 2017

This is a comprehensive list of Hamfests and Events in all states of Australia and New Zealand.

<http://www.vk4ice.com/hamfests.htm>

## Checking bandwidth with receiver

A receiver can be used to check BW if we understand what we are doing!

[https://www.w8ji.com/checking\\_bandwidth\\_with\\_receiver.htm](https://www.w8ji.com/checking_bandwidth_with_receiver.htm)

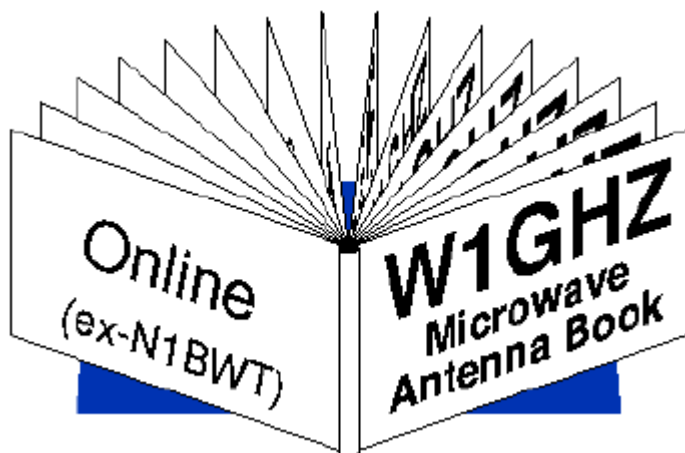
## The Ionosphere and GNSS: Explained

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=w-5HI2b\\_wKE&app=desktop](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=w-5HI2b_wKE&app=desktop)

## VK5BJE

My name is John. I am an amateur radio operator. Here I share some of my experiences

<https://vk5bje.com/>



The W1GHZ Online Microwave Antenna Book

Paul Wade W1GHZ (ex N1BWT) ©

1994,1995,1996,1997,1998,1999,2000,2001,2002,2003,2005,2006

<http://www.w1ghz.org/antbook/contents.htm>



## Indian Ocean 6m EME DXpedition

This DXpedition will be one of the most expensive and lengthy dedicated 6m EME DXpeditions in which I have been involved. Not only is it a long, expensive journey to get there, but both these DXCC are also very expensive places to stay. And in order to activate both DXCC during optimum times of the month for EME, the trip had to be stretched out over more than 6 weeks. But it is worth it to go someplace VERY rare so you can hand out a new DXCC with virtually every half million mile contact.

<http://www.bigskyspaces.com/w7gj/Indian%20Ocean%202017.htm>

## Chertsey Radio Club (CRC)

<http://chertseyradioclub.blogspot.com.au/?m=1>

## EF105M - 5 EL. 28 MHz Monoband antenna

Antenna designed to utilize common 6m (20ft) boom

Very good design for making stacked array

<http://www.yu7ef.com/ef105m.htm>

## SOTA – 6m 52 MHz Coaxial Dipole Antenna

<https://vk1nam.wordpress.com/2015/08/16/sota-6m-coaxial-dipole-antenna/>





Home :: [Antenna base station commercial](#) :: 1200MHz grid antenna

[Antenna base station commercial](#)

Product 1/2

[prev](#) [listing](#) [next](#)



**1200MHz grid antenna**

**\$199.95**

1240-1300MHz 18dBi  
900mm wide 23cm  
1296MHz

[http://www.radiospecialists.com.au/catalog/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=173&products\\_id=1297](http://www.radiospecialists.com.au/catalog/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=173&products_id=1297)

## AirScout

Update 2016-12-24:

New version of AirScout released. See news section.

73 de Frank, DL2ALF

AirScout is a new software for aircraft scatter prediction by Frank, DL2ALF.

Extend your capabilities on VHF-/UHF-SHF bands even when you live in a unprivileged location.

Calculate a propagation path between two stations and follow the aircrafts in real time.

Documentation and software can be downloaded in the Downloads section.

Enjoy!

<http://www.airscout.eu/>

## + DEVICE PLUS

Device Plus is a website created by ROHM, a semiconductor and electronic parts manufacturer, to deliver useful information to engineers who love creating things and aspiring engineers.

Device Plus was created with one goal in mind: making the engineer's life more fun. Even though we said "fun", it's not just about entertainment.

This can be deepened your knowledge in on one particular field, getting inspiration from your mentors, or even having the inspiration to change the world.

The articles presented on Device Plus are dealing with various topics related to the electronic kits and the engineer's life.

We will talk about topics centered on "technology" such as people, events, hacks/tips, tools, devices, and so on. We will go in-depth, but without forgetting to have fun.

Finally, we hope to attract and help people who share a passion for Electronics and Mechatronics.

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

## An Amateur Radio Repeater Using An RTL-SDR And A Raspberry Pi

[Anton]'s repeater is a clever assemblage through pipes of rtl\_sdr doing the receiving, csdr demodulating, and [F5OEO]'s rpitx doing the transmitting. As far as we can see it doesn't have a toneburst detector or CTCSS to control its transmission so it is on air full-time, however we suspect that may be a feature that will be implemented in due course.

With only a 10 mW output this repeater is more of a toy than a useful device, and we'd suggest any licensed amateur wanting to have a go should read the small print in their licence schedule before doing so. But it's a neat usage of a Pi and an RTL stick, and with luck it'll inspire others in the same vein.

<http://hackaday.com/2016/12/05/an-amateur-radio-repeater-using-an-rtl-sdr-and-a-raspberry-pi/>

## ACMA Radcom Database

Register of Radiocommunications Licences

[http://web.acma.gov.au/pls/radcom/register\\_search.main\\_page](http://web.acma.gov.au/pls/radcom/register_search.main_page)

## 2m SSB

Sunshine Coast 2m SSB net

19:30 Sundays on 144.300 MHz

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

## SEQATV Club Net

Wednesday nights

8:00 PM EST on VK4RRC 146.925MHz repeater

## 2017 dates

Redfest April 22, 2017 <http://www.redclifferadioclub.org.au/>

## Contests 2017

### VHF-UHF Field Days

Summer 2017 – Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 January.

Winter 2017 – Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 June.

Spring 2017 – Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 November.

Summer 2018 – Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 January.

Winter 2018 – Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 June.  
Spring 2018 – Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 November.  
Summer 2019 – Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 January.  
Winter 2019 – Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 June.  
Spring 2019 – Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 November.  
Summer 2020 – Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 January.  
Winter 2020 – Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 June.  
Spring 2020 – Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 November.

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

## QDG information

### QDG meeting dates 2017

January 20  
February 17  
March 17  
April 21  
May 19  
June 16  
July 21  
August 18  
September 15  
October 20  
November 17  
December 15

Unless otherwise noted, QDG group general meetings are held on the third Friday of the month at the Redcliffe Club rooms

The club is located at MacFarlane Park in Klingner Rd, Kippa Ring.(UBD Map 91 Ref G 1)

<https://www.google.com.au/maps/place/MacFarlane+Park,+Kippa-Ring+QLD+4021/@-27.2214151,153.0882619,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x6b93e5f47d867511:0xe926a70030364326>

### QDG Membership

QDG Membership is presently free.

As of June 2015 the QDG has 65 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 [richatkn@tpg.com.au](mailto:richatkn@tpg.com.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.

## Alan Simpson memorial home brew competition

August QDG general meeting [www.qdg.org.au](http://www.qdg.org.au)

## 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: John VK4CJO  
Phone: Alan Wills VK4NA 61 07 3491 8032  
Mobile: 0401 716 778  
Twitter @VK4NA

Email: [qdg@qdg.org.au](mailto:qdg@qdg.org.au)

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

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

QDG  
37 Evergreen Parade  
Griffin QLD 4503  
Australia

## South East Queensland ATV group Information

### SEQATV meeting dates 2016

Please check the SEQATV [Web site](#)

Unless otherwise noted, SEQATV group general meetings are held on the first Tuesday on the month at the Redcliffe Club rooms

The club is located at MacFarlane Park in Klingner Rd, Kippa Ring.(UBD Map 91 Ref G 1)  
<https://www.google.com.au/maps/place/MacFarlane+Park,+Kippa-Ring+QLD+4021/@-27.2214151,153.0882619,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x6b93e5f47d867511:0xe926a70030364326>

## 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 2016

## 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

8:00 PM EST on VK4RRC 146.925MHz repeater

## The SEQATV group Officers

### Elected officers:-

President: Arnold Youngberg VK4SU

Secretary: Bruce Jones VK4EHT

Treasurer: Andy Beales VK4KCS

### Coopted Officers:-

Callback Officer: Peter Jones VK4YAC

Vice President: Alan Wills VK4NA

Assistant Secretary Bill VK4ZWJ

Additional coopted officers will be added as required.

## SEQATV group Contact Information

South East Queensland Amateur Television Group

**PO Box 643 Kallangur, Qld 4503, Australia**

Amateur Eye (club mag) Phone: Alan Wills VK4NA 61 07 3491 8032

Email: [secretary@seqatv.org](mailto:secretary@seqatv.org)

Web site: <http://www.seqatv.org/>

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## Enjoy your hobby!

73 Alan VK4YAR / VK4NA

\*\*\* Queensland Digital Group \*\*\*

\*\*\* SEQATV group \*\*\*

\*\* Supporting Radio Communications in VK4 \*\*